

MARY

It should be noted that vanity and pride are different things, though the words are often used synonymously. Pride relates more to our opinion of ourselves. Vanity to what we would have others think of us.

*MARY moves to the pianoforte and goes through her music.*

*MRS. BENNET hovers close to them.*

ELIZABETH

Jane is yielding to love for Mr. Bingley.

CHARLOTTE

Is she?

ELIZABETH

*(Smiling)* It is her manner to be discreet.

CHARLOTTE

A woman is better off showing more affection than she feels. If your sister is so discreet as to not help Mr. Bingley on, he may never do more than *like* her. When she is secure of him there will be leisure for falling in love as much as she chooses.

ELIZABETH

Your plan would be a good one were her design to get a rich husband. But Jane is interested in the qualities of Mr. Bingley's character.

*DARCY moves towards the center of the room considering whether to approach ELIZABETH.*

CHARLOTTE

If she were married to him tomorrow, she would have as good a chance at happiness as if she studied his character for a year. No matter how similar the dispositions of the parties are *beforehand*, they always grow sufficiently unlike *afterwards* to have their share of vexation.

*ELIZABETH notes DARCY'S attention.*

*The music finishes. Applause from the room.*

ELIZABETH

What does Mr. Darcy mean, studying my conversation with you?