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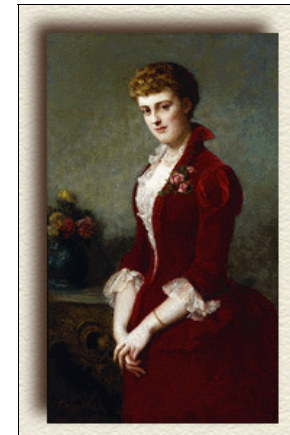


Illustration from *The House of Mirth*, 1905

The Edith Wharton Society

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## Membership Information

<http://www.edithwhartonsociety.org>

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## About Edith Wharton

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One of the major figures in American literary history, Edith Wharton (1862-1937) presented intriguing insights into the American experience. Author of more than 40 volumes--novels, short stories, poetry, non-fiction--Wharton had a long and remarkable life. She was born during the Civil War, encouraged in her childhood literary endeavors by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and devoted to such varied friends as Henry James and Theodore Roosevelt; yet she had also read William Faulkner, James Joyce, and T. S. Eliot, and had actually met Sinclair Lewis and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Her upbringing provided her with insights on the upper class, while her sense of humor and polished prose produced fiction that appealed to a large audience. Recipient of the French Legion of Honor for her philanthropic work during World War I and of the Pulitzer Prize for her novel *The Age of Innocence* (1920), in 1923 she became the first woman to receive an honorary doctorate from Yale. Wharton was a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters and the American Academy of Arts and Letters.



A naturally gifted storyteller, Wharton wrote novels and short fiction notable for their vividness, satire, irony, and wit. Her complex characters and subtly delivered point-of-view make the reading of Wharton's fiction both challenging and rewarding, while her own life illustrates the difficulties that a woman of her era had to surmount to find self-realization. Considered one of the major American novelists and short story writers of the 20th century, Edith Wharton died in France in 1937. -- Abby Werlock

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## Wharton's Principal Works

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1897—*The Decoration of Houses*  
1899—*The Greater Inclination* (stories)  
1900—*The Touchstone*  
1901—*Crucial Instances* (stories)  
1902—*The Valley of Decision*  
1904—*The Descent of Man* (stories); *Italian Villas and Their Gardens*  
1905—*The House of Mirth*; *Italian Backgrounds*  
1907—*The Fruit of the Tree*; *Madame de Treymes*  
1908—*A Motor-Flight through France*; *The Hermit and the Wild Woman* (stories)  
1909—*Artemis to Actaeon and Other Verse*  
1910—*Tales of Men and Ghosts* (stories)  
1911—*Ethan Frome*  
1912—*The Reef*  
1913—*The Custom of the Country*  
1915—*Fighting France, from Dunkirk to Belfort*  
1916—*Xingu and Other Stories*  
1917—*Summer*  
1918—*The Marne*  
1919—*French Ways and Their Meaning*  
1920—*The Age of Innocence*; *In Morocco*  
1922—*The Glimpses of the Moon*  
1923—*A Son at the Front*  
1924—*Old New York* (four novellas)  
1925—*The Mother's Recompense*; *The Writing of Fiction*  
1926—*Here and Beyond* (stories); *Twelve Poems*  
1927—*Twilight Sleep*  
1928—*The Children*  
1929—*Hudson River Bracketed*  
1930—*Certain People* (stories)  
1932—*The Gods Arrive*  
1933—*Human Nature* (stories)  
1934—*A Backward Glance* (autobiography)  
1936—*The World Over* (stories)  
1937—*Ghosts* (stories); *The Buccaneers*, (unfinished novel, published posthumously)

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## About the Society

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The International Edith Wharton Society, founded by Professor Annette Zilversmit, met for the first time on December 17, 1983, at the MLA Convention in New York City. Since that time, members of the Society have seen Edith Wharton take her place in the canon of important American literary figures. We are proud of the role that the Society has played in fostering Wharton scholarship.

The special conferences that we have organized—in Paris, at The Mount in Massachusetts, at Yale University, and in London—have provided exciting opportunities for scholars from around the world to come together and exchange ideas. Our panels at MLA conventions have stimulated ongoing discussion among both scholars and students. Our peer-reviewed publication, *The Edith Wharton Review*, goes out to over three hundred subscribers and is indexed in the MLA bibliography.

The Edith Wharton Society is an Allied Organization of the Modern Language Association, and as such, it sponsors two panels at the annual MLA convention. The EWS also regularly sponsors two panels at the annual American Literature Association convention.

As a member of the Edith Wharton Society, you will receive the following:

- A subscription to *The Edith Wharton Review*, which is published twice a year.
- Calls for papers to conferences such as MLA and ALA (American Literature Association).
- Information on events hosted by the Society, such as the annual dinner at MLA.