



# The Women of Pemberley

*Rebecca Ann Collins*

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## **The Women of Pemberley** Rebecca Ann Collins

The Women of Pemberley follows the lives of five women, some from the beloved works of Jane Austen, some new from the author's imagination, into a new era of post industrial revolution England at the start of the Victorian Age. Vast changes are in motion, as they were throughout this dynamic century.

The women, like many of Jane Austen's heroines, are strong, intelligent individuals and the depth and variety of the original characters develop into a series of episodes linked together by their relationship to each other and to Pemberley, which is the heart of their community.

The central themes of love, friendship, marriage and a sense of social obligation remain as do the great political and social issues of the age.

## **The Women of Pemberley Details**

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Author : Rebecca Ann Collins

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## **From Reader Review The Women of Pemberley for online ebook**

### **Becca Jane says**

I would not have purchased this book after reading the first, however I bought the books at the same time so I didn't know I would be wasting my money. Since I already own the book I decided to go ahead and read it. It was more of the same, "Oh Darcy if it wasn't for my Aunt and Uncle Gardiner taking me along on Holiday we may never have married!" This book was the same as the other, only it tells in more detail about a different female character with each chapter. The book does reference a lot of what was happening politically in England at the time.

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### **Shannon says**

This is still a very well-written series, probably one of the best Jane Austen ones I've come across so far. The reasons I liked it less were because it's increasingly about the next generation who just don't hold my interest as well and because I find it hard to believe that anyone can be that good and knowledgeable about the best course of action to take. It's obvious that the writer is making them model citizens who take the best course since, of course, she knows history. It's still a very interesting read, especially for the history of change in England.

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### **bookyeti says**

Yet another wonderful work by Ms. Collins. The story continues on, from her first masterpiece, The Pemberley Chronicles, as we read yet more about our favorite characters' changing lives.

Collins, in her own unique style, weaves a convincing tale of Pemberley's families and friends, as the years roll by.

Keeping to the theme of Austen's Pride and Prejudice novel, subtle humour and romance are the order of the day -- but also great detail is placed on the political and social aspects of the time. The Women of Pemberley certainly leaves one hoping for another novel from our talented Ms. Collins.

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### **Christina says**

I bought this the same time as Pemberley Chronicles. After trudging through that tedious book, I was ever so reluctant to open the second in the series. I regret that I have had it for over a month and have made it less than half way through. This is a failing indeed, as I am a voracious reader who tends to read a book through in one sitting. Again this novel is strongly set in a political vent, with the Darcy's intermixing with the lower circles more and more. The families all seem to marry within the local families and the entire social sphere seems askew. To enjoy this, one must really buy into the idea that Fitzwilliam Darcy would support The Reformists. In addition, the time-line and the characters are frustrating to keep straight because 1) the names are similar if not the same as other characters, and maybe most damning, 2) the author doesn't write them

well enough for the reader to care to know them. It was almost as if I needed a family tree to guide me through each chapter to be reminded of who this character is, and how do they relate to the others. I really hoped this to be a better book than Pemberley Chronicles, because it would give hope for the rest of her series, but I cannot in good conscience recommend this for purchase. It's not the worst I've read but there are many others out there that are by far better (like Mr. Darcy Presents His Bride.) Eventually I will finish this, as a matter of principle, but at present, I'm in no rush.

\* I eventually finished this after posting that review above on Amazon. I did not improve.

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## **Destiny says**

I really enjoyed this book. I liked how the chapters were divided up between five of the women characters. I liked reading about all five of the women: Emma, Emily, Cassandra, Isabella and Josie. My only complaint is that sometimes the chapters weren't focused on the character they were named after. I enjoyed them anyway, but in the case of Cassy's chapter, it didn't seem to be about her at all. Also why are the Wickham always dog-piled on? I know the parents made mistakes, but couldn't they have turned out to be good parents? Apparently in this version, they couldn't. Still I will be reading the rest of the books in the series.

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## **Sherry says**

Bk two of series, has five stories of five of the P&P characters' offspring.

Emma - daughter of Jane Bennet and Charles Bingley, unhappily married to the ambitious, jealous and domineering Mr. David Wilson, a member of Parliament. His older brother James, a lawyer, looks after Emma and her two young daughters, Victoria and Stephanie.

Emily Gardiner, widow of young Frenchman, Paul Antoine, married to James Courtney, theological scholar at Pemberley, now rector at Kympton. Children: Elizabeth, William and Jessica. Greatly involved in library, hospital village school. Brother Robert back from Ceylon, is attracted to Rose Fitzwilliam.

Cassandra - Darcy and Elizabeth Bennet's daughter married to Dr. Richard Gardiner, son of Elizabeth's aunt and uncle Gardiner.

Isabella - daughter of Darcy's cousin Colonel Fitzwilliam and his wife Caroline Gardiner, Elizabeth's cousin. Eldest of their four children, David, Amy and James.

Josie Tate, daughter of Newspaper magnate Anthony Tate and Rebecca Collins, aspires to be a serious writer, not a novelist. Her serious, non-flirtatious demeanor attracts the eye of Pemberley heir Julian Darcy.

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## **Jess Swann says**

Pffff quel ennui, mais quel ennui... Déjà, il y a tellement de personnages (entre les enfants des héros, les



## **Melissa says**

Characters are consistent and developed. I don't know if it's my state of mind right now or not, but I found books 1 and 2 to be slow, so I'm not going to finish the series.

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## **Roxanne says**

Fantastic! Just as engrossing and as enjoyable as the first book in the series (The Pemberley Chronicles.) Ms. Collins weaves such an incredible story, using Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice" as her sound building block. Her continuation of everyone's lives and their stories is magnificent. Truth be told, I found myself laughing, gasping in shock, and cheering at several different times while reading. I truly cannot say enough wonderful things about this book, the series, or of Ms. Collins herself.

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## **Kay says**

Enjoyable.

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## **Beth says**

### **Great retelling of the English history**

The widows or widowers weren't legally allowed to marry their in laws until in 1907 the law was changed. SO, David's widow couldn't marry his brother. The Church of England was absolutely against it,( remembering that the Pope had to give special permission for Henry VIII to marry his brother's widow and the disaster that brought.)

Otherwise its a great story of the history of England during those times with the bonus of the addition of human responses to the events.

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## **Tina says**

The Women of Pemberley by Rebecca Ann Collins

This second book in a series of Pride and Prejudice sequels by Rebecca Ann Collins follows the lives of five women of Pemberley, all descendants of the original Jane Austen characters. Each of the five chapters is a story in itself, devoted to the life of one of these strong, independent and "accomplished" female characters in her search for fulfillment through career, love and marriage. The men in their lives are every woman's ideal image of a husband, treating them with respect, love, and tenderness. Their husbands keep them safe, support them emotionally as well as physically and are their constant companions. What more could one ask for?

The events occur during a significant period in England's history replete with political and social upheaval -

just after the industrial revolution and at the beginning of the Victorian period. Historical events are masterfully interwoven into the plot as they pertain to the lives of the characters. Strong women such as them make a difference - helping poor Irish immigrants during the potato famine; emulating the efforts of Florence Nightingale during the Crimean war in the emerging hospitals of the period; and, finding their voice in writing like the Brontë sisters.

The common thread is of course Pemberley and the Darcy family. The marriage of Elizabeth and Fitzwilliam Darcy almost seems too good to be true. Despite the death of their second child, William, which they are still coping with, they remain as much in love as ever, dedicated not only to each other but to the entire community of Pemberley. Their hospitable nature, common sense and humanitarian outlook are the ultimate model for their family and their acquaintances. They are held in the highest esteem by everyone. Indeed, the "shades of Pemberley" are not only unpolluted but enhanced by the love surrounding Elizabeth and Darcy.

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### **Brittany says**

Good lord, what a mixed up family tree - cousins marrying second cousins, granddaughters marrying sons. I also have to agree with another review that the whole family seems to be very forward thinking, which I find unusually. Certainly, my circle of friends is forward thinking as well, but not every single person I'm friends with. I have plenty of people I'm friends with who don't share my opinions. That being said, I felt that Rebecca's reaction to an aspect Josie's story was completely out of character and much more how Mrs. Bennet would have reacted to something similar.

They had it split into chapters based on different people, but I sometimes felt, especially with Emily's chapter, there wasn't a whole lot about her. She just happened to be on the fringe of the story, but we didn't actually know the woman who the story was really about.

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### **Bron says**

Every time I try reading a Jane Austen follow on story I try so hard to be open, but the reading styles never seem right. In this case each sentence felt stilted, and in my head I sounded like someone learning to read. The story couldn't flow very well because the writing was all wrong!! I read through 1/3rd of the book, because I was a little interested in what would happen, but when I found the story wrapped up and someone else's story was just beginning, I gave up.

Although I didn't think it right that a book following on from Jane Austen's work should have so much political and current content present, I did love reading about the potato famine, I was surprised that anyone in England had even been aware that it was occurring!

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