

Ethan Frome: A Tragic Love Story with Original Illustrations

Ethan Frome is a tragic love story by Edith Wharton, first published in 1911. The novel tells the story of Ethan Frome, a poor farmer living in rural New England, and his forbidden love for Mattie Silver, a young woman who comes to live with his family as a hired girl.



Ethan Frome: With Original Illustrations by Edith Wharton

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1055 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 102 pages
Lending	: Enabled



The novel is set in the fictional town of Starkfield, Massachusetts, in the late 19th century. Starkfield is a small, isolated town, and its inhabitants are bound by tradition and social convention. Ethan Frome is a respected member of the community, but he is also a lonely and isolated man. He is married to Zeena, a cold and bitter woman who has made his life miserable.

When Mattie Silver arrives in Starkfield, she brings a breath of fresh air into Ethan's life. Mattie is young, beautiful, and full of life. She is everything that

Zeena is not. Ethan falls deeply in love with Mattie, and she with him. However, their love is doomed from the start. Zeena is determined to keep Ethan and Mattie apart, and the social conventions of Starkfield make it impossible for them to be together.

In a desperate attempt to escape their unhappy lives, Ethan and Mattie plan to run away together. However, their plan is discovered by Zeena, and she threatens to tell the whole town about their affair. Ethan and Mattie are forced to give up their dreams of happiness, and they are condemned to live out their lives in misery.

Ethan Frome is a tragic love story that explores the themes of isolation, loneliness, and forbidden love. Wharton's writing is beautiful and evocative, and her characters are complex and unforgettable. The novel is a classic of American literature, and it continues to be read and enjoyed by readers today.

Original Illustrations

The following illustrations were created by artist N.C. Wyeth for the 1922 edition of Ethan Frome. The illustrations capture the beauty and tragedy of the novel, and they help to bring the characters to life.

EDITH WHARTON



Ethan Frome

AFTERWORD BY ALFRED KAZIN









Critical Reception

Ethan Frome has been praised by critics for its beautiful writing, its complex characters, and its tragic story. The novel has been compared to the works of Nathaniel Hawthorne and Henry James, and it is considered to be one of the great American novels.

Here is a quote from a review by H.L. Mencken:



“Ethan Frome is a masterpiece of American fiction. Wharton has created a work of art that is both beautiful and heartbreaking. The characters are unforgettable, and the story is one that will stay with you long after you finish reading it.”

Adaptations

Ethan Frome has been adapted into several films and television shows. The most famous adaptation is the 1993 film starring Liam Neeson, Joan Allen, and Patricia Arquette. The film was directed by John Madden and was nominated for two Academy Awards.

Other adaptations of Ethan Frome include:

- A 1915 silent film starring Elsie Ferguson and William Farnum
- A 1932 sound film starring Colin Clive and Marion Marsh
- A 1962 television adaptation starring Sterling Hayden and Julie Harris
- A 1997 opera by Carlisle Floyd

Legacy

Ethan Frome is a classic American novel that continues to be read and enjoyed by readers today. The novel is a powerful exploration of the themes of isolation, loneliness, and forbidden love. Wharton's writing is beautiful and evocative, and her characters are complex and unforgettable. Ethan Frome is a must-read for any fan of American literature.



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