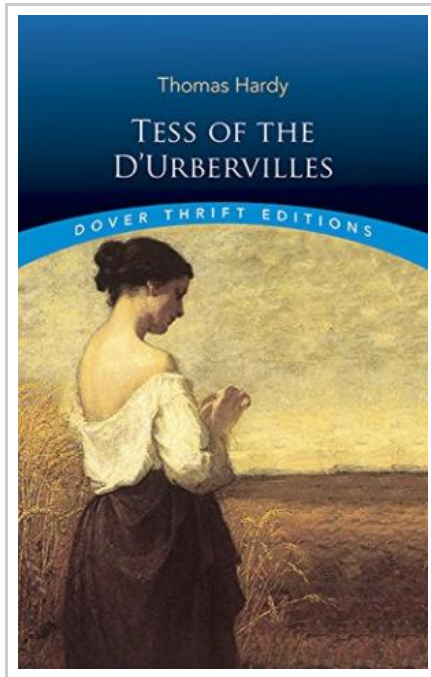




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By Thomas Hardy

Dover Publications Inc., United States, 2001. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. The ne er-do-well sire of a starving brood suddenly discovers a family connection to the aristocracy, and his selfish scheme to capitalize on their wealth sets a fateful plot in motion. Jack Durbeyfield dispatches his gentle daughter Tess to the home of their noble kin, anticipating a lucrative match between the lovely girl and a titled cousin. Innocent Tess finds the path of the d Urberville estate paved with ruin in this gripping tale of the inevitability of fate and the tragic nature of existence. Subtitled A Pure Woman Faithfully Presented, Thomas Hardy s sympathetic portrait of a blameless young woman s destruction first appeared in 1891. Its powerful indictment of Victorian hypocrisy, along with its unconventional focus on the rural lower class and its direct treatment of sexuality and religion, raised a ferocious public outcry. Tess of the D Ubervilles is Hardy s penultimate novel; the pressures of critical infamy shortly afterward drove the author to abandon the genre in favor of poetry. Like his fictional heroine, the artist fell victim to a rigidly oppressive moral code. Today, Tess is regarded as Hardy s...



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