

Unit 2: Horror and Suspense

Essential Questions

*“The boundaries which divide Life from Death are at best shadowy and vague. Who shall say where the one ends, and where the other begins?” –
E.A. Poe*

Week One:

- What is a short story, and how is the short story’s genre different from our previously studied genre, the memoir?
- How does the tone of Walter Dean Myers’s short story, “The Treasure of Lemon Brown” differ from the tone of his memoir, *Bad Boy*?
- What are the elements of a short story, and why is it important to be able to identify the short story’s elements and plot phases?
- What is an infinitive phrase?

Week Two—same as Week One, plus:

- What are some common characteristics of horror stories?
- How does the author create mood and tone for this genre?
- What is foreshadowing?

Week Three—same as Weeks One-Three, plus:

- How does the narrator’s tone in Edgar Allan Poe’s story, “The Tell-Tale Heart” differ from Walter Dean Myers’s tone in *Bad Boy*? In “The Treasure of Lemon Brown”?
- What is the difference between the narrator’s *tone* and his/her *perspective*? And how is the reader influenced by each?
- How does fiction relate to current, relevant news and journalism?
 - What literary and tonal elements connect Edgar Allan Poe’s abridged story, “The Masque of the Red Death,” to Newsweek’s 2009 article: “The Path of a Pandemic: How one virus spread from pigs and birds to humans around the globe. And why microbes like the H1N1 flu have become a growing threat.”?