

The Lighthouse at Two Lights, Edward Hopper, 1929



**Text written by Mathéo
JOUBAIRE - TG6**

**Winner of the Speakeasy
Writing Competition 2023**

<https://www.speakeasy-news.com/edward-hopper-winners-b2/>

A mythical lighthouse on Cape Elizabeth built in 1787 contains stories about missing sailors and spirits. A young married couple, Emily and Frank set up in Portland Head in the 30's. In this lonely lighthouse overlooking the sea, the couple had taken refuge. The old man had been sent to France during World War One in 1918. As he was a witness of shocking events he came back traumatized and quiet. Nobody talked to him for years except for his wife. Sometimes neighbours could see Emily in town shopping for some groceries but he didn't go out anymore.

Rumours quickly spread when the light, usually always on to guide ships, did not shine on a November morning. Some people were saying that the old Frank had died during another nightmare. Others were waiting for his wife in town to ask her what had happened and why the lighthouse was off. The crowd waited for days and days but neither Emily nor Frank went down to the village. The authorities decided to enter the building swept by the sea winds by forcing the door. The ships needed light to go along the coast. Two men had been chosen and the youngest one was quite frightened because of all the stories linked with this century old lighthouse. They entered the house and found nobody so they decided to climb to the top of the lighthouse despite their fright. Frank was sitting there silently, facing his wife's dead body.