

# EXTRA & EXTRA

## TOWN TOPICS

### INVITATION OR INTIMIDATION: CONFRONTATION AT THE MARKET

#### UPCOMING EVENT

**The Raven's Ball**  
**October 4<sup>th</sup>, 1859**

Proudly Sponsored  
by the Esteemed  
Maria Clem in grand  
partnership with the  
infamous  
**Thunderhead**  
**Entertainment**  
Center, to celebrate  
and honor the  
immortal legacy of  
the late, great Edgar  
Allan Poe.

An unparalleled  
night awaits—music,  
mystery, and perhaps  
even the unexpected!

#### WHAT WE KNOW

**M**aria Clem, Poe's step-mother, was regularly seen defying her now ex-husband John Allan publicly in regards to Poe and his work. Though often cold and exacting, her loyalty was absolute. Eventually after Poe's death, she left Allan, taking what little he had left, and built her own business.

Witnesses say Clem cornered Grisswald in the market, creating quite the public scene as she demanded he stop his lies before he regrets it. Some reports claim she carried a knife during the confrontation. Multiple witnesses say she stated "I'll be in red, if you come it'll hide whatever could happen next." as she handed him an invitation wrapped in a red handkerchief.

#### HOT GOSSIP

Through the years Maria was outspoken with her hatred towards Grisswald. Rumor has it she attempted to invite him secretly to the Raven's Ball. It is believed she wanted the opportunity to confront Grisswald again, but surrounded by Poe's supporters as backup.

#### WHAT YOU SEE

You see dark red fabric sewed onto her dress and remember her threat against Grisswald

You see a small knife she has occasionally used throughout the night

You notice Maria is wearing an all black choker and gloves. Such dainty, secretive pieces are unusual for Maria.

You notice she is at the center of the event, running a tight ship. You can't help but wonder if she didn't do it, how did anything slip past her?

#### THE WHOS WHO

**Special Guests Attending**  
**The Raven's Ball**

John Allan  
Poe's Stepfather

Maria Clem  
Poe's stepmother

Frances Osgood  
Poe's "Alleged" Affair  
Partner

Elizabeth Elliot  
Poe's Deep Admirer

