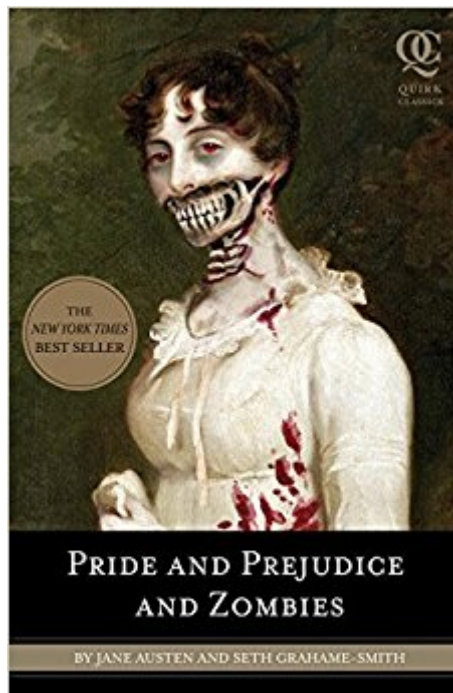




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Pride And Prejudice And Zombies: The Classic Regency Romance - Now With Ultraviolent Zombie Mayhem!



Synopsis

The *New York Times* best seller is now a major motion picture starring Lily James and Sam Riley, with Matt Smith, Charles Dance, and Lena Headey. Complete with romance, heartbreak, swordfights, cannibalism, and thousands of rotting corpses, *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* is an audacious retelling of English literature's most enduring novel. This expanded edition of the beloved Jane Austen novel featuring all-new scenes of bone-crunching zombie mayhem begins when a mysterious plague falls upon the quiet English village of Meryton and the dead are returning to life! Feisty heroine Elizabeth Bennet is determined to wipe out the zombie menace, but she's soon distracted by the arrival of the haughty and arrogant Mr. Darcy. What ensues is a delightful comedy of manners with plenty of civilized sparring between the two young lovers and even more violent sparring on the blood-soaked battlefield. It's the perfect read for literature lovers, zombie fans, and anyone who loves a reanimated Austen.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It's difficult to tell if critics' reactions to *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* should be characterized as praise or astonishment. Some reviewers treated the book as a delightful gimmick. Others found that, beneath the surface, the book actually constituted an interesting way of looking at Austen's novel. *Zombies* answer certain puzzling questions: Why were those troops stationed near Hertfordshire? Why did Charlotte Lucas actually marry Mr. Collins? (She had recently been bitten by zombies and wanted a husband who could be counted on to behead

her (of course!) But critics also pointed out that this parody shows that Austen's novel has remained so powerful over time that even the undead can't spoil it. Copyright 2009 Bookmarks Publishing LLC

This may be the most wacky by-product of the busy Jane Austen fan-fiction industry (at least among the spin-offs and pastiches that have made it into print. In what's described as an "expanded edition" of *Pride and Prejudice*, 85 percent of the original text has been preserved but fused with "ultraviolent zombie mayhem." For more than 50 years, we learn, England has been overrun by zombies, prompting people like the Bennets to send their daughters away to China for training in the art of deadly combat, and prompting others, like Lady Catherine de Bourgh, to employ armies of ninjas. Added to the familiar plot turns that bring Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy together is the fact that both are highly skilled killers, gleefully slaying zombies on the way to their happy ending. Is nothing sacred? Well, no, and mash-ups using literary classics that are freely available on the Web may become a whole new genre. What's next? *Wuthering Heights* and *Werewolves*? --Mary Ellen Quinn

I'm a long time fan of the Jane Austen original and a more recent fan of the film based on this book, and was curious how true the film was to the book. *Zombies* has been on my To Read list a long time and finally my book club picked it, giving me the perfect excuse to move it to the top of the queue. I did the majority of reading in one day. The film makes a departure in the plot revolving around Wickham. Both the book and film are good in their own rights. I enjoyed the book from start to finish and wasn't the least bit disgusted by the zombies, heart eating, or vomit, which made appearances in the story. Lizzy and Jane are the same as ever. I appreciated the improvement of Mary's character. Absolutely loved the proposal scene and Lizzy's fight with Lady Catherine. Wickham's take down at the end in regards to the marriage worked for me. Lydia, is as ever, an idiot. The most interesting liberty was taken in regards to Charlotte's story line. So sad. I'd be happy to read a continuation of this tale. Or other monster renditions of Ms. Austen's books.

Plot Summary: The Bennet sisters are sweet, charming, beautiful killers. Their father took them to China to train with martial arts masters, and now they're helping protect Hertfordshire against the zombie threat that's been plaguing Great Britain for over 50 years. Mrs. Bennet's marriage mania waits for no undead menace however, and she's still wild to get the girls wed and bred. When Mr. Bingley arrives with a cold, haughty warrior named Mr. Darcy, the predictable plot we all know and

love ensues. Lizzie is vivacious and vicious, and she's become one of the best female fighters in the country. This time pride, prejudice, and zombies come between our hero and heroine. I was all set for some extra violent zombie mayhem, and for the first several chapters, I was enormously entertained. Yes, I'm one of those women who has read "Pride and Prejudice" many, many times. Probably too many to count, and since I know every scene and quote forward and backward, it was fun watching someone twist this beloved story in a totally unexpected way. Some readers may be surprised at just how much of the original text is preserved (an reviewer says 85%), and it had me thinking that Seth Grahame-Smith is taking one hell of a piggy-back ride on one of the greatest writers of all time. After the initial shock of finding zombies in the countryside, and thinking of the Bennet sisters as martial arts masters, I have to say that it started to feel a bit tedious. It sounds strange, but I'm about to criticize this parody for not going far enough. There were a few surprises here and there, but the twists were rather subtle, and everything adhered faithfully to Austen's original plot, pretty much scene for scene. I would have appreciated a much more dramatic departure because it was all so predictable. This book kind of reminded me of the new Star Wars movies, particularly the one where we finally get to see Yoda bust out his Jedi moves. I recall how the whole theater erupted into applause at that scene, and this book gives readers a similar moment during the angry confrontation near the end between Lady Catherine and Elizabeth. That's a fight I'd pay to see again, but the rest of the book was just a one-shot-wonder. I won't reread this copy, only the original.

At first, I barely made it past Chapter Two, but I very rarely CHOSE not to finish a book, so I thought I'd give it a chance and pushed on. Then I started skipping pages. Then chapters. Ugh - Boring!! I had such high hopes for this book. How can you not laugh at a book entitled *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*? For a parody to work, the parody really has to read like the original, and the author's prose can't touch Austen's effortless, elegant, and, most of all, witty style. (Admittedly, there's a lot of actual Austen here, but it's always pretty obvious when the 21st-century collaborator's voice enters.) And the depth of character that makes Austen such a great read is seriously damaged here. The first warning sign comes when Elizabeth seriously intends to cut Darcy's throat for insulting her, something which Austen's Elizabeth, zombie-killer or not, would never have considered. The zombie attacks are predictable and frequent, the interior illustrations are amateurish (though I suppose one shouldn't complain since one never expects them), the new dialogue is bland rather than charming, and it's really a one-joke book. If your expectations are low, you may enjoy this, but personally I couldn't finish it, as all I found was more of the same as I went

on. And for those of you who will chivvy me because of that, let me just say that after I eat a bite, I don't have to finish the entire fish to know it's bad. I'll add a star for the delightfully grim cover if only the book itself delivered a fraction of its impact.

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