

# Wuthering Heights

Author **Emily Brontë** 

Year Published

1847

Original Language **English** 

**SYMBOLS** 

## Where Passion Meets Obsession

One of the most famous romances of all time, Wuthering Heights tells the story of Heathcliff and Cathy, who are raised in the same household on the wild moors of England. The pair become passionate soul mates whose love soon grows into a dangerous obsession that cannot be contained, even in death.

### Weather

Keeps Wuthering Heights in tumult; symbolizes the passionate emotions of the characters

### Moors

Symbolize the passion and danger—of Heathcliff and Cathy's childhood love

### **Ghosts**

Represent memory and obsession; Cathy's ghost haunts Heathcliff

### Hair

Symbolizes the intertwined lives of the characters

# Author

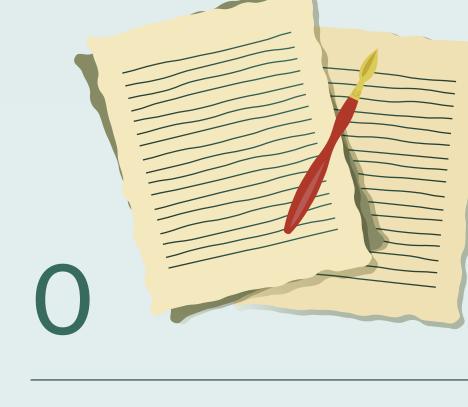


#### **EMILY BRONTË** 1818-48

Brontë published one novel in her lifetime, Wuthering Heights—and never lived to see its success. She grew up in England alongside two sisters (who would become famous authors) and a brother. Little is known of Brontë's life, which adds to the mystery of her work.

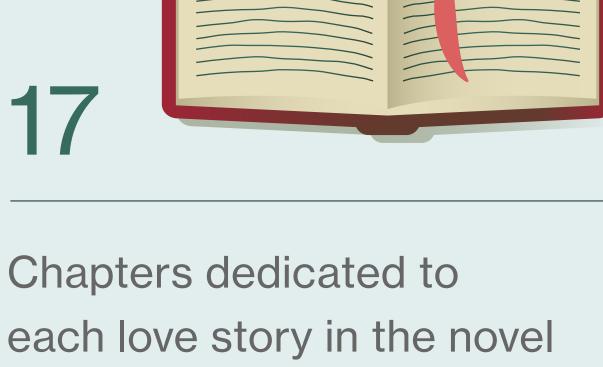


Wuthering Heights



by the Numbers

Pages from Brontë's original manuscript that have been found





Brontë's age when she died of tuberculosis the same disease that killed multiple characters in the novel



have her manuscript published after it was repeatedly rejected

## Themes



## Revenge

revenge and holds grudges against his foster brother, his romantic rival—and even his lover, Cathy, for dying.

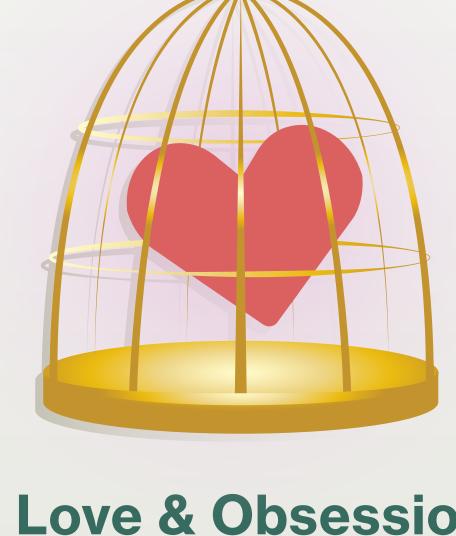
Heathcliff is obsessed with



## Belonging

are outsiders looking for belonging, whether it be in a family, in a relationship, or in society.

Most characters in the novel



## **Love & Obsession**

Scholars still debate whether Cathy and Heathcliff love—or are merely obsessed witheach other. Unhealthy doses of both permeate their relationship.







Earnshaw Family



## Hindley Jealous of his

Mr. & Mrs. Earnshaw

father's affection; an alcoholic gambler **Cathy** 

#### Edgar Well-educated gentleman; kind but weak

woman; shallow and abused

Isabella

Beautiful, wealthy

Linton Family

Heathcliff Brooding, violent

obsessed with Cathy and revenge **MARRIES** 

adopted child;

Son of Hindley; evolves into a kind,

Hareton

**Earnshaw** 

Frances

Hindley's

wife

intelligent man

Passionate free spirit; concerned with social standing

MARRIES

Catherine

Linton

Evolves into a kind,

loving woman

MARRIES FIRST

characteristics of both parents

Linton

Heathcliff

Inherits the worst

MARRIES SECOND

Cathy, Chapter 9

hatever our souls are made of, his and mine are the same.