

# Poe: Dreams of Madness

## Audition Monologues

Please perform a 30-second section of one of the following monologues

OR any other 30-second monologue you already have prepared

Record yourself performing your monologue and submit your audition video along with a basic resume and headshot to [inspiretanner@gmail.com](mailto:inspiretanner@gmail.com)

**OLD MAN:** It was many and many a year ago,  
In a kingdom by the sea,  
That a maiden there lived, whom you may know  
35 By the name of Annabel Lee.  
And this maiden she lived with no other thought  
Than to love and be loved by me.  
I was a child and she was a child,  
In this kingdom by the sea,  
40 But we loved with a love that was more than love—  
I and my Annabel Lee—

1 **BLUE GUEST:** Hear the sledges with the bells—  
Silver bells!  
What a world of merriment their melody foretells!  
How they tinkle, tinkle, tinkle,  
5 In the icy air of night!  
While the stars that oversprinkle  
All the heavens, seem to twinkle  
With a crystalline delight,  
Keeping time, time, time,  
10 In a sort of Runic rhyme,  
To the tintinnabulation that so musically wells  
From the bells, bells, bells, bells,  
Bells, bells, bells—  
From the jingling and the tinkling of the bells.

35 **PRINCE:** Welcome to Prince Prospero's court. Never a finer masquerade will you find than inside these walls. A lover of parties and all things bizarre, I ensure an interesting time for all those invited. Come to my castle and partake in the fun.

15 **MAD NARRATOR:** *(Helps OLD MAN back into bed, and it is night again. MAD NARRATOR begins sneaking through the door again.)* Upon the eighth night I was more than usually cautious in opening the door. A watch's minute hand moves more quickly than did mine. Never before that night had I felt the extent of my own powers. I  
20 could scarcely contain my feelings of triumph. To think that there I was, opening the door, little by little, and he not even to dream of my secret deeds or thoughts. I fairly chuckled at the idea, and perhaps he heard me, for he moved on the bed suddenly, as if startled. *(OLD MAN moves.)* Now you may think that I drew back, but no. His room was as black as pitch with the thick darkness,  
25 and so I knew that he could not see the opening of the door, and I kept pushing it on steadily, steadily. I had my head in and was about to open the lantern, when my thumb slipped upon the tin fastening... *(His thumb slips and makes a slight nose on the lantern.)* ...and—  
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