

## Excerpt 1 (Fanny & John)

MRS. JOHN DASHWOOD. Well, John, let something be done, but it need not be 3,000 pounds. Your sisters, I'm sure will marry well and that money will be gone forever from our poor little boy.

JOHN DASHWOOD. Well, I suppose he might regret the sum should he have a numerous family.

MRS. JOHN DASHWOOD. Indeed.

JOHN DASHWOOD. Five hundred pounds would still be a prodigious increase to their fortunes.

MRS. JOHN DASHWOOD. Oh, beyond anything great. But John, five hundred pounds?

JOHN DASHWOOD. I should not want to do anything mean. You know, it occurs to me, that it might be best to do something for the mother while she lives rather than the daughters. A hundred a year would greatly increase their comfort.

MRS. JOHN DASHWOOD. Perhaps John, but then if Mrs. Dash wood should live fifteen years, we shall be completely taken in.

JOHN DASHWOOD. Fifteen years, I should think not.

MRS. JOHN DASHWOOD. If you observe, people always live forever when there is an annuity to be paid them. I would not bind myself to anything yearly.

JOHN DASHWOOD. Yes, well...perhaps you are right my love... they might only enlarge their style of living. A present of fifty pounds now and then, when needed, might sensibly and amply discharge my promise to my father.