

Romanticism in Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights* (1847) and Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* (1850): A Comparative Study

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Abstract

This thesis embarks on a comprehensive exploration of Romanticism within the literary realms of Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights* and Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*. Employing a descriptive-analytic approach, the study delves into the thematic elements central to the Romantic Movement, unraveling intricate portrayals of human nature, love, passion, revenge, sin, guilt, individualism, and the eternal struggle between good and evil. Beyond thematic exploration, the study unpacks the author's masterful use of Romantic techniques. The windswept moors of *Wuthering Heights* and the haunting imagery of the scarlet letter provide potent examples of the Gothic aesthetic, while recurring symbols whisper unspoken truths and underscore the novels' emotional resonance. The supernatural permeates narratives, blurring the lines between reality and imagination, and adding a layer of ambiguity that invites multiple interpretations.

Ultimately, this thesis argues that Bronte and Hawthorne, through their unique narratives and stylistic tools, offer profound insights into the human experience within the Romantic framework. By delving into the passionate depths of these beloved novels, the study also sheds

new light on the enduring power of Romanticism and its relevance to understanding the timeless questions of love, loss, and the struggle for self-definition.

Keywords: Descriptive analytic approach, Human nature, Romanticism, *The Scarlet Letter*, *Wuthering Heights*.