

MR. DARCY is the handsome, wealthy, proud and wealthy romantic lead that fall in love with Elizabeth against his will, while resisting the obvious advances of Miss Bingley.

### DARCY

In vain have I struggled. It will not do. My feelings will not be repressed. You must allow me to tell you how ardently I admire and love you. These past months have been endless struggle and torment. I have long held you in the highest esteem and affection in spite of my many apprehensions. But my rank and consequence will withstand the censure of my family and objectionable nature of yours if you will but replace my suffering with joy and accept my hand in marriage.

*(brief pause, to show his reaction as she declines his offer)*

### DARCY 1:

And this is all the reply which I am to have the honor of expecting? I might, perhaps, wish to be informed why, with so little *endeavor* at civility, I am thus rejected. But it is of small importance. 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.

Why are you so concerned with Mr. Wickham? You take an eager interest in that gentleman's concerns. His misfortunes! Yes, his misfortunes have been great indeed. I thank you for explaining your opinions so fully. My faults are heavy indeed! But perhaps these offences might have been overlooked, had not your pride been hurt by my honest confession of my scruples. These bitter accusations might have been suppressed, had I concealed my struggles and flattered you. 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, and congratulate myself on the hope of relations whose condition in life is so decidedly beneath my own?

You have said quite enough, madam. I perfectly comprehend your feelings and have now only to be ashamed of what my own have been. Forgive me for having taken up so much of your time and accept my best wishes for your health and happiness.

### DARCY 2:

If you *will* thank me let it be for yourself alone. That the wish of giving you happiness might add force to the other inducements, I shall not deny. But your *family* owe me nothing. Much as I respect them, I thought only of *you*. When you came to Pemberley, I hoped to show you that I was not so mean as to resent the past. I hoped to obtain your forgiveness and let you see that your reproofs had been attended to. You are too generous to trifle with me. If your feelings are still what they were last April, tell me so at once. *My* affections and wishes are unchanged, but one word from you will silence me on this subject forever. My dearest, loveliest Elizabeth, by you I was properly humbled. You showed me how insufficient were all my pretensions to please a woman worthy of being pleased. Worthy of being loved.