

The age of innocence

Wharton, Edith, author

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Abstrak

Engaged to marry socialite May Welland, Newland Archer meets Countess Ellen Olenska, a woman unbound by convention and surrounded by scandal, and is forced to decide between happiness and the social code that has ruled his life.

In a society where people "dreaded scandal more than disease," passion was a force of ruin. Winner of the 1921 Pulitzer Prize, Edith Wharton's *The Age of Innocence* is set amidst the pre-World War I "Golden Age" of upper-class society in New York, and is framed by society's strict moral code. When soon-to-be-wed Newland Archer finds himself enraptured by his bride-to-be's code-flouting cousin, he faces a turbulent battle between passion and social value. One of the great masterpieces in American literature, *The Age of Innocence* is now available as part of the Word Cloud Class.