

Chapter IX

1. How does Heathcliff unwittingly thwart his own revenge? What poor behavior on the part of Hindley leads to the occurrence?
2. What considerations drive Catherine to accept Edgar's proposal, despite her love for Heathcliff? How does her decision relate to the status of women during this time period and the class structure?
3. What does Catherine's dream and explanation of it reveal about her relationship with Heathcliff?
4. Why does Nelly feel Catherine is misguided about her duties as a wife? How does Catherine's response demonstrate the differences in her feelings for Edgar and Heathcliff?
5. What is the likely cause of Heathcliff's departure from Wuthering Heights?
6. How does the weather again coincide with a significant plot event?
7. How are Catherine's negative personality traits encouraged by her illness?
8. Why is Nelly forced to leave Wuthering Heights?

Chapter X

1. According to Nelly, why was Catherine able to behave so well at Thrushcross Grange before Heathcliff's return?
2. How does Catherine resolve to settle Edgar's concerns over bringing Heathcliff into the parlour? How is the exchange related to a theme of the novel?
3. In what ways is Heathcliff altered?
4. What effect does Heathcliff's return have on Catherine and Edgar's relationship?
5. "I heard of your marriage, Cathy, not long since; and, while waiting in the yard below, I meditated this plan—just to have one glimpse of your face, a stare of surprise, perhaps, and pretended pleasure; afterwards settle my score with Hindley; and then prevent the law by doing execution on myself. Your welcome has put these ideas out of my mind..."
(Pgs. 85-86)

What does Heathcliff mean by this speech? What does it tell you about his character?

Chapter XI

1. How does Nelly demonstrate her superstition in Chapter XI?
2. How does Heathcliff appear to be executing his revenge on Hindley? What other relationship of the novel does the interaction between Hareton and Heathcliff parallel?
3. What provokes the argument between Catherine and Heathcliff? What is Heathcliff inferring when he alleges that Catherine has wronged him?
4. "The tyrant grinds down his slaves and they don't turn against him; they crush those beneath them." (Pg. 98) What does Heathcliff mean by this statement? In his scenario, who are the tyrant, the slaves, and those beneath them?
5. How does Edgar attempt to resolve the situation with Heathcliff, and why does Catherine lock them into the kitchen? Relate the scene to Romanticism and the Gothic novel.

6. Why does Heathcliff leave without repaying the blow Edgar gave him?
7. What is Nelly's role in the dispute? How do you think Brontë intended the reader to feel about her behavior?
8. Do you think Heathcliff is a sympathetic character or a villain at this point in the novel?
9. How does Catherine plan to get back at Edgar? In what way does she feel he has wronged her? What character traits underlie her behavior?
10. What ultimatum does Edgar give to Catherine? What is her response, and why do you think she responds this way?
11. How does Edgar attempt to deter Isabella's affection for Heathcliff?

Chapter XII

1. How does Nelly compare herself to the other household members? How might her characterization affect the reader's perception of her subsequent behavior?
2. What effect does Nelly's description of Edgar's studies have on Catherine?
3. What behavior on the part of Catherine causes Nelly to begin to believe in the seriousness of her illness?
4. What is the focus of Catherine's rantings? How is the scene characteristic of Romantic writings?
5. "But, Heathcliff, if I dare you now, will you venture? If you do, I'll keep you. I'll not lie there by myself: they may bury me twelve feet deep and throw the church down over me, but I won't rest till you are with me. I never will!" (Pg. 110)

Relate Catherine's declaration above to Lockwood's experience at Wuthering Heights in the beginning of the novel. What did Brontë likely intend the reader to believe?

6. What does the window seem to represent to Catherine?
7. Why does Edgar declare Isabella has disowned him at the close of Chapter XII?

Chapter XIII

1. What will be the likely permanent consequence of Catherine's illness? How does Edgar respond to the diagnosis?
2. What is the significance of Catherine's pregnancy? What are the possible implications of the sex of the child?
3. How does Nelly explain having kept Isabella's letter?
4. What do the two questions Isabella poses to Nelly reveal about her situation at Wuthering Heights?
5. Briefly characterize the relationships between the various members of Wuthering Heights upon Isabella's arrival.
6. Why does Heathcliff swear to punish Isabella in the place of Edgar at the close of Chapter XIII?

Chapter XIV

1. What reasons does Edgar provide for continuing to spurn Isabella's appeals for forgiveness?
2. How has the atmosphere at Wuthering Heights affected Isabella physically? Compare her appearance to Heathcliff's.
3. What further evidence does Heathcliff give of his love and passion for Catherine in Chapter XIV?
4. What delusions did Isabella hold regarding Heathcliff's character? Identify reasons for and against feeling sympathetic toward Isabella.
5. "No; you're not fit to be your own guardian, Isabella, now; and I, being your legal protector, must retain you in my custody, however distasteful the obligation may be."
(Pg. 131)

How does the above quote further explain the status of women throughout the novel?

6. How does Heathcliff convince Nelly to carry a letter to Catherine, and what do his actions demonstrate about his character? What is Nelly's rationale for agreeing?

Chapter XV

1. Whom does Catherine blame for her impending death? What emotions seem to drive her harsh words?
2. What is Catherine's conception of what her existence will be after death?
3. How does Heathcliff seem to be not of the human species in this scene?
4. Who does Heathcliff blame for Catherine's impending death? Is he able to offer his forgiveness?
5. Identify typical elements of Romanticism that are present in this scene.
6. Explain Nelly's agitation at Heathcliff's refusal to leave. What does she fear will be the consequences if Edgar finds him there?

Chapter XVI

1. What is the emerging pattern of deaths in the novel?
2. How does Heathcliff respond to the news of Catherine's death? Is his character sympathetic at this time?
3. What final attempt does Heathcliff make to compete with Edgar? How does his attempt again emphasize how the two men are opposites?
4. What is the significance of where Catherine is buried? What does it reveal about Edgar?

Chapter XVII

1. How does the weather again play into the events of the story?
2. Contrast Isabella's condition on arrival at the Grange with her demeanor the last time Nelly saw her. How has she changed?
3. Why does Isabella feel certain Heathcliff won't chase her?
4. How does Isabella react to Hindley's plan? Is her response surprising? What does her response demonstrate about her character?
5. Is Heathcliff still sympathetic during Chapter XVII? What can you infer about why he is so brutal at this particular time?
6. What is Heathcliff's attitude toward his child?

7. What is the difference in the wishes Edgar and Heathcliff have for Catherine's soul?

8. What similar experiences have Edgar and Hindley endured? How does Nelly explain the difference in their reactions?

9. Compare how Hindley's death affects Nelly to how Catherine's death affected her. Is there any significance in the difference?

10. What are the financial circumstances of Hindley's death and the consequences for Hareton?

11. "Now, my bonny lad, you are *mine!* And we'll see if one tree won't grow as crooked as another, with the same wind to twist it!" (Pg. 159)

What does Heathcliff mean? How does he intend to dispute Edgar's claim to the child?

12. Why is it ironic that Heathcliff has become the master of Wuthering Heights?