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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Emily Brontë was born on July 30th, 1818, the fifth child of six. When she was three years old, her mother died and the children were brought up¹ by an aunt. They lived in the parsonage² in Haworth, a village in West Yorkshire, because their father was the parson³ there. The village was on the edge⁴ of a large moor⁵ and this landscape was the inspiration⁶ for Emily's writing.

For a short time she attended⁷ a school with her older sisters Maria, Elizabeth and Charlotte. When Maria and Elizabeth both died of tuberculosis⁸ in 1825, Charlotte and Emily were taken home. After that they were educated with their brother Branwell by their father at the parsonage.



Emily loved the beautiful, windswept⁹ Yorkshire countryside around Haworth and became sad and ill when she was away from it. She had a job as a private¹⁰ teacher for a short time in 1837, and in 1842 she went to Belgium with Charlotte to study French and German at a girls' academy¹¹. Later the two sisters opened a school in their own home but they had to close it because they didn't have enough students. Haworth was too far from big towns and cities for most people.

Emily, Charlotte and their younger sister Anne all enjoyed writing. In 1846 they published¹² a collection of their poetry¹³. The following year Emily's only novel *Wuthering*¹⁴ *Heights*¹⁵ was published. Emily Brontë died of tuberculosis in December 1848 and is buried in Haworth.

1 bring up 養育長大

2 parsonage ['pɑ:snɪdʒ] (n.) 牧師公館

3 parson ['pɑ:sn̩] (n.) 教區牧師

4 edge [edʒ] (n.) 邊緣

5 moor [mʊr] (n.) 荒野；曠野

6 inspiration [ˌɪnspə'reɪʃən] (n.) 靈感

7 attend [ə'tend] (v.) 上(學)

8 tuberculosis [tju,bɜ:kjə'ləʊsɪs] (n.) 結核病

9 windswept ['wɪnd,swept] (a.) 迎風的

10 private ['praɪvɪt] (a.) 私人的

11 academy [ə'kædəmɪ] (n.) 學院

12 publish ['pʌblɪʃ] (v.) 出版

13 poetry ['pɔɪtri] (n.) (總稱) 詩

14 wuther ['wʌðə] (v.) (英) 風呼嘯地吹

15 height [haɪt] (n.) 高處

ABOUT THE BOOK

Wuthering Heights is a story about love and revenge¹. It follows the life of Heathcliff, a mysterious² gypsy³-like person, from his childhood to his death at the age of 38. It is set⁴ on the moors in West Yorkshire, an area Emily Brontë knew and loved. It is the only novel Brontë ever published.

The title⁵ of the book is the name of one of the two houses that feature⁶ in the book, and describes⁷ the house's position⁸ on a windy (wuthering) hill (height). It tells the story of the unresolved⁹ love and passion¹⁰ between childhood friends, Catherine Earnshaw and Heathcliff and how it destroys¹¹ both them and their families.

1 revenge [rɪˈvendʒ] (n.) 報仇

2 mysterious [mɪsˈtɪriəs] (a.) 神祕的

3 gypsy [ˈdʒɪpsɪ] (n.) 吉普賽人

4 set [set] (v.) 設定 (動詞三態：
set; set; set)

5 title [ˈtaɪtl] (n.) 書名

6 feature [ˈfi:tʃə] (v.) 扮演重要角色

7 describe [dɪˈskraɪb] (v.) 描述

8 position [pəˈzɪʃən] (n.) 位置

9 unresolved [ˌʌnrɪˈzɒlvd] (a.) 未解決的

10 passion [ˈpæʃən] (n.) 激情

11 destroy [dɪˈstrɔɪ] (v.) 毀滅

12 flashback [ˈflæʃˌbæk] (n.) 倒敘

13 narrator [nəˈreɪtə] (n.) 敘述者

14 grange [ɡrændʒ] (n.) 農莊

15 servant [ˈsɜːvənt] (n.) 僕人

16 take part in 參加……

17 account [əˈkaʊnt] (n.) 描述

18 theme [θiːm] (n.) 主題

The book is told in a series of flashbacks¹² by two narrators¹³. The first, Mr Lockwood, rents Thrushcross Grange¹⁴ from Heathcliff and the second, Nelly Dean, is a servant¹⁵ who tells Lockwood about the events of the past. Both of the narrators take part in¹⁶ the action of the story and allow us to have a first-hand account¹⁷ of both the present and past.

The main theme¹⁸ in the story is love, and how love can damage people if it is not expressed¹⁹ well. Unresolved love can turn to hate and hate becomes revenge. Nature is another important part of the story and the conflict²⁰ between nature and civilization²¹ is embodied²² in the relationship between Heathcliff and his rival²³, Edgar Linton.

Although *Wuthering Heights* is now considered to be a classic of English literature²⁴ when it was first published critics²⁵ found the book to be strange and shocking yet they all agreed that it was compulsive²⁶ reading.

19 express [ɪkˈspres] (v.) 表達

20 conflict [ˈkɒnflɪkt] (n.) 衝突

21 civilization [ˌsɪvɪlɪˈzeɪʃən] (n.) 文明

22 embody [ɪmˈbɒdi] (v.) 具體地表現

23 rival [ˈraɪvəl] (n.) 情敵

24 literature [ˈlɪtərətʃə] (n.) 文學

25 critic [ˈkrɪtɪk] (n.) 批評家

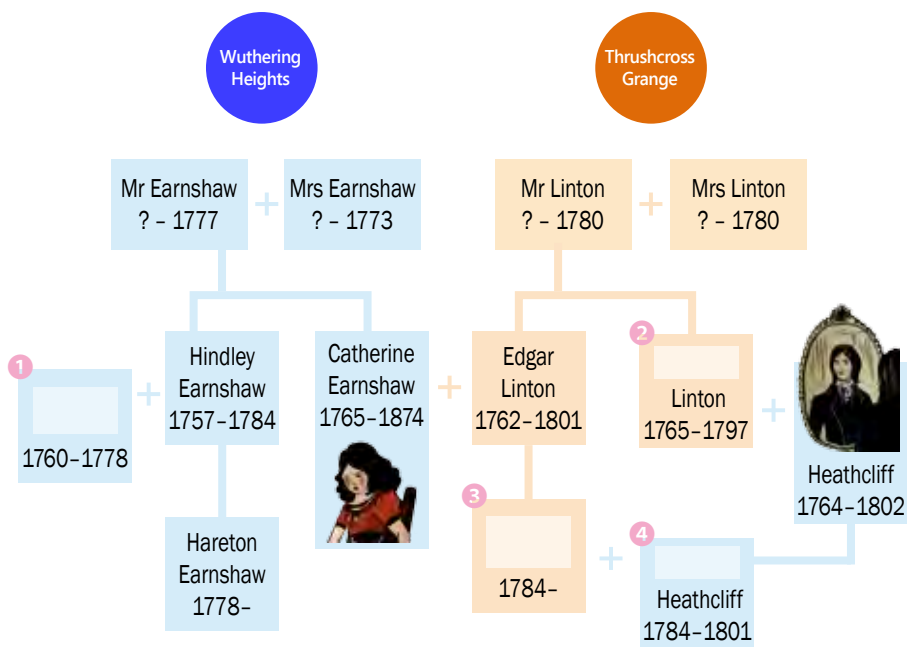
26 compulsive [kəmˈpʌlsɪv] (a.)

禁不住的

BEFORE READING

1 Look at the family tree of the main characters in the story. Read the sentences and fill in the missing names **1**–**4**.

- ☐ a Catherine and Edgar's daughter is called Cathy Linton.
- ☐ b Hindley married a woman called Frances.
- ☐ c Linton is Heathcliff's son's first name.
- ☐ d Edgar's sister's name is Isabella.



2 Create your own family tree. Ask your family for the information. Compare family trees with a partner.

3 Look again at the information in the family tree in Exercise **1**. Answer the questions.

- ☐ a How many cousins did Cathy Linton have?
- ☐ b How old was Hindley Earnshaw when he died?
- ☐ c Which two characters died in 1780? And which two in 1801?
- ☐ d Who was younger – Heathcliff or Edgar Linton?
- ☐ e What was the relationship between Hareton Earnshaw and Edgar Linton?

4 The following sentences describe 5 of the characters. Match a beginning (a-e) with a suitable ending (1-5).

- | | |
|---------|--|
| _____ a | Heathcliff had dark hair and eyes and dressed |
| _____ b | Cathy Linton had golden curls that fell |
| _____ c | Hareton's hair was uncombed and his hands were brown |
| _____ d | Catherine Earnshaw had thick dark curls, dark eyes |
| _____ e | Linton Heathcliff was a delicate boy |
-
- ☐ 1 over her shoulders.
 - ☐ 2 with a pale, sad face.
 - ☐ 3 and a passionate nature.
 - ☐ 4 like a gentleman.
 - ☐ 5 from working outside.

5 Look at the pictures in the book. Which of the characters in Exercise **3** can you see on these pages?




A



B



1. A Visitor at Wuthering Heights

 I have been to see my landlord¹ Mr Heathcliff today. He's my only neighbor here in this beautiful but wild part of England.

He was standing at the gate to his farm when I arrived. His black eyes looked at me suspiciously².

"Mr Heathcliff?" I said.

He nodded³.

"I am Mr Lockwood, your new tenant⁴ at Thrushcross Grange, sir."

"Come in!" he said coldly, opening the gate.

I'm not a sociable man but I had the impression⁵ that Mr Heathcliff was even less sociable⁶ than me.

I rode through the gate and he followed me up the small road to the house. As we entered⁷ the courtyard⁸ he shouted to an old man, "Joseph! Take Mr Lockwood's horse and bring us some wine."

The name of Mr Heathcliff's house is Wuthering Heights. "Wuthering" means "stormy" or "windy" in the local language and it describes the place well. The house stands on the top of a hill. On one side of it there are a few trees. They all lean⁹ in the same direction, blown¹⁰ by the strong north winds.

1 landlord ['lænd,lɔrd] (n.) 房東

2 suspiciously [sə'spiʃəsli] (adv.) 狐疑地

3 nod [nɒd] (v.) 點頭

4 tenant ['tenənt] (n.) 承租人

5 impression [im'preʃən] (n.) 印象

6 sociable ['soʃəbl̩] (a.) 善交際的

7 enter ['entə] (v.) 進入

8 courtyard ['kɔrt'jɑrd] (n.) 庭院

9 lean [lin] (v.) 傾斜 (動詞三態：
lean; leaned, leant; leaned, leant)

10 blow [blo] (v.) 吹 (動詞三態：
blow; blew; blown)