

### Mr. Darcy and Mr. Collins's Widow: An Elizabeth and Darcy Story

Timothy Underwood, a Lady



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**Mr. Darcy and Mr. Collins's Widow: An Elizabeth and Darcy Story** Timothy Underwood, a Lady Elizabeth was only fifteen when Mr. Bennet died. His heir, Mr. Collins was an awful, ugly man who mistreated the servants. Elizabeth would never let her dear Jane marry him. Never. Jane was beautiful, kind, and good. She deserved to marry someone she loved.

Elizabeth convinced Mr. Collins to choose her instead. His character was far worse than she had imagined it could be, and her marriage seemed an unending nightmare. Elizabeth only felt joy when he died.

Years later Mr. Bingley took Netherfield, and Elizabeth met his haughty and handsome friend, Mr. Darcy. Even though he saw himself as superior to most of the local gentry, Elizabeth and Darcy quickly became fast friends. But as they grew closer Elizabeth's terrifying memories of Mr. Collins began to return...

Note: 4-5 people told me, while they don't like the idea of Elizabeth married to Mr. Collins, they really liked the story. He is dead by the first paragraph.

#### Excerpt:

The nightmare always went the same. She could never throw herself in front of her husband. Mr. Collins would strike Lydia. Elizabeth struggled to move as the sound of his blows echoed: knock, knock. Lydia's tear stained face and accusing eyes were vaguely deformed. Action and speech were impossible, and her screams would not come. Mr. Collins's fist rose. Fell. She hurt when the blow struck. That awful sound echoed.

Knock. Knock. Knock.

Fifteen-year-old Elizabeth Collins awoke, soaked in sweat with a racing heart. The person outside knocked on the bedroom door again. "I'll be up presently," Elizabeth cried. The knocks ceased.

Elizabeth placed her hand on her stomach — she'd miscarried this afternoon. She mourned the child, but did not feel really unhappy that Providence had chosen to take him away. Motherhood terrified her: her husband would treat her child the way his brutish father treated him.

Mr. Collins became angry when he heard — very angry. Only once had Elizabeth seen him this enraged. He pushed his face inches from Elizabeth's, and exclaimed as she forced herself to not gag at the alcoholic odor of his breath, "I told you to give me a healthy son!"

His manner frightened Elizabeth, and tears began as she responded, "It is not my fault. I tried —"

"You disobeyed me. You may pretend otherwise, but it was disobedience. Disobedience. If you were a good wife this would not have happened. You owe me. Elizabeth, you owe me. You promised to never disobey. Remember?"

Tears rolled down her cheeks. Elizabeth frantically nodded. The memory of the day he extorted that promise

made her sick with anxiety, "I did all I could."

"You should have done better. You should not have destroyed my child. You - you have not behaved as a wife ought. You must be punished. I do not know how — I must think on it. What you have done demands great severity." He looked down with a curled lip, "I cannot bear the sight of you. You are not sorry at all. You shall be." He walked to the door. "When I return, I will have decided how to correct this insult."

Mr. Collins left the house. Elizabeth nervously waited for his return so she could beg forgiveness again, but when he had not come home by midnight Elizabeth fell asleep in his bedroom while she waited.

Elizabeth stared at the door. He must have returned. It would be a servant sent to call her to the study so he could announce her fate. Elizabeth rehearsed a final time how she would grovel: he enjoyed it when she begged on her knees.

Elizabeth's pulse pounded as she walked to the door, her footsteps sounded eerily loud in her ears. Mrs. Hill stood there, her countenance grave. This was no mere summons to her husband. "What — what is it!" Elizabeth cried. Had he already hurt one of her sisters?

Mrs. Hill searched Elizabeth's face for an eternity, then stated it baldly, "Mr. Collins is dead."

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