



Chapter 20

Mr. Collins was not left long to the silent contemplation of his successful love;

(1)for Mrs. Bennet, having **dawdled about** in the vestibule to watch for the end of the conference, (2)**no sooner** saw Elizabeth open the door and with quick step pass her towards the staircase, (3)**than** she entered the breakfast room, (4) and **congratulated** both him and herself **in warm terms** **on** the happy prospect (5)of their nearer connection.

(1)Mr. Collins received and returned these felicitations **with equal pleasure**, (2)and then **proceeded to** relate the particulars of their interview, (3) with the result of which he trusted he had **every reason to be satisfied**. (4)since the refusal (which his cousin had steadfastly given him) (5)would naturally **flow from** her **bashful** modesty and the genuine delicacy of her character.

(1)This information, however, startled Mrs. Bennet; -- (2)**she would have been glad to be equally satisfied** (3)**that her daughter had meant to encourage him by protesting against his proposals**, (4) but she dared not to believe it, and could not help saying so.

“But depend upon it, Mr. Collins,” she added, “that Lizzy shall **be brought to reason**. I will speak to her about it myself directly.”

She is a very **headstrong** foolish girl, and does not know her own interest; but I will make her know it.”

第二十章

柯林斯先生独自一个人默默地幻想着美满的姻缘；可是并没有想上多久。

(1) 因为班纳特太太一直待在走廊里**混时间**，等着听他们俩商谈的结果。(2) 现在看见伊丽莎白开了门，匆匆忙忙走上楼去，(3) 她便马上走进饭厅，(4) 热烈地祝贺柯林斯先生，也祝贺她自己，(5) 说是他们今后亲上加亲大有希望。

(1) 柯林斯先生**同样快乐地**接受了她的祝贺，也向她表示祝贺。(2) **接着**就把他跟伊丽莎白刚才的那场谈话，一五一十地讲了出来；(3) 说他有**充分的理由**相信，谈话的结果很令人满意。(4) 因为虽然他的表妹再三拒绝，(5) 可那是她**羞怯**淑静和娇柔细致的性情的自然**流露**。

(1) 这消息到让班纳特太太有些惶恐。(3) 要是她果真是口头上拒绝，心中却是在鼓励他继续追求，(2) 那她也会同样觉得高兴的。(4) 可是（鉴于伊丽莎白的性子）她没办法这么想，不得不（把担忧）照实说了出来。

她说：“柯林斯先生，你放心吧，**我会叫丽兹“懂事”一些的**。我马上就亲自跟她谈。

她真是个固执的傻姑娘，不明白好歹；可是我会叫她明白的。”

(1) "Pardon me for interrupting you, Madam," cried Mr. Collins; (2) "but if she is really headstrong and foolish, (3) I know not whether she would altogether be a very desirable wife to (4) a man in my situation, (5) who naturally looks for happiness in the marriage state.

(6) If therefore she actually persists in rejecting my suit, (7) perhaps it were better not to force her into accepting me, (8) because if liable to such defects of temper, (9) she could not contribute much to my felicity."

"Sir, you quite misunderstand me," said Mrs. Bennet, alarmed. "Lizzy is only headstrong in such matters as these.

In every thing else she is as good natured a girl as ever lived. I will go directly to Mr. Bennet, and we shall very soon settle it with her, I am sure."

She would not give him time to reply, but hurrying instantly to her husband, called out as she entered the library,

"Oh! Mr. Bennet, you are wanted immediately; we are all in an uproar. You must come and make Lizzy marry Mr. Collins, for she vows she will not have him, and if you do not make haste he will change his mind and not have her."

Mr. Bennet raised his eyes from his book as she entered, and fixed them on her face with a calm unconcern which was not in the least altered by her communication.

"I have not the pleasure of understanding you," said he, when she had finished her speech. "Of what are you talking?"

(1) "对不起，让我插句嘴，太太，"柯林斯先生叫道：(2) "要是她果真又固执又傻，(3) 那我就不知道她是否配做我理想的妻子了，(4) 因为像我这样地位的人，(5) 结婚自然是为了追求幸福的。

I know not=I don't know,现代英语不用这种表达

(6) 这么说，如果她真拒绝我的求婚，(7) 那倒是不要勉强为好，(8) 她的脾气若是容易受这些缺点（控制），(9) 对于我的幸福是绝不会有什么好处的。"

班纳特太太吃惊地说："你完全误会我了，丽兹只是在这种事上固执罢了；

遇到别的事情，她的性子再好不过了。我马上去找班纳特先生，我们马上就会把这个问题谈妥的，我有把握。"

她不等他回答，便急忙跑到丈夫那儿去，一走进他的书房就嚷道：

"噢，我的老爷，你得马上出来一下；我们家天就要塌了呢。你得劝丽兹跟柯林斯先生结婚，她可是发誓了，不会答应求婚；假如你不赶快来打个圆场，他就要改变主意，不再选择她了。"

班纳特先生见她走进来，便从书本上移开眼睛，十分安详平静地望着她的脸。他听了她的话，完全不动声色。

【班纳特先生很淡定，觉得没什么大不了的】

她说完以后，他便说道：

"我没有听懂你究竟在说些什么。"

"Of Mr. Collins and Lizzy. Lizzy declares she will not have Mr. Collins, and Mr. Collins begins to say that he will not have Lizzy."

"And what am I to do on the occasion? -- It seems an hopeless business."

"Speak to Lizzy about it yourself. Tell her that you insist upon her marrying him."

"Let her be called down. She shall hear my opinion."

Mrs. Bennet rang the bell, and Miss Elizabeth was summoned to the library.

"Come here, child," cried her father as she appeared. "I have sent for you on an affair of importance. I understand that Mr. Collins has made you an offer of marriage. Is it true?"

Elizabeth replied that it was.

"Very well -- and this offer of marriage you have refused?"

"I have, Sir."

"Very well. We now come to the point. Your mother insists upon your accepting it. Is not it so, Mrs. Bennet?"

"Yes, or I will never see her again."

"An unhappy alternative is before you, Elizabeth. From this day you must be a stranger to one of your parents."

-- Your mother will never see you again if you do not marry Mr. Collins, and I will never see you again if you do."

“我说的是柯林斯先生和丽兹的事，丽兹不答应柯林斯的求婚，柯林斯先生也说他开始打算不考虑丽兹了。”

“这事我有什么办法？这件事看来应该没什么指望了。”

“你去同丽兹说，就说你非要让她跟他结婚不可。”

“叫她下来吧。让我来跟她说。”

班纳特太太拉下了铃，伊丽莎白就被叫到书房里来了。

一见她来，她父亲便大声说：“上这儿来，孩子，我叫你来是谈一件要紧的事。我听说柯林斯先生向你求婚了，真有这事吗？”

伊丽莎白说，确有此事。

“很好。你把这桩婚事回绝了吗？”

“我回绝了，爸爸。”

“很好，我们现在就谈到关键了。你的妈非要你答应不可。夫人，是不是？”

“是的，否则我看也不要看到她了。”

“伊丽莎白，现在你面临着一个很糟糕的选择，从今天起，你要么选择和父亲形同陌路，要么就和母亲分道扬镳。

若不嫁给柯林斯，你妈妈就不想再见到你；但你要要是嫁给他，我就不会再见你。”

Elizabeth could not but smile at such a conclusion of such a beginning; but Mrs. Bennet, who had persuaded herself that her husband regarded the affair as she wished, was excessively disappointed.

“What do you mean, Mr. Bennet, by talking in this way? You promised me to insist upon her marrying him.”

“My dear,” replied her husband, “I have two small favours to request. First, that you will allow me the free use of my understanding on the present occasion; and secondly, of my room. I shall be glad to have the library to myself as soon as may be.”

Not yet, however, in spite of her disappointment in her husband, did Mrs. Bennet give up the point. She talked to Elizabeth again and again; coaxed and threatened her by turns.

She endeavoured to secure Jane in her interest but Jane with all possible mildness declined interfering;

--and Elizabeth, sometimes with real earnestness and sometimes with playful gaiety, replied to her attacks. Though her manner varied, however, her determination never did.

Mr. Collins, meanwhile, was meditating in solitude on what had passed. He thought too well of himself to comprehend on what motive his cousin could refuse him; and though his pride was hurt, he suffered in no other way.

伊丽莎白听到那样的开头，却是这样的结尾，忍不住笑了；班纳特太太却是大失所望。她本以为丈夫一定会照着她的意思来解决此事，（哪里料到会这样）。

“你这话是什么意思，我的好老爷？你事先不是答应了我，一定让她嫁给他吗？”

“太太，”丈夫回答道，“我有两件小事想请你成全。第一，请你允许我自由表达我对此事的看法；第二，请你允许我自由使用我的书房。我现在就想尽快在这里图个清闲。”

班纳特太太虽然碰了一鼻子灰，可是并不甘心罢休。她一遍又一遍地说服伊丽莎白，威逼利诱，软硬兼施。

她想尽办法拉着简帮忙，可是简偏不愿意多管闲事，极其委婉地谢绝了。

interest=benefit/advantage

伊丽莎白对此则应付自如，一会儿认真严肃，一会儿又嘻皮笑脸；尽管她的应对方式多样，（拒婚的）决心却始终如一。

此时，柯林斯先生正独自一人，回想着刚才对话的那一幕。他把自己看的太高了，因此弄不明白表妹拒绝他，原因究竟何在。虽说他的自尊心受到了伤害，可他别的方面丝毫也不觉得难过。

meditate on=reflect on 反思，回想

His regard for her was quite imaginary; and the possibility (of her deserving her mother's reproach) prevented his feeling any regret.

While the family were in this confusion, Charlotte Lucas came to spend the day with them. She was met in the vestibule by Lydia, who, flying to her, cried in a half whisper,

"I am glad you are come, for there is such fun here! -- What do you think has happened this morning? -- Mr. Collins has made an offer to Lizzy, and she will not have him."

(1)Charlotte had hardly time to answer, before they were joined by Kitty, who came to tell the same news, (2)and no sooner had they entered the breakfast-room, where Mrs. Bennet was alone, than she likewise began on the subject, (3)calling on Miss Lucas for her compassion, (4)and entreating her to persuade her friend Lizzy to comply with the wishes of all her family.

"Pray do, my dear Miss Lucas," she added in a melancholy tone, "for nobody is on my side, nobody takes part with me, I am cruelly used, nobody feels for my poor nerves."

Charlotte's reply was spared by the entrance of Jane and Elizabeth.

"Aye, there she comes," continued Mrs. Bennet, "looking as unconcerned as may be, and caring no more for us than if we were at York, provided she can have her own way."

她对她的好感完全没什么依据，全是臆想。他想着她母亲一定会责骂她（可那是应该的）因此心里也不觉得有什么对不起她的。

正当这家人乱哄哄的时候，夏绿蒂·卢卡斯上这儿来作客了。丽迪雅在大门口碰到她，立刻奔上前去凑近她耳边说：
confusion=disorder

“你来了我真高兴，这儿正闹得有趣呢！你知道今天上午发生了什么事？柯林斯先生向丽兹求婚，丽兹偏偏拒绝了他。”

(1)夏绿蒂还没来得及回答，凯蒂就走过来，把同样的事又说了一遍。(2)她们刚走进起居室，发现班纳特太太一个人在那儿——马上又和她们谈到这话题上来。(3)她恳请卢卡斯小姐体恤她的心思，(4)劝劝她的朋友顺从全家人的心愿。

“我恳求你，卢卡斯小姐，”她用苦痛的声调说道：“谁也不站在我一边，没有人赞同我，一个个都对我这么狠心，谁也不肯体谅我的神经。”

夏绿蒂正要回答，简和伊丽莎白就走了进来。

“嘿，她来啦，”班纳特太太接着说。“看她一脸毫不在意的样子，一点儿也不为我们考虑考虑，好像我们是对头的对头，只顾着按自己的心意“独断独行”。

-- But I tell you what, Miss Lizzy, if you **take it into your head to** go on refusing every offer of marriage in this way, you will never get a husband at all -- and I am sure I do not know who **is to maintain** you when your father is dead.

-- I shall not be able to keep you -- and so I warn you. -- **I have done with you from this very day.** -- I told you in the library, you know, that I should never speak to you again, and you will find me **as good as my word.**

I have no pleasure in talking to **undutiful** children, -- Not that I have much pleasure indeed in talking to any body. People (who suffer[as I do]from nervous complaints) **can have no great inclination** for talking.

Nobody can tell what I suffer! -- But it is always so. **Those who do not complain are never pitied."**

Her daughters listened in silence to this effusion, sensible that any attempt (to **reason with** or **sooth** her) would only increase the irritation.

She talked on, therefore, without interruption from any of them till they were joined by Mr. Collins, who entered with an air more stately than usual, and on perceiving whom, she said to the girls,

"Now, I do insist upon it, that you, all of you, hold your tongues, and let Mr. Collins and me have a little conversation together."

Elizabeth passed quietly out of the room, Jane and Kitty followed,

我的丽兹小姐，告诉你吧，如果你**心里有这个打算**，但凡是人家求婚，就像这样拒绝，那你一生都休想弄到一个丈夫。等你爸爸去世以后，看看还有谁来**供养**你。

我是养不活你的，事先得跟你声明。**从**今天起，我跟你一刀两断。你知道，刚刚在书房里，我就跟你说过，我再也不要跟你说话了，瞧我**说得到就做得到**。

我可不乐意跟**不听话**的女儿说话；现在我对谁都不想费口舌。像我这样一个，饱受神经病痛折磨的人，**哪还有什么兴致**说话。

谁也不知道我的苦楚！不过事情总是这样，**你不诉苦，就没有人可怜你。**"

女儿们一声不响，只是听着她发牢骚。她们都明白，不论是跟她评评理，或是安慰安慰她，都等同于火上浇油。

她唠叨个没完，女儿们也没一个来打断，直到柯林斯先生进来。他脸上的神色比平常显得更为凝重。一见到他，她便对女儿们这样说：

“现在我要你们一个个都住嘴，让柯林斯先生跟我谈一会儿。”

伊丽莎白悄悄地走了，简和凯蒂也跟着走了出去。

but Lydia stood her ground, determined to hear all she could;

and Charlotte, detained first by the civility of Mr. Collins, whose inquiries after herself and all her family were very minute,

and then by a little curiosity, satisfied herself with walking to the window and pretending not to hear.

In a doleful voice Mrs. Bennet thus began the projected conversation. -- "Oh! Mr. Collins!" --

"My dear Madam," replied he, "let us be for ever silent on this point. Far be it from me," he presently continued, in a voice that marked his displeasure, "to resent the behaviour of your daughter."

Resignation to inevitable evils is the duty of us all; the peculiar duty of a young man (who has been so fortunate as I have been in early preferment;)

Resignation 顺从

and I trust I am resigned. Perhaps not the less so from feeling a doubt of my positive happiness had my fair cousin honoured me with her hand;

for I have often observed(2) that resignation is never so perfect as (it is) (1)[when the blessing (denied) begins to lose somewhat of its value in our estimation.]

never so ...as ... (during/when 从句)

从来没有像 那时/.....时 那样.....过

只有丽迪雅站在那儿不动，正要听听他们谈些什么。

夏绿蒂也没有走，先是因为柯林斯先生仔仔细细问候她和她的家庭，所以不便即走。

随后又为了满足她自己的好奇心，便走到窗口，去偷听他们谈话。

只听得班纳特太太叹气道，“唉，柯林斯先生……”（我也没办法了）

“亲爱的太太，”柯林斯先生说，“这件事让我们再也别提了吧。我决不会怨恨令爱这种行为。”他说到这里，声调中充满极其不愉快的感觉：

“我们大家都得逆来顺受，像我这样年少得志，小小年纪就得到了人家的器重，特别应该如此。（“天妒英才”）

这是上天的安排，是对我的考验

我相信我一切都听天由命；即使我那位美丽的表妹答应了我的求婚，或许我仍然免不了要怀疑，是否就获得了真正的幸福。

【总是在抬举自己，不肯直面现实】

(1) 因为我一向认为，幸福一经拒绝，就不值得我们再加重视。(2) 遇到这种场合，听天由命是再好不过的办法。

那时/...时 是 最...的/再...不过了

(2) You will not, I hope, consider me as shewing any disrespect to your family, my dear Madam, (1) by thus withdrawing my pretensions to your daughter's favour, (3) without having paid yourself and Mr. Bennet the compliment of requesting you to interpose your authority in my behalf.

My conduct may, I fear, be objectionable in having accepted my dismissal from your daughter's lips instead of your own.

But we are all liable to error. I have certainly meant well through the whole affair.

My object has been to secure an amiable companion for myself, with due consideration for the advantage of all your family,

and if my manner has been at all reprehensible, I here beg leave to apologise."

(1) 亲爱的太太，我收回对令爱的求婚，(2) 希望您别误解为这是对您家人的和的不敬。(3) 同样也希望您别责怪我不懂事，我已经请您和班纳特先生出面调停了。

我并未遭到您拒绝，只是令爱不肯接受罢了，这一点确实挺遗憾的。

可是人难免有不顺遂心意的时候。我做这件事始终是出于好心。

我的目的就是要找一个贴心的伴侣，并且充分考虑到了府上的利益；

如果我的态度有什么地方应该受到责备的话，就让我当面道谦，请求原谅吧。”