

RETURN TO WITHERING HEIGHTS

A treatment for a film based on the second
half of Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte

written by

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NOVEMBER, 1971.

TITLE SEQUENCE

In a long zoom or tracking shot, we approach Thrushcross Grange, an 18th century manor house, belonging to EDGAR LINTON. It is a warm and beautiful Sunday afternoon, and church bells ring out over the valley calling the parish to evening service. EDGAR LINTON and his servants are leaving the house to go to church. The garden is alive in the sunshine and full of colour. ELLEN DEAN, or NELLY, the housekeeper, is sitting outside shelling peas. Crane to a window to see a hauntingly beautiful young woman sitting at the window in a loose white dress with a shawl over her shoulders. The window is open to the sunshine. Her beautiful hair falls on her shoulders combed but uncoiffured. She is calm, pale, and stares out over the valley blinking in the sunlight. In a vista shot of her pov, we see LINTON and servants pick their way over the hill. On the table in the window recess beside her is a book with the open pages flapping over in the breeze. Spring is approaching; blossoms colour the frame and dance in the foreground breeze-blown. After the last title card, pull focus to blur the opening lyrical vision. Cut to

NELLY in a state of agitation comes into the room, holding a letter, where CATHERINE LINTON, nee EARNSHAW, EDGAR'S wife continues to gaze out of the window taking no notice of the intrusion. NELLY announces herself and asks if she should read the letter because it requires an immediate answer. CATHERINE is in a daze. NELLY explains it is from HEATHCLIFF. At that name her eyes come into focus and her head moves slightly and, dreamlike, she takes the letter and reads it. NELLY says,

"He wishes to see you; he will be in the garden by this time. His messenger said he would wait five minutes for a reply. You must give an answer quickly."

A dog pricks up its ears at the sound of someone approaching, growls and then abruptly wags its tail with recognition. We see the boots of a man walking along purposefully. NELLY looks out of the window. She is talking nervously all the time, explaining that MR. LINTON has only gone to evening service and will discover them when he gets back; she'll lose her position; it's madness; he'll kill them. The feet have reached a door; the door opens. The two women listen. Footsteps are heard in the hall, then coming up the stairs. NELLY becomes agitated; CATHERINE is alert but calm. The steps in the corridor stop in front of a door; a door opens; it is the wrong room;

She is 7 months pregnant.

2.

the steps come down the corridor to the right room and stop behind the door. There is a suspenseful pause. The door is pushed open. Cut to CATHERINE's face, which is illuminated by deep emotions, passion rather than love, as if she is undergoing an involuntary spasm of ecstasy. Cut to a long shot of HEATHCLIFF. He is tall, fierce and handsome, of dark complexion; his face is suffused with a passion at once loving and hating. He takes two or three giant strides and sweeps CATHERINE up into his arms. She yields totally. They kiss and embrace. He gazes at her:

"Cathy, how can I bear it? You are my life."

His eyes burn with anguish; tears threaten. CATHERINE accuses him:

"You and Edgar have broken my heart, Heathcliff! And you come to lament the deed as if you were the people to be pitied! I shall not pity you. I am dying because of you. How many years will you live after I am gone."

HEATHCLIFF protesting, kneels down and tries to catch her up in his arms. She grabs his hair and head and holds him down. NELLY might as well not be in the room for the notice they take of her; she backs out of the door. CATHERINE says,

"I wish I could hold you until we are both dead."

They speak about their love, their sufferin , reproaching one another. It is a scene of great intensity, fierce and tender. HEATHCLIFF challenges her to haunt him for as long as he is alive if she means what she says. NELLY outside and about her chores sees the servants and EDGAR in the distance. She runs upstairs. HEATHCLIFF and CATHY are in one another's arms, oblivious of her entrance; she interrupts, frantically explaining that MR. LINTON will be back from church in five or ten minutes.

HEATHCLIFF say he must go. CATHY says:

"You must not go, Heathcliff."

HEATHCLIFF:

"For one hour I'll be back."

CATHY:

"Not for one minute."

HEATHCLIFF:

"I must, Linton will be here any minute."

CATHY hangs on to him with all her physical strength:

"No, no, I shall die, I shall die,"

We hear EDGAR'S footsteps on the stairs. NELLY is frantic. At thennoice,

EDGAR'S footsteps hasten. HEATHCLIFF says,

"Damn the fool, he's here. Hush, hush my darling.
I'll stay. If he wants to shoot me, I'll die in
your arms."

EDGAR bursts into the room. CATHERINE faints. EDGAR'S face explodes with outrage, concern for CATHY and hatred for HEATHCLIFF. He grasps a sword that is mounted on the wall and is about to slice HEATHCLIFF, his sword raised above his head. HEATHCLIFF lifts CATHY up in his arms. Without fear and perfectly calm, he says,

"Look after her first, then kill me."

EDGAR stops; HEATHCLIFF goes out. LINTON and NELLY and ~~a~~ other servants look after CATHY.

NELLY comes to HEATHCLIFF at the door of the house, where he explains to her that he will leave the house but not quit the grounds. He will wait for news at the end of the garden beyond the trees.

It is night. There is a thunderstorm. HEATHCLIFF'S face is illuminated by lightning. He looks towards the lighted window of CATHY'S room. CATHY is in bed surrounded by a doctor and NELLY. She cries out in agony. EDGAR is waiting downstairs in a nightshirt. He hears a cry of a new born baby. He goes up. CATHY is in a coma after her giving birth. He sees her, takes her hand in his and murmurs her name. He is led away. She is dead. EDGAR buries his face in his hands.

It is now dawn; the storm has passed. HEATHCLIFF stands under the dripping trees. He starts, he stares, he feels a presance. He sees a fleeting vision of CATHY in ghostly form. He stares, it disappears. He speaks:


"May you wake in torment. Catherine Earnshaw, I pray one
prayer. I repeat till my tongue stiffens. Catherine
Earnshaw may you not rest as long as I am living. You
said I killed you; then haunt me. I believe, I know,
that ghosts have wandered on earth. Be with me always,
take any form, drive me mad, only do not leave me where
I cannot find you. I cannot live without you."

NELLY has witnessed this speech and sees HEATHCLIFF dash his head against a tree in his anguish. She comes forward, he notices her. NELLY says hesitantly what is both a question and an explanation:

"You know."

HEATHCLIFF asks her how CATHY died. NELLY tells him of the birth and the death

CATHY'S coffin lies open and dressed in a room arranged for mourning. NELLY is there praying. The door opens. HEATHCLIFF comes in; she gasps. He walks to the coffin; she leaves. He takes a locket from around her neck. He takes out the hair and replaces it with a locket of his own. He cuts off a lock of her hair. He leaves.

On a grassy hill in the corner of the churchyard a funeral party of EDGAR LINTON, NELLY and servants and pastor and gravediggers stand around an open grave. On each stroke of the death knell cut to EDGAR'S face, NELLY'S face, the simple tombstone, HEATHCLIFF'S face. He is standing on an overlooking hill.. Long zoom pulling back to a very long shot of HEATHCLIFF'S figure in silhouette on the brow of a hill overlooking the scene, reverse angle of this scene from HEATHCLIFF'S point of view. C.U. of the coffin reaching the bottom of the grave; earth falls on it. This whole scene is to be very brief. 

Winter has returned; there are wisps of snow.

On the night following the burial there is a full moon. We see the silhouette of the church, gravestones. Over the camera movement we hear the sound of someone digging and breathing hard; pan onto a man digging up CATHY'S grave. As he lifts up a shovel full of dirt from deep in the grave, the moon light falls across his face and we see that it is HEATHCLIFF. He has retrieved the coffin; he tries to get the lid off. He mutters to himself:

"Cathy, I'll have you in my arms again. Then they can shovel the earth over us."

We hear a sigh, the sigh of a woman. The wind goes quiet. HEATHCLIFF pauses. He becomes calm. He smiles. We hear CATHY'S voice saying his name. He says her name. HEATHCLIFF is now no longer interested in the coffin because his attention is drawn to a presence not below ground but on the earth. He gets out of the grave. He looks around. He sees nothing. But he says

"Cathy, you are there I know."

He is answered by a sigh. He starts to fill in the grave smiling.

Cut to Wuthering Heights, interior, night. There are tanks of immense pewter dishes and mugs and tankards in an oak dresser. Above the chimney are guns, mostly fowling pieces. A side of bacon hangs in the corner. The floor is a smooth white stone. Dogs, mostly pointers, abound. There is simple sturdy furniture. MRS. HEATHCLIFF, i.e. ISABELLA LINTON, EDGAR'S sister, is sitting in the kitchen in a nook near the fireplace. HERSEY

sits opposite her completely sodden drunk, semi-conscious and quiet. The wind moans through the chimney and the fire crackles every now and then. The window shakes the windows when it gusts.

Cut to HEATHCLIFF finishing the grave and walking off home as if led by a guiding spirit. He hear CATHY's voice and sigh. HEATHCLIFF is deliriously happy.

Inside Wuthering Heights Kitchen, both figures start when they hear the latch being lifted on the kitchen door. The door is bolted. ISABELLA gets up slowly as she she hears the man going round to the other door. HINDLEY slightly sobered looks at her. HINDLEY stumbles to the other door:

"I'll keep him out a while longer. You won't object?"

ISABELLA replies,

"you may keep him out the whole night as far as I'm concerned."

The door locked, HINDLEY returns to sit opposite ISABELLA and looks into her eyes and broaches the subject of their mutual hatred of HEATHCLIFF, and the different reasons why, and suggests that she assist him in his long dreamt-of revenge. HEATHCLIFF pounds at the door. ISABELLA shrinks from complicity in murder, she struggles with HINDLEY in vain. Instead she runs to the window and shouts a warning to HEATHCLIFF whose reply is to swear at her. She says:

"It's up to you, if you want to get shot, come in."

She shuts the window and returns to the fire watching with baited breath half hoping that HINDLEY will succeed and free her.

"I've done my duty,"

she says. HINDLEY BARNES swears at her. HEATHCLIFF breaks through the window but it is too small for his torso. He stands there threatening ISABELLA. They argue. ISABELLA says;

"Heathcliff why don't you go and stretch yourself over her grave and die like a faithful dog. The world is not worth living in now. Is it? You told me on my wedding night that Catherine was the whole joy of your life."

HINDLEY approaches with his pistol which has a switch blade attached to it. He hopes to get HEATHCLIFF through the window and sneaks up. Through ISABELLA'S face HEATHCLIFF reads what is happening. He waits then lunges seizing HINDLEY'S wrist. The pistol goes off. HEATHCLIFF turn the pistol

so as to draw the blade across HINDLEY's wrist. He cuts a major blood vessel. HINDLEY screams in pain and falls down. HEATHCLIFF smashes the centre post of the window and climbs in. He then lays into HINDLEY beating him within an inch of his life. ISABELLA calls JOSEPH from his bed to assist HINDLEY. *the man-servant of W. Height*

HINDLEY looked after, HEATHCLIFF turns to ISABELLA menacingly;

"You, you bitch. You conspire with that swine against me, do you."

He grabs her and shakes her violently, and then slaps her hard on both cheeks. She falls in the corner. He sends her to bed.

Next morning, they are at breakfast. ISABELLA is talking to HINDLEY,

"It's enough that he has murdered one Earnshaw. Everyone knows your sister would have been living now, had it not been for Mr. Heathcliff. When I remember how happy Catherine was before he came, I curse the day."

HEATHCLIFF is initially completely withdrawn in his sorrow. As he registers what is being said his anguish deepens. ISABELLA laughs. HEATHCLIFF flashes hatred at her.

"Get up and get out of my sight you....."

ISABELLA responds,

"I beg your pardon, but I loved Catherine too; her brother Hindley needs looking after for her sake, I'll stay. Now that she's dead I see her in Hindley; he has her eyes."

HEATHCLIFF gets up threateningly:

"You bitch get out before I beat you into a pulp."

ISABELLA ensuring an escape route taunts further with her hatred:

"If poor Catherine had trusted you, and assumed the ridiculous, contemptible title of Mrs. Heathcliff, she would have been in the same predicament. But she wouldn't have borne your abominable behaviour quietly; her disgust would have found voice."

HEATHCLIFF picks up a knife from the table and throws it at her. HARRISON EARNSHAW, HINDLEY'S young son appears at the door with a litter of puppies that he has hung. The knife hits her on the ear and neck penetrating and making a wound then it falls away as she reaches to take it away and prepares to flee. She knocks over HARRISON and tells JOSEPH to see to HINDLEY and bursts out of the door. She is overjoyed at being free and she runs, as if

*Heathcliff
A man distraught
with grief.*

she might be brought back. We see in montage a few brief images of her flight down the lane over the moors as her dress becomes torn and she dishevelled. She arrives at the Grange where she bursts into the kitchen and scares the wits out of NELLY who then gets her bathed, changed and gives her a cup of tea as she begins to explain. She asks for a carriage, she kisses her brother's and CATHERINE'S portraits. She explains that she will never come back and to tell her brother she will write, from wherever she settles.

cut

Some days later in the churchyard EDGAR by CATHERINE'S grave, stands and looks at it. His loss is very great. He returns to the church at the end of the service. The baby is christened by the name of CATHERINE after her mother. NELLY is there to look after the child.

In Gimmerton, a year later. NELLY is walking down the village street shopping, doing her errands when she comes face to face with HEATHCLIFF. HEATHCLIFF greets her. He asks whether there is news at the Grange of his wife. He smiles sardonically, asking where is she living. NELLY will not tell.

"She lives in London, doesn't she,"

he laughs:

"I'll find her if I want to." Nelly, you won't tell me about the child either? I am a father."

NELLY replies that the name of his son is Linton. HEATHCLIFF smiles grimly:

"They wish me to hate it too, do they?"

NELLY: "I don't think they wish you to know anything about it."

HEATHCLIFF :

"But I'll have it when I want it. They may reckon on that. Goodbye Nelly."

They part on their separate ways. NELLY looks after the retreating figure of HEATHCLIFF with uneasiness.

Dissolve to the drawing room at the Grange, NELLY announces and lets in MR. KENNETH. EDGAR looks up from his reading. NELLY explains that HINDLEY BARNESHAU is dead. NELLY must go and see there is a proper funeral and rescue HARETON from HEATHCLIFF. NELLY departs hurriedly. MR. KENNETH explains that the guest is now the master of Wuthering Heights.

"What do you mean?"

asks EDGAR.

could put this with Heights scene on next page
Useful to have a view of the village.

"Hindley Earnshaw mortgaged every foot of his land and his house to Heathcliff and others. Heathcliff bought out all the mortgages and he has now established absolute possession of the property. And all because of Hindley's drinking and gambling. It is a judgement against a sinful man. Hareton his son who should be the first gentleman in the neighbourhood is reduced to a state of complete dependence on his father's inveterate enemy."

EDGAR blazes and collapses.

"He must live in his father's house as a servant deprived even of wages and helpless to right his wrong because he is friendless in all the world and does not know that he has been wronged."

EDGAR closes his eyes in horror.

Cut to HEATHCLIFF at Wuthering Heights saying to NELLY,

"Make it a proper funeral, but mind that you remember it all comes out of my pocket."

They take the coffin away. HEATHCLIFF lifts young HARETON onto the table and says with gusto,

"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."

The unsuspecting boy thinks HEATHCLIFF is being funny, and he laughs and plays with HEATHCLIFF'S hair and pats his cheek. NELLY pleads to let her take the little boy back to the Grange with her where he can be brought up by a woman. HEATHCLIFF explains that if LINTON wants HARETON then he shall have to render HEATHCLIFF his son. HEATHCLIFF:

"We'll not argue the subject now, but I have a fancy to try my hand at rearing a young one so intimate to your master, so I must have one or t'other. I'm sure I can raise young Hareton with the same care and consideration his deceased father raised me. Don't you think so, Nelly?"

He smiles sardonically.

NELLY; "Heathcliff you are an evil man. God will surely punish you for a life consecrated to revenge - Vengeance is mine saith the Lord."

HEATHCLIFF grins with ironic delight.

"Let him,"

he says. He laughs and pulls the boy's ear cruelly so that he whimpers.

Contrast
between son
and Hareton

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HEATHCLIFF although fierce and full of hatred and revenge is also a tragic and melancholy figure whose love is lost in CATHY who is dead, whose ghost is all he can conjure up to fill the void of his life. It is an obsession which turns him inward. He is sitting alone in his room, the moonlight falls across the room. At a table he is using an upturned wineglass as a ouija board. He says,

"Cathy are you there? My life! my love! are you there?"

The wind rises; the glass moves of its own accord. HEATHCLIFF is moved and excited, there is a tapping at the window, a sigh and a barely distinguishable

"Heathcliff."

The glass moves toward the window; HEATHCLIFF rushes to the window. He opens it. There is a crash; he whips around. The glass has fallen over the edge and broken on the floor. HEATHCLIFF'S eyes are wild. He looks out of the window. A gate slams seeming to indicate the way. HEATHCLIFF runs out of the room, out of the house and through the gate. Looking for the next sign, he hears the sigh. He smiles with joy and murmurs,

"Cathy."

He goes off into the night on the moors. Long shot of HEATHCLIFF in silhouette on the brow of a hill with his arms outstretched. He climbs among the rocks of an outcrop, in a romantic landscape in moonlight. The spirit's presence leads him on until he slips on a loose rock and he falls in danger of going over a long drop and killing himself. He is momentarily frightened; he hears a feminine laughter in the wind, and realizes that CATHY's spirit has led him into the danger.

"Damn you Cathy".

he cries

"If I could be sure to be with you after my death,
I would kill myself now. Shall I die now?"

He threatens to jump, the wind rises and the sigh seems to say

"No".

"I think not Cathy my life! my love! it tempts fate.
The time will come."

The spirit goes, everything becomes quiet. HEATHCLIFF realizes. He gets

up, runs about and calls out

"Cathy"

several times. The dawn peeps over the hill; he turns towards home. As he comes in the gate, MOSELY and HANSTON are about the yard with the cows. They look at him strangely. He glowers at them and goes inside. Dissolve through the dawn a long, long dissolve to CATHY jnr.

4, 15 or 16
CATHY, EDGAR's daughter, 14 years old, is full grown in height, physically an adult as 14 year old girls can be. She is beautiful with the hint of a beautiful woman to be. She is standing on the moor looking at something. She speaks.

"When am I going to go over these hills and visit that house there."

Camera pans off her to Wuthering Heights. HENRY is standing beside her. CATHY asks why she has never got to know their neighbours all these years. Why does she have to confine her rambles to this park and the edge of the moors. Thrushcross Grange is the finest place in the world says HENRY. But it is still beginning to seem like a prison to a fully grown girl, curious and without company or society. She looks at Penistone Crags as the sun sets and lights them up in an unearthly way, a romantic landscape, (~~This landscape might suggest a Windborough or a Conestable~~). And explains on the effect and how she would like to see the view from that point. Wuthering Heights is about four miles from the Grange and the crags a mile and a half beyond the Heights. We must have the feeling of how provincial and enclosed are their lives. This fierce deadly feud and passionate story takes place in a world cut off. They turn towards home. CATHY is going to ask her father if she can go farther afield.

At the Grange, CATHY comes in and talks about her desire and asks if she can go up to the crags. The maids have told her about a Fairy cave up in the crags which she is dying to see. EDGAR is distracted by a letter he is reading. He explains gently to CATHY that when she is fully grown up she can go further, but he knows it is best for her to stay on the moors and in the park and he wants her to trust him, especially now because he must go to London. HENRY looks very sad. He explains to HENRY and CATHY that his sister is seriously ill and has begged him to come to London and take her son, CATHY's cousin back with him. He is the same age as CATHY. CATHY

is very curious and delighted to learn that she possesses a cousin. EDGAR entrusts CATHY to NELLY'S care with reminders and asks her to pack and asks for a horse to be saddled. Later we see him ride away as CATHY, NELLY and other servants watch.

CATHY comes into the kitchen early one morning and asks NELLY to make her a picnic lunch because she wants to go out riding with the dogs for a day. She mounts her horse, the dogs leap about and NELLY brings out a basket to attach to the saddle. CATHY rides up to a point where she can see the Heights. She sees a labourer working on a fence. She asks him to cut her a switch of hazel. He does; she jumps over the fence and gallops away. She is now up at the crags, she looks down and sees the Heights. She sees two figures ride away. Her curiosity is aroused. She decides to go down and sneak a look at the place.

As she approaches, she dismounts looking about. Suddenly her horse whinnies and rears, a hand has taken the bridle from the other side and controls the horse. Cathy gives a cry of surprise and fear. She sees a young man of eighteen, strong, handsome. They are both rather taken with one another's appearance and the surprise of discovering one another in their world. At the same time a pack of HARETON'S dogs lay into CATHY'S; the owners struggle to separate them.

Cut to NELLY walking in search of CATHY. She comes upon the labourer who cut CATHY a switch and asks him whether he has seen her. He reports what he saw. NELLY arrives at Luthering Heights apprehensive; she notices one of CATHY'S dogs outside. Then one of the servants comes out whom she knows and greets her. The servant takes her in explaining that thank goodness the master (HEATHCLIFF) is away.

NELLY comes into the kitchen where she sees CATHY sitting on the hearth, laughing and chatting to HARETON who is amazed and unable to follow everything she talks about. NELLY rounds up CATHY and presses her to go back with her, reproaching her for disobeying her father and betraying NELLY'S trust in her. The Heights servants defends her. CATHY plays up the situation, and runs around out of NELLY'S reach, who is trying to get her to put her bonnet on. In exasperation, NELLY says,

"Miss Cathy, if you were aware whose house this is, you'd be glad enough to get out."

CATHY turns to HARETON;

"It's your father's inn't it?"

HARETON is embarrassed. CATHY then asks who his master is. HARETON mixes embarrassment with anger and mutters an oath. CATHY persists wanting to know exactly who HARETON is because if he's a servant, he should have addressed her as Miss. HARETON flushes. CATHY then addressing HARETON like a stable boy:

"Now get my horse. You may come with me and show me the fairy cave. Get my horse,"

HARETON scowling replies:

"I'll see thee damned before I be your servant".

CATHY is horrified and seeks to know from NELLY why he dares to speak to her like that and mustn't he be made to do her will. She threatens to tell her father. HARETON is recalcitrant and totally unmoved by her threats. CATHY tries to command the Heights servant who replies that she had better be civil, though HARETON is not the master's son, he's her cousin, and she was not hired to serve her. CATHY is scornful, shocked and deeply confused, denying it. She weeps and goes to NELLY.

HARETON out of sheer generosity gets her pony and dogs and gives her a puppy from his kennel. HARETON is well-made, good-looking, healthy but dressed for farm labour. CATHY looks at him with horror. CATHY rejects the present and demands her own dogs limping and wounded. NELLY makes CATHY promise not to mention the day to her father, because it would mean her dismissal, CATHY makes a promise. Her father has written a black-edged letter to announce his sister's death, his return with Linton his nephew and her cousin. CATHY is delighted to know of her father's imminent return and of the existence of a real cousin in contrast to HARETON.

They are waiting for the carriage to arrive. CATHY is impatient cannot sit still, is full of questions. Finally, the carriage approaches. CATHY flings herself into the arms of her father. We see into the corner of the carriage where a pale delicate, even effeminate boy is asleep, wrapped up in a fur-lined cloak. Her father leads CATHY away explaining that LINTON, although the same age, is not as healthy as she nor as active. And she must let him

recover from his journey. Later they are introduced. The boy is unexcited, and wants only to go to bed, but they have tea. He is fussy, spoilt. CATHY looks after him with attention and affection.

A servant announces that JOSEPH has arrived from Wuthering Heights. NELLY goes out to meet him and bumps into him coming into the hall. He is dressed in his Sunday suit, his hat in hand, his stick in the other. He wipes his feet on the mat. He is a strange character. He summons up his sourest expression and insists on speaking to MR. LINTON. NELLY tries to intercede but to no avail. Confronting MR. LINTON, he says,

Heathcliff has sent me for his lad, and I mun'n't goe back without him" (broad Yorkshire accent).

EDGAR LINTON is stumped; he has no right to prevent this crime, no plan to escape. He must resign himself. He will not take LINTON out of bed but agrees to give him up in the morning. JOSEPH, having received strict orders from HEATHCLIFF is reluctant to go back empty handed and warns that HEATHCLIFF will turn up himself to claim his son.

At dawn, NELLY is to take LINTON to Wuthering Heights. She gets LINTON out of bed much against his resistance. She explains that he is going to see his father. The boy exclaims that his mother never told him he had a father. Why has he not heard of him before? LINTON is worried by the unknown and as he and NELLY ride to Wuthering Heights, he questions her and she answers as to his father and the history of their family. They discuss the contrast between Thrushcross Grange and Wuthering Heights, as they arrive.

Inside they are finishing breakfast; HARETON is ready to go to the fields. They spy the arrival and come out all curious to see LINTON. HEATHCLIFF stares dauntingly at LINTON:

"God, what a beauty! Oh! damn my soul but it's worse than I expected.. and the Devil knows I was not sanguine."

LINTON is bewildered and frightened. As HEATHCLIFF reaches out for him he clings to NELLY and bursts into tears. HEATHCLIFF reaches out and pulls him roughly between his knees and holds up his head by the chin and chastises him:

"None of that nonsense. We're not going to hurt thee Linton."

visual
contraction
possible

HEATHCLIFF inspects him and feels his sickly body:

"Thou art thy mother's child. Do you know me?"

LINTON replies, no. HEATHCLIFF commenting on his mother, invites NELLY to leave or stay for breakfast as she wishes. He orders breakfast for the boy. NELLY remarks that he had better treat the lad well or he won't have him alive for long. HEATHCLIFF laughs and points out that he will take great care to preserve the heir to Thrushcross Grange:

"I should not wish him to die till I was certain of being his successor. Besides, he's mine, and I want the triumph of seeing my descendant lord of their estates; my child hiring their children, to till their fathers' lands for wages. He is safe, Nelly."

HEATHCLIFF explains that he will be brought up like a gentleman; he has engaged a tutor, set HARETON to obey him. Meanwhile JOSEPH produces a bowl of porridge for LINTON'S breakfast. LINTON stirs a spoon in the bowl and declares he cannot eat it. JOSEPH finds contempt in this fussiness. LINTON says he won't eat it. JOSEPH makes a remark about his mother. HEATHCLIFF flares up and tells him not to mention his mother in his presence and to get him something he can eat. Being asked, NELLY suggests boiled milk and bread and butter. While LINTON begins to eat, NELLY slips out. As she closes the door behind her, we hear the yell of the deserted and frightened child chase after her as he realises that she has left him to his new found father. NELLY mounts her horse and gallops off. We see the latch vainly lifting up and down as LINTON tries to get out.

HEATHCLIFF... asleep is disturbed by CATHY'S ghost.

Dissolve

Two years later, it is CATHY'S birthday. It is also inevitably the anniversary of her mother's death. EDGAR LINTON devoted to her memory, goes to the churchyard with flowers for her grave and remains. It is March a beautiful spring day. CATHY is dressed for walking after her visit to the churchyard and tells NELLY that she is going for a walk to look at the nests of the grouse on the moors, will she come with her. They walk off. The larks are singing, the sunshine is warm. NELLY protests at the distance. CATHY is in high spirits. She leads her on and on, promising the bird's nests soon. She disappears over the next hillock. NELLY coming over the brow finds CATHY now well into Wuthering Heights land confronted by HEATHCLIFF and HARETON. They accuse her of stealing grouse eggs, she replies, that

she thought no one would mind her looking and her papa told her the nests were here. HEATHCLIFF with a sneering smile asks who her father is. CATHY replies,

"Mr. Linton of Thrushcross Grange, I thought you did not know me or you wouldn't have spoken to me so."

HEATHCLIFF sneers sarcastically,

"You think your father is highly respected here? esteemed then?"

CATHY asks who he is. She recognises HARETON, who looks at her all the time. She asks whether he is his son. NELLY is fearful of the outcome of this encounter and tries to persuade CATHY to return. HEATHCLIFF explains that HARETON is not his son, but he has a son and won't they stop and rest as guests at his house before returning. NELLY tries to prevent this plot of HEATHCLIFF'S, but CATHY is curious. NELLY talks to HEATHCLIFF as they go along:

"You know she'll see Linton and all will be told and I will be in trouble when we get back."

HEATHCLIFF replies that he wants her to see LINTON, and it will be easy to persuade her to keep it all a secret. NELLY says frankly that she doesn't trust HEATHCLIFF. HEATHCLIFF replies:

"My design is as honest as possible. I'll inform you of its whole scope. That the two cousins may fall in love, and get married, I'm acting generously to your master; his young chit has no expectations, and should she second my wishes, she'll be provided for as joint successor with Linton."

"And if Linton dies,"

says NELLY,

"Catherine would be heir."

HEATHCLIFF:

"No, there is no clause in the will to secure it; I would inherit; but I want to end such disputes."

They approach the house and walk in. Standing on the hearth is LINTON who has returned from a walk and is calling for Joseph to bring him dry shoes. HEATHCLIFF asks her who he is? She guesses it is his son.

"Linton, don't you remember your cousin?"

CATHY breaks into joyful surprise at recognizing the LINTON she knew briefly two or three years ago. He is grown, quite good looking but in a pale and weak way. CATHERINE is fully grown and at sixteen or seventeen fullfigured and elastic and sparkling with health and good looks. CATHY and LINTON are delighted to find one another. CATHY claims HEATHCLIFF as her uncle, and asks why he hasn't visited the Grange all these years. HEATHCLIFF remarks because he visited once or twice too often before she was born. She upbraids NELLY for concealing these relatives from her. HEATHCLIFF explains that her father was against his marrying his sister and they have a lifetime quarrel and explains that there can be no visiting unless she visit them in secret. LINTON is rather aloof, more interested in his comfort by the fire. HARETON comes in washed and changed. CATHY demands verification of his relationship to her. "CATHY whispers in HEATHCLIFF'S ear. He laughs. HARETON scowls. HEATHCLIFF suggests he take her on a walk round the farm and behave - not to use any bad language. HARETON is tongue-tied and ill at ease. He likes CATHY but is proud. CATHY is covertly interested in him stealing looks at him. Cut back to HEATHCLIFF and NELLY.

"I've tied his tongue, Nelly. He'll not risk a syllable.
Do you remember me at his age. Did I ever look so stupid."

"Worse".

replies NELLY.

"Because you were sullen."

HEATHCLIFF:

"Well, Hareton's no fool. Were he anyone else's son I would be delighted with him. As it is I can sympathize with his feelings, his suffering at this moment with Cathy as I suffered with her mother.. But this is the beginning of what he shall suffer. I have taught him to be coarse and ignorant and despise refinement. But he is fond of me, which is more than Hindley could do. He'd attack his own father for me."

He laughs fiendishly and then sharply tells LINTON to go and find the other two.

When they return, CATHY asks HARETON what the inscription above the door was. HARETON looks foolish. CATHY discovers that he can't read. LINTON feeling a slight jealousy of HARETON now mocks him to CATHY who is highly amused at such a dunce. They make sport of him. HARETON tries to protest. He is clumsy. LINTON taunts him. HARETON is angry, hurt and embarrassed

n.b.
parallels

in front of CATHY. He tells LINTON that he would knock him down if he weren't such a weakling, girlish milkeep and he retires.

Next day at the Grange, CATHY carefully approaches her father and relates to him how she has found out about HEATHCLIFF and LINTON. She wants to know why she is denied the pleasure of their company because he hates HEATHCLIFF. EDGAR upset, explains his view of HEATHCLIFF'S evil and brooding plan of revenge so as to persuade her of the reality of things. CATHY falls silent.

Later in bed when NELLY who acts as her maid is saying good night and snuffing her bed light, she sees that CATHY is secretly writing a note. NELLY guesses that it is to LINTON and curtly says that he one will deliver the note. CATHY cries out of frustration and disappointment. NELLY reminds her how trivial her griefs are. CATHY says she is crying for poor LINTON who is expecting her to visit next day and she promised him some books of hers to read. Next morning, the cart from the village that collects the milk from the farms is given unusual attention by CATHY who in long shot is seen to explain something to the driver and pass him a coin and a letter. At the other end we see HEATHCLIFF intercepting the correspondence. He reads the letter, laughs and directs LINTON to answer it. There is a montage of letter deliveries and reading with a voiceover of each saying, Dear Linton, Dear Cathy and expressing brief snatches of sentiment. But at the Wuthering Heights end, we see LINTON taking dictation from his father, who is masterminding the correspondence. NELLY sees CATHY sneaking off into corners and hiding things in her skirts. She finds her hiding place for letters and removes them. CATHY comes to NELLY to ask for them back. NELLY makes her promise to stop and burn the letters or she will reveal all to her father with dire results. CATHY agrees under protest that she loves LINTON. NELLY is horrified. She throws the letters in the fire. CATHY tries to retrieve a couple - just for remembrance she says. NELLY writes a note to give to the milk boy that MASTER LINTON is requested to send no more notes to MISS CATHY, as she will not receive them. We see HEATHCLIFF reading this with disgust.

Clouds thicken, lightening flashes, a storm, thick sheets of rain fall, below are EDGAR and CATHY with NELLY returning from a walk. They run. By the time they return home they are soaked. They are shivering. They wrap up and sit by a huge fire. NELLY pours boiling water into a tub for them to wash. Some days later we discover a doctor at the bedside of EDGAR who has a chest cold, it deteriorates into fever. CATHY and NELLY nurse him constantly. They go into the village to do some shopping and get medicine from the Chemist's. By a shop window full of bottles of coloured water, they emerge and bump into HEATHCLIFF coming in.

"Miss Linton"

he greets her. CATHY says she won't speak to him because her father says he is a wicked man.

"Never mind that,"

says HEATHCLIFF,

"You don't hate my son and it is concerning him that I wish to speak to you."

He refers to their letters. And affects a moral outrage that CATHY could playmate lightly with LINTON'S affections. She is uncomfortable. NELLY tries to intercede and drag her away. HEATHCLIFF explains that his son is ill and depressed and unlikely to live. Indeed HEATHCLIFF is going to the Chemists to ask for something to help him pull around. He observes that this really gets CATHY upset, who cannot disguise her concern. HEATHCLIFF presses his advantage calling her -

"False, temptress, playing with a lad's emotions. He is dying for you. If I had my way I'd flog you."

"But that would surely kill him. Meanwhile Harston pleats over his predicament."

Then HEATHCLIFF asks her to go and see him. He challenges NELLY to go and see if he lies or not. Then he explains that he is obliged to be absent for a week and he invites CATHY to make use of his absence to go and administer some kindness to his lovenick son of a son.

"The poor sod thinks you hate him since you neither write nor call."

HEATHCLIFF having accomplished his skilful plant, bids goodbye and goes into the shop, the door closes behind. CATHY is mortified.

Later that evening, beside the fire, CATHY is getting involved in lovesick fantasies. NELLY challenges her to distrust HEATHCLIFF. She says she must see for herself otherwise she could never forgive herself. NELLY finally agrees. CATHY gives her an embrace.

Next day, they both ride to Wuthering Heights. It is drizzly, misty. They find HEATHCLIFF gone, all out except JOSEPH who is sullenly indifferent. LINTON coughs in the parlour. CATHY flies to him; he is delighted to see her but is sick and makes it seem twice as bad as it is. He complains of "theybullying of Harston and the neglect of the others." CATHY feeds him some wine and water. LINTON says he is vexed at her because she wouldn't come.

"My father said it was because you despised me for a worthless, pitiful weakling. You don't despise me do you?"

CATHY protests that next to her father she loves him more than anyone. She is thrilled to have someone to love. It is a new experience for her. They start to talk. They wish to be together. LINTON says that she would love him more if she were his wife. CATHY suggests that wives sometimes hate their husbands and vice versa. She instances his own father and her aunt. They start arguing over each house's version of the evil history of the others. Until they are really screaming at one another. At the final climax of disagreement, CATHY gives him chair in which he is tucked up a push, and he falls. He is then overcome by a suffocating cough. It brings NELLY in and frightens them all. CATHY is full of remorse, begs forgiveness. LINTON extracts maximum ~~humiliation~~ and claims he will suffer all night. Finally, CATHY says if she can do nothing she must go. As they leave, LINTON lets out a cry of agony, faked by a spedit and peevish child, to bring them back. CATHY is sucked in by guilt. She nurses him. She promises to return. HARRISON returns from the fields for lunch. He hides from them observing CATHY. Then he contrives to meet her, helping her with her horse. CATHY warns him that it might kick him if he isn't careful. He says,

"It wouldn't hurt much if it did."

He suddenly breaks out,

"Miss Catherine, I can read now, can read you writing."

CATHY cries

"Wonderful you are growing clever. Pray let's hear."

HARETON lingers through the syllables....HARETON HARESHAW.

"What about the figures?"

"I cannot tell them yet."

he says.

"Oh! you dunces,"

she laughs. HARETON grins foolishly glad of attention yet not sure whether it is insulting. GATHY finally, brushes him aside saying she came to see LINTON not him. HARETON winces and walks off. KELLY scolds her reminding her that he is her cousin, and how ugly of her to scorn his efforts at learning.

Montage: GATHY attends her sick father at the Grange. He is languishing with a bronchial condition. KELLY also has fallen ill and GATHY ^{and} nurses them both. When she is free in the evening, she takes a horse/by moonlight and starlight gallops to the Heights.

On one visit, Linton is feeling weak. She is very attentive. After a while, the door bursts open to admit HARETON who advances and orders LINTON to get to his own room and seizes him by the arm. He is barely articulate with passion and fury;

"Take her with you, but thou shaltn't keep me out of this. Begone with ye both".

Physically HARETON hauls and kicks them out of the parlour into the kitchen. LINTON is white with fury. He returns to find the door handle locked. He screams a menace that he will kill him unless he lets him in. GATHY tries to persuade him to stop. He collapses in a fit of coughing; blood trickles from his mouth. GATHY is frantic. She fetches Zillah the new housekeeper who carried him upstairs. Zillah more used to LINTON's ways and his periodic rages, remarks as to GATHY and tells her to leave him alone for a while. GATHY then confronts HARETON who feels little remorse although he is anxious to please GATHY. She threatens him that she will tell papa and he will be hanged for murder. HARETON is pained and upset. He runs out to hide his agitation.

GATHY is obliged to leave, as she is riding out several hundred yards from the house HARETON comes out and accosts her says,

"Miss Catherine, I'm ill grieved but....."

She gives him a cut with her riding whip. HARETON yelps and lets go of the

bridle, and she gallops off home followed by a stream of curses from HARETON nursing his wound.

Three days later CATHERINE is sitting by her father's bedside. He is dozing. NELLY comes in, to call her away. She points out that she has hardly been out for days, now that she NELLY is up and feeling better, there's no need to stay at home. CATHERINE agrees.

She arrives at the Heights, trying to see what's going on without being seen but the dogs set up a commotion. ZILLAN discovers her and takes her to LINTON who is better. LINTON is sulking, he ignores her and won't even speak to her or look at her, he just reads for some time. Finally, he blames the episode of the last visit on her. CATHY is furious. She says nothing but gets up and leaves. We hear LINTON'S feeble cry

"Catherins".

as he overplays his hand. CATHY:

"Since you think I come to hurt you I am going. This is our last meeting. Goodbye".

She leaves.

CATHY is called in by her father because he has a letter from LINTON which NELLY has intercepted and given to him. CATHY reads the letter to him. Dearest Catherine,

My father talks of my defects and scorns me so that I constantly doubt myself. I doubt whether I am not altogether as worthless as he calls me and then I feel so cross and bitter I hate everybody. If you choose to say goodbye, you'll be rid of an annoyance. Only do me this justice, believe that I might be as sweet and kind and as good as you are, and as happy and healthy. I believe your kindness has made me love you deeper than if I deserved your love, and though I couldn't and cannot help showing my nature to you, I regret it and shall regret and repent it till I die. Please don't stay away. I live in hope of your return.

Linton.

CATHY is warmed by the letter. The father questions her, she is obliged to admit that she has visited the Heights to see LINTON.

He forbids her to return on pain of worsening his illness. CATHERINE is divided and torn. He is not well. He finally agrees that LINTON can visit the Grange. In front of CATHERINE and NELLY he asks for paper and pen explaining he will write. While CATHY goes to fetch them, he explains

to NELLY that he is much worried that his health will never recover and that he is ready to join his wife in the earth. He doesn't care that LINTON is HEATHCLIFF'S son if CATHY is happy even if it means HEATHCLIFF gaining his ends and triumphing. But if LINTON is only a tool for his father, and CATHERINE is an instrument, then he cannot allow her to be sucked in for her own good:

"I must make her miserable while I live and leave her parentless and deserted when I die."

CATHY comes in smiling. With pen and paper EDGAR writes.

A messenger comes from the HEATHCLIFFS with LINTON'S letter. CATHY is eager to have her father read it. He does:

Dear Uncle, I do not ask that she may visit here, but I am never to see her because my father forbids me to go to her home and you forbid her to come to mine. We have done nothing to deserve this separation; and you are not angry with me; you have no reason to dislike me. Do you then ride out with CATHY and meet me anywhere you please except at Thrushcross Grange. I believe an interview would convince you that my father's character is not mine; indeed he thinks me more your nephew than his son. Until I see Catherine again, I am doomed to solitude in the society of those who never did and never will like me. I long to hear that our meeting may take place soon. Linton.

EDGAR is moved by the letter and agrees to the principle of the meeting but points out to CATHERINE that he is too unwell to ride out with her and it will have to wait until summer. But meanwhile they may write to one another.

We see a brief montage of letter writing - CATHY then LINTON. At LINTON'S and however, HEATHCLIFF reads the letters from CATHY and dictates the direction of the correspondence from LINTON.

The summer has arrived and it is finally allowed that CATHY and NELLY should ride out to meet LINTON. A meeting place is fixed in a letter which CATHY pulls out to verify when they have reached the place. No one is there. Then a boy appears to explain that MASTER HEATHCLIFF would be much obliged if they would go on further. NELLY objects that they are off Grange land.

They find LINTON lying in the sunshine on the heather. He does not look well. They see it and remark on it. He denies it. The meeting is an anti-climax. CATHY thinks of going. LINTON begs her not to. They talk of his father. They fix a meeting for a week's time.

EDGAR'S health deteriorates further to pneumonia. A doctor visits. CATHY is devoted to nursing him. Although her father is weak, he insists with NELLY that she needs fresh air and exercise and should go to her room with LINTON. So they ride out. It is a glorious day of August sunshine. In golden fields labourers harvest crops. They find LINTON at the same place as before. He is rather nervous. For him there seems no purpose to his visit. CATHY perceives this and chastises him because her father is very ill and she wants to know why he brings her from his bedside for no reason. LINTON is by this time a ~~shivering~~ being half child, half man, terrified by the authority of his father. He loves CATHY like a drowning man loves a lifebuoy. He grips her dress as she gets up to go and implodes her not to be angry with him, or think of him with contempt. CATHY is really a woman much more in possession of herself. She is disgusted with his behaviour and tells him not to degrade himself like an abject reptile. He becomes nearly hysterical to prevent her leaving. He claims that if they leave he will be killed unless they consent.

CATHY is nevertheless compassionate and curious as to what is going on. She asks reassurance that he would not sacrifice her to protect himself. My father has threatened me says LINTON. While he is tackling her legs her skirt and she is trying to get away without a wrestling match, HEATHCLIFF is coming toward them. He comes straight to NELLY and asks about EDGAR'S health. He has heard that he is on his deathbed. NELLY confirms that her master is dying. HEATHCLIFF asks;

"How long will he be?"

Because my feeble son seems determined to beat me...and I'd thank his uncle to go before him. He asks about the courting. NELLY points out that LINTON should be in bed and attended by a doctor not out on the heath. HEATHCLIFF sneers at him to get up and master his snivelling spirit. Then strides over and lifts him to his feet by the scruff of his neck and props him against a bank. LINTON is weak with illness and fear. He asks CATHY to take his hand. HEATHCLIFF offers his as well. They support him between

them. HEATHCLIFF makes a couple of jocular remarks to CATHY to inveigle her to walk him home. CATHY explains that she cannot go to Wuthering Heights. She asks ~~HEATHCLIFF~~ if he is afraid. LINTON explains that his father has promised he will not re-enter the house without her. HEATHCLIFF quickly relents:

"Stop, Nelly we'll send for the doctor and not prevail on CATHY to break her filial word to her father. Come on my hero."

he says to LINTON who nearly faints. LINTON clings to CATHY. CATHY out of pity and compassion accompanies LINTON into the house. HEATHCLIFF shuts the door and locks it. He declares they shall have tea before they go home. HARRISON has gone to the cattle market. JOSEPH and ZILLAH are on a few days holiday.

HEATHCLIFF mocks them. He says to NELLY how if laws were less strict he would be far more cruel.

"By hell how I hate them."

CATHY says boldly that she is not afraid of him. Her black eyes flash with passion and she comes up to him and she tries to seize the key in his hand:

"Give me that key...I wouldn't eat or drink here if I were starving."

After a momentary surprise HEATHCLIFF struggles free and says

"Catherine Linton stand back or I will knock you down."

she cries,

"We will go."

She squatches and finally tries to bite his hand open. Suddenly he lets go, but as she gets the key he grabs her and pulls her to his knee and slaps her really hard on both sides of the head. NELLY is furious and rushes at him and attacks him. He roughly knocks her off her feet and onto a chair legs. CATHERINE goes who is trembling with pain, fear, anger and holds her hands to her head. HEATHCLIFF picks up the key again. He warns her that he knows how to chastise children and he had better not see that temper in her eyes again.

"I shall be your father all the father you have in a few days."

HEATHCLIFF stirs yew's boiling water in the teapot and serves tea.

HEATHCLIFF announces that he is going to fetch their horses. NELLY during his absence says to LINTON that he had better tell them what his father is after or she NELLY will have his ears. CATHY concurs. He begs for some tea first. LINTON is now much calmer because the danger no longer falls on

him. He announces:

"Papa wants us to be married (he sops some tea) and he knows your papa wouldn't let us marry now; and he's afraid of my dying, if we wait; so we are to be married in the morning, and you are to stay here all night; and if you do as he wishes, you shall return home next day, and take me with you."

NELLY shakes him and reviles him, bringing on his cough. CATHY is more intent on getting out. She quickly tries all doors and windows for escape. LINTON thinking she will succeed begs her not to desert him. HEATHCLIFF returns. He opens the door and dismisses LINTON to take himself to bed. HEATHCLIFF sits by the fire. The two women watch him. CATHY pleads that she will marry LINTON if he lets her go to her dying father. Why force what she agrees to. NELLY threatens him with the law. CATHY tries to humour him; she kneels to him. He threatens her with physical violence if she comes near him. He anticipates NELLY saying something by threatening to lock her in another room unless she holds her tongue. He locks them into a room for the night. In the morning CATHY is taken away and NELLY left.

At the Grange there is great consternation that the two women have not returned. A search party that had been sent out returns with the theory that they have walked into bogs and sunk out of sight.

HARETON brings NELLY a tray of food and then relocks the door deaf to all entreaties.

ZILLAH and JOSEPH return to the Heights. ZILLAH tells HEATHCLIFF of the theory in the village that MISS CATHY and NELLY sank in the bog. HEATHCLIFF explains that NELLY is upstairs in her room. He found her and she is ready to return. She goes up to see NELLY who is frantic. She learns that EDGAR is still not dead but the doctor gives him little time. NELLY runs down stairs finds LINTON sitting on a couch. She asks where CATHERINE is. He replies in her room where we're keeping her:

"My father will kill you if you get her out. He says I'm not to be soft with her, she's my wife and it's shameful that she should wish to leave me. He says she hates me and wants me to die that she may have all my money, but she hasn't and she shan't go home."

NELLY is furious but powerless.

"Where's Heathcliff?",

asks NELLY. LINTON is sucking barley candy replies:

"He's in the yard talking to DR. KENNETH who says uncle will die soon, I'm glad for I shall be master of the Grange after him. It isn't Catherine's house. It's mine."

NELLY tries to get the key from him. But without success. She then leaves and runs towards the Grange. Out to her arriving exhausted at the kitchen door. The servants are amazed and delighted to see her. She runs to EDGAR'S bedside and explains to him what has happened and that he must alter his will to protect CATHY. She sends a man for the lawyer and another group to rescue CATHY.

The men arrive at the Heights. HEATHCLIFF having been warned by the dogs comes out to greet them smiling his fowling piece. He gives them a story and being simple country folk they are uneasy and unable to do anything but to go back to the Grange and report failure. During their dispute out to CATHY in her room: she can hear the raised voices and argument. Through a window she gathers that HEATHCLIFF will not give her up. She becomes ^{the} determined woman; she prevails on LINTON by threats and blandishments to let her out. CATHY gets into an empty room, waits for the clear, climbs out of the window and down a tree. She whistles up her own horse Nanny who is in the stable field who jumps the fence. CATHY mounts the horse and gallops to the Grange where she runs in at the kitchen door and into NELLY'S arms. She is about to run upstairs when NELLY says to her:

"Sit down, tidy up and wash yourself. You must not alarm him. I must go first and say you've come. Then I want you to tell him that you are going to be very happy with Linton."

CATHY is horrified and then it dawns on her why.

She comes into her father's room: NELLY retires; she kisses him gently; he smiles; He murmurs to her.

"I am going to her, and you my darling will join us one day."

He dies. Catherine is very composed; she has put on years in the last months. She is dry eyed; she sits. Later in the day she is still sitting when the lawyer, GREEN, arrives. CATHY is brought down and with NELLY she listens to the legal implications of her father's death. The Grange belongs to LINTON HEATHCLIFF; all the servants except NELLY MRS. DEAN are dismissed

in a week's time. After the funeral, CATHY returns with NELLY in mourning and a servant rushes in to announce HEATHCLIFF'S arrival. He walks straight in like the master of the house and into the library and confronts, in all his evil presence, the two women. Over the mantle piece are portraits of EDGAR AND CATHERINE his wife. HEATHCLIFF advances to the hearth. CATHY is minded to run out.

"Stop"

cries HEATHCLIFF:

"No more running; you are coming home and you are to look after your husband and not encourage him to further disobedience."

NELLY pleads for LINTON to be allowed to come to the Grange so that CATHY stays and she stays to look after them all. HEATHCLIFF announces that he will find a tenant for the Grange and besides CATHY is going to work for her bread for her living. Make haste and get ready.

CATHY announces,

"I will love Linton and I am not afraid of you."

HEATHCLIFF:

"You are beastful, you young chit. My son's vile nature will torment you without my help."

CATHY: "I know he has a bad nature, but I can forgive, and he loves me in his pitiful way. You have nobody to love you. (HEATHCLIFF glares) and however miserable you make us, we shall still have the revenge of thinking that your cruelty arises from your greater misery. You are miserable, are you not? Lonely, like the devil, and envious of all loving. Nobody loves you, nobody will cry for you when you die. I wouldn't be you."

HEATHCLIFF glares and CATHY scornfully withdraws to get ready. HEATHCLIFF turns and looks at CATHY the elder's picture- The mother of CATHY. He takes it. He whirls to notice that NELLY is still there:

"Nelly Dean last night I paid the sexton to open Cathy's grave and show me her face again. It is still here. I ripped the side of her coffin off, not on Edgar's side, so that when I am buried beside her we will dissolve together."

NELLY, "aren't you ashamed to disturb the dead?"

HEATHCLIFF:

"Disturbed her? No, she has disturbed me night and day through eighteen years, incessantly remorselessly till last night. She has haunted me in my thoughts and in

presences and apparitions and kept me stretched
tense for all these years but now --"

he breaks off and looks at NELLY..

"Send this picture over to the Heights tomorrow"

CATHY kisses NELLY goodbye.

"Come to visit."

HEATHCLIFF:

"Do no such thing until I order it."

NELLY in fear watches HEATHCLIFF forcibly take CATHY'S arm and the tense
pair descend the driveway.

At Wuthering Heights, CATHY is sitting by LINTON'S Bed. He is sick and
delirious. It is dawn, the birds are singing. CATHY is weary and humoured
by bloom of grief and oppression. She comes downstairs to join the others
for breakfast. She asks if a doctor might be sent for; for LINTON is very
ill.

HEATHCLIFF:

"We know that, but his life is not worth a fathing, and
I won't spend a farthing on it."

CATHY rising:

"But I don't know how to cure him, and if nobody will help
me, he'll die."

HEATHCLIFF:

"Walk out of the room, and never let me hear a word more
about him! None here care what becomes of him; if you
do, not the nurse, if you don't, lock him up and leave
him."

CATHY is seen in ^amontage of looking after him. On one occasion she asks
EILLA to help her. She says she can't interfere. At night, she wakes
EILLAN up, tells her to wake HEATHCLIFF because LINTON is really dying.
CATHY then rings a bell. HEATHCLIFF gets up, and everybody else, cursing
and demanding to know why the noise, comes in to find CATHY seated with
her knees up, huddled. He comes to look at LINTON, touches him. He is
dead. He asks CATHY how she feels. She doesn't answer. He repeats the
question.

CATHY: "He's safe and I'm free. I feel overwhelmed with
death."

HARRISON stares at CATHY. HEATHCLIFF orders everybody back to bed.

*several
episodes*

In the morning CATHY says she is unwell and goes to bed. The undertaker comes to take away the body. While she is in bed, HEATHCLIFF shows her the will of LINTON, which bequeaths all his and her moveable property to him. He owns all the land in his wife's right and his. The Grange and Wuthering Heights.

ELLAN in CATHY's room explains HEATHCLIFF is going to the Grange and Joseph is at church, she might come down. She does, HARETON is cleaning his gun. When told CATHY'S coming he puts it away and cleans up. CATHY is cold and haughty. She gets a chair by the fire. Presently she notices some books in the dresser. She reaches for them but they are too high. HARETON helps her. He looks over her shoulder as he reads. He comments on the pictures. She ignores him. He studies her hair. He reaches out gently to touch a curl. She whirls around and tells him to keep his hands off or she'll go upstairs. HARETON takes the rebuke. Finally, he whispers to ELLAN who speaks to CATHY:

"Mr. Hareton would be much obliged if you would read to us Ma'am."

She scathingly attacks them and HARETON, fed up, takes his gun and goes out. MR. LOCKWOOD is the tenant of the Grange. He arrives with a certain amount of baggage at the Grange where NELLY DEAN receives him. Naturally this man is a complete stranger to the saga of the two families and houses, and we see through him some of the strangeness of the passions that animate all the characters.

The next day he is walking about Thresholms Park in boots and gaiters inspecting the land and he finds that it is snowing. He looks at his watch and decides to go to Wuthering Heights which is nearer than returning to the Grange. When he arrives and knocks on the door JOSEPH yells through the door, explaining that the master is out in the barn. JOSEPH won't open the door. The dogs bark. Finally, HARETON appears having heard the commotion and leads him to HEATHCLIFF in the barn. HEATHCLIFF comes out of the door and studies him. LOCKWOOD inquires if he is MR. HEATHCLIFF; then HEATHCLIFF nods, and LOCKWOOD introduces himself. HEATHCLIFF is a pretty surly number to come up against for the first time. HEATHCLIFF barely responds except to say walk in. He only opens the gate grudgingly. He calls JOSEPH to take the horse and take him in to the house. As he goes in the door, LOCKWOOD sees the carving over the lintel

*The coming
of the outsiders*

"1500 HARETON EARNshaw" and other carvings. He looks around the room with curiosity. A collection of savage dogs growl and observe LOCKWOOD. HEATHCLIFF goes out cursing JOSEPH who is long in coming. The dogs now are ill at ease. They then attack and back him into a corner when he tries to placate them by making faces and winking. ZILLAH comes sailing in with a frying pan laying about the dogs with it. HEATHCLIFF comes in and ask what's the matter. LOCKWOOD complains about the dogs. He is told they won't hurt anyone who behaves himself. Go into the kitchen. HEATHCLIFF goes out. There is an immense fire and a table laid for an evening meal. CATHY is sitting there. She stares.

"Tough weather, Mrs. Heathcliff, I had hard work to make your servants hear me."

CATHY replies with silence and composure which amazes and disturbs LOCKWOOD. HARETON tells him to sit down, HEATHCLIFF will be back soon, LOCKWOOD tries to make conversation, with little response. When CATHY reaches for an implement on the mantelpiece. LOCKWOOD tries to help, she turns and snaps I don't want your help. She puts on an apron:

"Were you asked to tea?"

He replies,

"I shall be glad to have a cup."

"Were you asked,"

she says, "No, I thought you were the proper person to ask."

She ignores this. HARETON stands before the fire handsome but roughly dressed and unshaven. He stares hostilely at LOCKWOOD.

HEATHCLIFF comes in. LOCKWOOD protests that the weather will drive him to seek hospitality for an hour or so. HEATHCLIFF points out that this is a major snow storm and that he runs a risk of being lost in the marshes. LOCKWOOD suggests that someone can guide him and stay at the Grange till morning. HEATHCLIFF replies bluntly that no one could

"Are you going to make the tea?"

he menaces at Cathy.

"Is he to have any?"

"Make the tea."

he snarls. They pull up to the table and sit down to high tea with talkturn

*Comedy of
the confederates.*

breeding. LOCKWOOD trying to make conversation refers to CATHY as HEATHCLIFF'S amiable lady wife. HEATHCLIFF sneers, and makes him realize that MRS. H. is dead this is obviously the wife of the rough young man. He looks at him and sees him drinking his tea out of a basin noisily and eating bread with dirty hands like a savage.

"Mrs. Heathcliff is my daughter in law," replies HEATHCLIFF. Whereupon LOCKWOOD turns to HARETON and compliments him on the delicate beauty of his wife. HARETON flushes and looks as if he is about to attack LOCKWOOD. He mutters in thick Yorkshire:

"She's nowt to do with me."

HEATHCLIFF laughs.

"Is he your son then?"

"Assuredly not."

"My name is Hareton Earnshaw," growls HARETON.

"...and you'd better respect it," and he glares at LOCKWOOD. After tea in silence and hostility, LOCKWOOD gets up to look at the weather. It is dark and snowing and the wind is blowing drifts. LOCKWOOD asks again for a guide. HEATHCLIFF orders HARETON to drive the sheep into the barn so they won't be covered up. JOSEPH feeds the dogs, then he criticizes CATHY who threatens him with witchcraft. JOSEPH a pious fellow, trembles with horror, and goes off.

LOCKWOOD approaches CATHY and asks for her directions home. He learns in curt sentences that she cannot help, but to tell him to take the same road back. She cannot go, HARESHAW, ZILLA and JOSEPH won't be allowed to go.

"Then I will have to stay the night," he announces. HEATHCLIFF says he hopes it will be a lesson. If he wants to stay, he'll have to share a bed with HARETON or JOSEPH, LOCKWOOD says he'll sleep in the chair. HEATHCLIFF says,

"No stranger will roam free in his house."

LOCKWOOD offended and insulted. Walks out. He grabs a lantern from the stable where Joseph is. Inside he overhears HARETON offering to accompany him. HEATHCLIFF telling him to go to hell and CATHY cursing HEATHCLIFF hoping he never finds another tenant. JOSEPH comes running in saying,

"master, master, he's stolen the lantern."

HEATHCLIFF jumps up and sets the dogs on him, they bring LOCKWOOD down. He

is brought back in. ZILLAH then looks after him reviving him and announcing she has orders to show him a bed, leads him upstairs and unlocks a room saying not to tell anyone. She's only been here a year and there are strange goings on.

LOCKWOOD find himself in a simply furnished room, a chair and oak chest and a table and a wardrobe. The bed is built into the window sill with the effect of a closet with sliding doors. He comes up and observes a pile of books and finds carving on the wood panels. CATHERINE EARNSHAW, then CATHERINE HEATHCLIFF then CATHERINE LINTON. He undresses and gets into the bed sliding back the panels. He picks up a book and sees CATHERINE EARNSHAW, Her Book. He looks in and sees a handwritten entry. "HEATHCLIFF and I cannot live without one another...etc." LOCKWOOD lies back thinking with a puzzled expression on his face, blows out the candle and prepares to go to sleep. The wind means; the snow falls; there is a sound of tapping. LOCKWOOD drops off. The candle holder falls off the stand..poltergeist..like events begin. The chair and table start to rock. LOCKWOOD sits bolt upright. There is a tapping at the window. LOCKWOOD assumes it is a branch driven by the wind. He tries to open the window. It is fastened permanently shut. A panel of glass is cracked. He pushes it out. He reaches out. He gulps with horror, his hand is held at the wrist by a small white feminine hand CATHERINE's voice says,

"Let me in, let me in."

"Who are you,"

says LOCKWOOD struggling to free his hand.

"Catherine Linton,"

she replies.

"I'm come home. I've lost my way on the moors."

He catches a glimpse of her death mask face, he rubs her hand on the glass fragments in the rim to make her let go. The ghost of CATHERINE lets go and set up a wail. LOCKWOOD piles up books against the gap. The hand pushes against the books. He lets out a scream of terror, and leaps out of bed:

"I'll never let you in if you beg for twenty years."

The voice on the wind says,

"I've wandered for twenty years."

It drifts away.

HEATHCLIFF comes bursting in with a light:

"God damn you Lockwood, who let you in here?"

"Zillah".

"Are you dying or what justifies this scream?"

Very excited LOCKWOOD explains the place is haunted, ghosts and goblins are swarming all over the place. HEATHCLIFF:

"Nonsense go back to sleep".

"But there's a ghost she spoke, she called herself Catherine something and she's wandering the earth for twenty years".

he asserts.

HEATHCLIFF becomes very upset. He seizes LOCKWOOD and yells at him:

"How dare you?"

He is overcome with the emotion of CATHY'S remembrance. He gives the candle to LOCKWOOD and tells him to finish the night in his room. He is too drunk and it is nearly dawn. LOCKWOOD doesn't want to sleep anywhere. He'll go downstairs to walk around. Looking for his way out, LOCKWOOD happens to turn and see HEATHCLIFF getting into the closet bed and wrench open the lattice and call out

"Come in, Cathy. Oh! please come in my darling, my life, Catherine, come at last."

It is day, the snowstorm has stopped the snow lies on the ground. Transforming all. LOCKWOOD arrives at the Grange where they welcome him having given him up for lost. He comes down later to a hot lunch and invites Mrs. Dean to sit with him. He questions her about Wuthering Heights and the people there. Her voice recounting fades out as we dissolve to.....

The Heights, another day in the kitchen, CATHY is peeling vegetables. LOCKWOOD looking in is accosted by HARRISON who watches him like a watchdog. He ask for MR. HEATHCLIFF who will be back for lunch. He comes in. He nonchalantly comes up to CATHY and drops a note in her lap. She cries:

"That's that."

and checks it away. He explains it is a letter from NELLY. She dives for it, but HARRISON gets it first and says HEATHCLIFF should see it first. CATHY buries her face in her hands and sobs silently out of frustration. HARRISON finally relents and gives it to her by dropping it beside her. She takes it up eagerly and questions him about NELLY. She cannot write for lack of materials she has no books even. HEATHCLIFF burnt them. She turns to

HARETON,

8 "I once found some books in your room, what for?
you are like a magpie collecting silver?"

She mocks him. LOCKWOOD chides her pointing out that HARETON obviously wants to learn and is making efforts and she should not mock him. She mocked his beginning efforts. LOCKWOOD leaves her and looks out for HEATHCLIFF administering a reproof for her behaviour. HARETON leaves. When LOCKWOOD turns round, HARETON has come in again with his books and given them to her. She refuses them now, because they remind her of him. She takes up one and mocks his halting reading and accent. It is cruel. HARETON is hurt and angry, he slaps her, he thrown them on the fire. He runs out full of hurt and nearly knocks over HEATHCLIFF. to HEATHCLIFF LOCKWOOD announces that he is going to London for the remainder of the lease, he can't take the winter. He assures rent payments to HEATHCLIFF'S suspicious response.

HEATHCLIFF is at the table where he tries to conjure up CATHY'S spirit through the glass. He has no success. The wind calls his name. He runs outside. He walks on the moor in the moonlight. His name moans on the wind. In silhouette we see him running along.

Cut to the Grange, A knock at the door. The door opens to reveal NELLY surprised to see HEATHCLIFF:

"Pack your things and go over to the Heights to live
from now on."

She dissolves in joy. Cut to.

Wuthering Heights, NELLY and CATHY embrace, she shows her a bag of her belongings she has brought including several books.

HEATHCLIFF saying to HARETON and all the other: "I want the house to myself; you all stay in the kitchen." He slams the door. HARETON flops in a chair, he dozes off in front of the fire. Cut to HEATHCLIFF in the parlour, trying his spiritualist experiences. He is studying a book and trying to invoke spirits to command CATHY'S. He jumps up as poltergeist banging is heard. He is trying to force CATHY'S spirit to manifest itself in visual form.

Another day, Cut to CATHY studying HARETON asleep. She remarks that he is like a carthorse. He works, eats, sleeps. What a blank mind he must have. He never speaks.

"You know why,"

says Nelly,

"because you have shamed into silence. You have been very cruel."

CATHY tries to justify her behaviour. She then takes one of her books and places it near HARETON so that it is a gift. He is looking through the slits of his eyes but he does not move.

Out to kitchen - another day. CATHY is livelier and healthier. She sits sewing. HARETON comes in. He lights a clay pipe and sits down. CATHY ventures to speak to him:

"I've found out, Hareton, that I want...that I'm glad... that I should like you to be my cousin, now, if you had not grown so cross and so rough."

He ignores her. She repeats his name.

"Get off with you"

he says. She approaches and takes his pipe away:

"Let me take that pipe away."

He takes another. She pleads that he must listen she can't talk through clouds of tobacco.

"Go to the devil and let me be,"

he says. She refuses and struggles to account for her previous behaviour. He wants nothing to do with her pride and mocking ways. NELLY comments trying to mediate. They both bring out their secret hurts. HARETON has taken her side against HEATHCLIFF. She doesn't know this. She goes over to shake hands, sticks out her hand. He ignores her. Finally, she comes back and quickly bends down and kisses him. HARETON blushes; he is completely nonplussed. She wraps up a book into a little present and gives it to NELLY to give to him. With a message that she will teach him to read or go to her room and never speak to him again. HARETON ignores the package then opens it when he thinks he is not observed; he is suddenly very gentle. CATHY has stolen up on him.

"Forgive me and be my friend,"

she says. He,

"May, you'll be ashamed of me and the more you know me the more you'll regret it."

She takes the book and she starts to teach him to read. JOSEPH walks in looks at them horrified and not believing

HEATHCLIFF is standing by himself by the house but he behaves as if there is someone with him. He then walks along off into the moors. We see flash frames of CATHY a ghostly face and figure appearing momentarily in tree stumps, stones, and everywhere he looks. He moves rapidly led from one

girl chases
boy

image disappearing to another. He is never quite sure that it is there.

Another day HARETON is making a place in the garden to plant some flowers under CATHY'S direction. The garden belongs to JOSEPH. At dinner later HEATHCLIFF is seated JOSEPH comes in and accuses them. HARETON explains. CATHY chips in and says it's her fault. HEATHCLIFF explodes. She replies,

"You shouldn't grudge a few yards of earth when you've taken all my land."

"Your land, you insolent slut. You never had any."

He replies. CATHY is in full defiance returning his angry glare:

"And my money."

Silence. She continues,

"And Hareton's land and Hareton's money. I have made friends with Hareton and I shall tell him what you've been about all these years."

HEATHCLIFF goes white with anger. He gets up as if he is going to assault CATHY. She challenges him,

"..if you strike me, Hareton will strike you."

He rages;

"Hareton will throw you out of the room or I'll strike him to hell, you damned witch. Get out I'll kill her if she comes into my sight again."

HARETON tries to get her to go. She challenges,

"He'll not obey, you wicked man and he'll soon detest you as much as I do."

HARETON begs her to stop. Meanwhile HEATHCLIFF has lunged for her and grabbed her by the hair. HARETON grabs his hand and her hair and matches his strength to restrain HEATHCLIFF and quietly asks HEATHCLIFF not to hurt her. They glare at one another. He lets go. He warns her that if HARETON returns her love he will be turned out to fend for himself. HARETON does not like her defiance and tells her so. She argues with him, but he is wiser and surer. Both their eyes are the same as they look at one another. Then at HEATHCLIFF. They leave. He turns to NELLY;

"Look at me, Nelly."

He explains how he is in triumph over his enemies, can destroy both their houses, he is poised for revenge:

"But suddenly I don't care."

He explains that when he looks at CATHY and HARETON, each in his different way reminds him of CATHY. He doesn't eat or drink consciously anymore. He is beginning to see CATHY in every tree, stone, and finally in their two faces. He will live but he has one wish and he is convinced it will be fulfilled. He suddenly becomes rigid he sees something. NELLY are we two alone. Why yes. Is there no other person in this room. Then I am mad or else. We see his pov. and we see CATHY's ghost materialising in front of his eyes. He stares. She slowly disappears. HEATHCLIFF is suddenly very happy. He goes out of the house. He walks along following her image in the dusk.

Next morning at breakfast, they all look up to see HEATHCLIFF come in after an all night vigil. He is transformed, his expression removed. They look at one another. He sits down to eat then sees a face at the window, gets up and goes out.

Later NELLY questions him. He says to keep the others away. From Hell he is within sight of heaven. If she leaves him alone, she will neither see nor hear anything to frighten her, if she refrains from prying.

HEATHCLIFF goes into a spiritualist session. NELLY talks to the others about his condition,,that he neither eats or sleeps. They are inclined to leave him alone. WHEN NELLY goes into him. He asks for MR.GREEN to be sent to him - his lawyer. He wishes he could annihilate his property off the face of the earth. And NELLY is it morning or afternoon? It is morning, replies NELLY. She sees his restless changed face. She remarks that his life of revenge is unchristian, perhaps now he would like to seek forgiveness and ask her to send for a minister of some denomination. HEATHCLIFF laughs,

(w.w) "Nelly, I'm obliged to you for reminding me to tell you/I wish to be buried. It is to be carried to the churchyard in the evening... you and Hareton may accompany me. I want no minister of any sort and nothing need be said over my burial. Only make sure that the sexton does as I have instructed him concerning the placing of my coffin next to Catherine's. I have nearly attained my heaven, nothing else matters. "

NELLY wants to say something. He motions her to be quiet and leave him. His face lights up as he seems to see a vision on the wall, but no, she sees

that he is looking at something in front of the wall. She backs out in fear.

MR. GREEN is seen to leave, passing in the kitchen on the way out, he comments about HEATHCLIFF to NELLY. He asks if he is of sane mind because he has just made his will. NELLY thinks so, trying to puzzle what it means. HEATHCLIFF calls. NELLY doesn't want to go in; she stands at the door to speak,

"I'm going to bed, Nelly."

she decides to send for the doctor. When he comes HEATHCLIFF has locked himself in, tells them all to go to Hell. Inside he is conducting a rite. He gets into bed. There is a storm that evening. In the morning NELLY comes in to find HEATHCLIFF dead. With the rain blowing on him through the open window. NELLY sends for the doctor.

The funeral is a local scandal, he is thought of as a witch. HARRISON is the only one at his grave mourning.

In the dusk a shepherd boy his dog and a few sheep must go through a gate or pass. The sheep won't go. The dog oranges, the boy is suddenly frightened then he sees: HEATHCLIFF and CATHY's ghosts ~~are~~ hovering. The boy leads his sheep away. He finds refuge in a nearby farmhouse. CATHY and HEATHCLIFF are a local ghost story.

MR. LOCKWOOD is riding towards the Heights. He comes in, the place is gay and open, changed. He comes to the door through the open window. He sees CATHY teaching HARRISON how to read. He works away, she corrects him lovingly. He corrects himself, he asks for a kiss for being so good. HARRISON is shaven, graced, dressed, in short civilized. CATHY has bloused. He reads again and claims numerous kisses as a reward; LOCKWOOD sneaks round to the kitchen and greets NELLY. He asks for her master to settle unfinished business. She assures it is the rent. She says he must settle with MR. HEATHCLIFF. He is amazed. HEATHCLIFF is dead you see, in fact I am looking after them. They have inherited the two estates you know. They are to be married and I am so happy.

CATHY and HARRISON walk into the garden arm in arm - two lovers in love. Camera pans off to the vista shot of the moors.

END - TITLES.