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The Premature Burial

By Edgar Allan Poe

CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 32 pages. Dimensions: 7.8in. x 5.1in. x 0.1in. The Premature Burial is a horror short story on the theme of being buried alive, written by Edgar Allan Poe, (1809-1849), and published in 1844 in The Philadelphia Dollar Newspaper. Fear of being buried alive was common in this period and Poe was taking advantage of the public interest. The story has been adapted to film. In The Premature Burial, the first-person unnamed narrator describes his struggle with attacks of the singular disorder which physicians have agreed to term catalepsy, a condition where he randomly falls into a death-like trance. This leads to his fear of being buried alive (The true wretchedness, he says, is to be buried while alive.). He emphasizes his fear by mentioning several people who have been buried alive. In the first case, the tragic accident was only discovered much later, when the victims crypt was reopened. In others, victims revived and were able to draw attention to themselves in time to be freed from their ghastly prisons. The narrator reviews these examples in order to provide context for his nearly crippling phobia...



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