

jane austen pride and prejudice book

jane austen pride and prejudice book is one of the most celebrated works in English literature, capturing the nuances of societal manners, romantic entanglements, and personal growth during the Regency era. First published in 1813, this timeless novel continues to enchant readers worldwide with its wit, memorable characters, and insightful commentary on class and marriage. Jane Austen's masterful storytelling and keen social observations have cemented *Pride and Prejudice* as a cornerstone of classic literature, inspiring countless adaptations and scholarly analyses.

Overview of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*

Plot Summary

Pride and Prejudice follows the story of Elizabeth Bennet, a witty and independent young woman, as she navigates the complexities of love, societal expectations, and personal misunderstandings. The novel begins with the Bennet family's concern over the arrival of eligible bachelors in their neighborhood, notably Mr. Bingley and Mr. Darcy. Elizabeth's initial prejudice against Mr. Darcy, fueled by his haughty demeanor and her own misjudgments, forms a central theme of the narrative.

As the story unfolds, Elizabeth's prejudices are challenged through her interactions with Darcy, who also grapples with his own pride and societal prejudices. Their mutual misunderstandings lead to a series of revelations and growth, culminating in a heartfelt union based on genuine affection and respect.

Main Characters

- Elizabeth Bennet: The intelligent, spirited protagonist known for her wit and independence.
- Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy: A wealthy, proud gentleman whose initial aloofness masks true kindness.
- Jane Bennet: Elizabeth's kind and gentle elder sister, admired for her beauty and sweetness.
- Mr. Bingley: Darcy's affable and wealthy friend, easily approachable and friendly.
- Mrs. Bennet: The humorous and somewhat frivolous mother obsessed with marrying off her daughters.
- Mr. Collins: The pompous clergyman and heir to the Bennet family estate.
- Lydia Bennet: The youngest Bennet sister, impulsive and flirtatious.

The Themes and Significance of *Pride and Prejudice*

Exploration of Social Class and Marriage

At its core, *Pride and Prejudice* examines the societal structures of early 19th-century England. Austen critiques the importance placed on social standing and the transactional nature of marriage. Through her characters, she demonstrates that love and personal compatibility should triumph over superficial considerations.

Key points include:

- The societal pressure to marry well for economic security.
- The contrast between marriages based on love versus those based on social advantage.
- The critique of class prejudices and the mobility (or lack thereof) within the social hierarchy.

Prejudice and Personal Growth

The novel's title highlights its central themes: pride and prejudice. These qualities influence characters' perceptions and decisions, often leading to misunderstandings and wrong judgments.

Notable aspects:

- Elizabeth's prejudice against Darcy initially blinds her to his true character.
- Darcy's pride causes him to overlook Elizabeth's worth.
- Both characters undergo personal growth, learning to see beyond first impressions.

Irony and Wit

Austen's sharp wit and use of irony make *Pride and Prejudice* both humorous and insightful. Her narrative voice often satirizes societal norms, making the novel a witty critique of her time.

Historical Context and Austen's Literary Style

Regency England and Its Influence

The novel is set during the Regency era, a period marked by elegance, social stratification, and economic change. Austen's depiction of this period provides a vivid backdrop that reflects the customs, manners, and societal expectations of the time.

Influences include:

- The importance of marriage for women's social mobility.
- The class distinctions that govern interactions.
- The rise of the middle class and changing economic dynamics.

Jane Austen's Unique Literary Voice

Austen's writing is characterized by:

- Narrative irony: She often comments on her characters and society with subtle humor.
- Realistic characters: Her characters are complex, with flaws and virtues.
- Concise prose: Her language is elegant yet accessible.
- Observational depth: She explores human nature and societal norms with keen insight.

Impact and Legacy of *Pride and Prejudice*

Literary Influence

Pride and Prejudice has profoundly influenced both literature and popular culture. Its themes of love, pride, and social critique continue to resonate, inspiring numerous adaptations into film, television, and stage.

Notable adaptations include:

- The 1940 film starring Greer Garson and Laurence Olivier.
- The 1995 BBC miniseries featuring Jennifer Ehle and Colin Firth.
- Modern retellings and reimaginings across different media.

Scholarly Analyses and Criticism

The novel's enduring relevance has led to extensive scholarly examination, focusing on:

- Its social critique and commentary on gender roles.
- Its narrative structure and use of irony.
- Its influence on the development of the novel as a literary form.

Why Read *Pride and Prejudice* Today?

Despite being over two centuries old, *Pride and Prejudice* remains relevant due to its universal themes:

- The importance of personal growth.
- The critique of societal expectations.
- The enduring quest for love and understanding.

Reading Austen's work offers insight into human nature and societal dynamics, making it a valuable read for anyone interested in literature, history, or social commentary.

Conclusion

In summary, the Jane Austen *Pride and Prejudice* book is a masterpiece that combines sharp wit, profound social insight, and compelling storytelling. Its characters and themes continue to captivate readers, offering timeless lessons about pride, prejudice, and the pursuit of genuine happiness.

Whether enjoyed as a romantic novel or as a keen critique of societal norms, Austen's work remains a vital part of the literary canon, inspiring new generations to reflect on the complexities of human relationships and societal expectations. If you haven't yet explored this classic, it's an essential read that promises both entertainment and enlightenment.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main plot of Jane Austen's 'Pride and Prejudice'?

The novel centers around Elizabeth Bennet and her romantic relationship with Mr. Darcy, exploring themes of love, social class, and misunderstandings in 19th-century England.

Who are the main characters in 'Pride and Prejudice'?

The main characters include Elizabeth Bennet, Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy, Jane Bennet, Mr. Charles Bingley, Mr. George Wickham, and Mrs. Bennet.

What are the key themes in 'Pride and Prejudice'?

Key themes include marriage and social status, pride and prejudice, class distinctions, and the importance of personal growth.

How does Jane Austen portray social class in 'Pride and Prejudice'?

Austen depicts social class as a significant factor influencing characters' relationships and choices, often highlighting the constraints and expectations of 19th-century English society.

Why is 'Pride and Prejudice' considered a timeless classic?

Because of its sharp wit, memorable characters, and insightful commentary on human nature and social dynamics, making it relevant across generations.

Has 'Pride and Prejudice' been adapted into other media?

Yes, it has been adapted into numerous films, TV series, stage productions, and modern retellings, solidifying its status as a cultural classic.

What role does Mr. Darcy play in the story?

Mr. Darcy is initially perceived as proud and aloof but ultimately reveals himself to be kind, noble, and deeply in love with Elizabeth, serving as the novel's romantic hero.

How does Elizabeth Bennet challenge societal expectations in

'Pride and Prejudice'?

Elizabeth challenges societal norms by valuing intelligence and personal virtue over wealth and status, advocating for genuine love and individual choice.

Additional Resources

Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* is undeniably one of the most beloved and enduring classics of English literature. This novel, first published in 1813, continues to captivate readers with its sharp wit, keen social commentary, and timeless exploration of human nature. Austen's masterful storytelling, characterized by nuanced characters and intricate social dynamics, has cemented *Pride and Prejudice* as a cornerstone of both literary history and popular culture. In this comprehensive review, we delve into the novel's themes, characters, stylistic features, and its lasting influence, offering a detailed analysis of why this work remains so profoundly relevant nearly two centuries after its initial publication.

Historical and Literary Context

Jane Austen and the Regency Era

Jane Austen wrote during the late 18th and early 19th centuries, a period known as the Regency era in England. This was a time marked by societal stratification, the rise of the middle class, and rigid gender roles. Austen's novels, including *Pride and Prejudice*, reflect these social realities with sharp critique and satire. The era's emphasis on marriage, social mobility, and propriety forms the backdrop against which the novel's plot unfolds.

Austen herself belonged to the gentry class, and her insider perspective lends authenticity and wit to her depiction of societal nuances. Her observations about manners, class distinctions, and the pursuit of status are woven seamlessly into her storytelling, making her work not just entertainment but also a social commentary.

Literary Influences and Innovations

While Austen's work is often classified within the Romantic tradition, her focus on social realism and character development set her apart from her contemporaries. Influences from earlier novelists such as Samuel Richardson and Henry Fielding are evident, yet Austen innovated by prioritizing irony, free indirect discourse, and a keen psychological insight.

Pride and Prejudice exemplifies Austen's mastery of irony—both verbal and situational—and her ability to depict the complexities of human nature with subtlety and humor. Her narrative voice combines a third-person perspective with a distinctive wit that invites the reader into her characters'

inner worlds.

Plot Overview and Structure

Summary of the Main Plot

Pride and Prejudice centers around Elizabeth Bennet, an intelligent and spirited young woman, and her evolving relationship with the proud and seemingly aloof Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy. The novel opens with the Bennet family's estate, Longbourn, and the arrival of eligible bachelors, which triggers a series of romantic entanglements and misunderstandings.

The narrative follows Elizabeth and Darcy's initial misjudgments—her prejudice based on his haughty demeanor and his own pride rooted in social class—and their subsequent journey toward mutual understanding and love. Alongside the main storyline are subplots involving other characters, such as Jane Bennet's romance with Mr. Bingley and the schemes of Mr. Wickham.

Structural Elements and Literary Techniques

Austen's narrative structure is characterized by its division into chapters that build tension through dialogue, irony, and social commentary. The novel employs free indirect discourse, a technique that allows Austen to shift seamlessly between the narrator's voice and her characters' inner thoughts, creating a layered and nuanced perspective.

The pacing is carefully calibrated, with moments of humor, tension, and reflection interwoven to sustain reader engagement. Austen's use of irony is particularly notable in scenes where characters' perceptions clash with reality, highlighting themes of prejudice and self-awareness.

Themes and Major Motifs

Marriage and Social Status

One of the central themes of *Pride and Prejudice* is the institution of marriage. Austen presents a spectrum of marital arrangements—from the pragmatic and advantageous (Charlotte Lucas and Mr. Collins) to the passionate and genuine (Elizabeth and Darcy). The novel critiques societal pressures to marry for status or security, emphasizing the importance of mutual respect and understanding.

The pursuit of social mobility through marriage is depicted as both a necessity and a source of folly,

with characters' choices driven by economic considerations or societal expectations. Austen advocates for marrying for love, as exemplified by Elizabeth and Darcy's union.

Prejudice and Pride

The title encapsulates the novel's core exploration of how prejudice and pride distort perceptions and hinder genuine connection. Elizabeth's prejudice against Darcy, based on first impressions and societal gossip, clouds her judgment. Conversely, Darcy's pride and social arrogance initially prevent him from recognizing Elizabeth's worth.

Throughout the narrative, characters learn humility and self-awareness, illustrating Austen's belief in the potential for personal growth and the importance of overcoming superficial judgments.

Morality and Personal Virtue

Austen emphasizes the virtues of integrity, humility, and moral rectitude. Characters such as Elizabeth embody these qualities, contrasting with others driven by vanity or greed. The novel promotes the idea that true nobility resides in one's character rather than social rank.

Character Analysis

Elizabeth Bennet

Elizabeth, often celebrated as one of literature's most beloved heroines, epitomizes intelligence, wit, and independence. Her keen observational skills and refusal to conform to societal expectations make her a compelling protagonist. Her journey from prejudice to understanding underscores the novel's moral message.

Elizabeth's vivacity and moral integrity serve as a critique of societal norms that limited women's agency. Her refusal to marry for convenience, and her insistence on marrying for love, reflect Austen's progressive stance.

Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy

Darcy's character arc is equally compelling. Initially portrayed as proud and aloof, he is gradually revealed to be kind, generous, and morally upright. His realization of his prejudices and subsequent efforts to amend his behavior demonstrate themes of humility and integrity.

Darcy's transformation underscores Austen's belief in the capacity for personal growth and the

importance of overcoming pride.

Supporting Characters

- Jane Bennet: Elizabeth's sweet and gentle sister, whose love for Bingley highlights themes of patience and virtue.
- Mr. Bingley: Friendly and affable, Bingley's openness contrasts with Darcy's initial reserve.
- Mr. Collins: A comically foolish clergyman whose marriage proposal to Elizabeth underscores societal pressures.
- Wickham: A charming but morally dubious officer, whose false reputation serves as a cautionary tale about prejudice.

Stylistic Features and Literary Significance

Language and Wit

Austen's language is characterized by clarity, elegance, and humor. Her use of irony, especially through dialogue and narrative commentary, sharpens the satirical edge of the novel. Her wit exposes societal pretensions while endearing her characters to the reader.

Character Development and Dialogue

The novel's depth arises from Austen's nuanced characterization and lively dialogue. Elizabeth's spirited exchanges with Darcy and others reveal her intelligence and moral strength. The dialogue often functions as a vehicle for social critique and humor.

Symbolism and Motifs

- Pride: Symbolizes excessive self-esteem and social arrogance.
- Prejudice: Represents superficial judgments that hinder understanding.
- Marriage: A metaphor for social mobility, virtue, and personal fulfillment.

Reception, Influence, and Legacy

Contemporary and Modern Reception

Upon publication, *Pride and Prejudice* was well-received but initially regarded as a lighthearted romance. Over time, critics recognized its incisive social commentary and psychological depth. Today, it is considered a masterpiece of English literature, studied worldwide and adapted into countless films, television series, and stage productions.

Impact on Literature and Popular Culture

Austen's novel has profoundly influenced the development of the novel as a genre, particularly in its portrayal of complex characters and social critique. Its themes resonate universally, addressing issues of pride, prejudice, love, and societal constraints.

The story's popularity has led to a prolific array of adaptations, from BBC's 1995 miniseries to modern retellings and reinterpretations in various media. Characters like Elizabeth Bennet have become archetypes of intelligent, independent women.

Enduring Relevance

Decades after its publication, *Pride and Prejudice* remains relevant because of its exploration of human flaws and virtues. In an era increasingly valuing authenticity and emotional intelligence, Austen's insights continue to resonate.

Conclusion: Why *Pride and Prejudice* Endures

Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* endures because it masterfully combines entertainment with incisive social critique. Its characters are vividly drawn, its themes universal, and its wit sharp. The novel's exploration of pride, prejudice, love, and morality offers a mirror to society—both past and present—prompting reflection on our own judgments and values.

In a world where social constraints and personal biases still influence relationships, Austen's timeless tale reminds us of the importance of humility, understanding, and genuine virtue. As a literary work, it exemplifies the art of storytelling that is as insightful today as it was over two centuries ago, ensuring its place in the canon of great literature for generations to come.

[Jane Austen *Pride And Prejudice* Book](#)

jane austen pride and prejudice book: The Annotated *Pride and Prejudice* Jane Austen, David M. Shapard, 2012-11-13 The first fully annotated edition of Jane Austen's beloved classic,

presenting the complete text alongside comprehensive, detailed annotations—now revised and expanded with hundreds of new notes and illustrations. A sheer delight for Jane Austen fans, *The Annotated Pride and Prejudice* contains the complete text of *Pride and Prejudice* with thousands of annotations, including:

- Explanations of historical context: Rules of etiquette, class differences, the position of women, legal and economic realities, leisure activities, and more.
- Citations from Austen's life, letters, and other writings: Parallels between the novel and Austen's experience are revealed, along with writings that illuminate her beliefs and opinions.
- Definitions and clarifications: Archaic words, words still in use whose meanings have changed, and obscure passages are explained.
- Literary comments and analyses: Insightful notes highlight Austen's artistry and point out the subtle ways she develops her characters and themes.
- Maps and illustrations: See the places and objects mentioned in the novel.
- An introduction, a bibliography, and a detailed chronology of events

Of course, one can enjoy the novel without knowing the precise definition of a gentleman, or what it signifies that a character drives a coach rather than a hack chaise, or the rules governing social interaction at a ball, but readers of *The Annotated Pride and Prejudice* will find that these kinds of details add immeasurably to understanding and enjoying the intricate psychological interplay of Austen's immortal characters.

jane austen pride and prejudice book: *Pride and Prejudice* Jane Austen, 1994-08-15 Jane Austen's classic story of the five Bennet sisters, all young, all pretty, and all needing husbands.

jane austen pride and prejudice book: *Pride and Prejudice* Jane Austen, 2017-07-21 How is this book unique? Font adjustments & biography included Unabridged (100% Original content) Illustrated About *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen *Pride and Prejudice* is a novel of manners by Jane Austen, first published in 1813. The story follows the main character, Elizabeth Bennet, as she deals with issues of manners, upbringing, morality, education, and marriage in the society of the landed gentry of the British Regency. Elizabeth is the second of five daughters of a country gentleman, Mr. Bennet living in Longbourn. Page 2 of a letter from Jane Austen to her sister Cassandra (11 June 1799) in which she first mentions *Pride and Prejudice*, using its working title *First Impressions*. Set in England in the early 19th century, *Pride and Prejudice* tells the story of Mr and Mrs Bennet's five unmarried daughters after the rich and eligible Mr Bingley and his status-conscious friend, Mr Darcy, have moved into their neighbourhood. While Bingley takes an immediate liking to the eldest Bennet daughter, Jane, Darcy has difficulty adapting to local society and repeatedly clashes with the second-eldest Bennet daughter, Elizabeth. *Pride and Prejudice* retains a fascination for modern readers, continuing near the top of lists of most loved books. It has become one of the most popular novels in English literature, selling over 20 million copies, and receives considerable attention from literary scholars. Modern interest in the book has resulted in a number of dramatic adaptations and an abundance of novels and stories imitating Austen's memorable characters or themes.

jane austen pride and prejudice book: *Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice* Jane Austen, 2018-10-16 Puffin Plated: A Book-to-Table Reading Experience A deluxe, full-color hardback edition of the perennial Jane Austen classic featuring a selection of recipes for tea-time treats by the one and only Martha Stewart! Have your book and eat it, too, with this clever edition of a classic novel, featuring delicious recipes from celebrity chefs. In this edition of Jane Austen's regency classic *Pride and Prejudice*, plan a fancy tea party or book club gathering with recipes for sweet confections and pastries. From maple glazed scones and delicate sugar and spice cake, to berry tartlets and French macaroons. Bring your friends and family together with a good meal and a good book! Book includes full, unabridged text of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, interspersed with recipes, food photography, and special food artwork.

jane austen pride and prejudice book: *Pride and Prejudice* Jane Austen, Donald J. Gray, 1993-01 A Story of lively and rebellious Elizabeth Bennett, one of five unmarried daughters living in the countryside of 19th century England. In a world where obtaining an advantageous marriage is a woman's sole occupation, Elizabeth's independent manner threatens her families future. Will her romantic sparring with the mysterious, sophisticated and arrogant E'Arcy end in misfortune-- or will

love's true nature prevail? -- Jane Austen's superb romantic classic comedy follows a cast of society's elite through the games of love and negotiations of marriage in the countryside of 19th century England. It is a lighthearted commentary on the aristocratic and near-aristocratic English country life. By the use of gentle irony, it shows us our own vanities and prejudices and encourages us to see in every person, an individual to be judged strictly on his or her own merits.

jane austen pride and prejudice book: Pride and Prejudice - Jane Austen (Stage-4) Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice* tells the story of Mr. and Mrs. Bennets five unmarried daughters after the rich and eligible Mr. Bingley and his status-conscious friend, Mr. Darcy, have moved into their neighbourhood. While Bingley takes an immediate liking to the eldest Bennet daughter, Jane, Darcy has difficulty adapting to local society and repeatedly clashes with the second-eldest Bennet daughter, Elizabeth. Though Austen set the story at the turn of the 19th century, it retains a fascination for modern readers, continuing near the top of lists of most loved books.

jane austen pride and prejudice book: *Pride and Prejudice* Jane Austen, 2016-07-16 *Pride and prejudice* : a novel, By Jane Austen complete in one volume *Pride and Prejudice* is a novel of manners by Jane Austen, first published in 1813. The story follows the main character, Elizabeth Bennet, as she deals with issues of manners, upbringing, morality, education, and marriage in the society of the landed gentry of the British Regency. Elizabeth is the second of five daughters of a country gentleman, Mr. Bennet, living in Longbourn. Page 2 of a letter from Jane Austen to her sister Cassandra (11 June 1799) in which she first mentions *Pride and Prejudice*, using its working title *First Impressions*. (NLA) Set in England in the late 18th century, *Pride and Prejudice* tells the story of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet's five unmarried daughters after two gentlemen have moved into their neighbourhood: the rich and eligible Mr. Bingley, and his status-conscious friend, the even more rich and eligible Mr. Darcy. While Bingley takes an immediate liking to the eldest Bennet daughter, Jane, Darcy is disdainful of local society and repeatedly clashes with the Bennets' lively second daughter, Elizabeth. *Pride and Prejudice* retains a fascination for modern readers, continuing near the top of lists of most loved books. It has become one of the most popular novels in English literature, selling over 20 million copies, and receives considerable attention from literary scholars. Likewise, it has paved the way for archetypes that abound in many contemporary literature of our time. Modern interest in the book has resulted in a number of dramatic adaptations and an abundance of novels and stories imitating Austen's memorable characters or themes. The novel centres on Elizabeth Bennet, the second of the five daughters of a landed country gentleman. Elizabeth's father, Mr. Bennet, is a bookish man and somewhat neglectful of his responsibilities. In contrast Elizabeth's mother, Mrs. Bennet, a woman who lacks social graces, is primarily concerned with finding suitable husbands for her five daughters, who will inherit little or nothing from their father due to primogeniture laws. Jane Bennet, the eldest daughter, is distinguished by her kindness and beauty; Elizabeth Bennet shares her father's keen wit and occasionally sarcastic outlook; Mary is studious, devout and musical albeit lacking in taste; Catherine, sometimes called Kitty, the fourth sister, follows where her younger sister leads while Lydia is flirtatious and lacks maturity. The narrative opens with news in the Bennet family that Mr. Bingley, a wealthy, charismatic and sociable young bachelor, is moving into Netherfield Park in the neighbourhood. Mr. Bingley is soon well received while his friend Mr. Darcy makes a less favourable impression by appearing proud and condescending at a ball that they attend (he detests dancing and is not one for light conversation). Mr. Bingley singles out Jane for particular attention, and it soon becomes apparent that they have formed an attachment to each other. While Jane does not alter her conduct for him, she confesses her great happiness only to Lizzie. By contrast, Darcy slights Elizabeth, who overhears and jokes about it despite feeling a budding resentment. Upon paying a visit to Mr. Bingley's sister, Caroline, Jane is caught in a heavy downpour, catching cold, and is forced to stay at Netherfield for several days. Elizabeth arrives to nurse her sister and is thrown into frequent company with Mr. Darcy, who begins to act less coldly towards her. Mr. Collins, a clergyman and heir to Longbourn, the Bennet estate, pays a visit to the Bennets. Mr. Bennet and Elizabeth are much amused by his obsequious veneration of his employer, the noble Lady Catherine de Bourgh, as well as by his self-important and

pedantic nature. It soon becomes apparent that Mr. Collins proposes marriage to Elizabeth, who refuses him, much to her mother's distress. Mr. Collins recovers and promptly becomes engaged to Elizabeth's close friend Charlotte Lucas, a homely woman with few prospects.

jane austen pride and prejudice book: The Novels of Jane Austen Jane Austen, 1911

jane austen pride and prejudice book: Jane Austen Jane Austen, 2009-10-30 *Pride and Prejudice* is Jane Austen's greatest masterpiece, a sharp and witty comedy of manners played out in early 19th Century English society a world where men held the power and women were required to negotiate mine-fields of social status, respectability, wealth, love, and sex in order to marry to their own liking and the advantage of their family. Such is particularly the case of the Bennetts, the family of daughters featured in *Pride and Prejudice*. Their father's estate will be left to a distant relative, at which point they stand to lose everything. This battle of the sexes in *Pride and Prejudice* is largely seen through the eyes of second daughter Elizabeth, who possesses a razor-sharp wit and rich sense of humor and finds herself pursued by the rich but annoying Mr. Darcy, and hindered by her own dim-witted mother and her sister Jane's hopeless love for the wealthy Mr. Bingley. One of the funniest novels ever written, *Pride and Prejudice* is peopled with memorable characters brought vividly to life as they both succeed and fail according to the manners of their era. *Pride and Prejudice* is a masterpiece of wit and style; a timeless novel for the ages.

jane austen pride and prejudice book: Pride and Prejudice Jane Austen, 2020-01-08 *Pride and Prejudice* is a novel of manners by Jane Austen, first published in 1813. The story follows the main character, Elizabeth Bennet, as she deals with issues of manners, upbringing, morality, education, and marriage in the society of the landed gentry of the British Regency. Elizabeth is the second of five daughters of a country gentleman living near the fictional town of Meryton in Hertfordshire, near London. Page 2 of a letter from Jane Austen to her sister Cassandra (11 June 1799) in which she first mentions *Pride and Prejudice*, using its working title *First Impressions*. (NLA) Set in England in the early 19th century, *Pride and Prejudice* tells the story of Mr and Mrs Bennet's five unmarried daughters after the rich and eligible Mr Bingley and his status-conscious friend, Mr Darcy, have moved into their neighbourhood. While Bingley takes an immediate liking to the eldest Bennet daughter, Jane, Darcy has difficulty adapting to local society and repeatedly clashes with the second-eldest Bennet daughter, Elizabeth. *Pride and Prejudice* retains a fascination for modern readers, continuing near the top of lists of most loved books. It has become one of the most popular novels in English literature, selling over 20 million copies, and receives considerable attention from literary scholars. Modern interest in the book has resulted in a number of dramatic adaptations and an abundance of novels and stories imitating Austen's memorable characters or themes.

jane austen pride and prejudice book: Pride and Prejudice - Classic Book Jane Austen, 2017-07-04 *Pride and Prejudice* is a novel of manners by Jane Austen, first published in 1813. The story follows the main character, Elizabeth Bennet, as she deals with issues of manners, upbringing, morality, education, and marriage in the society of the landed gentry of the British Regency. Elizabeth is the second of five daughters of a country gentleman living near the fictional town of Meryton in Hertfordshire, near London. Page 2 of a letter from Jane Austen to her sister Cassandra (11 June 1799) in which she first mentions *Pride and Prejudice*, using its working title *First Impressions*. Set in England in the early 19th century, *Pride and Prejudice* tells the story of Mr and Mrs Bennet's five unmarried daughters after the rich and eligible Mr Bingley and his status-conscious friend, Mr Darcy, have moved into their neighbourhood. While Bingley takes an immediate liking to the eldest Bennet daughter, Jane, Darcy has difficulty adapting to local society and repeatedly clashes with the second-eldest Bennet daughter, Elizabeth. Though Austen set the story at the turn of the 19th century, it retains a fascination for modern readers, continuing near the top of lists of most loved books. It has become one of the most popular novels in English literature, selling over 20 million copies, and receives considerable attention from literary scholars. Modern interest in the book has resulted in a number of dramatic adaptations and an abundance of novels and stories imitating Austen's memorable characters or themes.

jane austen pride and prejudice book: Pride and Prejudice. Novel by Jane Austen, 2016-06-13

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jane austen pride and prejudice book: Pride and Prejudice Jane Austen, 2016-10-03

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jane austen pride and prejudice book: Pride and Prejudice Jane Austen, 2020-01-07

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jane austen pride and prejudice book: Pride and Prejudice By Jane Austen Jane Austen,

1813-01-28 Pride and Prejudice is an 1813 romantic novel of manners written by Jane Austen. The novel follows the character development of Elizabeth Bennet, the dynamic protagonist of the book who learns about the repercussions of hasty judgments and comes to appreciate the difference between superficial goodness and actual goodness. Its humor lies in its honest depiction of manners, education, marriage, and money during the Regency era in England. Mr. Bennet of Longbourn estate has five daughters, but his property is entailed and can only be passed to a male heir. His wife also lacks an inheritance, so his family will be destitute upon his death. Thus, it is imperative that at least one of the girls marry well to support the others, which is a motivation that drives the plot. The

novel revolves around the importance of marrying for love rather than money or social prestige, despite the communal pressure to make a wealthy match. The novel is set in rural England in the early 19th century. Mrs. Bennet attempts to persuade Mr. Bennet to visit Mr. Bingley, a rich bachelor who recently arrived in the neighborhood. After some verbal sparring with her husband, Mrs. Bennet believes he will not call on Mr. Bingley. Shortly afterward, he visits Netherfield, Mr. Bingley's rented residence, much to Mrs. Bennet's delight. At the ball, we are first introduced to the whole Netherfield party, which consists of Mr. Bingley, his two sisters, the husband of one of his sisters, and Mr. Darcy, his dearest friend. Mr. Bingley's friendly and cheerful manner earns him popularity among the guests. He appears attracted to Jane Bennet (the Bennet's eldest daughter), with whom he dances twice. Mr. Darcy, reputed to be twice as wealthy, is haughty and aloof, causing a decided dislike of him. He declines to dance with Elizabeth (Bennet's second-eldest daughter), stating that she is not attractive enough to tempt him. Elizabeth finds this amusing and jokes about it with her friends. Mr. Collins proposes to Elizabeth. Her father informs her that if she doesn't marry Mr. Collins, her mother will never speak to her again, but if she does marry Mr. Collins, her father will never speak to her again. She rejects Collins, to her mother's fury and her father's relief. Shortly afterward, the Bingleys suddenly depart for London with no plans to return. After Elizabeth's rejection, Mr. Collins proposes to Charlotte Lucas, a sensible young woman and Elizabeth's friend. Charlotte, older (27), is grateful for a proposal that guarantees her a comfortable home and a secure future. Elizabeth is aghast at such pragmatism in matters of love. Meanwhile, a heartbroken Jane visits her aunt and Uncle Gardiner in London. It appears that Mr. Bingley has no intention of resuming their acquaintance. Mr. Bingley and Mr. Darcy return to Netherfield. Bingley proposes to Jane, who accepts. Lady Catherine, having heard rumors that Elizabeth intends to marry Mr. Darcy, visits Elizabeth and demands she promise never to accept Mr. Darcy's proposal. Elizabeth refuses and the outraged Lady Catherine withdraws after Elizabeth demands she leave for making insulting comments about her family. Darcy, heartened by his aunt's indignant relaying of Elizabeth's response, again proposes to her and is accepted. Elizabeth has difficulty in convincing her father that she is marrying for love, not position and wealth, but Mr. Bennet is finally convinced. Mrs. Bennet is exceedingly happy to learn of her daughter's match to Mr. Darcy and quickly changes her opinion of him. The novel concludes with an overview of the marriages of the three daughters and the great satisfaction of both parents at the fine, happy matches made by Jane and Elizabeth.

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