

Chopin, Kate: 1851 – 1904

The Awakening, 1899 – Characters

Main Characters

Edna Pontellier

The protagonist, a married woman who embarks on a journey of emotional, intellectual, and sexual self-discovery.

Léonce Pontellier

Edna's husband.

Robert Lebrun

A charming young man who becomes Edna's love interest.

Alcée Arobin

A notorious philanderer with whom Edna has a brief affair.

Adèle Ratignolle

Edna's close friend.

Mademoiselle Reisz

An eccentric and independent pianist.

Minor Characters

Raoul and Etienne

The Pontellier children.

The Colonel

Edna's strict father.

Madame Lebrun

Robert's mother.

Victor Lebrun

Robert's younger brother.

Doctor Mandelet

The family physician.

Madame Antoine

A kind woman who provides shelter to Edna during an emotional retreat.