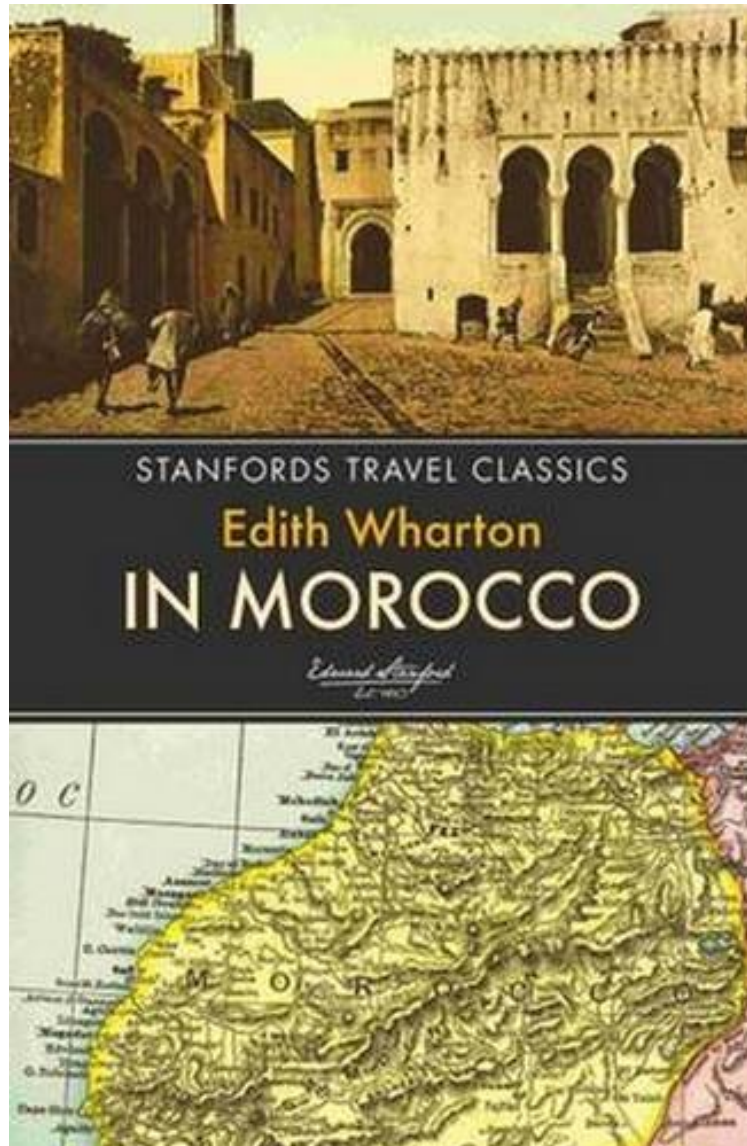


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In Morocco (Stanfords Travel Classics)

Edith Wharton

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Edith Wharton : In Morocco (Stanfords Travel Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised In Morocco (Stanfords Travel Classics):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Read This Before You Go By Lewis F. Murphy Its 1918, and in the midst of the last throes of the awful slaughter in the trenches and the failure of the Dardanelles campaign against the Ottoman Empire, Edith Wharton, gifted American novelist, braves the danger of U-boats to travel to, and then through, the royal cities of Morocco and tell us about it. What a delight! What a verbal film about a watershed moment

in an exotic place! I greatly enjoyed seeing it thru her eyes and mind."The air of the unforeseen blows on one from the roadless passes of the Atlas."Even the fierce midday sun does not wholly dispel [the haze]-the air remains thick, opalescent, like water slightly clouded by milk."Not till two or three years ago was [Rabat] completely pacified; and when it opened its gates to the infidel it was still, as it is today, the type of the untouched Moroccan city-so untouched that, with the sunlight irradiating its cream-coloured walls and blue-white domes above them, it rests on its carpet of rich fruit-gardens like some rare specimen of Arab art on a strip of old Oriental velvet."Range after range these translucent hills rose before us, all around the solitude was complete."We visited old palaces and new, inhabited and abandoned, and over all lay the same fine dust of oblivion, like the silvery mould on an overripe fruit."Keep a pencil with you and mark your own passages.The criticisms made earlier really miss the value of such a "colorful and textured travel memoir." I know a lot more about the author, now. I found more interesting Wharton's sense of outrage at the religious and social oppression of Moroccan women than her "Orientalism." Any decent biography about the "Great Emancipator," Abraham Lincoln, reveals statements and positions on race which are abhorrent today. Human beings are rather complex, aren't we? Wharton herself didn't even have the right to vote in the U. S. until several years after her visits to the harems she describes near the end of this short travelogue. There is much to learn from eye-witness accounts even with some danger that they might offend our current sensibilities. Western attitudes may (I stress that word) have changed quite a bit since 1918 but I notice that virtually all the mosques in Morocco are still closed to non-moslems. The beauty of the work speaks for itself and all the rest is best left to its own merit. Read this book if you have any interest in going to Morocco, or in getting a glimpse into the mindset and skill of a great author, or a feel for time and place. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. This is a very poor copy of the original book. By Customer This is a poor photocopy of the book and the haphazard formatting makes it very difficult to read -- broken sentences, non-existent punctuation, redundant chapter headings -- as if no one proof read this. Very disappointing. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Morocco in 1918, described brilliantly! By reelindians Loved the scholarly thoroughness of Wharton's observations! How fascinating to have seen Morocco at this time! Adds richness and depth to this modern traveler's understanding.

Edith Wharton journeyed to Morocco in the final days of the First World War, at a time when there was no guidebook to the country. [i] In Morocco [i] is the classic account of her expedition. A seemingly unlikely chronicler, Wharton, more usually associated with American high society, explored the country for a month by military vehicle. Travelling from Rabat and Fez to Moulay Idriss and Marrakech, she recorded her encounters with Morocco's people, traditions and ceremonies, capturing a country at a moment of transition from an almost unknown, road less empire to a popular tourist destination. Her descriptions of the places she visited - mosques, palaces, ruins, markets and harems - are typically observant and brim with color and spirit, whilst her sketches of the country's history and art are rigorous but accessible. This is a wonderful account by one of the most celebrated novelists and travel writers of the 20th century and is a fascinating portrayal of an extraordinary country. Stanfords Travel Classics feature some of the finest historical travel writing in the English language, with authors hailing from both sides of the Atlantic. Every title has been reset in a contemporary typeface and has been printed to a high quality production specification, to create a series that every lover of fine travel literature will want to collect and keep.

About the Author Edith Wharton, born Edith Newbold Jones, was a Pulitzer Prize-winning American novelist, short story writer, and designer. She was born in 1862 and died in 1937. Wharton was the first woman ever to win the Pulitzer Prize, for *The Age of Innocence*.