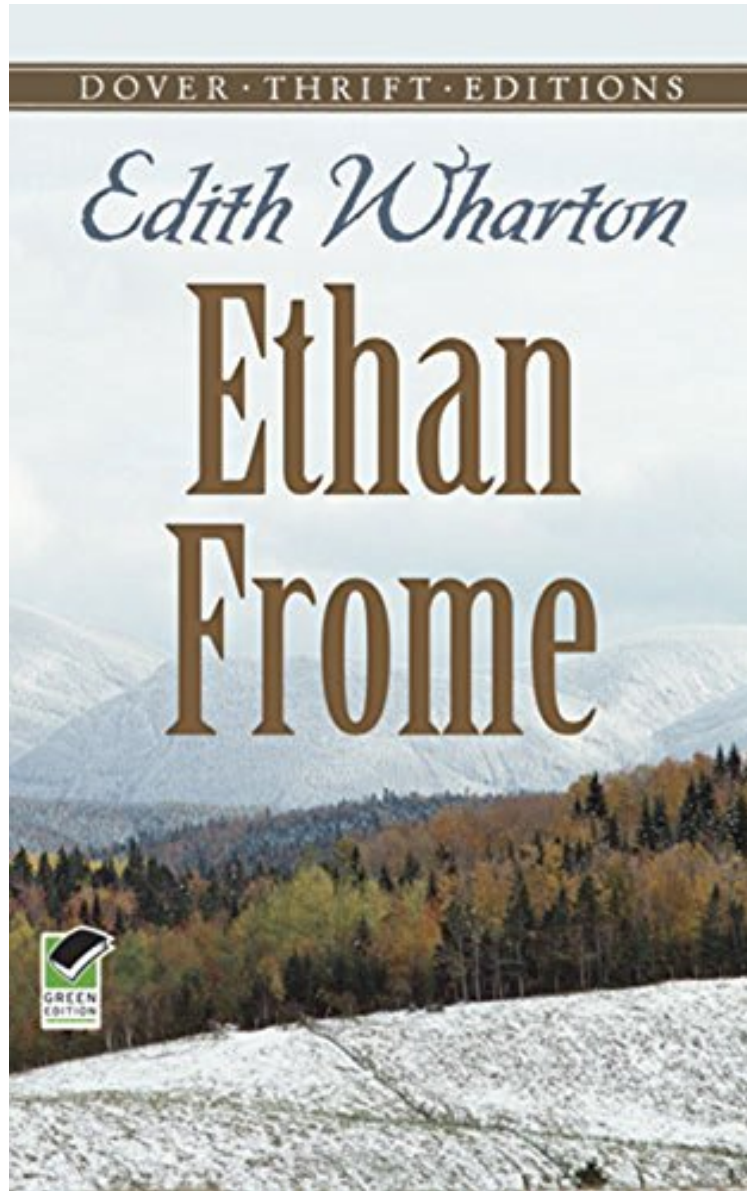


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## Ethan Frome (Dover Thrift Editions)

*Von Edith Wharton*

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**Von Edith Wharton : Ethan Frome (Dover Thrift Editions)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ethan Frome (Dover Thrift Editions):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.  
Seemingly simple but very good.Von Nicole MuellerIn Ethan Frome not really much happens, it is not a story with

different angles or strands but what it says makes that all up. Ethan is a guy with dreams but can not break out of his rut to do what he really wants. He seems to be unable to take really action and to go after the things he want. Responsibilities hold him back and the disability to rise over his wife and demand his wishes. The only time he breaks out with his wife's cousin on the sleigh, it is turning out that he is not changing but more fleeing when he is provoking the accident, which is not killing him and the cousin but crippling them, forcing them to stay at the lonely farm forever, which is the cruelest that could have happened. I think it is really evoking desperation. The thought never to get what one wants and being remembered permanently why and that it is not possible to ever break the circle, must be horrible. I can only recommend this novel, it is really worth a read, and a fast one. 2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A great American classic Von HORAK Ethan Frome is a farmer in Starkfield, Massachusetts, at the beginning of the 20th century. He is unhappily married to Zenobia (Zeena), a suspicious, hypochondriac, bitter, narrow-minded, ignorant and discontented woman. He is strongly attracted to Zeena's cousin Mattie Silver who shares their household and is entrusted with all the chores which Zeena refuses to do. Ethan's tragic fate begins when Zeena peremptorily decides that they need a "hired girl" which would of course imply Mattie's departure since the Fromes don't have the means to employ two girls. A novel of great intensity with its slow developing tragedy and characters plunging towards their destiny. The author's masterful economy of language vividly renders the oppressive "silent ache" that permanently hinders communication between Ethan and Zeena. The vision of the three main characters is done in an almost cinematic way as they are trapped indoors in the severe Massachusetts winter. The narrative pattern is original too since the whole plot is told by an unnamed narrator who met the taciturn Ethan many years after the events he is about to tell us. The reader has moments of doubt when the narrator tells a story in all details and long passages of dialogue he could not possibly have known or heard during his meeting with Ethan. But Edith Wharton's extraordinary craft makes the story break away from the contingencies of the frame and it comes to moving life for the reader. A superb novel, one of the finest and most intense narratives in the history of American literature. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. why on the curriculum? Von Bruce Kendall I have to admit, I found this book a slow go when I had to read it as a Freshman in prep-school. But the fact that it was set in New England and that it dealt with a depressing winter landscape and a remorseless cast of characters, such as I was then encountering made it unbelievably relevant at the time. I can relate, however, to the preponderance of young readers at this site who have expressed their displeasure at having to read it. I would not wish this vision on a young audience unless I were trying to impress them with the bleakness of a snow-bound, New England existence circa 1900. This is a pretty unrelenting picture of the region, outdoing Frost or Hawthorne or even H.P. Lovecraft for that matter. The sledding scene is probably one of the most famous set-ups in modern literature. Wharton is definitely at her most masterly here. She was an exceptional writer. The question remains, what is the authorial voice saying in terms of addressing the existential questions raised here? Even the bitterest denunciations of cosmic forces have some kind of address of reply from 20th century authors. What is Wharton's here? There is very little mirth in this house.

Kurzbeschreibung 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.