

Heathcliff & Hareton

Comparison

Quote

“He appeared to have bent his malevolence on making him a brute: he was never taught to read or write.”

(Bronte, 190)

Comparison

Although there is extreme resentment and hatred from Heathcliff towards Hareton in the novel, they both are similar in terms of their lack of education. When Hindley took over as master of the house, he acted out of immense spite towards Heathcliff, denying him an education completely. Through living his life like this, when Hindley dies and Heathcliff takes the estate as his own, he enforces the same punishment towards Hareton out of spite and revenge towards Hindley. Hareton grows up lacking an education, and from his brutal mistreatment grows illiterate. This is made aware when Cathy continuously mocks Hareton for his inability to read even the simplest of words.



Image Representation

This image represents the quote as well as the connection between Heathcliff and Hareton because their lack of education have greatly impacted the relationships these men both possess with others. Heathcliff in one instance was considered a disgrace to marry, which is why Catherine denies her affections for Heathcliff and instead marries Edgar. Hareton as well, is directly called a “dunce” by Cathy, and constantly ridiculed by her despite his affections towards her and his desire to learn. The reasoning behind why both of these characters were denied an education, as well as the way that their illiteracy directly affects the relationships they have with characters in the novel, are almost exactly the same as each other.

Works Cited

Bronte, Emily. *Wuthering Heights*. New York: Signet Classics. 1959. Print.