

The Man Who Was Poe Chapter Questions

Prologue – Chapter 2

1. Why is Edmund so worried about leaving Sis?
2. What do you think happened to Sis?
3. Why would the man on the street feel, “that he was looking through the mouth to a graveyard situated just behind”?
4. The man at first thinks that a demon has struck him when Edmund bumps into him. What does this say about the man?
5. Do you think Edmund should have told the man the details of his situation? Why or why not?
6. Why does the man wonder if there is a story to be made out of Edmund’s situation?
7. Why is Mr. Dupin so curious about how long Edmund had been detained by the old man on the street?
8. Why do you think that Mr. Dupin insists on helping Edmund?
9. What does Edmund discover on the dock?
10. What do you think Edmund will do now that Aunty is dead and Sis is missing?

Chapters 3-5

1. What can you figure out about Mr. Dupin and death?
2. Why do you think that Fortnoy is following Edmund?
3. What does the comment, “bread’ll take butter on either side,” mean?
4. Who do you think Mrs. G. Ratchett is?
5. Who do you think slipped the warning note under Edmund’s door?
6. Why does Mr. Dupin tell Edmund that he (Edmund) has the details necessary to solve the problem, but only he (Mr. Dupin) has the ability to understand them?
7. Why doesn’t Edmund want Mr. Dupin to go outside the room and lock the door?
8. Why do you think Sis might have gone to the other building?
9. Why is it ironic that Edmund mentions the story of “Hansel and Gretel”?
10. Why is it important that we learn the man who rented the room in the next building only wanted that particular room?
11. Who do you think rented the room? Why?

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Chapters 6-8

1. What can you learn about Mr. Dupin from what he knows about Throck just by looking at him?
2. Why is it important that we are told why Throck is no longer in the Army?
3. Why do you think we are told that the lady in Mr. Dupin's life named Sis died?
4. Why do you think that Mr. Dupin wants to go to the courthouse?
5. Why would it be important for Mr. Dupin to discover who the other interested person was in the courtroom?
6. What truth will Mrs. Whitman discover about Mr. Dupin?
7. Why does Catherine, Mr. Arnold, and Mrs. Whitman all refer to Mr. Dupin as Poe?
8. What do you think the jumbled note refers to?
9. Why does Mr. Dupin make the statement, "criminals often draw attention to their own criminal acts."?
10. How do you think that the gold was stolen?
11. Why is it important that Mr. Dupin points out that a grown person could not fit through the opening in the roof of the bank vault?
12. Who do you think Mr. Dupin believes is involved in the robbery?

Chapters 9-11

1. After Edmund reads Mr. Dupin's notes, why does he (Edmund) decide that there must be something wrong with Mr. Dupin?
2. Why is it ironic that Peterson mentions Poe and his work to Mr. Dupin?
3. Why do you think someone might want to steal a portrait of Edmund's mother and aunt?
4. Who do you think Mr. Ratchett is?
5. What does Mr. Dupin mean when he says that he is a creator of the future?
6. How is Mr. Ratchett related to Edmund?
7. Why do you think Mr. Dupin believes that Fortnoy killed Aunty?
8. Why is it important that Mr. Dupin found some rope and a button in the bank vault?
9. What child does Mr. Dupin think helped commit the robbery?
10. Why does Mr. Dupin believe that, "to speak of love amidst death and decay seemed correct, even proper for him. It fit his mood. His facts. His life"?
11. Who do you think the dead woman is talking to when she asks for her children?

The Man Who Was Poe Chapter Questions

Chapters 12-14

1. Why do you think Catherine goes to get Mr. Ratchett?
2. Why doesn't Mr. Dupin question why Throck is in the cemetery?
3. What does Mrs. Whitman mean when she tells Mr. Dupin that they will be surrounded by enemies inside?
4. Why does Mrs. Whitman say that the enemies will be testing them?
5. Why does Mr. Dupin think that he is at a gathering of demons?
6. What does Mr. Dupin mean when he says that the creatures are his creations and they will go away if he faces them?
7. What does Mr. Dupin mean when he mentions that every fear and every image has two sides?
8. Why does Mrs. Powers ask Mr. Dupin which image of himself he plans to present in the portrait?
9. Who is the lady that the captain saw?
10. What does Edmund learn about the man who is following him?
11. Who do you think it is?

Chapters 15-16

1. Why do you think Mr. Dupin sends Edmund inside the mausoleum?
2. Why is it important to Mr. Dupin that the two women are twins?
3. What do you think Mr. Dupin is looking for in the cemetery?
4. Why is it important that Mr. Dupin found a white button in the cemetery?
5. Why is it important that Edmund says that the dress on the body found at the dock was not Aunty's?
6. Why is Edmund finally able to stand up to Mr. Dupin?
7. Why does Mr. Dupin tell Edmund that he is the man who was Poe?
8. What does the statement, "lies have their own truths," mean?
9. Who do you think is responsible for Sis's disappearance?
10. What do you think it is that Mr. Dupin now understands?

The Man Who Was Poe Chapter Questions

Chapters 17-19

1. Why does Mr. Dupin now insist on being called Poe?
2. Why doesn't Mr. Poe want to go to the church with Edmund?
3. Why is Poe going to have all the characters die in his story?
4. Why do you think that Mum didn't try harder to find her children?
5. Why didn't Mum go to the police about her situation?
6. Why does Poe act as if Edmund is not a true person, but merely a character in his story?
7. Why does Poe think that the characters are beginning to come to life?
8. Why would it make writing easier if the characters came to life?
9. Why does Edmund go to see Throck?
10. What do you think Throck and Poe are discussing?

Chapter 20 – 22

1. Why does the statement about "lies having truths" help Edmund?
2. What does the following line mean? "You can't play cards without chips."
3. Why does Poe insist that Sis is dead?
4. Why doesn't Edmund want Throck to do whatever Poe tells him?
5. What do you think Edmund believes Poe will do?
6. What does Edmund mean when he says that Poe is not weeping for Mr. Ratchett and Mr. Peterson?
7. Why does Poe say he frightens the timid?
8. Why does Edmund say that Poe only wants to make sure that Sis dies?
9. Why does Edmund tell Poe that, "it's living that you're frightened of"?
10. Why has Poe changed Edgar to Edmund in his story?
11. In the story, what is the significance of the name Edgar?
12. What does the following comment about the portrait mean?