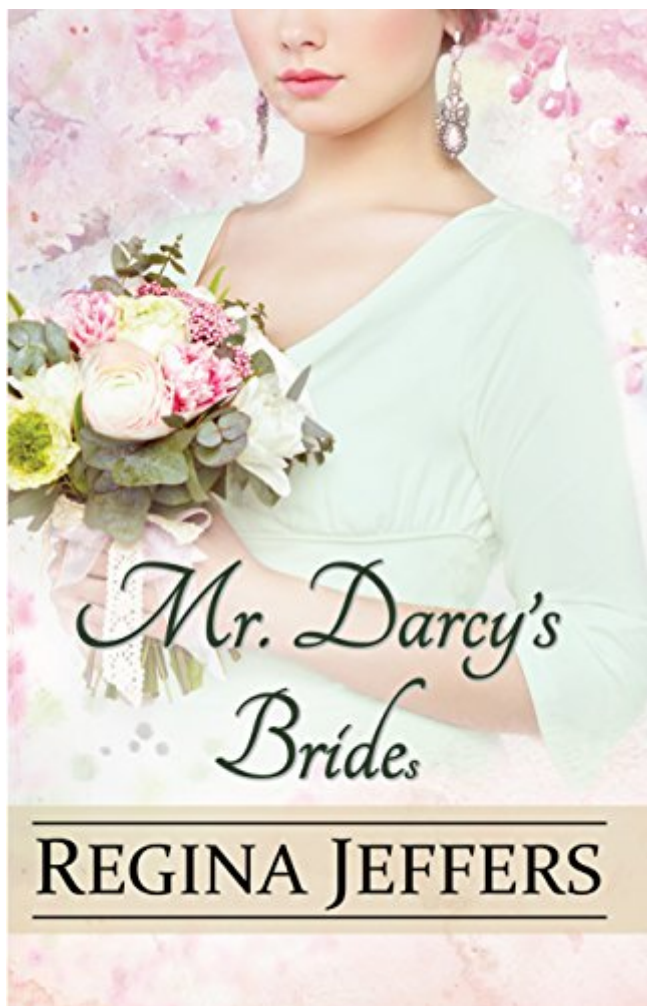


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Mr. Darcy's Bride(s): A Pride And Prejudice Vagary



Synopsis

I much prefer the sharpest criticism of a single intelligent man to the thoughtless approval of the masses. ELIZABETH BENNET is determined that she will put a stop to her mother's plans to marry off the eldest Bennet daughter to Mr. Collins, the Bennet heir to Longbourn, but a man that Mr. Bennet considers an annoying dimwit. Hence, Elizabeth disguises herself as Jane and repeats her vows to the supercilious rector as if she is her sister, thereby voiding the nuptials and saving Jane from a life of drudgery. Yet, even the best laid plans can often go awry. FITZWILLIAM DARCY is desperate to find a woman who will assist him in leading his sister back to Society after Georgiana's failed elopement with Darcy's old enemy George Wickham. He is so desperate that he agrees to Lady Catherine De Bourgh's suggestion that Darcy marry her ladyship's sickly daughter Anne. Unfortunately, as he waits for his bride to join him at the altar, he realizes he has made a terrible error in judgement, but there is no means to right the wrong without ruining his cousin's reputation. Yet, even as he weighs his options, the touch of Anne's hand upon his sends an unusual zing of awareness shooting up Darcy's arm. It is only when he realizes the zing has arrived at the hand of a stranger, who has disrupted his nuptials, that he breathes both a sigh of relief and a groan of frustration, for the question remains: Is Darcy's marriage to the woman legal? What if Fitzwilliam Darcy and Elizabeth Bennet met under different circumstances than those we know from Jane Austen's classic tale: Circumstances that do not include the voices of vanity and pride and prejudice and doubt that we find in the original story? Their road to happily ever after may not, even then, be an easy one, but with the expectations of others removed from their relationship, can they learn to trust each other long enough to carve out a path to true happiness?

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Customer Reviews

Lately I've been awful about writing reviews but I can't contain how much I love this vagary. I'm a huge JAFF fan and read anything I can that has to do with P&P. I usually get burnt out and then read other genres for a bit. I was at that point when I picked up this book, and BAM! I was reeled in. I literally read this book in less than 24 hrs. Just loved everything about this story. If I could give it a 10 star I would. The premise of this vagary is that while Mr Bennet is deathly ill, Mrs B writes to Mr Collins to offer her oldest daughter Jane in marriage to save the family. Lizzy trying to save her sister disguises herself to look like Jane so that the marriage would be a sham. Unfortunately Lizzy arrives at the wrong church and crashes Mr Darcy's wedding to Anne DeBourge. Thus saving Mr Darcy who was having second thoughts of being coerced into marrying Anne. And saving Jane because no one showed up to that wedding. What a mess. Darcy tries to confront his savior but Lizzy had taken off. Lady C is spitting venom and Darcy goes on to hunt down Lizzy. WOW! The story takes off from there and the bulk of it is the interaction between Darcy and Lizzy and trying to keep Lady C at bay. Wonderful journey and I highly recommend. A Definite must read!

And so begins a new JAFF story by Regina Jeffers. The story starts with Mr. Darcy standing at the altar reluctantly waiting to marry his cousin Anne. We also see Elizabeth plotting to prevent Jane's marriage to Mr. Collins which was arranged by Mrs. Bennett while Mr. Bennett is incapacitated. Fortunately, Elizabeth ends up at the wrong church and "marries" Mr. Darcy. The story then takes the reader on an interesting journey to HEA for our favorite couple that goes to Scotland, Pemberley and Longbourn. I really enjoyed the author's depiction of Elizabeth and Darcy as they must determine whether they are legally married. Due to threats from Lady Catherine, Elizabeth travels with Darcy to Scotland where they pretend to be married. During their travels Darcy and Elizabeth enjoy a wedding celebration for a local couple in Scotland and wake up the next morning with a marriage certificate slipped under their door. And, so starts another round of "are we married". I

found this story very entertaining and loved the interaction between Darcy and Elizabeth. I especially enjoyed Elizabeth's character which seemed much more introspective as she reflects on her family's history and the trust issues that result.

Funny, romantic, passionate, creative plot and a thrilling read. Mr Bennet is ill and to secure the family in case of his demise, Mrs Bennet arranges for Jane to marry Mr Collins even though she has never met him. To rescue her sister, Elizabeth dress up as Jane to take her place. In the meantime, in another church, Mr Darcy has succumbed to his families expectation and is awaiting Anne at the alter... To not spoil your read I will not reveal anymore of the plot... Lady Catherine is vile though and Wickham makes an appearance but to my satisfaction they are both dealt with appropriately. Darcy is manly but adorable, Elizabeth is headstrong but generous, I loved how Jeffers portrayed them in this story. A fabulous story I heartily recommend!

So much creative storyline, angst, fun, and manipulations that I was drawn in and finishing the story when I should have been long asleep. No spoilers from me, but if you enjoy different 'what ifs' for Lizzy and Darcy, then I highly recommend.

This wonderful author has done it again. A crazy beginning all the way to a fantastic ending. Enjoyed it immensely and I have read 100s of variations. 5 stars.

The only thing I really disliked (hence five stars anyway) was that all the way through the book, Georgiana refers to and calls her brother "Darcy" instead of William. That was truly disconcerting, as it appeared so impersonal. However, the story overall was excellent and fresh in its story line; a great read.

Ouch! And Darcy's two possible mothers-in-law are Catherine de Bourgh and Mrs. Bennet! Now there's an appropriate punishment for bigamy! That's right: Darcy has multiple marriages. And multiple marriages bring up questions: 1st Marriage "is it valid? 2nd Marriage "did it happen? 3rd Marriage "will it happen? Marriage ceremony: an incredible metaphysical sham of watching God and the law being dragged into the affairs of your family. ~O.C. Ogilvie This story occurs before the Bennets meet the Bingleys or Darcys. When Mr. Bennet is ill Mrs. Bennet contacts Mr. Collins to arrange a forced marriage for Jane. Elizabeth concocts a scheme to save Jane by pretending to be the bride, thus invalidating the marriage vows.

(SPOILER: It would have made more sense just to help Jane run away before the wedding could occur; but then we wouldn't have this intriguing story) Elizabeth has a faulty memory; hires the wrong hansom cab driver who delivers her to the wrong church where the wrong wedding takes place. There is so little difference between husbands you might as well keep the first. ~Adela Rogers St. Johns Is her marriage valid? Is either man her true husband? How will Lady Catherine punish her? SPOILER Darcy helps Elizabeth escape from London to Scotland. The visit to the Allards was an interesting section of the story: Mrs. Allard is another Caroline Bingley "rich through trade but having the hauteur of a countess. Darcy vows to ruin the Allards; we see the beginning of his revenge but not the end. It seems just a bit incomplete but it isn't central to the plot. Another little thing which is not central to the plot is a phrase I had not heard before: Stuck his Spoon in the Wall. I had to Google this: it means he took up residence and sometimes it means he took up his long residence in death. In primitive times a leather strap was nailed to the wall, somewhere near the fireplace. In this strap were stuck such things as scissors, spoons, pen-case and so on. Mr. Bennet uses the phrase to Mr. Collins to say he isn't dead yet and probably won't be for a while. This is an entertaining clean story that I would recommend to anyone who likes JAFF. Mother-in-law: a woman who destroys her son-in-law's peace of mind by giving him a piece of hers. ~Author Unknown

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