

Abstract

The purpose of this thesis is to consider the Changelings in *Wuthering Heights*. In *Wuthering Heights*, We can see the combination of the changelings, which can also serve as some means of describing the characters and personalities. What are the changelings? The changeling is a fairy tale from Ireland.

It is typically described as being the offspring of a fairy, troll, elf or other legendary creature that has been secretly left in the place of a human child. Sometimes the term is also used to refer to the child who was taken. The apparent changeling could also be a stock or fetch, an enchanted piece of wood that would soon appear to grow sick and die.¹

Catharine's death is centered in the story. The moment of her death is not only expressed as a death, but also as the separation of the body and spirit. Her dead body is described as a beautiful wooden doll which a fairy left instead of Catherine. Added to this affair, there are a lot of concerns about Changelings in *Wuthering Heights*.

By telling the story in application of changelings, the characters and personalities or the "inside" and "outside" of them can be clearly depicted. We may say the main theme of *Wuthering Heights* is about death rather than about love. The death may be said to be a rite of passage, so Emily Bronte seemed to try to transform death into eternity of life. In the story, dual spirits in one's mind and its suffering are painted vividly and allegorically.

Moreover, it is said that *Wuthering Heights* gives a description of two or three generations. The moment of Catherine's death plays a role as the shift of the generations, which is colored by the anecdotal story of changelings. In the first generation, Mother Catherine, Edger, and Isabela appear and cause the tragic of the love affair. In the second generation, daughter Catherine, Hareton, and Linton take over from the first ones and construct the new realm without intention. Heathcliff destructed and constructed repeatedly though the plot as a kind of facilitator. Those characters appear as the changeling from act to act.

Finally, Heathcliff and a woman who seems Catherine came back to *Wuthering Heights* in the shape of the ghosts. Daughter Catherine and Hareton combined *Wuthering Heights* with *Thrushcross Grange* by the intelligence and charity which they shared each other though *Wuthering Heights* originated from nature and *Thrushcross Grange* is a symbol of books, religion and morals.

ⁱ The reference from Wikipedia