

UNIVERZITA HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ

Pedagogická fakulta

DIPLOMOVÁ PRÁCE

2017

Bc. Kristýna Kopečková

Univerzita Hradec Králové
Pedagogická fakulta
Katedra anglického jazyka a literatury

**Elizabeth Aston and P. D. James: Inspiration by Pride
and Prejudice by Jane Austen**

**Elizabeth Astonová a P. D. Jamesová: Inspirace románem
Pýcha a předsudek Jane Austenové**

Diplomová práce

Autor: Kristýna Kopečková
Studijní program: N7503 - Učitelství pro základní školy
Studijní obor: Učitelství pro 2. stupeň ZŠ - anglický jazyk a literatura
Učitelství pro 2. stupeň ZŠ - francouzský jazyk a literatura
Vedoucí diplomové práce: Mgr. Helena Polehlová



Zadání diplomové práce

Autor: Kristýna Kopečková

Studium: P14P0258

Studijní program: N7503 Učitelství pro základní školy

Studijní obor: Učitelství pro 2. stupeň ZŠ - anglický jazyk a literatura, Učitelství pro 2. stupeň ZŠ - společný základ

Název diplomové práce: Elizabeth Astonová a P. D. Jamesová: Inspirace románem Pýcha a předsudek Jane Austenové

Název diplomové práce AJ: Elizabeth Aston and P. D. James: Inspiration by Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

Cíl, metody, literatura, předpoklady:

Tato diplomová práce pojednává o dílech spisovatelek Elizabeth Astonové a P. D. Jamesové, které svou tvorbou navázaly na dílo anglické spisovatelky Jane Austenové. Cílem práce je analyzovat motivy románu Pýcha a předsudek v románech Dcery pana Darcyho a Smrt přichází do Pemberley, srovnat zápletku, povahu postav a prostředí, v němž se děj románů odehrává.

Austen, Jane, and Vivien Jones. *Pride and Prejudice*. New York: Penguin Books, 2003. Print. James, P. D. *Death Comes to Pemberley*. Vintage (1000), 2013. Print. Jones, Hazel. *Jane Austen and Marriage*. New York: Continuum, 2009. Print. Lefroy, Helen. *Jane Austen*. Stroud: History Press, 2009. Print. Poplawski, Paul. *A Jane Austen Encyclopedia*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1998. Print. Selwyn, David. *Jane Austen and Leisure*. Rio Grande, Ohio: Hambledon Press, 1999. Print.

Anotace:

Tato diplomová práce se zaměřuje na romány Dcery pana Darcyho od Elizabeth Astonové a Smrt přichází do Pemberley od P. D. Jamesové. Oba tyto romány jsou pokračováním Pýchy a předsudku od Jane Austenové. V několika kapitolách se práce věnuje biografii autorek, hlavní část je však zaměřena na analýzu románů samotných. Přitom je zohledňováno zejména to, jakým způsobem jsou tato díla inspirována Pýchou a předsudkem od Jane Austenové, co se týče zápletky, postav a prostředí, v jakém se odehrávají. Cílem této práce je analyzovat vybrané romány a najít mezi nimi a románem Pýcha a předsudek podobnosti a reference. Základní otázka je, zda se některé pokračování dokáže vyrovnat svému originálu.

Garantující pracoviště: Katedra anglického jazyka a literatury a oddělení francouzského jazyka,
Pedagogická fakulta

Vedoucí práce: Mgr. Helena Polehlová

Oponent: prof. PhDr. Bohuslav Mánek, CSc.

Datum zadání závěrečné práce: 25.5.2015

Prohlášení

Prohlašuji, že jsem tuto diplomovou práci vypracovala samostatně pod vedením Mgr. Heleny Polehlové a v seznamu literatury jsem uvedla všechny použité literární a internetové zdroje.

Hradci Králové dne

Prohlášení

Prohlašuji, že závěrečná práce je uložena v souladu s rektorským výnosem č. 1/2013 (Řád pro nakládání se školními a některými jinými autorskými díly na UHK).

Datum:

Podpis studenta:

Poděkování

Tímto bych chtěla poděkovat vedoucí mé diplomové práce Mgr. Heleně Polehlové za odborné vedení práce, věcné připomínky, dobré rady a vstřícnost při konzultacích.

Abstrakt

KOPEČKOVÁ, Kristýna. *Elizabeth Astonová a P. D. Jamesová: Inspirace románem Pýcha a předsudek Jane Austenové*. Hradec Králové, 2017. 65 str. Diplomová práce. Univerzita Hradec Králové, Pedagogická fakulta.
Vedoucí práce: Mgr. Helena Polehlová

Tato diplomová práce se zaměřuje na romány *Dcery pana Darcyho* od Elizabeth Astonové a *Smrt přichází do Pemberley* od P. D. Jamesové. Oba tyto romány jsou pokračováním *Pýchy a předsudku* od Jane Austenové. V několika kapitolách se práce věnuje biografii autorek, hlavní část je však zaměřena na analýzu románů samotných. Přitom je zohledňováno zejména to, jakým způsobem jsou tato díla inspirována *Pýchou a předsudkem* od Jane Austenové, co se týče zápletky, postav a prostředí, v jakém se odehrávají. Cílem této práce je analyzovat vybrané romány a najít mezi nimi a románem *Pýcha a předsudek* podobnosti a reference. Základní otázka je, zda se některé pokračování dokáže vyrovnat svému originálu.

Klíčová slova: Jane Austenová, *Pýcha a předsudek*, *Dcery pana Darcyho*, *Smrt přichází do Pemberley*, analýza

Abstract

KOPEČKOVÁ, Kristýna. *Elizabeth Aston and P. D. James: Inspiration by Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen*. Hradec Králové, 2017. 65 pp. Diploma Thesis. University of Hradec Králové. Faculty of Education.

Supervisor of the Diploma Thesis: Mgr. Helena Polehlová

This diploma thesis focuses on the novels *Mr Darcy's Daughters* by Elizabeth Aston, and *Death Comes to Pemberley* by P. D. James. Both *Mr Darcy's Daughters* and *Death Comes to Pemberley* are the sequels to Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. In several chapters, the authors and the novels are described and analysed. The plot, the characters, and the setting of the novels are presented in more details, primarily in comparison to *Pride and Prejudice*. The aim of the thesis is to analyse the selected novels and to find the similarities and the references between them and the original novel. The crucial question is if any sequel to Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* can equal to its original.

Key words: Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Mr Darcy's Daughters*, *Death Comes to Pemberley*, analysis

Table of Contents

1	Introduction	10
2	Jane Austen's Biography	12
2.1	Family	12
2.2	Education and Early Writing	13
2.3	First Love or the Inspiration for <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>	14
2.4	Bath	15
2.5	Chawton	16
3	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>	17
3.1	<i>First Impressions</i>	17
3.2	An Outline of the Plot	18
3.3	The Characters	18
3.3.1	Mr and Mrs Bennet	18
3.3.2	Jane Bennet	19
3.3.3	Elizabeth Bennet	19
3.3.4	Lydia Bennet	20
3.3.5	Mr Darcy	20
3.3.6	Mr Bingley	20
3.3.7	George Wickham	21
3.3.8	Mr Collins	21
4	Elizabeth Aston	22
5	<i>Mr Darcy's Daughters</i>	24
5.1	Plot	24
5.2	Characters	27
5.2.1	Camilla Darcy versus Elizabeth Bennet	27
5.2.2	Letitia Darcy	29
5.2.3	Sir Sidney Leigh	30
5.3	Original characters	33
5.3.1	Mr and Mrs Gardiner	33
5.3.2	Colonel Fitzwilliam	33
5.3.3	Lady Warren	34
5.3.4	Lydia	34
5.4	Money	35
5.5	City versus Country	38
5.6	Reception	40
6	P. D. James	41
7	<i>Death Comes to Pemberley</i>	43
7.1	Plot	43
7.2	Characters	46
7.2.1	Lydia	46
7.2.2	George Wickham	47
7.2.3	Lady Catherine de Bourgh	48
7.2.4	Mr Collins	50
7.2.5	Mr Bennet	50

7.2.6	Mrs Bennet	50
7.2.7	Mr Darcy.....	51
7.2.8	Elizabeth Darcy.....	52
7.2.9	Georgiana.....	52
7.2.10	Colonel Fitzwilliam.....	53
7.2.11	Henry Alveston.....	53
7.3	Reception.....	55
7.4	BBC <i>Death Comes to Pemberley</i>	56
8	Conclusion.....	58
9	Bibliography.....	61

1 Introduction

Although Jane Austen lived more than two hundred years ago, she is still one of the most popular British writers whose novels are published all over again and made into many television adaptations. Her influence on British literature and television production is undeniable. Even after such a long time the biographers are interested in her life, especially in her inspiration for Mr Darcy, the character of her most famous novel, *Pride and Prejudice*. It is *Pride and Prejudice* which has had the biggest influence on literature. Many authors from all around the world have found the story of Mr Darcy and Elizabeth so attractive that they have decided to follow the plot and discover what happened with their favourite characters after their marriage.

The thesis focuses on two novels by different authors. The first one is *Mr Darcy's Daughters* by Elizabeth Aston, the second one is *Death Comes to Pemberley* by P. D. James. Elizabeth Aston is an English writer who studied Jane Austen's biography and novels at St Hilda's College, Oxford. She has a great reputation for her sequels of Jane Austen's work, *Mr Darcy's Daughters* being the first novel. She is considered to be one of the most prolific writers who followed Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. *Mr Darcy's Daughters* follows the story of Elizabeth's five daughters who are visiting London. Most of the characters are new, but inspired by the original *Pride and Prejudice*. *Death Comes to Pemberley* is the opposite case. The plot, which is set six years after the original story, focuses mainly on the original characters who have to deal with a murder.

The aim of the thesis is to analyse these two novels from the point of view of the influence of *Pride and Prejudice*, and Jane Austen herself. On the basis of the description of the characters and plot from the original novel by the experts, it is possible to compare the characters, the plot, and the setting of the sequels and evaluate their resemblances and differences.

The main contribution of the thesis is the analysis of the sequels to *Pride and Prejudice*, *Mr Darcy's Daughters*, and *Death Comes to Pemberley*. The goal is to find out to what extent the characters are accurate to their original models, compare and assess their similar and different features and finally evaluate their development. Another target concerns the setting of the stories and its accuracy with respect to the life in the 18th and 19th century. The plot of the novels is examined as well, primarily with comparison to *Pride and Prejudice*. *Mr Darcy's Daughters* and *Death Comes to Pemberley* have never been researched before, which is the main asset of the thesis.

The thesis consists of four chapters. The first chapter deals with the introduction of Jane Austen's life which greatly influenced her writings. The second chapter focuses on the plot and the characters from *Pride and Prejudice*. Last two chapters concentrates on the selected novels and their analyses are supported by many extracts from the novels. The thesis provides the basic information about Elizabeth Aston and P. D. James as well. The purpose is not to describe all characters and plot in detail, but to focus on the analysis of the important aspects regarding *Pride and Prejudice*, termed as the original novel in the text.

The primary source of the thesis is *A Jane Austen Encyclopedia* by Paul Poplawski, who presents the detailed facts about Jane Austen's life and work. He alphabetically ordered all the characters from Austen's novels with all information about them and their characterisations. The selected novels *Mr Darcy Daughters* and *Death Comes to Pemberley* have not been analysed yet, so the analyses are purely text-based. The text is edited by the norm ČSN ISO 690 and ČSN ISO 690-2. The full citations can be found in the Bibliography, which is divided into printed, and electronic sources.

2 Jane Austen's Biography

Although more than two centuries has passed away since Jane Austen was born, her novels are still admired and well-known all over the world. Her sharp and ironic language and her power to gain an insight into people's characters make her novels exceptional. The way of her writing was considerably influenced by her family and personal experiences. This chapter focuses on her life, primarily on the parts influencing *Pride and Prejudice*.

2.1 Family

Jane Austen's family were never rich but they earned enough to support themselves. Their ancestors had lived for centuries in a neighbourhood of Horsmonden, Kent, where they were engaged in the woollen industry. There can be found some important personages from Jane Austen's mother's side in the family tree, e.g. Sir Thomas Leigh who was the Lord Mayor of London during the reign of Elizabeth I. The Rev. George Austen and Cassandra Leigh, Jane Austen's parents, got married in 1764 in Bath (LEFROY 2009: 5-7). Although George Austen was not the best match for Cassandra Leigh, their characters complemented each other. Jane Austen's father was a scholarly, kind-hearted, and good-looking man with a tolerable income of £600 a year. Cassandra Austen had a reputation for her common sense and cleverness (MALETZKE 2009: 17; POPLAWSKI 1998: 67). As POPLAWSKI (1998: 56; 66) and LEFROY (2009: 7-8) say, she was renowned for her good looks and she was very proud of her aristocratic nose. They spent the first four years of their marriage at Deane Rectory in Hampshire where their first three children, James, George, and Edward, were born. After that, they moved to the Rectory at Steventon where Henry, Cassandra, Frank, Jane, and Charles were born. To supplement his income, George Austen began to take pupils who were boarded in the house. Together with his own children, he prepared them for university entrance (LEFROY 2009: 7-8).

Jane Austen was born on 16 December 1775 at Steventon as the seventh of eight children. She had seven siblings, one sister and six brothers. James Austen, the elder one, had a great influence on her, especially on her early writings. Jane Austen found an

inspiration in his magazine *The Loiterer* (POPLAWSKI 1998: 72). George Austen was born disabled in some way and not much is known about him. There has been speculation that he may have been deaf on the grounds of Jane Austen's knowledge of deaf and dumb sign language. Her third brother Edward Austen was adopted by Mr Austen's distant cousin Thomas Knight II of Godmersham Park in 1783. Nevertheless, Edward Austen was never become completely estranged from his family. Jane Austen and her sister were frequent visitors to Godmersham and later to Chawton, his estate in Hampshire (POPLAWSKI 1998: 59; SMITH 2009: 39-40). Henry Austen is considered as Jane Austen's favourite brother. His disposition was most that of hers. Undoubtedly, he had a great influence on her writings. Staying in his house during her trips to London, she could observe society life. He also helped her significantly to publish her novels. Her youngest brothers who dedicated their lives to the navy were called Francis and Charles Austen (SMITH 2009: 40-42).

Cassandra Austen was Jane Austen's only sister and a very close friend. Almost all their lives they lived together and if not, they wrote each other daily. Unfortunately, after Jane Austen's death, Cassandra Austen destroyed lots of their correspondence. Only 160 letters survived and tell us a lot about Jane Austen's life. Thanks to Cassandra Austen, who was an amateur artist, we know what Jane Austen looked like. She painted two watercolour pictures. The first one is a back view from 1804. The second one is an unfinished portrait from around 1810. The latter has been exhibited in the National Portrait Gallery in London (POPLAWSKI 1998: 57-58).

2.2 Education and Early Writing

According to MALETZKE (2009: 39), only forty per cent of men and less than a half of women were not able to read and write and so the education was a privilege. In 1783, Mrs Austen decided to send ten-year-old Cassandra Austen to Oxford College to be given lessons by Mrs Cawley and Jane Austen insisted on going with her. That same year, Mrs Cawley moved to Southampton and she took the girls with her. Unfortunately, Typhus had spread in Southampton and all three girls were infected and brought home. In the spring of 1785, Cassandra and Jane Austen were sent to Abbey School in

Reading. Because of the fees, which George Austen had to pay for his girls and for his son Frank who entered the Naval Academy at Portsmouth, Jane and Cassandra Austen were sent home after eighteen months. Apart from this, Jane Austen was educated at home by her father and by her brothers, James, and Henry Austen. She profited from her father's extensive library, including the books by William Shakespeare, Fanny Burney, William Cowper, and others (LEFROY 2009: 10-11; MALETZKE 2009: 52-53). As POPLAWSKI (1998: 67) states, George Austen was "*a highly respected scholar*" and he "*had a significantly higher standing in local society than his actual income or position warranted. Thus his children had access to social circles that would normally have been closed to them as sons and daughters of a humble country parson*". Considering these facts, Jane Austen gained entry to the higher circles than her social position would have allowed her, and so she had more sources and insights into people's behaviour and characters which she may have used in her novels.

Since around 1785, Jane Austen began to record some of her stories. To amuse her relatives, she read them aloud in the evening. At the age of sixteen, she copied out her stories into three notebooks, *Volume the First*, *Volume the Second* and *Volume the Third* (LUCAS 2009: 5). All three volumes containing twenty-nine short narratives are known as *the Juvenilia*. Although they are generally intended to be nonsensical, *the Juvenilia* are written in pure simple English and the nonsense has much spirit in it. It is marked by her characteristic neat stylishness and her crisp irony (AUSTEN LEIGH 1871: 42; LEFROY 2009:14).

Jane Austen's imagination and sense of humour also manifested in the early 1790's when she had completed to the parish register herself as a bride of Fitzwilliam from London and a honeymooner of Mr Mortimer from Liverpool. The Rev. George Austen just turned the list (MALETZKE 2009: 28).

2.3 First Love or the Inspiration for *Pride and Prejudice*

According to Jane Austen's nephew Edward Austen Leigh, she matured into an attractive young woman. "*She was a clear brunette with a rich colour; she had full*

round cheeks, with mouth and nose small and well formed, bright hazel eyes, and brown hair forming natural curls close round her face” (AUSTEN LEIGH 1871: 82). Along with her sister, she became “*popular guests at private parties, Assembly Room dances and country house balls*” (LEFROY 2009: 21). Dancing was one of the great indoor entertainments for young people. Jane Austen was an outstanding dancer. She enjoyed dancing stately old-fashioned minuet, quadrille or spirited Roger de Coverley. Her passion for dance is reflected in her novels in which the main heroines are keen on dancing and a ball is of great importance to them (LUCAS 2009: 6; AUSTEN LEIGH 1871: 34). The Austens often had gone to the family of Bigg Wither in Manydown where they had dinner and they changed clothes for a ball, which usually took place in nearby Basingstoke (MALETZKE 2009: 94).

It was during the ball in December 1795 when Jane Austen first met Tom Lefroy, a good-looking nineteen-year-old gentleman. From Jane Austen’s letter, especially from the one from 10 January 1796, it can be observed that he made a good impression on her and the affection was mutual (LEFROY 2009: 21-23; LE FAYE 2011: 1). They flirted, danced, and enjoyed meetings at the various parties. However, impecunious Tom Lefroy depended on his uncle and Jane Austen with no prospect of a dowry was not acceptable as his wife. In January 1796, Tom Lefroy left Hampshire to study law in London, apparently sent away by the Lefroys. At about the same time, Jane Austen began to work on the first version of *Pride and Prejudice* (LEFROY 2009: 23-24).

2.4 Bath

After thirty-two years spent at Steventon, Mr Austen decided to retire and to move to Bath. His decision was a great shock for Jane Austen who was used to her family, friends and neighbours. (LEFROY 2009: 25). According to LUCAS (2009: 9), the announcement of moving to Bath came so unexpectedly that Jane Austen “*collapsed in a faint on the floor of the kitchen*”. In May 1801, Mrs Austen and Jane Austen arrived in Bath ahead of the family to find a suitable and comfortable house for rent. Finally, they rented a house for three years at 4 Sydney Place (LEFROY 2009: 28).

Being settled in Bath, Jane and Cassandra Austen started visiting their friends. In 1802, they decided to sojourn a few weeks at the Bigg-Wither family who they had known since their childhood. One evening, Harris Bigg Wither found the courage to propose to Jane Austen and he was accepted. She was already twenty-six years old with no prospect of marriage. But during the night, she realised that she would not be happy in this marriage and changed her mind. In the morning, they fled to Steventon, and James Austen drove them to Bath. In spite of her rejection and escape, they stayed friends (LEFROY 2009: 36-37). After several holiday excursions to the west country and Wales, Mr Austen was taken ill. He died on 21 January 1805 after a brief illness (POPLAWSKI 1998: 67). Jane Austen's brothers provided the family with an income of £450 a year (LEFROY 2009: 45).

2.5 Chawton

After Mr Austen's death, the Austen ladies were mostly living with their relatives. In 1808, the wife of Edward Knight died after the birth of their eleventh child. Shortly after, he offered to his mother a house either near Godmersham or at Chawton (LEFROY 2009: 47-51). On 7 July 1809, Mrs Austen, her two daughters, and Martha Lloyd moved to the cottage at Chawton (POPLAWSKI 1998: 16). It was a small rural village a little less than sixteen miles from Steventon. Although the cottage, today known as Jane Austen's House Museum, was a modest house with the small rooms, it was enough spacious for them. They could afford to employ a cook, a manservant, and a girl for the housework. The cottage had six bedrooms and was surrounded by a large garden where Mrs Austen grew her flowerbeds, dug her own potatoes, and had an orchard with greengages, plums, fruits and vegetables for the household. They also raised a pig and had a small field for their two donkeys. While Mrs Austen was in charge of the garden, Cassandra Austen was responsible for their housekeeping. Martha Lloyd took charge of arranging all the meals but breakfast, which was Jane Austen's responsibility. This was a period of peace and stability for Jane Austen. She could play her new piano, copy out her music books, visit and welcome her family and friends, and primarily write and rewrite her novels (LEFROY 2009: 53-55; SMITH 2009: 17-27).

3 *Pride and Prejudice*

Pride and Prejudice is one of the greatest novels of all time. It has been translated into over forty languages and the novel is read by all generations. Austen's sharp, ironic language as well as her power to gain an insight into people's characters make the novel exceptional and popular with her readers despite it being written over 200 years ago (*Jane Austen Collection* [online]). This chapter focuses on the plot and its characters which are important for later analysis of other novels.

3.1 *First Impressions*

LEFROY (2009: 23-24) states, that Jane Austen started to work on *First Impressions*, the first version of *Pride and Prejudice*, in October 1796, several months after Tom Lefroy left. Radoslav Nenadál suggests that the flirtation was an inspiration for the plot and for some characters of *Pride and Prejudice*. Jane Austen was twenty years old when she began writing *First Impressions*, the same age as the main character Elizabeth Bennet. Reading the story aloud to her family, she stunned her father so much that he decided to contact the publisher Thomas Cadell to ask him to publish it. Regrettably, the publishing house declined Mr Austen's request. In spite of the rejection, Jane Austen did not abandon the manuscript and she rewrote it. According to LEFROY (2009: 58), because of a publication of a novel called *First Impressions* (written by another author), Jane Austen changed the title of her manuscript to *Pride and Prejudice*. The words "pride and prejudice" are borrowed from Fanny Burney's *Cecilia*, Jane Austen's favourite novel. At the end of the book *Cecilia*, there is a paragraph in which the words "pride and prejudice" are capitalised and repeat three times. The novel was published on 28 January 1813 with "By the author of *Sense and Sensibility*" on the title page. The publisher Egerton bought it for £110. More than 1,000 copies were printed, one costing eighteen shillings. *Pride and Prejudice* received very positive critics (POPLAWSKI 1998: 17). Unfortunately, the first sketches of the novel have not been preserved so it is difficult to say to what extent Jane Austen had changed the first manuscript (MALETZKE 2009: 83). TOMALIN (2012: 192) says that *Pride and Prejudice* was originally longer and Jane Austen reduced it.

3.2 An Outline of the Plot

The novel is about the Bennet family. Mr and Mrs Bennet have five daughters, Jane, Elizabeth, Mary, Kitty, and Lydia, who could not be more different from each other. They live in the small village of Longbourn. The first sentence of *Pride and Prejudice* is widely known and often quoted in the English literature: “*It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife*” (AUSTEN 2003: 5). That is exactly what Mrs Bennet thinks about single men and she is doing her best to get married all her daughters. She is lucky because Mr Bingley, a single wealthy young man from London, just rent the Netherfield mansion. As the narrator suggests at the beginning, Mrs Bennet wants him to marry one of her daughters, primarily Jane Bennet, who is the most beautiful of them. The Bennet ladies meet Mr Bingley and his family at the Netherfield ball. They are also introduced to his friend Mr Darcy whose reserved behaviour stirs the neighbours. Mr Bingley falls in love with Jane who requites his affection, while Mr Darcy unintentionally offends Elizabeth, saying “*she is tolerable, but not handsome enough to tempt me*” (AUSTEN 2003: 13). Elizabeth’s first impressions of Mr Darcy get worse when she gets acquainted with charming Mr Wickham who maligns Mr Darcy. The plot, full of wrong first impressions, prejudices and pride, can develop. In the end, these impressions are set right and the story has a happy ending. Jane Bennet marries Mr Bingley and Elizabeth Bennet marries Mr Darcy (POPLAWSKI 1998: 244-254).

3.3 The Characters

This subchapter deals with the characters which are important for the story and appear in the work by Elizabeth Aston or P. D. James. The aim is to describe their basic features, which are important for the analysis and comparison with the characters from the selected novels.

3.3.1 Mr and Mrs Bennet

Mr Bennet is one of the exceptional characters of the novel. As a young man, he yielded to temptation of Mrs Bennet, who although being an intelligent and sharp-tongued woman, is also a comic figure in the novel and often succumbs to headaches and her

poor nerves. Now, at his old age, he became ironical and cynical to his silly daughters, except Elizabeth, to his relatives, and also to his wife whose only goal is to marry all her daughters. Saying inappropriate things, Mrs Bennet embarrasses her daughters and unknowingly discourages their wooers' families (POPLAWSKI 1998: 80-81).

3.3.2 Jane Bennet

Jane Bennet is the eldest daughter and she is considered as the most beautiful one. She does not show her emotions overly so when she requites Mr Bingley's feelings, it is not so obvious and Mr Bingley has doubts about her affection to him. Jane has a cheerful character and she always sees the best in everyone so it is very difficult for her to believe that someone could act dishonestly which often leads to naive errors of judgment. For instance, her judgment about Mr Bingley's sister Caroline who does not want him to marry her and along with Mr Darcy tries to discourage Mr Bingley from the marriage. Jane has a very close relationship with her younger sister Elizabeth. The Bennet sisters are the most likely Jane and Cassandra Austen (POPLAWSKI 1998: 79-80).

3.3.3 Elizabeth Bennet

Elizabeth is a heroine of the novel. As many authors such as Radoslav Nenadál, or PhD. Patricie Hannon state, her character reminds the author herself. They both are the same age, play the piano, prefer walking instead of riding and they are close to their sister. Elizabeth is a pretty, twenty-year old girl "*with more quickness of observation and less pliancy of temper than her sister [Jane]*" (Austen 2003: 17). She is an intelligent independent-minded woman with a playful disposition who quickly sees through people's character. So she can see Caroline Bingley's true attitudes or Mr Bingley's affection to her elder sister, but she is quite confused by Mr Darcy and she is not sure what to think of him. On the other hand, she is blind to Mr Wickham whose plausible manners make her believe to his lies. Fortunately, Elizabeth realises her wrong judgements and her first impressions on these two men are changed. She also does not let herself be bullied by Lady Catherine de Bourgh, Mr Darcy's aunt, who deals with others with arrogance and haughtiness. So when Lady Catherine de Bourgh asks her how old she is, Elizabeth is not afraid to answer "*With three younger sisters grown up ... your ladyship can hardly expect me to own it*" (AUSTEN 2003: 162). According to

(POPLAWSKI 1998: 119), this line *“is one of the most satisfying scenes in the novel as we see reason and personal integrity triumph over the insolence of wealth and social position”*.

3.3.4 Lydia Bennet

Lydia Bennet is the youngest Bennet daughter and also the most reckless one. At fifteen, she is headstrong, headless, simple-minded and determined to enjoy herself regardless of the consequences. While Elizabeth is the favourite of her father, Lydia is the favourite of her mother. Elizabeth worries about her irresponsible behaviour and her worries are fulfilled when Lydia elopes with Mr Wickham. Thanks to Mr Darcy, Wickham marries Lydia and because of her happy ending, she remains unrepentant (POPLAWSKI 1998: 80).

3.3.5 Mr Darcy

Mr Darcy is the main protagonist of the book. At the beginning, he is described as a proud and cold but handsome man with an income of £10,000 a year. *“His manners, though well bred, were not inviting. ... Bingley was sure of being liked wherever he appeared, Darcy was continually giving offence”* (AUSTEN 2003: 18). *“His character was decided. He was the proudest, most disagreeable man in a world”* (AUSTEN 2003: 13). As follows from the quotation, he seems to despise people beneath his social status and because of his rudeness Elizabeth is quickly turned against him. In the course of time, Elizabeth gets to know him better and his true disposition is revealed (POPLAWSKI 1998: 114).

3.3.6 Mr Bingley

Mr Charles Bingley is a wealthy young man with a large fortune of £5,000 a year. When he rented the Netherfield mansion he had quickly become a desirable man in the neighbourhood. He is kind and pleasant and behaves well to all people regardless of their social status. Mr Darcy is his best friend and he relies on his good judgement. For that reason, he believes Mr Darcy when he tells him that Jane actually does not love him and she is not good enough for him so Mr Bingley leaves Netherfield. However, he still has the feelings for Jane. As soon as Mr Darcy admits he was mistaken, Bingley returns to Netherfield to woo Jane Bennet again (POPLAWSKI 1998: 85).

3.3.7 George Wickham

George Wickham is described as a young good-looking lieutenant who is very polite to everyone. He makes a good impression on people so Elizabeth easily believes his lies about Mr Darcy's dishonest behaviour to him. He claims that according to Mr Darcy's father's will, he was supposed to get a parish and became a clergyman, which Mr Darcy ignored. Eventually, his true character is revealed and Elizabeth discovers that he gambled inherited money and because of that he became a lieutenant. He was also dishonest, selfish and unscrupulous in his dealing with women. He tried to seduce Mr Darcy's younger sister Georgiana for revenge and for money. Unfortunately, he elopes with Lydia with no intention to marry her. Thanks to Mr Darcy intervention, he is forced to marry her on condition that Mr Darcy pays the wedding and his gambling debts (POPLAWSKI 1998: 316-317).

3.3.8 Mr Collins

Not having a male heir, Mr Bennet's property was left on Mr Collins, a distant relation of Mr Bennet. After Jane and Elizabeth's return from Netherfield, Mr Bennet receives a letter from Mr Collins announcing his visit to Longbourn. He is a twenty-five-year old priest who is looking for a wife to his household in a parish at Rosings Park whose owner is Lady Catherine de Bourgh, an aunt of Mr Darcy. His character is quite ridiculous. Owing to his arrogance, pomposity and clumsiness he appears foolish in all situations. Turned down by Elizabeth, he quickly redirects his attention to Charlotte Lucas, Elizabeth's best friend, who is practically minded and accepts his proposal (POPLAWSKI 1998: 100).

4 Elizabeth Aston

Elizabeth Aston was born to a family of writers. Her father was a journalist and her grandmother and mother were writers publishing in South America. Even her son Anselm Audley is a successful fantasy author (ZACAROLI [online]). Elizabeth Aston, a pen name of Elizabeth Edmondson, was born in 1948, in Oxford, England. Her parents, who were experts on Jane Austen, named their daughter after Elizabeth Bennet, the main character of *Pride and Prejudice*. Nevertheless, Elizabeth Aston came into contact with Jane Austen for the first time at the age of thirteen when she read *Pride and Prejudice*. As she states in one of the interviews, “*I was utterly enchanted and completely hooked*”. Soon after, she read the rest of Jane Austen’s novels (McCABE [online]).

Harper Collins Publishers [online] claims that Elizabeth Aston graduated from St Hilda’s College, Oxford, where she studied Jane Austen’s life under the novelist’s biographer Lord David Cecil. Elizabeth Aston states in her interview with MEGAN [online] that it was Hugo Dyson, her tutor at Oxford, who had the biggest influence on her writing. He was one of the members of the Inklings, a literary group associated with the University of Oxford whose members were for instance J. R. R. Tolkien, or C. S. Lewis. Elizabeth Aston’s first book is called *Children of Chance*, a prequel to five more books. As she says when she was writing a book, she diminished the text she could not read what she had written. But with modern technologies developed, she used a digital recorder and voice recognition to transcribe the words.

Although her pen name Aston is similar to Austen, the fact is that it is her married name which she uses only for writing. “*I did once give a talk where I got introduced as Elizabeth Austen who was going to speak on Jane Aston*” (McCABE [online]), she comments one of her amusing incidents caused by her name. Jane Austen is definitely one of the very greatest English novelists for Elizabeth Aston. As a great admirer, she also participated a costume ball but Mr Darcy was not there as she regrettably states (McCABE [online]). *Mr Darcy’s Daughters* is the first book from the series which includes *The Exploits & Adventures of Miss Alethea Darcy*, *The True Darcy Spirit*,

The Second Mrs Darcy, The Darcy Connection, and Mr Darcy's Dream (Elizabeth Aston [online]).

Besides her love for literature, she was fond of music. In 1992, Elizabeth Aston established an orchestra in York and supported young generation in gaining orchestra experience. Her two children Anselm and Eloise were members as well before moving to Somerset. Elizabeth Aston died in 2016 after a short illness in Oxford (LAYCOCK [online]).

5 *Mr Darcy's Daughters*

Mr Darcy's Daughters is a novel which follows the story of *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen. Although most of the characters are original, created by Elizabeth Aston, there can be found many references and similarities between these two novels. This chapter analyses these similarities in the plot, the characters, and the setting. Mr Bennet who is mentioned in this chapter refers to the character from Austen's novel, *Pride and Prejudice*.

5.1 Plot

Mr Darcy's Daughters begins twenty years after the plot of *Pride and Prejudice*, in the year 1818. Mr and Mrs Darcy (Elizabeth Bennet), have seven children, five girls (Letitia, Camilla, Georgina, Belle, Alethea) aged between sixteen and twenty-one, and two young boys. The plot concentrates on their daughters, primarily on Camilla and Letitia who are staying in the house of Mr Fitzwilliam and his wife Fanny in London. Their parents are travelling to Constantinople and they do not appear in the novel (*Mr Darcy's Daughters* [online]).

From this introduction of the plot, there are presented the motifs of *Pride and Prejudice*. Mr and Mrs Bennet also have five daughters. Two of them are at the forefront of the story and the rest of them, considered to be foolish girls, are the side characters. Furthermore, the behaviour of Mr and Mrs Darcy parallels that of Mr Bennet. POPLAWSKI (1998: 80) states that Mr Bennet's passive attitude to upbringing his younger, silly daughters leads to a scandal when the youngest Lydia elopes with Mr Wickham with no intention to get married. Elizabeth who knows her sister's reckless behaviour had warned her father that Lydia should be more controlled but Mr Bennet did not take it seriously. Finally, it is Mr Darcy, who finds them and arranges their marriage. Mr Darcy had a similar experience when Mr Wickham almost seduced his fifteen-year-old sister Georgiana. It is surprising that in *Mr Darcy's Daughters* neither he nor his wife anticipate the possible troubles when they send five daughters who are ready to be introduced into society (and some of them have already been) to London,

a city in which danger lurks around every corner, especially for young, unseasoned ladies. Particularly, when only one of them has enough sense and the temperament, and the rest of them are quite similar to the Bennet daughters from the original novel.

Their stay in London turns into many twists and shocking affairs. Letitia, who was mourning for her deceased fiancé and is determined to remain faithful to him for the rest of her life, finds out that he is actually alive and married to someone else and he conveniently lost his memory because of his injury in the war. Letitia's reaction to that news is watched and gossiped by the London society. In the meantime, Camilla is slowly falling in love with Sir Sidney Leigh. Nevertheless, his marriage proposal is a surprise as she does not believe he loves her. At last, she cancelled the engagement finding out he is a homosexual and he is forced to flee from the country.

Camilla has never left England but her desire is to travel and discover other cultures and countries like her mother who is traveling with Mr Darcy. In light of that fact there is another important man in Camilla's life, Mr Wytton, who impresses Camilla with his archaeological interests and a desire for traveling. He is a fiancé of her cousin Sophie Gardiner whose parents were good friends with Elizabeth and Jane Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice*. On the contrary, Sophie, who is interested in fashion and gossip, is simple minded and scornful to others, making it clear to the reader that these two characters are not meant to be together. Although Mr Wytton does not appreciate Camilla's wit and intelligence at first and does not consider her beautiful, he is changing his mind as well as his feelings to her. It resembles the behaviour of Mr Darcy, who does not find Elizabeth Bennet attractive enough to draw his attention. Nevertheless, after spending more time together during her visit at Netherfield, Mr Darcy begins to revise his former impressions and the following admiration is changing to love (POPLAWSKI 1998: 245).

Another similarity between these two novels is the motif of elopement. Hazel JONES (2009: 108-113) claims that elopement was not an unusual thing. There are many examples of elopement, which can be found in the newspapers like *The Universal*

Magazine, The Lady's Magazine, etc. The elopement of young ladies was a favourite topic for gossiping. It was spreading very quickly and could destroy the lady's reputation as well as the reputation of her family.

Just as in *Pride and Prejudice* when the insensible Lydia elopes with Mr Wickham, in *Mr Darcy's Daughters* it is Georgina who elopes to France with Sir Joshua Mordaunt. Lydia and Mr Wickham are found by Mr Gardiner with the aid of Mr Darcy who helps him because of his love to Elizabeth. Lydia is saved thanks to her marriage. Georgina experiences a very similar destiny. She is found by Mr Gardiner, Camilla and also by Mr Wytton whose motif is his love to Camilla.

The denouement is even more dramatic. Not only did Georgina elope, but her sister Belle eloped with Mr Allington as well. Sophie, who is very upset, admits she loves Mr Allington and releases Mr Wytton from the engagement so he can marry Camilla. Eventually, it is discovered that Belle actually left the house with Charles Roper and not with Mr Allington who is going to get engaged to Sophie.

5.2 Characters

This subchapter focuses on the characters from the novels *Pride and Prejudice* and *Mr Darcy's Daughters*. The aim is to find parallels and similarities between them. Attention is paid only to the characters, which are both in the original novel and in *Mr Darcy's Daughters* or have some features in common, and so they are important for the analysis.

5.2.1 Camilla Darcy versus Elizabeth Bennet

Camilla Darcy is one of the daughters of Mrs Darcy who is known as Elizabeth Bennet from the novel *Pride and Prejudice*. This character represents one of the clearest motifs and references to the original novel. There are many similarities between these characters from two different books, which is elaborated in this subchapter.

Nineteen-year-old Camilla who is Elizabeth's second born daughter inherited almost all personality traits from her mother. Two following excerpts of Camilla Darcy and Elizabeth Bennet evidence the resemblance of these characters:

"[Camilla] had too much of a sense of humour, too witty a tongue and too clever a mind, apart from inheriting all her father's strength of character" (ASTON 2003: 3). *"However, she wasn't self-centred or given to worrying about the impression she made for more than a minute or two [...]"* (ASTON 2003: 24).

Elizabeth is a girl *"with more quickness of observation and less pliancy of temper than her sister [Jane]"* (AUSTEN 2003: 17). *"She had a lively, playful disposition, which delighted in any thing ridiculous"* (AUSTEN 2003: 14).

With respect to these descriptions we can observe that Camilla inherited her mother's disposition. They both have a sense of humour based on having the ability to observe ironically their surroundings and society. They both contrive not to be affected by opinions of other members of the society. For example Elizabeth who heard Mr Darcy claiming she was not pretty enough to draw his attention but she was not offended for a long time. Both the mother and the daughter were popular for their disposition and at the same time criticised by the pompous higher society.

Not only does Camilla have the same countenance, she has the same character and abilities and she is the heroine of the novel. Just like her mother she plays the piano, does not ride a horse and she is fond of walking. Her dream is to travel the world and discover new cultures. The character of Elizabeth Bennet does not appear in the selected novel. There are only few mentions that she is traveling with her husband, Mr Darcy, to Constantinople.

On the subject of the appearance, “*Elizabeth, equally next to Jane in birth and beauty, succeeded her*” (AUSTEN 2003: 70). The same way people are looking at Camilla whose beauty is shadowed by her elder sister Letitia.

In the matter of her character, she is like her mother who is described as a spirited, bright, and quick-witted woman who is “*not afraid to speak her mind, she is easily capable of holding her own in any conversation, whether with man or woman*” (POPLAWSKI 1998: 79). This description of Elizabeth Bennet fits Camilla perfectly. Camilla is able to look at the world and its society and stay on top of things. There is an example from the novel when Mr Wytton asks Camilla if she has visited the British Museum. Her response is following:

“I shall certainly go again, but we women have to ration our visits, you know, lest the excitement and learning tax our brains and affect our wits”
(ASTON 2003: 16).

This phrase reminds the wit of Jane Austen herself. According to WHITTON (2014: 125), Jane Austen openly expressed her opinions on the society and depicted the atmosphere at the turn of the 18th and 19th century with realistic details in her novels. Elizabeth Aston set *Mr Darcy’s Daughters* in the year 1818, the period at the beginning of the 19th century, which is generally known as the Regency era. As Debra TEACHMAN (1997: 3-4) says, to understand the novel and the characters, it is important to understand the society of that time. Unlike men, women were much more reliant on their family who provided them with money and the milieu. They could not enter any respectable profession so their only chance to provide for themselves was to

find a rich husband. Nevertheless, even after marriage a woman was not as independent as she may have wished for. She could gain the greatest independence as a widow. If she did not find a husband and did not have relatives to take care of her, the only choice was to become a governess or a teacher in a school for girls (TEACHMAN 1997: 3-4). A woman's goal was to find a husband and if a woman was interested in further education, men found it suspicious and even unwelcome. Camilla captured and ironically commented that attitude in the previous extract. Based on these resemblances, we can assume that Elizabeth Bennet was a model for Camilla Darcy and Elizabeth Aston intentionally revived the character of Elizabeth Bennet in Camilla Darcy.

5.2.2 Letitia Darcy

Letitia Darcy is supposed to be the most beautiful of Mr Darcy's daughters. The comparison to Jane Bennet suggested itself. Although both characters are considered the most attractive, that is all they have in common. POPLAWSKI (1998: 79-81) states that Jane Bennet has a composed and cheerful temperament, which is as much attractive as her appearance. She always tries to look on the bright side of things and to see the good in everyone unlike Letitia whose following utterance says a lot about her character:

“Since she [Elizabeth Bennet] isn't here – and who knows when we may see her again, if ever? – it is my duty to warn you about how you should behave”
(ASTON 2003: 3).

In contrast, Letitia Darcy sees the worst endings in everything. Her character is more like Mary Bennet's who is, according to POPLAWSKI (1998: 30), overearnest, studious, and moralistic. Taking all chances to lecture her sisters, she is regarded by her younger sisters as a bore and narrow-minded. Dutta (AUSTEN 2002: xix) claims that Mary Bennet was steeped in books, which she quoted very frequently and often in inappropriate situations. Letitia acts in a similar way. She reads sermons and moral books. Nevertheless, not admitting it, she reads books such as *The Monk* by Matthew Lewis and other popular literature of her time as well. Criticising her sisters for reading the literature she reads herself, she appears priggish and hypocritical. Except for several minor resemblances with the original novel, she is mostly an original and unique character.

The important element in *Pride and Prejudice* is the relationship between the siblings Elizabeth Bennet and her sister Jane. According to Gray (AUSTEN 2016: 6), there are parallels between the sisters in the novel and Cassandra and Jane Austen themselves. Elizabeth Bennet, just as Camilla Darcy from *Mr Darcy Daughters*, says shocking things to her elder sister leading to her outrage or laughter. The Austen sisters and the Bennet sisters had a very close and warm-hearted relationship. Just as Austen, Aston put the two sisters, Camilla and Letitia to the foreground of the plot. However, their relationship is quite different. Prudish Letitia enjoys the situations when she can tell tales about her sisters and moralise them. Although they like each other because they are sisters, their relationship is not so close.

5.2.3 Sir Sidney Leigh

Sir Sidney is a thirty-five-year old bachelor who decided to find a wife. He had been already engaged twice but both his fiancées changed their mind before the wedding. At first, he wanted Letitia to become his wife because of her beauty and moral principles but she bored him. Having a keen sense of wit and being intelligent and practically minded, Camilla captured his attention soon and he gave preference to Camilla who slowly fell in love with him. He is an attractive man with a sense of humour and observation abilities which Camilla possesses as well. The great example is his conversation with Mrs Gardiner about measuring beauty of men by women. They are talking about Mr Portal and Mrs Gardiner claims that “*many women would consider him a well-looking man*” (ASTON 2003: 21). Mr Sidney aptly remarks: “*That, my dear Mrs Gardiner, is because a man’s looks are measured by the depth of his pockets*” (ASTON 2003: 21). Which can be true both in his period and nowadays. He also has a practical-minded view in marriage:

“In his father’s day, marriages had been arranged as a matter of convenience and money. Today, feeling was all, an ardency of spirit a prerequisite for any attachment. To display a purely practical approach to matrimony would call down accusations of heartlessness and a mercenary nature” (ASTON 2003: 130).

Sir Sidney approaches marriage strictly as a business as it emerges from the extract above. This attitude parallels the one of Mr Collins from *Pride and Prejudice* who is determined to get marry despite the fact he does not know any woman who would like to marry him and otherwise. According to TEACHMAN (1997: 6-8), it never crossed Mr Collins' mind that Elizabeth Bennet would prefer to marry for love and not for money. However, Elizabeth's friend Charlotte Lucas accepts Mr Collins' proposal, which indicates that this attitude was approved in Jane Austen's time. TEACHMAN (1997: 8-10) states that spinsterhood is terrifying for many Austen's heroines. Charlotte Lucas shows what a woman is capable to bear to avoid staying unmarried. The chance to find a husband is very low at the age of twenty-seven, especially for women with a small dowry. For that reason, Charlotte Lucas as well as many women of that time is looking for a financial security, a home of their own, and a respectable position. These prospects were sufficient to accept the marriage proposal.

LEFROY (2009: 36-37) says that even Jane Austen had a similar experience. Aged twenty-six, she accepted a marriage proposal from Harris Bigg-Wither to avoid the fate of spinsterhood. He was six years younger than her. He was a good match for her and he could have taken care of her financially but she could not have written and published her novels. It would have been a marriage without love so she had changed her mind during the night after the proposal (MALETZKE 2009: 137-138).

Nevertheless, Sir Sidney has another secret reason he wants to find a reasonable woman. He pretends his feeling for Camilla to convince her to marry him, on the other hand he intends to be honest with her and tell her why his two fiancées left him. He is homosexual.

According to JOHNSON and VANDERBECK (2014: 35-36), the term homosexual did not exist in that time; it was judged as non-normative and unnatural. Male sodomites were prosecuted for "*Wicked Crimes of Un-natural Lewdness with their own Sex*". However, Edward KOZACZKA [online] claims that Jane Austen was conscious of it. She used the word "queer" to term it, which implies Henry Crawford, the character from

her novel *Mansfield Park*, who is questioning Fanny Price's sexual inclinations. Because of that example, KOZACZKA [online] speculates about the meaning of Jane Austen's term "queer" to connote the non-normative sexual behaviour. Although Jane Austen knew about homosexuality, it wouldn't have been a topic for polite conversation between the middle class, or the aristocracy. Unlike Aston, Jane Austen never wrote about it openly.

5.3 Original characters

In the novel *Mr Darcy Daughters*, there are several characters, which already appeared in *Pride and Prejudice*. This subchapter focuses on them, their role in the novel and their development.

5.3.1 Mr and Mrs Gardiner

Mr Gardiner is Mrs Bennet's brother, thou uncle of Elizabeth Bennet. Thanks to his trade skills, he is a successful businessman who earned plenty of money to secure his younger wife and four children with whom he lives in Gracechurch Street in London. Both Mr and Mrs Gardiners are fond of Elizabeth and her sister Jane. Owing to their trip with Elizabeth to Derbyshire, Mr Darcy's view on Elizabeth's family is strongly improved just as the view of Elizabeth on Mr Darcy. POPLAWSKI (1998: 151) says that after their marriage, they continue on intimate terms with the Gardiners. Elizabeth Aston takes up their relationship even in her novel and Camilla and Letitia meet them very often.

Nevertheless, the relations between people from different class were not so open in the 18th and 19th century. According to Debra TEACHMAN (1997: 3), the society was greatly stratified. The aristocrats inclined to consort with other aristocrats, the upper middle class with other gentry, businessmen with other businessmen, and so forth. Nonetheless, this stratification was not absolute. We can find many examples in *Pride and Prejudice*, e. g. Mr Bingley, whose family has a fortune thanks to his father's success in trade, is the best comrade of higher-born Mr Darcy who married middle-class Elizabeth Bennet. In *Mr Darcy's Daughters*, despite the fact that the Gardiners are rich, their daughter's dowry is £90,000, they are neglected by some members of the aristocracy who consider tradesmen below their social position.

5.3.2 Colonel Fitzwilliam

POPLAWSKI (1998: 147) claims that Colonel Fitzwilliam is Mr Darcy's cousin, the younger son of an earl therefore he must find a wife with a dowry. He is described as a well-mannered man. In *Pride and Prejudice*, Elizabeth Bennet meets him together with Mr Darcy in the Rosings, and became fond of each other. Unfortunately, he

unintentionally reveals her, that it was Mr Darcy who destroyed her sister's happiness by separating her from Mr Bingley.

This character cannot be found in more than one chapter. However, his character is more developed in *Mr Darcy's Daughters*. The reader can find out that Colonel's first wife died and he married Fanny with whom he is living a happy life. His peace is broken when Mr Darcy's daughters arrive to his house in London and he has to take care of them. Although he is a very likable character with a sense of humour in the original novel, he seems a little bit pedantic and narrow-minded in this one. In the novel, he prefers Letitia to Camilla who has too-witty tongue, which sometimes shocked him and he did not approved it.

5.3.3 Lady Warren

Caroline Bingley is hidden under the name of Lady Warren. She is Mr Bingley's sister. Caroline Bingley is a proud and self-important woman who was fancy of Mr Darcy and his fortune (POPLAWSKI 1998: 85). She never liked Elizabeth and her family who was, in her opinion, under her social level. She also appears as Lady Warren in *Mr Darcy's Daughters* and her personality did not change at all. She cannot forgive Elizabeth marrying Mr Darcy.

5.3.4 Lydia

POPLAWSKI (1998: 80) states that Lydia Bennet is the youngest Elizabeth's sister who enjoy herself whatever the consequences¹. After her marriage with Mr Wickham, she shows no regret and does not realise her foolish behaviour. Even more, she brags about being married before her elder sisters POPLAWSKI (1998: 80). Georgina has the same attitude and shows no regret about her reckless action and she is proud of herself. Although Austen implies that Mr Wickham survived the war, in *Mr Darcy's Daughters* he died at Salamanca and Lydia is married again.

¹ See the chapters 5.1 Plot, and 5.3.1 Mr and Mrs Gardiner

5.4 Money

Money and social status were important aspects of Jane Austen's time as well as her novels. The chapter focuses on income of Jane Austen's family and Jane Austen herself, and on income of her characters both from *Pride and Prejudice* and *Mr Darcy's Daughters*. The chapter also compares the value of the character's property in the 18th century with the value in 2013.

Jane Austen's parents were never rich but both had aristocratic connections². Reverend George Austen, Jane Austen's father, had a large family, six sons and two daughters that he had to provide for. According to POPLAWSKI (1998: 66-67), when his first daughter was born in 1773, he was struggling with money. Fortunately, he received £300 from his wife's brother, Mr James Leigh Perrot. In the same year, he became a rector of Steventon and Deane worth £110 per year. He also taught students to prepare them for university entrance. Since that he was able to provide his family with a comfortable home. In total, he had approximately £310 at his disposal. On top of that, he had an income from farming, parish dues and from teaching. It is known that in the 1790s he charged £65 per year per pupil including tuition, board and lodging. Altogether, George Austen's income was about £600 a year and it had never been exceeded (POPLAWSKI (1998: 66-67).

Regarding an income of Jane Austen herself, POPLAWSKI (1998: 17-21) presents that she had a small profit from her novels:

- 1813: *Pride and Prejudice* £110
- 1813: *Sense and Sensibility* £140
- 1814: *Mansfield Park* £310 - £350
- 1816: *Emma* £221 (but only £38 for *Emma* in her lifetime)

Northanger Abbey and *Persuasion* were published together in 1,750 copies posthumously in 1817, priced twenty-four shillings each. In total, Jane Austen's profit

² See the chapter 2.1 *Family*

from her writing was about £630. By 1830s, it was altogether about £1,625 (POPLAWSKI 1998: 21).

In 2014, Charlotte RUNCIE [online] published an article about a fortune of the characters from *Pride and Prejudice* and converted the value of their property to today's prices. This analysis of their property provides a reader with the information about the character's position in the society and the reader can compare their fortune with the asset of Jane Austen as well. The conversion to today's value can also help to understand how rich the characters are in the novels. Mr Bennet, whose wife's dowry was £5,000, has income of £2,000 a year. Each of his daughters had a dowry of £1,000. Mr Bingley had large fortune of £4,000 or £5,000 a year and property worth nearly £100,000. Mr Darcy, owner of Pemberley in Derbyshire, had an income of £10,000 a year (POPLAWSKI 1998: 85, 114) In the following table, there is a comparison of its value in the past and in 2013. There are also additional information about other characters and the value in CZK.

	18 th century	2013 (RV)	2013 (PV)	2013 (RV in CZK)	2013 (PV in CZK)
Mr Darcy's income	£10,000	£619,100	£8,877,000	18,882,55	270,748,500
Mr Bingley's income	£5,000	£309,550	£4,438,500	9,441,275	135,374,250
Mr Bennet's income	£2,000	£123,920	£1,775,400	3,779,560	54,149,700
Camilla's dowry	£50,000	£3,095,500	£44,385,000	94,412,750	1,353,742,500
Sophie's dowry	£90,000	£5,571,900	£79,893,000	169,942,950	2,436,736,500
JA's income for writing	£630	£39,003.3	£559,251	1,189,600.65	17,057,155.5

RV = real value, PV = prestige value, JA = Jane Austen, £1 = 30,5 CZK

According to Charlotte RUNCIE [online], Mr Darcy would not have enough money to hold his fictional estate in Derbyshire if the costs to run Pemberley were similar to Chatsworth House, a fictional residence of Pemberley from the movie *Pride and Prejudice* from 2005, costing nowadays £4m per year. Hiring servants and buying other trappings of aristocracy was much cheaper in Jane Austen's days. "*It's hard to say exactly how much Mr Darcy would have been worth in total, but the Duke of Devonshire, who currently lives in the 297-room Chatsworth House, is estimated to be worth around £500m*" (RUNCIE [online]). If other elements are added, RUNCIE [online] comes to the opinion that Mr Darcy would have around £12m per year in the 21st century.

In the novel *Mr Darcy's Daughters*, Mr Darcy has five daughters, and two sons. Each of his daughters has a dowry of £50,000, which means, that he would spend £250,000 for all of them if they find a husband. If it is transferred to today's values, he would spend £15,477,500 and 472,063,750 CZK for dowry of all his daughters. In the novels, nor *Pride and Prejudice* or *Mr Darcy's Daughters*, there is no mention, how much money Mr Darcy needs to run his household. However, in *Pride and Prejudice*, his property worth nearly £100,000, which is not even half the dowry of his daughters. We can only assume that during twenty-years he got richer so he could provide his daughters with money as Aston states. We can say the same about Mr Gardiner who has four children in *Pride and Prejudice* and his daughter Sophie gets £90,000.

5.5 City versus Country

“Town and country are different worlds. No matter how rich and self-possessed they are, country-bred young ladies need to keep their wits well about them when they come to London” (ASTON 2003: 1).

The opening line from *Mr Darcy's Daughters* depicts precisely the attitudes to living in the country and town. Although the Darcy's sisters descend from the upper class, they are living at Pemberley which is situated in the countryside nearby Lambton, a fictional city. HANNON (2007: 26-27) argues that although Jane Austen visited London many times and lived in Bath for a few years, she was at heart a country girl. She was deeply attached to the countryside in Steventon where she grew up and Chawton where she spent last years of her short life. This passion appears in her writings which concentrate on country rather than town society. Whereas her novels are set primarily in the small towns or the country, *Mr Darcy's Daughters* is set in London.

ALLEN (2013: 4-5) claims that although Great Britain was at war during Jane Austen's life, London bloomed and became one of the greatest trading cities in the world. Due to growing population, the boundaries spread outwards and rapid industrial and agricultural improvements penetrate to the city. With its elegant streets, fashionable squares, spacious churches, and shops supplied with diverse goods from all over the world, London was the favourite place of the upper classes. SMITH (2009: 16-17) says that Jane Austen never lived in London but she visited her brother and other friends who lived there and she enjoyed visiting Vauxhall Gardens, galleries, theatres, or just observing the fashions and the follies of London.

Camilla and Letitia were already introduced into society and they are in age to find a husband. London was an ideal place where they could meet a number of interesting young gentlemen but as well as dowry hunters. Fanny is doing her best to get invitation for Camilla and Letitia to Almack's Assembly Rooms, a famous and prestigious club in London. She is afraid that because of the gossips around Letitia's married fiancé, the Princess Lieven and Lady Jersey could deny them the access to the club. Sophie Gardiner is not allowed to enter because her family wealth comes from the trading

(ASTON 2003: 78-79). According to TIMBS (1866: 88), the balls were organised by a Committee of Ladies of high rank. Two of them were Lady Jersey and the Princess Lieven, as we know from the novel. However, the novel is set in 1818 and it was not until 1826 when Dorothea Lieven became the Princess Lieven (BLOY [online]).

According to NIELSEN (2011: 28), Almack's Assembly Rooms were founded in 1765 and it quickly became one of the most prominent clubs in the city whose membership was almost impossible to obtain. The example can be found in Captain Gronow writings from 1814 who compares Almack's to "*the seventh heaven of the fashionable worlds*" and from three hundred officers only six received vouchers of admission to "*this exclusive temple of the beau monde*" (TIMBS 1866: 316). NIELSEN (2011: 28) states that what was danced in Almack's, it was danced in the other clubs as well. Popular dances at the end of the 18th century were French court dances such as the Minuet, Contradanse, and Cotillon, as well as English Country Dance. Dancing was one of the great indoor entertainments for young people. It was a place where girls could get to know the opposite sex. Jane Austen's passion for dance is reflected in her novels in which the main heroines are keen on dancing and a ball or a dance is of great importance to them (LUCAS 2009: 6), whether for Elizabeth Bennet when she danced with Mr Darcy for the first time, or Camilla Darcy and her dances with Sir Sidney or Mr Wytton.

5.6 Reception

The opinions on Aston's novel *Mr Darcy's Daughters* differ greatly but the negative ones prevail. According to Publishers Weekly [online], it is "*more like a beach book for historical fiction fans than a literary homage to Austen's masterpiece*". They also describe the attempt to imitate Jane Austen's style as a failure and the prose stilted. The plot did not avoid criticism for being contrived and overly drawn out (*Mr Darcy's Daughters* [online]).

Nevertheless, if the book were reviewed as a historical romance and not as a sequel to Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, its review would be more positive. DOW and HANSON (2012: 11) classified *Mr Darcy's Daughters* as a fan fiction. The same opinion is held by Aja ROMANO [online] writing for the Daily Dot. Simon & Schuster states that it is "*charming, beautifully written and full of societal intrigue and romantic high jinks. Mr Darcy's Daughters is a tale that would please Austen herself*" (*Mr Darcy's Daughters* [online]). We can only speculate if Jane Austen would really like it, or not. Overall, the novel is easy and enjoyable to read thanks to its engaging dialogues and twisting plot. On the other hand it is the plot which is not very credible and disprage the quality of the novel.

6 P. D. James

Phyllis Dorothy James, known as P. D. James, is an English mystery writer who is famous for her series of the detective stories featuring detective Adam Dalgliesh of Scotland Yard (Biography [online]). BBC News [online] determined *The Children of Men*, *The Murder Room* and *Pride and Prejudice* spin-off *Death Comes to Pemberley* as her best-known novels. According to Emma BROCKES [online], she is one of Britain's most popular crime writers.

P. D. James was born two years after the First World War in Oxford on August 3, 1920. She had two younger siblings. Her father Sidney Victor was a tax officer. Unfortunately, her mother Dorothy May Amelia James, who supported her children in reading at an early age, suffered from mental illness and had to be institutionalized. P. D. James received her education at Cambridge High School for Girls. She finished her studies at the age of sixteen and found a job in a tax office (JAMES 2013: I; Biography [online]).

Aged twenty-one, she fell in love with a medical student Ernest Connor Bantry White and they got married in 1941. The following year, their first daughter Clara was born and another daughter Jane followed in 1944. After the Second World War, her husband, who served in the Royal Army Medical Corps, suffered from schizophrenia and he needed frequent hospitalization until his death in 1964. To support her family, James studied hospital administration and worked for the National Health Service until 1968. Having passed a civil service exam, she started to work for the government until 1979. She used her working experiences in the Home Office, in the Police Department and in the Criminal Policy Department in her writings (JAMES 2013, I; Biography [online]).

Her career is very rich. She was a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and of the Royal Society of Arts as well as a governor of the BBC, a member of the Arts Council where she was Chairman of the Literary Advisory Panel. She also was an Honorary Bencher of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple. Her novels were successful in all around the world. She won awards for crime writing in the United Kingdom, America, Italy and Scandinavia. Not only did she receive awards, she also has degrees

from seven British universities, and she was awarded an Order of the British Empire in 1983 and named a peer of the House of Lords, Baroness James of Holland Park, in 1991 (JAMES 2013, I; Biography [online]; *P. D. James* [online].)

In 1962, at the age of forty-two, she published her first detective story called *Cover Her Face* under the name P. D. James. She wrote it while she was daily commuting in the evenings. A reader can read about the character of detective Adam Dalgliesh for the first time in this book and the detective appears in other thirteen books. Besides mystery novels, she also wrote other genres such as dystopian novel *Children of Men* which was adapted in 2006 into a movie starring Clive Owen and Michael Caine. She also wrote down her memoir titled *Time to Be in Earnest*, published after her eightieth birthday (JAMES 2013, I; Biography [online]). As Simon and Schuster (*P. D. James* [online]) states, most of her works have been adapted into movies and television series which have been broadcasted in the United States and other countries.

According to BBC News [online], she lived mostly in London and Oxford. P. D. James died peacefully at her home in Oxford in 2014. She was ninety-four years old.

7 *Death Comes to Pemberley*

Death Comes to Pemberley is a detective story by P. D. James which follows the lives of Elizabeth Bennet, now Mrs Darcy, who is happily living with her husband in Pemberley until a murder is committed and Wickham has become the prime suspect. In contrast to *Mr Darcy's Daughters*, which story was mostly based on the new characters, *Death Comes to Pemberley* incorporates most of the characters from *Pride and Prejudice* which are set in the atmosphere of a murder-mystery. This chapter analyses the plot, the development and the similarities of the characters of Jane Austen and P. D. James supported by extracts from the novels. One subchapter is dedicated to a television adaptation of *Death Comes to Pemberley*.

7.1 Plot

In the last chapter of *Mansfield Park* Jane Austen says:

“Let other pens dwell on guilt and misery. I quit such odious subjects as soon as I can, impatient to restore everybody, not greatly in fault themselves, to tolerable comfort, and to have done with all the rest“
(AUSTEN 2010: 508).

P. D. James took charge of such a story. She put the characters of *Pride and Prejudice* in the trauma of a murder and an unpleasant meeting with Wickham who is unwelcomed in Pemberley. In the prologue of the novel, James summarizes the story of *Pride and Prejudice* and depicts its characters she follows in her book. From the very beginning of the novel, the personalities of Jane Austen's characters can be observed. The following extract from the prologue describes with irony the nature of Mrs Bennet:

“She had even been known to sit through a four-course dinner in the presence of Sir William and Lady Lucas without once referring to the iniquity of the entail” (JAMES 2013: 13).

Being known for complaining and saying inappropriate things in inappropriate times, James captures her nature and follows up with the irony of Jane Austen herself

(POPLAWSKI 1998: 81). Unfortunately, Mrs Bennet is only mentioned in the book and does not play any important part in the story.

As James states, she decided that both Elizabeth and her sister Jane Bennet married in 1797. The story begins six years later, in 1803. Elizabeth is making the arrangements in Pemberley for the annual autumn ball which takes place the next evening. The final preparations for the ball are under way and everything is as usual until the evening when Mr Darcy spots the uncontrollable carriage directing to Pemberley. It is Lydia, Elizabeth's youngest sister, who steps out of the carriage and she is hysterically screaming that her husband Mr Wickham is dead. Because of the gunshots which Lydia and coach driver heard, Mr Darcy goes with other men to the forest and finds Denny's dead body and Wickham covered with blood. The investigation begins and Wickham is taken to the custody the next morning as the prime suspect (JAMES 2013: 326).

The investigator is the judge Hardcastle who is infamous for condemning young boy to death for poaching. The mother of the boy, Mrs Ripley, committed suicide ten days later in the forest in Pemberley. According to a legend, she appears when something bad is about to happen. Two of the maids from Pemberley saw her before the murder. At the end of the novel, it is revealed that it was Mrs Young who was helping Mr Wickham with his extramarital son.

The new characters are the Bidwells, who works for generations in Pemberley. Mr and Mrs Bidwell live in the small cottage in the forest in Pemberley with their terminally ill son Will and their daughter Louisa who is visiting them with her son. The son is crucial to the case because it is discovered that Louisa was deceived by Wickham whose identity had not known and he is the father of her son. Denny, who was disgusted at his friend's behavior, left the carriage on the way to Pemberley and was accidentally killed by Will who had thought he had disgraced his sister.

The side *Pride and Prejudice* characters Georgiana and Colonel Fitzwilliam come to the fore in this detective story. Georgiana is at the age of getting married and there are two

men who would like to win her heart. The first one is her guardian Colonel Fitzwilliam and the second one is a new character, a young lawyer Henry Alveston.³

Although P. D. James narrates her own story about Mr and Mrs Darcy's lives after their marriage, she sums up the plot of *Pride and Prejudice* not only in the Prologue but also in the flashbacks. With Wickham coming back to their lives, Elizabeth often thinks about her past, how easily believed Wickham's lies and how prejudiced against Mr Darcy she was. Albeit P. D. James clarifies and describes in more details their feelings, the admirers and readers who are familiar with the original novel may find it boring. The story is narrated fluently, however, there are less direct speeches with comparison to *Pride and Prejudice*, or *Mr Darcy's Daughters*, which detracts the story from drawing reader's attention. Moreover, during a trial with Wickham, the witnesses testify about that night, which a reader already knows, and therefore does not discover anything new. Wickham is pleaded guilty, but immediately, the judge receives the confession of the murderer, Will Bidwell, so it was not as suspenseful as it may have been. An observant reader can notice mentions of the characters from Jane Austen's *Emma*, and *Persuasion*.

³ See the subchapters 7.2.10 *Colonel Fitzwilliam* and 7.2.11 *Henry Alveston*

7.2 Characters

This subchapter focuses mainly on the characters which are in *Pride and Prejudice* and play an important role in *Death Comes to Pemberley* as well. The subchapter analyses their natures in these two novels and resemblances between them.

7.2.1 Lydia

In *Pride and Prejudice*, Lydia Bennet is a fifteen-year-old daughter of Mr and Mrs Bennet. Although she is the youngest one, she has a bad influence on her elder sister Kitty and causes only troubles to her family. She is Mrs Bennet's favourite daughter and their characters are much alike. Because of her youth, inexperience, and the lack of supervision by her father, she has become foolish and reckless. Like many other women, she succumbed to Wickham for whose red uniform she had a weakness. Thanks to Mr Darcy who paid Wickham to marry her, she is wedded at the age of sixteen and she does not feel any guilt or shame for her behaviour which may have ruined their sisters' expectations (POPLAWSKI 1998: 80).

In the novel by P. D. James, Lydia is living with Mr Wickham over income, financially supported by her sisters Elizabeth and Jane. They do not have access to Pemberley because of Wickham's deceitful behaviour so Lydia is often staying at Highmarten, the estate of Mr Bingley and Jane, or at Longbourn with her mother. But even for Mrs Bennet, Lydia is insufferable so she is visiting her no more than for three weeks. She is described as "*boisterous and wild, vulgar in speech and behaviour, continual embarrassment for her sisters*" (JAMES 2013: 131-132). This description of Lydia resembles the one in *Pride and Prejudice*.

Although she is not invited to the ball in Pemberley, she is decided to go there by hook or crook. According to her plan, she takes a carriage to Pemberley in the evening so Elizabeth will have to let her stay. She thinks it is going to be a great lark. This is another proof that her character has not changed and has not attained maturity and still does not take into consideration the consequences, just as in *Pride and Prejudice*. Unfortunately, on their way to Pemberley, Denny gets off the carriage and is murdered

in the forest. During her stay in Pemberley, she is hysterical and in too full enjoyment of her grievance to welcome advice (JAMES 2013: 131).

The morning after the murder, Lydia wants to see her husband who is kept in one of the rooms in Pemberley. Nevertheless, she must find a beautiful dress and have a marvellous hairstyle to look her best prior to the visit of her mourning husband. The following extract shows that although Lydia is in a difficult situation, her priorities have not changed and her behaviour is more like a theatre performance:

“Lydia, after a final bust of crying, aloud herself to be led back to her room. [...] Viewing the carefully chosen delicacies with evident satisfaction, discovered, that grief had made her hungry and ate avidly”
(AUSTEN 2011: 130).

Instead of being a support to her husband, she just makes a scene, shows off, and only makes the situation even more difficult for her sisters. After a hysterical crying, she is led to the room and over her agitation she did not lose her appetite. She even blames Elizabeth for the situation. If she had invited her to the ball, the murder would not have happened. The fact that her old friend Danny was killed does not concern her at all. In the light of the facts, P. D. James maintains Jane Austen’s character unchanged.

7.2.2 George Wickham

The father of George Wickham was a steward in Pemberley. Because of his devotion and reliability, old Mr Darcy thought highly of him and he became his close friend. Mr Wickham died five years prior to the story of *Pride and Prejudice*. Owing to their friendship, old Mr Darcy decided to provide for his son George Wickham whose godfather he had become. He paid for his education and for Cambridge University and bequeathed £1,000 to George Wickham, hereinafter referred to as Wickham, and hoped that the church would be his profession. However, he was not content with the career of a clergyman. Contrarily, he has given preferences to money and frivolous life (POPLAWSKI 1998: 114, 316-317).

Desire for money became his fatal vice. It determined his life and lives of others which he does not take into his consideration and he cares only for his own prospects.

Wickham renounced the parish and accepted £3,000 instead to become a lawyer. Three years after, Wickham contacted Mr Darcy again asking him for the parish with no doubt to be refused by him. Being declined, he tried to seduce and elope with Mr Darcy's sister Georgiana whose dowry is £30,000 (AUSTEN 2003: 194-196). Due to his hostility, Wickham defames Mr Darcy whenever possible and thanks to his manners which are always engaging, his audiences come to believe him easily, including Elizabeth. He was interested in Elizabeth as well, but because of her insignificant dowry, he turns his affection to Mary King who inherited £10,000. In the end, he elopes and marries Lydia (POPLAWSKI 1998:169).

In *Death Comes to Pemberley*, Wickham did not change whatsoever. Although he became a hero in the Irish War, his nature remains the same. Being a handsome and dashing gentleman, he still deceives women to distract himself. He is not able to find and keep a job and together with Lydia they are living in debts and seek for financial support from Lydia's sisters. During the trial he seems confident and optimistic about the verdict, although there are many discrepancies giving evidences about his guilty. Albeit he is pardoned, the time spent in prison and the first verdict founding him guilty may have turned his attitudes for the better. At the end, he is leaving with Lydia to the New World where he gets a job and a chance to start a new and better life.

7.2.3 Lady Catherine de Bourgh

As POPLAWSKI (1998: 119) states, Lady Catherine de Bourgh is Mr Darcy's aunt from his mother side and the owner of the estate of Rosings. Belonging to the lesser aristocracy, she shows her superiority and self-importance to everyone she is dealing with. Everyone has to oblige her will and she is used to it. As AUSTEN (2003: 162) says, "*Elizabeth suspected herself to be the first creature who had ever dared to trifle with [Lady Catherine de Bourgh] so much dignified impertinence.*" Lady Catherine is even more disconcerted finding out that Mr Darcy may have been engaged to Elizabeth. However, it interferes with her plan to marry her daughter Anne to Mr Darcy and unite the estates of Rosings and Pemberley. According to POPLAWSKI (1998: 119), the scene when Lady Catherine tries to force Elizabeth to promise she never marries Mr Darcy and she gives her spirited and intelligent responses, "*is one of the most satisfying*

scenes in the novel as we see reason and personal integrity triumph over the insolence of wealth and social position.” Due to the fact that Elizabeth refused to promise she never marries Mr Darcy, Mr Darcy actually raises hopes of being accepted and proposes Elizabeth again.

In *Death Comes to Pemberley*, Lady Catherine’s daughter Anne died and Elizabeth provides her with comfort in her grief which improved their relationship. However, Lady Catherine is still the same old Lady Catherine like the reader knows her from *Pride and Prejudice*. P. D. James proves it in the letter by Lady Catherine to Mr Darcy in which she assures him about her support and gives him an advice:

“I would come myself to give advice – Mr Pegworthy said that were I a man and had taken to the law, I would have been an ornament to the English bar – but I am needed here. If I went to all the people who would benefit from my advice I would never be at home” (JAMES 2013: 170).

Based on this extract, there can be observed the same behaviour and arrogance like Jane Austen described her in *Pride and Prejudice*. The extract resembles her utterance from the original novel, speaking about the music that if she had ever learnt, she should have been a great proficient (AUSTEN 2003: 169).

Another example is Lady Catherine’s opinion about dying:

“I have never approved of protracted dying. [...] People should make up their minds whether to live or die and do one or the other with the least inconvenience to others” (JAMES 2013: 176).

In the extract, her criticism is mainly focused on the lower classes. Her opinion that dying is only an excuse for avoiding working and that depends on people if they are ill or not, says a lot about her character and aristocratic arrogance which Lady Catherine possesses both in *Pride and Prejudice*, and *Death comes to Pemberley*.

7.2.4 Mr Collins

The first acquaintance with Mr Collins with the Bennets went through a letter by Mr Collins to Mr Bennet. As Mr Bennet expected, his cousin and heir to Longbourn is quite the reverse of being sensible, which proves his letter, a mixture of pomposity and folly (AUSTEN 2003: 63). Although he does not appear in the detective story, P. D. James manages to include him in the story by a letter in which he offers Elizabeth and her family his sympathy. His letter is described as follows:

“He could find no words to express his shock and abhorrence, and then proceeded to find a great number, few of them appropriate and none of them helpful” (JAMES 2013: 171).

Just like in *Pride and Prejudice*, his letter gives evidence of his arrogance, obsequiousness, and self-importance. In fact, he does not want to be helpful. It is only an opportunity for him to criticize the actions of others and to express his haughtiness and his advice of no use.

His practically minded wife Charlotte is also mentioned in the novel, that is her way how to manage her husband's frailties. She constantly congratulates him on qualities he does not possess in the hope that flattered by her praise and approval he would acquire them. Mr Collins' arrogance prevents him to detect her ruse (JAMES 2013: 175).

7.2.5 Mr Bennet

POPLAWSKI (1998: 80-81) states that Mr Bennet is an ironical man whose favourite daughter is Elizabeth with whom he shares the enjoyment of having fun at others expense because of their silly behaviour. In *Pride and Prejudice*, Mr Bennet's library was his favoured place where nobody disturbs him from reading. His passion for books is developed in *Death Comes to Pemberley* where he has an opportunity to visit an extensive library in Pemberley and even to help Mr Bingley extend his new library at his new estate.

7.2.6 Mrs Bennet

Although Mrs Bennet is only a few times mentioned in the novel, P. D. James preserved her character. Just like in *Pride and Prejudice*, where she exaggerates the affairs

concerning her family, she acts the same way in *Death Comes to Pemberley*. During the winter, when Mr Bennet was in Pemberley, she sent a letter to him:

“She could hear stealthy footsteps outside the house every night and was suffering from continual palpitations and fluttering of the heart. [...] Why was he [Mr Bennet] concerning himself with other people’s murders when there was likely to be one in Longbourn if he did not immediately return?” (JAMES 2013: 218).

Mrs Bennet overstates things again and does not care that he is providing his daughters Elizabeth and Jane with a great support in the days they are waiting for the trial and Mrs Bennet prefers her needs to the ones of her relatives.

7.2.7 Mr Darcy

POPLAWSKI (1998: 114) claims that Mr Darcy is presented as a cold, rude, and snobbish character provoking antipathy by his behaviour. His love to Elizabeth changes him as well as Elizabeth’s opinion on him is changed by finding out his true character. Because of his love to Elizabeth, he tactfully manages Lydia and Wickham’s affair and pays for Wickham’s debts and the wedding even though he despises Wickham for trying to seduce his sister. Unfortunately, Wickham became the part of Mr Darcy’s family since Mr Darcy married Elizabeth. Nevertheless, they are avoiding each other. With Capitan Denny’s murder, Wickham comes to Mr Darcy’s life again as well as the gossips:

“A brutal murder on one’s own property by a brother by marriage with whom one is known to be at enmity will inevitably produce a large congregations, including some well-known invalids whose prolonged indispositions had prohibited from the rigours of church attendance for many years” (JAMES 2013: 153).

As follows from the quotation, the murder caused a public interest and put the good name of Pemberley in danger, as James comments with an ironic tone. However, Mr Darcy does not let himself to disconcert and does all his best to solve the situation. In the end, he pays for the tickets to the New World for Lydia and Wickham. Mr Darcy is the saviour of the situation again, as he is in *Pride and Prejudice*.

7.2.8 Elizabeth Darcy

The character of Elizabeth Darcy is described in the subchapter 3.3.3 *Elizabeth Bennet*. In *Death Comes to Pemberley* she is a grown-up mother of two boys with a big responsibility for the estate and people who work there. Even though she is exposed to the first difficult situation in her otherwise happy marriage, she manages to stay on top of things and to be a support for her family. The atmosphere at Pemberley is darker and full of tense expectations, however, the following comment about the reaction of people on the cancelation of the ball shows that Elizabeth does not lose her observation skills and she knows the society:

“If anything could compensate for the loss of the ball it would be the drama that was unfolding at Pemberley“ (JAMES 2013: 141).

As follows from the quotation, she realizes that the drama caused by a murder is even more interesting for some of the gentry than the ball itself. Her sister Jane is still her best friend and confidant. The next excerpt is from their conversation about Mr Darcy’s love to Pemberley:

“I suspect that with both Mr Darcy and Georgiana Pemberley comes first. If I had been less than genuinely enthusiastic [about her thought of the house] I don’t think he would have married me “ (JAMES 2013: 42).

Analysing the extract shows that although both Elizabeth and Jane must bear Lydia’s behaviour, Elizabeth can still make jokes and enliven the atmosphere just like in *Pride and Prejudice* when she was able to make jokes about marrying Mr Collins’ cousin.

7.2.9 Georgiana

According to POPLAWSKI (1998: 114-113), Georgiana is sixteen years old when Elizabeth meets her for the first time. Wickham falsely described her as a very proud girl who is much alike her brother. Elizabeth discovers that her reputation is misinterpreted for what is actually an extreme shyness and she is modest and good-natured. In *Death Comes to Pemberley*, she manages the situation with Wickham with bravura, realizing she never loved him and her affections were only childish infatuation. Living with Elizabeth under one roof has a beneficial effect on her. At first, Georgiana was shocked to hear her serious brother being teased by Elizabeth and reversely. Pemberley has

become a happier place full of laugh. Thanks to Elizabeth optimistic nature, Georgiana lost her shyness. She also has to make the right choice about her future, for she has two wooers, Colonel Fitzwilliam, and Henry Alveston.

7.2.10 Colonel Fitzwilliam

The character of Colonel Fitzwilliam is the most changed character in the story. Whereas he was known as a well-mannered and entertaining companion in *Pride and Prejudice*, he became a serious man with new responsibilities. Due to the fact that his elder brother died, he became an heir of the title and of estate and he is looking for a wife. His feelings for Georgiana, whose joint guardian he is, has changed and he would like to marry her. Unfortunately, Georgiana has feelings for Henry Alveston, Mr Bingley's friend.

According to SELWYN (2010: 127), marriages between cousins were very common in Jane Austen's time. Paternal first cousin marriage had a material advantage. There are many examples in her novels, including *Pride and Prejudice*. Mr Collins intended to marry one of his cousins so the property of Longbourn would stay in the family. Lady Catherine de Bourg and her sister had the same idea planning to marry their children, Anne and Mr Darcy. Another example can be found in Jane Austen's family, where her brother Henry married his cousin Eliza. In fact, first cousins marriage is still legal in the United Kingdom. From CONOR's [online] point of view which based on the research made by two scientists, a forty-year-old pregnant woman has the same chance to born a baby with genetic defects as a woman who married her cousin.

7.2.11 Henry Alveston

Henry Alveston is an original character created by P. D. James. He is a promising young lawyer who had met Mr Bingley in London eighteen months before the story begins. He invited him to his estate Highmarten to spend a few days there and they became the good friends. Besides his career, he also plans to restore his family fortune and estate in Surrey which is owned by his highly respected family since 1600 (JAMES 2013: 40). Being a friend of Mr and Mrs Bingley, he also visits Pemberley and Elizabeth could not pass unnoticed his enchantment with Georgiana who enjoys his company as well. He

becomes a great support to Mr Darcy during the trial giving him his advices. Seeing him as a good and respectable man, Mr Darcy does not have any objections against the engagement of Henry to his beloved sister Georgiana as he wants her to be happy.

Janet TODD (2005: 366) states that only four professions were respectable for the aristocracy in Jane Austen's time. The first one was the army, as well as the navy which offered fame and fortune. The law was acceptable for its earning power and helpfulness in a political career. The last option was the church because of its steady remuneration, and status. Jane Austen's brothers chose between these professions as well. James Austen followed his father and became a clergyman. Henry tried a carrier in the militia, as well as in business and the church. Francis and Charles served in the navy (SMITH: 40-42).

Colonel Fitzwilliam accuses Henry Alveston of having the revolutionary ideas. During one conversation, Henry mentions Mary Wollstonecraft who was Jane Austen's contemporary and famous feminist (TODD 2014: 2). He claims that women should have a voice in the matters that concern them. He is also a member of a group of lawyers who examine the effectiveness of British legal criminal system. He would like to carry out a reform, the right of the prosecuting counsel to make a final speech before delivering a verdict (JAMES 2013: 165).

According to HANNON (2007: 97-99), Jane Austen did not have personally any experience with the crime but Jane Austen's uncle's wife Jane Leigh-Perrot was arrested for shoplifting. In 1799, she was accused for stealing a card of lace from a shop located in Bath. Although she bought the black lace, she possessed the white lace she did not purchase. Claiming it was a mistake, she was charged with grand theft anyway. JOHNSON (2005: 66) Two hundred crimes were considered as capital crimes in the 18th century, and the grand theft was one of them. If the jury had found her guilty, she would have been transported to Botany Bay for fourteen years. She had to wait seven months at the prison-keeper's house for the trial. Fortunately, she was pleaded not guilty (HANNON 2007: 97-99).

7.3 Reception

Whereas *Mr Darcy's Daughters* did not receive many positive reviews, *Death Comes to Pemberley* was much more successful and positively evaluated. According to Publishers Weekly, it is “*a pleasing and agreeable sequel [...] Historical mystery buffs and Jane Austen fans alike will welcome this homage*” (*Death Comes to Pemberley* [online]). Not only did P. D. James come up with the original story that captures the readers' attention, she also manages to retain basic features of Jane Austen's characters the same. Melvyn Bragg appreciates “*James's sensibility at work on the character of Jane Austen*” (JAMES 2013). John HARDING for Daily Mail [online] depicts P. D. James's assets to writing inspired by Jane Austen: “*James produces a winning pastiche of Austen, preserving the integrity of the original characters, while introducing a new, lower, social layer too. She shares Austen's wicked sense of humour*”.

Nevertheless, some reproofs can be found, for instance, Kirkus Reviews states that most of the developments are pedestrian and “*the murder story allows only flashes of Austenian wit, and Lizzy is sadly eclipsed by Darcy*” (*Death Comes to Pemberley* [online]). In the Author's Note P. D. James apologizes for involving Elizabeth in the trauma of a murder and states that Jane Austen would have written the detective story much more better than James herself (JAMES 2013: xi).

7.4 BBC *Death Comes to Pemberley*

In December 2013, BBC One released an adaptation of James's homage to *Pride and Prejudice*. *Death Comes to Pemberley*, starring Matthew Rhys as Mr Darcy and Anna Maxwell Martin as Elizabeth, is divided into three sixty-minute episodes (IMDb [online]).

Reviewing the novel, John HARDING [online] lacks the character of Mrs Bennet. While she is only mentioned in the novel, she appears together with Mr Bennet in the TV series as the side characters. Thanks to scriptwriter Juliette Towhidi and P. D. James who participated on the script as well, the adaptation captures Jane Austen's characters even more convincingly and believable. Like in *Pride and Prejudice*, where Mrs Bennet compared Longbourn society to the London one, she did not learn her lesson and compares Longbourn and its household difficulties to Pemberley. Together with Lydia, they create a satiric duo and amusing element of the TV series. The great example is the interrogation of Lydia and Mrs Bennet by Mr Hardcastle. He asks Lydia, if she knows any reason why Wickham and Denny might have been angry with one another (*Death Comes to Pemberley* [film]).

L: *I have often wondered, well - if Captain Denny was secretly in love with me. It would make Wickham so cross!*

B: *Lydia's always looked just like I did as a girl!*

H: *Did Captain Denny ever declare himself?*

L: *Of course not!*

H: *Do you ever receive any indications of interest from him? Looks? Sighs?*

L: *No, he always treated me with the greatest indifference, and avoided me at every possible chance. There you have it! It's a sign, surely? Of his inner torment!*

B: *Men know so little of their own sex!*

(L = Lydia, B = Mrs Bennet, H = Hardcastle)

The conversation proves that Mrs Bennet and Lydia are much alike not only with their appearances but also with their minds. In the novel, they do not have almost any direct speech, which the adaptation compensates and enables their silly characters to become even more apparent and amusing for the viewers. Lydia is so self-important that she

cannot see that Denny probably avoided her for a different reason than because of his secret love for her.

Elizabeth Darcy is also more developed in the adaptation. A viewer recognizes her accurate observations and sarcastic comments which are typical for Elizabeth and are not so frequent in the novel by P. D. James. Comparing the adaptation to the novel, the adaptation is much more darker, mysterious and dramatic than the novel, where the story passes and the reader is not so worry about Wickham's fate like in the TV series where he is saved by Elizabeth immediately before he is hanged.

Maureen RYAN [online] states that the adaptation "*is for people who enjoy solid Jane Austen (and Austen-adjacent) adaptations and other fare of that kind*" (*Jane Austen Lovers Unite* [online]). Owing to Jane Austen's humour, which can be observed in the characters and great performance of the actors, it is a successful sequel to *Pride and Prejudice*.

8 Conclusion

The aim of the thesis was to compare the plot, the characters, and the setting of *Pride and Prejudice* with *Mr Darcy's Daughters* and *Death Comes to Pemberley*, and to analyse them. The selected novels have two different approaches to the original text. While the first one is based on the new characters but has clear references to the original novel, *Death Comes to Pemberley* is based on the same characters which are developed in a different story.

Elizabeth Aston, a writer born in England, admired Jane Austen so much that she decided to study her life and writings, and even to follow her successful novel, *Pride and Prejudice*, and write her own sequel. Since the main and side characters are mainly new, their development cannot be compared with the characters from the original novel. However, there can be found many resemblances between the original and the new ones. Having the same appearance and nature, Camilla Darcy is clearly based on Elizabeth Bennet. She is the leading character of the novel, just as Elizabeth is. The personalities of other Darcy sisters do not correspond to the characters of the sisters from the original novel, even though some similarities can be found. Georgina and Belle are much like Lydia, irresponsible and wild. Unfortunately, except Camilla and Alethea, the sisters are not likeable characters.

Practically minded Sir Sydney partly reminds Mr Collins who was looking for a wife from practical reasons. However, thanks to his charming behaviour, he reminds Mr Wickham as well. The original characters appear in *Mr Darcy's Daughters* too. Caroline Bingley does not play any important role but her character remains the same as in *Pride and Prejudice*. The only original character which is changed the most is Colonel Fitzwilliam who was an entertaining companion in the original novel while in *Mr Darcy's Daughters* he changed into a narrow-minded, rather unlikeable person. Overall, the characters are not developed and remain the same in the whole story as they are described at the beginning of the novel. Nevertheless, the relationship between Camilla and Mr Wytton as well as their opinions of each other are changing during the story

from indifference to love which is the most noticeable development. Their changing affections for each other resemble the relationship of Elizabeth and Mr Darcy.

The plot of *Mr Darcy's Daughters* is much more complicated, even fussy, as some reviews suggest. Nevertheless, the inspiration of *Pride and Prejudice* can be observed: Mr and Mrs Darcy also have five daughters, two eldest at the forefront of the story. This structure is the same in the original novel. Because of the lack of supervision by Mr and Mrs Darcy, their daughters are involved in many scandals. The motif of elopement is not absent as well. It is common in the both novels. While Mr Gardiner and Mr Darcy found Lydia and save her from becoming a fallen woman in *Pride and Prejudice*, it is Mr Gardiner again and Mr Wytton who are looking for Georgina in order to save her from a scandal. The setting differs in the novels. *Pride and Prejudice* was set in the countryside while the book *Mr Darcy's Daughters* is set in London. Elizabeth Aston also included the real historical facts such as the famous London club Almack's which determined the style in the city.

P. D. James is a famous English crime writer. Many of her mystery novels have been adapted for television, including *Death Comes to Pemberley*. The novel brings a completely new plot, which emphasises the contrast between the calm and happy life at Pemberley and the nastiness of the murder. Even in such settings, the characters maintain their personalities from *Pride and Prejudice*. Although matured, Elizabeth is still a woman with great observation skills. Lydia has not changed at all, she is wild and uncontrollable like in the original novel. The same can be said about Wickham, whose behaviour to women is unchanged. The highlight of the novel is the letter from Lady Catherine de Bourgh and Charlotte's dealings with her husband Mr Collins which resemble Jane Austen's style and description of the characters the most. Lady Catherine de Bourgh and Mr Collins have utterly the same behaviour like in the original novel. Lydia and Mr Wickham did not change as well, although there is an implication that Mr Wickham has a chance to change himself after all and start a new life with Lydia in the New World. In general, the main characters are older, and so more matured than in *Pride and Prejudice*. However, they maintain their personalities created by Jane Austen.

Thanks to James's working experiences in the police department, she was familiar with the police work. She did her research about the trials at the end of the 18th century, and so the setting corresponds with the reality.

Altogether, the novel *Mr Darcy's Daughters* is more readable and gripping thanks to its vivid dialogues and the varied plot. On the other hand it is more a fan fiction than a real homage to Jane Austen's work because of the plot which is too complicated, tangled and not very believable owing to too many elopements and misunderstandings. The exceptionality of *Death Comes to Pemberley* is the precise depiction of Jane Austen's characters. Although it is readable as well, it is not as thrilling as it could have been. There are many flashbacks describing the plot of *Pride and Prejudice* and the inner thoughts at the detriment of dialogues which could have captured the reader's attention to a larger extent. Its adaptation is actually even more accurate than the book itself. That is just because of the brilliant dialogues.

The main contribution of the thesis is the analysis of the selected novels which have not been analysed yet. The thesis provides a reader with the information about the characters, the plot and the setting which is compared to *Pride and Prejudice* and Jane Austen's biography. Numbers of biographies and researchers on Jane Austen and her novels have been published and there is no doubt about her great influence on other writer's work. The originality of the thesis is grounded in the new analysis of the novels by different writers who found the inspiration in her work even after such a long time.

9 Bibliography

Printed Sources

ALLEN, Louise. *Walking Jane Austen's London*. Long Island City, N.Y: Shire Publications, 2013. ISBN 978-0-74781-295-1.

ASTON, Elizabeth. *Mr Darcy's Daughters*. New York: Touchstone, 2003. ISBN 978-0-7432-4397-1.

AUSTEN, Jane. *Pride and prejudice*. Hyderabad: Orient Longman Private Limited, 2002. ISBN 81-250-1696-1.

AUSTEN, Jane. *Pride and prejudice*. New York: Penguin Books, 2003. ISBN 987-0-14-143951-8.

AUSTEN, Jane. *Pride and Prejudice*. New York: W. W. Norton and Company, 2016. ISBN 9780393920673.

AUSTEN LEIGH, James Edward. *A Memoir of Jane Austen*. London: Richard Bentley and son, 1871.

DOW, Gillian – HANSON, Clare. *Uses of Austen Janes afterlives*. Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012. ISBN 9781137271747.

HANNON, Patrice. *101 Things You Didn't Know About Jane Austen the Truth About the World's Most Intriguing Romantic Literary Heroine*. Cincinnati: F+W Media, 2010. ISBN 978-144-0517-129.

JAMES, P. D. *Death Comes to Pemberley*. London: Faber and Faber, 2013. ISBN 978-0-571-31117-0.

JOHNSON, Paul – VANDERBECK, Robert M. *Law, religion and homosexuality*. New York: A Glass House Book, 2014. ISBN 9780415832687.

JOHNSON, Terry. *Legal Rights*. New York: Facts On File, c2005. ISBN 978-0-8160-5665-1.

JONES, Hazel. *Jane Austen and Marriage*. New York: Continuum, 2009. ISBN 978-1-84725-218-0.

LEFROY, Helen. *Jane Austen*. Stroud: History Press, 2009. ISBN 978-0-7524-5318-7.

LUCAS, Victor. *Jane Austen*. Andover: Pitlin, 2009. ISBN 978-0-85372-780-4.

MALETZKE, Elsemarie. *Jane Austenová: životopis*. Praha: H&H, 2009. ISBN 978-80-7319-081-1.

NIELSEN, Erica M. *Folk dancing*. Santa Barbara: Greenwood, 2010. ISBN 978-0-313-37688-7.

POPLAWSKI, Paul. *A Jane Austen encyclopedia*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1998. ISBN: 0-313-30017-8.

SELWYN, David. *Jane Austen and Children*. New York: Continuum, 2010. ISBN 978-1847-25041-4.

SMITH, Ben. *Jane Austen's Homecoming Chawton 1809*. Trail Publishing.

TEACHMAN, Debra. *Understanding Pride and prejudice: a student casebook to issues, sources, and historical documents*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1997. ISBN 0-313-30126-3.

TIMBS, John. *Clubs and club life in London: with anecdotes of its famous coffee-houses, hostelries, and taverns: from seventeenth century to the present time*. London: Chatto and Windus, 1872.

TODD, Janet M. *Jane Austen in Context*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005. ISBN 0-521-82644-6.

TODD, Janet M. *Mary Wollstonecraft: A Revolutionary Life*. Bloomsbury Reader, 2014.

TOMALIN, Claire. *Jane Austen: a life*. Reissued ed. Penguin, 2012. ISBN 978-0-24-196327-2.

WHITTON, Hana. *Toulky literární Anglií*. Praha: XYZ, 2014. ISBN 978-80-7388-886-2.

Electronic Sources

BLOY, Marjorie. *Dorothea Benckendorff, Princess Lieven* [online]. 12 January 2016 [cit. 2017-02-24].

URL: <<http://www.historyhome.co.uk/people/lieven.htm>>.

BROCKES, Emma. *Murder, she wrote* [online]. The Guardian, 3 March 2001 [cit. 2017-03-15].

URL: <<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2001/mar/03/crime.pdjames>>.

CONNOR, Steve. *There's nothing wrong with cousins getting married, scientists say* [online]. The Independent, 24 December 2008 [cit. 2017-03-07].

URL: <<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/theres-nothing-wrong-with-cousins-getting-married-scientists-say-1210072.html>>.

Death Comes to Pemberley [online]. IMDb, 2013 [2017-03-07].

URL: <<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt2951788/>>.

Death Comes to Pemberley [film]. Direction Daniel PERCIVAL. The United Kingdom, 2013.

Death Comes to Pemberley [online]. Kirkus Review, 15 December 2011 [cit. 2017-03-07].

URL: <<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/pd-james/death-comes-pemberley/>>.

Death Comes to Pemberley [online]. Penguin Random House, 2013 [cit. 2017-03-07].

URL: <<http://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/218988/death-comes-to-pemberley-by-pd-james/9780307950659/>>.

Discover Author Elizabeth Aston [online]. Harper Collins Publishers, [cit. 2017-03-15].

URL: <<https://www.harpercollins.co.uk/cr-101788/elizabeth-aston>>.

Elizabeth Aston [online]. Simon and Schuster, [cit. 2017-02-24].

URL: <<http://www.simonandschuster.com/authors/Elizabeth-Aston/18991665/books>>.

HARDING, John. *Death Comes to Pemberley* [online]. Mail Online, 17 November 2011 [cit. 2017-03-07].

URL: <<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/books/article-2062709/P-D-James-DEATH-COMES-TO-PEMBERLEY.html>>.

Jane Austen Collection [online]. Goucher College Library, 8 December 2015 [cit. 2017-04-02]

URL: <<http://libraryguides.goucher.edu/c.php?g=242484&p=1612598>>.

KOZACZKA, Edward. *Queer Temporality, Spatiality, and Memory in Jane Austen's Persuasion* [online]. 2009 [cit. 2017-02-24].

URL: <<http://www.jasna.org/persuasions/on-line/vol30no1/kozaczka.html#2>>.

LAYCOCK, Mike. *Founder of York holiday orchestra dies* [online]. The Press, 27 January 2016 [cit. 2017-03-15].

URL:

<http://www.yorkpress.co.uk/news/14232776.Founder_of_York_holiday_orchestra_dies/>.

McCABE, Linda C. *Q&A with Author Elizabeth Aston and a Contest* [online]. 11 April 2010 [cit. 2017-03-15].

URL: <<http://lcmccabe.blogspot.cz/2010/04/q-with-author-elizabeth-aston-and.html>>.

MEGAN. *1st Blogoversary: Interview with Elizabeth Aston & Giveaway!* [online]. Isle of Books, 21 February 2012 [cit. 2017-03-15].

URL: <http://isleofbooks.blogspot.cz/2012/02/1st-blogoversary-interview-with_20.html>.

Mr Darcy's Daughters [online]. Simon and Schuster, [cit. 2017-02-24].

URL: <<http://www.simonandschuster.com/books/Mr-Darcys-Daughters/Elizabeth-Aston/9780743243971>>.

Mr Darcy's Daughters [online]. Publishers Weekly, May 2003 [cit. 2017-02-24].

URL: <<http://www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-7432-4397-1>>.

PD James, crime novelist, dies aged 94 [online]. BBC News, 27 November 2014 [cit. 2017-03-15].

URL: <<http://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-30232569>>.

P. D. James Biography [online]. Biography, 13 April 2016 [cit. 2017-03-15].

URL: <<http://www.biography.com/people/pd-james-21104607>>.

P. D. James [online]. Simon and Schuster, [cit. 2017-03-15].

URL: <<http://www.simonandschuster.com/authors/P-D-James/16286182>>.

ROMANO, Aja. *Fic Rec Wednesday: We love you, Jane Austen* [online]. 11 December 2015 [cit. 2017-02-24].

URL: <<http://www.dailydot.com/upstream/fic-rec-wednesday-we-love-you-jane-austen/>>.

RUNCIE, Charlotte. *Could Mr Darcy afford a stately home today?* [online]. 29 August 2014 [cit. 2017-02-24].

URL: <<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/books/11063670/Could-Mr-Darcy-afford-a-stately-home-today.html>>.

RYAN, Maureen. *Jane Austen Lovers Unite: A Fine Cast Brings 'Death Comes To Pemberley' To Life* [online]. The Huffington Post, 24 October 2014 [cit. 2017-03-07].
URL: <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/10/24/jane-austen-death-comes-to-pemberley_n_6042424.html>.

ZACAROLI, Mary. *Doomed generation in the run-up to war* [online]. The Oxford Times, 24 March 2006 [cit. 2017-15-03].
URL:<http://www.oxfordtimes.co.uk/leisure/books/715004.Doomed_generation_in_the_run_up_to_war/>.