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ENG 3UI

9 June 2014

Heathcliff and Edgar Comparison Paragraph

The differences between the two love-struck characters, Heathcliff and Edgar Linton in Emily Bronte’s novel “Wuthering Heights,” seem to have no sense of relief throughout the novel. Although they both possess the same undying love for Catherine, the way they display their affections towards Catherine, their social status, and even their physical attributes differ them completely from each other. To begin, Heathcliff displays very different features than anyone else in the novel. He is described to have a well-built stature and a strongly masculine physique, and dark features such as his skin and hair colour. It is mentioned throughout the novel that Heathcliff is “a dark-skinned gypsy in aspect, in dress and manners a gentleman.” (Bronte, 15). Opposing that, Edgar is described to have “light hair and a fair skin” (Bronte, 41), and to be more effeminate and seemingly delicate than Heathcliff in appearance as well as the actions that he displays. Secondly, Heathcliff expresses his passion towards Catherine in a manner that is seemingly portrayed out of spite and anger. When Catherine falls ill, Heathcliff expresses the unfairness of her illness on himself, exclaiming how it is her fault that this illness is inflicting pain upon him. On the other hand, when Edgar is made aware of the fact that Catherine is ill, he scolds the housekeeper Nelly for not helping her earlier . He takes the precaution of getting a doctor to help carefully nurse Catherine back to health, despite worries that she may not survive the illness, he puts her best interest in front of his feelings towards the situation. Finally, Heathcliff was raised through a lower social class family. Due to circumstance after Mr. Earnshaw passes, he was raised ill-mannered, treated disrespectfully as well as being degraded and beaten throughout his upbringing. As he was adopted into the Earnshaw family, he was treated differently than the other children, and as Hindley became jealous of this treatment, he forces Heathcliff to work as a “common labourer” in the fields, and denies him the right to an education. Edgar is a character who is brought up in a higher social class, to which he is well practiced in his manner, his way of dress, and is well respected in his household, as well as when he visits the Earnshaw’s in Thrushcross Grange. To Catherine, he displays a character that will bring her respect due to his social class, which is why she chooses to pursue Edgar’s love as opposed to Heathcliff’s. “I’ve no more business to marry Edgar Linton than I have to be in Heaven; and if the wicked man in there had not brought Heathcliff so low, I shouldn’t have thought of it. It would degrade me to marry Heathcliff now.” (Bronte, 91). It is very easy to see the differences between Heathcliff and Edgar Linton. Few of many differences displayed throughout the novel, but enough to show that these two character’s are opposites from the slightest to the greatest of ways.

**Paige, your writing is very good. you start very strong with a focus of both characters having no relief. I’d like to see you use evidence from the novel more often - it will enhance your argument. Also, try to expand your analysis - link it back to your topic sentence.**