

## Chapter 24

Miss Bingley's letter arrived, and put an end to doubt. The very first sentence conveyed the assurance of their being all settled in London for the winter, and **concluded with** her brother's **regret at** not having had time to **pay his respects to** his friends in Hertfordshire before he left the country.

Hope was over, entirely over; and when Jane could **attend to** the rest of the letter, she found little, except **the professed affection** of the writer, (that could give her any comfort.)

**Miss Darcy's praise** occupied the chief of it. Her many attractions **were** again **dwelt on**, and Caroline boasted joyfully of their increasing intimacy, and **ventured to** predict the accomplishment of the wishes (which had been unfolded in her former letter.)

She wrote also with great pleasure of her brother's being an **inmate** of Mr. Darcy's house, and mentioned **with raptures** some plans of the latter with regard to new furniture.

Elizabeth, (to whom Jane very soon communicated the chief of all this,) heard it in silent indignation. Her heart was divided between concern for her sister, and resentment against all the others.

**To** Caroline's assertion of her brother's being partial to Miss Darcy **she paid no credit.**

That he **was** really **fond of** Jane, she doubted no more than she had ever; (宾语前置)

## 第二十四章



宾利小姐终于回信了，疑虑随之消除。信的开头就说她们决定在伦敦过冬，**结尾**还替他哥哥道歉，说他在临走以前，没有来得及**向**哈福郡的朋友们**辞行**，很觉**遗憾**。

希望彻底破灭了。简继续**读下去**，发现除了来自写信人**流于表面的亲切**之外，就根本找不出(可以让人欣慰的)地方。

满篇都是**赞美达西小姐**的话，一再**提及**她是多么的引人注目。凯瑟琳还高兴地说，她们之间越来越亲热；而且竟**冒昧地**预言，说是她(上封信里面提到的)那些愿望，一定可以实现。

她还得意非凡地写道，她哥哥已经住到达西家里去了，又**兴高采烈地**提到达西打算添置新家具。

inmate 居民，同居者；监狱犯人

**【看来宾利会长住】**

简立刻把这些事告诉了伊丽莎白，伊丽莎白听了，怒而不言。她一方面关心自己的姐姐，另一方面又怨恨那帮人。

凯瑟琳信上说她哥哥钟情于达西小姐，伊丽莎白无论如何也不相信。

她仍旧象以往一样，相信宾利先生是真心 xi 欢简。

and much as she had always been disposed to like him, she could not think [without anger, hardly without contempt,] on ① that easiness of temper, ② that want of proper resolution (which now made him the slave of his designing friends, and led him to sacrifice his own happiness to the caprice of their inclinations.)

Had his own happiness, however, been the only sacrifice, he might have been allowed to sport with it in whatever manner he thought best; but her sister's was involved in it, as, she thought, he must be sensible himself.

It was a subject, in short, (on which reflection would be long indulged, and must be unavailing.) She could think of nothing else, and yet whether Bingley's regard had really died away, or were suppressed by his friends' interference;  
died away 消亡

whether he had been aware of Jane's attachment, or whether it had escaped his observation; whatever were the case, [though her opinion of him must be materially affected by the difference,] her sister's situation remained the same, her peace equally wounded. (独立主格结构)

A day or two passed before Jane had courage to speak of her feelings to Elizabeth; but at last on Mrs. Bennet's leaving them together, after a longer irritation than usual about Netherfield and its master, she could not help saying,

"Oh! that my dear mother had more command over herself; she can have no idea of the pain (she gives me) [by her continual reflections on him.]

尽管伊丽莎白一向很喜欢宾利，现在见他这样性情随顺，没有主见；以致被他诡计多端的亲友们牵制住，听凭他们随意摆布，拿他的幸福作牺牲品……想到这些，她不免气愤，甚至有些看不起他。

much as=though/although

要是牺牲的只是他个人的幸福，那他爱怎么胡闹都可以，可是这毕竟还牵涉着她姐姐的幸福，这一点想必他自己也明白。

in whatever manner he thought best  
= in any manner that he thought best

总之，这个问题她考虑来考虑去，始终是没有办法化解；她脑子里全是这件事。宾利先生究竟是真的变了心呢，还是因他的朋友逼迫而不得不屈从？

unavailing=useless=futile

他看出了简对他的爱慕之情，还是说这份情感根本没引起他的关注？虽然对她来说，只有辨明是非曲直，才能对他下判断；可是对她姐姐来说，反正都是一样地伤心难受。

materially 极大程度上

隔了一两天，简才鼓起勇气，把自己的心事说给伊丽莎白听。当时班纳特太太正跟往常一样，唠叨了老半天内瑟菲尔德花园和它的主人；后来总算走开了，只剩下她们姐妹俩，简这才忍不住说道：

“唉，但愿妈妈多克制一些！她不晓得她这样不停地提起他，叫我多么痛苦。”

*But I will not repine. It cannot last long. He will be forgot, and we shall all be as we were before."*

*Elizabeth looked at her sister with incredulous solicitude, but said nothing.*

*"You doubt me," cried Jane, slightly colouring; "indeed you have no reason. He may live in my memory as the most amiable man of my acquaintance, but that is all.*

*I have nothing either to hope or fear, and nothing to reproach him with. Thank God! I have not that pain. A little time therefore. -- I shall certainly try to get the better."*

*With a stronger voice she soon added, "I have this comfort immediately, that it has not been more than an error of fancy on my side, and that it has done no harm to any one but myself."*

*"My dear Jane!" exclaimed Elizabeth, "you are too good. Your sweetness and disinterestedness are really angelic; I do not know what to say to you. I feel as if I had never done you justice, or loved you as you deserve."*

*Miss Bennet eagerly disclaimed all extraordinary merit, and threw back the praise on her sister's warm affection.*

*"Nay," said Elizabeth, "this is not fair. You wish to think all the world respectable, and are hurt if I speak ill of any body.*

不过我决不怨谁。这局面不会长久的。我们会忘掉他的，一切会像往常一样。”

伊丽莎白半信半疑而又极其关切地望着姐姐，一声不响。

“你不相信我的话吗？”简微微红着脸嚷道。“那真是没有道理啦。他可以作一个最可爱的朋友留我的记忆里，但也不过如此而已。

我既没有什么奢望，也没有什么担心，更没有什么要责备他的地方。多谢上帝，我还没有那种苦恼。因此，稍过一些时候，我就会慢慢好起来的。”

随即她又用更激昂的语调说：“眼下我可以聊以自慰的是，这~~只怪~~我自己抱有幻想，好在只伤到自己，并没有损害别人。”  
**not more than 至多，不过是**

伊丽莎白叫了起来：“亲爱的简，你太善良了。你的好心，你的无私，真像天使一般；我不知道该同你说什么才好。我觉得从前待你还不够好，爱你还不够深。”

简竭力否认这一切言过其实的夸奖，~~反倒赞扬~~她妹妹的深情厚谊。

“别那么说，”伊丽莎白说，“这样说不公平的，你总以为天下都是好人。我要是说了谁的坏话，你就会难受。

*I only want to think you perfect, and you set yourself against it. Do not be afraid of my running into any excess, of my encroaching on your privilege of universal good will. You need not.*

*There are few people whom I really love, and still fewer of whom I think well.*

*The more I see of the world, the more am I dissatisfied with it; and every day confirms my belief of the inconsistency of all human characters, and of the little dependence (that can be placed on the appearance of either merit or sense.)*

*I have met with two instances lately; one I will not mention; the other is Charlotte's marriage. It is unaccountable! in every view it is unaccountable!"*

*"My dear Lizzy, do not give way to such feelings as these. They will ruin your happiness. You do not make allowance enough for difference of situation and temper.*

*Consider Mr. Collins's respectability, and Charlotte's prudent, steady character.*

*Remember that she is one of a large family; that as to fortune, it is a most eligible match; and be ready to believe, for every body's sake, that she may feel something like regard and esteem for our cousin."*

我只想把你看作完美无瑕，而你却来反驳。请你放心，我决不会走极端；你有权利把所有人都一视同仁，我不会干涉你。你用不着担心。

至于我嘛，我真正喜欢的没有几个，能让我看重的就更少了。

世事经历得愈多，我就愈对世事不满；我一天比一天坚信，人性都是反复无常的；我们不能依据某人浮于表面的优点或见识，就去相信他/她。

最近我碰到了两件事：一件我不愿意说出来，另一件就是夏绿蒂的婚姻。简直是莫明其妙！任你怎样看，都是莫明其妙！”

“亲爱的丽兹，不要这样胡思乱想了。那会毁了你的幸福的。你对于各人处境的不同和性情的不同，考虑得还不够。

你应该多想想柯林斯的身份地位和夏绿蒂谨慎稳重的性格。

你得记住，她来自一个大家庭；从财产方面来讲，这倒是一门挺合适的亲事。你要顾全大家的想法，权且相信她对我们那位表兄确有几分敬爱和器重吧。”



“To oblige you, I would try to believe almost any thing, but no one else could be benefited by such a belief as this; for were I persuaded that Charlotte had any regard for him, I should only think worse of her understanding, than I now do of her heart.

My dear Jane, Mr. Collins is a conceited, pompous, narrow-minded, silly man; you know he is, as well as I do; and you must feel, as well as I do, that the woman( who marries him,) cannot have a proper way of thinking.

You shall not defend her, though it is Charlotte Lucas. You shall not, for the sake of one individual, change the meaning of principle and integrity,

nor endeavour to persuade yourself or me that selfishness is prudence, and insensibility of danger, security for happiness.” (省略句)

“I must think your language too strong in speaking of both,” replied Jane, “and I hope you will be convinced of it, by seeing them happy together.

But enough of this. You alluded to something else. You mentioned two instances. I cannot misunderstand you, but I intreat you, dear Lizzy, not to pain me by thinking that person to blame, and saying your opinion of him is sunk.

(1) We must not be so ready to fancy ourselves intentionally injured. (2) We must not expect a lively young man to be always so guarded and circumspect. (3) It is very often nothing but our own vanity that deceives us. (4) Women fancy admiration means more than it does.”

“如果是看在你的份上，我对什么事都可以不去怀疑。可是这对于任何人都没有益处；要是叫我去相信她是当真爱上了柯林斯，我就不会只觉得她是失了心性，这简直是没有脑子了！”

亲爱的简，柯林斯先生是个极为自负、喜欢卖弄又心胸狭窄的蠢蛋，这一点你和我一样清楚；你同我一样都意识到，只有 头脑不健全的女人才肯嫁给他。

虽说这个女人就是夏绿蒂，你也不必为她辩解。你千万不能为了某一个人而改变原则，破格迁就；

也不要设法说服我，或是说服你自己去相信，自私自利就是谨小慎微，糊涂胆大就等于幸福的保障。”

“对这两个人，我觉得你说得太过火了，”简说。“但愿你日后看到他们幸福美满的时候，就会相信我的话不假。”

这事就谈到这儿，再说说另外一件吧。你不是说有两件事吗？我不会误解你，不过我有个诚恳的 请求，亲爱的丽兹，千万 不要把一切都怪罪到那人头上，也不要说你 鄙视他，要是那样会更让我伤心。

(1) 我们决不能想当然，以为人家在有意伤害我们。(2) 我们不能指望一个活泛的青年会始终小心周到。(3) 往往是我们的虚荣心，使自己迷了心窍。(4) 女人总是对爱情持有虚无飘渺的幻想”

(3) It is ... that ... 强调句

*"And men take care that they should."*

*"If it is designedly done, they cannot be justified; but I have no idea of there being so much design in the world as some persons imagine."*

*"I am far from attributing any part of Mr. Bingley's conduct to design," said Elizabeth;*

*"but without scheming to do wrong, or to make others unhappy, there may be error, and there may be misery."*

*Thoughtlessness, want of attention to other people's feelings, and want of resolution, will do the business."*

*"And do you impute it to either of those?"*

*"Yes; to the last. But if I go on, I shall displease you by saying what I think of persons you esteem. Stop me whilst you can."*

*"You persist, then, in supposing his sisters influence him."*

*"Yes, in conjunction with his friend."*

*"I cannot believe it. Why should they try to influence him? They can only wish his happiness, and if he is attached to me, no other woman can secure it."*

*"Your first position is false. They may wish many things besides his happiness; they may wish his increase of wealth and consequence; they may wish him to marry a girl who has all the importance of money, great connections, and pride."*

“因此男人们就故意引发她们这么幻想。”

“如果当真是存心安排好了的，那确实是他们的错；可是我不认为真如某些人所想象的那样，世上到处都是计谋。”

“我并不是说宾利先生的举动是事先有计谋的，”伊丽莎白说。

“可是，即使没有存心坑人，或者说，没有存心叫别人伤心，事实上仍然会做错事，引起不幸的后果。

凡是粗心大意、无视别人的情意，或者缺乏果断，都一样会坏事。”

“你把这桩事也归到这类原因吗？”

“应该归于最后一种。如果再叫我说下去，我会表达我对你所器重的那些人的鄙视，那会叫你不高兴的。所以请让我住嘴吧。”

“你断定是他的姐妹们操纵了他啦。”

“是的，而且是跟他那位朋友合谋。”

“我不相信。她们为什么要操纵他？她们只会希望他幸福；要是他果真爱我，别的女人便无法给他带来幸福。”

“你头一个想法就错了。她们除了希望他幸福以外，还有许多别的打算；她们会希望他更有钱有势；她们会希望他跟一个出身高贵、亲朋显赫的阔小姐结婚。”

*“Beyond a doubt, they do wish him to chuse Miss Darcy,” replied Jane; “but this may be from better feelings than you are supposing.*

*They have known her much longer than they have known me; no wonder if they love her better.*

*But, whatever may be their own wishes, it is very unlikely they should have opposed their brother's.*

*What sister would think herself at liberty to do it, unless there were something very objectionable?*

*If they believed him attached to me, they would not try to part us; if he were so, they could not succeed.*

*By supposing such an affection, you make every body acting unnaturally and wrong, and me most unhappy. Do not distress me by the idea.*

*I am not ashamed of having been mistaken — or, at least, it is slight, it is nothing in comparison of what I should feel in thinking ill of him or his sisters.*

*Let me take it in the best light, in the light in which it may be understood.”*

*Elizabeth could not oppose such a wish; and from this time Mr. Bingley's name was scarcely ever mentioned between them.*

“毫无疑问，她们希望他选择达西小姐，”简说：“不过，她们也许是出于一片好心，并不如你所想象的那么恶劣。

她们认识她比认识我早得多，难怪她们更喜欢她。

可是不管她们自己愿望如何，她们总不至于违背她们兄弟的愿望吧

除非是有什么太看不顺眼的地方，否则有哪个做姐妹的会这样冒昧？

要是她们觉得他爱上了我，就不会想要拆散我们；要是他果真爱我，她们也拆不成。

你认为他对我有真感情，那么她们的做法，岂不是既不近人情，又荒谬绝伦了？我会更伤心的。不要再用这种猜测来折磨我了。

我不会因误解了他而羞愧——即使有也极其轻微。相比之下，要是把他或他的姐妹看成是无情无义，我倒会难受千万倍。

还是让我往好处想吧，从合乎人情的方面去想。”

伊丽莎白无法反对她这种愿望，从此以后，她们就不提起宾利先生的名字了。

Mrs. Bennet still continued to wonder and repine at his returning no more, and though a day **seldom** passed (in which Elizabeth did not **account for it clearly**.)

there seemed **little chance** of her ever considering it with less perplexity.

Her daughter endeavoured to convince her of what she did not believe herself, that his attentions to Jane had been merely the effect of a common and transient liking, (which ceased when he saw her no more;)

but though the probability of the statement was admitted at the time, she had the same story to repeat every day.

Mrs. Bennet's best comfort was that Mr. Bingley must be down again in the summer.

Mr. Bennet treated the matter differently. "So, Lizzy," said he one day, "your sister **is crossed in love** I find. I congratulate her. **Next to being married**, a girl likes to be crossed in love a little now and then.

It is something to think of, and gives her a sort of distinction among her companions. When is your turn to come?

You will hardly bear to **be long outdone by** Jane. Now is your time. Here are officers enough at Meryton to disappoint all the young ladies in the country.

Let Wickham be your man. He is a pleasant fellow, and would jilt you creditably."

班纳特太太见他一去不回，仍然不断地纳闷，不断地抱怨，尽管伊丽莎白几乎天天都要给她**解释个清楚**，

却似乎**很难**使她的忧烦减少些许。

女儿试图拿一些自己也不相信的话来开导她；说是宾利先生对于简的钟情，只不过是**短暂的逢场作戏**，一旦见不到面，也就情消意淡了。

虽然班纳特太太当时承认这话不假，可是事后她又每天旧事重提。

最后只能指望宾利先生来年夏天一定会回到这儿来，聊以自慰。

班纳特先生对这件事抱着截然不同的态度。有一天他对伊丽莎白说：“丽兹，我发觉你姐姐**失恋了**，我倒要祝贺她。因为姑娘家**除了**盼着结婚以外，总喜欢不时地尝点儿失恋的滋味。

一来她们有了东西可以回味，二来可以在朋友们面前露露头角。几时轮到你呢？

你不会**让简超前太久**吧，现在你的机会来啦。梅里顿有很多军官，足够使这个村里的每一个年轻姑娘失意了。

让韦翰做你的对象吧。他是个有趣的家伙，他会很体面地把你抛弃。”



“Thank you, Sir, but a less agreeable man would satisfy me. We must not all expect Jane's good fortune.”

“True,” said Mr. Bennet, “but it is a comfort to think that, whatever of that kind may **befall** you, you have an affectionate mother who will always **make the most of it**.”

Mr. Wickham's society was of material service in **dispelling the gloom**, which the late perverse occurrences had thrown on many of the Longbourn family.

They saw him often, and to his other recommendations was now added that of **general unreserve**.

The whole of what Elizabeth had already heard, his claims on Mr. Darcy, and all that he had suffered from him, **was now openly acknowledged and publicly canvassed**;

and every body was pleased to think how much they had always disliked Mr. Darcy before they **had known any thing of the matter**.

Miss Bennet was the only creature {who could suppose there might be **any extenuating circumstances** in the case, (unknown to the society of Hertfordshire; ) }

her mild and steady candour always **pleaded for** allowances, and urged the possibility of mistakes

--but **[by everybody else]** Mr. Darcy was condemned as the worst of men.

“多谢您，爸爸，差一些的人也使我满意了。我们不能都指望有简那样的好运。”

“不错，”班纳特先生说；“不管你交上了什么运气，反正你那位好心的妈妈，会**尽心竭力来成全你**，这就足够欣慰了。”

班府上因为近来出了几件不顺心的事，好些人都闷闷不乐。多亏有韦翰先生常跟他们来往，**把这阵闷气消除了不少**。

她们常常看到他；而且他又被赋予了新的优点：**对人坦白爽直**。

伊丽莎白早先听他说的那番话，诸如达西有多么对不起他，他因为达西吃了多少苦头等等，现在(得到了)**大家的公认**，而且(成为)**公开谈论的话题**。

每个人都非常得意，因为他们想到，自己在**完全不知道这件事情时**，就已经十分讨厌达西先生了。

只有简觉得这件事里面一定**有些蹊跷**，还不曾为哈福郡的人们所知。

她是个性子柔和、稳重公正的人，**总是要求**大家考虑问题要留有余地，以为事情往往可能会被弄错。

可惜别人全把达西看作天下最可恶的人。