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Doing Justice in *Pride and Prejudice*

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This paper explores justice in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice.* Elizabeth's reading of Darcy's letter has been a very important focus in discussions on judgement. The letter which is given to her at the most awkward moment following her rejection of Darcy's offer of marriage needs an encouragement to be read and he tries to persuade her to overcome her initial unwillingness to accept what he has to say by appealing to her justice. We are ready to appreciate Elizabeth, 'a studier of character' as well as an evaluator of objects and circumstances, as she observes, understands, judges, speaks and behaves. Her justice provides receptiveness to pay attention and gradually it helps to make her ready to reconsider her opinions. This process is referred to as 'doing [Darcy] justice'. Her realization manifests itself in the course of a conversation with Wickham. Justice is not only important in evaluation and judgement, but doing justice is an assuring social scheme that everybody is expected to pursue. The overriding attention to do justice to a person or something is one of the sources that give satisfaction and pleasure in reading this work.