**Chronological summary of *Wuthering Heights***

Emily Brontë’s *Wuthering Heights* is a complex tale of love, revenge, and social conflict. Below is the story in chronological order:

1. **1771**: Mr. Earnshaw adopts an orphan boy, Heathcliff, bringing him to Wuthering Heights. Heathcliff is treated as a member of the family by Mr. Earnshaw but despised by Hindley, Mr. Earnshaw's son. Cathy Earnshaw, however, becomes close to Heathcliff.
2. **1777**: Mr. Earnshaw dies. Hindley inherits Wuthering Heights, degrades Heathcliff to the role of a servant, and marries Frances. Cathy grows wild and free-spirited, spending time with Heathcliff.
3. **1778**: Frances gives birth to Hareton Earnshaw but dies soon after from tuberculosis. Hindley descends into alcoholism.
4. **1779**: Cathy befriends the Linton family at Thrushcross Grange, where she is injured by their dog. During her recovery, she grows close to Edgar Linton and becomes infatuated with his refined manners and lifestyle.
5. **1780**: Cathy accepts Edgar’s proposal, despite admitting to Nelly that she truly loves Heathcliff. Heathcliff overhears only part of this confession and leaves Wuthering Heights in despair.
6. **1783**: Heathcliff returns as a wealthy and vengeful man. He begins to manipulate both households, Wuthering Heights and Thrushcross Grange. He seduces Isabella Linton, marries her, and mistreats her.
7. **1784**: Cathy falls ill after a heated argument with Heathcliff and Edgar. She gives birth to her daughter, Catherine (Cathy Linton), but dies soon after. Heathcliff is devastated.
8. **1785**: Hindley dies, and Heathcliff takes control of Wuthering Heights. He reduces Hindley’s son, Hareton, to an uneducated servant, continuing the cycle of revenge.
9. **1797**: Young Cathy Linton grows up at Thrushcross Grange, sheltered from Wuthering Heights. She eventually meets her cousins, Hareton and Linton Heathcliff (Heathcliff’s son with Isabella).
10. **1800**: Linton Heathcliff and Cathy develop a relationship. Heathcliff forces their marriage to secure his control over Thrushcross Grange.
11. **1801**: Linton Heathcliff dies shortly after the marriage. Cathy is left at Wuthering Heights, subjected to Heathcliff’s control. Hareton begins to develop feelings for Cathy.
12. **1802**: Heathcliff, increasingly obsessed with Cathy Earnshaw’s memory, dies. Hareton and Cathy reconcile and plan to marry, signaling the end of the cycle of revenge.

**Timeline of how the story is told**

The novel’s events are presented in a non-linear fashion, primarily through the narration of Nelly Dean to Mr. Lockwood. Here’s the timeline of how the story unfolds:

1. **1801**: Mr. Lockwood arrives at Thrushcross Grange, rents it from Heathcliff, and has unsettling encounters at Wuthering Heights. He learns about the complex relationships.
2. **Nelly Dean’s Narrative Begins (Late 1700s)**:
   * She recounts the Earnshaw family history, including Mr. Earnshaw’s adoption of Heathcliff, Hindley’s cruelty, and Cathy’s relationship with Heathcliff and Edgar.
3. **1780s**: Nelly narrates Heathcliff’s return, his revenge against Hindley, and Cathy’s tragic death.
4. **1797-1801**: Nelly describes the next generation (Hareton, young Cathy, and Linton) and Heathcliff’s manipulative schemes.
5. **1802**: Lockwood returns to Thrushcross Grange and learns about Heathcliff’s death and Cathy and Hareton’s plans to marry.
6. **1802 (Conclusion)**: Lockwood leaves, reflecting on the resolution of events and the peace at Wuthering Heights.

This dual timeline, interspersing past and present, adds to the novel’s gothic and mysterious atmosphere.