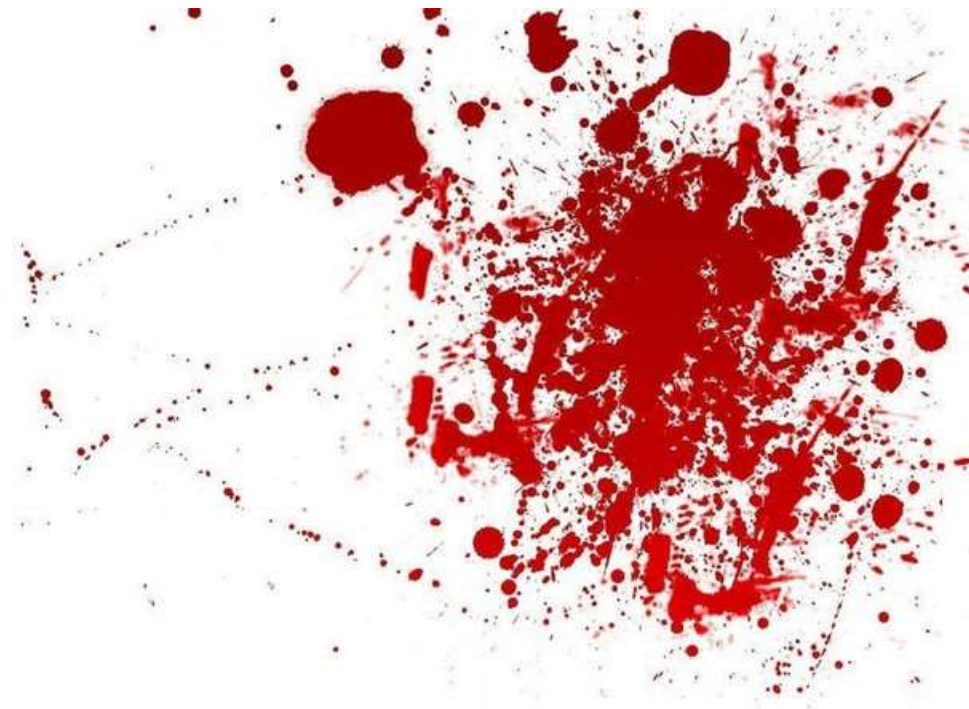


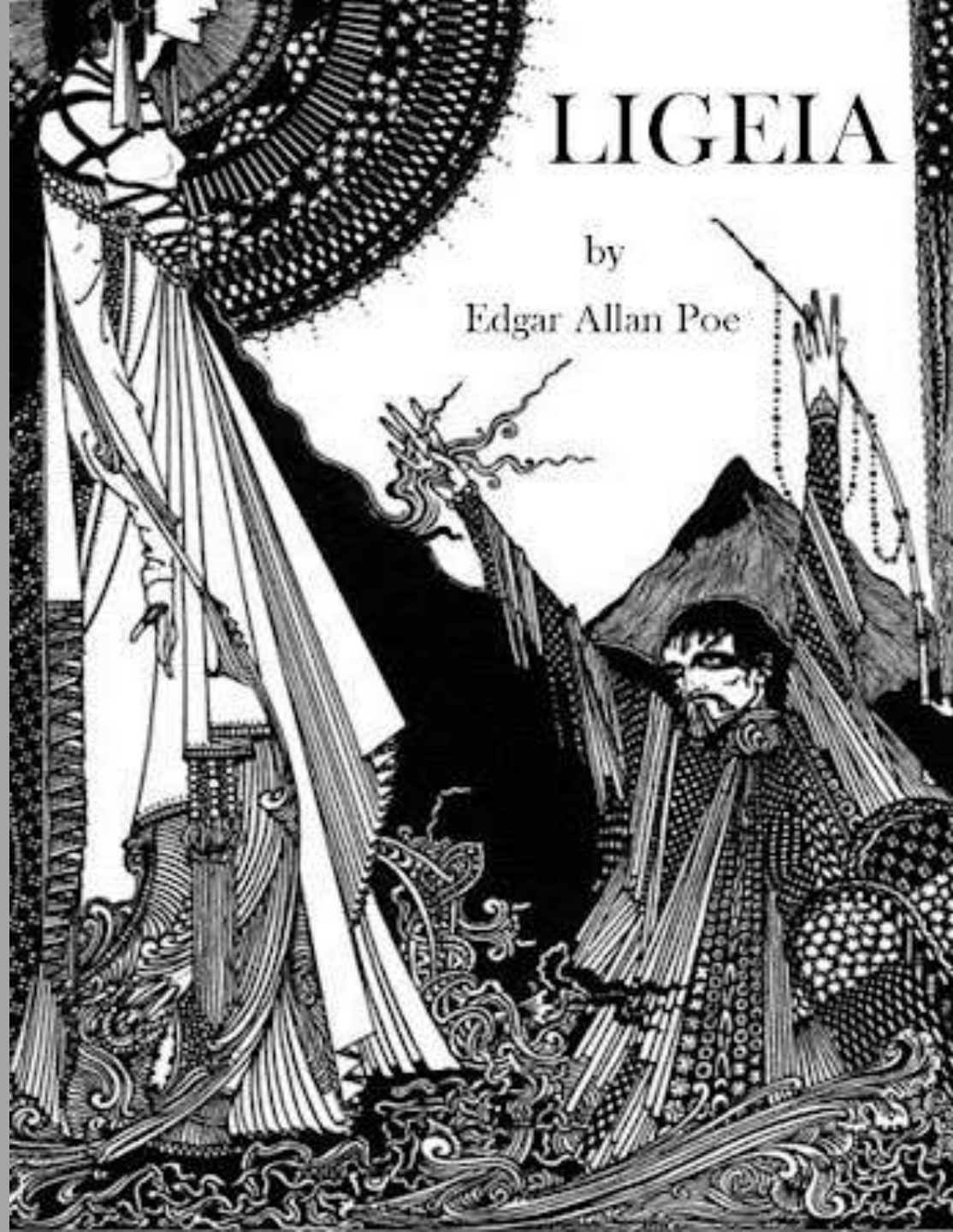
19th Century Fiction

Edgar Allan Poe's "Ligeia" (1838)



LIGEIA

by
Edgar Allan Poe



“And the will therein lies, which dies not. Who knows the mysteries of the will, with its vigor? For God is but a great will pervading all things by nature of its intentness. Man does not yield himself to the angels, nor unto death utterly, save only through the weakness of his feeble will.”

When is the story narrated?

Where do they (Ligeia and the narrator)
live?

What does Ligeia look like?

“There is no exquisite beauty without some strangeness in the proportion.”

What is Ligeia’s strangeness?

How is the relationship between Rowena
(the second wife) and the narrator?

How does the arabesque decoration
affect Rowena?



How does the drug addiction
affect the narrator?

How does Rowena die?

What happens after her death?

How would you interpret Rowena's
transformation into Ligeia?

Any ghosts out there?

In what ways is “Ligeia” a gothic story?

What similarities can you find between
this story and other Poe's stories?