

## Shelley (1)

## IRONY REDUX

Happy for all her maternal feelings was the day on which Mrs. Bennet got rid of her two most deserving daughters. With what delighted pride she afterwards visited Mrs. Bingley and talked of Mrs. Darcy may be guessed. I wish I could say, for the sake of her family, that the accomplishment of her earnest desire in the establishment of so many of her children produced so happy an effect as to make her a sensible, amiable, well-informed woman for the rest of her life; though perhaps it was lucky for her husband, who might not have relished domestic felicity in so unusual a form, that she still was occasionally nervous and invariably silly. (295)

## AUSTEN TO SHELLEY: SOME DATES

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1775	Jane Austen born
1789	French revolution
1792	Mary Wollstonecraft, <i>Vindication of the Rights of Woman</i>
1797	Austen, "First Impressions" (unpublished)
1797	Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley born
1804	Haitian independence
1813	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> published
1815	Waterloo
1816	<i>Frankenstein</i> begun
1817	Austen dies
1818	<i>Frankenstein</i> published
1831	<i>Frankenstein</i> , rev. ed.
1851	Shelley dies

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## VERSIONS OF NATURE

Elizabeth's mind was too full for conversation, but she saw and admired every remarkable spot and point of view. They gradually ascended for half a mile, and then found themselves at the top of a considerable eminence, where the wood ceased, and the eye was instantly caught by Pemberley House, situated on the opposite side of a valley, into which the road with some abruptness wound. It was a large, handsome stone building, standing well on rising ground, and backed by a ridge of high woody hills;—and in front, a stream of some natural importance

was swelled into greater, but without any artificial appearance. Its banks were neither formal, nor falsely adorned. Elizabeth was delighted. She had never seen a place for which nature had done more, or where natural beauty had been so little counteracted by an awkward taste. They were all of them warm in their admiration; and at that moment she felt that to be mistress of Pemberley might be something! (185)

#### COMPONENTS OF NARRATION

- 3.3 Any speaker or narrator may *embed* representations of the discourse of others.
- 3.6 When an embedded text is a narrative, it is to be analyzed both in its own terms and in relation to the primary narrative. This relation depends on, among other things, the relation between the primary *fabula* and the embedded *fabula*.