```
she;
                         Mr.
                                     Bennet
                                                     replied that he had not. "But it is,"
                                                                                                       return
                                                                                                                                                                                    "for M
                                                                                                                                                                                                 rs. Long has just been here, and sh
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      e told me all
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            about i
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          Mr. B
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      ennet
                                                       answer. "Do you not want to kno
                                                                                                      w wh
                                                                                                                                                                                                   taken it?" cried his wife impatien tly
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          "You want
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            to t
                                         de no
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            me.
                                                                                                                                                                                                   as invitation enough. "Why, my
                                            nd l
                                                       have no objection to hearing it.
                                                                                                       Th
                                                                                                                                                                                         is w
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               dea
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       r. vou mus
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          t kn
                               Mrs. L
                                                        says that Netherfield is taken by
                                                                                                                                                                           man o
                                                                                                                                                                                         f la
                                                                                                                                                                                                    rge fort une from the north of Engla nd; that he
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     e dow
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              Mon
                                             ong
                                                                                                                oung
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          cam
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                n on
                                                                                                      a y
                                                       a chaise and four to see the plac
                                                                                                                                                                                                                 h delighted with it, that he agreed with
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              s im
                                                                                                                                                                         wa
                                                                                                                                                                                         S SO
                                                                                                                                                                                                    muc
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              rri
                                            ately
                                                       ; that he is to take possession be
                                                                                                                        M
                                                                                                                                     ich
                                                                                                                                                                                                   nd s om e of his servants ar e to be in the hous
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          he
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             of n
                                                                                                      fore
                                                                                                                                                                                        as, a
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          e bv
                                                                                                                                                    gle?""
                                                      at is his name?" "Bingley." "Is he
                                                                                                                                                                                      ! Sin
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           hous
        t week.
                                          ''Wh
                                                                                                       marri
                                                                                                                     ed
                                                                                                                                        or sin
                                                                                                                                                                                                  gle, my de ar, to be sure! A si ngle man
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          ort
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           une: fo
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      ur or fiv
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              e t
                                What a fin
                                                    e thing for our girls!" "How so? How
                                                                                                                                                                                                                    replied his wife, " how c
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              an you
nd
     a year.
                                                                                                            can it a
                                                                                                                                         ffect them?"
                                                                                                                                                                            My dear M
                                                                                                                                                                                                    Be nnet,"
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 be so ti
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              resome! You m
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 ust know
                                                    thinking of his marrying one of them
                                                                                                                                                                                                          de sign in settli ng h ere?" "D esign! No
at I
                                                                                                                                                                                               hat his
      am
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    nsen
                                                 can you talk so! But it is very likely that he
                                                                                                                                                                                              may fall in love with o ne of them, and ther efore you m
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  ust vi
how
sit him
                                             oon as he comes." "I see no occasion for that. Y
                                                                                                                                          and the girls
                                                                                                                                                                                         ay go, or you may send them by themselv
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       es, which perhaps
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               ill be still bett
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              r, for as
                                                                                                                                                                           ertainly have had my sh are of bea uty, but I do not pretend to be anything extraordinary n
                               some as any of them, Mr. Bingley may like you the best of the party." "M
           as hand
                                                                                                                                   y dear, you flatter me. I c
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       ow. When a woman has f
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 ive grown-up daug
you are
                             to give over thinking of her own beauty." "In such cases, a woman has no
                                                                                                                                                                          uty to think of." "But, my dear, y ou must indeed go and see Mr. Bingley when he comes int
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    o the neig
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              od." "It is more than
hters, sh
               e ought
                                                     " "But consider your daughters. Only think what an esta
                                                                                                                                                                          blishment it would be fo rone of them. Sir William and Lady Lucas are determined to go
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              merely on that accou
I engage 1
                             or. I assure vou.
                                                                                                                                                                           will be impossible for u s t o vis it him if you do not." "You are over-scrupulous, surely.
nt, for in g
                              eneral, vou kno
                                                       w, they visit no newcomers. Indeed you must go, for it
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               dare say Mr. Bingley
 will be ver
                               glad to see yo
                                                         u; and I will send a few lines by you to assure him
                                                                                                                                                                           f my hearty consent to his mar rying whichever he chooses of the girls; though I must thr
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               ow in a good word f
                                                                                                                                                                           e others; and I am sure she is not half so h
or my little
                                 "I desire yo u w ill do
                                                                                 no such thing. Lizzy is not a bit b
                                                                                                                                   etter
                                                                                                                                               tha
                                                                                                                                                               n th
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                andsome as Jane, nor half so good-h
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ured
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               Lydia. But you are al
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       umo
                               r the preference." "The
                                                                                                                                                               em,'
                                                                                                                                                                           replied he; "they are all s illy and ignorant
     ys giving
                                                                                ey have none of them much to rec
                                                                                                                                   omm
                                                                                                                                            end th
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              like other girls; but Lizzy h
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        as s
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ome
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               g more of quickness
                                                                                                                                                                           ou take delight in ve xing me. You have no
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  compassion for my poo
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               ou mistake me, my
now what I suffer." "
than her siste rs
                                  "Mr. Bennet . how
                                                                        ca n you abuse your own children in
                                                                                                                                  such
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       r ner
                                                                                                                                            a wav
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ves.
                              gh respect for your n e rves. Th ey are my old friends. I have heard
         I have a hi
                                                                                                                                             ment
                                                                                                                                                                            them with consider ation these last twent
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   y years at least." '
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    ot k
dear.
                                                                                                                                   you
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        vou
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     do n
But I h ope you
                               will get over it, a nd I ive to see m any young men of four thousand a y
                                                                                                                                                            e i nto
                                                                                                                                                                            the neighbourhood ." "It will be no use to
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    us, if twenty such sho
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       uld c
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                ce you will not visit
                                                                                                                                  ear
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ome
                                                                                                                                                 com
                                                                                                                                                Ben net wa ss
them.'
            'Depen
                               d upon it, my dear, t hat when there are twenty, I will visit them all.
                                                                                                                                   Mr.
                                                                                                                                                                           o odd a mixtu
                                                                                                                                                                                                   re of qu ick parts , sar
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 castic humour, reserve,
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 that the experience
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        and
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      cap
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    rice.
                                                                      sufficient to make his wife understand
                                                                                                                                                                            ind was les s difficult to develop.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 She was a woman of me
of thre e-and-tw
                                                                                                                                  his c
                                                                                                                                                haracter. He r m
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       an u
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     nder
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    stan
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                ding, little informati
on, and uncertai
                               n temper. When she was discontented, she fancied herself nervous. T
                                                                                                                                              u siness of h er li
                                                                                                                                                                            fe was to get her daug hters marrie
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              d; its solace was visiting
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                apter 2 Mr. Bennet
                                                                                                                                  he b
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       and
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     new
                               arliest of those w ho waited on Mr. Bingley. He had always intended to
                                                                                                                                                                            to the la st always
                                                                                                                                                                                                         assuring his w
was am ong the e
                                                                                                                                   visi
                                                                                                                                             t him, tho
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               ife that he should not go
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       and
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      till t
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    he e
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                vening after the visi
                                                                                                                                                              ugh
t was paid she ha
                               d no knowledge o f it. It was then disclosed in the following manner.
                                                                                                                                  Obse
                                                                                                                                                               his s
                                                                                                                                                                            econd daughter employed in trimmin
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       a hat, he suddenl
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     dres
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                her with: "I hope Mr
                                                                                                                                             rving
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      y ad
. Bingle y will like i
                               t, Lizzy." "We ar e not in a way to know what Mr. Bingley likes," said
                                                                                                                                  her
                                                                                                                                             moth e
                                                                                                                                                                            entfu IIy, "since we are not to visit." "B
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       ut you forget, mam
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      said
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 abeth. "that we sha
                                                                                                                                                               r res
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      ma.
Il meet h im at the a
                                ssemblies, a nd that Mrs. Long promised to introduce him." "I do not
                                                                                                                                                               Mrs.
                                                                                                                                                                            Lo ng will do a ny such thing. She has
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     two nieces of her ow
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      n. Sh
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    e is a
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     self
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 ish, hypocritical w
oman, an d I have no
                                opinion of he r." "No more have I," said Mr. Bennet; "and I am glad t
                                                                                                                                                                            d o not depe nd on her serving you."
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                ply, but, unable to
                                                                                                                                 o fin
                                                                                                                                              d th at
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           Mrs. Bennet deigned not to
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ke an
                                                                                                                                                                you
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       ma
                               n scolding on e of her daughters. "Don't keep coughing so, Kitty, for
                                                                                                                                                                               ! Have a litt le compassion on my
contain herself, bega
                                                                                                                                  Heav
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          nerves. You tear them to pie
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ty h
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 as no discretion in
                                                                                                                                               en's
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      ces.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            all to be, Lizzy?" "To-morr
her coughs," said he
                                              sh e times them ill." "I do not cough for my own amusem
                                                                                                                                                                            Kitty fretfull y. "When is your next b
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      ow f
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ortni
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ght.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  " "Aye, so it is," cri
                                                                                                                                                 rep
                                 rs. Long d oes not come back till the day before; so it will be impo
ed her mother, "and M
                                                                                                                                 ssib
                                                                                                                                                    for h
                                                                                                                                                               er to
                                                                                                                                                                           introduce him, for she will not kn
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            ow him herself." "Then, my
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     u m
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 ay have the advant
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       dea
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     r, yo
                                    introd uc e Mr. Bingley to her." "Impossible, Mr. Bennet, impossi
                                                                                                                                               wh en la
age of your friend, and
                                                                                                                                                               m n ot acquain ted with him myself
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            ; how can you be so teasing
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     I hon
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     our
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 your circumspecti
                                     ntan ce is certainly very little. One cannot know what a man rea
on. A fortnight's acquai
                                                                                                                                                    by th
                                                                                                                                                                    end of a fo rtnight. But if we d
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                o not venture somebo
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    se wi
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     II: a
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  nd after all. Mrs. L
                                 mu st sta nd their chance; and, therefore, as she will think it an a
ong and her daughters
                                                                                                                                 ct of
                                                                                                                                                    indne
                                                                                                                                                                  ss, if you decline the office, I wi
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      Il take it on myse
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     rls s
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  tared at their fathe
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     he gi
 r. Mrs. Bennet said on
                                           Non sense, nonsense!" "What can be the meaning of that e
                                                                                                                                 mph
                                                                                                                                                              amation?" c ried he. "Do you con
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        sider the forms
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     of in
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ctio
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  n, and the stress t
                                                                                                                                                    ic excl
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     trodu
  hat is laid on them, a
                                  s nonsens e? I cannot quite agree with you there. What say you, M
                                                                                                                                ary?
                                                                                                                                               For you a re a young lady of deep reflection
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         , I know, and re
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    reat
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     boo
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  ks and make extra
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ad g
                                    y someth ing sensible, but knew not how. "While Mary is adjusti
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 ngley," cried his w
ct s." Mary wished to sa
                                                                                                                                ng h
                                                                                                                                               er ideas,
                                                                                                                                                              "he contin ued, "let us return to M
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         r. Bingley." "I a
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    m sic
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    k of M
                                       at; but why did not you tell me that before? If I had known as
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          led on him. It is
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  ; but as I have act
       "I am sorry to hear th
                                                                                                                               much
                                                                                                                                                   his morning I certa inly would not have cal
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      ver
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    y unl
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ucky
                                         ot esc ape the acquaintance now." The astonishment of the
ually
        paid the visit, we cann
                                                                                                                                               e s was just what h
                                                                                                                                                                             e wished; that of Mrs. B
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         ennet perhaps
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     assin
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  e rest; though, wh
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    surp
                                                     she began to declare that it was what she had expe
en the
          first tumult of joy was
                                                                                                                                cted
                                                                                                                                                  all the while. "Ho
                                                                                                                                                                             w good it was in you, m
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          v dear Mr. Ben
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    net!
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    But I
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  w I should persua
                                           over,
             t last. I was sure you lo ved y our girls too well to neglect such an acquaintance d never said a word abou t it till now." "Now, Kitty, you may cough as much a his wife. "What an excelle nt fath er you have, girls!" said she, when the door w
           at last. I was sure you lo ved y
                                                                                                                                 We
                                                                                                                                                  li, how pleased I a
                                                                                                                                                                             m! and it is such a goo
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          d joke, too, th
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    at yo
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    u sho
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     uld
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  have gone this mo
de you
            d never said a word abou t it till
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           spoke, he left
rning an
                                                                                                                               S VO
                                                                                                                                                                              r. Bennet; and, as he
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    room
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  iqued with the ra
ptures of
                                                                                                                                             hut. "I do not kno w
                                                                                                                                                                              how you will ever ma
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            ke him amen
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    ds fo
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    r his
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     kind
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  ness; or me, eithe
                                                                                                                               as s
                                                          not so pleasant, I can tell you, to be making n ingley will dance with you at the next ball."
                                                                                                                                          cquaintances every day
                                                                                                                                                                               but for your sakes,
 r, for that
               matter. At our time of lif e it is
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            we would do
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    thing.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      Lyd
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   ia, my love, thoug
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     any
  h you are
                  the youngest, I dare say Mr. B
                                                                                                                                        said Lydia stoutly, "I am
                                                                                                                                                                              not afraid; for thoug
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             h I am the v
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    oung
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    est. Ì
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     m th
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   e tallest." The res
                  vening was spent in conj ecturi
                                                             ng how soon he would return Mr. Bennet's v
     t of the e
                                                                                                                                       and determining when t
                                                                                                                                                                              hey should ask him
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              to dinner
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    ter 3
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     Not a
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   II that Mrs. Benn
                                                               five daughters, could ask on the subject, w
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   criptio
      et. howe
                    ver, with the assistance of her
                                                                                                                                    sufficient to draw from
                                                                                                                                                                              her husband any sa
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               tisfactorv
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     des
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     n of
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   Mr. Bingley. They
                                                               efaced questions, ingenious suppositions,
       attacked
                      him in various ways--with bar
                                                                                                                                   and distant surmises; b ut
                                                                                                                                                                               he eluded the skil
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               I of them
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    and th
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   ere at last oblige
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ey w
                                                               of their neighbour, Lady Lucas. Her repor
                      t the second-hand intelligence
                                                                                                                                 t was highly favourable.
                                                                                                                                                                                William had bee
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                n delight
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   ed w
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    ith hi
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     m. H
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   e was quite youn
         to accep
          wonderf
                       ully handsome, extremely agre eable, and, to crown the whole, he mean
                                                                                                                               t to be at the next assem bly w
                                                                                                                                                                               ith a large party.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                Nothing
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    ld be
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     more
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    delightful! To be
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    cou
           d of dan
                       cing was a certain step toward s falling in love; and very lively hopes o
                                                                                                                             f Mr. Bingley's heart wer
                                                                                                                                                                               tertained. 'If Lc
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                an but s
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   e of m
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     y da
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   ughters happily s
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   ee on
            d at Neth erfield," said Mrs. Bennet to he r husband, "and all the others equally
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    ngley returned M
  ettle
                                                                                                                           well married, I shall have
                                                                                                                                                                              hing to wish fo
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                r." In a 1
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   ew d
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   ays M
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     r. Bi
                                                                    ith him in his library. He had entertain
                                                                                                                         ed hopes of being admitt
                                                                                                                                                                               a sight of the
  r. Ben
             net's visi t, and sat about ten minutes w
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               young la
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    beauty he had he
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   dies.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ose
                           he saw only the father. The la
                                                                                                                                                                              of ascertainin
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    hat he wore a bl
                                                                    dies were somewhat more fortunate
                                                                                                                        , for they had the advant
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            a from an
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    r wind
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ow t
  ard m
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   uppe
                at, and r ode a black horse. An invitatio n to dinner was soon afterwards
                                                                                                                 dispatched; and already h
                                                                                                                                                                                rs. Bennet pl
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           anned the
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   ses th
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     at we
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    re to do credit to
  ue co
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   cour
                               ping, when an answer arrived ation, etc. Mrs. Bennet was quite disconcerted. She could not imagine what busines
   her h
                 ousekee ping, when an answer arrived
                                                                                                                                                                                following d
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       nd, conseque
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  ntly,
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   unable
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    ccept the honour
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              ay, a
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      to a
   of th
                                                                                                                                                                               could have
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               in town so soon afte
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   arrival
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    ertfordshire; and
   she b
                                 fear that he might be always f lying about from one pl ace to another, and never s
                                                                                                                                                                                 at Netherfiel
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              d as he ought to be. L
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  ady L
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    d her fears a littl
                   egan to
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                                                                                                       large party for the ball; and a
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  e by s
                     tarting
                                 the idea of his being gone to L
                                                                           ondon only to get a
                                                                                                                                                                                 soon follow
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    ve ladies and se
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                                 en with him to the assembly. The egirls grieve dover such a number of ladies ought only six with him from Lon don--hi s five sisters and a cousin. And w
                      entlem
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                                                                                              s five sisters and a cousin. And w
  twelv
                      e he br
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    of only five alto
                                                                                        nd of the eldest, and another young m a n.M
 aethei
                                    ingley, his two sisters, the husba
                                                                                                                                                                                ngley w
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              as good-looking and
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  gent
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      like:
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 nt cou
                         ntenan
                                     ce, and easy, unaffected manners
                                                                                    . His sisters were fine women, with an
                                                                                                                                                                 ecid
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   r. Hur
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    erely looked the
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  gentl
                                     ut his friend Mr. Darcy soon dre with attention of the room by his fine,
                                                                                                                                                                n, ha
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                features, noble mi
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                         man; b
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   genei
                                       tion within five minutes after
                                                                                 his entrance, of his having ten thousa nd a
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                           circula
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                                                                                                                                                                                gentleme
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                                       d he was much handsomer th an Mr. Bingley, and he was looked at with
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 e ladie
                    s d
                           eclare
                                                                                                                                             great
                                                                                                                                                                                 ation for
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                out half the evening
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 g, till
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      anne
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    his m
                                        the tide of his popularity; fo r he was discovered to be proud; to b e abo
 st whi
                    ch t
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                                                                                                                                                                                 pany, and
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                ove being pleased
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      large estate in
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                                      d then save him from havi ng a most forbidding, disagreeable co unten
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   is frien
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     d. Mi
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       Bingley had s
                                                                                                                                             ance.
                                                                                                                                                                 and
                                                                                                                                                                                                         thy
                              hims elf acquainted with all t he principal people in the room; he was I
                    ade
                                                                                                                                             and un
                                                                                                                                                                                 rved, danced
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     e bal
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      I closed so earl
 oon m
                                                                                                                                                                 rese
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 ery dance, was a
                              d of giving one himself at Netherfield. Such amiable qualities must speak
                                                                                                                                              emselv
                                                                                                                                                                 es. W
                                                                                                                                                                                 hat a contrast
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  ween him and hi
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                s frie
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   nd! Mr
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       . Dar
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     cy danced only
 y, and
                              Mrs. Hurst and once with Miss Bingley, declined being introduced to any o ther lad
                                                                                                                                                                                 t the rest of th
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 ening in walking
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  once
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                              one of his own party. His character was decided. He was the proudest, mo st disag
 sional
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                                                                                                                                                                e ma
                                                                                                                                                                                 n in the world.
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  everybody hop
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      ould
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      never come the
                             mongst the most violent against him was Mrs. Bennet, whose dislike of his genera
                                                                                                                                                                  viou
                                                                                                                                                                                 r was sharpen
                                                                                                                                                                                                       ed int
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               o particular resen
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      s hav
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      ing slighted on
 re agai
                            aughters. Elizabeth Bennet had been obliged, by the scarcity of gentlemen, to sit do
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      n standing nea
 e of he
                                                                                                                                                                                 dances; and d
                                                                                                                                                                                                       urina
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              part of that time. M
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                r. Dar
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  cy had
                                                                                                                                                                 two
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       bee
 r enou
                          h for her to hear a conversation between him and Mr. Bingley, who came from the dan
                                                                                                                                               e for
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               friend to join it. "C
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  Darcy,
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       said
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       he, "I must ha
                                                                                                                                                                                  minutes, to p
                                                                                                                                                                                                       ress h
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                ome.
                                                                                                                                                                                 nce." "I certai
                          dance. I hate to see you standing about by yourself in this stupid manner. You had mu
                                                                                                                                             ch bett
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       al
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              I not. You know ho
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      unle
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 ve you
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 larly ac
                        quainted with my partner. At such an assembly as this it would be insupportable. Your s
                                                                                                                                              isters
                                                                                                                                                                 are e
                                                                                                                                                                                 ngaged, and t
                                                                                                                                                                                                       here is
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              ot another woman
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      whom
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        it would not b
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        n
                       ishment to me to stand up with." "I would not be so fastidious as you are,
                                                                                                                                            Bingley
y." "Yo
                                                                                                                                                                                  r a kingdom!
                                                                                                                                                                                                       Upon
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             y honour, I never m
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                et wit
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  h so m
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       leasant girls i
e a pun
                     fe as I have this evening; and there are several of them you see uncomm
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                                                                                                                                                                                                        the o
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            y handsome girl in t
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      r. Darcy, looki
n my li
                                                                                                                        only prett
                                                                                                                                                                 u are
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ng at th
                  e eldest Miss Bennet. "Oh! She is the most beautiful creature I ever beh
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                                                                                                                                                                                  e of her sister
                                                                                                                                                                                                       s sitti
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            down just behind v
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                                                                                                                                                                 s on
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      ery p
                 ery agreeable. Do let me ask my partner
                                                                                                                                                                  ich d
                                                                                                                                                                                  o you mean?
                                                                                                                                                                                                        and t
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             ing round he looke
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               d for
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       t Elizabeth, till
e say v
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 catchi
                 ng her eye, he withdrew his own and co
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ent to g
                  ive consequence to young ladies who
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                                                                                                                                                                                   men. You ha
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                  ting your time with m e." Mr. Bingley
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       ordial feelings
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                                                                                                                                            his adv
                                                                                                                                                                                  Mr. Darcy wal
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are was
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 toward
                     him. She told the story, howeve
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                       hing ridic
                                           ulous. The eveni
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           whole family. Mrs.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              Benn
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uahter
                                          much admired by
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                                                                                                                                                                                    Bingley had
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v his s
                                       sters. Jane was as
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re. Mar
                                   d heard herself menti
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                                                                                                                     Miss Bi
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ia had
                           een fortunate enough neve
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refore,
                            good spirits to Longbourn
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till up.
                           th a book he was regardles
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ning wh
                            had raised such splendid e
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                           n found out that he had a dif
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but he
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                                                                                                                                                                                      'Oh! my dea
                                                                                                                                                                                                         r Mr. Be
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        ad a most del
                                                                                                                                             tory to
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ightful
                            ning, a most excellent ball. I wis
                                                                                                                                            d been t
                                                                                                                                                                                     Jane was so
                                                                                                                                                                                                          admire
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 rybody
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                     eve
                                                                                                                   h you ha
                                                                                                                                                                  here.
                                                                                                                  e beautifu
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     hink of that, my dear: h
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         ith her twice!
 looked
                             d Mr. Bingley though
                                                                                                                                             I. and d
                                                                                                                                                                                    d with her tw
                                                                                                                                                                                                          ice! Onl
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                              as the only creatu
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 and sh
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                                                         , he did
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 up with
                              ! But, however
                                                                                                                 not admire
                                                                                                                                             her at
                                                                                                                                                                  all: in
                                                                                                                                                                                      eed, nobody
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         e as she was
                      her
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                                                     e. So he inquire
                                                                                                     d who she was, and
                     dow
                              n the danc
                                                                                                                                            got intr
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 going
and the
                               fourth with M aria Lucas, and the two fift
                                                                                                    h with Jane again, an
                                                                                                                                                                 o sixt
                                                                                                                                                                                   h with Lizzy,
                                                                                                                                                                                                         and the B
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   langer--" "If he had had
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            any c
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                ompass
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       ion f
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        or me," cried
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   ou
                               husband impatiently, "he would n
                                                                                                    ot have danced half s
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   o more of his partners.
                                                                                                                                                                  o mu
                                                                                                                                                                                                          sake, sa
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          had spraine
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  y n
                             d his ankle in the first dance!" "O
                                                                                                    h! my dear, I am quite
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        ome! And his
                                                                                                                                                                                                          him. He
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    s so excessively hands
                              sisters are charming women. I
                                                                                                     never in my life saw
                                                                                                                                                                                        ything mo
                                                                                                                                                                                                         re elega
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     t than their dresses. I
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          dare say th
                            e lace upon Mrs. Hurst's gown
                                                                                                                                                                                                         ain. Mr. B
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ennet protested agai
                                                                                                       --" Here she was inte
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            nst any d
                                                                                                                                                                                        rrupted ag
escription of finery
                              She was therefore obliged
                                                                                                       to seek another bran ch of the subject, and re
                                                                                                                                                                                        lated, with
                                                                                                                                                                                                          much b
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       itterness of spirit a
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              nd some exaggeration, the shock
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             ing rude
                            f Mr. Darcy. "But I can ass
                                                                                                        ure you," she added
                                                                                                                                                              that Lizzy d
                                                                                                                                                                                       oes not los
                                                                                                                                                                                                         e muc
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        h by not suiting h
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               : for he is a mo
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            st disagre
                                                                                                          all worth pleasing. S
                            eable, horrid man, not at
                                                                                                                                                                                     o high and s
                                                                                                                                                                                                         O C
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           onceited that the
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          re was no e
                            nduring him! He walked h
                                                                                                           ere, and he walked t
                                                                                                                                                                                       here, fancy
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               ng himself
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            so very gr
                             eat! Not handsome enoug
                                                                                                            h to dance with! I w
                                                                                                                                                                                         ish you h
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ad
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   been th
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             ere, my d
                             ear, to hav e given him o
                                                                                                             ne of your set-down
                                                                                                                Chapter 4 When J
                             s. I quite d etest the man.
                              ane and E lizabeth were a
                                                                                                              lone, the former, wh
                              o had be en cautious in h
                                                                                                             er praise of Mr. Bingl
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              ey before, expressed
                                                                                                                                             him. "He is just what a young man ought to be," said she "sensible, good-humoured, lively; and I never saw such happy manners!--so much ease, wit abeth, "which a young man ought likewise to be, if he possibly can. His character is thereby complete." "I was very much flattered by his asking me to dance a second time. I
                               to her s ister just how v
                                                                                                           ery much she admired
h such perfect good
                               breeding
                                            !" "He is also
                                                                                                          handsome," replied Eliz
                                complim ent." "Did not
                                                                                                                                             that is one great difference between us. Compliments always take you by surprise, and me never. What could be more natural than his asking you again? He could not help s
did not expect such a
                                                                                                         you? I did for you. But
                                                                                                                                           n in the room. No thanks to his gallantry for that. Well, he certainly is very agreeable, and I give you leave to like him. You have liked many a stupider person." "Dear Lizzy!" "O
eeing that you were ab
                                out five
                                           times as pret
                                                                                                       ty as every other woma
                                                                                                     to like people in general at I think." "I know you d
                                                                                                                                            You never see a fault in anybody. All the world are good and agréeable in your eyes. I never heard you speak ill of a human being in your life." 'I would not wish to be hasty in
h! you are a great deal
                                 too apt,
                                             you know,
censuring anyone; but
                                                                                                                                         o; and it is that which makes the wonder. With your good sense, to be so honestly blind to the follies and nonsense of others! Affectation
                                 I alway
                                             s speak wh
                                                                                                      ts with it everywhere. B
of candour is common
                                 enough
                                              --one mee
                                                                                                                                         ut to be candid without ostentation or design--to take the good of everybody's character an
                                                                                                                                         alone. And so you like this man's sisters, too
d make it still better, an
                                             nothing of
                                                                                                       the bad--belongs to yo
                                 d say
                                 re not
o you? Their manners a
                                             equal to h
                                                                                                           "Certainly not--at fir
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  st. But they are very pleasing
women when you conv
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 live with her brother, and keep his house; and I am much
                                            with them.
                                                                                                               ss Bingley is to
                                 erse
                                                                                                                   charming ne
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                ghbour in her." Elizabeth listened in silence, but was not convinced; their behavio
mistaken if we s
                                 hall n
                                           ot find a very
                                 ur at
                                            the assembly h
                                                                                                                    ad not been
                                                                                                                                                                                                                           calculated to please in general; and with more quickness of observation and less pliancy of temper than her sist
                                                                                                                                                                                         scalled by any attention to herself, she was very little disposed to approve them. They were in fact very fine ladies; not deficient in good h
                                          nd with a judgem
                                                                                                                     ent too una
                                 er, a
                                                                                                                                                        , nor in the power of making themselves agreeable when they chose it, but proud and conceited. They were rather handsome, had been educated
                                 um
                                          our when they w
                                                                                                                     ere pleased
                                                                                                                                        ries in town, had a fortune of twenty thousand pounds, were in the habit of spending more than they ought, and of associating with people o
                                 in o
                                        ne of the first pr
                                                                                                                    ivate semina
                                                                                                                                        ery respect entitled to think well of themselves, and meanly of others. They were of a respectable family in the north of Eng
                                        ank, and were t
                                                                                                                  herefore in ev
                                       nd; a circumsta
                                                                                                                 nce more deep
                                                                                                                                        ly impressed on their memories than that their brother's fortune and their own had been acquired by trade
                                                                                                                                          amount of nearly a hundred thousand pounds from his father, who had intended to pur
                                      ngley inherited
                                                                                                                  property to th
                                                                                                                                        ded it likewise, and sometimes made choice of his county; but as he wa
an estate, but did not l
                                     ive to do it. Mr.
                                                                                                                  Bingley inten
                                                                                                                                        ubtful to many of those who best knew the easiness of
h a good house and th
                                    e liberty of a ma
                                                                                                                  nor, it was do
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                his temper, whether he might no
t spend the remainder
                                   of his days at N
                                                                                                                   etherfield, an
                                                                                                                                        d leave the next generation to purcha
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             se. His sisters were anxious for his having an
estate of his own; but,
                                   though he was
                                                                                                                   now only es
                                                                                                                                        tablished as a tena
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             nt, Miss Bingley was by no means unwilling to preside at hi
s table--nor was Mrs. H
                                 urst, who had
                                                                                                                   married a ma
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              of more fashion than fortune, less disposed to consider his house as he
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           n of age two years, when he was tempted by an accidental recommendation to look at
r home when it suited h
                                 er. Mr. Bingley
                                                                                                                   had not bee
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               an-hour--was pleased with the situation and the principal rooms, satisfied with what the owner s-
Netherfield House. He d
                                  d look at it, an
                                                                                                                   d into it for h
                                                                                                                                                                                                                          him and Darcy there was a very steady friendship, in spite of great opposition of character. Bingley wa
aid in its praise, and too
                                  k it immediate
                                                                                                                   ly. Between
s endeared to Darcy by
                                  the easiness,
                                                                                                                    openness,
                                                                                                                                                                                                          and ductility of his temper, though no disposition could offer a greater contrast to his own, and though w
                                                                                                                                                                                         he strength of Darcy's regard, Bingley had the firmest reliance, and of his judgement the highest opinion. I
ith his own he never ap
                                 peared dissat
                                                                                                                    isfied. On t
                                                                                                                                                                        perior. Bingley was by no means deficient, but Darcy was clever. He was at the same time haughty, reserved,
n underst
                                 anding, Darcy
                                                                                                                    was the su
                                                                                                                                                        anners, though well-bred, were not inviting. In that respect his friend had greatly the advantage. Bingley was su
                                 and fastidiou
                                                                                                                   s, and his m
                                                                                                                                         he appeared, Darcy was continually giving offense. The manner in which they spoke of the Meryton assembly wa
                                e of being like
                                                                                                                  d wherever
                                 sufficiently c
                                                                                                                  haracteristic
                                                                                                                                          Bingley had never met with more pleasant people or prettier girls in his life; everybody had been mos
                                                                                                                                         ere had been no formality, no stiffness; he had soon felt acquainted with all the room; and,
                               ind and attenti
                                                                                                                  ve to him; th
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        as
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                to
                                                                                                                                          conceive an angel more beautiful. Darcy, on the contrary, had seen a collection
                                Miss Bennet,
                                                                                                                  he could not
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                                                                                                                                         eauty and no fashion, for none of whom he had felt the smallest intere
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                              le in whom ther
                                                                                                                 e was little b
                                                                                                                                         ntion or pleasure. Miss Bennet he acknowledged to be pret
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                                                                                                                                          d her sister allowed it to be so--but still they ad
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                                                                                                                                           sweet girl, and one whom they woul
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of. Miss Bennet
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mendation to th
                            ink of her as he
                                                                                                                                           5 Within a sh
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        L uca
                                                                                                              rly intimate. Sir W
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     s had been formerly in trade in Meryton
hom the Bennet
                           s were particula
where he had
                          made a tolerable
                                                                                                               fortune, and risen
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                          ralty. The distinc
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uring his mayo
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   g th em both, he had removed with his family to a house about a
and to his resi
                          dence in a small
                                                                                                                market town; and,
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mile from Mei
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ackled by bus
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                         iness, occupy hi
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he contrary,
                        he was all attent
                                                                                                                  ion to everybody. By
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          sive,
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    friendly, and obliging, his presentation at St. James's had made him courteous.
                                                                                                                                                                                                   atu
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             e a valuable neighbour to Mrs. Bennet. They had several children. The eldest of them, a sensible,
                       was a very good
                                                                                                                  kind of woman, not to
                       ung woman, abo
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                's inti ma te friend. That the Miss Lucases and the Miss Bennets should meet to talk over a ball was absolut
intelligent yo
                                                                                                                  ut twenty-seven, was
                                                                                                                                                                                                 ught the f ormer to Longbourn to hear and to communicate. "You began the evening well, Charlotte," said Mrs. Bennet w r. Bing ley's first choice." "Yes; but he seemed to like his second better." "Oh! you mean Jane, I suppose, because he danced admired her--indeed I rather believe he did--I heard something about it--but I hardly know what--something about Mr. Robinson." "nd Mr. Robinson; did not I mention it to you? Mr. Robinson's asking him how he liked our Meryton assemblies, and whether he did n
                      ry; and the morn
ely necessa
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                       il self-command
                                                                                                                   o Miss Lucas. "You we
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                     with her twice. T
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                     Perhaps you me
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                                                                                                                       what I overheard betwee
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                                                                                                                        a great many pretty wom en in the rown, and which he thought the prettiest? and his answering immediately to the last question: 'Oh! the eldest Miss Bennet, beyond a doubt wo opinions on that point.' "Upon my word! Well, that is very decided indeed--that does seem as if--but, however, it may all come to nothing, you know." "My overhearings were more nyours, Eliza," said Charlotte. "Mr. Darcy is not so well worth listening to as his friend, is he?--poor Eliza!--to be only just tolerable." "I beg you would not put it into Lizzy's head to be vexe nt, for he is such a disagreea ble man, that it would be quite a misfortune to be liked by him. Mrs. Long told me last night that he sat close to her for half-an-hour without once opening his lie, ma'am?--is not there a little mistake?" said Jane. "I certainly saw Mr. Darcy speaking to her." "Aye--because she asked him at last how he liked Netherfield, and he could not help answer eemed quite angry at being spoke to." "Miss Bingley told me," said Jane, "that he never speaks much, unless among his intimate acquaintances. With them he is remarkably agreeable." "
t, my dear. If he had been so very agreeable, he would have talked to Mrs. Long. But I can guess how it was; everybody says that he is eat up with pride, and I dare say he had heard so not keep a carriage, and had come to the ball in a hack chaise." "I do not mind his not talking to Mrs. Long," said Miss Lucas, "but I wish he had danced with Eliza." "Another time, Liz ot dance with him, if I were you." "I believe, ma'am, I may safely promise you never to dance with him." "His pride," said Miss Lucas, "does not offend me so much as pride often draw it. One cannot wonder that so very fine a young man, with family, fortune, everything in his favour, should think highly of himself. If I may so express it, he has a right to be print, "
and I could easily forgive his pride, if he had not mortified mine." "Pride," observed Mary, who piqued herself upon the solidity of her reflections, "is a very common if and could easily 
                                                                                                                                                                                           om, and which he thought the prettiest? and his answering immediately to the last question: 'Oh! the eldest Miss Bennet, beyond a doubt
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    oud." That is
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                                                                                                      eplied Elizabeth.
 ailing, I believe.
                                                      y all
                                                    ty o r ot her, rea I or imaginary. Vanity and pride are different things, though the words are often used synonymously. A person may be proud without being vain. Pride relates more to our opinion of ourselves, vanity to what w hers think of us." "I f I were as rich as Mr. Darcy," cried a young Lucas, who came with his sisters, "I should not care how proud I was. I would keep a pack of foxhounds, and drink a bottle of wine a day." "Then you would drink a great you o ught," s aid Mrs. Bennet; "and if I were to see you at it, I should take away your bottle directly." The boy protested that she should not; she continued to declare that she would, and the argument ended only with the visit. Chapter 6 T ongbou rn soon waited on those of Netherfield. The visit was soon returned in due form. Miss Bennet's pleasing manners grew on the goodwill of being better acquainted with them was expressed towards the two eldest. By Jane, this attention was received with the greatest pleasure, but Elizabeth still saw superciliousness in their treatment of everybody, har and the probability from the influence of their brother's admiration. It was generally evident whenever they met that he did admire her and could not like them; though they wident whenever they met that he did admire her and could not like them; though they wident whenever they met that he did admire her and could not like them; though they wident whenever they met that he did admire her and could not like them; though they wident whenever they met that he did admire her and could not like them; though they wident whenever they met that he did admire her and could not like them.
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dl y ex c epting ev en her sister, and could not like them; though their kindness to Jane, such as it was, had a value as arising in all probability from the first, and was in a way to be very much in love; but she considered with pleasure that Jane was yielding to the preference which she had begun to her it was equally evident that Jane was yielding to the preference which she had begun to her it was equally evident that Jane was yielding to the preference which she had begun to be very much in love; but she considered with pleasure that it was not likely to be discovered by the world in general, since Jane united, with great strength of feeling, a composure of temper and a uniform cheerfulness of manner which would guard her from the suspicions of the impertinent. She mentioned this to her friend Miss Lucas. "It may perhaps be pleasant," replied Charlotte, "to be able to impose on the public in such a case; but it is sometimes a disadvantage to be so very guarded. If a woman conceals her affection with the same skill from the object of it, she may lose the opportunity of fixing him; and it will then be but poor consolation to believe the world equally in the dark. There is so much of gratitude or vanity in almost every attachment, that it is not safe to leave any to itself. We can all begin freely--a slight preference is natural enough; but there are very few of us who have heart enough to be really in love without encouragement. In nine cases out of ten a women had better show more affection than she feels. Bingley likes your sister undoubtedly; but he may never do more than like her, if she does not help him on." "But she does help him on, as much as her nature will allow. If I can be precise her regard for him, he must be a simpleton, indeed, not to discover it too." "Remember, Eliza, that he does not know Jane's disposition as you does not endeavour to conceal to endeavour to conceal to endeavour to conceal the regard in converting it is impossible that every moment should be employed in converting it is
ough of her. But, though Bingley and Jane meet tolerably often, it is never for many hours together; and, as they always see each other in large mixed parties, it is impossible that every moment should be employed in conversing together. Jane should therefore make the most of every half-hour in which she can command his attention. When she is secure of him, there will be more leisure for falling in love as much as she chooses." "Your plan is a good one," replied Elizabeth, "where nothing is in question but the desire of being well married, and if I were determined to get a rich husband, or any husband, I dare say I should adopt it. But these are not Jane's feelings; she is not acting by design. As yet, she cannot even be certain of the degree of her own regard nor of its reasonableness. She has known him only a fortnight. She danced four dances with him at Meryton; she saw him one morning at his own house, and has since dined with him in company four times. This is not quite enough to make her understand his character." "Not as you represent it. Had she merely dined with him, she might only have discovered whether he had a good appetite; but you must remember that four evenings have also been spent to any other leading c
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er 1 It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in pos

such a man may be on his first entering a neighbourhood, the

'My dear Mr. Bennet," said his lady to h im one day, "h

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PRIDE AND PREJUDICE By Jane Austen Chapt

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