

الجامعة: تكريت

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عنوان المحاضرة:

Wuthering Heights Symbols

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Wuthering Heights Main Symbols

1. The Two Estates: Wuthering Heights vs. Thrushcross Grange

The contrast between the two main locations forms the central structural symbol of the novel:

Wuthering Heights: Symbolizes untamed nature, raw emotion, passion, and chaotic storminess. Built to withstand harsh winds, its dark, fortress-like architecture mirrors the defensive, callous personalities of the Earnshaws and Heathcliff.

Thrushcross Grange: Symbolizes culture, Victorian civilization, social status, and artificial calm. With its crimson carpets and golden chandeliers, it represents luxury and refinement, but also vulnerability, physical weakness, and superficiality.

2. The Moors

The sprawling, desolate Yorkshire moors represent wild freedom, danger, and the transcendent bond between Catherine and Heathcliff:

Boundary-Free Space: Unlike the structured estates, the moors exist outside societal laws and class distinctions. It is the only place where Catherine and Heathcliff can interact as equals.

Life and Death: The moors are both beautiful and lethal—a landscape where characters find spiritual liberation, but also where they get lost, fall ill, or die in severe weather.

3. Ghosts and Hauntings

Ghosts in the novel symbolize unresolved trauma, obsession, and love that refuses to be bounded by physical death:

Psychological Realism vs. Supernatural: Whether Catherine's ghost is a literal apparition or a projection of guilt (for Lockwood and Heathcliff), it demonstrates that the past cannot be buried.

Spiritual Reconnection: For Heathcliff, being "haunted" by Catherine is not a curse but a necessity—a manifestation of his belief that their souls are indivisible.

4. Windows and Doors

Thresholds represent the barriers between the inner psychological world and external reality, as well as the divide between social inclusion and exclusion:

Lockwood's Dream: Lockwood attempts to keep Catherine's spirit out by latching the window, while Heathcliff later opens the same window to let her in.

Exclusion and Imprisonment: Characters are frequently locked in or out of rooms and estates (such as Young Cathy being imprisoned at Wuthering Heights), symbolizing loss of agency and enforced isolation.

5. Books and Reading

Literacy serves as a symbol of power, social class, and eventual reconciliation:

Weapon of Oppression: Hindley and Heathcliff both use the denial of education to degrade their victims (Heathcliff and Hareton, respectively), stripping them of their social status.

Tool for Healing: In the second generation, Young Cathy teaching Hareton to read symbolizes the integration of Grange culture with Heights strength, breaking the cycle of hatred through mutual respect.