



Mr. Darcy's Enchantment: A Pride & Prejudice Variation

Abigail Reynolds

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In a Regency England where magic and faeries are real...

Fitzwilliam Darcy is a powerful magician who controls fire, water, and wind. What he cannot control is his growing feelings for Miss Elizabeth Bennet.

Elizabeth's sentiments towards Darcy are quite different. She detests his arrogance, and she fears he will expose her use of forbidden magic - forbidden to women, that is. He is the last man in the world she would choose to help her on a difficult and dangerous task.

But when a magical war looms between the land of Faerie and their world, a Lord of Faerie demands that Darcy and Elizabeth serve together as his emissaries to make peace with the other mortals. That mission throws them into the middle of a chaotic power struggle between magicians whose power dwarfs their own, and everything Elizabeth has ever believed about her family, her friends, and her enemies will be called into question.

Mr. Darcy's Enchantment: A Pride & Prejudice Variation Details

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From Reader Review Mr. Darcy's Enchantment: A Pride & Prejudice Variation for online ebook

Dung says

Wow, what a page turner! Such a delightful, angst filled, magical adventure with our favorite P&P characters, not to mention some great additions.

Abigail Reynolds is such a great storyteller! With all the P&P variations out there, it still amazes me how authors are so creative.

There are other great reviews that sum up the story. All I have to say is it's definitely one of my favorite books this year. Bravo to the author for such creative storytelling. The ending left you with a potential sequel/series, I hope you consider continuing it just a bit longer for us fans...

There is a glossary of terms at the end of the book, it would have been helpful if the terms were linked so you could go back and forth, but it doesn't deter from the reading.

Madenna U says

In this Pride and Prejudice variation, there is a bit of extra magic as the story takes place in the world of mages and fairies. The story starts as Elizabeth visits Charlotte at Hunsford. It quickly creates a world where humans and fairies intermingle and are co-dependent, even though most don't know. Our usual pride and prejudices are not only about status in regency England but also within the magic world. Women being forbidden to use magic is a major player to start . . .

Family relationships, links through blood, evil sorcery, love, danger, etc. - this book has it all wrapped up in Elizabeth and Darcy finding each other in their happily ever after. The story is kept together with the action rather than through angst. The differences in customs and mode of conversation create a unique dialogue. The choices characters have to make are very thought provoking. It is a whole lot in one book! I loved it!

Shelley says

Well, I finally finished it! I started it and then the kids needed to go shopping, snow day, my mother needed me to run errands. So frustrating that life got in my way to read!

5 plus stars from me!

My Goodread friends...Sheila, Debbie, JW, Wosedwew, Sophia, and Charlene all wrote fantastic reviews.

This story involves an enchanting tale that involves the world of Pride and Prejudice with the land of Faerie. The world of magic, fantasy, and enchantment all wrapped into one. Never was I so engrossed with a fantasy book before. Abigail Reynolds wrote another fantastic book to be placed on the favorite reread shelf. Before you read the story take a moment to glance in the glossary. It begins when Elizabeth is visiting Rosings staying with the Collins. Elizabeth has a special gift that is forbidden to be used by women. She needs to use it to help a young boy in need of the magic. Mr. Darcy also has magical gifts as well and is a mage. The world of Kent is not as it appears and takes a turn for the worst. You need to read the rest to find

out if they can survive the world that has become full of the unknowns.

Talia says

JAFF meets the Dresden Files. My favorite Abigail Reynolds book yet.

Vaarin says

Oh my! This book blew my mind!

I was spellbound by Abigail Reynolds' book of the fay and faerie world, combined with the excruciating romance of PnP.

The battle between good and evil, between mortals and fay, intersped with toe-curling romance, made this a nail-bitingly thrilling read.

Heartily recommend this book!

wosedwew says

This is a work of fiction. All the characters in it, human and otherwise, are imaginary, excepting only certain of the fairy folk, whom it might be unwise to offend by casting doubts on their existence. Or lack thereof. ~ Neil Gaiman

Brownies! Dryads! Fay Folk! Mages! Phoukas! Redcaps! Sorcerers!

Count me with those who rarely read Fairy Tales. Even so, this book had me hooked from the opening sentences.

A complex plot that I won't attempt to re-cap – and yet everything fits together and loose ends are not left untied.

I especially loved the explanation for Mrs. Bennet's simple-mindedness and the marital relationship between the elder Bennets. You won't find that in any other JAFF tale.

No half-hearted recommendations for this one – JAFF lovers; fairy tale lovers; well, really, any kind of lover: you gotta read it!

The Realm of Fairy is a strange shadow land, lying just beyond the fields we know. ~ Author Unknown

James S says

Wonderful story

My goodness. I have no idea how to do justice to this amazing book. P&P meets Fayre land. I new imagined fantasy world conceived and written about by one of P&P variation best author's.

Great story. I sincerely hope there will be more stories set in this new reality. I can imagine other authors asking permission to write story's taking place in it.

I believe this would make a great series on Netflix and a great video game.

I recommend this book highly bow to Abigail Reynolds.

? Gramy ? says

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This was a sweet and enchanting tale with a complex spellbinding plot, taking the cast of Pride and Prejudice through a mystical journey that included other bewitching characters and animals of otherworldly origin, such as:

* Brownies -Dryads - Fay Folk - Mages - Phoukas -Redcaps -Sorcerers + Gnome . . . More

Magic is an integral part of the story and is not limited to the fay folk, since many humans (some of whom discover they are partially otherworldly beings, such as part of the 'Fay') have magic too. There are different types of magic. For example, Darcy has "elemental magic," meaning he can control water, fire, and wind, while Elizabeth uses "wild magic, which is not limited to specific elements."

In the human realm of this alternate universe, the biggest obstacle between Mr. Darcy and Miss Elizabeth Bennett is the fact that only men are allowed to practice magic, since the men in that era were under the disillusion that women were too weak to handle it. Of course, this meant that the women were forced to hide their abilities to avoid being bound by the members of The Collegium of Mages. Although some practiced their abilities secretly, mostly aiding the poorer folks with healing. Different types of magic highlighted in this tale include: Elemental magic, Wild magic, Spellcasting, and Dark arts.

The writer's ability to weave together well-known characters coinciding with an enchanting world was indeed breathtaking. The magic, drama, and suspense all culminate to deliver an extraordinary tale that is well worth the time it takes to read it!

This is a clean read, which speaks highly of it on its own. However, it also delivers an adventure that leads to a conclusion of happiness and joy through the discovery of the unknown.

Sheila Majczan says

I would give this 5+ stars if I were able. There is such imagination in the creation of this variation...even though it is far from a reflection of canon. This author gives us two worlds and many new characters/creatures, new behaviors and relationships within this tale.

We find ourselves in Kent where Elizabeth is treating a child who has been bitten by a "Redcap". She is afraid to use her magic due to the fact that Mr. Darcy, a Mage, is now residing at Rosings, and Elizabeth is not sure how far away he can detect the use of magic, which is forbidden to women.

As in all variations you must know JA's canon, as it is significant, i.e., Darcy separating Bingley and Jane, Darcy expected to marry Anne and Wickham's lies to Elizabeth. Although we spend most of our time either at Rosings, in the Matlock's residence or in the world of Faerie there are references to what happened in Hertfordshire and, of even greater significance, what happened at Rosings...to the de Bourgh family in the past.

This is a long story and I won't even attempt to mention all the events. However when Elizabeth is called to Rosings after Lady Catherine falls deathly ill the manner of care Elizabeth provides opens up a whole "kettle of fish". One of the results is that she is cast out of the Hunsford vicarage by Collins and he refuses to even allow her to collect her belongings. A solution of settling her into the Rosings Dower House is found.

Part of the charm of this book is finding out (along with the characters) their relationships to other beings and just what that relationship means. Some demand obedience while other relationships provide protection. We learn what eliarinn, shurinn, & tiarinn signify. The fay, the sidhe, etc. who inhabit Faerie live for centuries and thus their memories of a past treaty are more fresh in their minds and they cannot understand nor tolerate the realm of humans who have broken that treaty in destroying their Faerie rings. They are at war with the humans while the humans not only don't know about the ancient treaty they also are not aware of the war, only the fact that there have been a number of sad and destructive events in Britain. So we read of a small band on both sides learning of each other's ways and how they must learn to work together.

Sorcery is forbidden! But as we read on we find that has been practiced by men in high places. We also find spells, good and bad, being used. One person, of very minor mention in canon comes out of "nowhere" and suddenly is front and center in a plan to take over the world of magic and the seat of government.

One thing I found very interesting was that the Fay do not look down on sexual relationships outside of marriage as humans do. They do count lineage to be of the greatest importance but the order of birth is also secondary.

I was charmed by Pepper whose role becomes much more important as we read on. Pepper, a phouka, takes on several animal shapes and can detect roles people play. Shakespeare's characters, Oberon and Titania, from A Midsummer's Night Dream appear and play lead roles. I highly recommend this story to all.

J. W. Garrett says

Rating: although clean, there are hints at mature adult themes and violence that may be squeamish to some, while the clash of religions may be unsettling to others. There is a paranormal aspect to this story that deals with the Kingdom coming to grips with magic, magicians, sorcerers, wise-women, mages and the rules that govern them. This review hopefully doesn't contain spoilers.

"When someone from Faerie ever tells you something, you can see it—you can feel it—you believe it. For the true value of enchantment and its glamour, is in the imparting of a truth—by truth's own persuasion it makes itself real."—Gabriel Brunson, *Azlander: Second Nature*

This story was beautifully written. There can be no arguments with that. The world building took a bit of time but Reynolds made the reader want to visit these amazing places and talk to people and creatures that we have only heard of in fairy tales and mythology. On the surface it was beautiful, dreamy and otherworldly. But under the surface, there existed a riptide of evil that wanted to destroy and devour. It was amazing how the author spun this web of evil that spread farther than was first revealed. My goodness. I

didn't see the far-reaching grip this web encompassed. There were many, many secrets and atrocities that were generations old and needed to be revealed and settled. The treaty between the worlds was in jeopardy and the lives of many depended on our characters acting quickly.

“Whatever deceives man seems to produce a magical enchantment.” –Plato

Villains: OMG! Who wasn't a villain? I've never seen such a web of villainy before in a JAFF story. Man, this was amazing. I can't even mention anything without giving away a spoiler.

“Almost any sect, cult, or religion will legislate its creed into law if it acquires the political power to do so.”
–Robert A. Heinlein

Religious aspect: A protestant England, with the threat of Catholicism just below the surface, had to acknowledge the nature-worshiping characters of mythology and superstitions of old. For centuries their stories of groves, fairy rings/circles, and fertility rites were whispered around campfires, before hearths, to children at bedtime and were passed from generation to generation. Suddenly, the natural order of society was put into question, propriety was ignored and a new set of rules applied to what Regency could tolerate or would accept. On the surface, this was just a fun story. Underneath, however, there were hints of behavior that might be considered unsettling.

“I was always interested in enchantment and magicians and still am.” –Christopher Lee

In Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer's Night Dream,' Titania, Queen of the Fairies and her Consort, Oberon king of the Fairies quarreled over the changeling boy. His mother had been a votaress of her order and died after giving birth to him. A votary was a monk or nun who made a vow of dedication to religious service. In this story, their quarrel was over another child entirely, whose identity wasn't revealed right away. There was a lot implied on the births of several of our characters and their relations. Some of these implications were... disconcerting.

This was a fun read and that is how you should approach it. Otherwise, if you dig too deeply, you will bog down with the weight of trying to reconcile the religious and social aspects of this work. That is not what the author intended. Just simply enjoy the story.

Nicole Clarkston says

This book was simply breathtaking! It swept our beloved couple into a world you've never imagined and had me on the edge of my seat for the whole ride. This is the very same Darcy and Elizabeth we have always known and loved, with their same brilliances and foibles, but sparkling and alive with fantastical new dimensions. It's the kind of love that can shatter the foundations of society... really, that big and that good. Highly, highly recommend!

EM Clark says

I really loved this and hope for a sequel!!

The new original characters are well created and the traditional fae characters are fascinating. The way the P&P characters are wound through the story is really fun and enjoyable. I would definitely read a sequel, and

I hope there will one!!

Also, one of my favorite variation authors!!!

Sophia says

When offered the opportunity to read a book that pairs Austen's Pride & Prejudice with magic and faeries, there really was only one answer. Of course, I snatched it up and was oblivious to the outside world for hours at a time- fey magic?

First of all, this book can be read by all comers. No prior history with Austen's P&P or Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream are needed. If you like tales of the fey or historical fantasy romances, you'll do fine- better than fine, actually.

What a fascinating story! The author cleverly melded not just characters and settings in this story, but story themes and character traits: a proud Darcy, a prejudiced Elizabeth, a silly Mrs. Bennet, a revolting Mr. Collins, an enchanting King Oberon and Queen Titania, a vile Wickham, and so on.

The story is long, but reads swiftly. It does drop the reader right into a situation that obviously feels like an opening act has already taken place, but once the first chapter is finished, that feeling is gone because the reader is caught up in the characters and plot. Essentially, Regency England has magic and non-magic users, a knowledge that faery exists and the lesser fey live on the human side of the divide and are only visible to children. But, only men are allowed to have magic and be trained as mages. Gasp, yes! Does that mean women don't have magic? No, it means if they demonstrate it then their magic is bound and it has a poor effect on their mind. Our heroine is clever and incensed at this inequality. She loathes anyone associated with the Collegium of Mages who enforce this and perpetuate the falsities that women can't handle magic. And guess what group our hero is a member of? The sparks fly when Darcy learns swiftly just what Lizzy thinks of him and the Mages when he made the mistake of proposing. Not only does she hate him, but she is terrified that he will expose her for a magic user. Instead of slinking away to lick his wounds, this is when Darcy's character truly shines and he steps up as the hero- which, incidentally, was exactly what the wary Lizzy needed to see.

After part one that introduces the world, the characters, and the plot, there is a twist when the world of the fey and the war with the fey is introduced. Kudos for a good balance of description and plot during the visits in faery. It did slow down the story, but not ponderously so. The reader gets enough description and education in fey ways to see the whimsical differences, but the story keeps moving forward. This is when the author inserted some original worldbuilding about the fey, but also the human-magic using world. Nice twists how secrets came out in both Darcy's and Lizzy's families.

By the time the half-way point is reached, the story really takes off and through much of the last part, I was completely riveted and couldn't stop turning pages. At the high point, I was teary-eyed at a big sacrifice, at another point I was chuckling over the antics of a mischievous phouka, and oh yes, the romances (there are more than one just as there are several main players other than the main couple, but I don't want to do spoilers) were indeed swoonworthy.

All in all, this was as enchanting as the title states. What a spectacular story that left me satisfied and with the knowledge that this will be a re-read at some point. Those who enjoy historical and fantasy brought together with romance and thrilling magical action should not hesitate to reach for this book.

My thanks to the author for the opportunity to read this book in exchange for an honest review.

Debbie Brown says

The title's enchantment certainly extends to the reader in this delightful mash-up of *Pride and Prejudice* with a bit of Irish, Scottish, German and Border folk lore, a wee bit of Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Titania and Oberon are the King and Queen of Faerie here) and a large bit of Ms. Reynolds' own imagination.

Magic is an integral part of the story and is not limited to the fay folk; many humans have magic too. There are different types of magic. For example, Darcy has "elemental magic," meaning he can control water, fire and wind, while Elizabeth uses "wild magic." In this unenlightened society, women are barred from practicing magic in any form. Since Darcy is a member of the Collegium of Mages and always watches her so closely, Elizabeth is terrified that he will learn her secret and "bind" her powers, which she mostly uses in a healing capacity.

The book begins in Kent. Darcy makes his poorly-worded proposal and Elizabeth emphatically refuses him within the first chapter. But Lady Catherine is struck down by elfshot and Darcy doesn't know how to help her, so he must send for Elizabeth to nurse her at Rosings. Unbeknownst to mankind, the fay are waging a war against them, and Lady Catherine is just one casualty of this war. Once Colonel Fitzwilliam learns Elizabeth's secret, it doesn't take long before he shares this with his father, Lord Matlock, who is Master of the Collegium of Mages.

This is a (literally!) spellbinding tale that just keeps adding layers upon layers of intertwining plotlines. Elizabeth, of course, eventually comes to realize that she is, in fact, in love with Darcy. Their romance is beautifully incorporated into all the other storylines. Along with the fay attacks on humans and the law preventing Elizabeth's from using her magic, various other problems emerge: A Board of Inquiry from the Collegium looks into accusations that Darcy misused his magic. If found guilty, he must submit to having HIS powers bound. There's some evil sorcery (stealing others' magic) at work which will affect everyone if it continues unchecked. The Bennet family has some pretty intense secrets that Elizabeth uncovers. The tension builds to an almost unbearable degree with a whopper of a climactic scene.

There are encounters with various species of fay folk, especially Elizabeth's pet phouka Pepper (who usually appears as a cat). The story includes a few visits to Faerie, which very few mortals are allowed to see. Ms. Reynolds really outdoes herself in her descriptions of this mystical place. The fay have a very liberal attitude about relationships and sex. They don't understand humans' rules of etiquette either, preferring bluntness and disliking polite civilities.

What I particularly love (and I think is very Austenesque) is that more than one character is not as he/she first appears. Lewis de Bourgh has left behind a questionable legacy which must be investigated. Viscount Eversleigh is a fascinating addition, as are Prince Aelfric and Cathael. Georgiana and Anne de Bourgh get major roles here, and Colonel Fitzwilliam's sister, Lady Frederica, does, too. Mr. Wickham, as usual, is a villain, but watch out because he's not the only one. Although they don't appear a lot, Mr. and Mrs. Bennet are very integral to the story.

Ms. Reynolds' writing engages the reader completely, making this alternate universe feel as real as R.K. Rowling's Harry Potter world. She give us a perfect balance blending the fun and magic of these fanciful faerie creatures, the increasing seriousness of the developing situations, and the lovely romance between Darcy and Elizabeth. While there are some very sensual passages, things are either interrupted or fade to

black without graphic details.

I strongly suggest you start with the Glossary (which appears at the end of the book). By the time I got there, I had been able to guess the meanings of most of these different faerie terms based on their context in the story, but it would have been helpful to understand them from the beginning. It's also interesting to learn where the various terms originated. Impressively, many are pure figments of the author's imagination.

Highly recommend!

Lynn says

A Delightful Book

This was just a delight to read. It makes the land of Faerie so real. It cleverly intertwines the Pride and Prejudice story with magic, sorcery, and heroics. There is lots of humour, and romance in this book. Well worth reading if you like Pride and Prejudice and fantasy. It in one of my new favourites.
