The Man of the Crowd



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THE MAN OF THE CROWD



CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Paperback. Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. 24 pages. Dimensions: 7.8in. x 5.1in. x 0.1in.The Man of the Crowd is a short story written by Edgar Allan Poe about a nameless narrator following a man through a crowded London, first published in 1840. The story is introduced with the epigraph, Ce grand malheur, de ne pouvoir tre seula quote taken from The Characters of Man by Jean de la Bruyre. It translates to This great misfortune, of not being able to be alone. This same quote is used in Poes earliest tale, Metzengerstein. Illustration by Harry Clarke for a London edition dated 1923 After an unnamed illness, the unnamed narrator sits in an unnamed coffee shop in London. Fascinated by the crowd outside the window, he considers how isolated people think they are, despite the very denseness of the company around. He takes time to categorize the different types of people he sees. As evening falls, the narrator focuses on a decrepit old man, some sixty-five or seventy years of age, whose face has a peculiar idiosyncrasy, and whose body was short in stature, very thin, and apparently very feeble wearing filthy, ragged clothes of a beautiful texture. The narrator dashes out of the coffee shop to follow the man from afar. The man leads the narrator through bazaars and shops, buying nothing, and into a poorer part of the city, then back into the heart of the mighty London. This chase lasts through the evening and into the next day. Finally, exhausted, the narrator stands in front of the man, who still does not notice him. The narrator concludes the man is the type and genius of deep crime due to his inscrutability and inability to leave the crowds of London. Edgar Allan...

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