



### Pastoral Cosmopolitanism in Edith Wharton's Fiction

The World is a Welter

By Margarida Cadima

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**Addresses a knowledge gap in Wharton and the environmental humanities, especially recent debates in eco criticism, shedding new light on her narratives.**

One of the goals of this book is to demonstrate that while the pastoral seems to portray troubling fractures between the social self and native soil, Wharton is more struck by how these ostensibly divergent cultural categories superimpose and interpenetrate to form an ecocritical palimpsest.

#### Readership

The book is intended for academics and university students studying literature, especially those doing the International Baccalaureate. It may also be used by postgraduate researchers in the field of American literature and environmental humanities.

#### Contents

Acknowledgments; Introduction; PART I. GARDENS, Chapter 1. The Pastoral Cosmopolitanism of the (Not So) Secret Garden; Chapter 2. American Back Grounds; Chapter 3. Garden "Haunts"; Chapter 4. Central Park as an "Ecological Threshold"?; Chapter 5. French Gardens and Their Meaning; PART II. MOUNTAINS, Chapter 6. "Endless Plays of Mountain Forms": Mapping the Mountains; Chapter 7. Edith Wharton's European Mountains of Leisure; Chapter 8. Rural Americana and the "New World" Mountains; PART III. RUIN/ATION Chapter 9. Romantic Ruins? Edith Wharton's Sedimented Vision ; Chapter 10. "Old" Ruins as a Melancholic Object and a Critique of Empire; Chapter 11. Stony Waste—The "New Ruin" in the Modern Metropolis and Garden Ruins; Conclusion; Appendix 1: Spring in a French Riviera Garden; Appendix 2: December in a French Riviera Garden; Bibliography; Index

#### About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

**Margarida Cadima** is an ecocriticism scholar and an adjunct professor in the English Writing, Literature, and Publishing department at The American University of Rome. She earned her PhD in English Literature at the University of Glasgow in 2021.

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