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**STYLISTICS: AN ANALYSIS OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN THE STORY “THE  
FALL OF THE HOUSE OF USHER” BY EA. POE**

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**Abstract**

In the concerned paper, the researcher is going to stylistically analyze a short story by Edgar Allan Poe with the title of “The Fall of the House of Usher”. The study aims to explore the figurative language of the story and to figure out that how the inculcation of these figurative devices contribute to the main motive of the story i.e. to generate a terrible, horrible and dreadful impact in the mind of the readers. As far as the methodology is concerned, the concerned study entails descriptive qualitative methodology, which aims to describe, decode, interpret and analyze the collected data and the motive behind it, while the theoretical framework which assists the study is Laurence Perrine’s method of stylistic analysis of the figurative language. Throughout the study, the researcher intends to locate the figurative devices, out of Perrine’s three levels classification of twelve figurative devices, and how these devices have been used for creating the intended effect to which the author Edgar Allan Poe calls “The Unity Effect” or “The Philosophy of Composition”. This research finds that Edgar Allan Poe has used these stylistic devices in order to make the language more terrible and horrible.

**Key Words:** Stylistic Analysis, Figurative devices, Terrible Imagery, Gothic Fiction, The Fall of the House of Usher, Edgar Allan Poe

**Introduction**

Gothic Fiction is one of the most explored and most loved genres in literature that introduces the reader to a sublime kind of experiences. This genre of literature has the ability to transcend the readers or audience from the rational time and space and absorb them into the world full of mystery, sublimity, suspense and gloom with the help of the inculcation of certain figurative devices that aim to sketch a dark and gloomy imagery through the linguistic components. As far as the history of Gothic Fiction is concerned, the term “gothic” dates back to “the” 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> century AD, when the eastern Germanic tribes, named, Goths used to attack the Roman Empire. They used to accompany other barbaric tribes and invade the other European regions. So the term ‘gothic’ basically came from these Germanic tribes which were referred to as a symbol of terror and horror, and gothic fiction is nothing else but terror and horror. Moreover, the gothic was also referred to the architecture and infrastructure developed by these Germanic tribes which, ultimately, had dominant glimpses of a gloomy imagery. The motive of this paper is to locate and analyze these gothic elements which have been foregrounded with the help of certain figurative devices, specifically the gothic imagery.

In Gothic Fiction, there are numerous literary figures who have shown their creativity in composing such a fiction. For instance, Horace Walpole, Samuel Tylor Coleridge, Lord Byron, Emily Dickinson, Marry Shelly, etc. However, as pointed by Nathálya Suyane Sepúlveda and Cláudio Augusto Carvalho Moura, the name of Edgar Allan Poe cannot be ignored when the word “dark imagery” or “gothic scenery” is uttered, because he is the one who has put his maximum literariness in composing the gothic works, that is why Poe has been termed as the “Father of American Gothic Fiction”. Most of his works explore the nature, elements, and the impact of the ‘terribly beautiful’ genera of literature, gothic fiction. For instance, The Raven, The Tell Tale Heart, The Black Cat, The Cask of Amontillado etc., which were compiled in The Tales of Horror (1840). All these stories revolve around the themes of death, mystery, terror, horror, gloom, depression and all the dark and depressing adjectives that could touch the gray matter. Of course, The Fall of the House of Usher is one of his most celebrated works that entails all the elements of the gothic fiction. For instance, the time and space, to which, Mikhail Bakhtin calls “The theory of Chrono top” that both the time and the space should contribute to the overall impact of a literary work. The same view is held by E.A Poe in his Philosophy of Composition that every linguistic unit used in a literary work should contribute to the targeted theme, which the dominant one in his own works is terror and fear. Apart from the Chrono top, the characters, the figurative language, the natural objects, even the works of other scholars referred to, contribute to generate the concerned impact. Due to the inculcation of these elements in their perfection, it would not be wrong to label The Fall of the House of Usher as the Bible of Gothic Fiction. Due to the richness of these elements both in quality and quantity, the researcher has earmarked The Fall of the House of Usher for study. This piece of fiction not merely present the gloomy description, rather all the depressing elements are linked to the psychological state of the major characters, so it can be argued that the whole story is a symbolic representation of the persona of its protagonist. As far as the theoretical framework is concerned, Lawrence Perrin’s theory of figurative devices has been utilized in the respective paper.

### **Problem Statement**

Stylistic devices and dark imagery formulate the back bone of Gothic Fiction, and this story, being the masterpiece of Gothic Fiction by Edgar Allan Poe, crucially needs the comprehension and exploration of these devices, which is the main concern of the respective study.

### **Research Objectives**

1. To explore the figurative language of the story The Fall of the House of Usher.
2. To elucidate the horrible imagery that is produced by these figurative devices.

### **Research Questions**

1. What are the figurative devices in the Fall of the House of Usher?
2. How these literary devices develop a dreadful imagery?

### **Significance of the Study**

The study carries a considerable importance as it aims to familiarize the readers with the literary devices that are scattered in the story and dark imagery that has been sketched in the story The Fall of the House of Usher, in a qualitative manner, which will ultimately enhance the understanding of the readers about such sort of fiction. Further this will help other researchers to carry out research in the same genre from a different angle. Hopefully, this study will equip the readers with

a deep understanding of gothic fiction and its integral part, the figurative language and the dark imagery.

### **Literature Review**

Stylistic analysis has been one of the major interest of the scholars associated with the field of Literature and Linguistics. Therefore, a lot of work has been carried out in this field. Heaps and heaps of literary works, such as poetry, novels, dramas, short stories and even non-fictional works such as debates, political speeches, news articles etc., have been explored from the perspective of stylistics. Such study is carried out on different levels. For instance, a poem can be analyzed from stylistic perspective on graphological level, phonological level. Lexico-semantic level or grammatical level. Same goes for the other genres. A work could be analyzed on any of these levels. Therefore, the concern study enlists the reviews of certain scholarly works that have been carried out in this field of study, as given below. Yamina (2013) in her comprehensive work “The Use of Symbolism in Poe's The Fall of the House of Usher” analyzes the figurative devices that have been utilized in the concerned story, such as irony, paradox, oxymoron, synecdoche, personification, simile metaphor, imagery etc. Her thesis which is qualitative in nature, explains these figurative devices, their use and importance in a literary work. Her stance is that these devices serve for two purposes. First, through these tools the writers usually get across their intended meaning or their hidden meaning. Secondly, these devices are very crucial for the ornamentation, decoration and beautification of literary work. In fact, she is of the view that these devices are the tools that segregate a fictional work from the non-fictional one. Another importance of these devices, according to her, is that these devices are helpful in keeping the reader engaged in the work. So it would not be wrong to argue that these devices serve as a catalyst for boosting the interest of the readers in a literary work. Varghese (2012) carrying her study on the stylistic analysis of Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte under the title “Stylistic Analysis of Emily Brontë's Wuthering Heights” argues that it is the style of the author that depicts his/her creativity and it is the language through which the reader confronts the views, opinion and stance of the author by decoding the vocabulary, syntax and the figurative devices used in the work. She believes that for comprehending a literary text, the reader must pay a careful attention to the linguistic features of the text that come under the category of stylistics. It's a branch of linguistics that reveals the message of the author by just paying a close attention to the textual elements, including its form and style, rather than taking in consideration the author's biography or era. The researcher concludes that Emily Bronte was skilled in using a variety of style. Therefore, stylistically, she was ahead of her time. Pajović (n.d.) in his article Elements of the Early Gothic E. A. Poe's “THE FALL OF THE HOUSE OF USHER” explores the work of Edgar Allan Poe in relation with early gothic fiction. The research entails qualitative methodology of analysis and interpretation. In the concerned article, the researcher is focused on the influence that the writers of early gothic fiction had on Edgar Allan Poe. Throughout the analysis he compares the components of The Fall of the House of Usher with the works of early gothic fiction such as that of Horace Walpole and many more. The research found out that Poe was highly influenced from the works and writers of early gothic fiction. When it comes to the rules of gothic composition, Poe strictly sticks to them. For instance, the setting of the work, the characters involved in the work, the superstitious machinery used in the work and the mysterious description of the natural objects, which ultimately aim to produce a dark, terrible and horrible imagery.

Another seminal work has been composed by Dr. Halima Benzoukh and Dr. Zohra Mehellou in their collaborated article, “Investigating Religious Symbolism in Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein and Edgar Allan Poe’s A Descent into the Maelstrom: A Stylistics Analysis” In the selected article, the scholars are keen to locate religious symbolism in the two mentioned works; one by merry shelly and the other by E.A. Poe. Symbolism is one of the major elements of stylistics analysis. The scholars are of the view that, during the era of these two literary figures, there were humongous religious conflicts and clashes. Consequently, these figures wanted to bring some religious reformation in the society, therefor they inculcated religious symbolism in their works implicitly, in order to achieve the required motive i.e. to reform the society religiously. The researchers have utilized St. Augustine’s theory of signs in order to comprehend the religious symbols deeply. (Benzoukh & Mehellou, 2022) Civelek in his study “The Detailed Analysis of the Black Cat by Edgar Allan Poe in Stylistic Perspective” explores the writing style of Edgar Allan Poe from his work The Black Cat. In his work the researcher has applied Leech and Short’s method of stylistic analysis on the selected work. The stylistic analysis carried out on the concerned work is on four certain levels, such as lexical, grammatical, figurative, contextual and cohesive. His findings reveal that Poe was a skilled literary figure who inculcated punctuations, diction and the repetitive words in order to create an atmosphere of terror and fear. According to the scholar, Poe’s deliberate skillful use of figures of speech, grants him a distinctive and laudable status among the literary figures. (Civelek,2021)

### **Research Methodology**

The methodology utilized in the concerned paper is descriptive qualitative methodology which focuses on the description, interpretation, analysis and evaluation of the work without any numerical data or representation. It aims to decode the selected work and unearth the meaning of that work from any angle and domain. As far as the concerned paper is concerned, it will delayer the stylistic or literary devices integrated in the story and the imagery that these devices put across.

### **Theoretical framework**

The theory applied on this study is Laurence Perrine’s Theory of Figurative Devices. Perrin’s in his book Sound and Sense: An Introduction to Poetry (1963) proposed the theory of figurative devices in which he classified these devices into three categories on the basis of different relationship. The first one is on the basis of comparison, which includes simile, metaphor, apostrophe and personification. The second one is on the basis of contrast, which includes paradox, irony, hyperbole and litotes. The third on is on the basis of association, which includes metonymy, synecdoche, allegory and allusion. So based on this classification, the figurative devices would be located in the selected work and their relation to the whole impact would be analyzed.

#	<b>On The Basis of Comparison</b>	<b>On The Basis of Contrast</b>	<b>On The Basis of Association</b>
1	Simile	Paradox	Allegory
2	Metaphor	Irony	Synecdoche
3	Personification	Hyperbole	Metonymy
4	Apostrophe	Litotes	Symbolism

## **Discussion and Analysis**

In this portion of the paper, all of the stylistic devices mentioned in the above table would be explored and located in the selected story. This portion will quote the instances and examples from the text, where these tropes have been interwoven. Furthermore, the meaning and motive behind the inculcation of these devices would be decoded in order to present a deep and thorough analysis of the story *The Fall of the House of Usher*.

### **On the Basis of Comparison:**

This classification includes four types of figurative devices. These devices are simile, metaphor, apostrophe and personification. The use of these devices aim to establish a comparison between two different things.

**Simile** as articulated by Corbett & Connors (1999) is “a figure of speech that explicitly compares two unlike things by using a conjunction such as, ‘like’ ‘as’ or ‘than’ in order to highlight their similarities. So, it is used to compare two different things with one another on the basis of certain similarities. Now if the story *The Fall of the House of Usher* is looked into, the very first simile can be seen in the very exposition of the story, when the narrator describes the house of the usher, as he says, “I looked upon...the vacant-eye like windows.” Here, he compares the windows with an empty scull, in order to create a haunted imagery in the mind of the reader. This simile is important because it contributes to the overall impact of the story i.e. to generate horror and fear. Secondly, when he enters the room of Usher, he compares the tapestries with cataracts of gold as, “the tapestries hung from the ceiling like a cataract of gold”. Thirdly, when he describes his friend Roderick Usher, the narrator says, “Surely, man has never been so terribly altered as Roderick Usher” explaining his past and present conditions. Further, he says, “his eyes were sunken and his skin was as white as marble...his hair was as black as ebony”. Here, he compares Usher’s past and present and through this comparison he depicts the imagery of an absolutely depressed man. In the same scene, he compares the hair of usher with web saying, “hair of a more than web-like softness.” Apart from this, there are numerous other instances as well, where simile has been used for creating a terrible impact on the mind of the reader. In one instance, the narrator says in the resolution, “there was a tumultuous shouting sound like the voice of a thousand waters.” Similarly, he compares the trees with the guards of the house as, “the trees seemed to lean in, like sentinels guarding the secret of the house.” Likewise, he compares Lady Madeline’s face with a pale “moon” and her eyes with “two dark wells”. All these similes are used deliberately in order to generate a dark and horrible imagery in the mind of the readers, as well as to reveal the psychological complexities and emptiness of the characters.

**Metaphor** defined by Lanham (1991) “is a figure of speech that involves an implicit comparison between two unlike things, without using ‘like’ or ‘as’; it states that one thing is another thing, in order to illuminate their shared characteristics or qualities” is another widely used figure of speech. It is another poetic device of comparison in which two different things are directly compared with one another, or one thing is replaced with another thing, for the sake of comparison. In this device, there is no use of as and like, rather the comparison is drawn directly. In the selected story, there are numerous instance where metaphor has been inculcated. For instance, the very title of the story “*The Fall of the House of Usher*” is metaphorical, because this house doesn’t represent an infrastructure only, rather it’s the metaphorical representation of the disturbed psychological state

of the characters. The narrator describes the house as “a mystery all insoluble” so as the mental state of Roderick Usher. Describing the anterior and the exterior of the house, the narrator says that his eyes fall “upon the bleak walls, upon the vacant-eye like windows, and upon few white trunks of decayed trees” Now, if this description is compared with the personality of Roderick Usher, it could be arguing that all these qualities are crystal clear in his own personality, as he says, “the now ghastly pallor of the skin, and the now miraculous luster of the eve, above all things startled and awed me.” So, this gloomy description of the house also represents the gloomy state of the major character. In the same way, the fall of the house is the metaphorical representation of the fall of Usher’s family, because with the demise of the two last members of the Usher family, the house also collapses, as the narrator says that the lady Madeline “fell heavily inward upon the person of her brother and in her now and final death agonies, bore him to the floor a corpse” immediately when he flees the house, the narrator describes the end of the house as well as, “while I gazed, this fissure rapidly widened...the entire rob of the satellite burst at once upon my sight.” So, this decline of the house represents the decline of the usher race as well.

**Personification** is “a trop that attribute human qualities, emotions or actions to non-human entities, such as objects animals or ideas” as described by Abraham & Harpham (2015), is another mostly used figurative device in a literary composition. Now, if the story *The Fall of the House of Usher* is taken a glance of, numerous instances of personification can be figured out, whose main motive is to contribute to the central notion of the story, i.e. to generate fear in the mind of the readers. For instance, when the narrator describes the room of the Usher, he says, “the gloomy furniture of the room.” Being gloomy is actually the quality of living objects, but here the narrator use the term “gloomy” for the furniture in order to cement his horrible description. Secondly, when the narrator describes the horrible and thunderous night in the resolution of the story, he says, “the storm was still abroad in all its wrath.” Now, being wrathful is also the quality of animate object, but here, the speaker has use it for the wind, not merely for creating an aesthetic impact but to generate fear and suspense. In the same scene, he further says, “there came a fierce breath of the whirlwind.” Same is the case with the statement, “an air of gloom hung over and pervaded all.” So, the instances of these personifications, again, contribute to the overall impact of the story.

### **On the Basis of Contrast**

The second class in Laurence Perrine’s theory of poetic devices is on the basis of contrast. This class includes paradox, irony, hyperbole and litotes. Now if the story is taken a look of, these figurative devices could be easily figured out.

**Paradox**, as expounded by Sorensen “is a statement that contradicts itself or appears to defy logic, yet may still be true or contain a hidden truth.” Sorensen (2019). Now if the story is taken a look of, certain paradoxical statements could be figured out. For example, when the narrator describes the wild night, he says, “it was indeed, a tempestuous yet sternly beautiful night, and one wildly singular in its terror and its beauty.” Now, ‘terror’ or ‘wildness’ and ‘beauty’ are contradictory lexemes. The former appalls the reader while the later appeases the reader. However, here the author has brought them together, in order to generate a sublime kind of fear in the psyche of the reader. Same is the case with “sickly smile” when he mentions the facial expressions of Roderick Usher. Secondly, in another instance, when the narrator describes the exterior of the house, he says, “the odours of all flowers were oppressive.” Here, the term ‘odor’ has been used for the flowers. The flowers are generally associated with sweet fragrance, not odour, because ‘odour’ is

used for detestable, dirty or unpleasant smell. Here the purpose of giving this paradoxical description, is again to prioritize the despair, dejection and despondency.

**Irony**, another widely used literary device, as defined by Abraham is “a trop that involves a discrepancy or incongruity between what is said and what is meant, or between what is expected and what actually occurs” (Abraham & Harpham, 2015). The story *The Fall of the House of Usher* is imbedded with irony. The mostly dominant type of irony in the story is the situational irony. Revealing the purpose of his visit to the Usher’s house, the narrator says, “I was busied in earnest endeavors to alleviate the melancholy of my friend.” However, as the story moves ahead, Roderick Usher deteriorates, rather than the alleviation of melancholy, as later on the narrator comments, “it was no wonder that his condition terrified, that it infected me.” Another example is that of the Usher’s mansion. Usually, a mansion or a palace or a house is associated with shelter and protection. In case of mansion, it is generally taken for a luxury living. The irony here is that the mansion itself is haunted. It is not at all welcoming for the humans, as the narrator comments, “I breathe an atmosphere of gloom” so it was more of a house, rather than a home.

**Hyperbole**, is “a form of rhetorical exaggeration, used to intensify or dramatize a statement.” It aims to make a statement or impression more forcefully (fyre, 1957). The story *The Fall of the House of Usher* entails multiple instances of hyperbole for generating a forcefully terrible impact. For instance, the very description of the house has been exaggerated in a terrible manner in order to scare the audience. The narrator describing the house, says “a sense of insufferable gloom pervaded my spirit...I looked upon the bleak walls, upon the vacant eye-like windows and upon a few white trunks of decayed trees.” Further, illuminated the unilluminated environment of the anterior, the narrator says, “this mansion of gloom ...a fancy so ridiculous... a sensation which oppressed me ... an atmosphere which had no affinity with the air of heaven... the decayed trees, the gray wall and the silent tarn...dull, sluggish, faintly discernible.” In the same gloomy manner, he says, “I entered the gothic archways of the hall through many dark and intricate passages.” Likewise, intensifying the terrible change in Roderick Usher’s persona, the narrator says, “surely, man had never before so terribly altered as had Roderick Usher... [There] lay so much of change [in him] that I doubted to whom I speak.” Apart from the linear narration, when the narrator recites the poem *The Haunted Palace*, he exaggerated its former splendid condition by saying, “by good angels tenanted ... it [the palace] stood there...through two luminous windows saw spirits moving musically...and all with pearls and ruby glowing was the fair palace door, through which came flowing, flowing, flowing and sparkling evermore, a troop of Echoes whose sweet duty was to but to sing, the wit and wisdom of their king.” At the end, describing the fall of the house, the narrator says, “I saw a mighty walls rushing asunder there was a long tumultuous shouting sound like the voice of a thousand waters.” To wrap up, all these instances of hyperbole mean to horrify and terrify the readers.

**Litotes**, as elucidated by Abraham and Harpham (2015) is “a figure of speech in which an affirmative or negative statement is made by negating its opposite, often to convey a sense of irony, understatement or emphasis” this device means to understate something by bringing forth its opposite in the form of negation. For instance, in the story, the narrator says, “we made our way into the scarcely less gloomy apartment of the upper portion of the house.” The second instance is when the narrator says, “the windows were long, narrow and pointed and at a distance from the floor as to be altogether inaccessible form within.” These two examples again contribute to the unity of effect i.e. to generate terror in this particular work.

### **On the Basis of Associations**

This category of figurative devices includes allegory, synecdoche, metonymy and illusion. These figurative devices are used to show the association of one thing with another or to represent a thing, an idea or a phenomenon either with the help of its part, or a part with the help of its whole and so on.

**Allegory**, explained by (Baldrick, 2008) is “a narrative or description that has a second meaning beneath its literal or surface level interpretation” allegory is used to put across a meaning that is beyond the surface one. Now, if the story is taken a look of, it can be argued that it’s not just piece of art that aims to narrate the decline of an infrastructure, rather it’s the decline of a whole race i.e. the Usher race. It can be said that the collapse of the house of Usher is the allegorical representation of the entire Usher family, because the characters involved in the story are the final members of the Usher family, so once they get vanished, the whole race gets finished. Secondly, the description of the house is not the description merely of a structure, rather it’s the description of the psychological state of the central character Usher. Even some critics view the “fissure” in the wall is the psychological breakdown of Usher or the demarcation between Usher’s sanity and insanity. This allegorical representation can be figured out very clearly from the description of the terrible night after Lady Madeline’s death. The displaying the dark night says, “There were frequent and violent alterations in the direction of wind...we had no glimpse of stars, nor was there any flashing forth of the lightning.” Now, this terrible outer world is the allegorical representation of the terrible inner world of Usher, as after this description, the narrator describes the condition of Usher says, “I saw that his lips trembled as if he were murmuring something inaudibly...the motion of his body too was at variance...a sickly smile quivered about his lips.” And then he bursts out as he shouts, “Not hear it? Yes, I hear it, and have heard it, long\_long\_long, many minutes many hours, many days I have heard it...have I heard not her footsteps on the stair... madman I tell you that she now stands without the door.” Keeping in view these instances and this similarity between the external environment and the internal situation of the central character, it been be argued that his work is highly allegorical.

**Synecdoche**, is another well used figurative device, defined by Abraham and Harpham (2015) is “a figure of speech in which a part represents the whole of something or a whole represents the part of something.” In the story the example of synecdoche is the windows of the house. For scholars such as Kennedy (1987) the windows of the house is a part of the house which represents the whole palace. As the windows of the house have been compared with an empty human skull, so is the whole palace. As the windows are horrible and terrible, so is the whole mansion.

**Symbolism**, last but not the least is another widely used literary device. According to Cuddon (1998) symbolism is “a fundamental concept in literary criticism where an object, color or any other element in a literary work is used to represent something else.” In fact, the author Edgar Allan Poe is known for the use of symbols throughout his works. If specifically, The Fall of the House Usher is taken into consideration, there are numerous symbols used in the story. For example, the “black tarn” before the the house symbolizes the theme of duality and reflection. The “house” symbolizes the Usher race, the “weather” in the story symbolizes the psychological turmoil of the major character. The lady Madeline is the symbol of feminism in the story, the books, paintings and music symbolizes the psyche of the typically depressed man, Roderick Usher.



## Results/findings

The above detailed and comprehensive discussion and analysis proves that the works of Edgar Allan Poe are enriched in stylistic devices. These devices, on the one hand, reveals the literary competency of the author, and on the other hand, the capability of the author to put across the intended meaning in a non-literal sense. This representation of ideas through non-literal language is carried out with the help of the literary devices. As the above discussion, along with examples and instances from the text, shows that Lawrence Perrine's classification of poetic devices can be figured out in the work *The Fall of the House of Usher* very vividly. The analysis also finds that the major motive behind the inculcation of these devices is to justify the theory of Edgar Allan Poe what he calls "the unity of effect". In this sense these figurative devices are engrained in the work in order to produce a terrible, horrible, dreadful and awful effect. As expounded in detail, the use of these tropes, such as simile, metaphor, personification, paradox, irony, synecdoche and symbolism etc., are used for a particular purpose and that purpose in Poe's works is nothing else but to justify the "philosophy of composition".

## Conclusion

To wrap up, Gothic Fiction is one of the most loved and explored genres in literature which bestows the readers with a sublime kind of experiences. It has the potential of transforming the audience from a rationale and place into a world full of horror, mystery and suspense. Many literary giants have invested their creativity in the composition and development of this sort of fiction, and of course, Edgar Allan Poe is a leading member among them, who has been termed as "The Father of American Gothic Fiction". This type of literature has its own elements and components, such as time, place, characters, and natural objects etc., which are designed differently from the other sort of fiction. Among these components, the stylistic devices which are also called literary devices, poetic devices, figurative devices and tropes, carry a considerable importance. It is with the help of these devices that the author generates the assumed impact i.e. horror, fear, thrill and suspense. Now, if the works of Edgar Allan Poe are taken a glance of, these stylistic devices are quite embedded in them. For instance, his works, such as *The Black Cat*, *The Tell Tale Heart*, *The Cask of Amontillado* and so on. Indeed, one of his highly commended work is *The Fall of the House of Usher*, which is enrich in the components of Gothic Fiction. With the help of Perrine's classification of figurative devices, the paper clarified the use of these figurative devices in the selected story and the motive behind their inculcation.

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