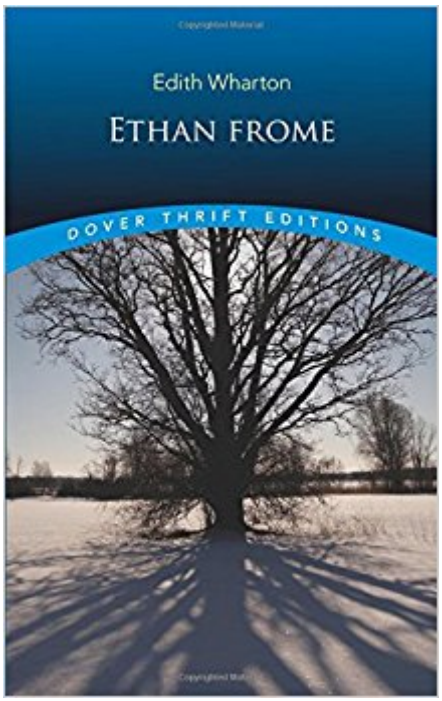
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Ethan Frome (Dover Thrift Editions)



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Synopsis

Perhaps the best-known and most popular of Edith Wharton’s novels, Ethan Frome is widely considered her masterpiece. Set against a bleak New England background, the novel tells of Frome, his ailing wife Zeena and her companion Mattie Silver, superbly delineating the characters of each as they are drawn relentlessly into a deep-rooted domestic struggle.Burdened by poverty and spiritually dulled by a loveless marriage to an older woman. Frome is emotionally stirred by the arrival of a youthful cousin who is employed as household help. Mattie’s presence not only brightens a gloomy house but stirs long-dormant feelings in Ethan. Their growing love for one another, discovered by an embittered wife, presages an ending to this grim tale that is both shocking and savagely ironic.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1090 (What’s this?)
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Paperback: 77 pages
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Language: English
ISBN-10: 0486266907
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Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 618 customer reviews
Best Sellers Rank: #5,972 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #21 inÃ Â Books > Textbooks > Reference > Encyclopedias #170 inÃ Â Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Literature #289 inÃ Â Books > Literature & Fiction > Classics
Age Range: 11 and up
Grade Level: 6 and up

Customer Reviews

Set against the bleak winter landscape of New England, Ethan Frome tells the story of a poor farmer, lonely and downtrodden, his wife Zeena, and her cousin, the enchanting Mattie Silver. In the playing out of this short novel’s powerful and engrossing drama, Edith Wharton constructed her least characteristic and most celebrated book. In its unyielding and shocking pessimism, its bleak demonstration of tragic waste, it is a masterpiece of psychological and emotional realism. In her

introduction the distinguished critic Elaine Showalter discusses the background to the novel's composition and the reasons for its enduring success.

I hadn't read Edith Wharton for some time, so I was happy to find this Kindle offering. Just made my purchase & I note that there is a CLEAR INDEX in the front; it is very easy to navigate and looks just like the side illustration (the one next to the cover pic). For 99 cents, this is a true bargain; many stories here! I'm glad to have Ms. Wharton on my Kindle; it feels just like meeting an old friend again!

[This pertains to the H&H edition.] The TOC easily permits you to go directly to those titles which the editors have chosen to include in their TOC. While several of these happen to pertain to specific short stories, the majority of titles in the TOC are of BOOKS. However, there is no direct access to the SHORT STORIES contained within seven of those books which are compilations of such stories -- not even a listing of them so the reader can know what to search for. And there are LOTS of great stories "hidden" within them.There are 7 stories in "Crucial Instances," 9 in "Descent of Man," 5 in part-1 of her "Early Short Fiction," 6 in part-2 of her "Early Short Fiction," 8 in "The Greater Inclination," 7 in "The Hermit and the Wild Woman," and 10 in "Tales of Men and Ghosts," for a total of 52 short stories (keeping in mind a number of these stories are duplicated and listed as separate entities within the TOC, so the grand total is a bit lower). Some poems are also thrown into the mix, but these appear formatted as prose rather than arranged in stanzas and are uncomfortable to read. These are the reasons an otherwise five star collection gets only four. Nevertheless, at such a low price for so much great content, it's hard to complain too much. Be aware, however, some of her newer works (not yet in the public domain) are missing from it.UPDATE 06-29-16: Finally, truly complete and well-organized editions have arrived. THE COMPLETE EDITH WHARTON COLLECTION from Falcon Classics contains virtually everything she ever wrote, and active TOCs provide direct access to all content. There are other editions, too, from other ebook bundlers, priced as low as $.99. I would now recommend you go with one of them.

I did my doctoral dissertation on the novels of Edith Wharton so I jumped at the chance to buy this set of her complete works. If you have not yet read Wharton's writing, you are in for a great treat. A number of her novels are masterpieces, such as The House of Mirth, Ethan Frome, The Age of Innocence (made into a moving film by Martin Scorsese starring Daniel Day Lewis, Michelle Pfeiffer, and Winona Rider), and Summer (a lesser-known work). Her short stories are also powerful and

moving; one of them was made into a fine film starring Bette Davis.Wharton is a master of accurate characterization, presentation of the most telling details, and rich plot. But the greatest treat about reading the works of Edith Wharton is her writing itself - elegant, impeccable. emotionally resonant, and possessing a perfection of tone applied to each different situation.

...you will love Edith Wharton too! She was 100 years later than Austen & American rather than British, but like Austen wrote of upper class life & manners (in New York City rather than England) with beautifully drawn characters, both male & female. All her books (like Austen's) are page-turners.I downloaded the Works of Edith Wharton to my Iphone which permits me to read in every spare second. I'm currently reading Wharton's ghost stories, most of which are actually about the human spirit (was Wharton using the term "ghost" ironically?) and a few of which are actually about ghosts.

If you are a fan of the writings of Edith Wharton then you are getting quite a bang for your dollar with this collection. If you are not a fan, or have never written her works, then this is a rather inexpensive way to find out if you are actually a fan and never knew it before...little loss it this author is simply not your cup of tea.Wonder and work able index comes with this one which is quite handy since reading one work after anther would be a bore and I like the option of being able to browse and read what I want when I want.Wharton is a rather unique literary voice and most who read her work will agree that she can indeed write and write well.I highly recommend this one.

THIS BOOK! I can't even fully describe in a review my feelings on this book because they are so intense that i would probably exceed the word limit.I read this book in high school and it is truly so beautiful and well written that when certain things transpired i quite literally threw my book at a wall and broke it in half because of my sheer fury at Edith Wharton who obviously wanted me to feel like a black pit of despair.PRO's :This book will change you as a person.The book is so well written that it will make you a better writer just by having read it.Edith Wharton knows how to write an amazing unconventional love story that you will feel so vividly that you will think you are one of the characters.This is probably one of the greatest books ever writtenCON's:SPOILER: (it might not have the happiest of endings)This book will make you think that you are skipping around in a beautiful field of daises of joy and laughter and wonderment heading towards happily ever after highway - then out of nowhere because WE LIVE IN A CRUEL CRUEL WORLD you will realize that you are NOT headed to happily ever highway but actually to the darkest pit of despair and agony

and horrific pain that you will wonder why did you ever want to read this book in the first place? You will wonder if your whole life is a LIE because nothing ever turns out as it seems.When you are done reading this book you will probably need a glass of wine, or a sedative, or a marathon of your favorite comedy tv show because you will feel like a dark cloud of torment and woe sits over you mocking your once faith in humanity and literature.You will never again trust any book as "safe" because as dear old Edith has taught us, writers love your misery.So overall i would highly recommend this book

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