

# EXTRA & EXTRA

## TOWN TOPICS

### A LOVER'S DESPERATION: GOSSIP AND CONTROVERSY STIRS

#### UPCOMING EVENT

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

Proudly Sponsored  
by **Thunderhead  
Entertainment** in  
grand  
partnership with the  
Esteemed  
Maria Clem in  
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

Frances Osgood is another famous poet and the “alleged” affair partner of Poe. Whispers have long tied Frances to Poe and Elizabeth in a web of affection and scandal. Their all-too-familiar poems stirred talk of a love triangle with Grisswald, and even a scandal involving Elizabeth Elliot. It is said Frances Osgood sought out Grisswald today, the day of the Raven's Ball, not in fury but in desperation. Witnesses recall her begging him to end his attacks on Poe. Some say she even implored him to skip the ball entirely. Observers reported that at his humiliating dismissal she gripped her feather-shaped letter opener so hard she cut her hand, her rage searing. In a flash, she snatched a stone from the ground, raising it, then stopped, letting it rest at her side as she walked away. Heartbreak, fury, or both, whatever drove her words and actions, Grisswald ignored it all.

#### HOT GOSSIP

Frances Osgood and Poe were caught exchanging letters too intimate to be innocent. Elizabeth Elliot discovered the correspondence, sparking rumors of a secret affair. Grisswald seized on the scandal, twisting poems and whispers to attack Poe. Frances reportedly begged him to stop, desperate to contain the fallout. Grisswald is in love with Frances, but allegedly rejected for Poe. Even after Poe's death, Grisswald's attacks continued, using real letters and poems to justify his crusade. Though most of his campaign was false, his obsession with her attention persisted, leaving Frances caught in the middle.

#### WHAT YOU SEE

You see her feathered letter opener kept closely by her side

You notice chalk or dust on her hands, and light rubble around her feet

You notice her size and polite demeanor, but recall moments of angry outbursts. She was seen shoving Elizabeth earlier in the night

#### 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

