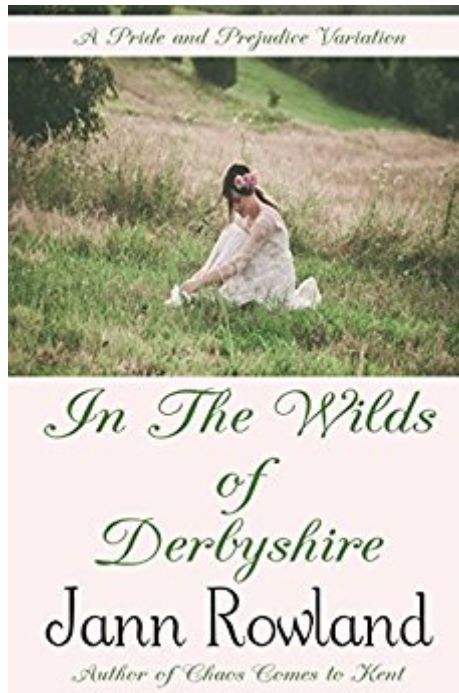




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In The Wilds Of Derbyshire



Synopsis

Rejected by a sister who has allowed her new status as wife to Mr. Bingley to make her proud, Elizabeth Bennet goes to her uncle's estate in Derbyshire, ostensibly to assist her cousin in her introduction to society. In reality, Elizabeth feels there is nothing left for her in the neighborhood of her birth. Her uncle's estate is small, and Elizabeth must work while there, and though she finds her tasks easy to bear. She quickly becomes close to her young cousin and uncle, though her aunt is a hard, demanding woman, who seems to hold a grudge against Elizabeth. But she also meets many friends, including the daughter of an earl, and the handsome friend of her sister Jane's new husband, a Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy. As Elizabeth is slowly pulled from her melancholy, new vistas open up to her, and she realizes that she can still have everything she has ever wished to have. But the jealousy of a woman who is no friend of her courtship with a wealthy man threatens her newfound happiness, and the coming of a sister who rejected her has the potential to once again disrupt Elizabeth's life and destroy her future.

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Customer Reviews

Yes, I stayed up all night reading this wonderful love story and it was well worth it! Unlike many of the JAFF stories being published lately, this author gift his readers with a well developed story with real substance. We could not help but care about all the characters (new and old) that this author took the time to masterly develop. I am so tired of reading stories that quite frankly are merely outlines or shells of what potentially could be very good stories; can't help but wonder whether churning out a story is more important than being a true storyteller for these writers. My only wish is for these writers to look to Jann Rowland for how a story should really be told.

Although low on angst the suspense and tension will be the page turner in this novel. I could not put it down. A lot of interaction between ODC and wandering far from Canon is other positives. To gain the 5th star from me it needed more romance. Jane's advantageous marriage has gone to her head and a downcast Elizabeth accept an invitation from relatives in Derbyshire. She is to mentor her cousins come out. She makes friends including the Darcys and an attraction is soon evident between ODC. The relationship develops in a lovely, slow and believable pace but jealousy is threatening their happiness from more than one lady. When the Bingleys come to visit Pemberley their problems are far from over. Jane is distant and aloof, Caroline is as vile as ever. I actually started begging for her comeuppance in the first couple of chapters and she gets it...Heartily recommend this book!

~*~ Sometimes when you lose your way, you find YOURSELF. ~*~ Mandy Hale, The Single Woman: Life, Love, and a Dash of Sass This was a delightful clean story. It was full of mild angst [compared to some] and loaded with misunderstandings, secrets and blasted hopes. This was an off-canon variation where Darcy didn't make it to Hertfordshire in order to help Bingley with his lease of Netherfield. In the course of time, Bingley married Jane and when they returned from their wedding tour and sojourn in London, Jane was a different person and virtually snubbed her family. ~*~ Like music and art, love of nature is a common language that can transcend political or social boundaries. ~*~ Jimmy Carter After Lizzy refused Collins, he married another [but not who you think]. Her father received a request from their relations in the north, asking if Lizzy could come and mentor her younger cousin in preparation for her come-out in society. Their estate just happened to be located next to Pemberley and that is where she met Mr. Darcy. No assembly, no crowd, no insult ~*~ just meeting on neutral ground and the foundation was laid for their relationship. This was a slow-paced story that was so refreshing after reading angst riddled stories. I loved the interaction of our dear couple. This was chaste and fun to watch them interact and fight

their feelings. I thought it was a little slow getting there, but liked their banter. They were perfect together. Caroline Bingley was a pistol fully loaded and ready to fire at will [or at Elizabeth]. She was unwilling to leave off when told to leave off. Fools rush in where angels fear to tread. She dug a hole so deep even she couldn't get out of it. Yeah, she was evil and whispered lies and poison into the ear of someone very close to our dear Lizzy. It was a showdown we have wanted for a long time. I was not disappointed. Georgiana was delightful as was the younger cousin Olivia. Our dear Colonel played a big part in D&E getting together. Lizzy made many friends and wouldn't you know it she still ran into those Caroline Bingley types even in Derbyshire. Dang! did they clone Caro or something? How many duplicates of her are there? There were a few errors fiancé instead of fiancée, a few confusing sentence structures, I had to back track and reread several times to clarify.

The premise of this P&P variation is that Elizabeth feels she has no future in Hertfordshire as Mr Collins, though married to Mary Bennet, has promised she will not be welcome at Longbourn once Mr Bennet dies and he becomes master and Jane, returning from her wedding trip with Mr Bingley, has completely changed so she feels unwelcome in that house also. Where to go? To her father's sister who also refuses to welcome her! But she has been invited by her uncle, a neighbor of Mr Darcy, to help her young cousin learn how a lady conducts herself in society and to Derbyshire she goes. There is plenty of suspense, especially wondering what has provoked Jane to behave in such a manner and will their relationship be restored? Also, every single lady in the area wants Darcy to be their husband so how will they accept this interloper who has caught his eye? But none of the angst is between Darcy and Elizabeth. The relationship between the two of them moves steadily forward, very unlike canon. All in all Mr Rowland spins a beautiful yarn. His descriptions of the wilds of Derbyshire help transport you to the idyllic place and you don't want to leave either. Enjoy!

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