All the seven Brontë novels are concerned with education in both senses, that of upbringing as well as that of learning. The Brontë sisters all worked as teachers before they became published novelists. In spite of the prevalence of education in the sisters’ lives and fiction, however, this is the first full-length book on the subject. Marianne Thormählen explores how their representations of fictional teachers and schools engage with the intense debates on education in the nineteenth century, drawing on a wealth of documentary evidence about educational theory and practice in the lifetime of the Brontës. This study offers much new information both about the Brontës and their books and about the most urgent issue in early-nineteenth-century British social politics: the education of the people, of all classes and both sexes.

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THE BRONTËS AND EDUCATION

MARIANNE THORMÄHLEN
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Lund, Sweden, in August 2006

Marianne Thormählen
Abbreviations and editions

References to the seven Brontë novels are made parenthetically in the running text. Upper-case Roman numerals refer to volume numbers (wherever appropriate), lower-case ones to chapters and Arabic figures to page numbers in the Oxford World’s Classics editions listed below:

CHARLOTTE BRONTË

The Professor, ed. Margaret Smith and Herbert Rosengarten, with an introduction by Margaret Smith (Clarendon edition in 1987; issued as a World’s Classics paperback in 1991)


Shirley, ed. Herbert Rosengarten and Margaret Smith, with an introduction by Margaret Smith (Clarendon edition in 1979; issued as a World’s Classics paperback in 1981)


EMILY BRONTË

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Abbreviations and editions

ANNE BRONTÉ


The abbreviation BST refers to the *Brontë Society Transactions*.

In the endnotes and bibliography, publishers’ names are omitted in respect of books published before 1900.