

Emily Bronte's Wuthering Heights: Chapter by Chapter Questions

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Chapter One:

1. Describe Mr. Lockwood's first visit to Wuthering Heights.

Answer: Mr. Lockwood goes and introduces himself to the landlord whose name is Heathcliff. Heathcliff receives his visitor very coldly. When Heathcliff leaves the sitting room for a little while, Lockwood finds himself in the company of a few dogs belonging to Heathcliff. Lockwood starts to make faces at the dogs, which feeling provoked, attack him. A kitchen-maid, hearing Lockwood's cry for help, comes and rescues him. Heathcliff takes the incident lightly when he returns to the room. He then treats the visitor to a little wine as a sign of his hospitality. Presently, Lockwood leaves after making up his mind inwardly to pay another visit to this strange house and its strange owner.

2. Who is the narrator of this chapter? What does he tell us about himself?

Answer: The narrator of this chapter is called Mr. Lockwood who describes himself as a 'misanthropist'. He also tells us about his strange behavior towards a woman with whom he had fallen in love. He says that he has now come to the countryside and is staying as a tenant in a house called Thrushcross Grange.

3. How is Heathcliff introduced in this chapter and what is Lockwood's first impression about him?

We learn that Heathcliff is the owner of Thrushcross Grange. He strikes Lockwood as a very reserved kind of man who receives his visitor sullenly. Heathcliff is described as a dark-skinned man looking like a gipsy, but dressed like a gentleman or a country squire, rather slovenly, but with an erect and handsome figure; and rather morose. Lockwood's first impression of Heathcliff is positive in that he finds him to be very intelligent on the subjects on which he talks.

4. How is Joseph introduced in this chapter?

A reference is made in this chapter to a servant called Joseph who is an old man, though quite strong. Joseph is as cold towards Lockwood as his master,

Heathcliff. He expresses a 'peevish displeasure' and shows a 'sour' expression on his face on having to escort Lockwood into the family sitting-room.

5. There is a vein of humor running throughout this chapter. Explain.

In spite of the gloomy atmosphere of Wuthering Heights and the sullenness of the owner, Lockwood describes the whole visit in a light-hearted manner, and his account of his encounter with the dogs is especially amusing.