

## CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

### **Elizabeth Lizzy Bennet (Protagonist): Witty, sarcastic, playful, strong-willed, stubborn**

The novel's protagonist. The second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet. She is well read and quick-witted, with a tongue that occasionally proves too sharp for her own good.

### **Fitzwilliam Darcy: Blunt, stiff, unsociable, guarded, proud**

A wealthy gentleman, the master of Pemberley, and the nephew of Lady Catherine de Bourgh.

### **Jane Bennet: Gentle, reserved, good-hearted, compassionate**

The eldest Bennet sister. Jane is more reserved and gentler than Elizabeth and tries to see the good in everyone.

### **Charles Bingley: Easygoing, innocent, gullible, positive**

Darcy's best friend and Jane's love interest. He is a well-intentioned gentleman, whose easygoing nature contrasts with Darcy's initially discourteous demeanor. He is blissfully uncaring about class differences.

### **Mr. Bennet: Sarcastic, exhausted, witty, unbothered**

The patriarch of the Bennet family, a gentleman of modest income with five unmarried daughters. Mr. Bennet has a sarcastic, cynical sense of humor that he uses to purposefully irritate his wife. Though he loves his daughters (Elizabeth in particular), he often fails as a parent, preferring to withdraw from the never-ending marriage concerns of the women.

### **Mrs. Bennet: loud, dramatic, self-centered, strong-willed, confident**

Mr. Bennet's wife, a woman whose only goal in life is to see her daughters married. She often compares her circumstances to those of the women around her and is eager to do better than them. She is loud, opinionated and loves to be dramatic when things don't go her way.

### **Lydia Bennet: honest, loud, silly, judgemental, impulsive, reckless**

The youngest Bennet sister. Lydia doesn't take anything serious, loves to gossip, have fun and flirt with soldiers. She doesn't care for manners and often looks down on others for not living life like her. She ends up running off with Wickham and never realises the danger she was in.

### **Charlotte Lucas: rational, pragmatic, kind**

Elizabeth's dear friend. Pragmatic where Elizabeth is romantic, she is more interested in having a comfortable home than marrying for love. She holds neither men nor matrimony in high regard but is very rational about the reality of things. Thus, when Mr. Collins proposes, she accepts.

### **George Wickham: charming, appearing kind and honourable, deceptive**

A handsome, fortune-hunting militia officer. Wickham's good looks and charm attract Elizabeth initially, but Darcy's revelation about Wickham's disreputable past clues her in to his true nature. He runs away because of his debts and takes Lydia with him, making her believe they were to elope.

**Mr. Collins: pompous in his talking, overly submissive, pretentious, arrogant**

A pompous clergyman who stands to inherit Mr. Bennet's property. Mr. Collins's own social status is nothing to brag about, but he takes great pains to let everyone and anyone know that Lady Catherine de Bourgh serves as his patroness. He is the worst combination of snobbish and obsequious.

**Caroline Bingley: conceited, stuck-up, judgmental, teasing**

Bingley's younger sister. Miss Bingley bears inordinate disdain for Elizabeth's character and the Bennet's middle-class background. She attempts to gain Darcy's attention but his lack of interest in her strikes her ego. While she forms somewhat of a friendship with Jane, and is quite fond of her in the beginning, her judgement against the Bennet's causes her to treat Jane horribly.

**Louisa Bingley: a gossip, judgemental**

Bingley's older sister. She and Caroline love to pass judgement and feel superior to others in Hertfordshire. She regards Jane in a better light but still disapproves her as her brother's romantic interest.

**Lady Catherine de Bourgh: strict, assertive, thinks she knows better than anyone**

A rich, opinionated noblewoman; Mr. Collins's patron and Darcy's aunt. Lady Catherine epitomises class snobbery, especially in her attempts to order the middle-class Elizabeth away from her well-bred nephew.

**Mr./ Mrs. Gardiner: kind, curious, observing**

The aunt/uncle of the Bennet daughters. They care a lot about their nieces and have a close relationship to them.

**Mary Bennet: introverted, stern, "nerdy"**

The middle Bennet sister, Mary, seems to not quite fit in with the other Bennet sisters. Though she shares Lizzy's love for books, her quiet and meticulous nature tends to set her apart. She is the only one from her sisters that finds Mr. Collins to be agreeable.

**Kitty Bennet: silly, giggly, youthful, pliable**

The fourth Bennet sister. She mostly spends time with Lydia, flirting with the soldiers and having a good time. Though Kitty is older than her, she seems to follow along with whatever Lydia is doing and is less vigorous.

**Mr. Denny: fun, easygoing**

He is an officer and good friends with George Wickham. While he is staying in Hertfordshire with the rest of the officers, he enjoys the company and attention of Lydia and Kitty.

**Colonel Fitzwilliam: pleasant, charming, friendly**

Mr. Darcy's cousin. He forms a friendship with Elizabeth Bennet that verges on being flirtatious but stays platonic. He accidentally reveals to her that Darcy separated Bingley and Jane, not knowing that Elizabeth and Jane were sisters.

**Maria Lucas: youthful, naive, compliant**

Charlotte's younger sister. She joins Lizzy on her trip to Rosings Park and is frightened by Lady Catherine's assertive nature. Her reactions to Lady Catherine contrast Lizzy's headstrong character.

**Housekeeper: maternalistic, caring, fond**

They know Mr. Darcy since he was little and hold him in high regard. When showing Lizzy through Pemberly, they share stories and memories of Mr. Darcy, telling Lizzy how well he always treats the staff which ends up influencing her opinion on him.

**[Georgiana DARCY: shy, meek**

She is Darcy's younger sister and under his guardianship. She holds her brother in high regard due to his devotedness in caring for her. He is a fatherlike figure to her and saved her from Mr Wickham who tried to manipulate her into eloping with him.]

**[Anne de Bourgh: sickly, silent**

Lady Catherine's only daughter. Though mostly passively present, Lady Catherine and Mr. Collins sing high praises for her beauty and talents. Because of issues with her health, she barely interacts with anyone. Her mother has planned for her to marry Mr. Darcy since her birth.]

**TEXT 1: JANE, LIZZY**

*Jane and Lizzy talk after Wickham told Lizzy about his past with Wickham.*

JANE: They have both been deceived, I dare say, in some way or other, of which we can form no idea. Interested people have perhaps misrepresented each to the other. It is, in short, impossible for us to conjecture the causes or circumstances which may have alienated them, without actual blame on either side."

LIZZY: Very true, indeed; and now, my dear Jane, what have you got to say on behalf of the interested people who have probably been concerned in the business? Do clear THEM too, or we shall be obliged to think ill of somebody.

JANE: Laugh as much as you choose, but you will not laugh me out of my opinion. My dearest Lizzy, do but consider in what a disgraceful light it places Mr. Darcy, to be treating his father's favourite in such a manner, one whom his father had promised to provide for. It is impossible. No man of common humanity, no man who had any value for his character, could be capable of it. Can his most intimate friends be so excessively deceived in him?

LIZZY: I can much more easily believe Mr. Bingley's being imposed on, than that Mr. Wickham should invent such a history of himself as he gave me; names, facts, everything mentioned without ceremony. If it be not so, let Mr. Darcy contradict it. Besides, there was truth in his looks.

JANE: It is difficult indeed—it is distressing. One does not know what to think.

LIZZY: I beg your pardon; one knows exactly what to think.

**TEXT 2: MR. BINGLEY, JANE, LIZZY**

*Mr. Bingley meets Lizzy and Jane and invites them to the ball (more people are included in the actual scene).*

MR. BINGLEY: Miss Bennet, we were just on our way to Longbourn to inquire after your health. I hope to hear that you feel better?

JANE: I feel a lot better, thank you.

MR. BINGLEY: I am extensively delighted to hear that. I had been worried that we sent you home too soon. I mean, regarding the state of your health.

LIZZY: Do not worry, Mr. Bingley, we had extended the length of our stay long enough.

Jane [giving Lizzy a scolding look]: You have indeed been very kind. Please send my regards to your sisters, as well, I was very grateful for their company.

MR. BINGLEY: With pleasure, I will; though it won't be long before you can meet again, I hope. There is to be a ball in Netherfield, next Tuesday. I hope - I mean - we *all* hope that you will come.

Lizzy [teasing]: I can assure you, Mr. Bingley, that Jane will be delighted to come.

MR. BINGLEY: Oh, of course, the invitation is extended to everyone here! Your entire family will be more than welcome at Netherfield.

JANE: Lizzy meant to say that we *all* will gratefully attend.

MR. BINGLEY: I am glad to hear that. Well, then. We will be on our way.

**TEXT 3: MR. BENNET, MRS. BENNET**

*Mrs. Bennet tries to convince her husband to visit the new rich man that has just arrived.*

MRS. BENNET: Why, my dear, you must know, that Netherfield is taken by a young man of large fortune; that he came down on Monday to see the place, and was so much delighted with it, that he agreed to the offer immediately; some of his servants are to be in the house by the end of next week.

MR. BENNET: What is his name?

MRS. BENNET: Bingley.

MR. BENNET: Is he married or single?

MRS. BENNET: Oh! Single, my dear, to be sure! A single man of large fortune; four or five thousand a year. What a fine thing for our girls!

MR. BENNET: How so? How can it affect them?

MRS. BENNET: My dear Mr. Bennet, how can you be so tiresome! You must know that I am thinking of his marrying one of them. It is very likely that he may fall in love with one of them, and therefore you must visit him as soon as he comes.

MR. BENNET: I see no occasion for that. You and the girls may go, or you may send them by themselves, which perhaps will be still better, for as you are as handsome as any of them, Mr. Bingley may like you the best of the party.

MRS. BENNET: My dear, you flatter me. I certainly have had my share of beauty, but I do not pretend to be anything extraordinary now. When a woman has five grown-up daughters, she ought to give over thinking of her own beauty. But, my dear, you must indeed go and see Mr. Bingley.

MR. BENNET: It is more than I engage for, I assure you.

MRS. BENNET: But consider your daughters. Only think what an establishment it would be for one of them. Indeed you must go, for it will be impossible for us to visit him if you do not.

MR. BENNET: I will send a few lines by you to assure him of my hearty consent to his marrying whichever he chooses of the girls; though I must throw in a good word for my little Lizzy.

**TEXT 4: MR. BINGLEY, MR. DARCY**

*Bingley tries to convince his friend to dance at the ball after they have just arrived in Hertfordshire.*

BINGLEY: Come, Darcy, I must have you dance. I hate to see you standing about by yourself in this stupid manner.

DARCY: I certainly shall not. You know how I detest it, unless I am particularly acquainted with my partner. There is not a woman in the room whom it would not be a punishment to me to stand up with.

BINGLEY: I would not be so fastidious as you are, for a kingdom! Upon my honour, I never met with so many pleasant girls in my life as I have this evening; and there are several of them you see uncommonly pretty.

DARCY: You are dancing with the only handsome girl in the room, Mr. Darcy, looking at the eldest Miss Bennet.

BINGLEY: Oh! She is the most beautiful creature I ever beheld! But there is one of her sisters -

[He looks around until he sees Lizzy. She quickly looks away and pretends not to hear their conversation]

BINGLEY [in a hushed voice]: Her sister, who is sitting down just beside us, is very pretty, and I dare say very agreeable. Do let me ask my partner to introduce you properly.

DARCY [turns to look at Lizzy, then says coldly]: She is tolerable, but not handsome enough to tempt me; I am in no humour at present to give consequence to young ladies who are slighted by other men. You had better return to your partner and enjoy her smiles, for you are wasting your time with me.

**TEXT 5: CAROLINE, LOUISA, MR. BINGLEY, (MR. DARCY)**

*The Bingley sibilings talk (with Mr. Darcy) about Lizzy Bennet after she arrived at Netherfield to inquire after her sister's health. [Can be presented with or without Mr. Darcy]*

LOUISA: She has nothing, in short, to recommend her, but being an excellent walker. I shall never forget her appearance this morning. She really looked almost wild.

CAROLINE: She did, indeed, Louisa. I could hardly keep my countenance. Very nonsensical to come at all! Why must she be scampering about the country, because her sister had a cold? Her hair, so untidy, so blowsy!

LOUISA: Yes, and her petticoat; I hope you saw her petticoat, six inches deep in mud, I am absolutely certain; and the gown which had been let down to hide it not doing its office.

BINGLEY: Your picture may be very exact, Louisa, but this was all lost upon me. I thought Miss Elizabeth Bennet looked remarkably well when she came into the room this morning. Her dirty petticoat quite escaped my notice.

CAROLINE: You observed it, Mr. Darcy, I am sure, and I am inclined to think that you would not wish to see your sister make such an exhibition.

[DARCY: Certainly not.]

CAROLINE: To walk three miles, or four miles, or five miles, or whatever it is, above her ankles in dirt, and alone, quite alone! What could she mean by it? It seems to me to show an abominable sort of conceited independence, a most country-town indifference to decorum.

BINGLEY: It shows an affection for her sister that is very pleasing.

CAROLINE: I am afraid, Mr. Darcy, that this adventure has rather affected your admiration of her 'fine eyes'.

[DARCY: Not at all, they were brightened by the exercise.]



**TEXT 6: MR. DARCY, LIZZY, (CAROLINE)**

*Lizzy is at Netherfield and has a conversation with Caroline who believes that Mr. Darcy is not to be ridiculed. [Can be presented with or without Caroline]*

LIZZY: Mr. Darcy is not to be laughed at! That is an uncommon advantage, and uncommon I hope it will continue, for it would be a great loss to me to have many such acquaintances. I dearly love a laugh.

DARCY: Miss Bingley has given me more credit than can be. The wisest and the best of men— nay, the wisest and best of their actions— may be rendered ridiculous by a person whose first object in life is a joke.

LIZZY: Certainly, there are such people, but I hope I am not one of them. Follies and nonsense, whims and inconsistencies, do divert me and I laugh at them whenever I can. But these, I suppose, are precisely what you are without.

DARCY: It has been the study of my life to avoid those weaknesses which often expose a strong understanding to ridicule.

LIZZY: Such as vanity and pride.

DARCY: Yes, vanity is a weakness indeed. But pride—where there is a real superiority of mind, pride will be always under good regulation.

LIZZY: [turns away to hide a smile]

[CAROLINE: Your examination of Mr. Darcy is over, I presume, and pray what is the result?]

LIZZY: I am perfectly convinced that Mr. Darcy has no defect. He owns it himself without disguise.

DARCY: No, I have made no such pretension. I have faults enough. My temper I dare not vouch for. It would perhaps be called resentful. My good opinion once lost, is lost forever.

LIZZY: That is a failing indeed! Implacable resentment is a shade in a character. But you have chosen your fault well. I really cannot laugh at it. You are safe from me.

DARCY: There is, I believe, in every disposition a tendency to some particular evil—a natural defect, which not even the best education can overcome.

LIZZY: And your defect is to hate everybody.

DARCY: [with a smile] And yours, is willfully to misunderstand them.

**TEXT 7: MR. COLLINS, MRS. BENNET, MR. BENNET**

*Mr and Mrs. Bennet get to know Mr. Collins and his particular adoration towards the de Bourgh family.*

MR. BENNET: Mr. Collins, you seem very fortunate in your patroness. Lady Catherine de Bourgh's attention to your wishes, and consideration for your comfort, appears to be very remarkable.

MR. COLLINS: Oh, I have never in my life witnessed such behaviour in a person of rank—such affability and condescension, as I myself have experienced from Lady Catherine. She has always spoken to me as she would to any other gentleman; she made not the smallest objection to my joining in the society of the neighbourhood nor to my leaving the parish occasionally for a week or two, to visit my relations. She has even condescended to advise me to marry as soon as I can, provided I choose with discretion; and has once paid me a visit in my humble parsonage.

MRS. BENNET: I think you said she was a widow, sir? Has she any family?

MR. COLLINS: She has only one daughter, the heiress of Rosings, and of very extensive property.

MRS. BENNET: Ah, then she is better off than many girls. And what sort of young lady is she? Is she handsome?

MR. COLLINS: Lady Catherine herself says that, in point of true beauty, Miss de Bourgh is far superior to the handsomest of her sex, because there is that in her features which marks the young lady of distinguished birth. Her indifferent state of health unhappily prevents her being in town; and by that means, as I told Lady Catherine one day, has deprived the British court of its brightest ornaments. Her ladyship seemed pleased with the idea; and you may imagine that I am happy on every occasion to offer those little delicate compliments which are always acceptable to ladies.

MR. BENNET: It is happy for you that you possess the talent of flattering with delicacy. May I ask whether these pleasing attentions proceed from the impulse of the moment, or are the result of previous study?

MR. COLLINS: They arise chiefly from what is passing at the time, and though I sometimes amuse myself with suggesting and arranging such little elegant compliments as may be adapted to ordinary occasions, I always wish to give them as unstudied an air as possible.

Mr. Bennet [having heard enough from Mr. Collins]: Ah, then. If you excuse me, I just remembered that I received a letter this morning which I have yet to read.

[MR BENNET exits the stage, chuckling to himself.]

MR. COLLINS: I must give my praise, Mrs. Bennet, on having so fine a family of daughters; I had heard much of their beauty, but in this instance, fame has fallen short of the truth. I have to say, I do not doubt seeing them all in due time disposed of in marriage.

MRS. BENNET: You are very kind, I am sure. I wish with all my heart it may prove so, for else they will be destitute enough. Things are settled so oddly.

MR. COLLINS: You allude, perhaps, to the entail of this estate.

MRS. BENNET: Ah! sir, I do indeed. It is a grievous affair to my poor girls, you must confess. Not that I mean to find fault with you, for such things I know are all chance in this world.

**TEXT 8: LIZZY, MR. DARCY**

*Lizzy has just rejected Mr. Darcy's proposal.*

MR. DARCY: And this is all the reply which I am to have the honour of expecting! I might, perhaps, wish to be informed why, with so little endeavour at civility, I am thus rejected. But it is of small importance.

LIZZY: I might as well inquire, why with so evident a desire of offending and insulting me, you chose to tell me that you liked me against your will, against your reason, and even against your character? But I have other provocations. Do you think that any consideration would tempt me to accept the man who has been the means of ruining, perhaps for ever, the happiness of a most beloved sister?

[DARCY listens]

LIZZY: I have every reason in the world to think ill of you. You dare not, you cannot deny, that you have been the principal, if not the only means of dividing them from each other— and involving them both in misery of the acutest kind.

[still no comment]

LIZZY: Can you deny that you have done it?

DARCY: I have no wish of denying that I did everything in my power to separate my friend from your sister, or that I rejoice in my success. Towards him I have been kinder than towards myself.

LIZZY: But it is not merely this affair, on which my dislike is founded. Your character was unfolded in the recital which I received from Mr. Wickham.

DARCY: [getting angry] You take an eager interest in that gentleman's concerns.

LIZZY: Who that knows what his misfortunes have been, can help feeling an interest in him?

DARCY: His misfortunes!

LIZZY: Yes, his misfortunes. And of your infliction! You have reduced him to his present state of poverty. You have withheld the advantages which have been designed for him. You have done all this! and yet you can treat the mention of his misfortune with contempt and ridicule.

DARCY: And this, is your opinion of me! I thank you for explaining it so fully. My faults, according to this calculation, are

heavy indeed! But perhaps, these offenses might have been overlooked, had not your pride been hurt by my honest confession of the scruples that had long prevented my forming any serious design. But disguise of every sort is my abhorrence. Nor am I ashamed of the feelings I related. They were natural and just. Could you expect me to rejoice in the inferiority of your connections?—to congratulate myself on the hope of relations, whose condition in life is so decidedly beneath my own?

LIZZY: You are mistaken, Mr. Darcy, if you suppose that the mode of your declaration affected me in any other way, than as it spared the concern which I might have felt in refusing you, had you behaved in a more gentlemanlike manner. *[he is silent]* You could not have made the offer of your hand in any possible way that would have tempted me to accept it. *[he still looks at her in silence]* From the very beginning, your manners have impressed me with the fullest belief of your arrogance, your conceit, and your selfish disdain of the feelings of others; and I had not known you a month before I felt that you were the last man in the world whom I could ever be prevailed on to marry.

DARCY: You have said quite enough, madam. Forgive me for having taken up so much of your time, and accept my best wishes for your health and happiness.

**TEXT 9: LYDIA**

*Lydia comes home after marrying Wickham. [Text is changed from the script for audition purposes]*

LYDIA: Only think of its being three months since I went away; it seems but a fortnight I declare; Good gracious! when I went away, I am sure I had no more idea of being married till I came back again! though I thought it would be very good fun if I was. Oh! mamma, do the people hereabouts know I am married to-day? I was afraid they might not. Ah! Jane, I take your place now, and you must go lower, because I am a married woman. And what do you think of my husband? Is not he a charming man? I am sure my sisters must all envy me. I only hope they may have half my good luck. They must all go to Brighton. That is the place to get husbands. You and papa, and my sisters, must come down and see us. We shall be at Newcastle all the winter, and I dare say there will be some balls, and I will take care to get good partners for them all.

**TEXT 10: LIZZY, MR WICKHAM**

*Mr Wickham tells Lizzy about his connection to Mr. Darcy.*

Mr Wickham: And how long has Mr. Darcy been staying there?

LIZZY: About a month. He is a man of very large property in Derbyshire, I understand.

Mr Wickham: Yes, his estate there is a noble one. I have been connected with his family in a particular manner from my infancy. You may well be surprised, Miss Bennet, at such an assertion, after seeing, as you probably might, the very cold manner of our meeting yesterday. Are you much acquainted with Mr. Darcy?

LIZZY: As much as I ever wish to be. I have spent four days in the same house with him, and I think him very disagreeable.

Wickham: I have no right to give *my* opinion as to his being agreeable or otherwise. I am not qualified to form one. I have known him too long and too well to be a fair judge. It is impossible for me to be impartial.

LIZZY: Upon my word, he is not at all liked in Hertfordshire. You will not find him more favourably spoken of by anyone.

Mr Wickham: I cannot pretend to be sorry... [*Lizzy looks at him curiously*] That he or that *any man* should not be estimated beyond their deserts; but with *him* I believe it does not often happen. The world is blinded by his fortune and consequence, or frightened by his high and imposing manners. I should take him, even on *my* slight acquaintance, to be an ill-tempered man.

LIZZY: I hope your stay here will not be affected by his being in the neighbourhood.

Mr Wickham: Oh! no-it is not for ME to be driven away by Mr. Darcy. If HE wishes to avoid seeing ME, he must go. It always gives me pain to meet him, but I have no reason for avoiding him. His father, Miss Bennet, the late Mr. Darcy, was one of the best men that ever breathed, and the truest friend I ever had; and I can never be in company with this Mr. Darcy without being grieved. His behaviour to myself has been scandalous; but I verily believe I could forgive him anything and everything, rather than his disappointing the hopes and disgracing the memory of his father.

**TEXT 11: JANE, CHARLOTTE, KITTY, LYDIA**

*They discuss the ball where they met Mr. Bingley and Mr. Darcy.  
[Text has been changed from the script for the audition]*

JANE: Mr. Bingley danced all of the dances yesterday, I think he enjoyed himself a lot.

CHARLOTTE: Yes; but he seemed to enjoy some dances more than others.

LYDIA: Oh! you mean Jane, I suppose, because he danced with her twice. To be sure that did seem as if he admired her.

KITTY: I overheard a conversation between him and Mr. Robinson at the ball; Mr. Robinson was asking him how he liked our Meryton assemblies, and which girl he thought the prettiest? Mr. Bingley said immediately: 'Oh! the eldest Miss Bennet, beyond a doubt; there cannot be two opinions on that point.'

CHARLOTTE: Her overhearings were more to the purpose than Eliza's. Mr. Darcy is not so well worth listening to as his friend, is he?

LYDIA: He is such a disagreeable man, that it would be quite a misfortune to be liked by him. Mrs. Long told Mama last night that he sat close to her for half-an-hour without once opening his lips.

JANE: Are you quite sure?—is not there a little mistake? I certainly saw Mr. Darcy speaking to her.

LYDIA: Aye—because she asked him at last how he liked Netherfield, and he could not help answering her; but she said he seemed quite angry at being spoke to.

JANE: Miss Bingley told me that he never speaks much, unless among his intimate acquaintances. With them he is remarkably agreeable.

KITTY: I do not believe a word of it. If he had been so very agreeable, he would have talked to Mrs. Long.

CHARLOTTE: I do not mind his not talking to Mrs. Long, but I wish he had danced with Eliza.

LYDIA: Another time, Lizzy, I would not dance with him, if I were you.

CHARLOTTE: 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 proud.



**TEXT 12: LADY CATHERINE DE BOURGH**

*Lizzy gets to know Lady Catherine.*

LADY CATHERINE: Your father's estate is entailed on Mr. Collins, I think. For your sake, Mrs Collins, I am glad of it; but otherwise I see no occasion for entailing estates from the female line. It was not thought necessary in Sir Lewis de Bourgh's family. Do you play and sing, Miss Bennet?

LIZZY: A little.

LADY CATHERINE: Oh! then—some time or other we shall be happy to hear you. Our instrument is a capital one, probably superior to—You shall try it some day. Do your sisters play and sing?

LIZZY: One of them does.

LADY CATHERINE: Why did not you all learn? You ought all to have learned. The Miss Webbs all play, and their father has not so good an income as yours. Do you draw?

LIZZY: No, not at all.

LADY CATHERINE: What, none of you?

LIZZY: Not one.

LADY CATHERINE: That is very strange. But I suppose you had no opportunity. Your mother should have taken you to town every spring for the benefit of masters.