THE BIOGRAPHY OF EMILY BRONTE

The fifth of six children, Emily Jane Bronte, was born on July 30, 1818 at Thornton, Bradford. She was brought up in the stone personage at Haworth Yorkshire. She caught cold at her brother's funeral and fell prey to consumption. During her illness, she showed great fortitude, refusing to have the care of a doctor or to admit her suffering. On December 19, 1848, she died and was buried in the church where her father was curate in 1820 until his death in 1861. She left few personal notes but from her verses which have been hailed as truly great, and from her single novel the world has come to rate her as a genius in English Literature.

In 1821 Emily went to Cowan Bridge School for one year. Three months at Roe Head School 1835 and six months at the Pasionnat Heger in Brussels in 1842 formed Emily's formal schooling, for the rest she was educated by her aunt and she also studied herself. The three sisters and their brother lived very much to themselves in the stone personage on the edge of the moors. Emily loved her home and the moors. So intensely she would pine to the point of illness when she should be away from them for many length of time. She had an intimate knowledge of
SYNOPSIS

The story begins in 1801 with the arrival of Mr. Lockwood as a tenant of Thrushcross Grange, a property rented from Mr. Heathcliff of Wuthering Heights. During the first days of Mr. Lockwood’s tenancy, he has occasion to make two calls on his landlord, an abrupt unsocial man who keeps a pack of vicious dogs. On his second visit Lokwood meets to other member of the strange household, a rough unkempt young man Hereton Earnshaw, and the pretty but moody, young widow of Heathcliff’s son.

A snowstorm and Heathcliff’s refusal of a guide prevent Lockwood from making the four miles return trip to Thrushcross Grange across the unfamiliar moors. Zillah, the cook, accommodates the visitors in an unused room of the dreary house. During the night he is plagued by strange dreams. In an attempt to unhook the casement to break off a tapping fir branch outside, Lookwood smashes a pane as he reaches out to remove the branch, the supposed cause of his restlessness, his fingers seem to close on a small icy hand. In weeping voice the spirit of Catherine Linton begs to enter and then attempts to force her way through the broken casement.

Lookwood screams. His cries rouse the master of the house, who savagely ordering his guest out of the
room., throws himself upon the bed and begs the spirit to come in out of the storm. The hiss of the snow and the wailing of the wind are the only response to his please.

On his return to Thrushcross Grange, Lockwood's curiosity concerning the strange inhabitants of Wuthering Heights and his weird experience they are satisfied by the story of Ellen Dean, at various times a servant at Wuthering Heights, but now his housekeeper at Thrushcross Grange.

Her story of Earnshaws, Lintons, and Heathcliff begins years before, at the time when old Mr. Earnshaw, his wife, and the children, Hindley and Catherine, were the inhabitants of Wuthering Heights. Returning from a trip to Liverpool, the father brought back with him a starving, ragged urchin, dark as a gypsy, whom he named Heathcliff. As time went on the newcomer usurped the affection of the ailing father and of the girl Catherine. The son, Hindley, jealous of his father's affection for the outsider, was sent away to school. Intimate relationship between Catherine and Heathcliff.

Hindley Earnshaw returned to the funeral of his father with a wife. Now master of the house, he avenged himself on Heathcliff, treating him as a servant and attempting to put an end to his relationship with Catherine. In the meantime, Catherine made the
acquaintance of Edgar and Isabella Linton, children of a gentleman who was the owner of Thrushcross Grange. Hindley's ill treatment and Catherine's affections for Edgar Linton made Heathcliff sullen and morose, he determined to avenge himself on Hindley whom he hated with all the fury of his savage nature.

The following summer Hindley's wife, Frances, died after giving birth to a child, Hereton. Consumed with grief, Hindley took to drink and grew more and more degenerate as the months passed. In the curse of time, Catherine married Edgar Linton and moved to Thrushcross Grange. The conversation in which she confided to Ellen Dean her love for Heathcliff, but her choice of Edgar as a husband because a union with a penniless orphan would be the grading, was overheard by Heathcliff, who disappeared and did not return for several years.

Heathcliff finally returned to the scenes of his childhood, much improved in manners and appearance. Hindley hoping find in him a companion for his drinking and gambling and at the same time recoup his dwindling fortune, invited to live at Wuthering Heights. seeing a chance to avenge himself on his former oppressor, Heathcliff accepted. The happy life of Edgar, Catherine and Isabella at Thrushcross Grange was troubled by the returned of the wonder. Edgar grew jealous of
Heathcliff, Catherine become irritable, and Isabella fell in love with Heathcliff. After a fight with Edgar, Heathcliff eloped with Isabella, hoping to avenge himself and anger the brother. Soon after Catherine fell seriously ill with a fever. Upon their return, Heathcliff and Isabella took up residence at Wuthering Heights, Edgar refused to see his sister and forbade Heathcliff to enter his house.

With the unwilling assistance of Ellen Dean, Heathcliff managed a final visit to the still devoted Catherine during Edgar's absence at church. The shock of the meeting and the unexpected arrival of her husband combined to cause the premature birth of Catherine's child, a girl, named after her mother. A few hours after the birth of the child, Catherine died, having vowed to Heathcliff that her spirit would never leave him.

Finding life with Heathcliff at Wuthering Heights unbearable, Isabella went to London. There a few months later, her son, Linton, was born. The weak, effeminate child was raised in ignorance of his father's identity.

With the death of Hindley Earnshaw, Heathcliff, guest in the house, became its master; in his desperate financial straits, Hindley had mortgaged everything to his enemy. Hence, the natural heir to the property, Hereton Earnshaw, became dependent on the cruel
Heathcliff, who seeing in the boy a chance for vengeance on the father, made of him an ignorant and sullen laborer on the land which was rightly his. Heathcliff's desire for vengeance became a controlling passion.

On the death of Isabella, twelve years after her departure from Wuthering Heights, her sickly son, Linton, was brought by Edgar Linton to Thrushcross Grange to be raised with her daughter, Catherine. Learning of the arrival of his son, Heathcliff demanded that the boy be turned over to him; Edgar had no choice but to give in. He attempted, however, to keep the young Cathy in ignorance of the inhabitants of Wuthering Heights.

In spite of Edgar's care, Cathy paid a visit to Wuthering Heights, learned that Hereton was her cousin, discovered that Linton was staying there, and was told that Heathcliff was her uncle and that he and her father were not on good terms. A fiendish plan formed in the mind of Heathcliff; he would arrange a marriage between his ailing son, Linton, and his enemy's daughter, Cathy, thereby gaining possession of Thrushcross Grange and control over the girl after the death of her father, Edgar.

Edgar Linton fell ill. During his illness Heathcliff arranged meetings at Wuthering Heights between Cathy and his son, Linton. By means of treachery, Heathcliff lured Cathy, who had been probidden by her
father to visit Wuthering Heights, into the house, keeping her there as a prisoner for five days, and refusing to allow her to go to bedside of her dying father unless she agreed to marry Linton, who was also at the point of death, but too late for him to alter his will to prevent his property from falling into the hands of his enemy through Linton and Cathy.

After the death of her father, Cathy was forced by Heathcliff to return to Wuthering Heights, there to suffer abuse at the hands of her uncle and his servants and to nurse her husband, the dying Linton. Heathcliff refused to send for a doctor, he hated his son by the despised Isabella, and was eager for his death so that the coveted property of Edgar Linton would fall into his hands and the child of Edgar and Catherine, Cathy, would come under his control.

Ellen Dean's story is thus brought up to the date of Lookwood's visits to Heathcliff. The latter's vengeance on the Earnshaws and lintons seems to be complete. He is a master of two lands. But the wheel of life keep rotating, Heathcliff had deliberately starved himself to death, haunted by the ghost of catherine and longing to be united with her in death. Freed from their oppressor, Cathy and Hereton have become friends. The girl is teaching the ignorant boy to read and improve his manners and chances of their affection developing into love and ending in marriage seems likely.