



The quote "Sub conservatione
formae speciae salva anima" (Under
the protection of a specific form, my soul
is safe) from the wise and mysterious Ramon
Llull begins one of the few Poeian tales to have
a feminine theme and happy ending, unlike
others like Ligeia or Morella. Although, as is
often the case, to reach that ending one has
to tread a precariously unnerving path dotted
with the basic ingredients of Poe's artistic work,
namely: incest, death of a loved one and love
beyond the grave. Many consider the tale to be
autobiographical, in reference to the writer's
marriage with his cousin, Virginia Clemm.
It was first published in 1842 in *The Gift: A
Christmas and New Year's Present*, under the title
Eleonora: A fable.

They who dream by day are cognizant of many
things which escape those who dream only at night.
Eleonora

Illustration
by
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Eleonora