According to Zimmerman, “Had the narrator been able to retain his initial tranquility, he might have been able to produce some closing remarks (a summary of his case and a terminal flourish), but by the end of the speech his forensic powers have degenerated into complete and utter frenzy.” This is a very weak way to quote. See the following sentence for improvement:

His inability to “produce some closing remarks” at the end of the story shows that the narrator’s mind had “degenerated into complete and utter frenzy” (Zimmerman).

The seeming genius of Poe’s narrator is undermined when “the aspiring sleuth exposes his foolishness [while] he celebrates his investigative prowess” (Kennedy).

It is ironic that Billie is the only character with a name since he is the one who meets with the “sinister hospitality of the grave” (Crane 265).

The “dark speck,” the chrysanthemums dead or dying on the side of the road, represents the elimination of the light of Elisa’s hope for independence and proves that she will never be loosed from her pot (Steinbeck 7).
Works Cited


