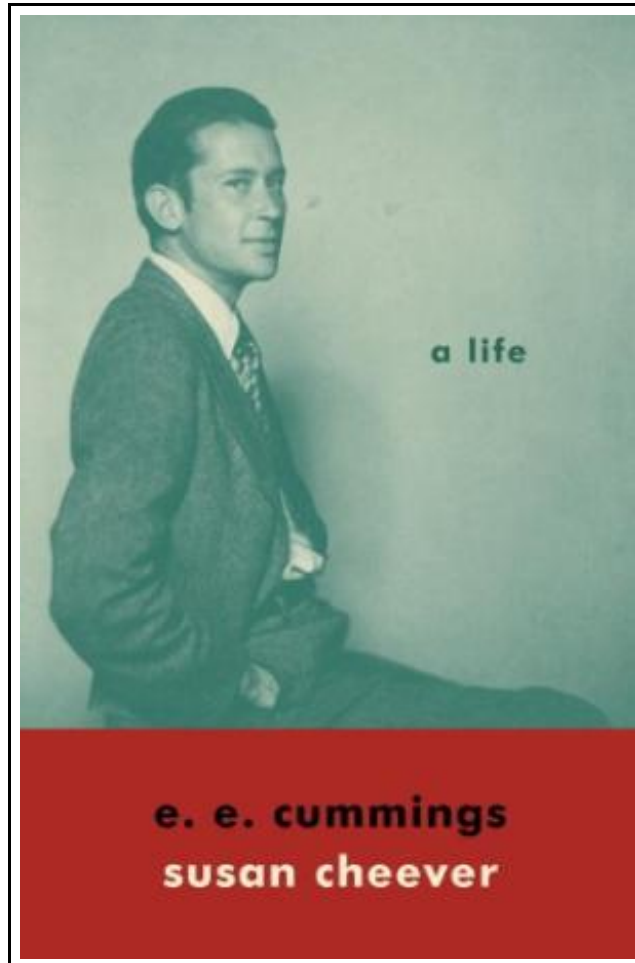


## E.E. Cummings: A Life



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## E.E. CUMMINGS: A LIFE



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Pantheon. 1 Cloth(s), 2014. hard. Book Condition: New. At the time of his death in 1962, at age 68, Edward Estlin Cummings was, after Robert Frost, the most widely read poet in the United States. Here the author of *American Bloomsbury* and biographer of Louisa May Alcott offers a major reassessment of the life and work of Cummings, a novelist, painter, and playwright who is most often thought of as one of America's preeminent 20th-century poets. In Susan Cheever's book we see that beneath Cummings's blissful, golden New England childhood the strains of sadness and rage were already at play. Headstrong and cavalier, he volunteered as an ambulance driver in World War I, working alongside Ernest Hemingway, James Joyce, and Ford Madox Ford, and once home, fled to Greenwich Village to be among other modernist poets of the day. Cheever's fascinating book gives us the evolution of an artist whose writing was at the forefront of what was new and daring and bold in an America in transition."With boundless new detail gathered through meticulous research, Susan Cheever succeeds where most other biographers have failed." *Economist* (London)"Cummings's life is inherently interesting, dramatic, and sad, and Cheever highlights its colorful and tragic aspects. One has to admire the spirit of acceptance that Cheever breathes into her book. Even as she celebrates Cummings's rebelliousness, bravado, and 'irrepressible' nature, she emphasizes, with compassion and tenderness, his frailty, anxiety, vulnerability." *Boston Globe*"Cheever, the author of discerning books about writers, alcoholism, and problematic sexuality, begins this dramatic portrait of modernist poet E.E. Cummings . with her memories of Cummings performing one of his famed readings and of listening intently in the backseat as her father, fiction writer John Cheever, drove the poet, his good friend, back to Greenwich Village. This intimacy shapes her telling of the up-and-down story...



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