

Pride and Prejudice and Zombies: The Classic Regency Romance - Now with Ultraviolent Zombie Mayhem! Study Guide

Pride and Prejudice and Zombies: The Classic Regency Romance - Now with Ultraviolent Zombie Mayhem! by Jane Austen

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Plot Summary

"Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" is a novel by Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith, and details the relationship between Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy against the greater backdrop of a British zombie plague.

When the novel begins, Mrs. Bennet is determined to wed off her five daughters, despite the zombie scourge. Mr. Bennet is mostly concerned about the defense of his estate. Yet, the arrival of new residents - Mr. Charles Bingley, his sisters, and their friend Mr. Darcy, at Netherfield Park - entices Mrs. Bennet to present her daughters to them. Bingley and Jane, the eldest Bennet daughter, hit things off, while Darcy and Elizabeth Bennet, the second eldest daughter, seem to take an instant disliking to one another. As the novel progresses, Elizabeth meets Wickham, who claims to have been wronged by Darcy in the past, thus securing a bad opinion of Darcy for Elizabeth.

Yet, it is later revealed that Darcy has cast Wickham aside due to his profligate waste and debts, as well as breaking his sister's heart. Elizabeth ultimately realizes this is true, and is endeared to Darcy, despite the consternation of Darcy's aunt, Lady Catherine de Bourgh. When Wickham and the youngest Bennet daughter, Lydia, run off, it is Darcy who tracks them down, pays the dowry, and provides for them to be married. Ultimately, Jane and Bingley end up marrying, as do Darcy and Elizabeth, despite the best efforts of Lady Catherine and her ninjas to stop them.



Chapters 1 - 31

Chapters 1 - 31 Summary

Chapter 1 - Following the slaughter of the eighteen-person household at Netherfield Park by zombies, also called unmentionables, Mrs. Bennet is delighted to learn that wealthy Mr. Charles Bingley will be moving in. Mr. Bennet is less concerned about marrying one of his daughters to Bingley, than he is about properly training his girls to defend themselves against zombies, and to defend his own estate. Nevertheless, he gives Mrs. Bennet permission to go and see Bingley.

Chapter 2 - Mr. Bennet himself goes to see Bingley, and announces this to his daughters, Elizabeth, Lydia, and Kitty, and his wife, who are all very excited. Lydia, the youngest daughter, revels in her ability to tempt the opposite sex.

Chapter 3 - Mr. Bingley repays the visit to Mr. Bennet, but doesn't get to see the five Bennet daughters. He later turns down a dinner invitation to the Bennets' because he has business in Hertfordshire, but he invites them instead to a ball at his home. Among those present is Bingley's brother-in-law, Mr. Hurst, and their tall and handsome friend, Mr. Darcy. Darcy is a fine warrior and zombie killer, but he is a disagreeable person. Elizabeth Bennet overhears Darcy telling Bingley that he won't be tempted by girls, and that Elizabeth is not pretty enough to tempt him. Elizabeth intends to slit Darcy's throat, but is interrupted when zombies attack the estate. Mr. Bennet calls for his five daughters - Jane, Mary, Katherine, Elizabeth, and Lydia - to form the Pentagram of Death, which involves the girls drawing their daggers and gathering together to kill the zombies, making quick work of them. Darcy watches all of this unfold. Despite the zombie attack, the Bennet family is well-received, and then they head home to their estate in Longbourn.

Chapter 4 - Jane and Elizabeth talk about the party. Jane is very happy and smitten with Bingley, while Elizabeth is put off by Darcy. She has heard that he was once a very happy man, but has since turned cold because of some betrayal, and no one knows why exactly.

Chapter 5 - The Bennets visit Sir William Lucas, knighted by the king for his wonderful ability to make excellent burial gowns. Sir William and Lady Lucas have a daughter named Charlotte, who at 27, is Elizabeth's best friend. They talk about Darcy. While the other girls believe him to be proud, Elizabeth believes him to be vain as well.

Chapter 6 - The Bennet ladies go and wait on those of Netherfield, including Mrs. Hurst and Bingley's sister, Caroline. It is also apparent that Bingley does seem rather attracted to Jane. While the girls dance and play instruments, Darcy keeps to himself, unimpressed.



Chapter 7 - Mr. Bennet's estate brings in only two thousand pounds a year, with his inheritance dependent upon male heirs, of which there are none. The Bennet sisters often go to the village of Meryton, a mile away, to visit their aunt and a milliner. They do this despite the road being heavily ravaged by zombies. The return of the local militia to town further entices the youngest girls, Katherine and Lydia, to go. Meanwhile, a dinner invitation arrives for Jane from Caroline, and Mrs. Bennet encourages Jane to take a horse instead of the carriage, so that if it rains, she will be forced to spend the night. A note later arrives that Jane has been beaten up in a fight with zombies, and must stay on at Netherfield. Mrs. Bennet is delighted. Elizabeth goes to Netherfield, and Lydia and Katherine accompany her as far as Meryton. From there, Elizabeth fights off some zombies with great success, being a student of Pei Liu of Shaolin. The journey is one of three miles, and when Elizabeth arrives at Netherfield, she is dirty and muddy. Elizabeth stays on in Netherfield, and Bingley sends a carriage to Longbourn for a change of clothes, and Elizabeth's favorite musket.

Chapter 8 - At dinner at Netherfield, Elizabeth comes to dislike those staying on at the house, for their indifference towards Jane. After dinner, Caroline and Mrs. Hurst comment upon Elizabeth's dirty state and her wild walk, while Mr. Bingley doesn't mind at all. Later in the evening, Caroline publicly compliments Darcy's personal library at his home in Pemberley. Caroline also compliments Bingley's younger sister, speaking very well of her. Darcy is proud of his sister, who is as culturally well-rounded as she is deadly. Elizabeth counters that in such times, a woman is either highly-trained or highly-refined. Elizabeth then goes to check on Jane, to find that she is doing worse.

Chapter 9 - A messenger is sent out in the morning from Netherfield for Mrs. Bennet, but the messenger is eaten by zombies, so a second messenger is sent out. Mr. Hones, the doctor, cautions that Jane should not be moved anytime soon. Mrs. Bennet is quite excited when Bingley suggests that Jane continue to stay on. Mrs. Bennet then argues with Darcy over the country being a pleasanter place for a girl, despite roving unmentionables, as opposed to London, which has a fortress-like wall protecting it. Bingley agrees to hosting a ball when Jane is recovered.

Chapter 10 - The next day, Jane is getting better, and Elizabeth joins the others in the parlor, where Darcy is using a card table to write a letter. Caroline compliments Darcy's letter writing, but Darcy is annoyed by her chatter - which Elizabeth can easily see. They later go for a walk, at which time Elizabeth leaves, not wanting to come across any zombies.

Chapter 11 - Elizabeth visits Jane after dinner. Bingley is delighted she is feeling better. Later, Darcy reads a book while the others attempt to find a way to pass the evening. Discussion is made of the impending ball, which will occur when the ground hardens to keep the zombies underground, and those above ground are fewer in number. Darcy is unimpressed, and Elizabeth tells him he seems to hate everyone, which is his defect. Darcy replies that Elizabeth's defect is that she misunderstands everyone.

Chapter 12 - Mrs. Bennet denies Elizabeth's request for their carriage, because she wants Jane to stay on longer at Netherfield. But they entreat Bingley to lend them his



carriage. Darcy is happy to see Elizabeth go, for she is very attractive to him. Mrs. Bennet is not happy to see Jane and Elizabeth when they return. Katherine and Lydia also return from visiting with militia officers in Meryton.

Chapter 13 - Mr. Bennet announces to his wife that his cousin, whom he has never before met, William Collins, who works for Lady Catherine de Bourgh as a clergyman, is coming to visit. He aims to mend the rift between their family, stemming from Mr. Bennet's time fighting the zombies with Collins's father. Mrs. Bennet is delighted, foreseeing a possible match between Collins and one of her daughters.

Chapter 14 - After Collins arrives and dinner is served, the Bennets inquire about Lady Catherine. She resides at Rosings Park, and has only one daughter, who stands to inherit a vast fortune and estate. The daughter is sickly and cannot wield a saber, but is a good girl. Mr. Bennet is inwardly amused by his cousin's silly and absurd nature of gossip and learning. Later, Mr. Collins and Mr. Bennet play backgammon.

Chapter 15 - Mr. Collins is not an educated man, for he has only ever been instructed by his father in simple matters. Accompanying the girls to Meryton, Collins spends most of the time walking beside Elizabeth. They discover that little Penny McGregor has been turned by the zombies. Collin's tobacco and pipe are used to set the zombies ablaze. In town, Mr. Denny, an officer friend of Lydia, introduces her and her company to Mr. Wickham, another officer. Darcy and Bingley go by, and upon seeing Wickham, continue on. Jane and Elizabeth wonder what the meaning of that could be.

Chapter 16 - As Elizabeth and the others travel, news comes of Penny's father attempting to kill himself by throwing himself into a vat of boiling perfume. He is left only blinded and badly injured. Collins explains that Lady Catherine has recently constructed a dojo, and hosts a private guard of ninjas. Mr. Wickham joins Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, the aunt and uncle of the Bennet girls, for dinner. Wickham explains that no one in Hertfordshire likes Darcy, and that his cold relations with Darcy stem from infancy. Wickham is unhappy to be in the military, for he was reared to be in the church, and explains that Darcy's father was his godfather. Darcy, Wickham claims, denied him of an inheritance from Darcy's father out of jealousy. Elizabeth is horrified by this, and wonder how a man as good as Bingley can associate with a man like Darcy. Wickham further says that Darcy's sister is just like him -proud, arrogant, and cruel.

Chapter 17 - Elizabeth relates Wickham's testimony to Jane, who isn't entirely convinced the way that Elizabeth is. Yet, they shift their attention to the upcoming Netherfield ball.

Chapter 18 - The Netherfield ball arrives, and Elizabeth looks for Mr. Wickham among the guests, only to see that he has not been invited. Darcy asks Elizabeth for a dance, and Charlotte cautions her not to annoy Darcy, because Darcy is really nice. Elizabeth questions Darcy about Wickham, and Elizabeth has no patience with Darcy, blaming him for the loss of friendship between them. Darcy tells Elizabeth not to judge him prematurely, and Elizabeth seeks out Jane. Jane reveals that Bingley knows little of the history of Darcy and Wickham. Elizabeth then watches Jane and Bingley conversing,



and getting along wonderfully. At supper, the servants are attacked by zombies, and Darcy commits himself to the task, refusing to allow Elizabeth's dress to become soiled. Darcy makes quick work of the zombies, and beheading the slaughtered household staff members. Elizabeth is impressed by his skills, and wishes that he was as much a gentleman as he is a warrior.

Chapter 19 - Mr. Collins asks Mrs. Bennet for a private audience with Elizabeth, which is granted. Mr. Collins proposes marriage, but Elizabeth declines immediately. Collins vows to press on to win her affections, bewildering Elizabeth.

Chapter 20 - Mrs. Bennet, having overheard the rejection of Collins, assures him that she will make Elizabeth see the light. Mrs. Bennet then goes to plead with Mr. Bennet, who tells Elizabeth she does not have to marry Collins if she does not so desire. Mrs. Bennet is beside herself, and is perplexed by Elizabeth rejecting Collins's offer of marriage. Charlotte comes to visit.

Chapter 21 - Collins spends the day mostly talking with Charlotte. Later, the sisters go to Meryton to inquire after Mr. Wickham, and assaulted by many zombies. At home, a letter arrives from Caroline Bingley, who says that her brother has gone to London on business, and is going to be detained there longer than previously thought, so everyone has left Netherfield. Caroline explains that her brother wants to see Darcy's sister, and Caroline entertains no notion of Jane potentially becoming her sister-in-law. Elizabeth believes it is a ruse, but Jane is saddened.

Chapter 22 - The Lucases host the Bennets for dinner, and Charlotte again occupies Collins. Soon after, Collins and Charlotte become engaged. She explains to Elizabeth that she has been stricken with the plague, and she wants her final months to be happy.

Chapter 23 - Though Elizabeth is unhappy because of Charlotte's condition, she is also worried for Jane, who is said without Bingley. Collins departs for Hertfordshire and returns, his marriage plans approved by Lady Catherine. Mrs. Bennet is terrified that Collins's marriage will mean he shall come to inherit the Bennet household.

Chapter 24 - A letter arrives from Bingley, apologizing for not saying goodbye before he left, but he says nothing romantic about Jane, which upsets her. Jane believes that Bingley wants to marry Darcy's sister, Georgiana, over her. Elizabeth and her father talk about her own love life, and Mr. Bennet suggests any of the officers in town. Elizabeth demurs.

Chapter 25 - For Christmas, the Bennets receive Mrs. Bennet's brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner. Mrs. Gardiner commiserates with Mrs. Bennet over Elizabeth's rejection of Mr. Collins. They are also sad for Bingley's seeming rejection of Jane. Mrs. Gardiner also reveals that Darcy's estate at Pemberley is magnificent, and that he is a gentleman.

Chapter 26 - Despite her aunt's cautioning, Elizabeth does not think she would be a match for Mr. Wickham. While she does find him to be a good man, she is not in love with him. The wedding between Collins and Charlotte occurs, and only Elizabeth notices



that Charlotte has begun to transform. Jane goes to London with the Gardiners, and has not seen Bingley or his sister, yet. Elizabeth hopes this will bring Jane's attention back to combat, leaving love behind.

Chapter 27 - The winter passes. In March, Elizabeth goes to see Charlotte in Hunsford, for she is nearing the end of her transformation. Wickham is sad to see Elizabeth go. Sir William Lucas and his daughter, Maria, accompany Elizabeth. Zombies attack the carriage, and devour the coachman's leg, which Elizabeth cuts off to save the man's life, bringing him into the coach. Elizabeth fights off the zombies, and as they regroup, she takes over the carriage. They speed away, coming near London's southern wall, Britain's Barrier. The coachman dies of his wounds, and is left on the roadside. In London, Elizabeth goes to the Gardiners and Jane, to discover that Wickham has already found a new girl.

Chapter 28 - From London, Elizabeth and the Lucases head to the Parsonage, near Rosings Park. Collins and Charlotte greet Elizabeth at the gate. Charlotte is far along in her transformation, but nobody else seems to notice it, so Elizabeth decides that they are all stupid. Elizabeth, going to sleep that night, wonders how not even Lady Catherine, a fearful zombie slayer, could not have noticed Charlotte's condition. Later that night, Maria wakes up Elizabeth to see Catherine and her daughter in a coach as it goes to Rosings Park.

Chapter 29 - Lady Catherine invites the Collinses and Elizabeth to have tea and spend the evening at Rosings, along with Sir William Lucas and Maria. Lady Catherine reveals she has been working on a serum to slow or reverse the effects of the plague. For the past fifty-five years, no cure has been found, so Elizabeth wonders why Catherine is wasting her time. Catherine and Elizabeth discuss combat, and Catherine is unhappy to learn that the Bennets trained in China instead of Japan, and that there are no ninjas to protect the Bennets. Elizabeth ultimately comes away unimpressed by Catherine, feeling slighted by the insult against her training.

Chapter 30 - Lady Catherine visits Hunsford a few times, during which she invests herself with the tiniest details of her entire estate, right down to how the Collinses arrange their furniture. Elizabeth shows off her skills in combat against three of Catherine's ninjas. Elizabeth then takes a bite out of the hearts of one of the ninjas. It is later learned that Mr. Darcy, and his friend and cousin, Colonel Fitzwilliam, will be coming to visit Rosings, and when he does, Elizabeth inquires if he has seen Jane. Fitzwilliam says he has not.

Chapter 31 - An evening is spent at Lady Catherine's. Darcy reveals that his sister, Georgiana, is continuing with her training, to which Lady Catherine is delighted. Catherine compliments Elizabeth's skill, which Darcy affirms, and this makes Elizabeth blush. Elizabeth also carefully pays attention to how Darcy interacts with Lady Catherine's daughter, but it is obvious there is no love there.



Chapters 1 - 31 Analysis

When "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" begins, Mrs. Bennet is in the midst of a plot to get her daughters married off to wealthy and respectable husbands, while Mr. Bennet is mainly concerned with the defense of the family home, Longbourn. Maintaining a family home -and especially, getting married -are made even worse by a plague of zombies that has been threatening Britain for more than half a century. It is against this backdrop of zombies that the Bennets attempt to live as normal a life as possible, with moderate success.

Conversations between Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy reveal that Mr. Darcy holds only a handful of ladies in the highest esteem -women who are well-rounded in terms of both culture and combat. Elizabeth herself fits this mold nicely, capable of reading intently and dispatching zombies with brutal efficiency and ease. In this sense, Darcy -who is, as himself a man, well-cultured and capable of deadly combat -seems to be the perfect match for Elizabeth. Yet it is as if Darcy is unable to take a breath without some sort of condemnation from Elizabeth for some reason or another. Yet it is this antagonism between the two -based on Elizabeth's misunderstanding of Darcy -that ultimately helps to bring them together.



Chapters 32 - 61

Chapters 32 - 61 Summary

Chapter 32 - Mr. Darcy comes to visit Hunsford, to find only Elizabeth at home. She asks him why he and the others quit Netherfield so quickly, and if Bingley ever planned to return. Darcy responds that he is not aware of Bingley's plans, but says it is unlikely he will return very much. Darcy visits the parsonage quite a few more times, and Charlotte suspects that Darcy may have feelings for Elizabeth. Charlotte also envisions Fitzwilliam marrying Elizabeth.

Chapter 33 - Elizabeth runs into Darcy every so often on her walks through the park. One day, she runs into Fitzwilliam, who explains that Darcy keeps finding one reason or another to put off leaving Rosings. Fitzwilliam also speaks of Georgiana, calling her a wonderful person, and that Bingley is indebted to Darcy for advising him that a certain marriage would have been unwise, because there were strong objections against the lady. Elizabeth takes this to mean that Jane wasn't good enough for Bingley, according to Darcy. This infuriates her.

Chapter 34 - Elizabeth wants to kill Darcy, and will have to kill Fitzwilliam, for he could link her to the crime. Darcy comes by, and Elizabeth tells him he has insulted her family, and he must pay for it -especially for costing Jane happiness in life. She begins kicking him like crazy, knocking him into the mantelpiece, causing it to break. She tells Darcy that her real issues with him took root because of Wickham's explanation of the past. Darcy tells her that she is too proud, and that he should have better guarded his own life from her. Darcy says his own feelings for Elizabeth have been misplaced given her thoughts toward him, and he leaves, after which Elizabeth cries for half an hour.

Chapter 35 - The next day, Elizabeth receives a letter from Darcy. The letter aims to clear the air, to bring light to what Elizabeth thinks has happened. Darcy reveals that he had helped to smother the marriage with Jane, for he had believed Jane to be infected. He was also aghast at the lack of manners and politesse in the Bennet family. Darcy also reveals that Wickham, his father's godson, was financially supported, and supported well. But Wickham was not a kind person, and wasted his inheritance and allowances, eventually causing Darcy to stop supporting him, which had never been his job, besides. In London, Darcy's fifteen year-old sister, Georgiana, planned to elope with Wickham, and ultimately refused to do so, out of fear of hurting her older brother. Wickham's sole interest in Georgiana was her thirty-thousand pound inheritance. He then left, and broke Georgiana's heart, rather than stay to fight for her.

Chapter 36 - Elizabeth is amazed by the letter from Darcy. At first, she doesn't believe what has happened, but then later realizes that Darcy's letter makes the situation with Wickham make sense. She realizes she has totally misunderstood Darcy, and wrongly conceived of her opinions of him.



Chapter 37 - Darcy and Colonel Fitzwilliam leave Rosings the next morning. Catherine insists that Elizabeth stay on another two weeks, but Elizabeth is needed at home for the ground softening, and the return of more zombies. Catherine says that Elizabeth's skills are not so great that they would be missed. Elizabeth is insulted. Catherine consents to let Elizabeth go, telling her to mention the name of Catherine at the Bell in Bromley, so that she will be well-attended to. Elizabeth reads Darcy's letter over and over again, memorizing it by heart. Darcy's letter also clears Bingley of any wrongdoing.

Chapter 38 - Mr. Collins tells Elizabeth that her company has done wonders for Charlotte. Yet, Elizabeth knows that she will never see Charlotte again, for she is almost entirely transformed now. On the way home, Elizabeth and the Lucases stop at a church in Saint Extra, for Elizabeth can smell death in the air. The church is full of the dead, being quickly overwhelmed by the zombies. They continue on. Elizabeth wonders whether or not she should tell Jane of the truth of Bingley, only to decide that it would hurt her sister even more to know the truth.

Chapter 39 - The second week of May arrives. Jane and Elizabeth meet Lydia and Katherine at an inn, where their family carriage is to pick them up. Katherine and Lydia want to go to Brighton for the summer, where the militia will be encamped. As Lydia prattles on during the trip home, Elizabeth envisions herself cutting off Lydia's head. A grand dinner is had at the Bennets's with the Lucases, to welcome all the girls back home. While the sisters want to go to Meryton, Elizabeth declines going, so as not to run into Wickham.

Chapter 40 - Elizabeth at last tells Jane of the altercation between herself and Darcy, and of the truth of Wickham. They wonder whether or not they should expose Wickham, but decide against it in order to prevent a duel between Wickham and Darcy.

Chapter 41 - Wickham's regiment is to retire to Brighton, and the Bennet daughters, especially Lydia, conspire to go. It does not work. But Lydia receives an invitation from the colonel's wife, Mrs. Forster, to accompany her to Brighton. Lydia's flirtatiousness, and Katherine's willingness to do the same, causes Elizabeth anxiety, believing they give the family a poor reputation. Mr. Bennet consents to Lydia going to Brighton. That night, Wickham and other officers dine at the Bennet household. Wickham is interested to learn that Elizabeth has come across Darcy while at Rosings, and Elizabeth reports that he is as he always was. Wickham believes that Darcy was on his best behavior because of the marriage he looks forward to with Lady Cathrine's daughter. Elizabeth knows better, and conceals her amusement.

Chapter 42 - Mr. Bennet's marriage is not a very good one, for Mrs. Bennet is not an intelligent woman. In raising children, Mr. Bennet is able to ensure that at least two -Jane and Elizabeth -would not make his mistakes in marriage, and so they have turned out well-cultured and mature. Elizabeth reflects on China, where her father bedded many Oriental girls, and where she was whipped for daring to question propriety and local custom. Elizabeth looks forward to her northern tour against the zombies, but a letter arrives from Mrs. Gardiner, which delays deployment and makes the tour shorter. Elizabeth joins them on a family tour of the English countryside, from Oxford to



Kenilworth, Among the places they see is Pemberley, Darcy's home. But learning that Darcy is not at home, convinces her to go and see the estate.

Chapter 43 - Pemberley is a beautiful house, with many Japanese touches. Elizabeth wonders if she could have been mistress of the house as Darcy's wife, but then realizes her family, considered impolite, would not have been invited to such a place. Mrs. Reynolds, the housekeeper, is full of nothing but praise for Darcy, calling him the gentlest man in the whole of Britain. As a tour of the grounds is given, zombies attack, but are chased off by Darcy. Elizabeth blushes again and again in Darcy's presence, who gives Elizabeth his musket, and then rides off.

They come across Darcy again, who invites Mr. Gardiner to fish the ponds and rivers whenever he wishes. Elizabeth wonders why his manners are suddenly so informal, why he is so relaxed. She wonders if it is for her. Darcy explains that the following day, he will be receiving guests, including Bingley and his sisters -and Georgiana, who wants very much to meet Elizabeth. She accepts immediately. Later, the Gardiners tells Elizabeth that they are pleased with Darcy, and very moved by his kindness. Elizabeth then sets them straight on the record with Wickham.

Chapter 44 - Darcy and Georgiana come to visit the Gardiners and Elizabeth in Lambton, where they are staying. Georgiana is very shy, but very happy to meet Elizabeth. Bingley also shows up, and asks after Jane -and Elizabeth sees there is nothing between Georgiana and Bingley that could be construed as romance. Mr. Gardiner is ultimately invited to go fish.

Chapter 45 - Elizabeth now realizes that Caroline Bingley's dislike of her originates in jealousy of her and Darcy. Caroline continues on in this fashion with Georgiana, but Georgiana is endeared to Elizabeth, and will not speak ill of her at all. Darcy refers to Elizabeth, then, as one of the most beautiful women he has ever seen.

Chapter 46 - Elizabeth receives word that Lydia has run off with Wickham to Scotland. It is possible that it may have been against Lydia's will. Elizabeth relates the situation to Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner, for Mr. Gardiner's assistance is requested. Elizabeth breaks down into tears, considering Lydia lost forever, since she can offer no money or dowry. Darcy is horrified by the situation, and takes his leave. The Bennet household is in an uproar, and Elizabeth returns to Longbourn.

Chapter 47 - The Gardiners and Elizabeth wonder if Lydia was truly kidnapped, or if she really did decide to run away with Wickham. They wonder if Wickham and Lydia are married; and if so, why -for Lydia has no money, and Wickham is in want of money. Back at home, Mrs. Bennet is helplessly sick, vomiting frequently. It is believed that Mr. Bennet, who has gone out after Wickham, will attempt to engage him, and will probably be killed in so doing. A letter from Colonel Forster's wife, which reveals that Lydia is well and intends to marry Wickham. Yet other news of the search is not forthcoming.

Chapter 48 - There is no new news from Mr. Bennet in the morning post. As Mr. Gardiner travels in pursuit of Wickham, he finds a legacy of debts and malice wherever



Wickham has been. Additionally, Colonel Forster discovers that Wickham has shamed many girls in his wake, and has left a mess of debts at Brighton. Mr. Bennet later returns to Longbourn. Bennet blames himself for what has become of the family. Mr. Bennet is determined to finish raising his girls like ladies instead of warriors.

Chapter 49 - A letter arrives from Mr. Gardiner. It details that Wickham and Lydia are to be married, and in London. Wickham asks only five pounds per year to offset the cost of linens, and has no needs of a dowry. Wickham has become a cripple, and Lydia will tend to him for life. The family is anxious to know how much money Mr. Gardiner has laid down for this turn of events, including to help pay off Wickham's debts. Upon learning of the marriage to be, Mrs. Bennet is at once no longer sick.

Chapter 50 - Mr. Bennet wonders about setting aside money for his other daughters, to prepare them in case of his death. While he agrees to help Mrs. Bennet find a house nearby for Wickham and Lydia, he will not let them come and stay at Longbourn. Elizabeth wonders how the turn of events with Wickham will affect her relationship with Darcy. Mr. Gardiner reveals in a letter that Wickham will go to Ireland to enter the priesthood, and the Bennets are relieved by this.

Chapter 51 - The wedding and reception come, and great festivity is had. Lydia exults her position as a married woman, lording it over her sisters. Lydia lets it slip that Darcy had been present at her wedding. Elizabeth is shocked and perplexed by this.

Chapter 52 - Elizabeth receives a letter from her uncle, Mr. Gardiner. It explains that it was Darcy who tracked down Wickham and Lydia. Darcy blames himself for not letting Wickham's true nature be known more clearly. Darcy comes to an agreement of a thousand pounds a year with Wickham to marry Lydia, to restore the Bennet family's good name. From there, it was decided that Wickham would be rendered a cripple to atone for his past evils, and be sent to enter the priesthood. Everything that has happened in good order had been because of Darcy. Elizabeth is flabbergasted.

Chapter 53 - Lydia and Wickham leave. Mrs. Bennet is the only one saddened by their departure. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Bingley and Mr. Darcy come to call on the Bennets. After turning down a dinner invitation for that evening, they head out.

Chapter 54 - A party at Longbourn brings in many guests, including Darcy and Bingley. Bingley and Jane seem to pick up right where they left off, with Bingley very admiring of her. Jane, however, plays hard to get, and this slightly ruffles Bingley.

Chapter 55 - Bingley agrees to dinner with the Bennets, for Darcy is no longer present. The day will begin with shooting the first of the autumn zombies with Mr. Bennet. They both enjoy the activity. With an engagement on between Bingley and Lydia, he becomes a welcome and regular visitor at the Bennets'. The engagement makes the reputation of the Bennets flourish.

Chapter 56 - One morning, Lady Catherine shows up unannounced. She demands to know if Elizabeth has designs on Darcy, and says that it must be an impossible thing. Catherine also reveals that her serum helped to give Charlotte a few extra months of



time for happiness. Catherine further says that the marriage between her daughter and Darcy has been planned for them since birth. When Elizabeth refuses to promise that she will never marry Darcy, Catherine challenges Elizabeth to a duel. Elizabeth defeats her, and forces her to leave Longbourn.

Chapter 57 - Elizabeth wonders what rumor Catherine would have heard that would have led her to believe there was an engagement with Darcy. Word comes from Colonel Fitzwilliam that Charlotte has been beheaded, and Collins dead from suicide. It was Darcy and Fitzwilliam who mentioned the potential of marriage with Elizabeth that sent Catherine into a rage.

Chapter 58 - Bingley and Darcy come to call upon Elizabeth and Jane. Katherine goes for a walk with them. Elizabeth confirms to Darcy that her opinion of him has entirely changed. Darcy admits she has humbled him, and he is grateful for it. As they head back, a horde of zombies comes along, but they begin feasting on cauliflowers, mistaking them for brains. Darcy and Elizabeth then fight side by side to dispatch them.

Chapter 59 - Elizabeth is now engaged to Darcy. Jane is happy, though cautious for her sister. Their conversation is interrupted by Mrs. Bennet, who sees Darcy and Bingley coming toward the house. Darcy meets with Mr. Bennet in the library, after which time, Elizabeth is asked for. Mr. Bennet has given his consent, but Elizabeth wants her father to understand that Darcy is truly a good man, and so recounts the entire experience of her relations with him, including the Wickham escapade. Mrs. Bennet is overjoyed by news of two more marriages.

Chapter 60 - Elizabeth and Darcy talk about their love. Darcy has long been in love with Elizabeth, and has always hoped that she would return his love. They agree to have the family up at Pemberley for Christmas.

Chapter 61 - Married life for Elizabeth and Jane consists of many family visits. Jane and Bingley move away from Longbourn, because Jane longs for fighting zombies. Georgiana and Elizabeth get along splendidly. Lady Catherine is unhappy by the marriage, and has her ninjas attack Pemberley, but they are beaten back. Ultimately, Catherine comes around, and a reconciliation is had. And the zombies keep on.

Chapters 32 - 61 Analysis

As if their own personalities and zombies weren't enough to cause dissension between Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy, the insertion of both Wickham and Lady Catherine into the plot cause further misunderstandings and issues, on the part of Elizabeth. Elizabeth is of the mind that Darcy has greatly wronged Wickham, and that Catherine -like her assumptions about Darcy -appears nothing more than unseemly proud, vain, and elitist. Indeed, Catherine proves to be a more dangerous foe than the zombies, for not only is she an excellent combatant, but her wealth, power, and prestige make her a zombie in her own right in the world of the unstricken.



Yet, ultimately, Darcy sets the record straight, about both Wickham and his own unease with the impropriety of the Bennets. Elizabeth, upon careful consideration, realizes that Darcy is absolutely correct in his assertions about her family's propriety -but also is telling the truth about his association with Wickham. It is Elizabeth who stands up to Lady Catherine, making it possible that a marriage could exist between herself and Darcy, and even after a ninja attack on the married Elizabeth and Darcy's estate, a reconciliation is ultimately had.

By the end of the novel, three of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet's daughters are married, with a fourth in prospects, and the fifth at home for the time being to help defend Longbourn. Mrs. Bennet's marriage machinations are thus highly successful. Yet, despite this escapism into the world of courtship and marriage, the zombie plague rages on, unabated, across Britain.



Characters

Elizabeth Bennet

Elizabeth Bennet is the main character and principal protagonist of the novel "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" by Jane Austen and Seth Graham-Smith. At twenty years old, she is the second-eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet, and the sister of Jane, Mary, Katherine, and Lydia. Elizabeth is fiery and independent, but utterly devoted to her family, in particular, her father. Elizabeth is a splendid young woman, having been trained in the arts of culture in England, and the art of combat in China, so that she can read as effectively as she can kill zombies, which she does very well. She is absolutely beautiful, and in conjunction with her personality and capabilities, catches the interest of Mr. Darcy.

When at first Elizabeth meets Darcy, they dislike one another, seemingly, with Elizabeth taking the lead in so doing. Elizabeth considers Darcy to be pompous and too proud, faults which she holds against him, in addition to the entire experience with Wickham. Yet, when Darcy reveals the truth of the situation with Wickham to Elizabeth, and later tracks down Wickham and the flighted Lydia, securing them in marriage by a gift of a dowry and an annual stipend, Elizabeth realizes she has been utterly and totally wrong about Darcy. Ultimately, Elizabeth fights off Lady Catherine and her ninjas, when Elizabeth refuses to not marry Darcy. By the end of the novel, Elizabeth and Darcy are married, and happily so, for they kill zombies together.

Fitzwilliam Darcy

Fitzwilliam Darcy is the principal love interest of Elizabeth Bennet in the novel "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies", though they spend much of the novel in antagonism toward one another. Darcy is a very wealthy man, tall, and proud. He is the older brother of Georgiana, the nephew of Lady Catherine de Bourgh, and the cousin of Colonel Fitzwilliam. Darcy is very proper, but very kind, and lives behind the walls of propriety. He is very well-educated and well-cultured, and is a famous zombie killer. Darcy is mistaken for a villain by Elizabeth, for his casting aside of Wickham, and his uncomfortableness with the impropriety of the Bennet family. Yet, Elizabeth learns in due course that the affair with Wickham was mainly to protect Georgiana, and that Darcy is actually in love with Elizabeth. Despite the anger and ire of Lady Catherine, Darcy and Elizabeth end up married and slaughtering zombies together.

Lady Catherine de Bourgh

A famous zombie killer, and the aunt of Darcy, Lady Catherine de Bourgh is a very wealthy and very powerful woman who is determined that Darcy should marry her own daughter. Catherine spares no expense to insult Elizabeth and her family, not to mention Elizabeth's training. Catherine attempts to kill Elizabeth to stop her from



marrying Darcy, but she fails. She later sends ninjas on a failed mission after Darcy and Elizabeth when they are married, but is ultimately reconciled with Darcy and Elizabeth in the end.

George Wickham

George Wickham is an officer in the militia, and is generally the antagonist of the novel. Leaving children, shamed women, and bad debts in his wake, Wickham is a charismatic man with an evil interior. Growing up with Darcy, Wickham wasted his fortune, and blames his later misfortunes on being cast aside by Darcy. In truth, Wickham is a profligate fraud, breaking the heart of Darcy's younger sister, Georgiana, by leaving when he learns that he shall not see a penny of Georgiana's inheritance. Wickham later runs off with Lydia Bennet, and is forced into marriage by Darcy's interjections, and money. Wickham is turned into a cripple for his heinous past, and then forced into the priesthood in northern Ireland.

Jane Bennet

At twenty-two, Jane Bennet is the most beautiful and eldest of the Bennet sisters. Well-versed in culture and combat, she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet. Jane meets and is immediately endeared to Charles Bingley, but her shy nature and refusal to reveal her feelings to him leads to a misunderstanding, which separates them. Jane is ultimately reunited with Bingley through Darcy's intervention, and she and Bingley are married.

Charles Bingley

Charles Bingley is a wealthy twenty-three year old aristocrat who takes the house at Netherfield Park to enjoy the country. It is there that he brings his sisters and Mr. Darcy, and meets the Bennets. Charles falls in love with Jane, but because she is shy, Darcy is convinced she does not like Bingley, and so Bingley removes to London. Bingley is ultimately set straight by Darcy, and Bingley comes back to the country to marry Jane.

Mr. Bennet

Mr. Bennet is the patriarch of the Bennet household at Longbourn. Bennet is unfailingly kind, dedicated to combat, and to the idea that each of his five daughters should be expertly trained in zombie combat. As such, they have spent time in China to learn the ways of such combat. Mr. Bennet is not interested much in his wife's plans to marry off their daughters, and Bennet later blames himself for not more carefully instructing his younger daughters in terms of culture and intelligence, rather than focusing on combat. Mr. Bennet ultimately gives his consent to both Elizabeth and Jane to marry Bingley and Darcy, respectively.



Mrs. Bennet

Mrs. Bennet is the wife of Mr. Bennet. She is kind but precocious woman, whose main objective in the novel, despite the zombie plague, is to marry her daughters to wealthy men. Such distractions allow her to escape from horrors of the undead plague.

Lydia Bennet

Lydia Bennet, at fifteen, is the youngest daughter of the Bennets. She is flirtatious, empty-headed, and pretty, and falls in love with Wickham, ultimately running off with him and marrying him.

Georgiana Darcy

Georgiana Darcy is the beautiful and talented younger sister of Mr. Darcy. At sixteen, she is well-cultured and capable in combat. She has had her heart broken by Wickham, who left her when he discovered that marriage to her would not produce a dowry. Georgiana takes a quick liking to Elizabeth, and is happy to see her brother happy with Elizabeth.



Objects/Places

England

England is the main setting for the novel. London and Meryton are in England, as are each of the respective family homes in the novel.

Meryton

Meryton is a country town located near Longbourn and Netherfield Park. It is where the militia comes to stay for a time, and where the Bennet family shops and entertains themselves.

Longbourn

Longbourn is the Bennet family estate. It is where the Bennets, including Jane and Elizabeth, live and play. It is vigorously defended against zombies by the Bennets.

Netherfield Park

Netherfield Park is a large country residence, whose previous occupants have been slaughtered by zombies. It is then inhabited by the Bingleys and Mr. Darcy for a period of time, and visited by the Bennets.

Rosings Park

Rosings Park is the great estate of Lady Catherine de Bourgh, upon which a parsonage is attached for Mr. Collins and his wife, the zombie-turning Charlotte.

London

London is the capital of England, and is surrounded by a wall to keep the zombies out. It is where Darcy, Bingley, and Jane stay for various parts of the novel.

Cauliflowers

Cauliflowers in gardens are often mistaken by zombies for brains. On one such occasion, this allows Elizabeth and Darcy to effectively dismantle the zombies.



Muskets

Muskets are carried and used by Darcy, Elizabeth, and the Bennet sisters to dispatch and fight zombies.

Daggers

Daggers are worn by all the Bennet girls about their ankles, and are used several times throughout the novel to kill and behead zombies.

Throwing Stars

Throwing stars are used unsuccessfully by Lady Catherine's ninjas in the attempt to duel and kill Elizabeth.



Themes

Love

Love is a major, dominant, and overarching theme in the novel "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" by Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith. Love appears in two very important ways in the novel: that of romantic love, and that of familial love. Both affect the other, and in turn, affect the overall plot of the novel.

In terms of romantic love, love appears primarily between the characters of Elizabeth and Darcy, and between the characters of Jane and Bingley. It is a good marriage for both Elizabeth and Jane that their mother seeks, and beyond wealth, love is important to Jane and Elizabeth. While it appears as though most of what passes between Elizabeth and Darcy is antagonism, it is actually a fiery sort of a courtship, and with each situation or event, the two are drawn closer together. It is through their courtship that the truth about Wickham is revealed, and concerns about Jane's feelings for Bingley are resolved. Indeed, the attraction between Jane and Bingley is much sweeter and romantic than with Darcy and Elizabeth, and the courtship between Jane and Bingley ultimately ensures that Darcy and Elizabeth are to exist in the same orbit.

In terms of familial love, love appears primarily between the members of the Bennet family, and between Darcy and his younger sister, Georgiana. The love between the Bennet sisters compels Jane and Elizabeth into an alliance together against Darcy and Bingley at one point, with neither sister willing to betray the other for either man. This leads to further division between the girls and their respective interests. For Darcy, the protection and love of his sister, Georgiana, trumps that of honestly speaking about his dealings with Wickham, intending to preserve his sister's honor and outward appearance, rather than his own.

Pride

Pride is a major, dominant, and overarching theme in the novel "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" by Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith. Pride includes holding a high opinion of oneself, of one's capabilities and achievements, and of one's independence. Pride, specifically, affects the characters of Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy.

For Mr. Darcy, pride consists of having a high opinion of himself, his class, his accomplishments, and in holding himself up to his own high expectations of people. Darcy is therefore very formal outwardly, preferring propriety in social settings more so than anything else. While he does not necessarily look down on those who do not live up to the standards he holds for himself, he does not look past these faults, either. He expects everyone to conform to the same levels of propriety. This is what causes much antagonism between Darcy and Elizabeth.



Elizabeth's pride comes by way of not realizing she is being proud. Her love for her family makes her extremely proud of herself and her situation in life, and she is indeed prejudiced from the start against Darcy, whose own propriety she mistakes for vanity. Yet, the more she gets to know Darcy, the more she realizes that her own pride has been a hindrance to getting to know who he is. When both at last abandon their pride for one another, they find love.

Zombies

The theme of zombies is a major, dominant, and overarching theme in the novel "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" by Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith. Zombies - the walking undead - are variously referred to as a plague, a scourge, Satan's army, and unmentionables. The zombie plague began fifty-five years before the events of the novel, and its source and origin are unknown. Yet, zombies have become a major issue for the people of England, treated with a sort of relaxed wariness by some (such as when Bingley and Mr. Bennet go out hunting zombies for sport) and as an utter danger by others (vis-a-vis the combat training of the Bennet sisters). Indeed, the zombies are more dangerous than anything, for they are wont to crash parties, mutilate household staffs, and massacre entire churches full of people.

It is against the backdrop of roving zombies and traveling hordes of the undead that many in England attempt to carry on with life as normally as possible, either due to denial or refusal to submit to the horrors of the times. This includes Mrs. Bennet, who is absolutely determined that her daughters shall be married to rich men of good class. Others, like Mr. Bennet, Darcy, Elizabeth, and Jane, attempt to lead as normal a life as possible, while still taking into account the realities of the zombie situation. As such, people like Elizabeth are both culturally-refined as well as combat-ready.



Style

Point of View

Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith tell their novel "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" in the third-person omniscient narrative mode. This is done for at least two reasons. First, the third-person omniscient-narrative mode affords the writer the ability to tell the novel in an objective and removed formal tone, thus making the novel more authentic and realistic. The second is that the third-person omniscient narrative mode allows the writer to take a few moments aside here and there to explain certain things to the reader, which may, in a first-person narrative mode, be seen as jarring and distracting from the course of the plot.

Setting

Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith set their novel "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" in early nineteenth-century England. This is done for at least two reasons. The first is that England allows the perfect setting for a clash of classes and zombies, and by way of manners, civility, formality, and propriety. The second reason is that Jane Austen's original novel, "Pride and Prejudice", was set in early nineteenth-century England, and by so setting "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" in early nineteenth-century England, Grahame-Smith stays true to Austen's original formula except for the zombies.

Language and Meaning

Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith tell their novel "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" in language that is educated, traditional, and formal. Given the time and the setting of the novel, such formal and proper language is very appropriate, and further enhances the authenticity, accuracy, and believability of the events of the novel.

Structure

Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith divide their novel "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" into sixty-one chronological, linear chapters, divided up occasionally by illustrations of the events of the novel. The simple and straightforward structure of the novel allows the reader to focus on the events of the novel, and to make way through the sometimes difficult language, rather than to distract the reader's attention from the plot. The illustrations further serve to provide a visual representation of the events of the novel, further securing the reader's comprehension and understanding of the plot.



Quotes

It is a truth universally acknowledged that a zombie in possession of brains must be in want of more brains.

-Chapter 1, p. 7

"God has no mercy. And neither must we."

-Chapter 15, p. 59

"It is particularly incumbent on those who never change their opinion, to be secure of judging properly at first."

-Chapter 18, p. 75

"An unhappy alternative is before you, Elizabeth. From this day you must be a stranger to one of your parents. Your mother will never see you again if you do not marry Mr. Collins, and I will never see you again if you do; for I shall not have my best warrior resigned to the service of a man who is fatter than Buddha and duller than the edge of a learning sword."

-Chapter 20, p. 88

She grew absolutely ashamed of herself. Of neither Darcy nor Wickham could she think without feeling she had been blind, partial, prejudiced, absurd. Had she her dagger, Elizabeth would have dropped to her knees and administered the seven cuts of dishonor without a moment's hesitation.

-Chapter 36, p. 165

"In essentials, I believe, he is very much what he ever was."

-Chapter 41, p. 183

"There is something a little stately in him, to be sure," replied her aunt, "but it is confined to his air, and is not unbecoming. I can now say with the housekeeper, that though some people may call him proud, I have seen nothing of it. Such horsemanship! Such musketry!"

-Chapter 43, p. 206

"But Jane knows, as well as I do, what Wickham really is. We both know that he has been profligate in every sense of the word; that he has neither integrity nor honour."

-Chapter 47, p. 227



The Bennets were speedily pronounced to be the luckiest family in the world, though only a few weeks before, when Lydia had first run away, they had been generally proved to be marked out for misfortune.

-Chapter 55, p. 283

How earnestly did she then wish that her former opinions had been more reasonable, her expressions more moderate! It would have spared her from explanations and professions which it was exceedingly awkward to give; but they were now necessary, and she assured him, with some confusion, of her attachment to Mr. Darcy.

-Chapter 59, p. 307

Topics for Discussion

Discuss the theme of love in the novel "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" by Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith. In what forms does love appear in the novel? Which characters do these forms of love primarily affect, and how? Is love therefore a positive or a negative thing in the novel - or both? Explain.

Why does Lady Catherine de Bourgh so ardently object to Elizabeth marrying Darcy? What does Catherine do in attempt to stop the marriage beforehand, and after? Is Catherine justified in these pursuits? Why or why not?

Discuss the theme of pride in the novel "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" by Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith. What is pride? How does it affect the characters of Elizabeth and Darcy? Can either one be faulted for their pride? Why or why not?

Why does Mr. Bennet blame himself for the way that his three younger daughters have turned out? Is he justified in blaming himself for the way they have behaved and acted, especially in light of the zombie plague? Why or why not?

Discuss the theme of zombies in the novel "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" by Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith. Describe the history of the zombie scourge. How do the characters of Darcy, Elizabeth, Mr. Bennet, Mrs. Bennet, and Bingley, attempt to deal with the zombie situation? Which do you believe is the appropriate response? Why?