

**Hate and Love in Emily Brontë's
*Wuthering Heights***

**الكراهية والحب في رواية مرتفعات
وذرينغ لإميلي برونتي**

م.م. ميادة هاشم أحمد

وزارة التربية - مدرسة الفاروق

**Mayada Hashim Ahmed
Assistant teacher
Alfarooq School**

Abstract:

The Victorian age is the age of female novelists and writers, one of the most prominent novelists were the Brontës Charlotte and Emily, Mrs. Gaskell and George Eliot. Emily Brontë's novel "*Wuthering Heights*" is distinctive and matchless in English literature. The novelist here endeavors go through the life motives and explains how people influence one another. Emily sheds the light on the loneliness and sufferings of the novel hero and heroine. This research concentrates on the strength of love and hate or in other word 'revenge' in the novel.

Emily Brontë's '*Wuthering Heights*' did not only depict the Victorian society and life, but it also mirrors the basic aspects and features of human life at that age. The human components of love, hate, passion, revenge all are well portrayed in the novel according to her vision. Her gloomy personal vision with her amazing imagination furnishes the novel with its distinguishing value of passion and order. *Wuthering Heights* includes gothic elements mixed with a romantic mood of horror and vagueness through different mechanisms and devices, like weird voices, supernatural things, violent and aggressive scenes and terror. The novelist confirms the darkness in man's nature.

Wuthering Heights is where hate signifies more than love and love signifies more than life. It is a story about love, hate and separation as well as sorrow, suffering and death in addition to the unification of souls. It starts with the story of powerful love between Catherine and Heathcliff and finishes with the spiritual unification of both after death.

Keywords: hate, love, violence, passion, suffering, vengeance, unification of souls.

المخلص:

إن العصر الفيكتوري هو عصر الروائيات والكاتبات، ومن بين أشهر الروائيات البارزات شارلوت برونتي وإيميلي برونتي، والسيدة جاسكل وجورج إليوت. ورواية إيميلي برونتي "مرتفعات وذرينغ" مميزة ولا نظير لها في الأدب الإنكليزي، إذ تسعى الروائية هنا إلى المرور عبر دوافع الحياة وتوضح كيف يؤثر الناس في بعضهم الآخر. كما تلقي الضوء على الشعور بالوحدة والمعاناة لدى بطل وبطلة الرواية. يركّز هذا البحث على قوة الحب والكراهية أو بمعنى آخر "الانتقام" في الرواية. إن رواية "مرتفعات وذرينغ" لإيميلي برونتي لم تصور المجتمع الفيكتوري والحياة الفيكتورية فحسب، بل هي تعكس أيضاً الجوانب والسمات الأساسية لحياة الإنسان في ذلك العصر. كما إن العناصر الإنسانية مثل الحب، والكراهية، والشغف، والانتقام، كلها مصورة بشكل جيد في الرواية وفقاً للرؤية الخاصة بالمؤلفة. إن رؤيتها الشخصية القائمة مع خيالها المدهش يمنحان الرواية قيمتها وجودتها المميزة الكامنة في الشغف والنظام. اشتملت الرواية على عناصر همجية مختلطة مع جو رومانسي من الرعب والغموض من خلال آليات ووسائل

مختلفة، مثل أصوات غريبة، وأشياء خارقة للطبيعة، ومشاهد عنيفة وعدوانية، ورهبة. كما تبيّن الروائية الظلامية في طبيعة الإنسان. مرتفعات وذرينغ هي حيث الكراهية تدل على أكثر من الحب والحب يدل على أكثر من الحياة. إنها قصة عن الحب والكراهية والفراق وكذلك الحزن والمعاناة والموت بالإضافة إلى اتحاد الأرواح. وتبدأ الرواية بقصة الحب القوي بين كاثارين وهيتكليف وتنتهي بالاتحاد الروحي لكليهما بعد الموت.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الكراهية، الحب، الشغف، المعاناة، الانتقام، اتحاد الأرواح.

1. Introduction:

Wuthering Heights is a novel written by Emily Brontë between Oct. 1845 and Jun. 1846. and was published in 1847 under the false name "Ellis Bell". It was the first and the only published novel because Emily died the next year at the age of thirty. The decision of publishing this novel was made following the success of her sister Charlotte's "*Jane Eyre*". After the novelist's death, her sister Charlotte edited the manuscript of the novel "*Wuthering Heights*" and agreed to publish the edited version after her death as a 2nd edition in 1850.

Wuthering Heights stands for a farmhouse name on the Yorkshire lands where the story opens out. The novel's basic theme is the devastating effect caused by jealousy and vengeance on both sides as well as their communities.

The novel is generally considered as a classic of English literature. When published for the first time, it got mixed evaluations, and was regarded controversial as its portrayal of mental and physical cruelty was abnormally harsh, and it defied firm Victorian ideals then such as morality, religious hypocrisy, social classes and gender discrimination and inequality.

1.1 Emily Brontë's Life and Work:

Emily Brontë is born in Yorkshire on 30/July/1818. Her father 'Reverend Patrick Brontë' was an intelligent and determined person; therefore, he was able to have an admission to St. John's Cambridge in 1802. His children were six, Emily's order among them was the fifth child. The mother descended from an important family. Hence, the parents tried hard to teach, support and elevate the children to high levels, causing an enthusiasm and excitement to read and write. Yet, the children's happiness was influenced by the death of the mother in 1821. Afterwards, things never were the same for the father was always away busy with his studies and religious work. The only reward for children was the love they carry for each other⁽¹⁾.

Their mother's death was followed by the death of their sisters 'Maria and Elizabeth' in 1825 due to bad conditions at the school 'Cowin Bridge' where they studied. They grew weak because of tuberculosis and died. Accordingly, Charlotte and Emily left that school.

The severity and cruelty of reality greatly affected the Brontës and made them shrink into themselves in a dreamy world in which they create everything

by themselves. Consequently, they began to write. In spite of all the calamity they confronted, they were brave enough to get together again and start their own school, yet it failed completely. By this time in December 1848, the health of Emily deteriorated gradually and she passed away of tuberculosis⁽²⁾.

In her writings, Emily was different from all Victorian Writers. The differences were of an emotional intensity, i.e. a mixture of primitive feelings and spiritual adoration, which matches the potentialities of man's nature. This primitivism assisted her to describe and portray the characters' psychological analysis particularly the unkind, brutal side. She was interested in the world of ghosts, the savage, wild and evil world. She isolated herself from the outside world at home and in the moors in the North of England which signify the beauty, the freedom and the reward for the loss of her mother and two sisters⁽³⁾.

Emily was intelligent, kind, yet very obstinate. We can describe her as stronger than a man and simpler than a child because she had her own alone-standing nature⁽⁴⁾.

She depicted the cruelty of life in which she lived in her novel "*Wuthering Height*", particularly the way by which the children were treated. The novel does not only reflects the narrator's view, but also a life style.

Emily succeeded in creating a love and hatred story. The story starts when Heathcliff, an orphan homeless boy, was raised by Mr. Earnshaw who owns *Wuthering Heights*. After a short period of time, this boy and Earnshaw's daughter 'Catherine' grew close friends and had wild passion for each other⁽⁵⁾.

After the death of his wife, Mr. Earnshaw favors Heathcliff to his own son 'Hindley', and when Hindley goes on in his cruelty towards Heathcliff, so the father sends his son far away to college, leaving Heathcliff by his side⁽⁶⁾.

Mr. Earnshaw dies three years later; therefore, Hindley inherits his father's possession of *Wuthering Heights*. He returns back with his wife 'Frances' and directly search for revenge on Heathcliff. Thus, after Catherine's death, her brother 'Hindley' harmed Heathcliff and mistreated him, looking at him as a servant and forcing him to work in the fields, while their close relationship continued, freeing him from the suffering a little bit.

After the death of Frances due to the birth of a baby named 'Hareton', Hindley became addict to alcoholic and crueller and more abusive to Heathcliff. After meeting Edgar Linton who was a gentleman from *Thrushcross Grange*, Catherine realized that it would be a shameful for her to get married to Heathcliff despite the great love she had for him. Ultimately, Catherine was promoted by the desire for social progress and advancement, hence accepted to marry Edgar Linton. When Heathcliff heard this thing, he departed with an anger of humiliation and hopelessness, and disappeared for three years⁽⁷⁾.

After losing her lover and the breaking of her heart, she was badly sick and then married Edgar. Soon post the marriage, Heathcliff returned back with

astonishingly good conduct and a fortune, and prepared himself for revenge on all the people misjudged him. He cleverly gave money to Hindley the drunken so as to raise his debts and lastly got Wuthering Heights at his hands. Then, he married Edgar's sister 'Isabella' and treated her as an instrument to make Edgar angry and inherit Thrushcross Grange⁽⁸⁾.

Torn between her lover and her husband, Catherine grew very sick and died while birthing her child. After her death and without her existence in his life, Heathcliff became crueler to his foes. He brought up Hindley's son 'Hareton' as a common worker with no education. After that, he compelled Edgar and Catherine's daughter 'young Catherine' to marry his unhealthy weak son 'young Linton'. Despite the fact that he brutally revenged himself on both families, Heathcliff did not feel happy at all, but became more depressed and miserable while remembering Catherine. At the end, he died due to starvation and left the world with the soul of Catherine on the moors⁽⁹⁾.

The novel is full of the conflicts and the contradictions of love and hatred. The powerful, impressive, persistent and strong love provokes merciless and cruel emotions deeply in the heart with its eventual passion, fascination and miseries. The hatred from the bottom of the heart which bought a lot of pains shocked the reader's mind. In the following, we will analyze the different types of love and the hatred caused by and resulted from love as well as the rebirth of love after death and the defeat of hatred⁽¹⁰⁾.

The novel is told through two narrators 'Lockwood and Nelly Dean'. They tell the story, yet the role they perform extends more than this in the novel, for their role is not confined to an only separate narration, but it provides a means of participation in the action itself. They both expose their own characters and their treatment of others through their special viewpoint. This viewpoint is believed to be objective. Thus, Emily tries to establish a some sort of trust between them both and the reader. She does that by giving Lockwood the characteristic of heartlessness and Nelly Dean as being the suitable person in the suitable place⁽¹¹⁾.

2. Heathcliff's Distinctive Dualism:

2.1 Heathcliff's Usual Gentleness and Love:

Heathcliff was a clean-hearted person when brought for the first time to Wuthering Heights. He was fine with his natural thought. When he came to a place new for him, he found himself strange in this place, so he kept silent. Step by step, he felt something else when Mr. Earnshaw treated him well and with kindness as if he was his son.

After the death of Mr. Earnshaw, Heathcliff felt very sad and desperate, weeping him from the bottom of his heart. And this proves his kind nature and his warm feelings towards others. His heart was also full of love, a pure, sincere

and long-lasting love towards Catherine the daughter of Mr. Earnshaw. He even loved her more than himself.

When Catherine was attracted to Edgar Linton because of the social status that Heathcliff had not, Heathcliff at once departed Wuthering Heights which had never happened before for whatever reason, even when Hindley was not kind to him and ill-treated him. After he made money and power, he returned to Wuthering Heights with a heart still loving Catherine for he would not feel happy without her love.

He gained his revenge on the people who harmed him and mistreated him, and that was what he really wanted, yet after achieving this goal, he was not happy, because he was missing his beloved Catherine. Finally, he committed suicide hoping that he would meet Catherine and their souls would unite after death. From this, we can see that his love to Catherine was very strong and never stopped.

2.2 Heathcliff's Brutality, Selfishness and Hatred:

He loved Catherine so greatly in that it was expected that he would try his best to make her happy. Nevertheless, his unforgiving and revengeful thoughts turned him into a cruel and brutal person and colored his heart with black and blind hatred. Thus, his strong and pure love was changed into frustrated love and then into cruelty.

When he grew powerful, vicious and brutal, he gained a wealth and richness, using these unusual powers of will and wealth to get hold of Wuthering Heights and the estate of Edgar Linton 'Thrushcross Grange' together. So, he killed Hindley and took revenge upon the others: Catherine, Hareton, Cathy and Linton. Despite his great love for Catherine, yet his hatred blinded his eyes and broke her heart. In this point, his selfishness was clearly shown. Then, he abused 'Isabella' Catherine's sister-in-law so as to acquire Thrushcross Grange. This thing shows that Heathcliff's character was paradoxical and full of contradictions.

Although before he was kind by nature, yet he grew very cruel after returning back to Wuthering Heights and began to revenge upon others. And despite his strong love to Catherine, yet he did not stop himself from harming her and breaking her heart because his mind and heart were totally blind by hatred and vengeance.

3. Love and Hatred in Heathcliff:

3.1 Love between Catherine and Heathcliff:

When Catherine and Heathcliff were children, they were attracted to each other and had a very close friendship which then turned into passion and love. Their love was relied on their mutual awareness that they were the same, and it was not supposed to differ or change over years. They shared many common characteristics and felt strong passion for each other.

Both were wild and high-spirited. They both constantly spend the day playing on the moors. Also, they took pleasure in fighting the religious beliefs despite the severe punishment they received. They enjoyed teasing the spoiled children 'Edgar and Isabella' who live in the estate of Thrushcross Grange. As children, Catherine and Heathcliff were matching each other in many things and happily enjoyed every moment of life.

After her father's death, her brother 'Hindley' abused Heathcliff meanly and treated him as a servant. he also did not allow him a chance of education and prevented him from to any further meeting with Catherine. Afterwards, his life grew sad and miserable and his malice towards Hindley became ever more. However, Catherine persisted on their close friendship, which in turn attenuated some of his pain and suffering.

Their love for each other did not feel the unbridgeable gap between their different social statuses. Yet, after spending five weeks to recover at Thrushcross Grange, she thought as a lady and recognized her different social position from Heathcliff. Although she loved him more than anything on earth, she was fascinated by the handsome face, the gentleman behavior and the rich family of Edgar.

Heathcliff just heard that she and Edgar would marry and did not hear her promise of love to him. Thus, he left her in despair and misery. In her last days, he met her, they hugged each other strongly and kissed with tears in their eyes. They knew very well that they would separate again but this time by death, which none of them could stand.

After her death, he cried from the deep of his heart: "I believe-I know that ghosts have wandered on earth. Be with me always-take any form-drive me mad! Only don't leave me in this abyss, where I cannot find you! Oh, God! It is unutterable! I cannot live without my life! I cannot live without my soul!"⁽¹²⁾

Love is the thing on which his life was based. If he loses this love, his life will be without meaning. Nonetheless, his love to Catherine never ends with her death. The readers of the novel sympathized with his misfortune, and were moved by his love. They pitied his unjust destiny. The majority of readers forgave his cruelty and hatred because his personality was not limited to hatred for everybody, but it was also full with love to Catherine, and this love greatly affected the readers. Surely, he is a human, not a devil or made of rock without feelings or emotions.

3.2 Heathcliff's Hate:

for Heathcliff, Catherine's treachery is the opening of his hell. This treachery is the crucial point in his life. It led him to cruelly punish or ill-treat everyone had a relation with Catherine or everyone he hates. Hence, his aim of returning back to Wuthering Heights is to start his destruction and brutal revenge, particularly after her death.



The reader can see in him a dreadful image of disdainful love turned into hopeless hate and vengeance, destructive to the avenger and the revenged together.

His revenge extended to two generations, the first generation when he had the whole property under his name and when he made Hindley addict to alcohol and gambling and thus he died because of them. He also escaped with Isabella and married her so as to have his revenge upon Linton, yet he was not satisfied with this.

Afterwards, he directed his hate towards the second generation. He had the possession of Wuthering Heights. He taught Hareton to be an idiot and lived under his shadow. To deceive Edgar and take his money and possessions, he advised Edgar's daughter 'Cathy' to get married to his dying son by trick. In addition to that, he physically and mentally tortured Hareton and Cathy.

3.2.1 His Vengeance upon the 1st Generation:

From what Isabella wrote to Nelly, it was obvious that Heathcliff changed towards worse. He became evil, a vicious animal or a beast. The hate inside him is more than love. His abusing Isabella was entirely aggressive and very cruel. He marries Edgar's sister 'Isabella' to torment her with disgust. First, he lies to her saying that he will love her, and afterwards he says that Catherine is the only one he will love forever.

He wants to make Catherine miserable and sad bearing the results of her decision. Although he knows she is the only chance for his happiness, yet the hatred resulted from her treachery destroys his love. He wishes to make her be sorry for her decision, even if it means making him miserable, too.

Heathcliff is seen as an unafraid hero, a love champion, a person who does not agree to compromise even if it means harming others and pay no attention to the regulations of enlightened society⁽¹³⁾.

His sadism represents more than a trial to take revenge in an indirect way upon Cathy. It is also a weird and contradictory trial to reacquire his lost intimate relationship with her⁽¹⁴⁾.

The reader may see that he grows without mercy, uncaring, pitiless and inhuman. His revenge is cold and bitter, harsh, and inexplicable. He utilizes his entire life and strength to revenge upon everyone he hates. He also, while Catherine is dying, speaks cruelly to her, saying "You deserve this. You have killed yourself."⁽¹⁵⁾ Distressed, she cries and says "I forgive you. Forgive me!"⁽¹⁶⁾ Making her feel guilty and responsible for breaking their hearts, Heathcliff looks at her as being the killer of their love and emotions saying to her, "I forgive what you have done to me. I love my murderer---but yours! How can I?"⁽¹⁷⁾ From what he says, we may see that despite his love to Catherine, he is not able to forgive her treachery. His hate is bigger than his love.

3.2.2 His Vengeance upon the 2nd Generation:

The peak of his hate lies in his vengeance upon the second generation. A number of critics ignore the second generation plot as being a plain repetition of the opening tale. Yet, they are ignoring the whole second half of the novel. Obviously, to fully appreciate *Wuthering Heights* and recognize Heathcliff's heart, interest should be given to his vengeance upon the second generation⁽¹⁸⁾. Edgar says to the little girl Cathy that: "he is a most diabolical man, delighting to wrong and ruin those he hates, if they give him the slightest opportunity."⁽¹⁹⁾ This thing proves that he is fully controlled by hatred and no other things. Revenge occupies his heart and mind and grows to be his natural needs. He is an evil and a devil fully occupied by hatred and revenge which turn him into another person different from before.

3.2.3 The Consequences of His Vengeance:

The consequences of his vengeance are: he controls Hindley and ultimately turns him into a drunk man addict to alcohol till death. Edgar passes away due to sorrow and awe. He tortures Isabella till death as well. Besides, Catherine passes away with having no forgiveness from him. Also, his son 'Linton' passes away. He completely possesses the properties of both estates 'Wuthering Heights' and 'Thrushcross Grange'. Ultimately, his vengeance makes him be alone and live alone with nobody beside him. The reader may see that he is without connection with society and there is no one to hear him or listen to him. Actually, his vengeance is meaningless and silly.

4. Conclusion:

In general, *Wuthering Heights* is regarded as one of the most genuine and valued novels. It is matchless and unique in mode and style as well as in story. *Wuthering Heights* is not a mere emotional and romantic novel. It is an embodiment of life because it is a story of love, hate, revenge. After reading it, we can not the novel and say which one of the characters is right and which one is wrong by common sense. The hero and the heroine 'Heathcliff and Catherine' deeply impress the hearts of the readers because after reading the story, they will forgive and excuse Catherine's treachery and Heathcliff's hatred and vengeance for the love they hold to each other which is shown at the end of the novel when they both die, yet their love defeats death and becomes eternal.

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