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| <p>From Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen PAGE 1 “It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife”</p> | <p>Establishes the centrality of advantageous marriage, a fundamental social value of Regency England.</p> <p>Establishes slightly sarcastic tone of the novel.</p> | <p>Hyperbole: it states an opinion as though it is a “truth” then proclaims this opinion to be “universally acknowledged.”</p> <p>Irony: It is likely that the author is being sarcastic, posing a view that is likely from the perspective of Elizabeth’s mother—who is later acknowledged to be of “mean understanding.”</p> |
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