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**TOPIC- WUTHERING HEIGHTS**

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## **TITLE OF THE NOVEL “WUTHERING HEIGHTS”**

It is a question that has baffled readers and critics alike through generations, a question that can be endlessly pondered upon and debated over, as to why Emily Bronte chose to name her first and only novel, after the house in which a sizable part of the action chronicled takes place, despite being armed with characters of such extra-ordinary strength and passion as Heathcliff or Catherine. But on close scrutiny, a reader can perhaps discern the reason behind her choice, the fact that Wuthering Heights is at once a motif, a setting and according to a few critics, even a ‘premonitory indication’ of the tempestuous nature of things soon to occur.

Wuthering Height is the name of the house where most of the incidents happen. Heathcliff is brought to the heights from Liverpool by Mr. Earnshaw, the old master. Hindley, Heathcliff and Catherine, all grow up at the heights .It is at the Heights that attachment from each other develops. It is also at the Heights that Heathcliff having been persistently ill-treated by Hindley becomes his inveterate enemy and swears revenge on him. Thus, the foundation on which the subsequent structure of the novel is laid down is at Wuthering Heights. It is a story of love and revenge and the first phase of love between the hero and the heroine is developed at the Heights. It is at the Heights only that the enmity between Heathcliff and Hindley originates and mounts. So the former decides to take revenge on the latter for the wrong done to him.

All the characters are passionately associated with the Heights. Catherine in a scene tells Nelly that she once dreamed that she was in heaven and was miserable because the heaven was not the Heights. "Heaven was not my home," she said, "and I broke my heart with weeping to come back to earth; and the angels were so angry that they flung me out into the middle of the top of Wuthering Heights; where I woke sobbing for joy."

The hard winds blowing around Wuthering Heights are in consonance with the stormy and violent nature of the hero and the heroine. The children of storm in the novel dominate the children of calm, or, in other words, Wuthering Heights dominates the Grange. Heathcliff becomes the master of the Heights, and afterwards he also masters the Grange. All the people of the Grange are fully obey him. He can treat with them at his will. So, Wuthering Heights with Heathcliff as its master gains a dominant position in the story.

Wuthering Heights finds place every where in the plot, the story begins and ends with it. In the opening scene Mr. Lockwood visits Heathcliff at the Heights, and towards the end, he visits the Heights again to find Heathcliff is dead, and that younger Catherine and Hareton are about to be married. We find that more scenes are comparatively laid at the Heights than the Grange. Hence, the title of the novel is fully justified.

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