

*“My sister Emily loved the moors.  
Flowers brighter than the rose bloomed in the blackest  
of the heath for her; out of a sullen  
hollow in a livid hillside her mind could make an Eden.  
She found in the bleak solitude many and dear delights;  
and not the least and best-loved was – liberty.”*

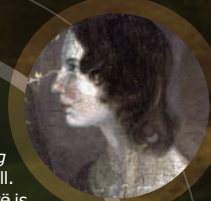
— CHARLOTTE BRONTË



(1816–1855)

**Charlotte  
Brontë**

**Charlotte Brontë**, the English novelist and poet, lived in an era that placed societal restrictions upon women. Consequently, her most famous novel, *Jane Eyre*, was originally published under the pen name of Currer Bell. The book became an immediate success, primarily because it portrays a strong woman whose natural instincts conflict with her social status. Many critics doubted it had been written by a man, and Brontë soon revealed her authorship of the novel. She had experimented with long poetic forms prior to the publication of *Jane Eyre*, but gave up poetry for novel writing. Charlotte Brontë wrote a total of four novels and a portion of a fifth, but only three were published in her lifetime. The cause of her death has never been conclusively proven.



(1818–1848)

**Emily  
Brontë**

**Emily Brontë**, who, like her sister, felt it necessary to use a pen name, wrote her only novel, *Wuthering Heights*, under the name of Ellis Bell. Personal information about Emily Brontë is difficult to locate, as she remained reclusive for most of her adult life, and she was known to be extremely shy as a child. *Wuthering Heights*, unlike Charlotte's *Jane Eyre*, did not achieve instantaneous success. However, it is now recognized as a masterpiece of nineteenth century British literature. Because of the passions of the main characters, many readers assumed the writer was a man, and Emily's name did not appear on the book until 1850, a year before her death from tuberculosis.



**authorspeak™**  
thoughts behind the printed page

©2018 Prestwick House, Inc.

PRESTWICK HOUSE  
**FREE LIBRARY**  
www.prestwickhouse.com/free-library