

ONCE UPON A MIDNIGHT DREARY, WHILE I
PONDERED WEAK AND WEARY,
OVER MANY A QUAIN AND CURIOUS VOLUME
OF FORGOTTEN LORE...

WHILE I NODDED, NEARLY NAPPING,
SUDDENLY THERE CAME A TAPPING,
AS OF SOME ONE GENTLY RAPPING,
RAPPING AT MY CHAMBER DOOR.

"'TIS SOME VISITOR," I MUTTERED, "TAPPING
AT MY CHAMBER DOOR.
ONLY THIS AND NOTHING MORE."

TAP!
TAP!
TAP!

EDGAR ALLAN POE'S

THE RAVEN

ART: RICH CORBEN



WHA--?
WHO COULD IT
BE AT THIS
HOUR OF THE
NIGHT?

DARE I
HOPE... THAT
IT MIGHT BE
MY LONG-
LOST...

TAP!
TAP!
TAP!

"...LENORE?"



I OPENED THE DOOR TO A NIGHT SKY,
SWIRLING WITH DECEMBER SNOW! THERE
WAS ONLY DARKNESS THERE... AND
NOTHING MORE!



EH?

THAT'S
EXTREMELY
ODD! THERE'S
NO ONE
HERE...!

NO
ONE AT
ALL!



PERHAPS I
DREAMT THAT KNOCKING.
FOR SURELY NONE WOULD
GO FORTH ON A NIGHT
LIKE--

TAP!
TAP!
TAP!

HUH? THAT
MYSTERIOUS
TAPPING SOUND!
BEHIND ME
NOW...



...COMING
FROM MY
WINDOW!

PERHAPS IT
IS MY BELOVED
RETURNED FROM
HER
JOURNEY!

HOLD ON,
DEAREST!
I'M COMING!

TAP!
TAP!
TAP!

YET IT WAS *NOT* THE BEAUTIFUL *LENORE* WHO STOOD AT MY WINDOW...RATHER...

THE *INK-BLACK* CREATURE FLEW INTO MY ROOM WHILE I GAPED *AGHAST*...



A RAVEN!



...AND THE *EBON-BIRD* PERCHED... AND SAT...AND DID NOTHING MORE!



YOU SEEK REFUGE FROM THE COLD? *SURELY* A TREE TRUNK WOULD BETTER SERVE YOUR *ENDS*?

WHAT IS YOUR *NAME*? YOUR *PURPOSE*? DO YOU CARRY ANY *INFORMATION* CONCERNING MY *DEAR*...



WELL, *RAVEN*, DON'T JUST SIT THERE STARING *DOWN* AT ME!

THEN, FROM SOMEWHERE IN THE ROOM, QUOTH THE *RAVEN*...



"...LENORE?"



NEVERMORE!



DEVILISH CREATURE, YOUR ANSWER HOLDS LITTLE MEANING THAT I CAN SEE!

YET, THIS **MUST** BE... IT **HAS** TO BE...AN **OMEN!**



BUT... **WHAT MAN- NER** OF MES- SAGE? MY **LOVER** HAS LEFT ME... STRANDED AND ALONE...!

DID SHE SEND YOU TO KEEP ME COMPANY?

BUT NO! FOR **TOMORROW**, RAVEN, WHEN THE BLIZZARD ABATES, YOU, **TOO**, WILL DOUBTLESS **DESERT** ME...AS ALL MY **HOPES** HAVE BEFORE!



BUT MY PATIENCE WEARS **RAPIDLY** THIN! WHAT I NEED ARE **ANSWERS!**

ANSWERS!

YOU MUST **EXPLAIN** YOURSELF **BETTER** TO ME!



THEN THE **BIRD** SAID, AS HE HAD SAID BEFORE...

NEVERMORE!



NEVERMORE!
NEVERMORE!

WHAT DOES THIS GRIM AND OMINOUS FOWL MEAN BY CROAKING...

NEVERMORE?



CAN THE WORD BE A CLUE OF SOME SORT?

AND IF SUCH BE THE CASE, THEN HOW DOES IT PERTAIN TO MY DARLING...



"...LENORE?"



STILL... WHAT IF THERE IS NO MESSAGE TO BE GIVEN AT ALL!

WHAT IF IT WERE THE DARK FORCES OF EVIL SENT THIS BIRD TO MY DWELLING ...TO HAUNT ME!



IS THAT TRUE, RAVEN?

ARE YOU A CO-WORKER OF THE DEVIL...



...HERE TO TORTURE ME BY BRINGING MEMORIES OF MY VERY OWN...

"...LENORE?"



AT THIS POINT,
I REALLY NO LONGER
CARE! SHE IS GONE AWAY...
NEVER, I THINK TO
RETURN!



BUT WILL
YOU ANSWER
JUST ONE
QUESTION
OF MINE?

I BEG
YOU...TELL
ME! WHERE
IS MY
LENORE!



PLEASE,
BIRD...NO
MATTER IF
YOU ARE A
PROPHET...A
THING OF
EVIL...GIVE
ME THE AN-
SWER!

QUOTH THE RAVEN...



NEVERMORE!

SO! YOU
STILL WON'T
TALK, EH...OR
REVEAL TO ME
THE WHERE-
ABOUTS OF MY
BELOVED!





VERY WELL,
THEN! GO
BACK TO THE
STORM AND THE
COLD NIGHT'S
PLUTONIAN
SHORE!



AND DON'T
LEAVE A SINGLE
BLACK FEATHER
BEHIND AS A TOKEN
OF YOUR HEARTLESS
VISIT, VILE
SPECTRE!



LEAVE ME!
MY LONELINESS
IS A TERRIBLE
THING TO
BEAR!

I DON'T
NEED THE
LIKES OF YOU,
BIRD, TO RE-
MIND ME HOW
MONUMENTALLY
TRAGIC
IT IS!

BUT NOT A NERVE DID HE TWITCH WHEN
SPOKE THE RAVEN...



ARE YOU
DEAF? GET
THEE FROM ABOVE
MY DOOR... AND
TAKE YOUR ACCURSED
BEAK OUT OF MY
SOUL WHEN YOU
LEAVE!



NEVERMORE!

TIME PASSED, AND THE RAVEN
REMAINED...NEVER FLITTING...
AND STILL IS SITTING, **STILL IS**
SITTING...



AND HIS **EYES** HAVE ALL THE
SEEMING OF A **DEMON** THAT
IS **DREAMING**...!



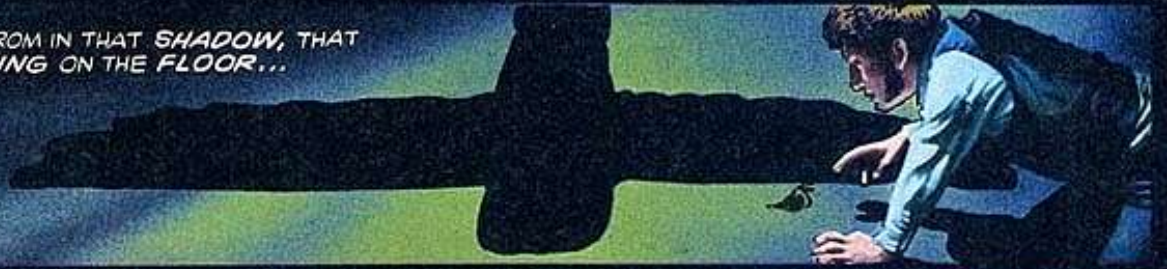
...ON THE PALLID
BUST OF **PALLAS**
JUST ABOVE MY
CHAMBER
DOOR!



AND THE LAMP-LIGHT O'ER
HIM **STREAMING** THROWS HIS
SHADOW ON THE FLOOR!



AND MY **SOUL** FROM IN THAT **SHADOW**, THAT
LIES **FLOATING** ON THE FLOOR...



...AS MY YEARNING FOR A LOVED ONE,
SHALL BE **LIFTED**...

...**NEVERMORE!**

