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Pride and Prejudice: The Wild and Wanton Edition

By Michelle M. Pillow (writing as Annabella Bloom)
& Jane Austen



Michelle M Pillow, *Author of All Things Romance*, is a multi-published, award winning author writing in many romance fiction genres including futuristic, paranormal, historical, contemporary, fantasy and dark paranormal. She was the winner of the 2006 RT Reviewers' Choice Award, nominated for the 2007 RT Award, a Brava Novella Contest Finalist, and a PAN member of RWA.

She writes a monthly interview column and is a journalist for *Paranormal Underground Magazine*. She has a photography degree and is currently working towards a degree in History with a minor in English.

Readers can contact her through her website www.michellepillow.com.

Contact: michelle_pillow@yahoo.com

Website: www.michellepillow.com

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Publicity & Interview Requests

Author is available for interviews and/or articles including print, television, radio and podcast. Promotional Materials available upon request to media outlets, conventions, bookseller and libraries.

Please email michelle_pillow@yahoo.com

Full Press Kit & Bio Photos http://www.michellepillow.com/press_kit.htm

Complete Chronological Bibliography

http://www.michellepillow.com/printable_all_books_list.htm

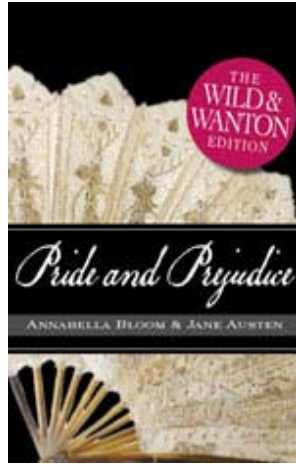
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Pride and Prejudice: The Wild and Wanton Edition

Release: January 14, 2011(Paperback & Ebook)

“Taking readers behind the closed doors of the classic Jane Austen novel, exploring the romantic lives of the characters with passion and humor in a delightful reimagining.”

- PM Announcement



It is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife . . . in bed. Unfortunately, we've never been able to see Elizabeth and Fitzwilliam *in flagrante delicto*--until now.

In this deliciously naughty updating of the beloved classic, you can peek behind the closed doors of Pemberley's sexiest master bedroom--and revel in the sexual delights of your favorite couple.

From first kiss to orgasmic finish, this book is every Austen fan's dream come true--the story you love, with the heat turned up to high. It will come as no surprise that the dashing Mr. Darcy is as passionate and intense with his knickers off as he is with them on. And admit it, we've all wanted to see him *sans* knickers!

Jane Austen is one of the most beloved authors of all time. She never married, and as far as we know, she died a virgin. More's the pity.

Michelle M. Pillow, author of *All Things Romance*, is a multi-published, award-winning author known mostly for her paranormal, futuristic, and dark fantasy romance. Aside from these, she also writes contemporary, fantasy, historical, and erotic romance. She is the winner of the 2006 *Romantic Times* Reviewers' Choice Award. Her website is www.michellepillow.com.

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Michelle M. Pillow, Interview Questions

Who are you? What do you do?

I'm multi-published author Michelle M. Pillow. I write historical, contemporary, futuristic, paranormal, fantasy, dark paranormal romances. I have a photography degree. I am a journalist for *Paranormal Underground Magazine*. I co-own The Raven Books with author Mandy M. Roth. I guess you could say I do a lot. I love research and trying new things, and I'm always open to new opportunities. Currently, I am working toward my degree in History.

How did this book come about?

I was approached through an agent by the publisher (Adams Media) to work on the book for a brand new line they were starting called *The Wild and Wanton Editions*. They liked my writing style and wanted me on the project. Before this I had published and won awards for original historical romances, as well as other fiction genres. I never even dreamed of doing something like this before I was asked, but having said that, I love to try new things and took the job. The W&W books are the original book with additional scenes added. They are EDITIONS of the original, not a complete rewrite.

Why is Jane Austen's name on the book?

This book is an EDITION of the original, not a complete rewrite. Roughly, it is 70% Jane Austen, 30% New.

Who is Annabella Bloom?

Annabella Bloom is a house pen name for various authors writing for the *Wild and Wanton* line of re-imagined classics for Adams Media Publishing. For *Pride and Prejudice: The Wild and Wanton Edition* the name is for Michelle M. Pillow writing with Jane Austen. I am not the co-author for the entire *Wild and Wanton* series.

You mention having discovered the classic in your youth. Did you ever embellish or add to the original P&P in your mind?

I love Jane Austen. I started reading her in High School along with other classic authors. Getting to work on *Pride & Prejudice* was a dream come true, a dream I had never dared to have. Of course I liked to imagine what Elizabeth and Darcy were like after they married, but I never thought to embellish on such a perfect story. I can still remember getting giddy the first time I read Darcy's proposal.

Then an offer came from Adams Media for a new line they were thinking about starting. It has been a thrill to be allowed to play in Austen's world. The love story of Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy is one of the greatest romances ever written and I, like many *Pride & Prejudice* fans, long to peek behind the veil of this complicated relationship into the lives and private thoughts of these beloved characters (especially the enigmatic and often misunderstood Darcy).

Nothing can compare to the originality of Jane Austen and I have the greatest respect for her talent. This is an edition of that work, simply for the fun of it.

Why are some parts of the book in bold?

You'd have to ask the publisher. It's a "house project". I have nothing to do with the final look of the product on this series.

What was the biggest challenge about writing erotic romance into *Pride & Prejudice*?

It can be a little daunting to work on such a beloved classic. You want to honor the book while bringing an original interpretation to the work. The best part of it, though, is that the original book is still out there for those purists who don't like change, and this new version will be available for those who want to delve into the more sensual side of the characters' lives. In the end, I think the fact that so many people want to read and learn more about these couples is one of the best compliments an author can get. Austen's characters are timeless. As authors, we all hope to achieve such a thing.

Which of the new scenes is your favorite?

I absolutely LOVE Mr. Darcy. I always wanted to know what he was thinking when I read the original. Getting to interpret his thoughts was the highlight of the project for me. I also have to admit that a scene between Charlotte and Collins had me chuckling to myself.

Were there any special considerations as far as the writing was concerned?

I tried to immerse myself in the writing style, language and mannerisms of the time. I love studying history, and had already researched the time period and Regency-Victorian culture. When writing I try to block out the world and just work. Since I was so familiar with the story, it made delving into it a truly fun experience. I also knew that I respected the story and characters, and went in with a great respect for the work.

Why re-imagine the existing classic at all?

Austen is timeless. Her stories are true classics. That said, we live in a different world than Austen. We're allowed to express sexuality in a way she would have never dreamt possible. We also know that people were having sex in the "olden days", even if they weren't acknowledging it in mainstream society. This book is just attempting to fill in the blanks and bring the story to a new crop of readers who like a little more spice in their books, while offering a re-imagining of a beloved story to those who already know what happens but want to rediscover the romantic tale.

Some would argue that Austen was very much about marriage more than about romance; if that's the case, is it necessary to make her more about romance today?

Austen lived in a time where marriage was important, so naturally this is a very important theme. But, let's look at the heroine, Elizabeth. If she was only about getting married for a business transaction and not romance, she would have married Collins. Instead, she holds out for love. I think Austen is very romantic, finding the romance in a time where marriage for romance wasn't as popular an occurrence. She shows that there can be love in marriage, just as there can be marriages that are more of a business transaction. Elizabeth sticks to her ideals and is rewarded with one of the greatest loves of all time. When you read the book, as a woman, ask yourself: Would you rather be Elizabeth or Charlotte? I think everyone would pick the marriage of love over convenience.

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Some people don't like authors messing with classics. What's the reaction you've had?

Most of my readers have expressed excitement at the news of this release. Every time a movie version comes out the story is being messed with. It's the same thing with abridged versions of the original book. To those who don't like authors "messing" with the classics, the answer is simple: Don't read the new versions or watch the movies, get the unabridged story. No one is taking the old versions off the market. No one is pretending that the new versions are superior. They are for fun. Plain and simple. That's the great thing about our society. There are plenty of authors and books, which means there is really something for everyone. A lot of people like the re-imagined classics.

What if someone did that to your books?

You'll have to wait for 70 years after my death (or whatever the current laws are at that time) before you have the right to play with my worlds – all rights reserved copyright law and all – but when that day comes and they're in the public domain have at 'em, and know I'll be thrilled people are still reading my stories.

How did you choose where in the book to add the additional scenes?

I've written a lot of my 'own' books before tackling this project, so I inserted the scenes where they felt natural to me as a writer. If I found myself wondering what Darcy was thinking, or what Elizabeth was truly feeling but not saying aloud, I tried to capture that in the moment. It was also important that the characters didn't compromise their values by doing too much, too early. I'd say more, but I don't want to give too much away for those who want to read the new version.

You refer to Jane Austen the 'grandmother of all us modern day romance novelists.' Can you elaborate?

To me, Jane Austen is a romance writer. She might not have erotic scenes like today's novels, but she wrote about the same things we write about today--of love, of marriage, of finding our way in the world and in relationships. Austen inspired us with her stories, creating romance when romance was against all odds. She showed us characters who had flaws but endeavored to overcome them. She showed the bad decisions, the good decisions, the misunderstandings and miscommunications that get in the way. She focused her books on the character. This is what modern day romance writers do. They focus on the character, on not only the romance, but the growth and experience that comes with changing relationships and finding that "one true love". As humans we crave love and companionship. Romance authors peek into that journey and give us hope.

Will you be doing more classics for the Wild and Wanton series?

There has been some talk of my doing more. I'll announce on my website when there's news to tell.

What are the names of your historical romance novels?

The straight historical romances are *Maiden and the Monster* and *Emerald Knight*. I also have paranormal historical and medieval fantasy romances.

Where can I learn more about you and your books? What if I would like to set up an interview?

www.michellepillow.com ~ michelle_pillow@yahoo.com

Praise for Pride and Prejudice: The Wild and Wanton Edition

"It is a truth universally acknowledged that the romance of Eliza Bennett and Mr. Darcy is told with a clever intelligence and great wit. Now it is also a work of captivating passion. Michelle Pillow has honored Austen's original novel while giving readers an intimate view of this classic love story, taking the romance from the parlor into the bedroom. Do not miss this book."

– Alison Kent, bestselling, award-winning author of over thirty works
www.alisonkent.com

"Fans of Austen's classic will find the same great story, expertly embellished into this 'Wild and Wanton' edition that's sure to please readers who enjoy a spicier tale. If you ever wanted to know what Mr. Darcy was really thinking, check out this book!"

– Megan Hart, award-winning author of *Pleasure and Purpose*
www.meganhart.com

"A sensual take on a favorite classic. You'll never look at Mr. Darcy the same way! Michelle M. Pillow heats up the pages and makes the romance burn with passion. Unforgettable!"

– Cynthia Eden, award-winning author of *Deadly Fear*
www.cynthiaeden.com

"We've never seen a hotter Mr. Darcy. I couldn't tell where Austen ended and Pillow began . . . or put it down."

– Candace Havens, bestselling and award-winning author of *Dragons Prefer Blondes*
www.candacehavens.com

"Michelle M. Pillow has taken a great book and crafted it into an incredible book. I've fallen in love with Mr. Darcy all over again!"

– Beth Williamson, coauthor of *Wuthering Heights: The Wild and Wanton Edition*
www.bethwilliamson.com

"Michelle M. Pillow has ushered the Austen we know and love into the new millennium. Wonderful!"

– Mandy M. Roth, award-winning paranormal author
www.mandyroth.com

"Michelle M. Pillow blends delicious sensuality and heat seamlessly into a classic beloved novel. A wonderful, romantic ride. Bravo, Michelle!"

– Denise A. Agnew, award-winning author of *Dangerous Intentions*
www.deniseagnew.com

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