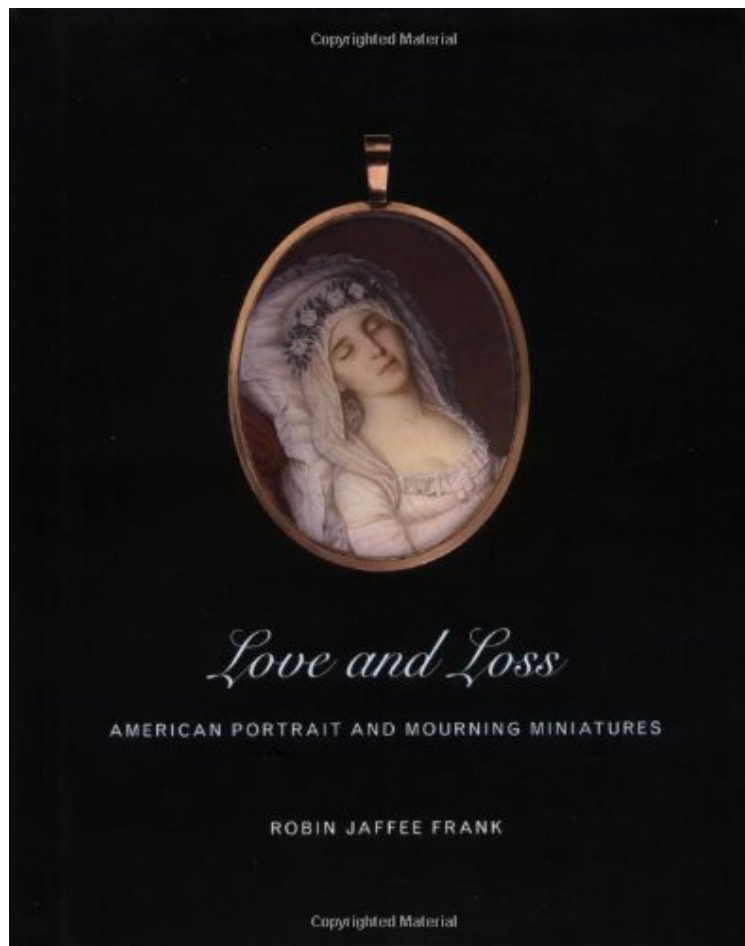


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Love and Loss: American Portrait and Mourning Miniatures (Yale University Art Gallery)

Ms. Robin Jaffe Frank
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0 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Mourning miniature artBy Stuart SchneiderI liked this book. Nice photos, good value. I can't say that I will go back and read it again, but it had decent information on the first read and great art.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful little book!By BookishHandsome book, the miniatures are reproduced at actual size which makes them come alive and allows the reader to really focus on each one. The book's smaller chunky format is refreshing and a nice change from the museum survey which would show multiple miniatures on a page making it easy to pass by some of them. Lovely book.21 of 21 people found the

following review helpful. Worth the WaitBy Elizabeth MathisenI began my interest in miniature paintings several years ago, but found that long searches on the internet rarely produced any new information on this topic. Owing about 4 "worthwhile" books in my collection on the subject, I anxiously awaited Robin Jaffee Frank's book (which I became aware was "in the works" about 6 months before publication). I hoped that this book would be the frosting on the cake of knowledge I possessed on miniatures. I was delighted to find it is the cake itself. Miniature itself in size, it contains a whopping 358 pages packed with information and insights, along with plenty of full-size illustrations. It's presented in a format that can be easily followed, with many paintings also shown magnified to enhance the concept being presented. You will want to take your time in reading and relishing this book, there's a lot of information here. Well worth the wait.

This volume reproduces and discusses some 100 American portrait and mourning miniatures. Robin Jaffee Frank examines the miniatures in detail, offering insights into their role in American art and social history. She uncovers the stories of those who sat for them, and those who treasured them.

From BooklistThis thick book's other dimensions are approximately those of a next-larger-than-regular-size postcard. Yet most of its colorplates are full-scale reproductions, for the brilliantly lifelike paintings in them are tiny portraits painted in watercolor on thin ivory disks. During the hundred years before photography, they were all the rage among Americans who could afford their highly skilled creators' fees. Before that, they had evolved from medieval manuscript illuminations and enjoyed 400 years' popularity in Britain. Such famous American artists as Benjamin West, John Singleton Copley, and the three generations of Peales produced them regularly. Frank reviews some 100 outstanding examples, reporting their genesis, generally as intimate mementos of loved ones who were frequently absent or who had died, and examining their technical qualities. Fascinating art history that makes for a near-perfect book to while away the hours with. Ray OlsonCopyright American Library Association. All rights reservedAbout the AuthorRobin Jaffee Frank is associate curator of American paintings and sculpture at the Yale University Art Gallery.From The Washington Post"A wonderful new book . . . a richly illustrated account of the monument's conception, . . . symbolism and . . . conservation."