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—James MacBride, *New York Times Book Review* (1947)

Edna Ferber was born in 1885 in Kalamazoo, MI to a Hungarian-born storekeeper and his Milwaukee-born wife. They lived in Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin where she graduated high school and briefly attended Lawrence University. She held various newspaper jobs in the Midwest and covered the 1920 Republican and Democratic national conventions for the United Press Association.

Ferber had many of her works turned into theatrical and film productions including *Show Boat*, *Giant*, *Ice Palace*, *Saratoga Trunk*, and *Cimarron*. In 1925, she was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for *So Big*.

In 1968 she succumbed to stomach cancer at her home in New York City at the age of 82.

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