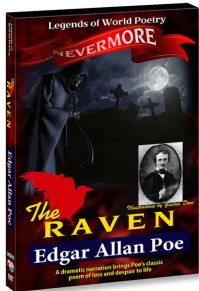


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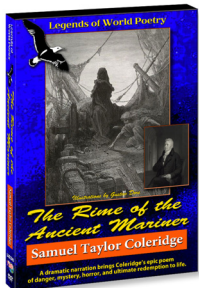


THE RAVEN - EDGAR ALLAN POE

Edgar Allan Poe remains one of America's great literary legends and in this dramatic program, voice artist Bob McGraw brings Poe's classic poem of loss and despair "The Raven" to life using a haunting voice and the famous illustrations of Gustav Dore to tell this tragic story. The 1845 publication of "The Raven" made Poe widely popular in his lifetime and remains one of the most famous poems ever written. It is noted for its musicality and supernatural atmosphere and tells of a talking raven's mysterious visit to a distraught narrator, lamenting the loss of his love and tracing a slow descent into madness with its constant repetition of the word "Nevermore". Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849) was an American author, poet, editor and literary critic, considered by many to be part of the American Romantic Movement. Poe was one of the earliest American practitioners of the short story and is widely acknowledged as the inventor of the modern detective story and an innovator in the science fiction genre, but he made his living as America's first great literary critic and theoretician. Poe's reputation today rests primarily on his tales of terror as well as his haunting lyric poetry.

The accompanying (online) study guide shows how the themes used in the poem were relevant to the meaning of life during the early 19th century. You'll see how all writers, both amateur and professional, use their own life experiences, as reflected in the text of "The Raven" and how the themes exhibited in this poem are still relevant today. Bonus: Features "Captioned Text" of the poem displayed on the screen alongside the narration.

30 min. • Gr. 9-12,C • 2012 • TMW • L4822DVD • \$74.95 • Streaming Rights Also Available

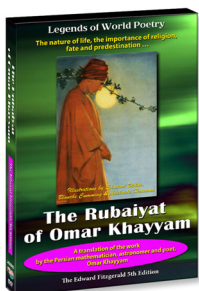


THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER - SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE

Samuel Taylor Coleridge's Rime of the Ancient Mariner tells the story of a long sea voyage fraught with danger, mystery, horror and ultimately redemption. This longest of Coleridge's poems, remains one of the most often referenced works in English literature, and in this dramatic program voice artist Bob McGraw brings Coleridge's classic poem of the sea to life using a haunting voice and the famous illustrations of Gustav Dore to tell the epic story of the Ancient Mariner. The Poem was first published in 1798 (with a later 1817 edition adding a Gloss) in Coleridge's First Edition of Lyrical Ballads. It relates the experiences of the Ancient Mariner as he goes on an extended sea voyage. He uses the device of stopping a young man on the way to attend a wedding to tell a story steeped in the lore of the sea, mythology and the superstitions and religious traditions of the times. The poet communicates the various moods of the mariner through narrative techniques such as repetition and personification to alternately invoke feelings of supernatural dread, horror, fear, awe and ultimately redemption. The accompanying (online) study guide shows how the themes used in

the poem were relevant to the meaning of life during the late 18th century. You'll see how all writers, both amateur and professional, use their own life experiences, as reflected in the text of The Rime of the Ancient Mariner and how the themes exhibited in this poem are still relevant today and how the language of the poem is reflected in the language used today. Bonus: Features "Captioned Text" of the poem displayed on the screen alongside the narration.

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THE RUBAIYAT OF OMAR KHAYYAM - THE EDWARD FITZGERALD 5TH EDITION

A translation of the work of the Persian mathematician, astronomer, and poet, Omar Khayyam (1048-1131). Translated and popularized by the English scholar Edward Fitzgerald in 1859, this poem is one of the most influential to come out of the 19th Century. Edward Fitzgerald's translation of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam is a mystical, highly symbolic poem that deals with man's relation to God, the nature of the divine, the fleeting nature of life, and a host of other issues important to the contemplative mind. The haunting, melancholy musings of Omar Khayyam are brought to life in vivid detail by voice artist Bob McGraw. Accompanied by color illustrations by Edmund Dulac and the Artist-photographer team of Blanche Cumming and Adelaide Hanscom, this program brings the classic poem into vivid focus. The term rubaiyat is the plural of the Farsi word for quatrain (a four line stanza). Fitzgerald's translation consists of 101 quatrains. It is actually a distillation of over 1000 quatrains in the original rendering, rendered in such a manner as to be more thematically consistent (it was a common practice with this type of poetry to rearrange the quatrains to suit a

particular rendering). In this poem, the author deals with a variety of philosophical issues and perspectives about the nature of life, the importance of religion, fate and predestination along with a host of other interrelated issues. The poem is known for its lyrical beauty and well-crafted rhyme and meter. The accompanying (online) study guide shows how the themes used in the poem symbolically represent a variety of issues and problems that are of importance to anyone who has ever considered the meaning of existence. Life and death, heaven and hell, predestination vs. free will are all represented in the poem. Reason and its limits vs. hedonism together with the fleeting nature of existence are also considered. Includes questions for further study, vocabulary, together with an explication of selected quatrains as they relate to the major themes of the poem. Bonus: Features "Captioned Text" of the poem displayed on the screen alongside the narration.

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