



Jane Eyre

Charlotte Bronte

The Brontë Sisters: Charlotte, Emily, & Anne

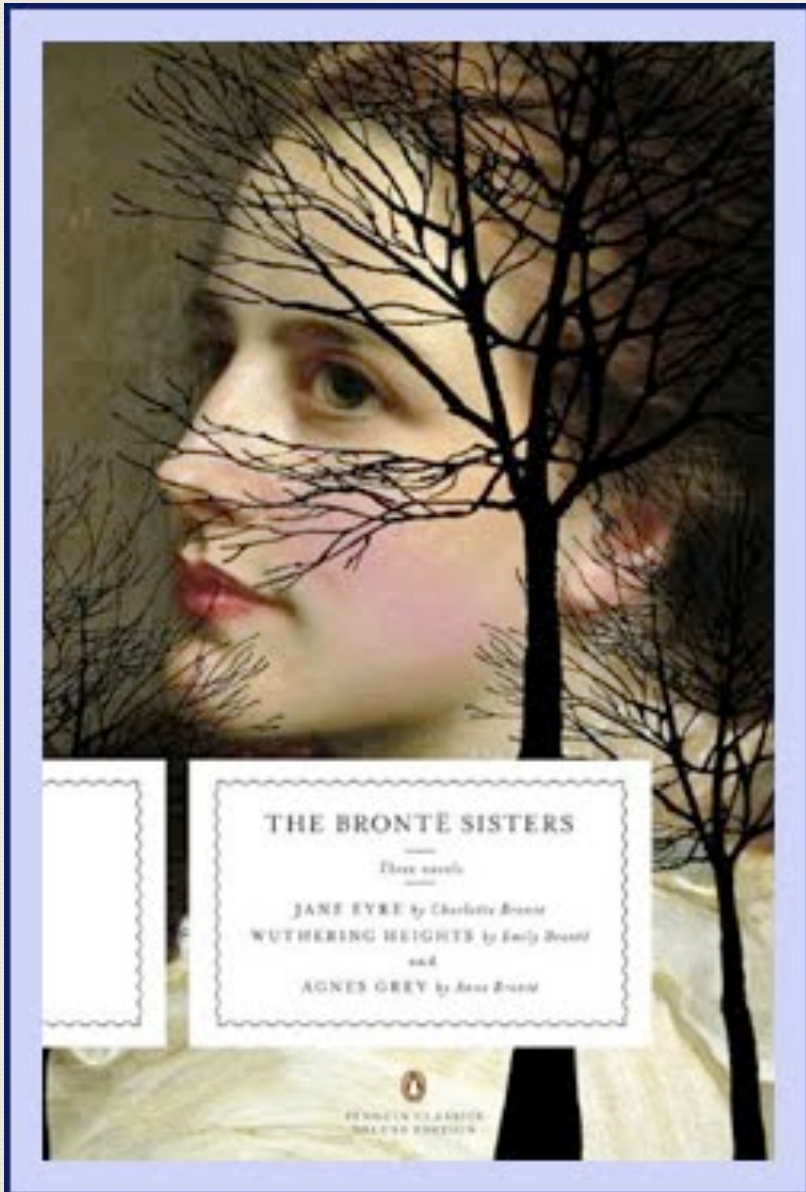
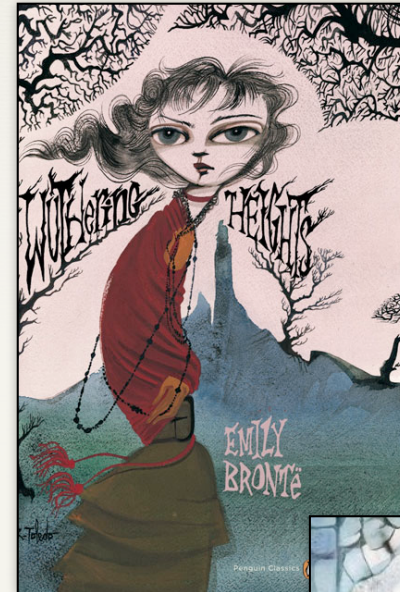
aka: Currer, Ellis, & Acton Bell

Charlotte:
1816-1855

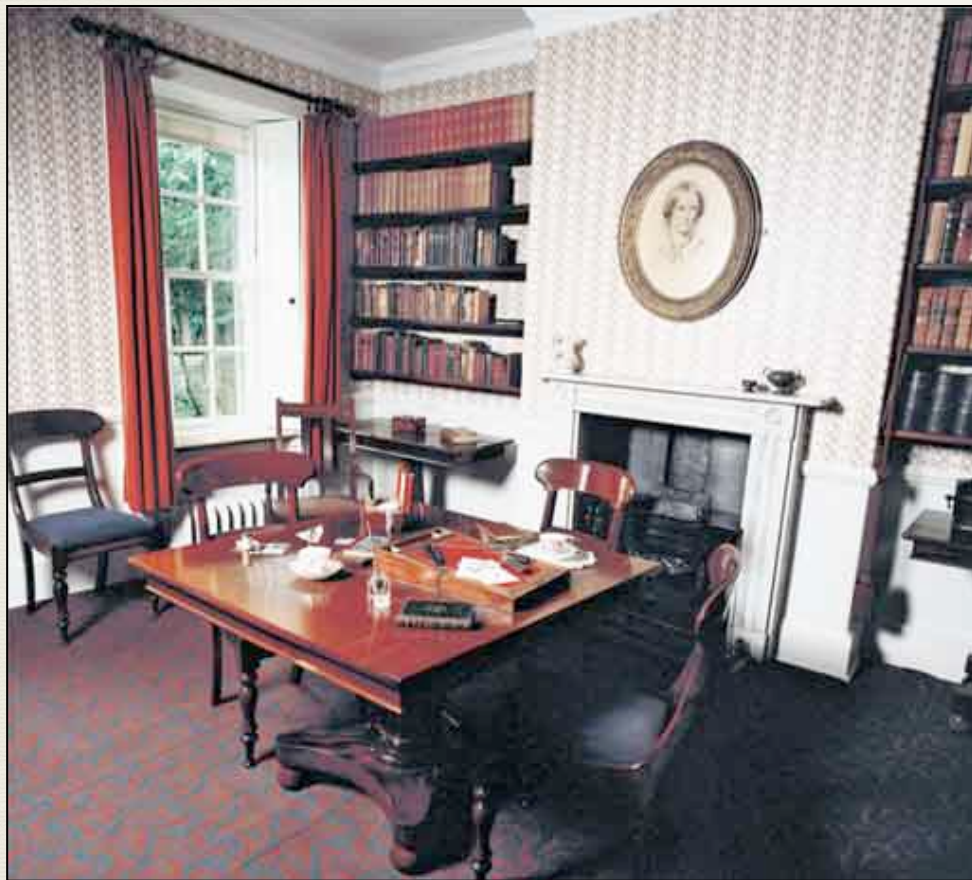
Emily:
1818-1848

Anne:
1820-1849

All three first
novels published
in 1847



Charlotte
Bronte & the
setting of
Jane Eyre:
Haworth
Parsonage



Charlotte Brontë &
the setting of *Jane Eyre*:
Haworth & the
Yorkshire District



Jane Eyre

Overview

- ✂️ fictional autobiography in the form of a chronological, linear narrative
- ✂️ 10-year retrospective
- ✂️ 4 sections, marked by significant, **solitary journeys** (“rites of passage”):
 - ✂️ Gateshead (1-4)
 - ✂️ Lowood (5-10)
 - ✂️ Thornfield (11-27)
 - ✂️ Marsh End (28-35)



Consider the importance of
quotations
as we study the text.

For example:

*“Unjust! Unjust!”
said my reason.”*



Jane Eyre Language & Style / Gateshead (1-4)

- ✎ Autobiography
- ✎ “Reader”
- ✎ Language:
 - ✎ names
 - ✎ dialect
 - ✎ descriptive language
 - ✎ dialogue
 - ✎ the “voice” of conscience



- ✎ Chapter 1: How does Bronte make Jane’s sense of loneliness and isolation evident?
- ✎ Chapter 2: What do we learn about Jane’s personality from her experience in the red room?
- ✎ Chapter 3: (With a partner or small group, write a few insightful questions to exchange with other students.)
- ✎ Chapter 4: In what way is Mr. Brocklehurst a representative character? What, exactly, does he represent?

“...it was Helen her eye followed to the door; it was for her that a second time she breathed a sad sigh; for her she wiped a tear from her cheek.” (8)



- ✂ Solitary Journey #1
- ✂ Chapters 5-6: What troubles Jane about the remarkable Helen Burns, and why?
- ✂ Chapter 7-8: How does Jane come to terms with the experience of her public humiliation?
- ✂ Chapter 9: Why does Bronte choose to portray Helen's death this way?
- ✂ Chapter 10: What important news, ignored by Jane but noticed by the careful reader, is delivered by Bessie?

Waiting



EQUATION



How girls rate guys:



intelligence

+



humor

+



money

+



looks

* These variables go from 0-1. For example women scoring

STILL WAITING
FOR
THE PERFECT MAN...



menjokes.com

“I felt it a misfortune that I was so little, so pale, and had features so irregular and so marked.”
(11)

“He had a dark face, with stern features and a heavy brow.” (12)



- ✂ Solitary Journey #2
- ✂ Chapter 11: What details in this chapter seem as if they might prove to be significant later in the story?
- ✂ Chapter 12: How is Jane’s future relationship with Rochester defined by their first meeting? What is significant about “Gytrash” (look back @ ch. 3).
- ✂ Chapter 13: Does Rochester have any redeeming qualities? How is Jane’s interest in him revealed?

“Do you think me handsome?”

-- “No, sir.” (14)

“Portrait of a Governess, disconnected, poor, and plain.” (16)



- ✂ Chapter 14: In what ways do we see Rochester cast as a Byronic (Romantic) Hero?
- ✂ Chapter 15-16: Where do we see Jane choosing reason over passion in these chapters?
- ✂ Chapters 17-18: Compare and contrast Jane and Blanche.
- ✂ Chapter 19: Why does Rochester dress up like a gypsy, and does his stunt accomplish his intentions?
- ✂ *Focus:* A fire in a bedroom... symbolic, you think?

“Feeling without judgment is a washy draught indeed; but judgment untempered by feeling is too bitter and husky a morsel for human deglutition.” (21)



- ✂• How does Rochester view his impending marriage to Jane as interpreted by his “It will atone” speech at the end of ch. 23? And what is meant by the subsequent darkness and the splitting chestnut tree?
- ✂• What has happened to justify Jane’s assessment of herself in the final paragraph of ch. 24? How does this relate to the symbolism in ch. 25?
- ✂• Make notes for a commentary on the four paragraphs that conclude ch. 26.

“Why do I struggle to retain a valueless life?” (Jane, 28)

- ✂ Contrast Rochester as the “Man of Passion” with St. John as the “Man of Reason.” How are they different?
- ✂ Compare Rochester and St. John as men of power; how are they the same?
- ✂ What is the opinion of religion that seems to be emerging through the various characters in *Jane Eyre* and Jane’s responses to them?

“Maybe I should go on *The Bachelorette*.”

“I am cold; no fervor infects me” (St. John, 33)

Frozen
Chosen

Jane Eyre Discuss the following quotations in their contexts.

- (34) “And I will give the missionary my energies--it is all he wants--but not myself.”
- (35) “Show me, show me the path!”
- (36) “You have lost your labour--you had better go no farther.”
- (37) “...that mind, yet from its sufferings too prone to gloom, needed not the deeper shade of the supernatural. I kept things then, and pondered them in my heart.”
- (37) “I began to experience remorse, repentance; the wish for reconcilment to my Maker. I began sometimes to pray: very brief prayers they were, but very sincere.”
- (38) “Reader, I married him.”

Hopeless
Romantics
in Horrible
Hats

My magnetic
personality will draw
her back to
Thornfield!



Apparently, hoodies were acceptable in
mid-19th Century Yorkshire.

- ❧ Never let anyone silence your voice.
- ❧ Seek solitude and answers will come.
- ❧ Always temper passion with reason, but in the end,
follow your heart.

Life Lessons from:

Jane Eyre

Charlotte Bronte

