



"I think it was
his eye! Yes,
it was this!
He had the
eye of a
vulture..."



"I moved it
slowly, very,
very
slowly...but it
was louder,
louder,
louder!"



"I made up my mind to take the life of the old man, and thus rid myself of the eye forever."



"I bade the gentlemen welcome. The shriek, I said, was my own in a dream."

**Dark and mysterious
secrets are concealed
within an old house**

"I went boldly into the chamber, and spoke courageously to him, calling him by name in a hearty tone, and inquiring how he has passed the night."

Concealed: kept secret; hidden.

There is a thin line between sanity and madness.

"Yet the sound increased --and what could I do? It was a low, dull, quick sound --much such a sound as a watch makes when enveloped in cotton."

Sanity: the ability to think and behave in a normal and rational manner; sound mental health.

Madness: the state of being mentally ill, especially severely.

An escalating sense of guilt and paranoia.

"I felt that I must scream or die --
and now --again --hark! Louder!
Louder! Louder!"

Paranoia: the delusional belief that one is being harassed, or betrayed by others, happening in part of a mental condition.

"True! --nervous --very,
very dreadfully nervous I
had been and am!"

This is the opening line of the poem. "I" refers to the unnamed narrator who tells the reader about a crime he commits.

"You fancy me mad.
Madmen know nothing."

The narrator tries to convince the
reader of their sanity.

"Villains!" I shrieked,
"dissemble no more! I
admit the deed!"

The narrator admits to the crime
he has committed.