

***Jane Eyre* Film Scene Close Reading Guide**

“First Impressions” Chapter 4 (particularly from “From my first discourse” to “bad feelings surging in my breast” and “I stood in the empty hall” to “wishing myself far enough away”)

How does Jane view Mrs. Reed? What opinions does she hold of her, and what are those opinions based on?

How closely do Jane’s opinions/attitudes match her behavior? In other words, to what degree does she express her opinions, and to what degree does she keep them to herself?

How does Jane describe Mr. Brocklehurst upon meeting him? What key features does she notice and comment upon?

Explain what Jane’s answer to Brocklehurst’s questions reveal about her.

“Meeting Mr. Rochester” from Chapter 12 (particularly from “October, November, December passed” to “Whose house is it?”)

What details does Bronte offer to describe the setting, and how do these details create atmosphere and mood for the scene?

To which senses does Bronte appeal in the description of the approach of Rochester? What memory/story do these images conjure for her?

Describe the nature of Jane’s first interaction with Rochester, taking into account their dialogue and her internal response to what happens.

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"The Governess" (from Chapter 17, particularly from "A soft sound of rising" to "Signor Eduardo, are you in voice to-night" [much of this excerpt is description of individual characters; the plot represented in the film begins at around "Coffee is handed."])

To what does Jane compare the group of houseguests? How does this comparison reveal her attitude toward them?

Describe the structure and function of the several paragraphs beginning at "First, there was Mrs. Eshton."

Explain how Jane's literal positioning in this scene contributes to its tension and thematic meaning.

What attitudes toward Rochester does Jane reveal in this section?

What is the topic of Lady Ingram's extended conversation with the other guests? How do their attitudes and comments relate to conflict and theme in the novel?