

Wuthering Heights

Emily Brontë

Why does Heathcliff ask Catherine both to torment him and never leave him?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	Heathcliff asks Catherine to haunt him
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Chapter XVI
START	I know that ghosts have wandered on earth.
END	I cannot live without my life! I cannot live without my soul!
PASSAGE ID	sec-wh-03

THE MOVE

Interpret contradiction as grief refusing ordinary categories

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Heathcliff's grief cannot fit ordinary categories of comfort or release. He asks Catherine to haunt and torment him because continued pain feels preferable to separation; contradiction becomes the only language large enough for the loss.

MARK

Underline every request Heathcliff makes of Catherine after death. Circle the requests that seem mutually incompatible. Star the line where torment and presence become more desirable than peace.

NOTICE

- Why would a grieving person normally want release from pain?

- What does Heathcliff value more than relief?
- How does contradiction reveal the extremity of attachment rather than simple confusion?

THINK

Answer provisionally: Why does Heathcliff ask Catherine both to torment him and never leave him? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: Why does Heathcliff ask Catherine both to torment him and never leave him? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	Heathcliff asks for torment because pain with Catherine's presence is preferable to peace without her. Grief breaks ordinary categories in which comfort and relief would be desirable.
EVIDENCE	Use his requests to haunt, drive him mad, remain with him, or deny him rest while refusing separation.
WATCH FOR	Do not call the contradictions incoherent. Explain the value that makes both sides consistent: presence matters more than relief.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

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Why does Heathcliff ask Catherine both to torment him and never leave him?

START ANCHOR	I know that ghosts have wandered on earth.
END ANCHOR	I cannot live without my life! I cannot live without my soul!

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Underline every request Heathcliff makes of Catherine after death. Circle the requests that seem mutually incompatible.

Star the line where torment and presence become more desirable than peace.

2. NOTICE - Why would a grieving person normally want release from pain? What does Heathcliff value more than relief? How does contradiction reveal the extremity of attachment rather than simple confusion?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: Why does Heathcliff ask Catherine both to torment him and never leave him?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.