

## Short Research Article

# The Art of Language—Re-read of *Pride and Prejudice*

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### **Abstract**

*Pride and Prejudice*, a masterpiece by the famous British female writer Jane Austen in the 19th century, is also Jane Austen's earliest novel, which took a year to complete. In *Pride and Prejudice*, Jane Austen successfully created a new era of women-Elizabeth, starting with the arrogance and prejudice of the hero Darcy and the heroine Elizabeth. After several twists and turns, the hero and heroine finally became a beautiful couple. The Jane Austen was different from the British popular literary language creation model at the time. She was bold and innovative, using female delicate thinking, exaggerated irony, simple, lively and vivid yet charming literary language, and created a book about A masterpiece of life and marriage thinking. Therefore, this article will discuss *Pride and Prejudice* from the perspective of literary language, and at the same time help readers better understand the connotation and internal meaning.

### **Keywords**

*Pride and Prejudice*, Language, Art

### **1. Introduction**

*Pride and Prejudice*, the representative work of the famous British writer Jane Austen, is also a great realistic work that shows the rise of the female spirit. The Jane Austen was born in Hampshire, England. There are 8 siblings in her family. Her father is a local pastor and his mother comes from a wealthy family. A good family environment has paved the way for Jane Austen's cultural literacy. Jane Austen began writing at the age of thirteen or fourteen. In 1796, the 21-year-old Jane Austen wrote her first novel *Initial Impression*, which was later renamed *Pride and Prejudice*. Jane Austen fell in love with a lawyer when she was young, but because the lawyer was born in poverty, Jane Austen's father refused to stay together. For this reason, the two lovers broke up. This unending relationship made Jane Austen very Sad and even chose not to marry for life, putting all energy and emotions in her writing. In Jane Austen's works, readers can see her thoughts on marriage about two people should be free, equal,

respectful, and tolerant in marriage, which is by no means a traditional marriage concept. *Pride and Prejudice* tells about the Bennet family living in rural England. Mr. Bennet has 5 unmarried daughters. Among them, the second daughter Elizabeth is smart and savvy, yearning for freedom, pursuing equality and personality independence. Elizabeth is also the Heroine of the book. Starting from the love story of Bennet's five daughters, this article indirectly expresses the position of the British conceptions of marriage, family, love and happiness through different views on love. In the love and marriage story of the 5 daughters, the love and marriage story of Elizabeth and Darcy is the main theme of the whole work. The two protagonists first met in the arrogant attitude and prejudice towards both sides; as the plot unfolds, the understanding of the hero and heroine deepens, and the original arrogance and prejudice of the two parties are gradually eliminated, and the two begin to fall in love. The Jane Austen uses delicate, vivid, humorous and humorous language to shape the characters and scenes, and the language of the work is quite artistic, which adds a certain attraction to the work. The following author will analyze the unique literary language and art of *Pride and Prejudice*.

## **2. Language Arts Analysis**

### *2.1 Humorous Language Art*

The definition of humor is an artistically processed language form that is artistic language. Humor is different from funny. It has a deeper meaning and a more meaningful meaning than funny. Funny is to make everyone laugh for jokes. But humor has a higher purpose. It has a certain ideological nature. Humor is a noble taste. The cohesion of the artistic language of wisdom and humorous language can move people's hearts, be close to readers, and help readers release their inner tension and pressure.

*Pride and Prejudice* is highly humorous and also incorporates the British style of humor that was popular at the time. For example, Mr. Collins is a mediocre, flattering and flattering man who succeeds in becoming a priest by virtue of his power. For Elizabeth's father Bennet's property (special rule: Mr. Bennet can only give each daughter a dowry of 5,000 pounds), Mr. Collins hopes to obtain the inheritance of Mr. Bennet's property through marriage; but Elizabeth is right Mr. Collins did not have any good feelings and resolutely rejected Mr. Collins. Elizabeth (Elizabeth) said to Mr. Collins: "You could not make me happy, and I am convinced that I am the last woman in the world who makes you so". However, Mr. Collins did not feel sad. Instead, he married Elizabeth's friend Charlotte. This extremely absurd storyline directly satirized people like Mr. Collins in a humorous manner, making everyone clear about the reverse image of Mr. Collins.

### *2.2 Ironic Language Art*

A major language art of *Pride and Prejudice* is expressed in the art of irony. Throughout the novel, irony art is everywhere. The main reason for this is also related to the social environment Jane Austen was in at the time. The irony was originally an ancient Greek term, which specifically refers to a type of role in ancient Greek drama, and then gradually evolved into an artistic technique; irony now refers to "a clear distortion of a statement by context", which refers to words The change of meaning in the

text, that is, “words are not what is meant”, this kind of ironic art can strengthen the language expression of the novel *Pride and Prejudice*, play a role in attracting readers.

Ironic language is used many times in this novel, such as the universally recognized truth described from the beginning “a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife”. Actually this sentence is applied to the art of irony. The author uses the art of literal irony to make readers know that this truth is absurd. This truth is very recognized by people like Mrs. Bennet, who treats rich bachelors as their own daughters. Property, which was later Mrs. Bennet was anxious to let her husband visit Bingley, and later took her 5 daughters to a series of events such as social evenings. The article is mainly ironic about Mr. Bennet’s wife and Mr. Collins in the book. It also expresses the author’s ridicule of their vulgar behavior, allowing readers to better understand the images and characteristics of the characters, and also expresses the author’s strong dislike of such people.

### *2.3 Drama Language Art*

Dramatic language refers to the dramatic development of the plot at different stages, and is the character formed by the characters themselves in the work. Elizabeth and Darcy are the most typical characters. Mr. Darcy was born in a wealthy family. He was the son of the upper class in the UK. He has a handsome appearance, a tall figure and a lot of wealth. But Mr. Darcy was “arrogant”. Mr. Darcy’s rich family environment and his arrogant personality made him treat Elizabeth with contempt and critical eyes when he first saw her: “She is tolerable, but not handsome enough to tempt me; I am in no humour at present to give consequence to young ladies who are slighted by other men”, Mr. Darcy’s words aroused Elizabeth’s dissatisfaction and disgust. But when Darcy met Elizabeth next time, Mr. Darcy was deeply attracted by Elizabeth’s charm. He proposed to Elizabeth, but Elizabeth refused because of Darcy’s “arrogance”. This surprised Darcy and didn’t think about himself. Will leave such a bad impression on Elizabeth, so Darcy wanted to change his arrogant language and behavior. Darcy made a major change for Elizabeth, and did a lot of things silently, which deeply moved Elizabeth’s heart. In the end, Darcy and Elizabeth got rid of their arrogance and prejudice against each other, and the rich son married this humble girl, and they embarked on a happy life. The Jane Austen uses dramatic artistic language to slowly reveal the destiny development of Elizabeth and Darcy. The combination of Elizabeth and Darcy contrasts with reality, and allows readers to feel the vividness of the characters in the novel.

### **3. Conclusion**

To sum up, this article mainly analyzes the general content of *Pride and Prejudice* and the English language characteristics at the end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century. Jane Austen uses humor and irony on the absurdity and ridiculousness of property, status, and marriage. The artistic technique of drama is written, expressing Jane Austen’s deep thinking about life and the irony of the real world. The art of literary language makes the works of “*Pride and Prejudice*” more interesting, makes the characters more vivid, and makes the plot of the novel more authentic. It has

achieved great success in the literary world, and the work has been popular today.

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