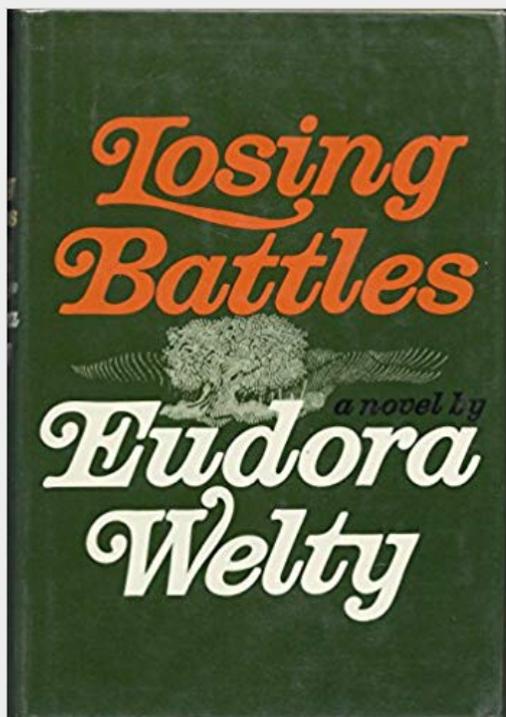


## Losing Battles *by* Eudora Welty



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**Author:** Eudora Welty

**Book title:** Losing Battles

**Pages:** 436

**Publisher:** Random House; 1st edition (March 12, 1970)

**Language:** English

**Category:** Literary

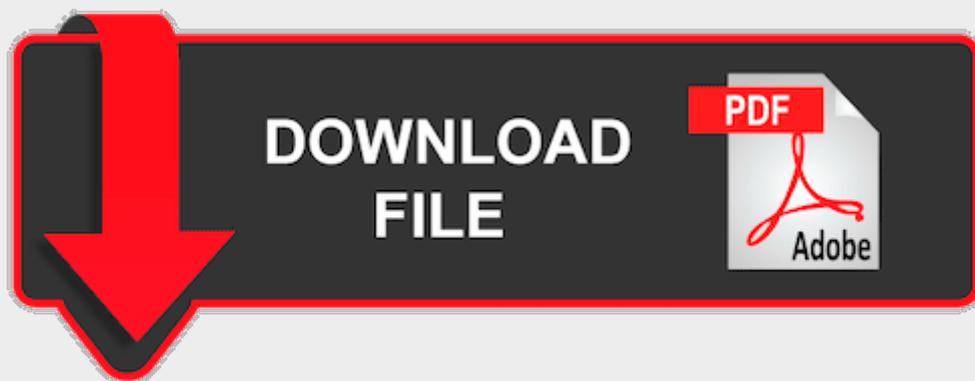
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Three generations of Granny Vaughn's descendants gather at her Mississippi home to celebrate her 90th birthday. Possessed of the true storyteller's gift, the members of this clan cannot resist the temptation to swap tales.



## Reviews of the *Losing Battles* by Eudora Welty

### 1. Liarienen

"Losing Battles" is a story composed of rapidly paced, ever shifting dialogue among a family in the American South. There are many characters and they make constant use of local colloquialisms. I sort of

need a program or "scorecard" to tell who is who. The talent, humor, and artistry of the author is evident. But the conversations never seem to end and the book just goes on and on without a real story line. I feel like the book would have made up one or more really good short stories.

I want so much to like the writing of Eudora Welty. I have read all of her short stories. I have read "Delta Wedding", "The Robber Bridegroom", "The Ponder Heart" and now "Losing Battles". I am afraid I am the one losing the battle. As I will describe below, I really like what I know of Eudora Welty as a person and I really want to like her work.

I really liked her earliest short stories. The ones I am referring to are in a collection, "A Curtain of Green and Other Stories". They are really enjoyable writings of the Southern tradition. She also wrote a later story about a civil rights assassination called "Where Is The Voice Coming From?" that I felt was very poignant and heartfelt. I also enjoyed very much "The Ponder Heart". "Delta Wedding" was OK, but just sort of ambles along, like I imagine a hot slow moving summer day in the old south.

However, Miss Welty writes a lot of very artistic works that I really struggle with. She writes stories that are like adult fairy tales. They are very classy and very artistic, but I just can't get into the flow of them.

I have read a really informative biography of Eudora Welty authored by Suzanne Marrs. It is also not always an easy read, but it is very informative and well documented. Suzanne Marrs really made me feel like I know, like, and respect Eudor Welty so much. That is why I want to like her work. After having read the biography, I came to realize that a great deal of Miss Welty's work is semi autobiographical. That knowledge has really added color to this reading experience.

I have found reading this novel to be a lot of work, requiring my full concentration and I can only read a little bit at a time. I have to mix it in with other reading. I wish it were otherwise. Sigh...

## 2. Modigas

I read this novel years ago. I bought this copy to re-read it. It is one of my all time favorite novels

### 3. Hellblade

It is hard not to fall in love with Welty's prose at first word --- this one however is bit too insular, familial.

It takes a very long time for the story to find its pace and the people are at a distance for too long

### 4. Super P

Welty recalls the writings of Thomas Hardy with her command of the English language, your utilization of adjectives and application of metaphors. A writer too often overlooked by contemporary readers, she along with McCullers and a handful of others represent the high qualities of Southern artists usually only associated with their colleagues such as William Faulkner and Robert Penn Warren.

### 5. Mejora

In addition to Middlemarch, Dostoyevski, Tolstoy, Donna Tart (and a few others not at this moment coming to mind): my favorite book in the world.

### 6. Lestony

Great!

7. Vetibert

Have been looking for a 1st edition to this book for quite some time. Read it years ago and wanted a copy. Very pleased!!

8. awful, could not finish

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