

## Austen's humour: chapters 13-24

Read through the following quotations from the novel and decide who is 'speaking'; what is being discussed; what, if anything, we learn about the speaker; where the humour comes from:

### Chapter 13:

He begged pardon for having displeased her. In a softened tone she declared herself not at all offended; but he continued to apologise for about a quarter of an hour.

### Chapter 14:

... and had once paid him a visit in his humble parsonage; where she had perfectly approved all the alterations he had been making, and had even vouchsafed to suggest some herself, - some shelves in the closets up stairs.

### Chapter 15:

Mr Collins had only to change from Jane to Elizabeth – and it was soon done – done while Mrs Bennet was stirring the fire.

### Chapter 18:

'It is particularly incumbent on those who never change their opinion, to be secure of judging properly at first.'

### Chapter 19:

'Almost as soon as I entered the house I singled you out as the companion of my future life.'

### Chapter 20:

'An unhappy alternative is before you, Elizabeth. From this day you must be a stranger to one of your parents. – Your mother will never see you again if you do *not* marry Mr Collins, and I will never see you again if you *do*.

### Chapter 22:

Miss Lucas perceived him from an upper window as he walked towards the house, and instantly set out to meet him accidentally in the lane.

### Chapter 23:

The promised letter of thanks from Mr Collins arrived on Tuesday, addressed to their father, and written with all the solemnity of gratitude which a twelvemonth's abode in the family might have prompted.

### Chapter 24:

'Next to being married, a girl likes to be crossed in love a little now and then. It is something to think of, and gives her a sort of distinction among her companions. When is your turn to come? ... it is a comfort to think that, whatever of that kind may befall you, you have an affectionate mother who will always make the most of it.'