



العواطف المتشابكة

دراسة عن الحب والانتقام والتفاعل بينهما عند هيثكليف وإدغار
لنتون في «مرتفعات ويذرينغ» لأميلي برونتي

through Heathcliff and Edgar Linton in Emily
Brontë's "Wuthering Heights"

Dr. AHMED RASHEED MAJEED AL-RUBAIY

Al- Iraqia University, College of Arts, Department of English
language -Iraq.

E-mail :

ahmed.r.majeed@aliraqia.edu.iq /alrahmed364@gmail.com



د/ أحمد رشيد مجيد الربيعي
الجامعة العراقية- كلية الآداب- قسم اللغة الإنكليزية

المخلص

تسعى هذه الدراسة، من خلال تناولها لرواية «مرتفعات وذرينغ» لإيميلي برونتي، إلى دراسة مساهمة الشخصيات الذكورية في علاقاتها المعقدة بين الحب والانتقام وكيفية اظهارها وتشكيلها او تصويرها. تناولت الدراسة شخصيتين ألا وهما هيثكليف وإدجار لينتون على وجه التحديد كدراسة حالة، مع التركيز على أبرز سماتهما المتناقضة وطريقة تفاعلها. بالإضافة إلى ذلك، تقدم الدراسة نظرة عامة على حياة الكاتبة إيميلي برونتي وإرثها، مع التأكيد على أهميتها كواحدة من أهم الكتاب البارزين والمؤثرين في القرن التاسع عشر. وتسعى أيضا هذه الدراسة، من خلال تفكيك الحبكة المتشابكة والمحكمة لرواية «مرتفعات وذرينغ»، إلى تسليط الضوء على تقلبات الشخصيات التي تجعل من الرواية تحفة أدبية. تفترض الرواية أن الحب والانتقام مفهومان متشابكان، قادران على إحداث عواقب مدمرة عندما يصلان إلى أقصى الحدود كما تجسدت داخل الرواية وبأسلوب مميز. جسّد هيثكليف، حبًا معقدًا ومكثفًا متشابكًا مع التعطش للانتقام. بينما مثل إدغار لينتون وجهة نظر متناقضة عن الحب، تتميز بالاستقرار ومفهوم أكثر تقليدي للرومانسية. ومع ذلك، فقد استسلم بعدها لأثر الانتقام. أصبحت هذه الشخصيات مثالاً على التفاعل المعقد بين الحب والانتقام، وما يمكن لهذه المشاعر أن تدفع الأفراد نحو التصرفات المتطرفة والنتائج المأساوية. وتخلص الدراسة الى نتائج ملحوظة بشأن مشاركة هذه الشخصيات في الرواية مستنتجة أن هيثكليف وإدجار لينتون يجسدان صفات متميزة تسهم في موضوعات الحب والكراهية والخير والشر والانتقام واللذان يعملان كعناصر مركزية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: ((العواطف، المتشابكة، الحب، الانتقام))

Abstract

In the exploration of Emily Brontë's «Wuthering Heights,» this research delves into the contribution of male characters to the intricate relationship between love and revenge depicted in the novel. Heathcliff and Edgar Linton are specifically examined as a case study, focusing on their contrasting qualities. Additionally, an overview of Emily Brontë's life and legacy is presented, emphasizing her significance as one of the foremost and influential authors of the 19th century. By dissecting the tightly woven and meticulously crafted plot of «Wuthering Heights,» this analysis endeavours to illuminate the timeless themes and dynamics of characters that render the novel a literary masterpiece. the study yields notable findings regarding the involvement of male characters in «Wuthering Heights,» concluding that Heathcliff and Edgar Linton embody distinct traits that shape the narrative and contribute to the interplay of love and revenge within the novel.

Keywords: ((emotions, entangled, love, revenge))



1. Emily Brontë: an overview of life & legacy

1.1 Life

Born on the 30th of July, 1818, in Thornton, Yorkshire, England, Emily Brontë emerged as the fifth child among six siblings, her parents being Patrick Brontë, an Irish clergyman, and Maria Branwell Brontë. Unfortunately, tragedy shadowed her early years, as her mother succumbed to cancer when Emily was merely three years old, and her two elder sisters fell victim to tuberculosis in close succession. The year 1820 witnessed the Brontë family's relocation to Haworth, where Patrick Brontë assumed the role of perpetual curate. Under his tutelage, the children received homeschooling that nurtured their literary abilities and fostered a wide-ranging reading habit. It was during this period that Emily, alongside her sisters Charlotte and Anne, commenced their collaborative efforts in writing stories and poems. In 1842, Emily and Charlotte ventured to Brussels for educational purposes, enrolling in a boarding school. However, Emily's time in Brussels proved dissatisfying, leading her to return to Haworth after a year. Nonetheless, her passion for writing persisted, and in 1846, she and her sisters published a collection of poetry under the pen names Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell. Although the book did not achieve commercial success, it garnered significant critical attention.

1.2 Literary legacy & influence

Emily Brontë's literary contribution, despite being limited to a sole novel in her lifetime, has left an indelible mark on English literature.

According to Pouliot (2020), Emily's poetry serves as an ideal complement and source of enlightenment throughout various stages of her life, starting from her time as a teacher, her sojourn in Brussels, her profound affection for the moors, and the tragic loss of her brother Branwell. In 1847, she unveiled her solitary work, «Wuthering Heights,» which not only garnered immediate critical acclaim but also courted controversy. Regarded as a masterpiece of English literature, «Wuthering Heights» has enjoyed widespread readership and scholarly examination since its publication. Its unorthodox structure, intricate character portrayals, and exploration of profound themes like love, revenge, and fervent desires have firmly established it as a significant addition to the literary



canon. While some critics were taken aback by the novel's portrayal of passion and violence, others lauded its ingenuity and potency.

Set amidst the windswept expanse of the Yorkshire moors, «Wuthering Heights» narrates a compelling tale of love, loss, and vengeance, interweaving the lives of two families—the Earnshaws and the Lintons—and the complex interplay among their members. Heathcliff, the novel's central figure, embodies the archetype of a Byronic hero, brimming with profound passion yet burdened with inherent flaws. His relentless pursuit of retribution against those who have wronged him culminates in a series of tragic repercussions.

Apart from the renowned novel «Wuthering Heights,» Emily Brontë's literary repertoire extends to encompass more than 200 poems. These poems, characterized by their somber and contemplative nature, also manifest a profound adoration for nature and a resolute spirit of independence. Brontë's poetic compositions have received accolades for their ingenuity and aesthetic appeal, captivating readers across the globe who continue to admire and appreciate them.

The impact of Emily Brontë's contributions on the realm of literature has endured over time. «Wuthering Heights» stands as an esteemed gem within English literature, hailed as one of its finest novels, having been adapted into multiple cinematic and televisual renditions. Furthermore, Brontë's poems have garnered critical acclaim from both scholars and fellow poets, exerting an influential force on the creative endeavors of numerous other writers.

Brontë's body of work is remarkable for its distinctiveness, delivering powerful portrayals of human emotions. Fearlessly delving into dark and taboo themes, her compositions consistently challenge conventional norms surrounding gender and sexuality. Her literary expressions have earned praise from feminists and critics alike for their profound insights into the female experience.

To this day, Emily Brontë's literary creations continue to captivate readers across the globe, inspiring profound study and contemplation. As one of the foremost and influential writers of the 19th century, her legacy remains unparalleled, ceaselessly stimulating and provoking readers in the contemporary era.

Jassim & Abdulrazaq (2021) find that Brontë's Wuthering Heights shows the impact of the author's life upon the flow of the events and the lives of the char-



acters.

The next section will shed some light on Wuthering heights, the focal point in this paper.

1.3. Wuthering Heights: An overview of the novel

The plot of «Wuthering Heights» is skillfully woven, exhibiting meticulous craftsmanship. The narrative unfolds in a cohesive and interconnected manner, suggesting that Emily Bronte invested considerable thought into its construction. This multigenerational tale of love and revenge orbits around the denizens of the desolate abode known as Wuthering Heights, presided over by its proprietor, Heathcliff. Set amidst the West Yorkshire moors, it delves into the intricate relationships between two families of the landed gentry: the Earnshaws and the Lintons, with particular focus on the tumultuous connections they share with Heathcliff, the adopted son of Earnshaw. Drawing influence from Romanticism and Gothic fiction, «Wuthering Heights» has ascended to the status of a timeless masterpiece in English literature. Its notoriety stems from its unflinching portrayal of psychological and physical cruelty, as well as its audacious challenges to the moral, religious, and societal values prevalent during the Victorian era. Emily Bronte's novel, «Wuthering Heights,» stands as a work that has wielded a significant impact within the realm of fictional literature. Renowned for its intricate plot, complex character portrayals, and exploration of dark themes (Al-Mohammed, 2013; Krishnamurthy, 2013; Singh, 2013), the novel bears the unmistakable imprint of Bronte's background and cultural influences. Her employment as a governess at High Sunderland Hall, for instance, exhibits striking parallels to the milieu depicted in Wuthering Heights.

1.4 Main Characters under Study

- Heathcliff

In the novel «Wuthering Heights» by Emily Brontë, the central character of Heathcliff holds a significant position. His enigmatic nature and profound influence permeate the entire narrative. Starting as a young boy introduced into the Earnshaw family, Heathcliff's character evolves through a series of experiences and intense emotions that shape his identity. In terms of physical description,



Heathcliff is portrayed as possessing a dark and brooding appearance, exuding an aura of mystery that sets him apart from the other characters. This external portrayal also serves to emphasize his outsider status, as his origins remain unknown and his background remains veiled in secrecy. The complexity of Heathcliff's character is further exemplified by his moral ambiguity. While often depicted as a figure driven by darkness and a thirst for vengeance, his motivations and actions are also influenced by the mistreatment he has endured. The abandonment, abuse, and social rejection he has faced contribute to his transformation into a character compelled by the pursuit of power and retribution.

In essence, Heathcliff emerges as a multi-faceted and captivating character within the pages of «Wuthering Heights.» His overwhelming emotions, enigmatic background, and conflicting motives render him a compelling figure, embodying the overarching themes of love, revenge, and the devastating consequences of unchecked emotional turmoil.

- Edgar Linton

In Emily Brontë's renowned novel, «Wuthering Heights,» we encounter the character of Edgar Linton, who stands as a striking juxtaposition to the dark and brooding figure of Heathcliff. Described as fair, handsome, and possessing a gentle disposition, Edgar presents an antithesis to the tempestuous aura that envelops his counterpart. Hailing from the esteemed Linton family, who reside in the neighboring estate of Thrushcross Grange, Edgar's persona is marked by his social standing and his adherence to conventional notions of love and matrimony.

Distinguished by refined manners and a comprehensive education, Edgar embodies the essence of a true gentleman. His elevated social status surpasses that of the Earnshaw family, bestowing upon him an air of aristocracy. Moreover, Edgar's heart becomes captivated by Catherine Earnshaw, whom he encounters in their childhood and subsequently falls deeply in love with. The love he harbours for Catherine follows a more traditional path, characterized by tenderness and affection, aligning with conventional romantic ideals.

However, even with his gentle nature, Edgar proves not impervious to the corrosive impact of revenge. Heathcliff's insatiable thirst for retribution casts a dark shadow over Edgar's marriage to Catherine, subjecting him to manip-



ulative schemes and torment. Nevertheless, Edgar's character also reveals an inner resilience, enabling him to maintain his composure and dignified composure amidst the turbulent trials he endures.

In essence, Edgar Linton epitomizes the embodiment of conventional perspectives on love and societal stature within the world of «Wuthering Heights.» His presence serves as a stark contrast to the fiery and impassioned love shared between Catherine and Heathcliff, thereby illuminating the perilous consequences that revenge can unleash upon unsuspecting hearts.

2. Literature Review

Numerous scholarly works have delved into the multifaceted themes and characters present in Emily Brontë's novel, «Wuthering Heights.» Although the scope of these studies encompasses a wide range of topics beyond those explored in this particular analysis, the following paragraphs will concentrate on recent research focusing on the themes of love and revenge. Noteworthy among these studies is the work conducted by Hewa (2019), whose objective is to establish a correlation between the novel's setting and the unconventional romance between Catherine and Heathcliff.

Kangune (2019) has undertaken a study that seeks to illuminate the contrasting aspects of «Wuthering Heights» and «The English Patient,» namely the themes of «love» and «mystery.» Equally noteworthy is the research conducted by Colvin (2021), which examines the numerous connections between the two works and further delves into their shared portrayal of the intricate relationship between sexuality and death. This is exemplified by the depiction of eroticized graves for characters like Catherine and Juliet, as well as the passionate attempts of Heathcliff and Romeo to exhume their loved ones. Both couples envision a transcendental heavenly realm not in terms of proximity to God, but rather in terms of their connection to each other.

Several studies have focused on the theme of revenge in «Wuthering Heights,» demonstrating its significant appeal. Presented below is a synopsis of recent research that have examined this theme within the novel. McCarthy (2022) delves into the topic of violence in «Wuthering Heights» and explores its connection to the theme of revenge. Another study by Yasir (2014), titled «The Themes of Evil and Revenge in Wuthering Heights,» analyzes the portray-



al of evil and revenge in the novel. Additionally, Pandia (2019) contends that the theme of revenge in the novel signifies a response to love betrayal and the absence of justice. According to this study, revenge serves as a counteraction that inflicts reverse consequences upon those responsible for the betrayal and injustice.

The development of Heathcliff's overwhelming thirst for revenge and its fatal consequences are the main focus of Salih et al.'s research (2021). Another study conducted by Brkic (2022) delves into the motif of madness in a revenge-driven narrative. This study also explores the significance of Brontë's novel within the cultural context of the Victorian era. Additionally, Iskandarova & Xoliqulova (2022) present a paper that highlights how Emily Brontë's novel serves as an expression of her unique and profound understanding of love and revenge.

In her study on the novel of Wuthering Heights and its themes, Hamidat (2021) delves into the representation of the theme of revenge by Emily Bronte. The research explores how British gothic writings and the method of characterization are employed to convey this theme. Furthermore, the study employs Freudian psychoanalysis to analyze the characters and their use of defense mechanisms.

Within the realm of literary analysis, various studies have approached the themes of love and revenge in Emily Bronte's novel «Wuthering Heights» from different perspectives. In this particular study, the focus will be directed towards a comprehensive examination of two prominent male characters: Heathcliff and Edgar Linton.

3. An Analysis of the interplay of Love & Revenge in Wuthering Heights

A close look at Wuthering Heights would reveal that a significant theme of great importance lies in the intricate relationship between love and revenge. The novel delves into the intricate interconnection of these two sentiments and their influence on the characters' conduct.

Love, as depicted in Wuthering Heights, manifests itself as an ardent and fervent emotion, yet it is also marred by possessiveness and an inclination for dominance. The characters, such as Heathcliff and Catherine, find themselves



compelled by their profound affection for one another; however, their love is deeply intertwined with a thirst for retribution against those who have inflicted harm upon them. Consequently, their love acts as a catalyst for detrimental deeds and fuels a relentless cycle of vengeance.

Conversely, revenge is portrayed as a formidable motivator within the human psyche. Characters such as Heathcliff, Hindley, and Edgar are propelled by their thirst for vengeance, which grows in intensity and becomes increasingly uncontrollable with the passage of time. Revenge evolves into a propulsive force that amplifies their emotions and ultimately culminates in tragic outcomes..

The character of Heathcliff serves as a prominent embodiment of the intricate relationship between love and revenge in Wuthering Heights. His profound affection for Catherine becomes inextricably linked with his longing for retribution against those who have treated him unjustly. As his love for Catherine grows stronger, so does his thirst for revenge. Through this portrayal, the novel suggests that love and revenge are entangled in a manner that can yield detrimental consequences when pursued to the utmost extremes. In its entirety, the exploration of love and revenge within Wuthering Heights brings to the forefront the intricate and often ruinous nature of human emotions. It delves into the ways in which these emotions can impel individuals towards extreme actions, ultimately leading to tragic outcomes.

Over the course of the next few sections, love and revenge will be explored each in its own right highlighting any overlapping reflections between the two themes.

3.1 Theme of Love

Emily Brontë's novel, Wuthering Heights, undertakes a comprehensive examination of love in its diverse manifestations. Within the narrative, the most prominent tale of affection unfolds between Heathcliff and Catherine. Their love engulfs them entirely, evoking intense passion; however, it also proves to be pernicious and detrimental to their well-being. As Kumar (2015, p. 1) asserts, «Wuthering Heights serves as a profound exploration of human ardor across various dimensions, impacting both individual and societal realms.» Kumar further contends that the novel delves into the theme of childhood and its formative influence on human passions (Kumar, 2015, p. 2).



As per Bloom's analysis (2022, p. 1), it is an exaggeration to proclaim Catherine and Heathcliff as the epitome of fictional lovers. Additionally, Bloom argues that while their relationship is fueled by passion, it also carries destructive and detrimental qualities (Bloom, 2022, p. 1). Within the intricate tapestry of Emily Brontë's narrative, she delves into the complexities of desire, possession, and love by exploring the multifaceted bond shared between Heathcliff and Catherine. Their love is vividly depicted as a potent amalgamation of intensity and passion, yet it is also intertwined with possessiveness and a propensity for destruction.

Heathcliff and Catherine, in their unbreakable connection, epitomize a rare breed of individuals brimming with abundant love, fiery passion, and indomitable vitality. They fearlessly and unabashedly express their emotions, embracing the full spectrum of love and hatred, with their words and actions infused with a profound and fervent intensity. Societal conventions hold no sway over them as they yearn for liberation from the shackles imposed by social norms, defiantly rejecting the constraints they entail. Their love transcends mere self-interest, sympathy, or the solace of convenience, instead representing an authentic, unadulterated bond that surpasses superficial motivations and embodies a raw, unfiltered affection.

Heathcliff's longing for Catherine is deeply rooted in his intense desire for possession. He perceives her as the most precious prize, compelling him to seek control and dominance over her. Throughout the novel, this fervent need for possession is evident in his calculated manipulations and intricate schemes to ensure Catherine's enduring attachment to him. Heathcliff's love for Catherine becomes intricately intertwined with his insatiable hunger for complete ownership.

In a similar vein, the novel artfully depicts Catherine's yearning for both love and possession. Torn between her profound affection for Heathcliff and her aspirations for social status and wealth, she ultimately chooses to marry Edgar Linton. Nevertheless, even within the confines of her marital union, Catherine cannot fully sever the emotional bond with Heathcliff. This poignant portrayal poignantly underscores her own deep-seated longing to possess him on a profound emotional level.



The exploration of male characters and their manifestations of love and revenge is an illuminating aspect within Wuthering Heights. The novel delves into the relationships these characters have with love, depicting them as intricate and multi-dimensional individuals guided by their own aspirations and motivations. This analysis focuses specifically on two contrasting characters, Heathcliff and Edgar Linton, who provide divergent perspectives on the themes of love and revenge.

Heathcliff, a central male figure, exhibits an overwhelming and fervent love for Catherine. His affection for her is marked by intensity and totality, encompassing his entire being. However, this affection is intertwined with an ardent desire for possession and control, resulting in devastating repercussions. Heathcliff's emotional landscape intricately weaves together his profound love for Catherine and his burning thirst for retribution against those who have transgressed him, thus revealing the intricate complexities of his inner world.

A contrasting perspective on love is embodied by Edgar Linton, who exemplifies traits of stability, societal approval, and a conventional notion of romance. Edgar's affection towards Catherine is motivated by a longing for a tranquil and balanced connection, offering a stark juxtaposition to the fervent and tumultuous love shared between Catherine and Heathcliff.

The affection Edgar Linton harbors for Catherine Earnshaw lacks the fiery intensity and profound vehemence observed in other relationships. Catherine, in her union with Edgar, aspires to attain recognition as «the most eminent woman in the vicinity» (Bronte, 1947, p. 89). While desire still fuels their connection, Catherine's longing is primarily focused on establishing her social standing, and marrying Edgar serves as a manifestation of this aspiration. In addition to the fulfillment of her ambitions, Catherine's marriage to Edgar affords her various advantages, including intellectual growth and financial independence. Consequently, the outcome is a marital union that appears to possess a higher degree of well-being, stability, and productivity. According to Saheb (2020, p. 22), Catherine's aspiration for societal progress influences her decision to accept Edgar Linton's proposal, even in the face of her overpowering affection for Heathcliff.

Ultimately, the romantic bond shared by Edgar and Catherine seems to have engendered a sense of contentment, joy, and a reasonably gratifying realization



of their wishes and pleasures. One could reasonably assume that it could have culminated in a happy conclusion if not for the unexpected reappearance of Heathcliff.

3.2 Theme of Revenge

Emily Brontë's novel «Wuthering Heights» delves deeply into the theme of revenge, which plays a pivotal role throughout the narrative. Virtually all the events in the novel are driven by the characters' thirst for vengeance, with multiple acts of retribution unfolding among them. The origins of this desire for revenge become apparent within the Earnshaw family, specifically when Mr. Earnshaw returns home with Heathcliff instead of the anticipated gifts, provoking feelings of envy and resentment among his children (Brontë, 1847).

Hindley is the target of Heathcliff's vengeful intentions due to the mistreatment he endured at Hindley's hands (Brontë, 1847, p. 61). Hindley, believing that Heathcliff has stolen his father's affection, harbors a growing desire for revenge against him. To retaliate against Heathcliff for supplanting him at Wuthering Heights, Hindley denies him access to education, effectively creating a divide between Heathcliff and Catherine. In response, Heathcliff embarks on a series of retaliatory actions not only against Hindley but also extends his vengeance to Hindley's son, Hareton. Additionally, he launches various campaigns of revenge against almost everyone around him.

Hindley enacts revenge against Heathcliff by employing his sister, Catherine, stating, «she was much too fond of Heathcliff. The greatest punishment we could invent for her was to keep her separate from him» (Brontë, 1847, p. 49). Consequently, Hindley separates them by instructing Catherine to marry Edgar Linton. In retaliation, Heathcliff initiates a series of vengeful acts against Hindley, commencing with the acquisition of Hindley's money and culminating in his abusive and unkind treatment of Hindley's son, Hareton.

Heathcliff, with the intention of seeking revenge against his father, deprives Hareton of his entitlement to education, strips him of his rightful place in society, and consigns him to work as an indentured laborer on his estate. Additionally, after losing Catherine, Heathcliff's destructive tendencies intensify, and he becomes more determined to exact vengeance upon those responsible for his unhappiness. Catherine conveys to him that she occasionally perceives his pri-



mary emotion as hatred rather than love, as evidenced by his actions (Saheb, 2020, p. 3373).

In a distinctive and ruthless manner, Heathcliff embarks on his quest for vengeance. His approach involves allowing events to unfold naturally. He permits Catherine to wed Edgar and maintain their marriage. He permits Isabella to indulge her own desires. He allows Hindley Earnshaw to succumb to the destructive effects of alcohol. He allows Linton to meet his demise (Bloom, 1988, p. 37).

Retribution is meticulously plotted by Heathcliff, targeting Hindley, Edgar Linton, Hindley's son Hareton, and even his lifelong beloved, Catherine. Linton harbors a desire for revenge against Heathcliff due to the mistreatment he endured (Ri, 2018, p. 223).

Upon reaching the unwavering belief that Catherine is forever beyond his grasp, Heathcliff directs his wrath towards alternative avenues, notably the acquisition of land. Driven by a deep-seated desire for retribution against those accountable for keeping Catherine separated from him, he employs shrewd tactics to amass extensive estates (Karjohn, 2012, p. 20). Much like Hindley, he regards Edgar Linton as a formidable foe due to Edgar's union with Catherine, the cherished woman of Heathcliff's affections. Consequently, Heathcliff embarks on a relentless quest to exact revenge upon Edgar. Additionally, he strategically positions himself for the eventual inheritance of Thrush Cross Grange by entering into a marriage with Isabella Linton, whom he treats with utmost cruelty (Saheb, 2020, p. 422). Furthermore, evident within the novel is the undeniable fact that Edgar, much like his parents, harbors no regard for Heathcliff. He holds a disdainful view of Heathcliff, who lacks any semblance of social standing. It is this demeaning attitude towards Heathcliff that serves as an indirect catalyst for Heathcliff's thirst for vengeance (Ri, 2018, p. 2). In his quest for vengeance, Heathcliff undertakes the act of retaliation against Edgar Linton by luring his sister, Isabella, into a relationship, eloping with her, and ultimately entering into marriage with her.

Heathcliff, driven by several motives, constructs his campaigns of revenge based on perceived justifications. He believes he has rightful grounds to retaliate against Hindley, as he considers Hindley to have treated him with cruelty. More-



over, Heathcliff cannot forgive Hindley for orchestrating Catherine's marriage to Edgar Linton, which further fuels his desire for revenge. Similarly, he deems Edgar Linton deserving of his retaliation for marrying Catherine and taking her away from him. Even Hareton Hindley Earnshaw does not escape Heathcliff's vengeful schemes, despite having done him no wrong. Heathcliff emphatically declares, «I have no pity! I have no pity! The more the worms writhe, the more I yearn to crush out their entrails! It is a moral teething; and I grind with greater energy, in proportion to the increase of pain» (Bronte, 1847, p. 125). One of the justifications put forth by Heathcliff to vindicate his retaliation against Hareton is the fact that Hareton is the offspring of his adversary, which, in Heathcliff's view, serves as a valid and sufficient rationale for his actions.

Pearson (1978) examines the interplay between the moral realm where personal vengeance is often condemned and the worlds inhabited by figures like Achilles, Hamlet, and Heathcliff in the novel «Wuthering Heights.» The overarching narrative of the book revolves around the attempt to shape existence through the singular impulse of revenge (p. 141). The driving force behind much of the unfolding drama in «Wuthering Heights» is the characters' relentless pursuit of revenge. This quest for vengeance creates a vicious cycle that appears to perpetuate indefinitely (para. 1).

Panhwar and Dino (2018) expand upon the themes of malevolence and retribution in «Wuthering Heights.» They assert that the novel delves into the intricate dynamics of love and hatred, good and evil, and the desire for revenge (p. 124).

Within the realm of desire-driven emotions depicted in «Wuthering Heights,» the characters of Heathcliff, Catherine, Hindley Earnshaw, and Edgar Linton assume significant roles.

Heathcliff, in particular, emerges as a central figure whose desires are propelled by a profound yearning for both love and revenge. His longing for Catherine is all-consuming, compelling him to assert ownership and exert control over her. Additionally, Heathcliff's thirst for revenge against Hindley and others stems from his aspiration to reclaim power and dominance over those who have wronged him. The repercussions of Heathcliff's vengeful actions extend to all, including his cherished Catherine Earnshaw, whose descent into madness



and eventual demise can be attributed, in all likelihood, to him and his malevolent deeds. It becomes apparent over time that Heathcliff and Catherine are diametrically opposed to one another. Consequently, despite the exceptional and steadfast love they share, their inherent differences have the potential to breed destruction and retaliation even within the very bond they have openly expressed and cherished.

The portrayal of desire-fueled emotions in *Wuthering Heights* prominently features Hindley Earnshaw, whose motivations are primarily rooted in his deep-seated animosity and longing for retaliation against Heathcliff. Hindley's yearning to regain his father's love and regain his former position of authority serves as the driving force behind his actions throughout the narrative, ultimately resulting in a pernicious cycle of vengeance and anguish.

Edgar Linton, driven by a vengeful mindset, chooses to obstruct any form of contact or communication between his sister Isabella and Heathcliff, in response to their agreement to marry. According to Brontë (1847), it is evident that Linton's pursuit of Catherine is solely influenced by Heathcliff's coercion. Heathcliff hopes that if Catherine marries Linton, it will result in his complete legal claim upon Thrush Cross Grange and his ultimate revenge on Edgar Linton (p. 423).

The examination of desire-driven emotions, including love, hate, and revenge, in *Wuthering Heights* is intricately woven through the actions and motivations of these characters. Their conflicting desires and motivations intertwine, influencing the narrative and shedding light on the detrimental outcomes that arise from uncontrolled passions.

4. Concluding remarks

To conclude, «*Wuthering Heights*» delves into the themes of love, hate, goodness, evil, and revenge. Revenge serves as a central motif, propelling the characters' actions throughout the narrative. The novel explores love in various manifestations, with the intense bond between Heathcliff and Catherine occupying a central position but not monopolizing the thematic exploration. Additionally, social class, revenge, and hatred are among the other themes examined. Scholars argue that «*Wuthering Heights*» presents a study of human passion at both individual and societal levels, illuminating its impact on human



existence.

Love within the novel is portrayed as passionate and all-consuming, yet tainted by possessiveness and a yearning for dominance. Conversely, revenge is depicted as a potent motivating force that can drive individuals to extreme measures and culminate in tragedy. This interplay between love and revenge is especially evident in the character of Heathcliff, whose love for Catherine becomes entangled with his thirst for retribution against those who have wronged him. The novel posits that love and revenge are intertwined concepts, capable of inflicting destructive consequences when taken to their extremes.

The male characters in «Wuthering Heights» embody the themes of love and revenge in distinctive manners. Heathcliff, the central male protagonist, personifies a complex and intense love entwined with a thirst for vengeance. His affection for Catherine compels him to seek recompense from those who have harmed him, ultimately leading to ruinous outcomes. Hindley Earnshaw, on the other hand, channels his relationship with love primarily through animosity and a desire for revenge, which propels his actions throughout the novel. Edgar Linton represents a contrasting perspective on love, characterized by stability and a more conventional notion of romance. However, even Edgar succumbs to the pernicious effects of revenge. The male characters in «Wuthering Heights» exemplify the intricate interplay between love and revenge, underscoring how these emotions can impel individuals towards extreme actions and tragic outcomes. Their experiences with love and revenge serve as a testament to the intricate and multifaceted nature of human emotions within the novel.

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