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During a 2020 interview, Robert Eggers’ mentions his film *The Lighthouse* (2019) was inspired by Edgar Allen Poe’s unfinished short story of the same name. Although the critical reception of *The Lighthouse* was primarily positive, critics struggled to categorize this film about two lightkeepers stationed on a remote New England island in the 1890s within a specific genre. Indeed, the film consistently slips between reality and dream, and the mounting tension throughout the film culminates in a final haunting vision that is never explained. This paper explores Eggers’ literary inspirations for *The Lighthouse*, not only examining the obvious influences of Edgar Allen Poe, but also less obvious literary allusions from H. P. Lovecraft, folktales, and Greek mythologies. Through the analysis of the film *The Lighthouse* and its myriad influences, this paper argues how Eggers was able to successfully achieve this film’s unique stylistic tone through its complex interplay between literary and mythical inspirations, thus creating a film that effectively bends genres to create an unsettling, uncanny effect on the viewer.