

Chapter 1 : AP Literature - Maurer English -

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Her protagonists are most often tragic heroes or heroines portrayed as intelligent and emotional people who want more out of life. Her family on both sides was established, old-money New York business aristocracy. Her ancestry was of the best English and Dutch strains. Edith had two older brothers: Because her brothers went to boarding school, and so were often away from home, Edith was essentially raised as an only child in a brownstone mansion on West Twenty-third Street in New York City. The Jones family frequently took trips to the country and to Europe. Education and Early Work Edith did not attend school; according to the custom of the day for well-to-do young women, she was taught at home by her governess and tutors. She became proficient in French, German, and Italian. Edith was fascinated with stories and began composing them herself when she was a child; she called the process "making-up. A year later, when Edith was only sixteen years old, she completed a 30, word novella entitled *Fast and Loose*, a story about manners that mocks high society. At the age of seventeen, Edith was immersed in her books. She spent her time studying, reading, and writing and was indifferent to people her own age. Worried about Edith, her parents decided that she should make her debut in society. Despite her natural shyness, she was a social success. In August, at the age of nineteen, Edith became engaged to Harry Stevens, a prominent figure in New York society. By October of the same year, the engagement was broken as a result of meddling by the mothers of the engaged couple. Teddy, who was thirteen years older than Edith, was from a socially acceptable Boston family. Teddy supported them both on his inherited income, which made it possible for the couple to live in New York and Newport, and to travel to Europe frequently. In , they moved into their mansion, "The Mount," in Lenox, Massachusetts. Having collaborated with architect Ogden Codman on a book entitled *The Decoration of Houses*, Edith put her knowledge to use and provided input regarding the design of the mansion as well as the interior decoration. Though they were intellectually and sexually incompatible, the Whartons lived a companionable and expensive life, traveling back and forth between Europe and the United States. Soon, however, events began to cloud their marriage. His health and mental stability became progressively worse and required increasingly prolonged therapeutic trips to Europe. In , the Whartons settled in France in the fashionable Rue de Varenne. Her tragic love story, *Ethan Frome*, was published in to much success and acclaim. Eventually, Edith and Teddy began living apart, and in , Edith divorced Teddy because of his unstable mental health and acts of adultery. Edith was also guilty of adultery. The French Years After her divorce, Edith continued to visit the United States to retain her American citizenship, even though she chose to live permanently in France. During World War I, Edith established two organizations for war refugees: She also made several visits to the French front where she distributed medical supplies and made observations from which she wrote war essays influencing Americans to support the Allied cause. As a fund-raiser she organized *The Book of the Homeless*, an illustrated anthology of war writings by well-known authors and artists of the time. Edith won the French Legion of Honor and was awarded many decorations by the French and Belgian governments for her contributions to charity. She continued her charitable efforts after the war by providing aid to tubercular patients in France. In , Edith purchased two homes in France: Claire in Hyeres, and the Pavillon Colombe, located north of Paris. Both homes had elaborate gardens where Edith immersed herself. Because she felt as though she had been cut off from the life she knew before the war, she was anxious to re-establish friendships and stability. Edith continued to write until her death in Hyeres, France on August 11, at the age of She was buried in a cemetery at Versailles in France. Career Highlights After publishing her first volume of short stories, *The Greater Inclination* in , Edith produced numerous novels, travel books, short stories including many ghost stories , and poems. Edith is perhaps best known for her novels depicting New York aristocratic life and the complicated struggle of the individual with the conventions of a powerful, and triumphant, moneyed class. Edith received much acclaim for her lifelong devotion to writing. She is considered one of the leading American authors of the twentieth century. Because of her humanitarian endeavors and contributions

to literature, Edith became the first woman to receive an honorary doctorate from Yale University in , and in she was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Chapter 2 : Ethan Frome () - IMDb

*Ethan Frome is a classic. I don't remember ever reading it though I saw the movie with Liam Neeson and Patricia Arquette a long time ago. Both of my sons love this book and talk about it frequently.*

Plot[ edit ] The novel is framed by the literary device of an extended flashback. The prologue, which is neither named as such nor numbered, opens with an unnamed male narrator spending a winter in Starkfield while in the area on business. He spots a limping, quiet man around the village, who is somehow compelling in his demeanor and carriage. This is Ethan Frome, who is a local fixture of the community, having been a lifelong resident. Frome is described as "the most striking figure in Starkfield", "the ruin of a man" with a "careless powerful look" in spite of a lameness checking each step like the jerk of a chain". Curious, the narrator sets out to learn about him. Chance circumstances arise that allow the narrator to hire Frome as his driver for a week. A severe snowstorm during one of their journeys forces Frome to allow the narrator to shelter at his home one night. We then embark on the "first" chapter Chapter I , which takes place twenty-four years prior. The narration switches from the first-person narrator of the prologue to a limited third-person narrator. Mattie is given the occasional night off to entertain herself in town as partial recompense for helping care for the Fromes, and Ethan has the duty of walking her home. It is quickly clear that Ethan has deep feelings for Mattie. When Zeena leaves for an overnight visit to seek treatment for her various complaints and symptoms in a neighboring town, Ethan is excited to have an evening alone with Mattie. During this evening, the narrator reveals small actions that show that they each have feelings for the other, including a lingering of touching hands on the milk jug, although neither openly declares their love. Ethan then goes into town to buy glue for the broken pickle dish, and upon his return finds that Zeena has also come home. Zeena retreats upstairs, proclaiming her illness, and refusing supper because she is not hungry. There, she informs Ethan that she plans to send Mattie away and has already hired another girl to replace her, claiming that she needs someone more efficient because her health is failing more rapidly than ever. Ethan is angry and frustrated to the point of panic by the thought of losing Mattie, and he is also worried for Mattie, who has no other place to go and no way to support herself in the world. Mattie reacts with shock but rapid acceptance, trying to calm Ethan, while Ethan becomes more agitated and begins to insist that he will not let her go. Moments later, they are interrupted by Zeena, who has decided that she is hungry after all. After supper, Zeena discovers the broken pickle dish and is heartbroken and enraged; this betrayal cements her determination to send Mattie away. Ethan, miserable at the thought of losing Mattie and worried sick about her fate, considers running away with Mattie, but he lacks the money to do so. He feels that he cannot abandon Zeena because he knows that she would neither be able to run the farm nor sell it the poor quality of the place has been discussed at several points in the story already. Every plan he thinks of is impossible to carry out, and he remains in despair and frantically trying to think of a way to change this one more turn of events against his ability to have a happy life. The next morning, Zeena describes her specific and imminent plans for sending Mattie on her way. Panicked, Ethan rushes into town to try to get a cash advance from a customer for a load of lumber in order to have the money with which to abscond with Mattie. Ethan returns to the farm and picks up Mattie to take her to the train station. They stop at a hill upon which they had once planned to go sledding and decide to sled together as a way of delaying their sad parting, after which they anticipate never seeing each other again. After their first run, Mattie suggests a suicide pact: Ethan regains consciousness after the accident but Mattie lies beside him, "cheeping" in pain like a small wounded animal. Ethan is also injured, and the reader is left to understand that this was the "smash-up" that left Ethan with a permanent limp. The final chapter or epilogue again unnumbered like the prologue , switches back to the first-person narrator point of view of the prologue, as Frome and his visitor, the narrator, enter the Frome household two decades later. The narrator hears a complaining female voice, and it is easy to assume that it belongs to the never-happy Zeena, but in the final twist of the story, it emerges that it is in fact Mattie, who now lives with the Fromes due to having been paralyzed in the accident. Her misery over her plight and dependence has embittered and "soured" her, and, with roles reversed, Zeena is now forced to care for her as well as Ethan. In an agonizing irony, Ethan and

Mattie have gotten their wish to stay together, but in mutual unhappiness and discontent, with Mattie helpless and paralyzed, and with Zeena as a constant presence between the two of them. Development[ edit ] The story of Ethan Frome had initially begun as a French-language composition that Wharton had to write while studying the language in Paris , [2] but several years later she took the story up again and transformed it into the novel it now is, basing her sense of New England culture and place on her 10 years of living at The Mount, her home in Lenox, Massachusetts. She would read portions of her novel-in-progress each day to her good friend Walter Berry, who was an international lawyer. They crashed into a lamppost while sledding down Courthouse Hill in Lenox. A girl named Hazel Crosby was killed in the accident. Wharton learned of the accident from one of the girls who survived, Kate Spencer, when the two became friends while both worked at the Lenox Library. Kate Spencer suffered from a hip injury in the accident and also had facial injuries. It is among the few works by Wharton with a rural setting. Lenox is also where Wharton had traveled extensively and had come into contact with at least one of the victims of the accident; victims of the accident are buried in graves nearby Wharton family members. In her introduction to the novel, Wharton talks of the "outcropping granite " of New England, the austerity of its land and the stoicism of its people. However, the problems that the characters endure are still consistently the same, where the protagonist has to decide whether or not to fulfill their duty or follow their heart. She began writing Ethan Frome in the early s when she was still married. The novel was criticized by Lionel Trilling as lacking in moral or ethical significance. Critics did take note of this when reviewing the book. Elizabeth Ammons compared the work to fairy tales. She found a story that is "as moral as the classic fairy tale" and that functions as a "realistic social criticism. Comparing Mattie Silver and Zeena Frome, Ammons suggests that the Matties will grow as frigid and crippled as the Zeenas, so long as such women remain isolated and dependent. Wharton cripples Mattie, says Lilburn, but has her survive in order to demonstrate the cruelty of the culture surrounding women in that period.

**Chapter 3 : Readers' Review: "Ethan Frome" by Edith Wharton - Diane Rehm**

*English 11 AT set 1 B/D. Ethan Frome Essay. Edith Wharton's Ethan Frome: Connections to Motifs. Motifs are interesting literary devices, treasured by many authors, to make up or help support the plotline of each story written.*

First, we encounter the connection between Mattie and the color red—she wears a red scarf to the dance and a red ribbon in her hair for her dinner alone with Ethan. It also symbolizes her temptation of Ethan toward sexual transgression. The sled ride is also symbolic of his more general approach to life—he relinquishes responsibility and agency and surrenders to momentum. Is Ethan a strong person? Why or why not? Nevertheless, he seems to lack inner strength; his story stands as an illustration of the way that a person can be mastered by, rather than a master of, circumstances. The only proactive deed he undertakes is the final sled ride. Yet even this has been pushed on him by Mattie—and suicide represents what is ultimately only a continued passivity. Unable to face the consequences of any actual decision, Ethan lets Mattie make a choice for him; and although his is the deed that seals that choice, it is a choice to end all choices. Wharton emphasizes that Ethan yearns to escape Starkfield. Mattie, with her high spirits and red trimmings—which contrast sharply with the deathly whiteness of Starkfield—appears to offer Ethan a way out, but in the end she, too, succumbs to the aura of the landscape. By the end of the novel, we see her sitting in the Frome farmhouse during a blizzard, complaining bitterly about the cold. Suggested Essay Topics 1. Does her harshness seem realistic? What does Wharton seem to think of her? Consider the Introduction and Conclusion along with the rest of the novel. In your opinion, do Ethan, Mattie, and Zeena deserve their fates? Does the story aim to teach its readers a lesson? Which aspects of the novel make us sympathize with the characters, and which aspects seem to ask us to pass negative judgment? If a member is unable to attend, please let the hostesses know so they know how many guests to prepare for. If you are a hostess, and are unable to attend, please contact another member to negotiate a swap.

### Chapter 4 : Tragedy | Genres | Lit2Go ETC

*Ethan Frome; With Connections by Wharton, Edith and a great selection of similar Used, New and Collectible Books available now at calendrierdelascience.com*

The Effects of Isolation Grades: Ethan Frome struggles to make a living as a farmer near the bleak Massachusetts town of Starkfield, while his dour wife Zeena whines and complains about her imaginary ailments. As they are about to part, Ethan and Mattie take a sled ride down the big hill near town. In despair now and aware of their love for each other, they decide to end their lives by crashing the sled. Instead they are both left crippled for life. At the end of the story, the original roles have changed. Ethan is deformed, hopeless, and poorer than ever, and Mattie is now the helpless invalid. Ask students to work independently or in small groups to create a word web or other graphic organizer that explores one or more of the following concepts: You might encourage students who are having trouble getting started to 1 define the concept, perhaps using a dictionary or a thesaurus; 2 give specific examples from their own experience or from their reading that illustrate the concept; and 3 list their personal reactions to and associations with the concept. Two of the central themes in *Ethan Frome* are individual happiness versus responsibility and the effects of isolation. To explore these concepts, have students role-play or discuss one of the situations that follow: In order to fulfill your own happiness you have to hurt or gravely disappoint a family member or a friend. What would you do, and why? Is hurting another person ever justified? What price are you willing to pay for personal happiness? Imagine that you live alone, in a remote rural area, without either companionship or any means of communication such as a telephone, TV, or electronic mail. What do you think it would be like to live isolated from other people? What are some possible effects of living a life of isolation? How do you think you might react to living an isolated life? Have students consider how powerful a force the time and place of the novel is in determining the lives of the characters in *Ethan Frome*. Then have them rate to what extent each of the main characters Ethan, Mattie, Zeena is affected by the setting. Suggest that students use a scale of 1 least powerful to 10 most powerful. Once they complete their ratings, students can display them on a bar graph, and explain why they chose each rating. In her introduction to *Ethan Frome*, Edith Wharton refers to the novel as a tragedy. Ask students whether they agree with this statement or not. Have them evaluate whether the tragedy results from circumstances which the characters have no control over or from avoidable errors in judgment. Once they have reached a conclusion, instruct them to write a speech supporting their stand and perform it in front of the class. The characters in *Ethan Frome* are affected by the isolation of life in a rural area during the winter. Using a psychology book, a health textbook, or another resource, have students research the importance of having social relationships and the emotional, physical, and social effects of isolation on an individual. Then instruct them to write a short case study to examine how isolation affects either Ethan, Zeena, or Mattie. Have students research western Massachusetts and write a report concentrating on the economy, nineteenth-century history, geography, cultural resources, or social customs of that region.

### Chapter 5 : Ethan Frome - Library Connection, Inc. - OverDrive

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### Chapter 6 : Ethan Frome - Wikipedia

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### Chapter 7 : Edith Wharton Biography

*Ethan Frome is a book published in by the Pulitzer Prize-winning American author Edith calendrierdelascience.com is set in the fictitious town of Starkfield, calendrierdelascience.com novel was adapted into a film, Ethan Frome, in*

### Chapter 8 : SparkNotes: Ethan Frome: Study Questions

*From a general summary to chapter summaries to explanations of famous quotes, the SparkNotes Ethan Frome Study Guide has everything you need to ace quizzes, tests, and essays.*

### Chapter 9 : Connections between "King Lear" and "Ethan Frome" by Sam Pulley on Prezi

*Transcript of Connections between "King Lear" and "Ethan Frome" "King Lear" In King Lear,there's stormy weather which shows the chaos going through the kingdom and in King Lear's mind.. "Ethan Frome" Weather In "Ethan Frome" the main character seems to be stuck in Starkfield and it seems he wants to.*