

APPENDICES

THE SYNOPSIS OF SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

When Mr. John Dashwood inherited his father's estate, it was his intention to provide comfortably for his stepmother and his half-sisters. His wife, Fanny, however, had other ideas, and even though she was independently wealthy she cleverly prevented her husband from helping his relatives. When Fanny's brother, Edward Ferrars, began to show interest in John's half-sister, Elinor, Fanny, determined to prevent any alliance between them, made life so uncomfortable for the older Mrs. Dashwood and her daughters that those ladies accepted the offer of their relative, Sir John Middleton, to occupy a cottage on his estate.

Mrs. Dashwood, Elinor, and Marianne were happy in the cottage at Barton Park. There they met Colonel Brandon, Sir John's friend, who was immediately attracted to Marianne. She, considering him old at the age of thirty-five, rejected his suit and fell in love with John Willoughby, a young man visiting wealthy relatives on a neighboring estate.

Once, while all the friends were preparing for an outing, Colonel Brandon was called away in a mysterious fashion. Elinor and Marianne were surprised later to hear that he had a daughter, at least that was the rumor they heard. Willoughby seemed determined to give Marianne a bad impression of Colonel Brandon, a fact which did not make Elinor happy. Shortly after the colonel's sudden departure, Willoughby himself left very suddenly, without giving Marianne a satisfactory explanation. Elinor could not help being concerned about the manner of his departure, particularly since he had not made a definite engagement with Marianne.

A week later Edward Ferrars appeared at the cottage for a visit. In spite of Elinor's attraction to him, Edward seemed no more than mildly interested in her. After a short stay he left the cottage without saying anything to give Elinor hope.

Meanwhile Sir John had invited to his home Miss Lucy Steele and her sister, two young ladies whom Elinor thought vulgar and ignorant. She was therefore stunned when Lucy told her that she was secretly engaged to Edward Ferrars, whom she had met while he was a pupil of Lucy's uncle. According to Lucy's story, they had been engaged for four years, but Edward's mother would not permit him to marry. Since Edward had no money of his own and no occupation, they were forced to wait for Mrs. Ferrars' consent before they could announce their engagement. Elinor, concealing her unhappiness at this news, told Lucy that she would help in any way she could.

A short time later Elinor and Marianne were invited to London to visit friends. Marianne immediately wrote to Willoughby that she was near. Although she wrote two or three times, she had no reply. One day, she met him at a party. He was with another young lady and treated Marianne courteously but coolly. The next morning, Marianne received a letter from him telling her that he was sorry if she had misunderstood his intentions and that he had been long engaged to another girl. All of her friends and relatives were furious to Willoughby. Even though she was heartbroken, Marianne continued to defend him and to believe that he was blameless. She was comforted by Colonel Brandon, who was also in London.

Privately, the colonel told Elinor about Willoughby's story. The colonel had a ward, the young girl believed by some to be his daughter, who was in reality the

daughter of his brother's divorced wife. When the colonel had had to leave Barton Park so suddenly, he had learned that his ward had been seduced and then abandoned by Willoughby. Elinor gave this news to Marianne, who received it with such sorrow that Elinor feared for her health. Colonel Brandon continued to be kind to Marianne, and it was obvious to everyone that he loved her.

The girls continued their stay in London, and a little later their brother John and his wife Fanny took a house there. When the Misses Steele also arrived in town for a visit, Edward's mother learned at last that he and Lucy were engaged. Angry, she settled what would have been Edward's inheritance on her other son, Robert, and Edward and Lucy were left with no means of support. He planned to study for the ministry, and Elinor arranged with Colonel Brandon for Edward to become a curate on his estate so that Edward and Lucy could be married.

Before Elinor and Marianne returned home, they visited Cleveland, an estate between London and Barton Park. There Marianne became ill with a heavy cold. Because she was anxious to see her mother, Colonel Brandon went for Mrs. Dashwood. Before they returned, Willoughby, having heard of Marianne's illness, called at the house. He told Elinor that he had treated Marianne shamefully, because he had no money of his own and because his wealthy relative had learned of his treatment of Colonel Brandon's and as a result had refused to give him an allowance. Consequently, he had married a wealthy girl and renounced Marianne. He said that he still loved Marianne and wished her to know his story so that she would not think harshly of him.

Marianne recovered from her illness and returned home with her mother and Elinor. There Elinor told her Willoughby's story. Marianne continued to sorrow him, but she no longer loved him.

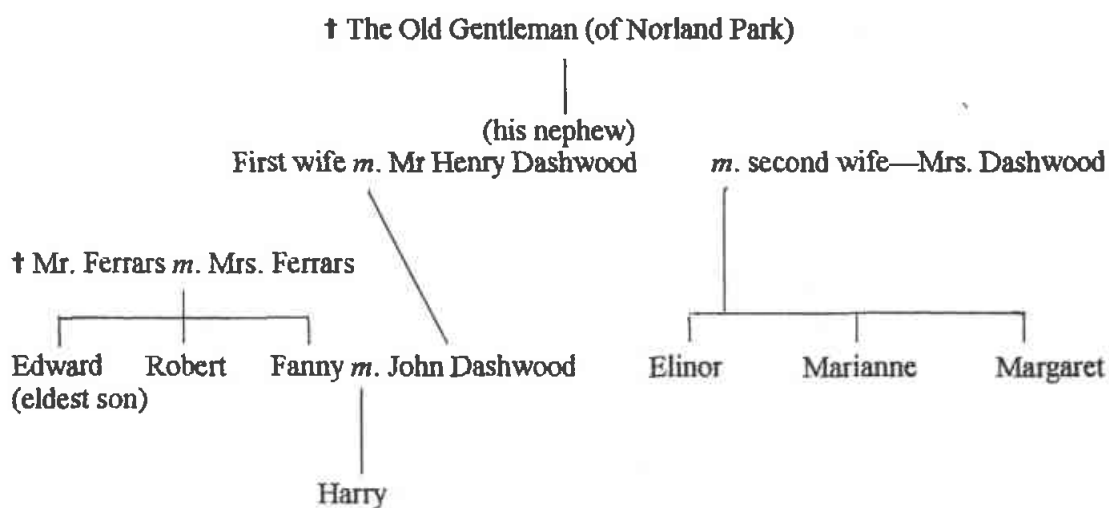
After their return, Elinor learned from a servant that Edward and Lucy had been married. Soon Edward appeared at the cottage and told the Dashwoods that the unscrupulous Lucy had married his brother instead, after their mother had disinherited Edward in favor of Robert. Edward had come to ask Elinor to marry him, and he had no trouble in gaining her consent, as well as that of her mother. It remained only for him to secure a living. He went to London to seek his mother's forgiveness. Because Mrs. Ferrars also had scorned her son Robert after his marriage to Lucy, she felt a need for affection from one of her children. After much weeping and pleading, which failed to move Edward in his determination to marry Elinor, Mrs. Ferrars gave her consent to the wedding. After their marriage they moved into the parsonage promised by Edward by Colonel Brandon some months before.

The colonel continued his quiet and friendly courtship of Marianne. At last she recognized his gentleness and kindness and they were married. When they moved to his estate, the two sisters were near each other once more. Fanny and John were so pleased to be related to the colonel that Fanny even forgave Edward for marrying Elinor. Mrs. Dashwood was delighted at the good fortune of her children, and the families lived in peace and contentment for all their lives.

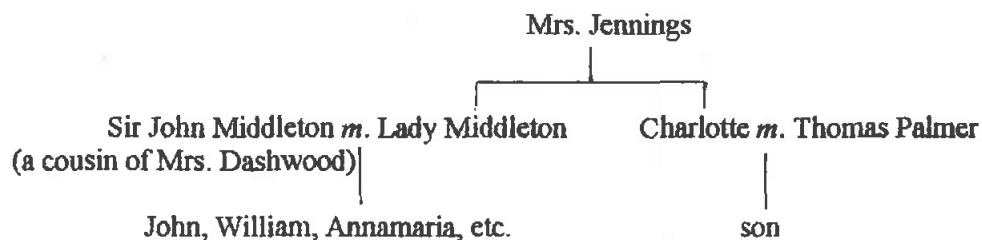
GENEALOGICAL CHARTS FOR SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

The tables below show how some of the characters in Sense and Sensibility are related to each other.

1. The Ferrars and Dashwoods

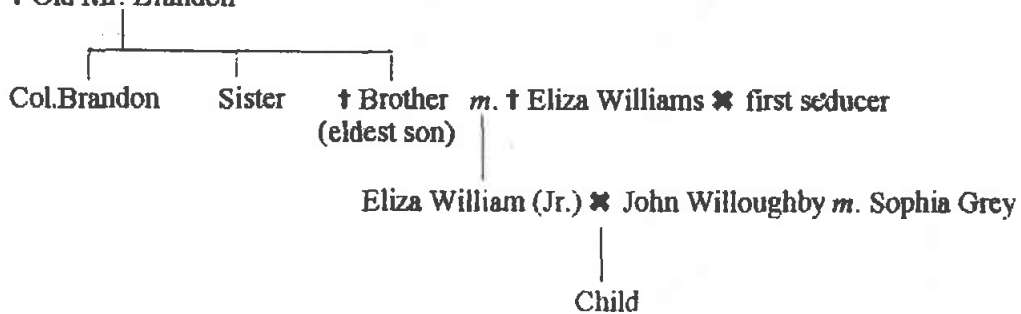


2. The Middletons



3. The Brandons

† Old Mr. Brandon



Notes:

† = indicates individual who has died before the main action of the novel.

✕ = indicates an illicit liason.

m = indicates married.