

Loss and Bereavement in Emily Bronte's

Wuthering Heights

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Abstract

Wuthering Heights is one of the master pieces not only of the Victorian novel , but of all English novel. In Bronte's *Wuthering Heights*, people try to establish new type of liaisons with their neighbourhood though of dissimilar social ranks and behaviours. This attempt or hope for establishing such relationships is intercepted and severely picked on by their inner conflicts, desires, manners, emotions, and deeds. People of Heights destroy not only themselves but the members of the Grange. So, each of the two families member is going to lose something or everything. *Wuthering Heights* deals with the theme of loss. Each character in *Wuthering Heights* loses something or everything for certain reasons in his (her) mind .The researcher is going to analyze these reasons and explain some of them. The researcher has reached at a conclusion which is to consider Edgar Linton who loses each and every thing as a big loser of the novel. Supporting his opinions by some critics' opinions, the researcher will justify these reasons reaching at aim out of this paper.

الخسارة والحرمان في رواية اميلي برونتي مرتفعات وذرينغ

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المستخلص:

تعد رواية اميلي برونتي مرتفعات وذرينغ احدى روائع الادب ليس الفكتوري فحسب، بل كل الرواية الانجليزية. ففي رواية مرتفعات وذرينغ لاميلي برونتي، يحاول الناس اقامة نوع جديد من العلاقات مع جيرانهم رغم اختلاف الطبقة الاجتماعية والتصرفات. ان المحاولة او الامنية لاقامة هكذا علاقات يتم محاصرتها وتعرض اللوم ويتم اجهاؤها بسبب الصراعات الداخلية و الرغبات و والتصرفات والعواطف والافعال. يحطم سكان المرتفعات ليس انفسهم فحسب بل وجيرانهم كذلك. ولهذا فكل فرد من افراد العائلتين سيخسر شيئاً ما او كل شيء. تتناول مرتفعات وذرينغ فكرة الخسارة. فكل شخصية يخسر بعض الاشياء او كل شيء لسبب ما في ذاته او ذاتها الشخصية. سيتناول الباحث هذه الاسباب ويشرحها. ثم سيصل الباحث الى نتيجة انه من الممكن اعتبار ادغار لينتون الخاسر الاكبر في هذه الرواية لما فقده من اشياء اثناء الرواية. وسيستند الباحث الى اراء بعض النقاد المختصين منها ما يهدف اليه ويبرر النتائج وصولاً الى النتائج المرجوة من هذا البحث .

Introduction

This paper sheds light on one of the Victorian novels written by Emily Bronte. *Wuthering Heights* is one of the important novels that deals with human relationships and the search of human being to establish them. Characters of *Wuthering Heights* are shocked because of the deeply rooted behaviours of their inner soul which hinders their aims to build such relationships. Their aims to build relationships run into vicious circle. The novel last for three generations of about 26 years the second of these generations is going to bear all types of loss and bereavements to fulfill his(her) aim, but they all lose some or everything.

The current paper deals with the pivot of this novel who is Catherine Earnshaw and her desires and conflict to achieve them, but she fails. Later on, the character of Heathcliff, the ostracized boy, is also analyzed. He is refused by all characters in the novel and neglected. So, he tends to prove himself and pay them back. Hindley the second owner of the Heights is also considered and his character is evaluated as one who loses everything by his own hand. Moreover, Isabella Linton is also depicted and her personality is analysed as one of the losers. She misjudges the others' situations and feelings and she is trapped and lost everything. Edgar Linton is one of those characters who lose everything but his crises are greater due to the noble plans and desires in his mind he is severely tormented and crushed. So, the researcher sees that he is pathetically defeated and his aims proved to be wrong. The conclusion sums up all these facts of the characters and analyzes them closely.

Catherine Earnshaw :

Catherine Earnshaw is pretty, passionate, and destructive heroine of *Wuthering Heights*. She stands for the main reasons behind all the tragic events the novel shows. Catherine was a very noisy devilish lass who was very naughty even towards her father. She was a pig-headed girl and stubborn towards her family members. She criticized her father when he asks her to pray and keep quiet. Catherine answers her father "Why canst thou be a good lass, Cathy?" And she turned her face up to his, and laughed, and answered, "Why cannot you always be a good man, father?" (Bronte, 1959:43-44).

Then, she moves on to ridicule her brother's behaviours after she was done with her father. "I wish my father were back again. Hindley is a detestable substitute- his conduct to Heathcliff is atrocious-(Bronte, 1959:20). After an adventure with her friend and would-be-lover Heathcliff, they reached Thrush Cross Grange where Mr. Linton and his family lives in. Catherine is bitten by Skulker, the dog and has to stay for a while in the Grange whereon Heathcliff is not allowed in. Nimavat and Nimavat(2001:35) write that though Catherine is the pivot around which all the novel revolves, she represents the bad omen. The Lintons catch tuberculosis when Catherine is brought to the Grange after Heathcliff's escape and they pass away. Later on, the Grange is brought to ruin because of her desires of the two lovers(Heathcliff and Edgar). Sullivan (1986:98) points out that after spending five weeks at the Grange, she comes back to the Heights transformed into a young lady, and jeers at Heathcliff's



boorish manners. She turned with a new dressing style and elegant conduct she severely makes fun of her lover Heathcliff accusing him of being very dirty and suggesting that he should clean up.

I did not mean to laugh at you, she said; " I could not hinder myself: Heathcliff, shake hands, at least! What are you sulky for? It was only that you looked odd. If you wash your face, and brush your hair, it will be all right: but you are so dirty (Wuthering Heights :54-55)

For Wasowisky (2000:72) Catherine Earnshaw is the symbol of free spirit that wants to cross the barriers and she is torn between two worlds. On the one hand, she tends to be with Heathcliff, her childhood soul mate. They have lived and grown up together amid the moors, which stands for the freedom and innocence of childhood. Therefore, She thinks all the time of her happy days with him. On the other hand, she aims at the privileges which her marriage to Edgar would give her. Even after her death, she intends to return to the Heights through the window because she is lost in the moors for 18 years, the period she spends at the Grange. Milbank(2002:162) emphasizes this idea saying that Catherine attempts to let in through the window to her old room. She was ready to break her wedding vows and renew her intimacy with Heathcliff. Mr. Lockwood in one of his dreams confesses that Catherine asks him to let her in " Let me in- let me in!I'm come home: I'd lost my way on the moors!" (Bronte, 1959:25). Dawson(2004:138) confirms that the idea of Cathy's dream that she wishes to live with Heathcliff or return to him leaving heaven which Edgar represents. This dream makes her bereaved of happiness and relief

I was only going to say that heaven did not seem to be my home; 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 heath on the top of Wuthering Heights. (Wuthering Heights:83)

She compares Edgar to heaven and Heathcliff is compared with the earth but Cathy chooses the earth in her dream.

She blames herself for choosing Edgar to marry and refused Heathcliff as a husband. This sense of blaming deprived her from inner pleasure. She thinks only of herself. Although she pretends to love both Heathcliff and Edgar, she loves herself more, and this selfish love ends up in hurting everyone who cares for her. Rajimwale (2009:297) opines that in Catherine, Bronte tried to connect two opposite forces; one is Cathy's identification with the forces of universal motion, and second is her desire for love, peace and comfort. Catherine prefers Edgar more than Heathcliff. This situation is obviously referred to by Heathcliff himself. Nothing_ only look at the almanack on that wall,"

he pointed to a framed sheet hanging near the window, and continued_ " The crosses are for the evening you have spent with the Lintons, the dots for those spent with me. Do you see?

(Wuthering Heights:71)

Later on, she confesses to her servant Nelly that she worships Heathcliff and he



is her soul and heart announcing that " My love to Heathcliff resembles the eternal rocks beneath: a source of little visible delight, but necessary. Nelly, I am Heathcliff "(Bronte, 1959:81).But she admits that Edgar has asked for her hand in marriage and she agreed. Catherine is frank about why she is willing to marry to Edgar as follows :

" Why do you love him, Miss Cathy?..... "And he will be rich, and I shall like to be the greatest woman

of the neighborhood, and I shall be proud of having such a husband.

"worst of all. And now say how you love him?"

"I love the ground under his feet, and the air over his head, and everything he touches , and every Word he says. I love all his looks, and all his actions, and him entirely and altogether."

(Wuthering Heights :81)

Belliappa (2009:64) comments on Catherine's passion for Heathcliff showing that critics of the Victorian novel, fail to realize that what makes Catherine an unexceptional woman is her profound conviction that her marriage to Edgar would in no way influence her unique liaison with Heathcliff. Phelps(1979:271) affirms this idea of elucidating that she planned to gain the best of the two and sits on the fence of the two hearts by being the wife of Edgar and being the friend and lover of Heathcliff and by doing so she tries to serve two monsters, but compromises like this are inevitably leading only to disaster and failure. She is in an inescapable situation, trapped between irreconcilable forces – and this is the very stuff out of which the tragedy is built. Bloom (2008:17) elaborates that She grows delirious with sadness when a spurned Heathcliff leaves the Heights after Catherine's confession to Nelly. But after one year of her marriage to Edgar, her joy at Heathcliff's return is so great that her husband's jealousy is aroused. Heathcliff repeatedly visits the Grange and the quarrels between Catherine and Edgar increased. Catherine accuses the Lintons of hating her. So, she imprisoned herself in her own room thinking of her happy days with her ex-lover Heathcliff and dreaming of her past at the Heights. Bloom(2009:64) adds that Catherine's liaison with Heathcliff is something more than love, passion, commitment; it is carving, a need of a more fundamental type. Bloom (2008:17) points to the violent arguments that ensue, and how Cathy's self-destructively hastens her own end through rage and starvation and she finally dies at childbirth. Her spirit haunts the rest of the novel. Heathcliff is tortured by her memory; farmers claim to see her ghost walking through the moors; and the narrator Mr. Lockwood himself encounters her frightening figure in his dream. However, Cathy's tragedy threatens the life of her daughter. So, Catherine Earnshaw can be seen as the biggest loser in the novel. She is guilty and the only responsible character of all despondency and grief all through the novel . This feeling of guiltiness makes her bereaved of happiness and consent. She cannot be the biggest loser because she chooses to be so.



Heathcliff

Bloom(2008:17) delineates Heathcliff as being the passionate, vengeful hero of the novel. His mysterious origin makes him a social outcast in the novel. Eagleton (2005:134) opines that Heathcliff has a dark, primitive, subversive existence which stand for a source of natural vitality. "Heathcliff is a dark-skinned gipsy in aspect, in dress and manners a gentleman: that is, as much a gentleman as many a country squire:" (Bronte,1959:4).Heathcliff is regarded as one of the losers in Bronte's *Wuthering Heights* because his personality and actions affect all characters in the novel. Heathcliff as his name carries two parts :Cowie and Gimson(1974:398)explain that the word Heath means the area of flat unused land full of shrubs and wild plants. While the second part of Heathcliff's name, Cliff means steep face of rock at the sea edge. So, he is just like the two parts of his name useless land without cultivation and no one benefits from and his personality is just like rocks without emotions and feelings.

Chaplin (2011:83-84) sheds light on the character of Heathcliff saying that Heathcliff is adopted as a foundling into the middle class Earnshaw family. Mr. Earnshaw brings him from Liverpool after finding him homeless and starving on the streets; there is no evidence as to the child's origin and identity. Chaplin(2011:83) sums up the features of Heathcliff as demonic or monstrous; he is an evil beast and an imp of a goblin.Twitchell(1981:118) considers that there is a close relationship between Heathcliff and the nineteenth-century depiction of the vampire, however, he concludes that whilst Heathcliff cannot be regarded as truly vampiric, he certainly acts so. Mrs. Earnshaw and her son Hindley show their revulsion towards the newcomer(Heathcliff) while Mr. Earnshaw quickly considers the foundling as his favourite child. Hindley, Earnshaw's eldest son, resents his father's affection and this initiates a cycle of violence and revenge for two generations. Heathcliff expresses openly his hope to retaliate against Hindley to Nelly the servant " I'm trying to settle how shall I pay Hindley back. I don't care how long I wait , if I can do it at last".(Bronte,1959:62)

Stevenson(1992:105) comments on this theme saying that *Wuthering Heights* renders the destructive effect of Heathcliff, very much in traditions of John Milton's Satan in " Paradise Lost". Cross(2002:166) says that Hindley and the Lintons break the very heart of Heathcliff by separating him from Catherine. So, Heathcliff makes use of every chance to revenge on the Lintons , their children, Hindley and his child(Hareton) .

Eagleton(2005:135) however, goes on delineating Heathcliff personality as being established at the social and ethical levels. He has a dehumanizing violence to crush everything.Sullivan(1984:110) gives her perspectives about the character of Heathcliff she says that Heathcliff represents a figure of violent strength in front of the effete refinement of the Lintons.Heathcliff is avoided by all characters in *Wuthering Heights*. Stevenson(1992:106) highlights this idea showing why Cathy leaves Heathcliff and marry Edgar . Then, when she recognizes her fault she escapes Edgar through her death. Heathcliff is also



deserted by his wife Isabella and their sick son Linton. Heathcliff is portrayed as a bugbear, ghoul, cuckoo and goblin by many characters in the work including Nelly, Catherine, Isabella. Nelly depicts Heathcliff as being a cuckoo at the starting point of her narration of the story to Mr. Lockwood. Then, Nelly tells how she described Heathcliff to Isabella Linton, his- would-be- wife, warning her against getting involved with him:

Banish him from your thoughts, Miss," I said" "He is a bird of bad omen: no mate for you.they say Mr. Earnshaw is worse since he came. They sit up all night together continually, and Hindley has been borrowing money on his land , and does nothing but play and drink:.....you would ?never think of desiring such a husband. Would you?

(Wuthering Heights :108-9)

Heathcliff is deeply in love with Cathy, so Nelly asks Isabella not to marry him. She hopes to be his only lover and avoids his revenge on her and changed his mind to revenge on Catherine. Cathy ,however, reveals Heathcliff's bad features to Isabella " Nelly, help me to convince her of her madness. Tell her what Heathcliff is: an unreclaimed creature, without a refinement, without cultivation."(Wuthering Heights:107). And , later on, on the same conversation Cathy says " donot imagine that he conceals depths of benevolence and affection beneath a stern exterior! He is not a rough diamond- a pearl containing oyster of rustic: he's fierce, pitiless, wolfish man."(Wuthering Heights:107)

After being trapped in her marriage to Heathcliff, Isabella discovers the truthfulness of Catherine's speech. Isabella now has her own opinion about the power of her husband. She delineates her husband's character through a series of questions in a letter she sends to Nelly asking " Is Mr. Heathcliff a man? If so, is he mad? And if not, is he a devil? I shan't tell my reasons for making this inquiry; but I beseech you to explain, if you can, what I have married:"(Wuthering Heights:144). Heathcliff hates Isabella but he marries her to pay her brother back because her brother Edgar married his sweetheart Cathy. Even worse, Heathcliff hates even his son Linton. Heathcliff cannot bear his son because Isabella calls him Linton and Linton looks just like his mother .

Bloom(2009: 118) sees that Heathcliff hates his son because he is sick. However, he obliges his son to marry Catherine the daughter of Catherine and Edgar in order to inherit Thrush Cross Grange which belongs to the Lintons. Moreover, Heathcliff exploits the innocent Catherine and drags her to visit his sick son Linton. On one of her visits to the Heights , Heathcliff imprisons her and enforces her to marry his dying son.

Heathcliff spares no effort to hurt all the characters of the novel because they all ridicule him and hate him because of his humble origin. Hindley prevents him from his learning, playing , eating or sitting beside his sister Catherine. Nelly depicts the treatment of Hindley to Heathcliff as being enough to make a fiend of a saint. Phelps(1979:271) expresses that Heathcliff, the nameless foundling of Liverpool slums, is reduced by Hindley to the conditions of an illiterate serf. Hindley strikes Heathcliff whenever he can. This treatment,





however, justifies Heathcliff's retaliation against Hindley and his son Hareton. Heathcliff moves on to destroy the Lintons without exception. He expresses his aim and desire to revenge when he says "I have no pity! I have no pity! The more the worms writhe, the more I yearn to crush out their entrails! It is a moral teething; and I grind with greater energy to, in proportion to increase the pain." (Wuthering Heights :161)

Linton, Heathcliff's son, suffered from his father's revenge from him without knowing the reasons. "My father threatened me," gasped the boy...." And I dread him – I dread him! That is the terror of a victim, and the worse for being Heathcliff's own son. Linton wakes and shrieks in the night, by the hour.... after Heathcliff has brutalized him."(Wuthering Heights: 280)

Eagleton(2005:137) states that once his reasonable desire for Catherine is refused and hindered, it becomes pathological and thoroughly destructive- a desire for demise, self-violence and negligence rather than for any achievable affinity. His aim to revenge makes him lose his inner relief and happiness. so, he is bereaved from his pleasure. These are the reasons that made Heathcliff one of the losers, but not the biggest. He appears at the very beginning of the novel as an empty-handed child and he dies nearly at the end of the story hated by the remainers of the Earnshaws and the Lintons.

Hindley Earnshaw

Bloom(2008:19) depicts Hindley is Cathy's eldest brother and the hated enemy of Heathcliff. Once he becomes the master of the Heights after his father's death, he reduces Heathcliff to abject poverty but he falls into bad ways himself the moment his wife dies. His father adopted a homeless boy from Liverpool, Hindley overtly and covertly expresses his hatred to this adopted boy. Sullivan(1986:116) asserts the idea of hate in Hindley's mind saying that Hindley is a lad who is jealous of his father's preference for Heathcliff and therefore, he bullies the boy (Heathcliff).

Hindley is criticized by his sister in many different situations in "as being" detestable substitute – his conduct to Heathcliff is atrocious", (Bronte,1959:20). Nelly the servant also exposes these bad behaviours of Hindley towards his sister and Heathcliff):

Hindley became tyrannical. A few words from her, his wife, Evincing a dislike to Heathcliff, were enough to rouse in him all his old hatred of the boy. He drove him from their company to the servants, deprived him of the instructions of the curate, and insisted that he should labour out of doors instead; compelling him to do so as hard as any other lad on the farm.

(Wuthering Heights : 46-7)

And in another situation Nelly said that the treatment of Hindley to Heathcliff is being enough to make a fiend of a saint. Phelps(1979:263) shows us the way Hindley treats Heathcliff after the death of his father. He got married, inherited the Heights, all of a sudden Hindley decides to end the schooling Heathcliff has, in company with Catherine, been receiving from the curate, and sets him to the outdoor work as a farmer, makes use of every opportunity to

announce his dislike and torment to Heathcliff. Sullivan(1986:116) goes on showing what happened to Hindley after his wife's demise. Now he is distraught, and his grief takes the shape of cursing God and turning to drinking and gambling. Hindley made an ineffectual attempt to kill Heathcliff but he failed and was severely beaten and crushed. When Hindley indulges himself in gambling, he loses heavily and realizes that he must keep Heathcliff with him, in the hope of winning back his losses. But Heathcliff acquires a mortgage on the Heights, and on Hindley's death inherits it.

Hindley is one of the losers in *Wuthering Heights* but he is not the biggest one. His desire to revenge makes him run after revenge to get rid of jealousy. His life deteriorates because of his jealousy from his father's treatment to Heathcliff and his mourning for the death of his wife. These two reasons of his loss lead to two more losses represented by his son Hareton and *Wuthering Heights*.

Isabella Linton

Bloom(2008: 18) draws a character sketch of Isabella as being a pampered, selfish and reckless woman. Isabella Linton is one of the losers. She blindly steps into the snake-pit. Lall(2011:169) elaborates on the personality of Isabella as a lass who is very stubborn and proud of herself. She is very pretty that Catherine Earnshaw wishes to be like her. She always quarrels with her brother for the sake of a dog. She does not create much impression on the readers during her girlhood. After the marriage of her brother, Edgar, to Catherine, she becomes under the spell of Heathcliff due to his repeated visits to the Grange. Bloom(2008:18) elucidates that she falls head over heels in Heathcliff's love. And, she refuses the advice given to her by Catherine and Nelly. She defends her choice " I love him more than ever you loved Edgar; and he might love me, if you would let him!" (Bronte,1959:107). Peck and Coyle (2009:178) eye Isabella's situation and her desire to create relationship with Heathcliff saying that she intends to cross the barriers of social distinction but she pathetically fails. Flint(2002:180) explains Isabella is attracted and infatuated by Heathcliff's looks. She insists on her love to Heathcliff " All, all against me: she has blighted my single consolation. But she uttered falsehoods, didn't she? Mr. Heathcliff is not a fiend: he has an honourable soul, and a true one,"(Bronte,1959:108) . However, after the marriage, Heathcliff starts to revenge against the past deeds of the Lintons by hanging Isabella's dog. Sullivan(1986:114) emphasizes that Heathcliff tries to exploit her to get money and fulfill his aim which is to cause pain to her family. Her life with Heathcliff becomes unbearable. He ridicules her in front of her servant Nelly showing his disrespect and his plan to retaliate against the Lintons :

the first thing she saw me do; on coming out of the Grange, was to hang up her little dog; and when she pleaded for it, the first words I uttered were a wish that I had the hanging of every being belonging to her, except one: possibly she took this exception to herself.

(*Wuthering Heights*:159)

And in the same conversation, Heathcliff belittles Isabella's personality



addressing his speech to Nelly:

Now, was it not the depth of absurdity- of genuine idiocy, for that pitiful, slavish, mean-minded brach to dream that I could love her? Tell your master, Nelly, that I never, in all my life, met with such an abject thing as she is. She even disgraces the name of the Linton..... And still creep shamefully cringing back! (Wuthering Heights:159-160)

This is why, Isabella's life is at the verge of collapse. She is avoided by and alienated from by her brother due to the bad deeds she committed. Her desire to be secured through her marriage makes her bereaved of her happiness. She is the victim of her husband's revenge on her family. She is besieged in the Heights and disallowed to tread out of it. She tries to make Heathcliff's life better and does her best to do so, but she is unfortunately thwarted and finally fails. These incidents make Isabella one of the losers but she is not the biggest loser in Bronte's *Wuthering Heights*.

Edgar Linton

Edgar Linton is an educated person who belongs to aristocratic family. Sullivan (1986:113) depicts Edgar as the person who stands for calm, cultivated, comfortable life. Bloom(2008:18) maintains that Edgar is a soft, effeminate man and a thoroughly compliant, hen-pecked husband to his bullying wife Catherine. He comes under the spell of her strong personality. Daiches(1969:1066) finds Edgar acting as if he was the representative of the world of human relationship and education that are based on love and dreams. Lall(2011:147) mentions that Edgar tries to establish a harmony between two dissimilar worlds and traditions by choosing to marry Catherine, however, he pathetically fails. He tends to surpass the borders of class distinction between the two families but he comes out empty-handed. He seeks to tame the savage nature of the Earnshaws but he never succeeds. Wasowski (2000:72) clarifies that Edgar loves and understands Catherine in a way no one can match, however, this love is not enough to sustain a good marriage. He aims to pass over the barriers with his wife's lover (Heathcliff) but he cannot. When the matter of love between his sister and Heathcliff worsened and his wife's liaison with Heathcliff was renewed, he rebels to stop the scandals but it was too late.

When Heathcliff resurfaces, Edgar welcomes him under protest but then, he faces him openly. Lall(2011: 146) mentions that after the repeated visits of Heathcliff, the matters between Edgar and his wife are worsened. Catherine looks herself in her room thinking of her past at the Heights. She ridicules the quiet nature of her husband and accuses him of weakness and inability to quarrel with Heathcliff. She urges her husband either to excuse or be beaten."

"fair means!" she said, in answer to her husband's looks of angry surprise. " If you have not the courage to attack him, make an apology, or allow yourself to be beaten. It will correct you of feigning more valour than you possess.....Edgar, I was defending you and yours; and I wish Heathcliff may flog you sick, for daring to think an evil thought of me."

(Wuthering Heights :121)



Edgar was very patient to tolerate his wife's insults and be sided with her lover against her husband. Cathy accuses her husband of having a cold blood without passion and feeling:

What is that apathetic being doing?" she demanded" pushing the thick entangled locks from her wasted face."has he fallen into a lethargy, or is he dead?.....among his books! "she cried confounded ." and I dying! I on the brink of the grave! My god! does he know how I'm altered?

(*Wuthering Heights*:127)

After the quarrel, Cathy's situation becomes disastrous and the relationship between Edgar and Cathy worsened. She finally dies in a child birth.

Edgar is going to bear another loss which is of his sister Isabella . Lall(2011:110) highlights this loss through focusing on the idea of Edgar's refusal of his sister's relation with an uncultivated person without a parentage but Isabella defies her brother and elopes with Heathcliff. When she discovers the reasons behind Heathcliff's marriage to her, she regrets her deed and seeks to bridge the gap with her brother but he refuses saying that they do not want any connection with *Wuthering Heights* meaning Heathcliff and his family.

Reaney(2009:86) writes that it is difficult for a man to lose his wife when she sides with her lover and announces overtly that she hates her husband. His identity as a man is shattered in front of his family and employees. Nimavat and Nimavat(2001:24) discuss the idea that Edgar loses his social rank as a respected lawyer and husband; his identity as a brother is also injured. His personality as a father is also destroyed too because of the relationship his daughter Catherine has and with his nephew Linton. Heathcliff tends to destroy Edgar's life through strengthening the intimacy between his son Linton and Catherine the daughter of his lover so that he can get Thrush Cross Grange and be the owner of both estates- the Heights and the Grange. So, his pride is severely injured by the members of his family. His wife ,daughter, sister and servants were all in league with his enemy, Heathcliff, and gave his enemy the chance to defeat him. Edgar did all his best to tame the savage manners and uncultivated conventions of the people in the Heights but all his efforts were in vain. He tries to polish his wife's style and behaviours but his hopes never succeed. He thinks that love overcomes all the obstacles but the results proves him wrong.

So, Edgar is not only one of the losers of Bronte's *Wuthering Heights*, but he is the biggest loser for he lost his identity as a man , his wife, his sister, his daughter and his belongings. He is the representative of the civilized family who intends to live in a refined society and the outcome is disastrous. His noble desire to elevate the life and behaviour of Cathy comes wrong and prove him to be one of the bereaved and losers. At the beginning of the novel, he is sure that he can change and remodel the behaviour, the style, the life, the passion and the traditions of Catherine but he achieves nothing . He lost his reputation, wife, sister, daughter and estate to his enemy Heathcliff.



Conclusion:

Emily Bronte shows us the inability of love to cement respected families which are the smaller parts of the society. All characters in *Wuthering Heights* love someone or two but they fail to fulfill their desires for happiness. Catherine Earnshaw, the main character of the novel, tries to make use of two lovers. She marries one of them to serve the other she misjudge her choices and she tortures both of them and does not spare herself from this torture as a result her plan proves wrong. Catherine's choice to marry Edgar raises the desire for revenge in Heathcliff's mind to prove himself. He crushes and destroys everything and his wife and son have lot of his plan to retaliate. So, he loses his life to gain Catherine and loses everything. Isabella has her stump to destroy her life by going to the lion's den(Heathcliff) who is waiting to pay her family back for their mistreatment. Isabella's choice destroys not only her life but it is one of the traps that ruins and demolishes her brother's life. So, she enables Heathcliff to overcome her and defeat her brother. She is considered as a loser and bereaved because of her false judgments. Edgar also facilitates the matter of his ruin by his noble plan to marry a girl of a savage origin. He lessens the impact of the savage traditions and life and decides to marry a wife completely different from his rank and education. His flaw of choosing such a wife pave the way to his total destruction and bereavement. So, Edgar is the biggest loser and the most bereaved character of the novel.

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