

THE MASQUE OF THE RED DEATH

By Edgar Allan Poe

Analyzing Literature Worksheet

Understanding Allegory

An **allegory** is a story that uses symbols throughout to teach a lesson. Symbols can be characters, objects or events that represent something else.

Complete the following chart. Explain what you think each symbol in "The Masque of the Red Death" represents and how it helps teach the lesson of the story.

Symbol	What it represents	How it helps teach the lesson
Example: dreams	Masqueraders, fantasies	Shows us that life is fleeting; forbodes the grim ending to the story
1. the masked visitor		
2. the black chamber		
3. the music		
4. the tripods with the flames		