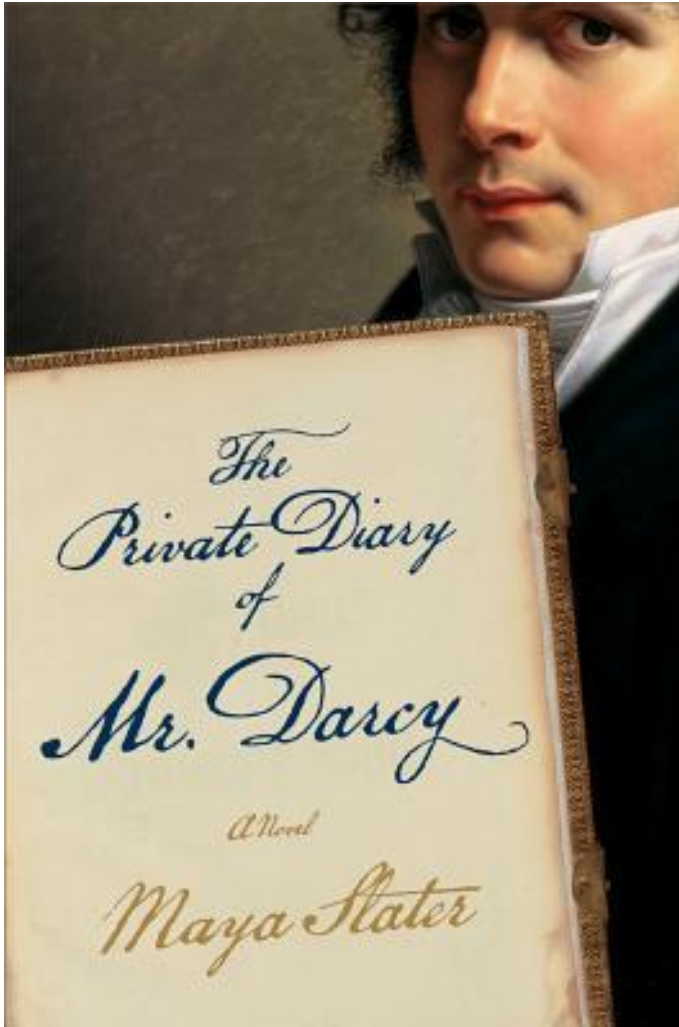

Maya Slater

The Private Diary of Mr. Darcy



Title: The Private Diary of Mr. Darcy

Author: Maya Slater

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Description

Literature's most famous romantic hero opens his diary: it's intimate, dramatic, deeply passionate, and sometimes downright shocking.

Have you ever wondered what Mr. Darcy was really thinking? Find out his secrets in this captivating novel of love, pride, passion, and, of course, prejudice. Mr. Darcy's intimate diary reveals his entanglements with women, his dangerous friendship with Lord Byron, his daily life in Georgian London, his mercurial mood swings calmed only by fisticuffs at Jackson's—and, most importantly, his vain struggle to conquer his longing for Elizabeth Bennet.

Insightful reviews

Elizabeth: So Anna gave me this book on Monday and said she'd read it all in one sitting. I can totally see why. I've tried (and not finished) a lot of retellings that turn Darcy into some sort of Harlequin hero, but not this one. Here, Fitz Darcy is a generous man, always willing to believe the best of people, and an absolutely dotting older brother/guardian for his younger sister. He does go a bit emo about the middle of the book (Several pages of variations on "How could she SAY those things about me???" Uh, Fitz? Love you much, buddy, but they're TRUE. Now go ride or fence or walk or something and get over yourself, kthx), but still and all an awesome read. Perhaps my favorite part of this book was when, in an effort to forget his troubles, Darcy attempts to catalog his library and calls "cataloguing books, the dullest pursuit in the world." He's right...I took a cataloging class in library school--and Darcy didn't even have to learn about Cutter numbers. ;-) Alas, I had to give Anna back her book this morning, but will be acquiring my own copy posthaste.

Emily Barnes: This book is written in the form of a diary, as the title suggests, and is therefore a fairly quick and easy read. The author makes a good stab at keeping the language authentic, and though the plot follows in the path of the original *Pride and Prejudice* novel, it offers a more broad glimpse into Darcy's life, including some pursuits that the more romantically inclined may not like so much (he sleeps with other women). There are no explicit descriptions of sex.

The strengths of this book are its language, the amount of texture added to the text by description of a gentleman's life in the Regency era, and the fact that the author did make Darcy's story a journey in which you can tell the man's character has fundamentally changed. That is not easy and definitely not very common in novels of the type.

The reason I gave this novel only 3 stars is because though it was an interesting story, and I did not mind the description of his sexual dalliances, I kind of missed Elizabeth. I could see why he loved her and where his strength of attachment came from but this is definitely a Darcy-centric novel, and I am more a Darcy and Elizabeth sort of person. I would have liked more an insight into their relationship, by perhaps adding more conversations between them and getting a clearer glimpse at the woman that so turned his life around, especially in the end. I also found the ending disappointing.

Aarti: Mr. Darcy has always seemed to be a brooding and mysterious man who, very much against his will, falls in love with a bright and lovely young woman who is his social inferior. He is not boring. He certainly is not the sort of person who would be friends with Lord Byron. He is not unfashionable, and he certainly doesn't spend his days cataloging his library. However, that is who he is to Maya Slater, which is unfortunate.

A major issue I had with this book was Darcy's relationship with Lord Byron. It seems very forced and I just do not understand how Mr. Darcy (and to an even greater extent, Mr. Bingley) could have possibly been friends with someone like Lord Byron. They spend a great deal of time together in the book, and it just does not work, chemistry-wise. I feel that Slater introduced Byron to the novel so that she could share some of the more risqué aspects of Regency life. However, I don't think Darcy was really the sort who would do such things. He is, after all, very proud of how proper he is. I am not saying he went to his wedding night a sainted virgin, but I can't imagine that he was nearly as dissolute as Slater makes him out to be in this novel.

My biggest complaint, though, is that Darcy in Slater's novel is just boring. He is not a three-dimensional character at all. In the novel, he barely even interacts with Elizabeth Bennet, so it is very hard to see how he falls in love with her. He spends a lot of time mulling things over (which, granted, goes well with his brooding character). Most of his diary entries, in my opinion, are quite dull. He talks about going shooting, cataloging books, feeling guilty about Charles Bingley, and remembering Elizabeth Bennet's eyes. It is interesting insofar as we get a glimpse of his relationship with his sister, with Lady de Burgh and with Caroline Bingley, but we do not really get to know Darcy himself. Even in his diary, he seems to hold himself just aloof enough to withhold any information we really want to know. And since the plot, really, follows the same timeline as *Pride & Prejudice*, and we know, generally, what will happen... this book didn't really add much to my experience of Jane Austen's novel. If you want to read *Pride & Prejudice*, then read the original. If you want to read it from Darcy's point of view, I have it on good authority that Pamela Aidan's series is the best. And if you want to see a fantastically brooding Darcy... then go find Colin Firth!

Glee: enjoyed the idea. examining it, no longer so much. For these of you who adore Jane Austen and/or *Satisfaction and Prejudice* (I adore Colin Firth and Matthew Macfadyen, no longer lots Austen) chances are you'll get a kick out of this. the unconventional purports to be the diary of Mr. Darcy throughout the related period of time that the occasions of delight and *Prejudice* unfold. The guy's element of view, because it were. Unfortunately, it brings to lifestyles in excruciating detail, the purpose that Mr. Darcy is a bore. First an smug bore, then a sympathetic bore. And Lord Byron is a true a-hole. Passionate, funny, misogynistic, slovenly, self-absorbed. no longer a person you'll are looking to spend time with, in particular when you are female, or a tender boy. And sadly, whereas I loved *Satisfaction and Prejudice*, there have been points of it that me a lot. This booklet brings all of these warts ahead with out the charm. Even figuring out that *P & P* was once written in class-riven 18th century England, I nonetheless had difficulty with the relationships among the landed gentry (poor and prosperous alike) and their servants. This booklet mirrored these sensibilities, in step with *P & P*. instance -- Mr. Darcy, passing some time at Lord Byron's, has problems simply because his personal valet used to be injured and not able to accompany him to Byron's, and Mr. Darcy used to be crippled in acting his toilette simply because nobody introduced him sizzling water and he (gasp) needed to gown himself with out

assistance. (Note: Byron has servants, yet they practice prone of a way more own nature than getting dressed, in the event you get my drift....)Anyway, i actually beloved the concept, yet I saved ready to be entertained. and that i wasn't.

Thomas Kramer: i've been desirous to proceed the intensive studying of the connection of Darcy and Elizabeth in addition to all the different aiding characters minor and major. For the main half the publication is a smart learn and has persisted my wish to devour different books written by way of different authors who imitate the fashion of Jane Austen, in spite of the fact that with their on twist of the vintage story. Some components i used to be disillusioned in just like the author's insistence that Mr. Darcy partakes, really often, within the dalliances of a guy who can't keep an eye on his hormones. i want to think, that Darcy, might steer clear of such temptation understanding his consistent pursuit of self discipline. The different half i used to be burdened approximately was once the writer took the freedom to signify that Mr. Wickham went further, opposed to her will, with Georgiana then only a mere elopement. I keep in mind on the finishing of delight and Prejudice, Lizzy begged Darcy to make great with Wickham and Lydia once they stopover at Pemberley. Had I stuck Mr. Wickham almost immediately after he pressured himself on my sister, no quantity of coaxing via Elizabeth could persuade me to permit Mr. Wickham remain below my roof for that reason forward. Overall, I nonetheless loved the book.

Sonja: I want that Slater had created unique characters for this tale instead of trying a retelling of delight and Prejudice. Her characterization of Anne is excellent, however the rest of the publication is disappointing and weak. There is a distinct protest opposed to the sexual exploitation and mistreatment of ladies through the book. But, Slater weakens her personal argument via making Darcy and Bingley such susceptible characters. together with Byron additionally does little or no for the book. Fitzwilliam Darcy is an idealized, iconic hero. Slater don't have replaced his personality so dramatically. He disapproves of Byron's insatiable urge for food for intercourse and sexual extremism. He loathes Wickham for his rapacious attacks. he's in actual fact disgusted by way of Edward Hurst's adultery. But, Slater misses her chance to exploit Darcy as a champion in safety of women. She turns him right into a hypocritical coward. he's prepared to go to 2 diversified prostitutes and is not squeamish approximately having an affair with Nellie, a maid at Netherfield. Darcy is well cowardly; he does not face up to Wickham or Byron even if he's awarded as a guy of wealth and influence. He can pay Wickham's extortionate calls for whilst there have been ways in which he can have silenced Wickham. He does not even try and hobble Wickham by means of ruining him socially.

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