

Gothic Elements

~~Woman~~

Distressed Female:

Jane - locked in Red Room
abused by family

Tyrannical Male:

John is abusive

Castle Setting:

Mansion - Gateshead
Red Room (isolated)

Mystery & Suspense:

light above grave

Visions:

thinks she sees his ghost
a afraid/anxious Uncle Reed

Overwrought with Emotion:

Depressed/Suicidal

↓
Feisty

↓
Sadness/Loneliness

↓
Panic/Terror - passes out

Gothic language: "dread"

CHARACTERS:

- Mrs. Reed - Aunt by marriage; breaks promise to care for Jane like family; evil, cruel
- Eliza - headstrong + selfish - hides \$
- Georgiana - pretty, but spoiled - regarded well b/c she's pretty
- John - bully, spoiled, 14 yrs., gluttonous, cruel to animals
can do no wrong - mama's boy
- Ms. Abbot - calls her a "toad"
- Bessie - more nurturing

2013-14 Period 2

Entrapment/Escapism - literal & ~~metaphorical~~

figurative

Gateshead - literally entrapped
locked/confined - Red Room

Figuratively - no options

- living w/ cruel relatives
- doesn't want to live w/ poor relatives -
↳ comfort over freedom → this priority
- can't leave until she's a woman → changes

Escapism:

Figuratively - reads - Bird Book

↓
escapes through reading (birds + Gulliver's travels)

Her options:

- go to school.
- commit suicide

↳ can get an education
va fresh start.

Name: _____
 English 9H - Jane Eyre

The Victorian Female



Based on what you have learned about Victorian women, what traits do you anticipate them having? Consider Jane's character and whether or not she fits into the profile of a typical Victorian woman.

Victorian Trait	Does Jane Fit? (Y/N)	Evidence/Quote (include Page)
ignorant/ naive	N	→ aware of status/injustice → educated/intelligent
submissive/ meek	Y	→ sheltered/young
submissive/ meek	N	→ talks back to Cuz/Reed → fights injustice
passive	N	→ fights back
helpless- dependent	Y	→ no resources/ → young
helpless- dependent	N	→ strong-willed-relies → on herself-creates
proper/ sophisticated	Y	→ polished/ → mannery - pp110
proper/ sophisticated	N	→ refined + poised → lower class + feisty

Name: _____
 English 9H - Jane Eyre

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Victorian Trait	Does Jane Fit? (Y/N)	Evidence/Quote (include Page)
Submissive/ meek.	Y	→ not always in a position to speak up / intimidated by authority
proper / sophisticated	N	→ fights Reed / injustice
ignorant	Y	→ manners; polite, grew up in lavish home
passive	N	→ lower class / orphan
helpless	Y-naïve	→ not aware of Helen's disease sheltered (hospital seen world)
	N	→ educated / smart
	N	→ fights back / feisty
	Y	→ can't always control situation; limited resources young

N/2 → independent; makes her own choices + opportunities

Chapters 4 - 10Pd. 2Jane's Emotional Roller Coaster

After Final Encounter with Mrs. Reed:

threaten's R's rep - ^{emotionally liberated} than feels bad,

Upon Arriving At Lowood:

- sees Lowood as fresh start
 - aims to please + be liked

Upon Brocklehurst's Visit:

defected - B ruins her reputation +
 publicly shames her → she wants to die

As a Result of Miss Temple's Kindness:

- allows her to clear her name

Ch. 10: 😡 - excels @ school
 - finds some 😊 at Lowood

After Miss Temple Leaves...

- wants to leave → "a new servitude"
 - feels "trapped" @ Lowood
 - sad to see mother figure leave

6 yrs as student, 2 years as teacher

Chapters 4-10 (continued)

Characters:

- Mr. Brockelhurst:
- Intimidating - Jane fears
 - clergyman, treasurer, manager of Lowood
 - piece of "architecture" - "a black pillar"
 - narrow, rigid
 - nitpicks what's given to girls
 - hypocrite - orphans vs. daughters
 - orphans should sacrifice like martyrs
 - to feed them → starve souls
 - pushes modesty - cuts hair
 - ↳ Abuses power + calls it religious discipline
 - exposed following disease outbreak
 - shames Jane - calls her evil - tells others to shun her
 - "heathen + liar"

Miss Scatcherd:

- harsh
- targets Helen
- calls Helen a "slattern"
 - untidy woman
 - floozy / prostitute

Miss Temple: "full of goodness"

- kind - feeds girls "extras"
- upset by sickness @ school
- pretty / soft (opposite of Brock.)
- mother-figure

Chapters 4-10 (continued)

FOIL: A character whose traits are so opposite that of another character that he/she highlights the other character

Helen:

vs.

Jane:

-embraces traditional religion - preaches forgiveness
 - "softer side of religion"
 - love thy enemies -
 - endures punishment
 - "nurse animosity"
Eternal Optimist
 - death → avoid hardship & fewer chances to be sinful
 - reward in heaven
 - offers companionship for Jane + offers diff. views (Gentler view of God → compassionate)
 "Resurgam" - I will rise again

- Scrappy

- fights injustice

- questions religion

- can't

imagine

bagivite

John +

Motivation: find ^{Reed} 😊

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqG1Dh36-6s>

Name: _____
English 9H - Role of Religion in *Jane Eyre*

Essential Questions:

- What is the role of religions in society and/or an individual's life?
- What makes religion such a divisive issue?

- moral code
 - a set of guidelines to live by - provides comfort
 - to provide hope or solace (ex. after life)
 - to answer the unanswerable Qs in life.
 - keeps people unified / to keep in line

DIRECTIONS: Annotate the following song as you listen to it. What does the songwriter seem to be saying about the role of religion?

to justify wars/a cause/violence

"Laughing With" by Regina Spektor

No one laughs at God in a hospital
 No one laughs at God in a war
 No one's laughing at God when they're starving or freezing or so very poor

the less "stuff" people have, the more faith they may have

No one laughs at God when the doctor calls after some routine tests
 No one's laughing at God when it's gotten real late and their kid's not back from that party yet

reinforces what

No one laughs at God when their airplane starts to uncontrollably shake
 No one's laughing at God when they see the one they love hand in hand with someone else and they hope that they're mistaken
 No one laughs at God when the cops knock on their door and they say, "We've got some bad news, sir"
 No one's laughing at God when there's a famine, fire or flood

Brock preaches but not how he lives

But God can be funny
 At a cocktail party while listening to a good God-themed joke or
 Or when the crazies say he hates us and they get so red in the head you think that they're about to choke

God can be funny
 When told he'll give you money if you just pray the right way
 And when presented like a genie
 Who does magic like Houdini
 Or grants wishes like Jiminy Cricket and Santa Claus

calls Jane + liar + says she's going to Hell

God can be so hilarious
 Ha ha
 Ha ha

tone: sarcastic

No one laughs at God in a hospital
 No one laughs at God in a war
 No one's laughing at God when they've lost all they got and they don't know what for

No one laughs at God on the day they realize that the last sight they'll ever see is a pair of hateful eyes
 No one's laughing at God when they're saying their goodbyes

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No one's laughing at God in a war

No one's laughing at God when they're starving or freezing or so very poor

No one's laughing ~~at~~ God
No one's laughing ~~at~~ God
No one's laughing ~~at~~ God
We're all laughing with God

→ implies a shared experience

Evangelical Protestantism

"The Evangelical party of the Church of England (the established church) flourished from 1789 to 1850, and during that time increasingly dominated many aspects of English life and, with its dissenting or nonconformist allies, was responsible for many of the attitudes today thought of as "Victorian." These heirs of the seventeenth-century Puritans believed:

that human beings are corrupt and need Christ to save them — thus the emphasis upon punitival morality and rigidity;

we need saving - can't save himself

-that the church hierarchy and church ritual are not as crucial to individual salvation as a personal conversion based on an emotional, imaginative comprehension of both one's own innate depravity and Christ's redeeming sacrifice — thus the emphasis upon an essentially Romantic conception of religion that stressed imagination, intensity, and emotion, and also upon the Bible, which could provide such imaginative experience of the truths of religion.

-that converted believers must demonstrate their spirituality by working for others — thus Evangelical zeal in missionary work, Bible societies, anti-slavery movements, and many social causes;

→ missionary work - to save others

-that the converted will be persecuted and that such persecution indicates the holiness of the believer (since Satan has much power over man and his world;— thus Evangelical willingness to speak on behalf of unpopular causes and, rather annoyingly to many contemporaries, to take any political, social, or religious opposition as a martyrdom;

-that God arranged history and the Bible, of which every word was held to be literally true, according to elaborate codes and signals, particularly in the form of typology, an elaborate system of foreshadowings (or anticipations) of Christ in the Old Testament — thus Evangelical emphasis upon complex integrated symbolism and upon elaborate interpretation of everything from natural phenomena and contemporary history to works of art and literature."

↳ literal interpretations of Bible

Excerpted from victorianweb.org

Jane Eyre and Helen Burns

"In *Jane Eyre*, Brontë often juxtaposes Jane with characters who espouse strikingly different religious beliefs. Where Jane is seen as searching and questioning, these other characters hold strongly to one form or another of Evangelical protestantism, the religion that Helen Burns espouses. The Evangelicals "stressed the reality of the 'inner life,' insisted on the total depravity of humanity (a consequence of the Fall¹) and on the importance of the individual's personal relationship with God and Savior." On her deathbed Helen speaks with Jane about both her depravity and her deep affinity with God.

Helen's Faith

"By dying young, I shall escape great sufferings. I had not quantities of talents to make my way very well in the world: I should have been continually at fault."

→ optimistic
↳ doesn't see herself as deserving

But where are you going to, Helen? Can you see? Do you know?"

"I believe; I have faith: I am going to God."

> 100% faith

"Where is God? What is God?"

My Maker and yours, who will never destroy what he created. I rely implicitly on his power, and confide wholly in his goodness: I count the hours till that eventful one arrives which shall restore me to him, reveal him to me."

"You are sure, then, Helen, that there is such a place as heaven; and that our souls can get to it when die?"

Helen: blind faith / blind obedience

Jane: questioning / dubious questions / explores

¹ Fall from grace; Adam & Eve eating the forbidden fruit

Jane = 😊 on earth: Motivation

It is easy to condemn Brocklehurst's religious doctrine, but here Brontë also undermines Helen's absolute and self-denying religious beliefs. Jane's questions may not plant any seeds of doubt within Helen, but the reader would be hard-pressed to miss her point. Helen seeks happiness in Heaven; Jane is determined to find hers here on Earth.

1. What role did religion serve for those in power during the Victorian Era?
 - to scare into obedience
 - to bring back strong moral code
2. How does it influence society's members?
 - hypocritical behavior
 - strict moral code

to justify power abuse

3. How do Helen Burns and Mr. Brocklehurst represent the different sides of religion in Jane Eyre?

Helen Burns	Mr. Brocklehurst
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - more pure/genuine - embodies rather than preaches - embodies ♡ forgiveness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - hypocritical, harsh, preaches - encourages piety to gain power

4. Jane turns to prayer and God during different times in her life. Is the reader supposed to see Jane as the epitome of morality? Why or why not?

No - not always perfect } she's a work in progress
 Yes → she's still a good person }

5. What does Brontë seem to be saying about religion in her portrayal of Mr. Brocklehurst?

Religious hypocrisy