

# The Brontë Sisters

## Biography

They are Charlotte, Emily and Anne, and they were the daughter of a priest, and their father has married a woman of delicate constitution who gave him 6 children before dying. When he remained a widow, he asked his sister-in-law to come and help him; she was a very severe and austere woman, very cold and detached, and she came to look after the children, but in fact they were left much to themselves. They were usually alone, because mister Brontë was really egocentric and spent most of his days alone. Four of the five girls were sent to a school for clergymen's daughters, where the fees were very low, but the food was very bad and discipline was hard. Here the two eldest, Maria and Elizabeth, died, probably of tuberculosis, and after that Charlotte and Emily were brought back home. There were 4 children left, and they were extremely precocious and clever; they spent their time in unmethodical study. They went to Brussels, to study French and then come back. Charlotte and Emily tried to open a school in their village, but they found no people. In 1846 the three sisters jointly published at their expense, a collection of poems, but it attracted no attention. After that the three sisters devoted herself to the novel writing. All of the Brontë brothers had a dramatic destiny; Anne died in 1849 at the age of 29; Emily died at 30, on 1848; Patrick, who was a talented painter, died in 1848 after a dissolute life and Charlotte died in 1855 at 39.

## Wuthering Heights

It starts with the end of the story, and he goes back towards flashback, it's considering it complex. The atmosphere is gothic, nightmarish, and unreal. In the story, there is the used to backwards and forwards. The novel covers 2 generation of families, linked by the character Heathcliff. There are 2 story tellers: Nelly Dean and Mr. Lockwood. There are 3 literary influences act on the novel:

**Romanticism**, because of the great role played by nature, that is nearly a co-protagonist; it is also romantic because Heathcliff is a Byronic hero, that has a dark secret that chases and ruined his life;

**Realism**, it's mirrored in the social aspect of the novel; the features are the description of the setting, in details, conflict between two cultures and the complexity of the character personality.

**Gothic** influence like nightmarish dreams, ghost and superstition, prophecies.

Novel closes with the reconciliation of the 2 spheres of the fantastic and the real.

Most important theme is analysis of passion that transcends of romantic love. It's strong, uncontrolled, similar to natural..., both creation and distraction, nor sexual nor intellectual, it's an impulse, which Catharine and Mr. Heathcliff, they totally identified to each other.

He is a romantic hero, his aspiration towards a pure and complete identification with her. He represents the dynamic principle of the search of perfection against the static principle of the acceptance of reality.