About The Oval Portrait of Edgar Allan Poe

Reviews

Extensive guideline! Its this sort of very good go through. I have got read and i am confident that i will gonna read through once more once more in the future. Once you begin to read the book, it is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding.

(Joana Champlin)
Edgar Allan Poe is one of the most famous and celebrated American writers whose short stories inspired numerous other authors. The Oval Portrait, initially titled Life in Death, is a revised and shorter version that was published in the Broadway Journal in 1845. Although being one of his shortest stories, Poe is able to establish in The Oval Portrait a haunting atmosphere of terror. The fate of the beautiful, young woman fascinates the narrator who is entirely taken by the enigmatic painting and the inscrutable circumstances of the ladys death. It is in this way that the author is able to create simultaneously a sense of both mystery and tragedy, and this essay will examine in greater detail how these two elements are combined in order to make up the Gothic mood typical for Poes writings. Firstly, I will have a look at the author and his background before providing some general information about this short story. In this case, a biographical approach to The Oval Portrait is very enriching and is able to shed light on some aspects, as we will see later on. Secondly, I will concentrate on the appearance of the mysterious atmosphere in the work, such as the narrators equivocal reliability, the mansion and its relation to the Gothic, the role of light and darkness, and the open questions. My third point of analysis will be the tragic: how is Poe able to make both the storys narrator and his readers be captivated by such a sad womans death within less than four pages To begin with, I...
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