

NOVEL 1 PROJECT: AMAZON REVIEW EXAMPLE

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every hour

611 words

CONQUERING MY PREJUDICE ★★★★★

“It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife.” Imagine a book that begins with Victorian society’s decisive opinion on marriage and matchmaking. I did not initially want to read a novel about Victorian society, but Jane Austen’s *Pride and Prejudice* eventually won my love and respect. Miss Austen teaches her readers that first impressions and society are not always correct, and that people can easily be blinded by pride and prejudice. Amid tumultuous romances, her main protagonist, Elizabeth Bennet, must overcome false love, vicious rumors, and her initial prejudice towards Mr. Darcy to develop true love for him and to see him as he really is. Mr. Darcy must reject society's pressure to marry for money and position, learn humility, and see beyond Elizabeth's socially awkward family to her good character and sensible wisdom. Is overcoming these harsh prejudices and skewed perceptions even possible? With true love it is.

Austen’s intriguing character development really strengthens the plot. Elizabeth is very likeable, and she is the obvious protagonist because of the clear contrast between her witty, lovable character and her silly family. Her mother and sisters act like the society of the day in their matchmaking attempts, and they treat people differently based on what they think they can get out of them. Elizabeth is wiser and more mature in her choices and actions. She is guarded in her feelings towards the manipulative Mr. Wickham and does not naively accept every proposal that comes her way. She indicates that she will not be in a hurry to fall in love. Austen's descriptions of Mr. Darcy also show us how outward appearances influence people’s view of others. At the beginning of the book, Darcy is portrayed as a horrible person, and everybody says that “he is eaten up with pride.” Even Elizabeth calls him "that abominable Mr. Darcy," but later she

conquers her bias and gets to know and appreciate the real man, and then she changes her tune.

This novel has a limited omniscient viewpoint that is effective, but it is not as favorable for a modern audience. A first person viewpoint would make this story far more relatable, if the reader could see Mr. Darcy through both Elizabeth's eyes and personal thoughts. His character seems to become progressively worse with each encounter they have. At the beginning of the story, Elizabeth believes every evil thing she hears about him, including false rumors that he stole from her friend, Mr. Wickham, and the knowledge that he kept her sister Jane from marrying her true love, Mr. Bingley. Elizabeth especially despises Darcy's pride. As the story progresses, she realizes the truth about his intentions and sees more of his true and honorable character as he demonstrates his dependability and rescues her family from scandal and ruin when her sister Lydia runs away. This change in perspective is very dramatic to the reader who is as blind to the truth as she is at first. However, a first person viewpoint would make her even more relatable, increase the suspense, and give us a more intimate look at her struggles and challenges.

This novel really takes you on a rollercoaster of ups and downs as Elizabeth confronts her own prejudice and learns to see someone through the eyes of true love. One of my favorite final quotes is when she admits, "I am the happiest creature in the world. Perhaps other people have said so before, but not one with such justice. I am happier even than Jane; she only smiles—I laugh!"

*******YOU MAY NOT GO OVER TWO (DOUBLE SPACED) PAGES.*******