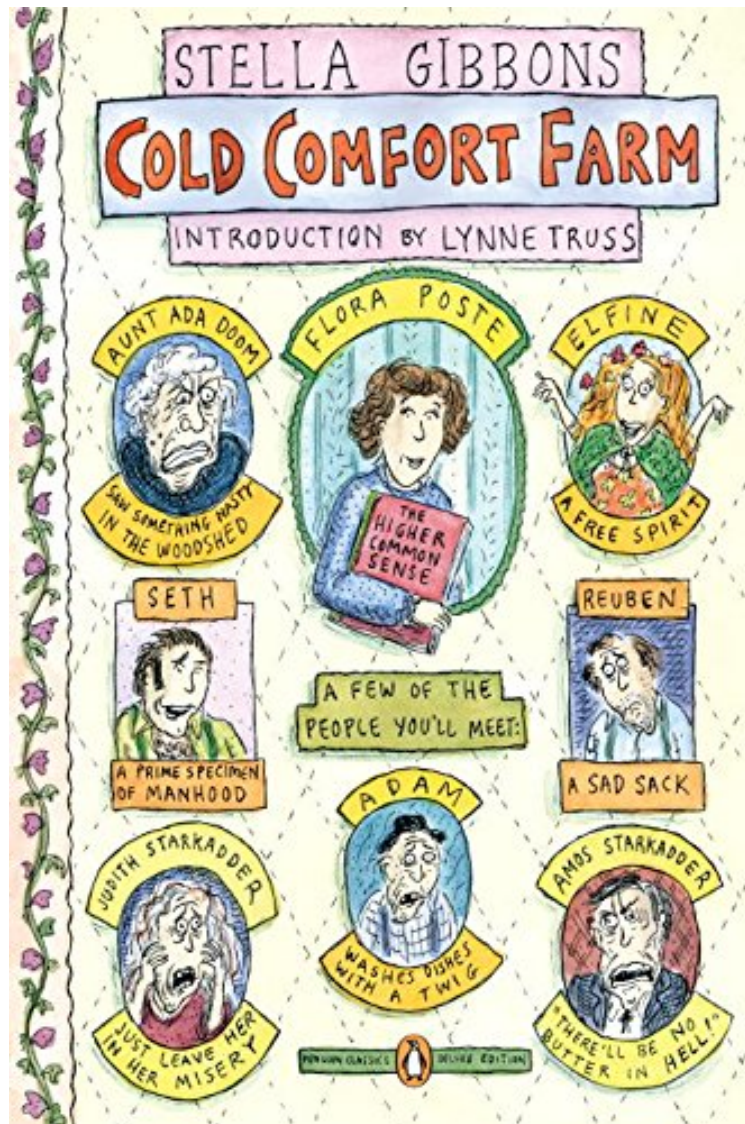


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## Cold Comfort Farm (Penguin Classics Deluxe Edition)

Stella Gibbons

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#113361 in Books Gibbons, Stella/ Truss, Lynne (ILT) 2006-03-28 2006-03-28 Format: Deckle Edge Original language: English PDF # 1 8.40 x .70 x 5.60l, .63 #File Name: 0143039598256 pages Penguin Books | File size: 72.Mb

**Stella Gibbons : Cold Comfort Farm (Penguin Classics Deluxe Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cold Comfort Farm (Penguin Classics Deluxe Edition):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. No Shrinking Violet By Emi Bevacqua Plucky heroine Flora sets out on an adventure to remote and chaotic country farm belonging to her wacky distant relations. Hilarity ensues, but drily. I had been expecting Jane Austen, but was happy to find more of a Dorothy Parker vibe. I'll quote Stella Gibbons

in describing my reaction as being "knocked clean out of the perpendicular by (its) bosom-shattering stupendosity".<sup>0</sup> of 0 people found the following review helpful. Witty novel of manners and relationships By C. Collins This is a funny novel. It is pretty delightful in that it has interesting characters engaged in interesting situations and interactions. Gibbons is witty and yet compassionate to all the characters. The heroine, Flora Poste, reminded me a little of Jane Austen's Emma, a character who thought she knew best for everyone and manipulated those around her to those ends that she thought best. Flora however is not brought up short as is Emma and thus continues to manipulate everyone and everything in her environment, always absolutely certain of her abilities and the correctness of her intentions and actions. Of course this leads to some outlandish situations. Flora is a bit driftless herself but gladly engages in rearranging the lives of others, particularly her country cousins. Every character has an issue and Flora tries to address them all. The underlying message is that win-win outcomes are obtainable for everyone. Everyone is a target for Ms. Gibbons's witty and sometimes sarcastic descriptions, but Gibbons seems to like every character and to treat them fairly.<sup>3</sup> of 3 people found the following review helpful. SOMETHING NASTY HAPPENED IN THE WOODSHED... By lawyer aau Published in 1932, this novel is a hysterically funny, tongue in cheek parody of the heavy handed, gloomy novels of some early twentieth century English writers who had previously been so popular. Tremendously successful when first published, "Cold Comfort Farm" caused quite a stir in its time. The novel starts out innocuously enough, when well-educated Flora Poste finds herself orphaned at the age of twenty. Discovering that her father was not the wealthy man she believed him to be, she is resigned to the fate of having to live on a hundred pounds a year. Opting to live with relatives, rather than earn her bread, she seeks out a most unlikely set of relations, the odd Starkadder family who live in Howling, Sussex. Therein begins what is certainly one of the funniest novels ever written. When Flora arrives in Howling, she meets her odd relatives, who live in neglected, ramshackle "Cold Comfort Farm", where they still wash the dishes with twigs, and have cows named Graceless, Pointless, Feckless, and Aimless. Headed by a seventy-nine year old matriarch, Flora's aunt, Ada Doom Starkadder, who has not been right in the head since she "saw something nasty happen in the woodshed" nearly seventy years ago, they are a motley and strange crew indeed. Confronted with their dismal and gloomy existence, Flora sets about trying to put things to right. Peppered with eccentric, memorable characters, this book will take the reader on a journey not easily forgotten. It is one that is sure to make the reader revisit this novel yet again, like an old friend who is missed too soon.

"Quite simply one of the funniest satirical novels of the last century." —Nancy Pearl, NPR's Morning Edition The deliriously entertaining *Cold Comfort Farm* is "very probably the funniest book ever written" (The Sunday Times, London), a hilarious parody of D. H. Lawrence's and Thomas Hardy's earthy, melodramatic novels. When the recently orphaned socialite Flora Poste descends on her relatives at the aptly named Cold Comfort Farm in deepest Sussex, she finds a singularly miserable group in dire need of her particular talent: organization. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

From Library Journal In Gibbons's classic tale, first published in 1932, a resourceful young heroine finds herself in the gloomy, overwrought world of a Hardy or Bronte novel and proceeds to organize everyone out of their romantic tragedies into the pleasures of normal life. Flora Poste, orphaned at 19, chooses to live with relatives at Cold Comfort Farm in Sussex, where cows are named Feckless, Aimless, Pointless, and Graceless, and the proprietors, the dour Starkadder family, are tyrannized by Flora's mysterious aunt, who controls the household from a locked room. Flora's confident and clever management of an alarming cast of eccentrics is only half the pleasure of this novel. The other half is Gibbons's wicked sendup of romantic clichés, from the mad woman in the attic to the druidical peasants with their West Country accents and mystical herbs. Anne Massey's skillful rendering of a variety of accents will make this story more accessible to American audiences. Recommended for both literary and popular collections. — Sharon Cumberland, Graduate Ctr., CUNY Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. a Quite simply one of the funniest satirical novels of the last century. a Nancy Pearl, NPR's "Morning Edition" a Delicious . . . "Cold Comfort Farm" has the sunniness of a P. G. Wodehouse and the comic aplomb of Evelyn Waugh's "Scoop," a "The Independent" (London) Quite simply one of the funniest satirical novels of the last century. Nancy Pearl, NPR's "Morning Edition" Delicious . . . "Cold Comfort Farm" has the sunniness of . . . a P. G. Wodehouse and the comic aplomb of Evelyn Waugh's "Scoop". "The Independent" (London)? Quite simply one of the funniest satirical novels of the last century.? ?Nancy Pearl, NPR's "Morning Edition"? Delicious . . . "Cold Comfort Farm" has the sunniness of a P. G. Wodehouse and the comic aplomb of Evelyn Waugh's "Scoop".? ?"The Independent" (London) About the Author Stella Dorothea Gibbons (1902-1989) was born in London. A novelist, poet and short-story writer, her first novel, *Cold Comfort Farm*, won the Femina Vie Heureuse Prize for 1933. Amongst her other novels are *Miss Linsey and Pa*, *Nightingale Wood*, *Westwood*, *Conference at Cold Comfort Farm*, and *Beside the Pearly Water* (1954). Lynne Truss is a writer and journalist. She is the author of the number one bestseller, *Eats, Shoots Leaves*, which has sold more than two million copies, won the

national British Book Award, and was on the New York Times bestseller list for forty-five weeks. She lives in Brighton, England. Roz Chast is a regular cartoonist for *The New Yorker*, and her work has also appeared in *Redbook*, *Scientific American*, *Fast Company*, and *the Harvard Business Review*. Her memoir, *Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant?*, was a finalist for the National Book Award.