## The Ferrars Family

Anne and Lucy Steele were now staying in London with the Middletons. Everyone except Elinor was pleased to see them. The Steeles soon called on Mrs Jennings at her house in Berkeley Street. When Lucy saw Elinor there, she went up to her at once.

'I am so pleased that you are still in London, Miss Dashwood,' Lucy said with a sly smile. 'You told me that you would only stay a month, but I knew that you would stay longer. And now that your brother is coming to London you will not want to leave at all! Will you be staying with Mr and Mrs Dashwood when they arrive?'

'No, I do not think so,' Elinor replied.

'Oh, I am sure that you will!' Lucy cried. 'But you have been away from home such a long time! What does your mother think about that?'

Mrs Jennings heard Lucy's remark and spoke immediately. 'Oh! The Miss Dashwoods' visit has only just begun!' the old lady said kindly. 'I want them to stay as my guests for as long as possible.'

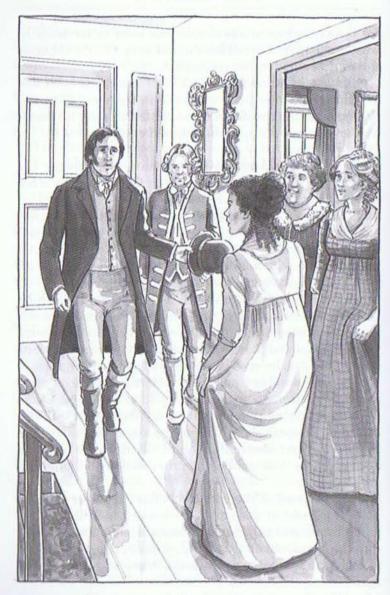
'I hear that Miss Marianne Dashwood has been ill,' Lucy went on. 'What is the matter with her? Where is she?'

'My sister has a headache today and she is resting in our room,' Elinor replied quietly.

'Then we must go and see her!' Anne Steele cried and she began to walk quickly towards the door.

'Please let her rest,' Elinor said.

Lucy frowned at her sister when she saw that Elinor was angry. Anne Steele said nothing more.



Sometimes, Marianne smiled and spoke a few words to Brandon when he visited.