

CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	7
ABBREVIATIONS	11
I INTRODUCTION	13
1. Aims, Method, Terms and Schema	15
2. Edith Wharton	20
II SOCIETY	29
1. Lily Bart and Simon Rosedale	32
2. Undine Spragg Moffat Marvell de Chelles Moffat	43
3. Newland Archer, Ellen Olenska, and May Welland	48
4. Old New York	52
III ENTRAPMENT	71
1. <i>The House of Mirth</i>	73
2. <i>Ethan Frome</i>	75
3. <i>The Age of Innocence</i>	81
4. Other Novels	86
IV ESCAPE	89
1. Suicide and the Death of Dreams	96
a. Lily Bart	96
b. Ethan Frome and Mattie Silver	98
c. Newland Archer	100
d. Ralph Marvell	101
2. The Fourth-dimensional World	105
a. The Writer's Material	111
b. Inspiration and Creativity	123
V CONCLUSION	129
VI BIBLIOGRAPHY	135