

→ 'Those deep black eyes! That smile, and ghastly paleness! It appeared to me, not Mr Heathcliff, but a goblin... Is he a ghoul, or a vampire?' -pg 385 (quote taken from Nelly's description of Heathcliff in his last days of life)

E.g. → '...my presence is as potent on his nerves, as a ghost; and I fancy he sees me often, though I am not near... he wakes and shrieks in the night by the hour... and calls you to protect him from me...' -pg 336 (quote taken from when Heathcliff is describing to Cathy the state of her husband of one week Linton.

'The intense horror of nightmare came over me.'

Lockwood

# Horror And Terror

Supernatural

'the country folks ... would swear on the Bible that he walks'

Nelly Dean

'Is he a ghoul or a vampire?'

Nelly Dean

Otherness

'I suppose that she wanted to get another proof that the place was haunted, at my expense.'

Lockwood

evil

On Victorian Gothic authors ... She

...they heap a succession of horrors upon the reader

Robert Hume

'...knocking my knuckles through the glass, and stretching an arm out to seize the importunate branch: instead of which, my fingers closed on the fingers of a little, ice-cold hand! The intense horror of nightmare came over me... As it spoke, I discerned, obscurely, a child's face looking through the window...' -pg29

# Females

Machbeth-like characters abound in Gothic fiction – if we look at the female characters we shall at once recognise the essential traits that were later to define Gothic women.

Manuel Aguirre

he's only half  
a man – not so  
much  
Isabella

Cathy chose a  
whip

Nelly Dean

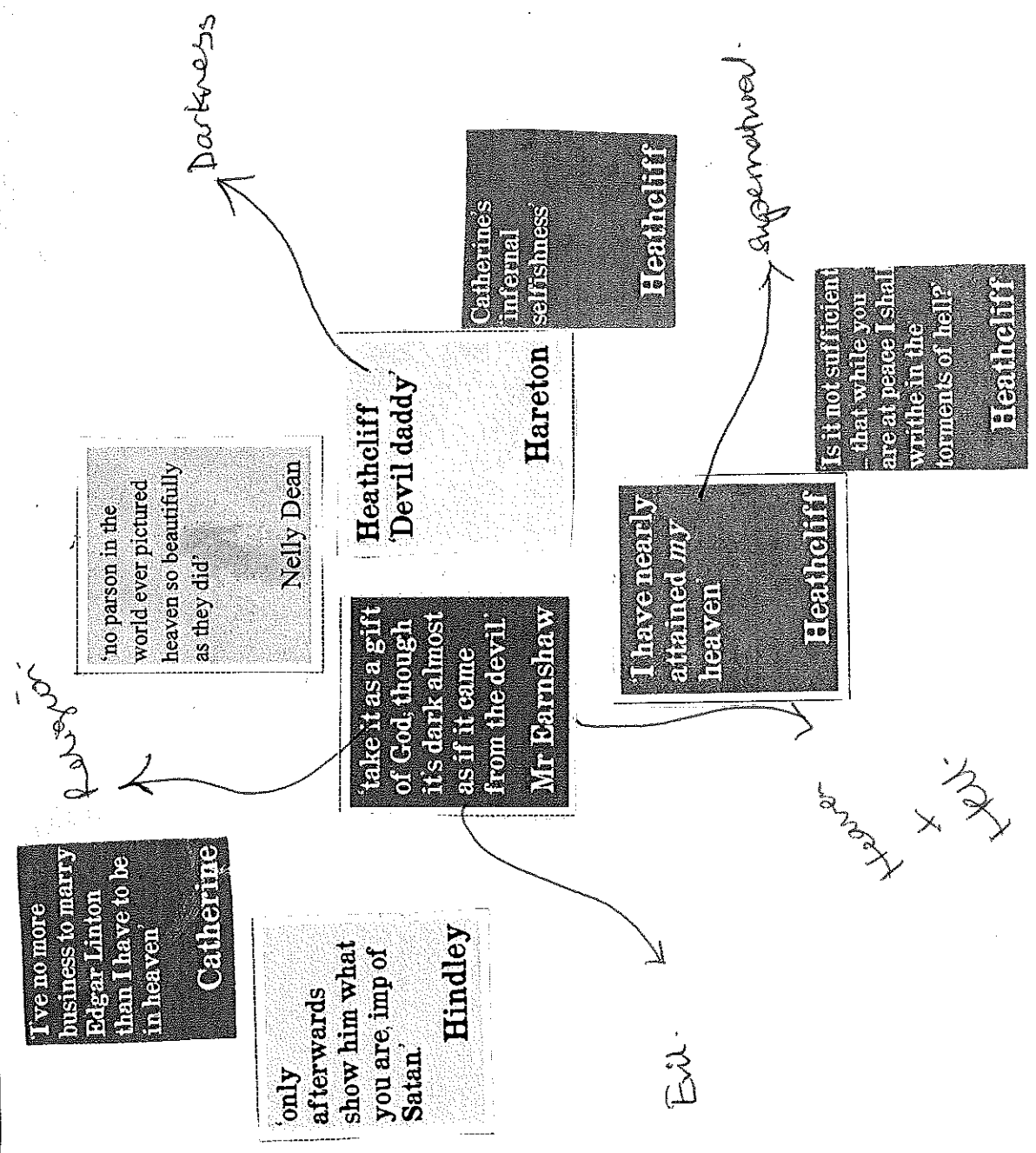
I had to tend  
them, and take  
on me the cares  
of a woman, at  
once I changed  
my ideas  
Nelly Dean

... In contrast, female Gothic locates the source of Terror in the present, in the possibility that the paternal protector is untrustworthy. Supernatural terrors are discovered to be illusions, fabricated by the heroine's imagination. Terror evaporates as the heroine discovers her true identity

Peter Otto

Heaven + Hell

Religion



# Entrapment

*mental + physical entrapment*

**'I wish I had light hair and fair skin... and had a chance at being as rich as he will be!'**  
**Heathcliff**

**Heathcliff 'an arid wilderness of furze and whinstone.'**  
**Catherine**

**Heathcliff is 'an unreclaimed creature without refinement, without cultivation'**  
**Catherine**

**'dark-skinned gypsy in aspect, in address and manners a gentleman'**  
**Lockwood**

**'It would degrade me to marry Heathcliff now'**  
**Catherine**

**'a half-civilised ferocity lurked yet in the depressed brows'**  
**Nelly Dean**

*Entrapment (physical)*

**'Take my colt, Gipsy, then!'**  
**Hindley**

*Sexual entrapment*

# Madness

'Be with me  
always - take  
any form -  
drive me mad!

Heathcliff

→ Haunted / madness.

# Supernatural

early in the book (within the first few chapters) were are provided with the eerie presence of a ghost

horror / terror

'my fingers closed  
on the fingers of a  
little, ice-cold  
hand.'

Lockwood

supernatural

Eyes they  
would not shut -  
they seemed to  
sneer at my  
attempts

Nelly Dean

'The intense horror  
of nightmare came  
over me.'

Lockwood

'And I pray one prayer -  
repeat it till my tongue  
stiffens - Catherine  
Earnshaw may not rest  
as long as I am living'

Heathcliff

The Gothic focuses on 'the abject'  
- the 'in-between...ambiguous...  
composite that breaks down the  
boundaries between self and  
other

Julie Kristeva

'Well, it is  
[haunted] -  
swarming with  
ghosts and  
goblins!'

Lockwood

'you said I killed  
you - haunt me,  
then!'

Heathcliff

'I suppose that she  
wanted to get another  
proof that the place was  
haunted, at my  
expense.'

Lockwood

→this ghost appears during a nightmare Lockwood has at his stay in Wuthering Heights. After this point this ghost does not appear through the rest of volume one. However as the book continues we are provided with the story of the ghost as well as reasoning behind its haunting a specific character -Heathcliff

Horror is associated with the  
male Gothic - it is a result of the  
persistence of the past.

Peter Otto

'...Catherin Earnshaw, may you not rest, as long as I am living!...haunt me...The murdered do haunt their murderers...I know that ghosts have wandered on earth. Be with me always - take any form - drive me mad!...I cannot live without my soul!' - pg199



# Conflict and Violence

Hindley swears he will reduce him [Heathcliff] to his right place.  
Catherine

I would not bear slapping and ordering, and so I let her know.  
Nelly Dean

'thundered Heathcliff 'the tyrant'  
Nelly Dean

I pray that he may break your neck, take him, and he damned, you beggarly interloper!  
Hindley

Heathcliff promised that I should be Edgar's proxy in suffering.  
Isabella

Heathcliff's violent nature  
Nelly Dean

*Violence*



# Darkness /evil

Betrayal/  
Revenge

Violence

The tyrant grinds  
down his slaves  
and they don't  
turn against him;  
they crush those  
beneath them.  
Heathcliff

Treachery and  
violence are a  
just return for  
treachery and  
violence!  
Hindley

I've fought  
through a  
bitter life since  
I last heard  
your voice.  
Heathcliff

"Judas! Traitor!" I  
ejaculated "You  
are a hypocrite,  
too, are you?"  
Nelly Dean

"I seek no revenge on  
you," replied Heathcliff,  
less vehemently. "That's  
not the plan."  
Heathcliff

"I really thought him  
not vindictive: I was  
deceived completely, as  
you will hear"  
Nelly Dean

We'll see if one tree  
won't grow as crooked  
as another, with the  
same wind to twist it."  
Heathcliff

"My old enemies have  
beat me; now would be  
the precise time to revenge  
myself on their  
representatives."  
Heathcliff

"If Catherine had  
wished to return, I  
intended shattering  
their great glass  
panes to a million  
fragments."  
Heathcliff

The greatest  
punishment we  
could invent for  
her was to keep  
her separate  
from him.  
Nelly Dean

Revenge  
+  
Betrayal

On *Wuthering Heights*

Passionate love, uncontrollable love – the main motifs of WH – are associated with a certain primitivism, a certain bestiality, a certain kind of brutality.

David Punter

'He'll love and hate equally under cover'

Lockwood

'he's more myself than I am'

Catherine

'Be with me always – take any form – drive me mad!'

Heathcliff

you must forgive me, for I struggled only for you!

Heathcliff

'Come in! Come in!' he sobbed. 'Cathy do come. Oh do – once more!'

Heathcliff

'I meditated this plan – just to have one glimpse of your face'

Heathcliff

'My love for Heathcliff resembles the eternal rocks beneath.'

Catherine

'My love for Linton is like foliage in the woods: time will change it, I'm well aware'

Catherine

'picturing in me a hero of romance'

Heathcliff

'I cannot live without my life! I cannot live without my soul!'

Heathcliff

'Whatever our souls are made of, his and mine are the same.'

Catherine

'My heart's darling!'

Heathcliff

To Cathy "Loving!" cried I, as scornfully as I could utter the word.'

Nelly Dean

Although, it could be said that there is something greater, something grander in a submission to passionate love than in going along with social conventions.

David Punter

On *Wuthering Heights*

Nature  
'overlapping'

never ending love

opposites

romance

violence

death

False love

revenge/betrayal

Supernatural

madness

Nature  
'Seasonal'

love



"Blessed release" - how Nelly views Catherine's death. She sees death as "a repose that neither earth nor hell can break;"

Mrs Earnshaw was ready to fling it out of doors  
Nelly Dean

→ *confrontation*

He struggled long to keep up with Catherine in her studies  
Nelly Dean

→ *lack of eye to educate social class*

a shower of glass drops hanging in silver chains from the centre and shimmering with little soft tapers  
Heathcliff

his manner was even dignified quite divested of roughness  
Nelly Dean

It would degrade me to marry Heathcliff now  
Catherine

she is so immeasurably superior to them - to everybody on earth, is she not, Nelly?  
Heathcliff

I was frightened of the child  
Heathcliff  
Nelly Dean

where did he come from, the little dark thing, harboured by a good man to his bane? muttered Superstition  
Nelly Dean

asking how he could fashion to bring that gipsy brat into the house  
Nelly Dean

Hindley swears he will reduce him [Heathcliff] to his right place  
Catherine

→ *social mobility*

→ *marginalised*

→ *oppression*

Hindley drove him from their company to the servants  
Nelly Dean

the petted things, we did despise them!  
Heathcliff

Why did you betray your own heart, Cathy?

→ *class conflict*

→ *social mistick*

→ *social norms & "other" upbringing*

→ *matrices*

"Because misery and degradation, and death, and nothing that God or Satan could inflict would have parted us, you, of your own will, did it." Heathcliff to Cathy

# Supernatural

I was  
superstitious  
about dreams  
then, and am  
still'  
Nelly Dean

'my fingers  
closed on the  
fingers of a  
little, ice-cold  
hand'  
Lockwood

'you said I  
killed you -  
haunt me  
then'  
Heathcliff

And I pray one  
prayer - repeat it  
till my tongue  
stiffens - Catherine  
Earnshaw may not  
not rest as long as I  
am living'  
Heathcliff

'I... wondered how any one could ever imagine unquiet slumbers for the sleepers in that quiet earth' - Lockwood at the graves of Catherine, Linton and Heathcliff

Darkness and Evil

Death

Madness  
MOROR and Terror

Madness

# Blood

\* "Oh, damnation! I will have it back; and I'll have his gold too; and then his blood; and hell shall have his soul! It will be ten times blacker with that great than ever it did before!" (13.63) (Hindley loses everything to Heulhelg)

\* "I pulled it's wrist on to the broken pane, and rubbed it to and fro till the blood ran down and soaked the bed-clothes"  
part 1 chapter 3.

\* "His adversary had fallen senseless with excessive pain, and the flow of blood that gushed from an artery, or a large vein". - part 2 chapter 3.



# Setting

Gothic lit stresses an atmosphere of mystery, horror and dread. The plot involves hidden secrets which threaten the protagonist.

"But it was one of their chief amusements to run away to the moors in the morning and remain there all day"

descriptive of the atmospheric tumult to which its station is exposed in stormy weather.  
**Lockwood**

"I've lost my way on the moors"

"On that bleak hill top the earth was hard with a black frost, and the air made me shiver through every limb"

Semantic field in WH and TG

WH : domestic/civilised  
"culinary utensils", "roasting, boiling, baking", "huge fireplace", "glitter of copper saucepans"

Battle – "villainous" "old guns"  
"horse-pistols"

TG – wealth and power – "crimson, "pure-white", "silver chains"

Pain – "screaming", "shrieking" and "yelping".

"Hell within a heaven" (Kinder and Harrison)

## Death quotes

Because misery, and degradation and death, and nothing that God or Satan could inflict would have parted us, you, of your own will, did it. I have not broken your heart—you have broken it; and in breaking it, you have broken mine.

I cannot live without my life! I cannot live without my soul!

I forgive what you have done to me. I love my murderer—but yours! How can I?

Last night, I was on the threshold of hell. To-day, I am within sight of my heaven. I have my eyes on it: hardly three feet to sever me!