

BOOK TITLE: *Pride and Prejudice*

AUTHOR: Jane Austen

POINT OF VIEW: 3rd person omniscient

SETTING:

Unspecified time during the Napoleonic Wars (1797–1815)

Longbourn, in rural England

CHARACTERS:

Protagonist: Elizabeth Bennett, 2nd of 5 daughters, lovely, clever, witty, honest, practical, confident, strong self-esteem, hasty in judgement, sometimes sharp tongued

Antagonist: Snobby upper class, represented primarily by Mr. Darcy, but also by the Misses Bingley and Lady Catherine de Bourgh

Other Important Characters:
The Bennett family: Mr. and Mrs. Bennett, and Elizabeth's four sisters (Jane, Mary, Lydia, Catherine)
Mr. Bingley: Darcy's friend
Charlotte: Elizabeth's neighbor and best friend
Mr. Collins: Elizabeth's cousin and next in line to inherit Longbourn
George Wickham: A soldier and past associate of Darcy
Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner: Elizabeth's aunt and uncle
Georgiana Darcy: Darcy's younger sister

Plot Stage 3

Climax: Lady Catherine, who expects Darcy to marry her daughter, visits Elizabeth and demands that she promise she will never marry Darcy, but Elizabeth, who is both insulted and realizes she cares about Darcy, refuses. Darcy and Mr. Bingley return to Netherfield. Bingley proposes to Jane, and she accepts him. Darcy visits Elizabeth, confesses he still loves her, and begs her to accept him. Elizabeth confesses her love to Darcy.

Plot Stage 2

Conflict, Rising Action: The **Conflict** is introduced when Elizabeth's pride is injured and she develops an intense prejudice against Darcy. **Will Elizabeth overcome her own and society's pride and prejudice so she can find true love?** The **Rising Action** begins when Jane and Bingley begin to fall in love. Bingley suddenly leaves Netherfield, seemingly rejecting Jane. Visiting her best friend, Charlotte, at her new home on Lady Catherine de Bourgh's estate, Elizabeth meets Darcy again and learns he is Lady Catherine's nephew. Eventually he confesses his love to Elizabeth and proposes, while also insulting her and her family. Elizabeth rejects him and accuses him of interfering with Jane and Bingley. Darcy writes her a letter to explain himself and Elizabeth begins to think she has misjudged him. Later she visits Darcy's estate, Pemberly, where she unexpectedly encounters him and notices her feelings have changed. Her admiration of Darcy grows when she learns he has rescued her family's reputation after her sister had scandalously eloped with a

Plot Stage 4

Denouement: Jane and Mr. Bennett at first can't believe that Elizabeth could truly love Mr. Darcy, as she had previously openly despised him. She finally convinces them of her love.

Plot Stage 5

Conclusion: Both couples marry. Bingley purchases an estate near Pemberly, and the sisters have the happiness of not only husbands that they love, but also each other's continued companionship.

Plot Stage 1

Exposition: The Bennets of Longbourn learn that a rich gentleman has rented a nearby house, Netherfield Park, and Mrs. Bennett immediately begins to scheme to have him marry one of her daughters. Eventually a ball is held where they meet said gentleman, Mr. Bingley, and his sisters, and also his friend, the proud Mr. Darcy, who snubs the Longbourn gentry and insults Elizabeth, showing social prejudice against those of lower class than he.



THEMES

Pride and Prejudice

Social Status vs. Noble Character

CONFLICT

Man vs. Man, Man vs. Society, Man vs. Self
Will Elizabeth overcome her own and society's pride and prejudice so she can find true love?