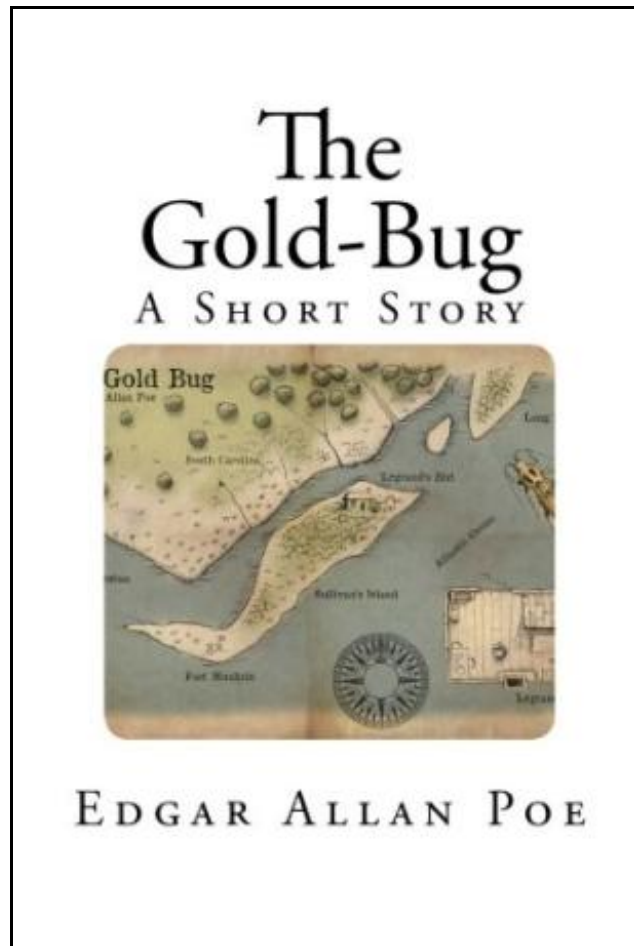


The Gold-Bug: A Short Story



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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 214 x 149 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The Gold-Bug Edgar Allan Poe A Classic Horror Story The Gold-Bug is a short story by Edgar Allan Poe. Set on Sullivan s Island, South Carolina, the plot follows William Legrand, who was recently bitten by a gold-colored bug. His servant, Jupiter, fears Legrand is going insane and goes to Legrand s friend, an unnamed narrator, who agrees to visit his old friend. Legrand pulls the other two into an adventure after deciphering a secret message that will lead to a buried treasure. The story is often compared with Poe s tales of ratiocination as an early form of detective fiction. Poe became aware of the public s interest in secret writing in 1840 and asked readers to challenge his skills as a code-breaker. Poe took advantage of the popularity of cryptography as he was writing The Gold-Bug, and the success of the story centers on one such cryptogram. The characterization of Legrand s servant Jupiter has been criticized as racist from a modern perspective, especially because his speech is written in dialect and because of his often comical dialogue. Poe submitted The Gold-Bug as an entry to a writing contest sponsored by the Philadelphia Dollar Newspaper. His story won the grand prize and was published in three installments, beginning in June 1843. The prize also included \$100, probably the largest single sum Poe received for any of his works. The Gold-Bug was an instant success and was the most popular and most widely read of Poe s works during his lifetime. It also helped popularize cryptograms and secret writing.

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