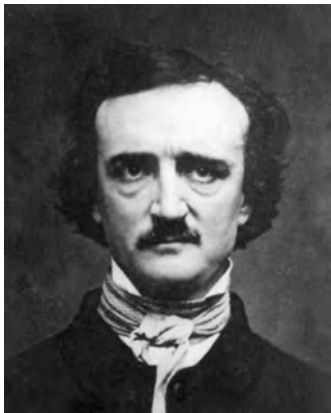


The Murders in the Rue Morgue

Edgar Allan Poe



The Murders in the Rue Morgue

Edgar Allan Poe (1809-49)

"The Murders in the Rue Morgue" was published in *Graham's Magazine* in 1841. It has been recognized as the first detective story; Poe referred to it as one of his "tales of ratiocination". C. Auguste Dupin is a man in Paris who solves the mystery of the brutal murder of two women. Numerous witnesses heard a suspect, though no one agrees on what language was spoken. At the murder scene, Dupin finds a hair that does not appear to be human. Writing the

first true detective in fiction, Poe's Dupin originated many literary conventions which would be used in future fictional detectives including Sherlock Holmes and Hercule Poirot. Many later characters, for example, follow Poe's model of the brilliant detective, his personal friend who serves as narrator, and the final revelation being presented before the reasoning that leads up to it. Dupin also reappears in Poe's "The Mystery of Marie Rogêt" and "The Purloined Letter".

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