

Analyzing the theme of power in one flew over the cuckoo's nest and wuthering hei...

[Literature](#), [Novel](#)



Power is a great story line for many novels throughout the ages. Also power is a horrible life guide that many people live with throughout their lives. Within the novels *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* and *Wuthering Heights*, it is easy to recognize different cases of power and how power hungry individuals work. Nurse Ratched, featured in *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest*, is a power obsessed middle-aged nurse who is the head of a mental institute and thrives off of the power she creates over the residents at the facility. Another version of power would be one of creating fear and a longing for revenge. In the novel *Wuthering Heights*, a, once orphan boy named Heathcliff fell in love with a young lady, which betrayed her and left him. He then felt compelled to spend the rest of his life seeking revenge. *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* is a novel that takes place in a mental institution in which head nurse Ratched is in charge of the men in the facility. Nurse Ratched is a cold hearted, almost robotic woman who runs the facility on a strict and sound schedule in which things never change. She has selected her staff for their submissiveness and willingness to abide by her every order in the ward. She even has a serene power over her superiors, in which she convinces them to withhold certain patients or let them go. Nurse Ratched is a person who dehumanizes the people around her to malleable clay figures, in which she can manipulate at her will. She thrives for the power she has been given and only wishes to expand her power more and more over the institution. Not only over the men in the institute that are patients, but the staff as well must strictly amend to her rules and regulations. She maintains her power by the strategic use of shame and guilt. Wanting only for herself and thinking only for herself and the many ways to empower everyone

around her. Nurse Ratched, the all powerful is defeated though, despite all of her grand schemes and actions against a certain patient named Randal P. McMurphy. He is taken in by the institution and quickly picks up on Nurse Ratched's ways of overpowering the rest of the patients. He decides to then overpower her by tuning in to every weakness she may have and fights her totalitarian power in the institution. At the end of the novel he rips open Nurse Ratched's shirt to reveal the one feminine quality that she possesses. The only thing the men of the institution could relate her to as a woman, and she then loses and never regains the power she has taken so long to obtain. Another version of power is the grotesque, stingy way that Heathcliff obtains his own power from no power in the novel Wuthering Heights. An orphan taken in by Mr. Earnshaw at the place named Wuthering Heights. Heathcliff then grows up as a young boy to a man along side Mr. Earnshaw's daughter, Catherine. Catherine then falls in Love with Heathcliff and Heathcliff then falls back in love with Catherine, in an immense, deep, never ending love. They grow together to be adults, secretly seeing each other and loving each other. Then a time came when Catherine desired a higher role in society and therefore abruptly leaves Heathcliff and marries another man named Edgar Linton instead of Heathcliff. She is immensely in love with Heathcliff through this whole time, and Heathcliff knows this and is infuriated with the fact he is left so she can gain a better status in society. Heathcliff then spends the rest of his life " getting back" at the people that he feels have betrayed him in life. He gains heir to Wuthering Heights and all that it possesses. With this new gained fortune, he uses all of his power to take down Catherine and Edgar Linton. During this quest for revenge and more power, he marries

Isabella Linton, the sister of Catherine. She is only used as a mere tool in his great scheme to get back to all those that have done him wrong. Heathcliff becomes obsessed and over powering to all those around him to get what he wants in the end. He then does obtain everything he has been after, the Linton estate as well as the Earnshaw estate. These two very different yet so similar cases of power and the ways it affects people and the world show to everyone how dangerous it is. The pure desire and need for power is something everyone should look down Upon. A person who is strictly driven for power and control is a friend to no one and can never be trusted. Power is a terrible thing, but as bad as it is made out to be, it is what this world thrives off of. Not only in the novels out for reading, but in the real world all around us. Power is something thought of as a leader a dictator and in some cases a totalitarian.