

# CHARLOTTE BRONTË

Occupation  
Writer

Nationality  
English

Famous Quote

*"I am no bird; and no net ensnares me: I am a free human being with an independent will."* [from Jane Eyre]

Charlotte Brontë was an English writer, best known for her novel, 'Jane Eyre'. Her father was a curate in Haworth, a small town in the Yorkshire moors. Yorkshire inspired much of her writing.

## DEATH OF MARIA AND ELIZABETH

In 1824, Charlotte and three of her sisters went to school. Two of her sisters died that same year and Charlotte blamed their deaths on the poor conditions at the school. Her experiences here inspired the descriptions of Lowood school in her novel, 'Jane Eyre'.

## BIRTH

Charlotte Brontë was born at Thornton, Yorkshire in 1816.

## EARLY LIFE

Charlotte's family lived in a house that overlooked the church and its graveyard. Haworth had very poor sanitation and the life expectancy of those who lived there was shockingly low, at 26 years. Charlotte was the only one of her father's six children to live beyond the age of 31.

## JANE EYRE

Charlotte wrote 'Jane Eyre' in 1847. The novel is about an orphan girl called Jane Eyre and her journey towards adulthood. The novel became very popular and is still counted as one of the greatest novels ever written in the English language.

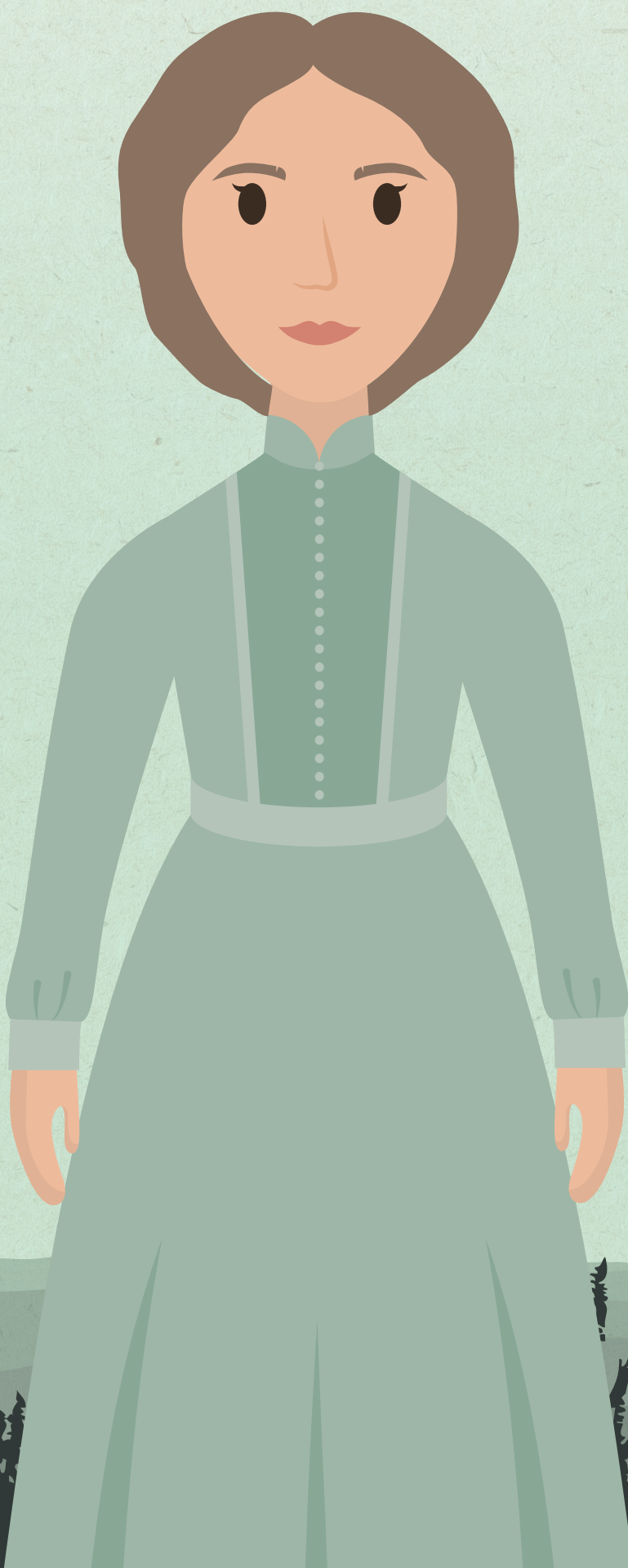
"Do you think, because I am poor, obscure, plain and little, I am soulless and heartless? You think wrong! - I have as much soul as you, - and full as much heart!"  
'Jane Eyre', 1847

## DEATH OF BRANWELL, ANNE AND EMILY

Charlotte was very close to her siblings. At the end of 1848, Charlotte lost both Branwell and Emily to suspected tuberculosis. Anne died in May 1849 of the same disease. Charlotte was devastated and struggled to write in the aftermath of their deaths.

## MARRIAGE AND DEATH

In 1854, Charlotte married Arthur Bell Nicholls. The marriage was a happy one but short-lived. Charlotte became pregnant soon after marriage, but died before she could give birth. Charlotte died, with her unborn child, on 31st March, 1855.



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