

NAME: _____

JANE EYRE – DISCUSSION, CHAPTERS 11-13



"I could not help it; the restlessness was in my nature; it agitated me to pain sometimes... It is in vain to say human beings ought to be satisfied with tranquility; they must have action; and they will make it if they cannot find it.

Millions are condemned to a stiller doom than mine, and millions are in silent revolt against their lot."

Jane still seeks excitement

1. Annotate and interpret the above quote. What is Jane fighting against?

- social norms
- complacency
- gender roles

2. Based on this passage and your knowledge of Jane's character, how does she compare to the expectations held for Victorian women?

- not passive/submissive

3. How does she attempt to break out of her stagnation? Is she successful?

Finds new servitude but she's bored
stifled, stagnant

4. What possibilities exist that add excitement to her life?

Arrival of Rochester

NAME: _____

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- complacency - aka. settling
- gender roles

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Arrival of Rochester

5. What do we learn about Rochester? What is your impression of him?

Father left \$ to brother, Rowland
- an "arrangement" was made to secure
fortune Edward
- ended badly

died
a yr ago
Thornfield
Rob went to
Roch.

6. Explain which of the following Gothic elements come up at this point in the novel?

1. Setting in a castle - castle-like estate

2. An atmosphere of mystery and suspense -
R's past (why remorseful), Grace Poole? fire/
3rd Floor. creepy laugh

3. An ancient prophecy -

4. Omens, portent, visions -

Red Room, Gipsy/gypsy

5. Supernatural or otherwise inexplicable events -

Fire, laughter

6. High, even overwrought emotion -

Red Room, shame @ school, terror, panic-laughter
Passion

7. Women in distress -

Jane is struggling w/ ♥ + status

8. Women threatened by a powerful, impulsive or tyrannical male -

John → Brock → Roch abuses power over her

9. The metonymy of gloom and horror -

→ metaphor for... gusting wind, crazy laughter

10. The vocabulary of the gothic -

terror, panic, blood.

Adele's Story:

Care for Adele is his penance
done something bad
doubt's Adele is his child
J. identifies with Adele, both orphans

Laughter & Fire:

Strange laughter wakes Jane, feels presence
bed caught fire
whoever is laughing → started fire
Rochester covers it up, asks to keep quiet, says
it's servant Grace Poole
Rochester under-reacts that someone tried
to kill him
2nd time Jane saves Mr. R

Notes 12-15

- 3rd stop for Jane → bittersweet experience / pain romance
 Thornfield: "new servitude" - wants excitement
- stagnant, bored, stifled - craves excitement
 - mysterious - 3rd floor creepy laughter, mysterious owner, gothic estate
 - encounter w/ Rochester - falls off horse
 - arrival adds excitement
 - demanding reputation - never stays long

Rochester (Characterization & Family Background)

- ≈ 35 yrs old (20 yrs. older than Jane)
- criticizes Jane for her youth + inexperience
 - ↳ condescending / cocky / arrogant
 - rugged, not handsome but Jane finds him interesting after a while → EYES
 - brusque (rude)
 - battles wits w/ Jane - trying to "feel her out" & discovers that she's not meek + passive
 - 2nd encounter - more genial (wine) - moody - "changeable"

Fairfax → partly nature
 Pardon R's meekness → partly past (what happened?)

- Some "Arrangement" was made that led to R's bitterness + estrangement from family → Edward

Notes 12-15

Pd. 2

Thornfield:

Step #3 for Jane

love + pain → Thornfield

- mysterious owner - Rochester
- Jane feels confined until Roch. arrives
- Adele - French girl - ward of Rochester
- mysterious laughter - said to be Grace Poole

Rochester (Characterization & Family Background)

- ^{↳ Edward} demanding reputation - doesn't stay long
- got estate 9 yrs ago - inherited from estranged brother, Rowland

- An arrangement was made to secure his wealth when he was 21 - led to bitterness + family estrangement

- Fairfax says → partly his nature } why he's so moody
- partly his past

- condescending to Jane - for youth + inexperience

- rugged but not handsome

↳ Jane finds interesting
EYES

Name: _____
Jane Eyre – Ch. 14-16

Power Play



Rochester:	Jane:
- Moody – sometimes friendly, sometimes not →	-Jane: I have nothing to do with his mood swings
- Exerts Superiority/Masterfulness : commands her appearance before fire; tells her where to sit; fire shadows his face yet reveals her expressions; orders her to speak →	-sits silently and smiles “not a very complacent or submissive smile either”
- Puts her on the spot : Do you think I’m handsome →	-Jane says no – answers intelligently and without any shame; she’s hard to fluster
- Condescends : “ <i>I don’t wish to treat you like an inferior....I claim only such superiority as must result from twenty years’ difference in age and a century’s advance in experience</i> ” (142). →	-“ <i>Your claim to superiority depends on the use you have made of your time and experience</i> ” (142). & -allows him to verbally bully her because she is an employee/dependent/inferior
-Roch: you probably have “ <i>defects to counterbalance your few good points.</i> ” →	-Jane thinks: “ <i>And so may you</i> ” – he reads her thoughts.
-Makes allusions to past errors and the possibility of reform/redemption: “ <i>Remorse is the poison of life</i> ” →	Jane suggests redemption: “ <i>Repentance is said to be its cure, sir.</i> ”
-Roch: You don’t know anything...angry for “preaching” to him when she has not “ <i>passed the porch of life</i> ” →	-“ <i>You said error brought remorse, and you pronounced remorse the poison of its existence</i> ” (145) – she argues using his own words.
-Nearly declares love, then leaves without a word ←	Jane is eager to ask about fire: the risk of angering him seems to be a pleasant prospect for Jane.
-Returns with Blanche	<p><i>It little mattered whether my curiosity irritated him: I knew the pleasure of vexing and soothing him by turns; it was one I chiefly delighted in, and a sure instinct always prevented me from going too far: beyond the verge of provocation I never ventured; on the extreme brink I liked well to try my skill. Retaining every minute form of respect, every propriety of my station, I could still meet him in argument without fear of uneasy restraint: this suited both him and me (160). –She knows that she's able to manipulate Rochester...until</i></p> <p>POWER SHIFTS – learns about Blanche</p>

supernatural CNXN - can read each other

stimulate each other

Conflicts in their relationship - it's a forbidden love:

1. Age - ≈ 20 yrs difference

2. Class/Status - she's lower class
- she wouldn't fit in - no \$ of her own

* * Jane's Conflict: \heartsuit vs Head
Passion vs. Reason

How does she try to control her emotions? Is she successful in letting reason dominate her passion?

- Draws herself as compared to Blanche -
tries to talk herself out of \heartsuit
- tells herself it's not practical -

Ch. 17:

How does their power struggle continue?

He continues to exert power - parades Blanche
around
He forces her to attend parties despite discomfort

How does status become even more of an obvious issue?

Blanche - clearly high class.
conversations about governesses

What other conflicts arise in their relationship?

Beautiful + Status \Rightarrow Blanche

Conflicts in their relationship – it's a forbidden love:

1. Age - ~20yrs difference

2. Class/Status - she's lower class -
- she wouldn't fit in - no \$ of her own
♥ vs Head.



Jane's Conflict: Passion vs. Reason

How does she try to control her emotions? Is she successful in letting reason dominate her passion?

Draws self as compared to Blanche as reminder to self why loving him isn't practical
- talk herself out of ♥.

Ch. 17:

How does their power struggle continue?

- Disappears for a week
- Return w/ girlfriend
- requests presence @ parties
- trying to make her jealous

How does status become even more of an obvious issue?

- conversations about governesses

What other conflicts arise in their relationship?

Blanche.

Blanche Ingram

- trying to marry her off to secure fortune
- 24-25 yrs old - beautiful, dark hair + eyes
- beautiful voice
- haughty (on a high horse) + arrogant
- forward - approaches Roch.
- Vapid (empty), shallow, superficial, fake
- gold-digger
- men should be a foil for woman's beauty

Part 7

Blanche Ingram

- looking to marry for \$ (disgusted by Gypsy's news about R's fortune)
- 24/25 - single + beautiful
- ↳ had to secure fortune b/c brother inherited family \$
- haughty (arrogant)
- forward - approaches Roch - eager to "snag" high
- gold-digger
- beauty should be saved for Q - R. should not rival her beauty



Eliezer + Rebecca

↓
servant sent
to find wife for
Isaac

Jane vs. Blanche

- not jealous of Blanche -
- knows she's vapid (empty/shallow)
- she's beneath Jane in many ways

Jane about Blanche:

- "not genuine, poor mind barren ♡, not good, no opinion of her own"
- "she could not charm him" - (Jane watching R crash + burn (Blanche))
- "I can't understand how she could possibly fail → Jane knows how to get to him"

Yet R. will still marry for connections + status → that's how they're raised.

Jane vs. Blanche

- not jealous - she's beneath Jane
- watching Blanche flirt + fail
- ^{Jane} thinks ^{Blanche} she's "not genuine, poor mind, barren heart, not good, no opinion of her own"
- "she could not charm him"
 - ↳ Blanche
- would marry for rank + connections (198).
- can't understand how Blanche is failing

Class Discussion -- Ch. 14-19**Rochester:**

- p>l
- seems to enjoy attention of women
 - seems passionless about Jane
 - Doesn't spare Jane from humiliation and pain as they bash governesses – wants her to watch romance unfold with Blanche – why? Ego?
 - Knows Jane cares – follows her out of room when she's upset – requests her presence again
 - pretends to be gipsy to find out how Jane feels
 - inquires about Jane's loyalty

**Jane:**

- not jealous of Blanche (she's beneath jealousy) – too inferior
- thinks Blanche is showy & insincere; poor mind
- excited to watch Blanche try so hard yet fail to charm him
- notices that her efforts harden Roch's face
- does not blame them: they've been trained to marry for status

Blanche:

- pursuing aggressively
- approaches Rochester instead of waiting for him to approach
- scorns Adele – tells him to send away to school
- doesn't value looks – wants to be prettier than mate
- after his money – face sours when told bad news about Roch. fortune by the gipsy

Gothic Elements & The Mystery Continues

- Fire, laugh → Roch. blames fire on self - why is he covering up for Grace?
- Does she have something over him?
- Why is she still employed & get paid more
 - ↳ other servants drop conversation since Jane "doesn't know"

- Roch. comes + goes - why?

Mystery Guest #1

Mr. Mason - "old friend" - knows R. from dealings in Spanish Town, Jamaica, w. Indies

≈ 30-40 yrs. old - very handsome, yet Jane finds him repellent

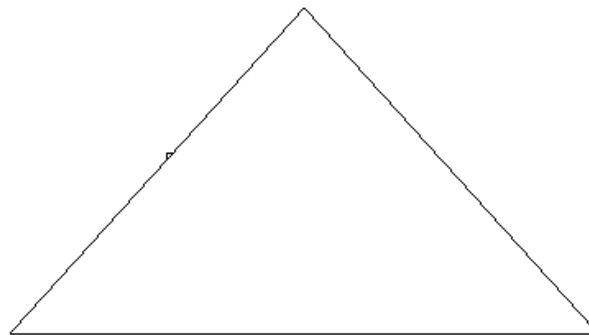
#2 Mystery Guest

Fortune Teller / Gypsy

- only single ladies
- Blanche is not 😊 w/ fortune -
- tells other girls things about them
- knows that Jane is left!

Class Discussion -- Ch. 14-19**Rochester:**

- seems to enjoy attention of women
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-Rochester as Byronic Hero

Class Discussion -- Ch. 14-19

-Adele

- affair with Celine Varens
- made him bitter about love/relationships

-Grace Poole

- servants chatter
- mystery
- encounter with Jane

**-Blanche (FOIL to Jane)**

- characterize: aggressive, condescending, beautiful, gold-digger, vapid (passionless)
- reminders of status (view of governesses)
- prospective wife
- treatment of Adele
- men shouldn't be beautiful
- motivation
- Jane watching her try and fail to charm Rochester – not jealous (see quote)

-Rochester's Mating Dance

- why entertain Blanche's pursuit? (EGO!)
- why in front of Jane? (See how she reacts? Jealous?)
- Jane forced to watch relationship unfold – why make her watch? Why not spare from humiliation and pain?
- FORESHADOWING - Charades:
 - Marriage
 - Eliezer & Rebecca – Eliezer looks for wife for master, Isaac (Rochester is not looking for a wife for himself)
 - Bridewell – debtor's prison (fate should he marry Blanche)
- lacks passion

Mystery Guests:

- 1. Mason** – from West Indies; handsome; Jane doesn't like
 - arrival shakes Rochester – he asks Jane if she'd stay loyal if everyone turned on him (link to past/secrets?)
- 2. Gipsy:**
 - Blanche is soured by fortune – “Gipsy” told her bad news about “Roch's fortune”
 - knows Blanche is only after \$
 - Jane: happiness is just within reach if she stretches
 - trying to see if Jane is jealous of women's attention? If she's been noticing?

The Gipsy/Gypsy

Jane's fortune :

😊 is w/in reach if you're willing to reach for it

- digs for info.: Jane

- desires in life → school
(independent aspirations)

- Anyone catch your eye? → No

Jane:

- marriage ends up in catastrophe
- Asks if she's jealous
- Blanche is gold-digger

R's disguise:
- he is
hesitant to
honestly reveal
himself -
literally or
figuratively

Rochester's Reaction to Mr. Mason

- nervous about arrival
- asking questions about guests (!!) or upset
- wants to be on secluded island w/ Jane
- if he were ostracized, would you still be loyal? J- "I'd give my life to serve you."

↳ testing her loyalty

The Gipsy (Gypsy)

Jane's fortune: ☺ is w/ reach if you're willing to reach out for it.

- digs for info:

- desire in life? → Jane: school

- Anyone catch her eye → No

JANE:

- marriage ends in catastrophe

- Asks if she's jealous

- Blanche is gold-digger

Ch. 19

Rochester's Reaction to Mr. Mason

- nervous

- asks if Co. is still ☺ or upset

- asks Jane if she'd be loyal

"I'd give my life to serve you."

- he admits wanting to be w/ her

"quiet island" 218

The Gipsy/Gypsy

- ☺ is w/in reach if you'll willing to reach for it
- digging for info. → she's guarded, doesn't reveal info.
- anyone catch her eye
- goal → save \$ for school
- J. says marriage ends in catastrophe
- is she jealous?
- R. in disguise

Rochester's Reaction to Mr. Mason

- is shaken by news of arrival
- Did Mason drop a "bomb" on party years
- questioning Jane about ~~his~~ loyalty if he were to be ostracized

20Richard Mason Attack

Power/Dynamic shifts -

Mason has upper hand, but then
Mason obeys when R. threatens
if he speaks to Jane.

- Dr. Carter, surgeon: "there were teeth here"
- Mason's bleeding when Jane arrives
~~by~~ after R. gets her to help (Rescue #3)
- trusts her.

- secret room - hearing
"snatching, snarling"

- left alone while R fetches surgeon

- Roch. eager to get rid of Mason
lest he expose R.

p228 - that Mason will "deprive me,
if not of life, yet for ever of ☺"

Mason upset - emotional connection
to creature / mystery woman

- asks R to take care of her, be tender

R responds: "I do my best, have, & will"

R: prays for end to "this"

R: Thom - "dungeon"

R + J are closer now, but then
he reveals cryptic story
about incident.

Pd7 The Richard Mason Attack Ch. 20

- Power/Dynamic Shift -
 Mason seemed to be in charge @
 1st → then he obeys R. - tells Mason
 not to speak to her
- Dr Carter - mystery surgeon -
 "there were teeth here"
 ↳ "snarling, snatching"
 - Jane shows up to bleeding Mason
 ↳ Rescue x3
 - left alone w/ him til surgeon arrived
 - she "sucked my blood, drained my ♥"
 - Roch. eager to get rid of Mason
 - Mason: emotional connection to
 "her" - v. upset
 ↳ tell R to take care of her, be tender
 ↳ R: "I ~~had~~ do my best, have, + will"
 - R: Thornfield is "dungeon"
 - R: calls Jane a lamb + tells her to forget
 about it
 - R + J are closer now + tells J a "story"

The Richard Mason Attack

- Power/Dynamic Shifts - Mason has upper hand, but then Mason obeys when R. threatens if he speaks to Jane
- ↳ trusts Jane → 3x she comes to the rescue
 - Dr. Carter - secret surgeon - "there were teeth here"
 - Mason's bleeding when Jane arrives
 - Secret room - "snatching, snarling"
 - Mason: "sucked the blood, drained my ♥"
 - Leaves Jane alone - candle goes out
 - Roch. is eager to get rid of Mason lest he expose him
 - ↳ Mason will "deprive me if not of life, yet forever of ☺"
 - Mason has connection to 3rd Floor stabst
↳ went to interview "her"/creature - bites Mason
 - ↳ has emotional connection
 - ↳ ask R to be tender
 - R: "I do my best, have I will"
 - R: Thorn. is a "dungeon"
 - R+J closer now, but then tells her to put it out of her mind
 - ↳ tells cryptic story - calls her a lamb

Name: _____
English 9H - *Jane Eyre*

THE BYRONIC HERO



The **Byronic hero**--so named because it evolved primarily due to Lord Byron's writing in the nineteenth century--is one of the most prominent literary character types of the Romantic period. A Byronic hero exhibits several characteristic traits, and in many ways he can be considered a rebel. The Byronic hero does not possess "heroic virtue" in the usual sense; instead, he has many dark qualities. With regard to his intellectual capacity, self-respect, and hypersensitivity, the Byronic hero is "larger than life," and "with the loss of his titanic passions, his pride, and his certainty of self-identity, he loses also his status as [a traditional] hero" (Thorslev 187).



In comics, Batman is perhaps the most widely-known example in American pop culture, growing ever darker in depiction since his creation in the late 1930s

Byronic Hero Trait	Rochester as Byronic Hero - Evidence/Quote (include Page)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is a rebel (against convention, society, etc.) 	walks alone w/ Jane - disregards societal conventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has a distaste for society and social institutions 	Goes against rules + conventions (affairs, unmarried)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is isolated from society (a wanderer, an exile, an outcast, an outlaw) 	World-traveled, lives away from Thornfield; few confidantes - loner
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is not impressed by rank and privilege (though he may possess it) 	Not impressed by Blanche
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is larger-than-life in his ability--and his pride; arrogance 	condescending towards Jane; commanding, bossy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has a hidden curse or crime; troubled past 	→ Mason's secret

Name: _____
English 9H - *Jane Eyre*

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Byronic Hero Trait	Rochester as Byronic Hero - Evidence/Quote (include Page)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is a rebel (against convention, society, etc.) 	-not married; walks w/ Jane in garden unsupervised
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> has a distaste for society and social institutions 	dislikes typical Victorian ideals.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is isolated from society (a wanderer, an exile, an outcast, an outlaw) 	Travels, never stays in 1 place world-traveled
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is not impressed by rank and privilege (though he may possess it) 	Blanche (11) - not impressed by her status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> is larger-than-life in his ability--and his pride; arrogance has a hidden curse or crime; troubled past 	condescending to Jane; do you think I'm handsome; commanding -3rd floor/dark secret

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> tends to be self-destructive 	<p>→ say he <u>will</u> find ☺ no matter the cost</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> high level of intelligence and perception 	<p>verbal mind games; reads Jane's expressions</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> cunning and able to adapt 	<p>- dresses as Gypsy</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sophisticated and educated 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> self-critical and introspective 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> mysterious, magnetic and charismatic struggling with integrity power of seduction and sexual attraction emotional conflicts, bipolar tendencies, or moodiness 	<p>→ Jane's drawn to him</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "dark" attributes not normally associated with a hero cynicism self-destructive behavior 	

Name: _____
Jane Eyre - Ch. 20

Read and annotate the following passage. **What is Rochester revealing to Jane? Why does he reveal this? What questions still remain? What traits of the Byronic Hero appear?**

Chapter 20: Jane & Rochester's Discussion in Garden Following Mason Attack
~~(22-23)~~



"You too have power over me, and may injure me: yet I dare not show you where I am vulnerable, lest, faithful and friendly as you are, you should transfix me at once..." (22)

"Well then, Jane, call to aid your fancy: -- suppose you were no longer a girl well reared and disciplined, but a wild boy indulged from childhood upwards; imagine yourself in a remote foreign land; conceive that you there commit a capital error, no matter of what nature or from what motives, but one whose consequences must follow you through life and taint all your existence. Mind, I don't say a *crime*; I am not speaking of shedding of blood or any other guilty act, which might make the perpetrator amenable to the law: my word is error. The results of what you have done become in time to you utterly insupportable; you take measures to obtain relief: unusual measures, but neither unlawful nor culpable. Still you are miserable; for hope has quitted you on the very confines of life: your sun at noon darkens in an eclipse, which you feel will not leave it till the time of setting. Bitter and base associations have become the sole food of your memory: you wander here and there, seeking rest in exile: happiness in pleasure -- I mean in heartless, sensual pleasure -- such as dulls intellect and blights feeling. Heart-weary and soul-withered, you come home after years of voluntary banishment: you make a new acquaintance -- how or where no matter: you find in this stranger much of the good and bright qualities which you have sought for twenty years, and never before encountered; and they are all fresh, healthy, without soil and without taint. Such society revives, regenerates: you feel better days come back -- higher wishes, purer feelings: you desire to recommence your life, and to spend what remains to you of days in a way more worthy of an immortal being. To attain this end, are you justified in overleaping an obstacle of custom -- a mere conventional impediment which neither your conscience sanctifies nor your judgment approves?"

"Is the wandering and sinful, but now rest-seeking and repentant, man justified in daring the world's opinion, in order to attach to him for ever this gentle, gracious, genial stranger, thereby securing his own peace of mind and regeneration of life?"

cryptic autobiography
R is vulnerable - Jane has power
wanderer
can't get away from it
no relief in sight
hedonistic Pursuit
returns exasperated

Did something go wrong?
consequence
not illegal, but a moral transgression
only bitterness remains
trying to find escape
offers purity + reinvigorates R's soul

is it okay to sidestep conventions?

Name: _____
Jane Eyre - Ch. 20

p24

Read and annotate the following passage. **What is Rochester revealing to Jane? Why does he reveal this? What questions still remain? What traits of the Byronic Hero appear?**

Chapter 20: Jane & Rochester's Discussion in Garden Following Mason Attack
(222-223)



pg. 7

It is vulnerable - Jane has power

Cryptic autobiography
regardless of why
moral transgression
only bad memories
came home drained

"You too have power over me, and may injure me: yet I dare not show you where I am vulnerable, lest, faithful and friendly as you are, you should transfix me at once..." (222)

"Well then, Jane, call to aid your fancy: -- suppose you were no longer a girl well reared and disciplined, but a wild boy indulged from childhood upwards; imagine yourself in a remote foreign land; conceive that you there commit a capital error, no matter of what nature or from what motives, but one whose consequences must follow you through life and taint all your existence. Mind, I don't say a crime, I am not speaking of shedding of blood or any other guilty act, which might make the perpetrator amenable to the law: my word is error. The results of what you have done become in time to you utterly insupportable; you take measures to obtain relief: unusual measures, but neither unlawful nor culpable. Still you are miserable, for hope has quitted you on the very confines of life: your sun at noon darkens in an eclipse, which you feel will not leave it till the time of setting. Bitter and base associations have become the sole food of your memory: you wander here and there, seeking rest in exile: happiness in pleasure -- I mean in heartless, sensual pleasure -- such as dulls intellect and blights feeling. Heart-weary and soul-withered, you come home after years of voluntary banishment: you make a new acquaintance -- how or where no matter: you find in this stranger much of the good and bright qualities which you have sought for twenty years, and never before encountered; and they are all fresh, healthy, without soil and without taint. Such society revives, regenerates: you feel better days come back -- higher wishes, purer feelings; you desire to recommence your life, and to spend what remains to you of days in a way more worthy of an immortal being. To attain this end, are you justified in overleaping an obstacle of custom -- a mere conventional impediment which neither your conscience sanctifies nor your judgment approves?"

Did something wrong consequences are following him
not illegal
trying to escape pain but can't
tried to find in wrong places
Jane offers goodness + purity he's been seeking

"Is the wandering and sinful, but now rest-seeking and repentant, man justified in daring the world's opinion, in order to attach to him for ever this gentle, gracious, genial stranger, thereby securing his own peace of mind and regeneration of life?"

is it okay to ignore customs?
you want to be w/ this person
would it be okay if it meant redemption?
Questioning his morals -> redemption
Is it okay to do wrong if it yielded betterment?

Reed News:

John - got in trouble, gambled,
alcohol - suicide
- drained family finances

Stroke - calls back Jane
Mrs. Reed -

Deathbed Confession

still cruel + hateful to Jane

- ① broke promise to her husband
(Uncle Reed) by mistreating
↳ Uncle Reed was close w/ Jane's mom
& doted on Jane as a baby
caused jealousy
 - ② Lied - said she died @ Lowood
- didn't want to help Jane advance
- 3 yrs ago - Uncle Eyre - rich
↳ he wanted to adopt +
bequeath his fortune if he died
- never got letter
- Why now? some regret, but more so to
save her soul
- Helen's lessons on forgiveness come back

Reed News:

John - drank, gambled - drained family finances (Reed family)
- commits suicide

Mrs. Reed - has strokes brought on by stress
Calls Jane to her deathbed - needs to clear
- mean to Jane up until the end ^{guilt}

2 Sins:

- ① broke promise to Uncle Reed by mistreating her - he had a affection for her (doted on Jane, close w/ her mom)
 - ② Lied - said she died 3 yrs ago - rich Uncle Eyre, Madeira
- Helen's lesson on forgiveness comes back.

Georgiana vs. Eliza

- pretty, blonde,
- "buxom" = good
- belle of London
- Ruined romance w/ potential suitor
- eventually gets married
- self-centered, spoiled
- living in the past

* Brontë's slam on high society (superficial).

- plain - doesn't cry
- regimented/ keeps to schedule
- religious, but cold + detached
- joins French convent
- ascetic - plain, simple

* Brontë's slam on cold religion

Reed's Deathbed Confession (255-256)

2 sins:

① broke promise to Uncle by mistreating

② Lied - said she died

- didn't want to help Jane advance

- 3 yrs. ago - letter from Uncle Eyre, rich

- never gave letter

Why now? - some regret, but more so to save her soul

- Helen's lesson on forgiveness comes back.

Georgiana vs. Eliza

- pretty, blonde,
"buxom" = good
- belle of London
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Ch. 22 - Jane's Return to Thornfield

Fairfax says that wedding is imminent - Roch. bought carriage

-Jane looks fwd to coming "home" - never had a sense of "home" before

Jane: "A loving eye is all the charm needed: to such you are handsome enough; or rather your sternness has a power beyond beauty."

Jane: "...wherever you are is my home - my only home."

Jane is hopeful that marriage with Blanche is off....he is kinder and "never had I loved him so well."

Ch. 22 - Jane's Return to Thornfield

Fairfax says that wedding is imminent - Roch. bought carriage

↳ just a matter of time

-Jane looks fwd to coming "home" - never had a sense of "home" before

— blunt about attraction

Jane: "A loving eye is all the charm needed: to such you are handsome enough; or rather your sternness has a power beyond beauty."

— not hiding feelings for R.

Jane: "...wherever you are is my home - my only home."

Jane is hopeful that marriage with Blanche is off....he is kinder and "never had I loved him so well."

'96 Version: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47eTkbpfe68>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iU0DJfli4-A&safety_mode=true&persist_safety_m

Name: _____

English 9H-Jane Eyre Chapter 23

Directions: Read and respond to the questions and information provided about Rochester's proposal to Jane.

"The Proposal"

On another evening at twilight, Jane is unable to avoid a conversation with Rochester in the garden. Rochester leads Jane to believe that he is about to marry Blanche and that she must leave Thornfield soon and forever.

•How do you characterize or describe Rochester's treatment of Jane before his proposal?

mean, harsh, manipulative

•She becomes increasingly upset, as he must see. What is the point of telling her she must go to Ireland?

crack her - get her to admit feelings - his pride

Jane's anguish becomes so unbearable that she "sobbed convulsively" and "was shaken from head to foot" (p. 256). Passion moves her to speak from her essential self, "I grieve to leave Thornfield, etc." (p. 256).

Jane speaks as the absolute individual, "I am a free human being with an independent will; which I now exert to leave you" (p. 257- 8).

→ Individual

As the absolute individual, she will speak and act according to her own values and beliefs, regardless of custom, proper behavior, or any other of society's restrictions. She struggles free of his embrace. He tells her she is "over-excited," i.e., carried away by her emotions, just as Mrs. Reed did years before. In some ways, the adult Jane is still the same as the child Jane; she is not yet fully in control of her emotions.

•Is Rochester pushing her beyond the control anyone could reasonably be expected to have? Or, is it natural that she would lose emotional control under these circumstances?

He pushes her beyond reasonable control

"Come to my side Jane, and let us explain and understand one another."

"I will never again come to your side: I am torn away now, and can not return."

"But, Jane, I summon you as my wife: it is you only I intend to marry."

> proposal

I was silent: I thought he mocked me.

"Come, Jane—come hither."

"Your bride stands between us."

> Blanche?

'96 Version: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47eTkbpfe68>

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•How do you characterize or describe Rochester's treatment of Jane before his proposal?

Cruel, manipulative - misleading

•She becomes increasingly upset, as he must see. What is the point of telling her she must go to Ireland?

to see how she'd react - get emotional reaction

Jane's anguish becomes so unbearable that she "sobbed convulsively" and "was shaken from head to foot" (p. 256). Passion moves her to speak from her essential self, "I grieve to leave Thornfield, etc." (p. 256).

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•Is Rochester pushing her beyond the control anyone could reasonably be expected to have? Or, is it natural that she would lose emotional control under these circumstances?

No - it's too much to bear

"Come to my side Jane, and let us explain and understand one another."

"I will never again come to your side: I am torn away now, and can not return."

"But, Jane, I summon you as my wife: it is you only I intend to marry."

I was silent: I thought he mocked me.

"Come, Jane—come hither."

"Your bride stands between us."

↳ Blanche

*She's incredulous
↳ understandable*

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•How do you characterize or describe Rochester's treatment of Jane before his proposal?

Overly, manipulative

•She becomes increasingly upset, as he must see. What is the point of telling her she must go to Ireland?

*to test her reaction; draw out emotion
hes vulnerable*

Jane's anguish becomes so unbearable that she "sobbed convulsively" and "was shaken from head to foot" (p. 256). Passion moves her to speak from her essential self, "I grieve to leave Thornfield, etc." (p. 256).

Jane speaks as the absolute individual, "I am a free human being with an independent will; which I now exert to leave you" (p. 257-8).

Strives to be independent

As the absolute individual, she will speak and act according to her own values and beliefs, regardless of custom, proper behavior, or any other of society's restrictions. She struggles free of his embrace. He tells her she is "over-excited," i.e., carried away by her emotions, just as Mrs. Reed did years before. In some ways, the adult Jane is still the same as the child Jane; she is not yet fully in control of her emotions.

•Is Rochester pushing her beyond the control anyone could reasonably be expected to have? Or, is it natural that she would lose emotional control under these circumstances?

*Her reaction is understandable -
he pushes her to tipping point*

"Come to my side Jane, and let us explain and understand one another."

"I will never again come to your side: I am torn away now, and can not return."

"But, Jane, I summon you as my wife; it is you only I intend to marry."

I was silent: I thought he mocked me.

"Come, Jane—come hither."

"Your bride stands between us."

> Blanche

He rose, and with a stride reached me.

"My bride is here," he said, again drawing me to him, "because my equal is here, and my likeness. Jane, will you marry me?"

Still I did not answer, and still I writhed myself from his grasp: for I was still incredulous.

"Do you doubt me, Jane?"

"Entirely."

"You have no faith in me?"

"Not a whit."

"Am I a liar in your eyes?" he asked passionately. "Little skeptic, you shall be convinced. What love have I for Miss Ingram? None: and that you know. What love has she for me? None: as I have taken pains to prove; I caused a rumor to reach her that my fortune was not a third of what was supposed, and after that I presented myself to see the result; it was coldness both from her and her mother. I would not—I could not—marry Miss Ingram. You—you strange—you almost unearthly thing!—I love as my own flesh. You—poor and obscure, and small and plain as you are—I entreat to accept me as a husband."

"What, me?" I ejaculated: beginning in his earnestness—and especially in his incivility—to credit his sincerity: "me who have not a friend in the world but you—if you are my friend: not a shilling but what you have given me?"

"You, Jane. I must have you for my own—entirely my own. Will you be mine? Say yes, quickly."

"Mr. Rochester let me look at your face, turn to the moonlight."

She still doubts him - why wouldn't she doubt?
- eager

Jane does not believe his proposal, which acknowledges their equality and similar natures, "my equal is here, and my likeness" (p. 258). She only begins to believe him "in his earnestness—and especially in his incivility" (p. 259). Jane seems to equate sincerity and rudeness in Rochester.

•Why? Does her response indicate anything about her, about him, or about their relationship?

Never fully "on the table" - his mind games

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"Mr. Rochester let me look at your face, turn to the moonlight."

sees her as an equal

she doesn't believe him - distrust him

She distrusts him

Jane does not believe his proposal, which acknowledges their equality and similar natures, "my equal is here, and my likeness" (p. 258). She only begins to believe him "in his earnestness—and especially in his incivility" (p. 259). Jane seems to equate sincerity and rudeness in Rochester.

Why? Does her response indicate anything about her, about him, or about their relationship?

She expects rudeness + games from him - doubts his sincerity.

She's still guarded - feels unworthy (status still an issue)

Jane accepts! Rochester's behavior and statements are hardly the usual reactions of a man whose proposal has just been accepted. He asks for God's pardon and defies any man to meddle with him. He exults when Jane replies that she has no family to interfere, "No,--that is the best part of it" (p. 260).

•Would Rochester have been able to trick a lady (i.e., a person of his social class) with a family to protect her interests?

No--would be objective people to protect her interests

•Is he taking advantage of her solitary and economically dependent position or of her inexperience of the world?

Yes! disregards risk to Jane

•Should his responses alert Jane that something is wrong?

she's blinded by ♥

Jane herself notes, "And if I had loved him less I should have thought his accent and look of exultation savage: but sitting by him, roused from the nightmare of parting--called to the paradise of union--I thought only of the bliss given me to drink in so abundant a flow" (p. 260).

•Is it her passion that keeps Jane from being warned that something is wrong? Though she perceives his savagery, she focuses on her love and happiness rather than question his response rationally.

Her judgment is impaired

Rochester murmurs,

"It will atone--it will atone. Have I not found her friendless, and cold, and comfortless? Will I not guard, and cherish, and solace her? Is there not love in my heart, and constancy in my resolves? It will expiate at God's tribunal. I know my Maker sanctions what I do. For the world's judgment--I wash my hands thereof. For man's opinion--I defy it" (p. 260).

to make up for a sin / he's doing good

•If Jane's emotions were not dominant, might she have wondered about this speech? •What is being atoned? What is being expiated (to make amends for) and sanctioned?

•Why the defiance of the world? Or is it only natural that happiness at marrying the man she worships predominates over Jane's reason?

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NI
She has no one to protect her interests

•Is he taking advantage of her solitary and economically dependent position or of her inexperience of the world?

•Should his responses alert Jane that something is wrong?

Yes!!

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Name: _____

Jane EyreChapter 24Difference in Values

p. 278 **Jane:** *"I am your plain, Quakerish governess... I really became uneasy at the strain he had adopted, because I felt he was either deluding himself or trying to delude me."*

Rochester: *"... I will attire my Jane in satin and lace, and she shall have roses in her hair; and I will cover the head I love best with a priceless veil."*

Jane: *"...and I shall not be your Jane Eyre any longer, but an ape in a harlequin's jacket – a jay in borrowed plumes."*

Freedom Ahead:

"Ten years since, I flew through Europe half mad: with disgust, hate, and rage as my companions; now I shall revisit it healed and cleansed, with a very angel as my comforter" (279).

Jane's Fears:

-He's trying to make her into something she's not

-He's being rash and capricious – he'll tire of her and passion will fade after a while

-He'll grow disappointed when he realizes she's not an "angel" and a "sprite"

-he'll grow less infatuated and patient when he's her husband of a year vs. fresh suitor

Rochester's Motivation for Pretending to Court Blanche:

"I wished to render you as madly in love with me as I was with you; and I knew jealousy would be the best ally I could call in for the furtherance of that end" (282).

Mrs. Fairfax's Reaction:

- * Surprised, skeptical, and less than thrilled by match – reminds Jane of inequality in status & fortune, not to mention 20 years age difference
- * skeptical of his motives – is it really for love?
- * not trying to be hurtful, but protective
- * Warns: All that glitters isn't gold (Jane also has suspicions about Rochester and his rush to marry, but she ignores them)

Jane's Determination to Maintain Independence:

- Letter to Uncle in Madeira – hopes to secure her own fortune so she doesn't have to feel dependent on Rochester; will secure some independence financially.
- *“I will not be your English Celine Varens. I shall continue to act as Adele's governess; by that I shall earn my board and lodging, and thirty pounds a year besides. I shall furnish my own wardrobe out of that money, and you shall give me nothing but – your regard” (290).*
- Wants it to be “business as usual” for next month until they marry

Jane is Lovestruck:

“My future husband was becoming to me my whole world; and more than the world; almost my hope of heaven. He stood between me and every thought of religion, as an eclipse intervenes between man and the broad sun. I could not, in those days, see God for His creature: of whom I had made an idol.”