



## The Best Part of Love

*Amy D'Orazio*

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Elizabeth Bennet may capture Mr. Darcy's heart, but what is the truth of her past?

When Fitzwilliam Darcy meets Miss Elizabeth Bennet, a simple country girl from a humble estate, he has no idea that she—and indeed, the entire town of Meryton—harbors a secret. Before she meets Darcy, Elizabeth has spent two years hiding from the men who killed her beloved first husband. Feeling herself destroyed by love, Elizabeth has no intention of loving again, and certainly not the haughty man who can do nothing but offend her in Hertfordshire.

In time, Elizabeth surprises herself by finding in Darcy a friend; even greater is her surprise to find herself gradually coming to love him and even accepting an offer of marriage from him. As the newlyweds are just beginning to settle into their happily-ever-after, a condemned man on his way to the gallows divulges a shattering truth, a secret that contradicts everything Elizabeth thought she knew about the tragic circumstances of her first marriage. Against the advice of everyone who loves her—including Darcy—Elizabeth begins to ask questions. But the truth could destroy them both.

## The Best Part of Love Details

Date : Published January 6th 2017 by Meryton Press

ISBN :

Author : Amy D'Orazio

Format : Kindle Edition 430 pages

Genre :

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# From Reader Review The Best Part of Love for online ebook

wosedwew says

**I felt it shelter to speak to you. ~Emily Dickinson**

Angst! Angst! ANGST!

A widowed Elizabeth lives at Longbourne under her maiden name. Darcy makes his usual first impression and as usual falls deeply in love.

Elizabeth has been under protection from the Crown. The Matlocks were friendly with her husband's family and have become fond of Elizabeth as well. After two years of widowhood, they encourage her to marry again. She must choose someone from their sphere to help her son learn his future role as a wealthy Earl. Guess who they have in mind – especially when Elizabeth describes her ideal 2nd husband.

It is not until after her eventual marriage to Darcy that Elizabeth begins to see that her first marriage was perhaps not as good as she had believed (starting on her wedding night, hint, hint).

I won't get into all the complications her marriage brings, only that a secret revealed by Wickham puts her 2nd marriage in a tailspin! She insists on finding the truth and that truth threatens to destroy the happiness of her home.

Several characters varied significantly from the usual:

1. Mama Bennet – since Elizabeth's marriage to an Earl she has come to believe ALL her daughters are too good for commonplace suitors (that includes you, Bingley!) If Elizabeth is a Countess, then Jane must be a Duchess! She even pushes Bingley towards Charlotte Lucas! I was amused at the number of times her usual lines were spoken by someone else (most notably her husband)
2. Kitty and especially Lydia – Elizabeth's marriage settlement gave a dowry to all her sisters. She also arranged for a governess for the younger girls and consequently they are becoming "accomplished" and are not "out" and therefore don't have as large a role.
3. Georgiana – unfortunately the part of Lydia was played by Georgiana! Darcy's sister has matured physically but has no idea how to behave with men. Her flirtatious nature has become difficult to control, making her even more susceptible to influence from Mrs. Younge and Wickham.
4. Wickham – this GW is evil personified! Enough said!
5. The older Matlock son – when this character appears in a story he is very often a drunken, gambling rake suffering from the "French disease" but this time Darcy's cousin surprises us.

HEA for ODC – but only after a harrowing chase to find the truth!

I read a lot of these P&P adaptations and I confess that details of the various stories sometimes become mixed in my memory – even those that I very much liked.

*This is NOT a story I will forget.*

*This is NOT a story I will ever confuse with any other story.*

**Trouble is part of your life, and if you don't share it, you don't give the person who loves you enough chance to love you enough. ~Dinah Shore**

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## **Sophia says**

He is still proud, she is still prejudiced, but that is not even the deepest conflict of this story.

It was the stuff of the classic gothic romantic suspense-style storytelling. This was a Pride & Prejudice variation that Catherine Moreland of Northanger Abbey might have appreciated. I know I enjoyed it- every emotional, passionate moment of suspense and exquisite pain of heartbreak for this pair.

A plot to bring down the British Empire is foiled, but the traitors aren't all in custody so a grieving young, widowed countess is sent into hiding to protect her and her newborn child. A whole village is sworn to silence. And into their midst comes an arrogant yet stalwart gentleman who falls in love at first sight with what he believes is a country miss whom he cannot have because her family's status is beneath him. Only, it isn't and he must make amends if he wishes to beat out all the other suitors for the wealthy young countess' love.

I don't really want to spoil the effect of a reader experiencing all the delightful surprises for themselves so I kept my summary short, but I will say that the story is altered from the very beginning. Best Part of Love asks what if Lizzy had married into the aristocracy, but must hide in plain sight while traitors and killers are still being rounded up? How would that change her personal and that of her family's circumstances before Darcy comes along? How does this change Darcy's courtship of Lizzy or Bingley's for Jane? It was fun to see the new path of the story.

The story was a longer piece, but it needed that for plot and character development. The pacing never lagged. It had natural rises in tension to plot twists and a really intense climax with a nicely done denouement giving full satisfaction.

Now, this one does get emotional and has a doomed romance. There is angst, but I appreciate that it wasn't spread on too thick. Just as the romance pair have their explosive moments, but it didn't drag on. I loved that they were adults and acted like it. Darcy was quick to right a wrong and tender an apology just as Lizzy could do some self-evaluation and realize she wasn't as adept at character analysis as she thought. Their courtship was a friendship first and then grew to something deeper and enduring so it could stand the test they were put to.

All in all, this was a fantastic story of love that stood against strong adversity. I can easily recommend it to historical romance fans who like a touch of the classic Austen and the gothic.

My thanks to Meryton Press for the opportunity to read this book in exchange of an honest review.

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## Sheila Majczan says

A reading of the published book after having read the unpublished story twice.

For those readers who like more than a straight forward romance, this is so very deliciously enthralling. It incorporates not only romance and mystery, twists and misunderstandings but also treason, betrayals, double and false identities, murder, salacious scandal and the rescuing of a certain lady in the night. We meet many of our familiar friends but also a young boy named Henry, his dog, Annie, and a titled family with twin sons and an unassuming man named Hanley.

Elizabeth, just out in society, had gone to Bath with her Aunt Gardiner who is taking the waters after two miscarriages. There in a whirlwind courtship she marries a Lord Courtenay and is taken to Italy for a honeymoon where she becomes pregnant. They return to England and while on a trip alone to his estate Henry is murdered but buried quickly as his body is not found for several days.

Thus at the Meryton Assembly dance our Elizabeth is wealthy, titled and still mourning the loss of her husband at the hands of a murderer two years prior. However as the crime is related to a plot against the crown, she must be protected until the last of the criminals have been caught and dealt with. So a decree has been issued that no one can reveal her true identity. She is presented as Miss Elizabeth Bennet with a mother who, for some reason, looks down on any suitor for the hands of her daughters who does not possess a title. Sorry, Mr. Bingley – you don't qualify.

So all that prejudice Darcy has against lower classes, against those without connections and pride in one's own status are in reality laughable and in the end so ironic! With a title Elizabeth would be perfect match but he makes his classic faux pas and in an instant as she turns and passes him and looks him in the eye with a quirk of her eyebrow, Darcy is smitten. Oh, he fights it as we know from canon...BUT as you can imagine when upon returning to London and learning of her true identity and then thinking that he will immediately propose as she is "meant for him" she tosses his proposal in his face. (Sounds familiar?)

What you may find so very amusing is the fact that at one time or another in this tale both Darcy and Lady Courtenay have given permission to Lady Matlock to find a spouse for them. He needs an heir and a woman to guide Georgiana, while she needs a man to guide the next Lord Courtenay as he grows into his title. Thus as Darcy goes off to Netherfield with Charles Bingley, both Lady Matlock and her son, Colonel Fitzwilliam know whom he will meet there but say not a word. When they learn of his insult... "Oh, Darcy, what have you done?" "Fix this!"

Oh this story has so much angst and the lines delivered are so gut wrenching at times. I was warned to have my tissues at hand...so be prepared. Love gained, love lost, clues that turn up unexpectedly, and much anguish over accepting what seems to be the hand of fate to separate forever Darcy and Elizabeth.

A book to be read but at about 300 pages carve out some time.

First review was posted after reading the unpublished book from June 22 to 23, 2016. Even in rereading this the tears came and the angst had me glued to the pages. This is such a good story with some great surprises.

From the book...so sweet, "For while my experience in Hertfordshire taught me to believe in the notion of loving someone at first sight, it was not until I knew you in full that I could apprehend the notion of the best part of love."

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## Debbie Brown says

### 4.5 rounded up to 5 stars

On my first reading of this remarkable story in 2015, it was a very long unpublished gem. It's still a long book, but I'm pleased to note that it was pared down quite a bit before its release to the general public. Ms. D'Orazio's writing style is just exquisite, and her plot wields a whopping punch of angst that resolves with a neck-snapping twist.

At the opening of this tale, Elizabeth is already a widow at the tender age of 20. Her husband, Lord Courtenay, a.k.a. Henry Warren, was killed months before their son was born by a gunman believed hired by his brother Francis, who is known to be a member of a radical group. Fear of a conspiracy to assassinate members of Parliament have forced Elizabeth and her child to separate for two years for the sake of the young heir's safety.

She has been hiding at Longbourn, where the Meryton neighbors gladly protect their own by pretending she is still just Miss Elizabeth Bennet rather than the widowed Lady Courtenay. Little Henry is with the Gardiners, who are pretending he is the twin of their youngest child. Lord and Lady Matlock are among those urging Elizabeth to consider remarrying soon after she re-emerges from hiding for the sake of the boy's protection. She understands her duty to her child, but she also continues to love and mourn her deceased husband, with whom she had a whirlwind, storybook-type romance. Darcy is also feeling the need for a wife because Georgiana has become a difficult teenager who burns through companions with her unruly behavior, but he hasn't met anyone that appeals to him as a marriage partner.

Before Elizabeth returns to London and the haute ton, she and Darcy meet at the infamous Meryton assembly. It's humorous to see the difference in Mrs. Bennet with one of her daughters already a countess. Mr. Bingley couldn't possibly be good enough for her Jane when Elizabeth married so well! The reader also gets to enjoy the irony of Mr. Darcy's initial snub of Elizabeth and how he subsequently fights his attraction to her because she isn't of his high social sphere.

It's a lovely jaw-dropping moment when Darcy attends the opera and recognizes that *his* Elizabeth Bennet is actually the long-anticipated Lady Courtenay. Their romance is lovingly developed throughout the book, and they have a wonderful, believable relationship.

The story isn't even close to ending when the two agree to marry, however. The mystery surrounding Henry Warren's death, as it turns out, still hasn't been completely uncovered. It's hard to say much without spoiling all the surprises, but the ensuing situation makes things look very, very bleak for the future of Darcy and Elizabeth's relationship. It's hard NOT to rush through the last 150 pages or so, trying to keep up with the fast-moving pace of the story.

The book's Epilogue is less a continuation than it is a short story in itself, and it's a cute way to bring things to a close.

I think that more could/should have been edited out because this is still quite long. My preference is for less wallowing in angst. The forced separation between Elizabeth and Darcy has way too many heartbreaking encounters with the two declaring their undying love for each other. (view spoiler) I suspect I'm in the

minority on that point, though. There isn't a sentence in the entire book that isn't beautifully written, so perhaps I shouldn't quibble.

I'm delighted that this author has finally put herself out there, and I hope she continues to publish her excellent works.

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## **Leslie says**

What I truly adore about the author is her imagination is just so creative. This is a P&P what if ... mystery, thriller, spy, love story.

In her 18th year Miss Elizabeth Bennet of Longbourn traveled to Bath with her Aunt Gardiner. There she met a man and fell in love. Incidentally this man was an Earl. They were quickly wed then off to continent so he could show her the pleasures of Italy. When Lizzy fell with child they returned to England. While off to visit his estate the Earl is killed; Lizzy is left a pregnant, teenage widowed, countess. And there is a plot afoot to over throw the crown - so Lizzy and her unborn potential heir are in danger. With the aid of the Earl & Countess of Matlock a plan is made to hide away Lizzy and if necessary the heir.

Two years later she is hiding in plain site in Meryton as plain old Lizzy Bennet while her child is raised by the Gardiners. When the Bingleys arrive Mrs. Bennet is as you have never seen her - while she cannot speak of Lizzy's grand marriage she has no interest in a man in trade for her daughters. I laughed outloud at some of her pronouncements. Further the Bingley sisters are baffled by Mrs. Bennet's airs. And Darcy is just as disdainful of Lizzy as Miss Austen recounted.

The author does an amazing job of chronicling the feelings of a young widow who was only married a short time. Her guilt and forgetting, her conflict as to whether to live her life or remain in mourning. And this Darcy is such a tool. That he seems to go out of his way to make Lizzy hate him.

When they meet again in London he is gobsmacked to discover that plain old Lizzy Bennet is the stunning, wealthy and influential Countess Courtenay. Thrilled that all his objections have been removed he hies off to propose to the Countess only to be slapped down But as we all know Darcy & Lizzy are fates for one another and soon they are betrothed.

But this course of true love is about to be disrupted when Lizzy's beloved first husband is found to be alive and she is returned to him. Yet we aren't done yet. There is drama, intrigue, and terror to come.

In this book Georgiana isn't the sweet, dear girl we have come to know and love; but a bold, brash flirt in the style of Lydia Bennet.

I cannot praise this book enough, it is truly unique.

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## **Nicole Barton Sasser says**

**Status:** Read from January 10 to 11, 2017

**Rating:** 4.5 Stars

**Review:**

I was a little worried to start *The Best Part of Love*. I **really** wanted to love it, as the author is a highly-rated, beloved online fan fiction writer in the JAFF community (I tend to be a more critical reviewer and I genuinely did not want this to be all hype). As I am not keen on reading online, *The Best Part of Love*, as the author's first published work, is my introduction to Amy D'Orazio.

And I was not disappointed! I thoroughly enjoyed this unique and imaginative variation.

I look forward to reading more from Amy and hope that she publishes more of her many other online stories.

**My Library Notes:**

The Best Part of Love

by A. D'Orazio, Amy D'Orazio

Kindle Edition, First Edition, 430 pages

Published January 7, 2017 by Meryton Press

ASIN: B01N0YG9EH

*Elizabeth Bennet may capture Mr. Darcy's heart, but what is the truth of her past?*

When Fitzwilliam Darcy meets Miss Elizabeth Bennet, a simple country girl from a humble estate, he has no idea that she—and indeed, the entire town of Meryton—harbors a secret. Before she meets Darcy, Elizabeth has spent two years hiding from the men who killed her beloved first husband. Feeling herself destroyed by love, Elizabeth has no intention of loving again, and certainly not the haughty man who can do nothing but offend her in Hertfordshire.

In time, Elizabeth surprises herself by finding in Darcy a friend; even greater is her surprise to find herself gradually coming to love him and even accepting an offer of marriage from him. As the newlyweds are just beginning to settle into their happily-ever-after, a condemned man on his way to the gallows divulges a shattering truth, a secret that contradicts everything Elizabeth thought she knew about the tragic circumstances of her first marriage. Against the advice of everyone who loves her—including Darcy—Elizabeth begins to ask questions. But the truth could destroy them both.

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**Katherine says**

When Darcy meets Elizabeth she is a widower but he doesn't know that at the time. She is Elizabeth Bennet of Hertfordshire, a daughter of a country gentleman so he denies his attraction to her. Then he meets her again in London as a widow of a Duke.. sociably acceptable, match made by his aunt but he must convince her that he loves her as Elizabeth Bennet. But Elizabeth is recovering from the tragic death of her beloved husband. Does she have room in her heart for Darcy? The first half of the novel is based on this but the second half of the novel is based on feelings of despair when Elizabeth's past comes back to haunt her. This is where Darcy's love is tested and also where Elizabeth learns what true love is. Wonderful story!

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## **Jennifer says**

This story was wonderful. It was great writing and breathtakingly romantic. \*swoon\*. I really enjoyed everything about it. I loved the chemistry between Darcy and Elizabeth. And I loved the retelling of their story, it was sweet and it was special and it's going to stay with me for days because I love romance.

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## **Claudine DiMuzio / Just Jane 1813 says**

My review and now giveaways too are up at Just Jane 1813. Thank you to all of my GR friends who visited today to check out my review!

Amazon also has the book available for purchase as an ebook and as a KindleUnlimited read.

<http://justjane1813.com/2017/01/07/th...>

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## **Camille Rios says**

Oh My, this story. What can I say? My head is still reeling from all the emotions I felt while reading this story. This story was lovely, frustrating, heart wrenching, and all together sweet. Alex9903 is becoming one of my favorite writers. I have read a few other stories of hers and all are written with such emotion and attention to detail that it is easy to get lost in them. A few favorite things I have about this author is how consistent she is with names and history throughout all her stories. I love how Darcy is called Fitzwilliam (as he should be) and not shortened to William or Will, in her stories that take place during regency period.

Elizabeth was frustrating at times, but Fitzwilliam was ever the persistent, sweet suitor. Would recommend any and all of Alex9903 stories, but this one is one of my favorites.

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## **Anna says**

Review originally posted on Diary of an Eccentric

The Best Part of Love by A. D'Orazio is a variation of Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice that is so very delightfully different from the original novel but maintains the traits of the characters we know and love. In this variation, Elizabeth Bennet is Lady Courtenay, widow of Henry Warren, Earl of Courtenay. The conspiracy surrounding her husband's death force her to be separated from her young son, and after two years of hiding and mourning, Lord and Lady Matlock impress upon her the importance of finding a second husband, one who can protect her son and his inheritance. She returns to her family's home in Hertfordshire, where she seeks refuge for a few months before the London season, coming to terms with the reality of her new life and finding comfort in simply being Elizabeth Bennet once again.

Then Mr. Darcy accompanies the Bingley party to Netherfield, and unaware of Elizabeth's true identity, he immediately falls in love with her. However, his seemingly endless ability to insult her at every turn and his duty to marry someone of a higher social standing pose major obstacles to his happiness, and things aren't

made any easier when he learns she is Lady Courtenay, someone worthy of his notice. Darcy embarks on a mission to improve her opinion of him and become a better man, one worthy of her notice. Meanwhile, Elizabeth must learn how to move on with her life and understand the nuances of love. But soon the truth about Elizabeth's marriage is revealed, and their newfound happiness is shattered.

Oh, how I loved this book! It is an emotional journey, and D'Orazio makes sure readers accompany Darcy and Elizabeth through all of the ups and downs. I teared up several times while reading this book, both tears of happiness and tears of sorrow. I felt like I was there as Darcy evolved into the best of men, accepting Elizabeth's feelings for Henry and not expecting her to forget him — and when the truth left him tortured and alone. Elizabeth's transformation from grief to sheer joy to despair was equally well done. D'Orazio also cleverly twists the characters to account for Elizabeth's changed circumstances, with Mrs. Bennet looking down on Mr. Bingley due to his connections to trade and wanting Jane to make a better match, Jane storming off to Netherfield in the rain to follow her heart, and Darcy being accused of setting his sights on Lady Courtenay's fortune.

The Best Part of Love hooked me from the very first page, and there was so much scandal, danger, romance, passion, and agony that it was hard to put down. D'Orazio takes her time developing Darcy and Elizabeth's relationship, especially given his bad first impression and Elizabeth's need to process her loss, but the novel is perfectly paced. Some readers may have a hard time with Elizabeth having been married to another man and having his child, but I urge them to put those feelings aside and dive into the book head first. The Best of Love is among the best of variations, and I expect it will have a place on my Best of 2017 list!

I received a free copy of this book for review.

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## **Don Jacobson says**

### **Revolution and ODC**

As with all great (yes, I am using the word) novels this one unfolds slowly and gently, drawing the reader into its depths before he (me) is aware of it. I cannot offer details for fear of spoiling the surprise. Suffice to say that Ms D'Orazio has grounded her work in a plausible reading of the social and political history of the early 19th Century. Also the use of the Canon in a unique way makes the gentle dance between Darcy and Lizzy even more telling. What was wonderful was that ODC fall in love by the middle of the book...And that love mobilizes the plot throughout the last half. Only a few complaints rise from the use and treatment of minor characters... the large man? Caroline? Jervis? And, the denouement of Wickham and the resurgent conspiracy seems sudden and conveniently crafted; akin to a film director realizing that the work is already at 112 minutes with just 7 minutes left to finish...And all loose ends are suddenly tied up. If anything this would slightly reduce the final rating to 4.75 stars, but that is this reviewer. I commend this book and urge you to remember it well come November when we are asked to nominate the year's best.

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## **Carole (in Canada) says**

Ms. D'Orazio I applaud you for crafting an exquisite debut novel based on the characters of Jane Austen's *Pride & Prejudice*. You have combined a smorgasbord of elements that pull you in, hold you tight and don't let go until the very last page.

Not only are we confronted with political intrigue, murder, mystery and hiding in plain sight, but we find Elizabeth as a grieving widow with a son from a peer of the realm. How you incorporated canon with your own original plot line was seamless. The twists and turns of this story, not only had Darcy and Elizabeth in a coil, but my heart as well. The build-up between Darcy and Elizabeth was like a violin being tuned before a concerto. It was a choppy start. However, once Darcy's pride was curbed and Elizabeth's fears and prejudices were lessened, you could feel the crescendo building. It was masterfully done! You wove all of these elements together with such a deft hand along with the superb dialogue that had me savouring this novel and wanting more. Yes, more as I loved this novel for its depth, detail and length! It incorporated all of my favourite genres into one! I look forward with great anticipation to your next book. Maybe even one on the intriguing and delightful new character, Lord Saye?

The cover art for this book is gorgeous and beautifully conveys the story within. I just had to own the paperback version as opposed to the Kindle!

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## **Meredith (Austen-esque Reviews) says**

### **What If Elizabeth Bennet Had A First Love?**

**Rating: 5 out of 5 stars**

TYPE OF AUSTENESQUE NOVEL: Pride and Prejudice Variation

TIME FRAME: Just before Bingley and Darcy come to Meryton

MAIN CHARACTERS: Our usual Pride and Prejudice cast plus Henry and Francis Warren, Elizabeth's deceased husband and his brother

SYNOPSIS: Taking a sizable step away from the Pride and Prejudice canon, Ms. D'Orazio tells a story of Elizabeth Bennet experiencing a whirlwind romance and marrying Henry Warren, the Earl of Courtenay, at the age of seventeen. Unfortunately, happily ever after doesn't last long as Elizabeth's husband is killed by a group of radicals. In order to protect herself and her unborn child Elizabeth must hide her identity and leave her husband's ancestral home until all those involved with the murder are apprehended. Two years later finds Elizabeth in Meryton, where everyone publicly acknowledges her as Elizabeth Bennet, unmarried daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bennet. And when a wealthy, reserved man from Derbyshire comes to town he believes that is who she is... a country maiden with no wealth or consequence, and therefore, sadly, not for him. (Even though his heart wishes it were otherwise!)

### **WHAT I LOVED:**

– Striking and Compelling: Gah! What a premise! Elizabeth mourning her first love? Darcy not knowing who she really is? Scandal, danger, secrets, political plots – there are so many layers and twists in this tale – what a riveting adventure! This has to be some of the stiffest competition I've ever seen Darcy face! (and of course he makes his usual terrible first impression and Elizabeth can't stand him!) And just when I thought things have sorted themselves out and settled down, the rug was ripped right out from underneath us in the most inconceivable way!! And then we were knocked for a loop with another startling twist! Complete derailment! I confess I didn't see any of it coming and it had me stunned. Jaw-on-the-floor stunned! Brilliantly executed, Ms. D'Orazio!

– Emotionally Invested: In this story we witness both Darcy and Elizabeth in anguish and gut-wrenching turmoil! (I was sobbing and could feel myself falling to pieces over it all!) The emotion was so beautifully and powerfully rendered. I couldn't help but feeling what Darcy and Elizabeth were feeling. Brava to Ms. D'Orazio for creating such a strong and poignant story that affects the readers and engages so many emotions.

– Darcy's Love: Darcy's love for Elizabeth is completely unselfish and unreserved, and he continuously proves how earnestly devoted he is to her happiness and well-being. Darcy was fully aware that their marriage would begin as one of unequal affections and he welcomed it anyway, and was never resentful or upset over Elizabeth's feelings for her first husband. I adored how he would treasure and cherish any affection or special moment she shared with him. This is the kind of love that makes you swoon!

– Tender and Light-Hearted Moments: Don't worry, this story has many sweet and happy scenes as well! Especially between Elizabeth and her son, and Mr. Darcy and her son. ? In addition, there were many laugh-out-loud moments with Mrs. Bennet who tries to deter Jane for forming an attachment with Mr. Bingley! (Her sister is a countess! Mr. Bingley is not good enough for the Bennets now! LOL!)

– First Love vs. Forever Love: I really appreciate how the author portrayed Elizabeth's different feelings of love. Knowing how hard it is for readers to see Elizabeth in love with anyone other than Darcy, Ms. D'Orazio stresses the different kinds of love Elizabeth feels for these two great men in her life. One love that grew rapidly and was carefree, and one that overcame obstacles and blossomed slowly. I greatly enjoyed Elizabeth's emotional journey and felt it evolved flawlessly.

WHAT I WASN'T TOO FOND OF:

Puh-lease! Not a thing! ?

NOTE: I'd recommend this story for Mature Audiences as there is one or two descriptions of intimate scenes.

CONCLUSION:

In a suspenseful and enthralling tale of sinister plots, tragic loss, and danger grows an achingly beautiful and powerful journey of love that is sure to warm your heart and entangle your emotions! Expressive, sensitive, and captivating – The Best Part of Love is truly an outstanding debut from Amy D'Orazio! I cannot wait to see what she does next!

Austen-esque Reviews

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**J. W. Garrett says**

I loved the artwork on the cover; it was amazing and I loved this story.

In the beginning, our story was very similar to canon in that Bingley let Netherfield Park; Darcy accompanied him, went to the local assembly, Caroline looked around in disdain, and Darcy insulted any and all denizens of the village, including one lovely lady he deemed tolerable and decidedly beneath him. Yeah, that's our Darcy.

Only, things were not what they seemed. Our story dealt with a conspiracy, far reaching political and governmental intrigue, the death of a peer, threats to the monarchy and survivors hidden in plain sight. This was a story worth reading. The angst was worthy of 5-swoon points. The language was gripping as our story spanned several years as government men searched for the culprits and the gunman that killed Elizabeth Bennet's husband.

This was the most mixed up, intriguing, and confusing story. I was trying desperately to figure out who, what, when, how and why. Wickham was the same usual rat-bastard only he really stepped into it this time. The author kept the secret hidden for nearly the whole book. I was going crazy. The clues were scattered throughout the story and I didn't catch them until later. I wanted to yell... this cannot be true... this is not happening.

I liked the fact our author kept us fairly close to Elizabeth and Darcy. We had a lot of page time with ODC [our dear couple] and their POV; thus, allowing us to know what they were thinking. This was agonizing at times and the angst was palpable. Man, it was awesomely cruel being dragged through the mud, thinking all was lost. I kept wondering, how on earth is this author going to clear this up. Then she did. I was shocked, stunned and horrified. Man, what a twist. It was brutal and awesome at the same time. What can I say? Not a lot, as it will spoil the reveal.

Question: what happened to the treasure? They thought perhaps it had been found previously, but was it?

Rating: mature, sensual, suggestive, not graphic or explicit, but somewhat descriptive.

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