F. J. Bergmann - OPERATION TO DISSEVER SOUL FROM EX-GIRLFRIEND’S SOUL SUCCESSFUL

BALTIMORE, MD – An elite surgical team at Johns Hopkins successfully detached the soul of Ed Poe, 27, from that of his former girlfriend, Anna "Belle" Lee, 22, using a revolutionary new technique. The operation had previously been attempted by divine and infernal means, but both of those efforts failed.

Pale and wan but smiling after the 14-hour ordeal, Poe said from his hospital bed, "I'm feeling lots better than I expected! I've always been, like, a pessimist, so I anticipated that my soul from out that shadow would be lifted nevermore, like when Lenore broke up with me.”

Poe claims to be experiencing "a real sense of relief and lightness." Lee was discharged by the hospital into the care of relatives immediately following the operation and could not be reached for comment. Poe, an avid corvidologist, keeps a tame raven, and was concerned that the neighbor's children he had hired to care for his pet during his hospital stay might not be mature enough to handle the responsibility. "I'm sure they mean well, but they have been known to forget to leave the window open so Khalil can get in when I'm not there to hear a rapping, as of someone gently tapping, and a couple of months ago I caught them trying to teach him rap from old Puff Daddy YouTube videos. How many times do I have to tell them that 'Nevermore' is traditional?"

Poe intends to go on the lecture circuit after he recovers. "I feel that I have a lot to offer, especially as inspiration for those poor souls trapped in toxic or high-maintenance relationships. I mean, like, now that the nightmare is over, I can’t believe that I actually spent every night by her side, in a tomb! The Goth thing is so not me."

Poe is looking forward to resuming alcohol and opium use as soon as his doctors give the OK.