

**Reviewer: Anonymous**

**School: Valencia High**

**Grade: Sophomore**

**Book Title: Pride and Prejudice**

**Book Author: Jane Austen**

**Rate 1-5 (1-Lowest to 5-Highest): 4.5/5**

*Pride and Prejudice* tells the story of Elizabeth Bennet and her sisters as they struggle to marry in the early 19th century. Not coming from a particularly wealthy family, Mrs. Bennet pressures her five daughters to find a husband, especially her stubborn Elizabeth and attractive Jane, the two eldest daughters. Fortunately, two new opportunities arise when Mr. Bingley and Mr. Darcy, both single and in possession of much wealth, arrive in town. Mr. Bingley being an amiable person, quickly becomes of Jane's interest and vice versa. Meanwhile, Mr. Darcy is taciturn in social situations and can be considered arrogant amongst any bystander. With Mr. Darcy's pride and Elizabeth's prejudiced outlook, their encounter is shockingly not very agreeable. There are nuances in both Elizabeth and Darcy's perspectives that surface overtime to a most intriguing development in character and an ending that was much hoped for.

Personally, I was enamored by this book. I enjoyed witnessing such a strong-willed and outspoken female protagonist, which was surprising for a book that was written in a time of prominent sexism. I adored how Elizabeth spoke to men of a higher class intrepidly and would not settle for a marriage without love, despite her financial situation and pressure. One thing I disliked about Elizabeth were her assumptions about some characters that inevitably led her to being wrong and ashamed of. Elizabeth's inability to put herself into someone else's shoes caused me anger at times as well.

I would recommend this book because it expresses a brilliant moral. One must not be too judgmental or prideful towards another. I would not recommend this book to just one group of people because at so many different levels it can be interpreted and something can always be learned from it. Moreover, aspects of *Pride and Prejudice* are still prevalent today. People are still put into social situations and create friendships with a mentality built on the same foundation as Elizabeth, making crass decisions on little or one-sided information. Jane Austen's writing is incredibly authentic and there is a reason why *Pride and Prejudice* has been so popular for ages.