

Edgar Allan Poe

- 1. Always begin a portrait with the eyes. Use a thick needle to pokeout the highlight in each eye. Shade each eyelid. Carve out the area under each eye.
- 2. Carefully carve and shade the areas directly around the right eye, about a half inch at a time, while carving out this areas between the eye and his nose. Carve out the highlight on his nose and shade along this area. Half inch by half inch, slowly shade and carve out the area around the mustache, mouth and chin. (Note, the outline on the right side of his nose is very fragile. Be careful!)
- 3. Carve/shade the highlights in Poe's hair and on each ear.
- 4. Carefully carve the left cheek, beginning under the inside corner of the eye and carving out the area along the nose first, then around the left side of the cheek. Be very careful to go slowly, carving this area into several tiny pieces to remove this section without breaking it. Do not allow the pressure from your hand to rest on the carved areas or they will break.
- 5. Carve out the remaining forehead section into several tiny pieces for careful removal. Shade along the sides of the forehead and cheeks.
- 6. Shade the outline of each shoulder. Starting with the sections directly under the chin, begin carving/shading these sections of his neck first.
- 7. Finally, carve/shade the areas in the center of his clothes, and then the outer sections on each side.

Note: When carving portrait pumpkins, or any pumpkin with lots of shading, I always have a corded or battery powered light turned on and placed inside the pumpkin. This will allow you to judge the depth of the pumpkin's shell, and you can easily tell which areas need to be thinned more to give you a brighter area, or less to create more shadowy depths.