Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Edgar Allan Poe

After reading the Biography of Edgar Allan Poe, complete the following questions.

1. Why would Edgar Allan Poe be described as a “versatile” writer?
2. Give two examples from Poe’s life that would lead him to write somber toned poetry.
3. List three things that you learned about Poe that you find interesting.

‘Annabel Lee’ by Edgar Allan Poe

What is Annabel Lee’s relationship with the speaker?

What is the setting of the poem?

It was many and many a year ago,  
 In a kingdom by the sea.  
That a maiden there lived whom you may know  
 By the name of ANNABEL LEE; --  
And this maiden she lived with no other thought  
 Than to love and be loved by me.

What age are Annabel Lee and the speaker?

How would you describe their love?

How do the angels feel about their love?

She was a child and I was a child,  
 In this kingdom by the sea,  
But we loved with a love that was more than love --  
 I and my Annabel Lee --  
With a love that the winged **seraphs**\* of heaven  
 Coveted her and me.

And this was the reason that, long ago,  
 In this kingdom by the sea,  
A wind blew out of a cloud by night  
 Chilling my Annabel Lee;  
So that her high-born **kinsmen\*** came  
 and **bore**\* her away from me,  
To shut her up in a ***sepulcher***  
 In this kingdom by the sea.

What happened to Annabel Lee?

Who comes to take her away?

Where do they take her?

The angels, not half so happy in Heaven,  
 Went envying her and me;  
Yes! That was the reason (as all me know,  
 In this kingdom by the sea)  
That the wind came out of a cloud, chilling  
 And killing my Annabel Lee.

Who does the speaker blame for her death?

What does the speaker say is the motivation behind her death?

But our love it was stronger by far than the love  
 Of those who were older than we--  
 Of many far wiser than we -  
And neither the angels in Heaven above,  
 Nor the demons under the sea,  
Can ever ***dissever*** my soul from the soul  
 Of the beautiful Annabel Lee: --

What does the speaker reveal about his love for Annabel Lee her?  
  
What does he say about their souls?  
  
What is the theme/message that is revealed?

For the moon never beams without bringing me dreams  
 Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;  
And the stars never rise but I see the bright eyes  
 Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;  
And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side  
Of my darling, my darling, my life and my bride,  
 In her sepulcher there by the sea --  
 In her tomb by the side of the sea.

Where does the speaker see Annabel Lee now?

Why does he see her in these places?

What does the speaker do at the end of the poem?

**Sepulcher:** a tomb; holds human remains after death

**Dissever:** divide

1. What is the theme of the poem “Annabel Lee”?

Find examples of the following poetic devices in this poem, and explain how each device supports the theme.

1. **Alliteration**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Example from text** | **Supports the theme by…** |
|  |  |
|  |  |

1. **Imagery**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Example from text** | **Supports the theme by…** |
|  |  |
|  |  |

1. The speaker of the poem clearly idealizes Annabel Lee. However, would you say that he is also obsessed with her? Look at the definitions for each word below and decide!

**Idealize:** to make someone a model of perfection  
**Obsess:** to dominate or preoccupy the thoughts, and feelings of a person

I think that the narrator is obsessed with Annabel Lee.  
  
I think the narrator idealizes Annabel Lee.  
  
I think the narrator is both obsessed and idealizes Annabel Lee.

Two reason to support my position are:



**Context Clues:**

Use the clues from the poem to help you determine the meaning of the words in the chart.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Unfamiliar Word** | **Words from the poem that helped you determine meaning** | **Your definition** |
| 1. Seraphs |  |  |
| 1. Kinsmen |  |  |
| 1. Coveted |  |  |
| 1. Bore |  |  |

9. Why does the speaker in the poem believe that Annabel Lee died?  
A. the speaker believes she died because her relatives envied her beauty   
B. the speaker believes she died because the angels were envious the young lovers.  
C. the speaker believes she died because Annabel Lee wanted to go to heaven.  
D. the speaker believes Annabel Lee died because he didn’t love her anymore.

10. What poetic device is found in the phrase, “not half so happy in heaven”?   
A. rhyme  
B. rhythm  
C. repetition  
D. alliteration

11. Because the speaker is so grief-stricken over Annabel Lee’s death, what does he do every night?   
A. Speaks to her as if she were alive  
B. prays to join her in heaven  
C. sleeps by her in her sepulcher  
D. Blames the angels for taking her

12. In the poem, “Annabel Lee” what can be inferred by the line*, “And this maiden she lived with no other though / Than to love and be loved by me.”?*A. Annabel Lee was devoted to the speaker  
B. Annabel Lee was protective of the speaker  
C. Annabel Lee was annoyed with the speaker  
D. Annabel Lee was envious of the speaker

13. What is the effect of using rhyme and repetition in the poem?  
A. To create images in the reader’s mind  
B. To create a musical quality   
C. To exaggerate the love between the speaker and Annabel Lee  
D. both B. and C.

14. What conclusion can the reader draw from the lines: *“The angels, not half so happy in heaven/ Went envying her and me/ Yes! That is the reason/ That the wind came out of the cloud, chilling/ And killing my Annabel Lee” ?*A. The speaker wants the angels to look after Annabel Lee in heaven  
B. The angels are trying to help the speaker heal from Annabel Lee’s death  
C. The speaker is trying to find someone to blame for this tragedy  
D. The angels ignore the love that exists between the speaker and Annabel Lee

15. Based on the information in the poem, which of the following relationships is most similar to this relationship from the poem: **Angels: love between the speaker and Annabel Lee**  
A. siblings: parent showing favoritism toward one child  
B. friends: time spent shopping together  
C. teachers: favoritism shown towards one student  
D. librarian: people who frequently check out books

16. Based on the information in the poem, which of the following relationships is most similar to this relationship from the poem : **stars: bright eyes**  
A. math textbook: winter break  
B. basketball: jersey  
C. beeping alarm: start of the school day  
D. moon: relatives