

Anne of Green Gables - Story board

Based on the novel, the series Anne with an E and inspired by
[Letters To Anne Of Green Gables presented by Bethany Lutheran College - YouTube](#)

NAVIGATION

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Lights Off- Theme song – played by 4 students

Lights on - 4 narrators arriving from the room and climbing onto the stage.

INTRODUCTION : 4 students

(stage divided into 2: in the past and now – Dark, 4 teenagers entering the attic as they are playing hide and seek)

Teenager 1: What's up here? It's spooky!

Teenager 2 *(the goof with red hair)*: It's the attic.

Teenager 3: Look at all this old stuff. *(lots of boxes, papers, etc....)*

Teenager 4: Let's have a look.

Teenager 1: look: I found an old box with photos, letters and wow! Come and have a look!

Teenager 2: These are real old. Maybe we could sell them on Vinted!

Teenager 3: What's this? *(holding an old piece of paper, a note)*

Teenager 4: Dear Marilla *(struggling to pronounce the name)* Mari, Ila/ ya/

Teenager 2: *(checking pronunciation on phone - listening to correct pronunciation)*

Chorus: MARILLA

Teenager 4: *(reading the note)*

I'm awfully worried. I saw **Matthew** *(hesitating on the pronunciation)* starting off today. Are you going to the doctor's?

Will come back later,

Your worried neighbour,

Rachel Lynde

Music to announce flashback

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Lights on again + sound of someone knocking on the door.

Slide 1: in the kitchen

Props: Needles and wool / table/ 2 chairs/ candles

Scene 1: Mrs Lynde is surprised (*Marilla's kitchen*)/ *Knock-knock Rachel Lynde pushing the door* 2 speaking (5ème 5)

Rachel: Good evening, Marilla.

Marilla: Good evening, Rachel. How are you?

Rachel: Well, well, I must admit I was a bit worried. I saw Matthew leaving town today.

Marilla: Nothing to worry about Rachel. Matthew is going to Bright River station.

Rachel: What for? He was wearing his best clothes.

Marilla: Matthew went to Bright River train station to pick up an orphan boy from an orphanage in Nova Scotia.

Rachel: Marilla! What are you thinking of? What nonsense is that!

Marilla: Well, Matthew is getting old, he's sixty now and there is a lot to do on the farm. His heart troubles him a good deal so we are getting a boy to help on the farm.

Rachel: Well, let me tell you what I think! I think you are doing a foolish thing. You don't know what you are getting yourselves into. You are bringing a strange child into your home. This is nonsense Rachel. Well, I'm off to the post-office but I assure you this is nonsense....

Mrs Lynde going off to the post-office.

Lights off- Spotlight on narrators

Narrators (teenagers): Who is Matthew? I don't know. What kind of name is it?

Teenager X: Matthew is Marilla's brother. Now I remember my grandmother telling me that there used to be a sister and a brother. They lived here in this house. The Cuthberts, I think.

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Slide 2: At the post-office

Props: various packages and letters + desk

Scene 2: Mrs. Lynde at the post-office (6 speaking) (5ème5)

Clerk: Good morning, Rachel. What's the matter with you?

Rachel: Good morning. Good morning to you Mrs. Barry. This is just pure nonsense. I'm just back from the Cuthberts. You'll never believe it!

The minister: Have a seat. What's going on?

Rachel (*breathless*): well, they are adopting a boy from Nova Scotia.

Together: Nova Scotia! Oh My! Are you sure?

The minister: From where?

Rachel: Nova Scotia.

Mrs. Barry: Why! Adopting an outsider?

The clerk: It could be dangerous.

People in shop in chorus: Dreadful indeed!

Mrs. Barry: It could be a convict

Shopper 1: Yes! Or a black child

Shopper 2: A thief

Shopper 3: A murderer

Local resident 1: I heard last week that one strange child put poison into a well on a farm

Local resident 2: It could burn down the stables

Local resident 3: It could destroy our community

The minister: Let's calm down ladies *and not fall into hysteria*. Let us not forget our sense of charity.

Rachel: Well, I wonder what this BOY will be like.

- Echo : (*in the present*) I wonder what this boy will be like

(**Song:** *If I were a boy* – Beyoncé <https://youtu.be/AWpsOqh8q0M?t=19>)

Narrators: Look I found something. It's Marilla's diary. Wow, look inside. It's a telegram.

Other teenagers: What does it say? Read it! Go on!

Teenager reading: *To Marilla (echo they all repeat the name) Cuthbert*

"On my way to White Sand Station. Arriving with child. Waiting for you at Bright River Station at 5:30. Mrs. Spencer"

Teenager 2: (*taking his phone again and pretending*) She could have sent a text: 5.30 pm pick up child. So much quicker, no??

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Steam train sounds

Slide 3: At the train station

Scene 3: At the train station with Station Master (Matthew/ Stationmaster/ Anne) 3 speaking

(Anne waiting on a bench with her bag.)

Matthew: When will the five thirty train will be here?

Station master: The five thirty train left. There was a passenger dropped off for you – that little girl was on it. She's waiting for you.

Matthew: But I'm expecting a boy. I've come for a boy. I don't understand. He should be here. Mrs. Spencer was to bring him from Nova Scotia.

Stationmaster (*whistling*): guess there is some mistake. Mrs. Spencer came off the train with that girl. She said you and your sister were adopting her from an orphanage.

Matthew: I don't understand.

Station Master: You can ask her about it. She'll be able to explain. She's got a tongue of her own, that's certain. Maybe they were out of boys!

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Scene 4: Anne meets with Matthew (5ème 5)

(Anne keeps staring at Matthew and stands up. She moves towards him.)

Anne: Are you Mr. Matthew Cuthbert of Green gables? I am SO very glad to see You. I was beginning to be afraid you weren't coming and I thought I could sleep in a tree tonight, but going home with you is much nicer.

Matthew: I'm sorry I was so late. Come along. Give me your bag

Anne: Oh, I can carry it. It isn't heavy. And I'm so glad you've come. It is so wonderful. I'm going to live with you and belong to you. I've never belonged to anybody – not really.

Lights off and spotlight light on the narrators

Narrators: (sitting in a row and repeating one after the other then together)

One teenager: (*sitting down*) WOW, it wasn't a boy!

All together (*imitating*): no, it wasn't a boy.

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Sound of horse + carriage

Slide: Green Gables

Scene 5: Anne arrives at Green Gables (Matthew, Anne and Marilla) 3 speaking

Marilla (*waiting for them in the yard and approaching Matthew*): Matthew Cuthbert! Who is that? Where is the boy?

Matthew: There was no boy! Only her.

Marilla: No boy! But there must be a boy! We sent word to Mrs. Spencer to bring a boy!

Matthew: Well, she didn't. She brought her.

Marilla: There must be a mistake.

Anne: (*dropping her bag and clasping her hand*): You don't want me! You don't want me because I'm not a boy. I knew it. Nobody wants me.

Narrators (*together*): Nobody wants her!

Teenagers: That's terrible

Teenager: Read on! Will she stay or will she go?

Echo: So will she stay or will she go? (Song (The Clash): *Should I stay, or should I go?*)

CHOREGRAPHIE

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Slide : Green Gables

Scene 6: Marilla and Anne

Marilla: Well, well don't cry child. It's probably a mistake.

Anne: But I'm so sad. I thought I had a home and now I don't. I can't stay. Yu...yu..You don't want me. I can't stay because I'm not a boy!

Marilla: Oh, Stop crying. Come along child. You can stay tonight, and we can talk again in the morning. What's your name?

Anne: Will you please call me Cordelia?

Marilla: Call you Cordelia! Is that your name?

Anne: No, not exactly, but I would love to be called Cordelia. It is such a perfectly elegant name.

Marilla: So what is your name child?

Anne: Anne. My name is Anne. Plain Anne Shirley but, Oh, please call me Cordelia. Anne is such an unromantic name.

Marilla: Anne is a fine name. A sensible name.

Anne: Could you please spell it with an E?. It looks so much more distinguished.

Marilla: Very well then Anne – Anne with an E – it's time to come inside.

Anne: Will you keep me then?

Marilla: No, we want a boy to help Matthew on the farm. A girl would be of no use.

They walk into the house. Lights off

Door slamming

Sound of Rooster (<https://youtu.be/J-1Bob1dU18?t=5>)

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Sound of rooster

Slide : in the kitchen

Props : plates/ aprons/ broom/ table and chairs

Scene 7: A girl can do anything (2 speaking)

Marilla: (*calling to Anne in the early morning*) Anne! Anne! No time to lay around in bed. Get dressed and come downstairs. We've got quite a lot of work.

(*Anne appears*).

Marilla: Help me with breakfast. Matthew is already off. He's got a lot to do, and he hasn't got a boy to help him.

Anne: I can help! I can do many things! I can do the farm chores!

Marilla: That's not the way of things.

Anne: But I can. I can do all those things a boy can do. I'm as strong as a boy and I prefer being outdoors than in the kitchen. What if suddenly there were no boys in the world? None at all?

Marilla: Fiddlesticks!

Anne: It doesn't make sense. A girl can do as much as a boy on a farm. Girls can do anything a boy can do. And more!

Narrators: Wow this girl is on fire! (Song – This Girl is on Fire – Alicia Keys)

But wait are they gonna keep her?

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Slide: in the kitchen

Props : table with rockingchair and tea pot + pipe for Matthew

Low light with candles

Scene 8: Marilla makes up her mind (2 speaking) 5^{ème}5

Marilla: So, what should we do Matthew?

Matthew: Well, she sure is an interesting little sprite.

Marilla: But do you think she could be of some use to us?

Mathew: Or could we be of use to her?

Teenager 4: So they've finally decided to keep her

Teenagers in chorus: Yes it's because she's gonna Work, work, work!

Courte chorégraphie- (Rihanna's song - <https://youtu.be/HL1UzIK-flA?t=18>)

Teenager 3: I wonder how people are going to react?

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Door slamming and bell

Slide: in the shop

Props: a few chair + clothes

Scene 9: Anne meets Mrs. Lynde and other inhabitants (shopkeeper/the minister/Rachel Lynde)(5 speaking)

Rachel: Good morning, Marilla

Marilla: Good morning, Rachel. Anne, this is our good neighbour, Mrs. Lynde.

Anne: Good morning, Mrs. Lynde. So delighted to meet you.

Rachel Lynde: Well, they didn't pick you for your looks, that's sure and certain! She's terribly skinny Marilla. Come closer child and let me have a look at you. She's got freckles and hair as red as carrots!

Anne: I hate you! I hate you! I hate you! I hate you! How dare you call me skinny and ugly? How dare you say I've got freckles and red hair! You are a rude, impolite, unfeeling woman!

Marilla: Anne!

Anne: How would you like to be told you are fat and clumsy with no imagination! I don't care if I hurt your feelings. I hope I hurt them. I'll never forgive you, never, never!

Rachel: Did anybody ever see such a temper!

Marilla: Anne, go outside and wait for me immediately.

(Anne leaves the shop followed by Marilla)

Shopkeeper (In the shop): Please sit down, Mrs. Lynde. What an awful little girl!

Rachel: I told you, no good could come of an outsider.

The minister: A good dose of discipline would do her no harm.

(Marilla leaves the shop, goes to Anne who is waiting outside, her back turned to the shop, face streaked with tears and scowling)

Marilla: Listen to me. You had no right to fly into a fury and talk the way you did to Mrs. Lynde. I am ashamed of you. You have disgraced me.

Anne: She had no right to call me ugly and red headed.

Marilla: You go back to this shop and apologize immediately.

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Scene 10: Anne apologizes to Mrs. Lynde (5^{ème}5) 2 speaking

Anne: (*getting down on her feet*) Mrs. Lynde! I am so extremely sorry. Please forgive me! I will never shout at you again. I behaved terribly. I'm sorry I lost my temper because you told me the truth. Every word you said was true. My hair is red, I'm freckled and skinny and ugly.

Mrs. Lynde: There, there! Get up child. I guess I was a little too hard on you

Ann: Oh, Mrs. Lynde, please say you forgive me. What I said to you was true, but I shouldn't have said it. Please forgive me!

Mrs. Lynde: Of course, I forgive you. I'm just an outspoken person. You see, it's true your hair is terrible red, but I knew a girl whose hair was quite as red as yours when she was young, but it turned to a real handsome auburn.

Ann: Thank you Mrs. Lynde, you have given me hope. Oh, Marilla wouldn't it be wonderful to have auburn hair?

Marilla: Well, we'll see about that. Let's go home now.

They leave the shop.

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Slide: In the kitchen

Scene 11: Anne meets the Barrys (LCE) 4 speaking

Marilla: Anne, come downstairs. I've got some good news for you. I'm going to see Mrs. Barry and the Progressive Mothers and if you like you can come with me and get acquainted with Diana.

Anne: Oh Marilla: I'm so frightened. What if she doesn't like me. It would be a tragedy!

Marilla: Don't you get into a fluster. Diana will probably like you. She is a delicate and well-educated girl. It's her mother you've got to convince and all the Progressive Mothers, now that they have seen your overreaction with Mrs. Lynde.

Anne: Oh, I'm too nervous now. I just want Diana to be my bosom friend.

Marilla: Be on your best behaviour, will you. Follow me.

(*Star wars music...* https://youtu.be/_D0ZQPqeJkk)

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Slide: Mrs Barry's living-room

Scene 12: At the doorstep (LCE) (3 students speaking + 1 playing Diana reading + Progressive Mothers in the distance)

Mrs. Barry: How do you do Marilla? Come in. And this is the little girl you have adopted I suppose?

Marilla: Yes, this is Anne Shirley

Anne: Spelled with an e.

Mrs. Barry: Pardon me?

Anne: Spelled with an e. It is definitely more distinguished, don't you find?

Mrs. Barry: I see. Well, how are you?

Anne: I am well, thank you very much but

Marilla: (*interrupting*) She is perfectly fine, just needs some time to get used to Green Gables.

Mrs. Barry: This is my little girl, Diana. Diana, please, you might take Anne out into the garden and show her the flowers. You read too much my dear, a bit of fresh air will do you some good.

(*The two girls leave*)

(*5 Progressive Mothers (PMs) + Marilla*)

Mrs. Barry: Please take a seat, Marilla.

Mrs. Andrews: So, how is that girl doing?

Another PM: We've heard the story with Mrs. Lynde.

Another PM: The whole town is talking about it! Are you sure you will be able to educate this poor child?

Mrs. Barry: I hope she will not corrupt the mind of our children, Marilla.

Another PM: You'll have to keep a close look on her.

Mrs. Andrews: That's the problem when you get a strange child. You never know how it will turn out. We understand she needs all your attention.

Mrs. Barry: We really expect you, Marilla, to give her a proper education.

Another PM: Definitely, Marilla. She talks too much for a little girl.

Another PM: She is too frank!

Another PM: She's got such a temper!

Another PM: Not to mention her freckles and red hair!

Marilla: Well, it's true, she is a strange little thing, but I'm sure she will learn fast.

The Progressive Mothers: Well, it is your duty, Marilla, to make sure she does. We are concerned.

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Another mother: You definitely have your hands full now, that is why we also urge you to consider home-schooling.

The mothers: That would be the best for everyone. Please!

Mrs Barry: Well Marilla, that's all we wanted to tell you. I hope you do understand. We are highly concerned with our girls' education we can't let any strange child corrupt their minds.

Teenagers in chorus: The poor girl. Nobody seems to like her!

(Music – Radiohead: *Creep* - <https://youtu.be/XFkzRNyygfk?t=116>)

Teenager 3: Why are they so mean to her? It can't be just because she's got red hair. That is discrimination. That could be pretty bad. Look I've got red hair

Teenager 2: That's cause you are a freak. You are a loser (song)

Teenager 1: Stop it. Look on this page it's written Anne finds a bosom friend

Teenager 4: What's a bosom? Never heard that word before. Do you know what it means?

Teenagers: no , but who cares!

Teenager: Looking up on phone: Reading the definition of bosom: *"the human chest and especially the front part of the chest a woman's breasts!"*

(to be continued)

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Slide: In the garden + sound of birds chirping

Scene 13: Anne and Diana become bosom friends (LCE) 2 speaking- the oath

Anne: Oh Diana, do you think ... do you think you can like me; a little, just a little...

Diana (*laughing*) why, I guess so. I'm glad you've come to Green Gables. It will be nice to have a friend to play with. I'm quite lonely here, I have no big sisters, just my little sister Minnie, who I love, but I can't really play with her.

Ann: Will you swear to be my friend for ever and ever?

Diana shocked: Anne, it's dreadfully wicked to swear. Mother would not tolerate it.

Anne: Oh, but there are two kinds of swearing.

Diana: I only know of one.

Anne: There is another one and it isn't wicked at all, it just means promising solemnly.

Diana: Well, I don't mind doing that. Mother always says it's important to keep our promises. But how do we do it?

Anne: You must join hands! I'll say it first:

"I solemnly swear to be faithful to my bosom friand, Diana Barry, as long as the sun and moon shall shine." Now it's your turn. You say it and put my name in it.

Diana: I solemnly swear to be faithful to my bosom friend, Anne Shirley ... (*Anne interrupts*)

Anne: Diana, can you say Anne with an *E* Shirley Cuthbert, please?

Diana: I solemnly swear to be faithful to my bosom friend, Anne with an *E* Shirley Cuthbert, as long as the sun and moon shall shine.

Anne: That was perfect, now we are friends forever.

Diana: Oh, Anne you are a strange girl! It's true what I have heard, but I believe I'm going to like you.

Teenagers in chorus: BFF- BEST FRIEND FOREVER

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Slide : At school

Props : benches + coat hangers + marbles and cards + baskets and books

Scene 14: Gilbert is back (LCE)

Jane Andrews: Have you heard about the new girl?

Josie Pie : Mother said I shouldn't sit next to her.

Diana: She is a nice girl, but it must be difficult to arrive in a new town.

Ruby Gillis : We must get to know her!

Jane Andrews: I will certainly not sit next to dirty white trash!

Sara Gillis : I heard she has red hair and lots of freckles!

Tillie Boulter: I saw her at church, but mother wouldn't let me say hello.

Diana : I like her and I'm sure you will.

Charlie Sloane : ...and other kids: look, that's gilbert! Gilbert! You're back!

Moody : Welcome back Gilbert. It's good to see you buddy!

Gilbert : It's good to be back.

Charlie Sloane : How was New Brunswick?

Gilbert : Quite interesting

Moody : Is your dad feeling better?

Gilbert : We're both glad to be home.

Anne arrives.

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Slide : At school

Props : a ball + boards + benches and chairs and a long stick

Scene 15: First day at school

Diana : Anne, come along. I'm glad you found your way to school. Welcome to your first day of school. Come on, I'll show you everything you need to know. You can sit with me. Go on, let set your things down.

Anne puts her things on desk. Moody and Charlie Sloan come along.

Moody : Hello I'm Moody.

Anne : I'm Anne.

Moody : I'm Moody.

Moody : Nice to see you too Diana.

Diana : Don't talk to boys. Look...

(The girls arrive and interrupt)

Diana : This is Jane Andrews, and Josie Pie and Ruby Gillis and Tillie Boulter. Everybody, this is Anne.

The girls : Hello, Anne, nice to meet you.

Anne : It is a scrumptious pleasure to make your acquaintances.

Diana : *(embarrassed)*: Uh... Anne loves to read and she knows ever so many big words.

Josie *(peevishly)*: Does she use them all in every sentence?

Sara : I like to read too.

Ruby : No, you don't.

Sara : No, I don't.

Josie : Why do they make you wear that old lady's dress? And what have you done to your hat?

Anne : I just wanted to make a good impression.

Josie : You sure did!

Sara : I guess it's normal to wear old clothes when you are an orphan.

Diana : Anne isn't an orphan anymore. She's been adopted.

Anne (Alicia) : I am still an orphan and I'll always be an orphan.

Tillie : Oh, my, I would hate being an orphan!

Ruby : I feel so sorry for you, Ann. It must be so awful.

Josie : Thinking that nobody wants you.

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Billy (Alexis): Ruff ruff ruff with a ball.

Anne : You are ridiculous!

Billy : Hey look, it's a talking dog. Can you fetch that, too?

Diana: Leave her alone, Billy!

Billy : Sit! Stay! Roll over...

Diana (*taking Anne away*): Don't mind the boys. Come on, let's finish the tour. I'll introduce you to Gilbert Blythe. He is so handsome...

Ruby (*following behind*): ...and so chivalrous!

Diana : Ruby is ever so fond of Gilbert. She has been for 2 years now. You can't talk to him.

(*Mr. Philipps walks in.*)

Mr. Philipps : Sit down and be quiet. Take your board and chalk and spell the words...

Ravishing. Thank you, Prissy.

Moody! Up to the board! Spell "Dreadful". Like your handwriting – dreadful.

Anne : (*standing up*): There is a silent "a" between the e and the "-d".

Mr. Philip : Indeed, a silent "a". You should be silent, Shirley. Sit down immediately.

Gilbert (*whispering*): She is good and serious.

(*Gilbert starts teasing Anne*)

Gilbert : Hey carrots! Carrots (*pulling her hair*).

Anne : I'm not talking to you (*standing up suddenly + smashing board on Gilbert's head*).

+ **SOUND of something smashing**

Gilbert : Wow, you just did!

Mr.: Philipps : SHIRLEY: get up here now! What a vicious display! Is this what they have taught you in the orphanage? Unacceptable!

Ann Shirley has a very bad temper (*on the board*).

Stand here and stay put. The rest of you, calm down!

Gilbert : It was my fault sir, I teased her.

Mr. Philipps : Quiet Blythe. There is no excuse.

Quiet and return to your lesson.

(*Anne starts walking towards the door, very slowly*)

Mr. Philipps : Where do you think you're going?

Get back here! Shirley!

PORTE QUI CLAQUE

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Anne walks out and starts running. Leave stage.

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Slide : In the school yard

Scene 16: Gilbert stands up for Anne LCE (4 students)

(Gilbert leaves school but Billy runs after him)

Billy: Hey Gilbert! Gilbert! Buddy! *(2 friends following him)*

Gilbert: What! What do you want Billy?

Billy: Hey buddy, how are you doing?

Gilbert: Good.

Billy: Glad you're back at school. That ugly orphan is out of control.

Gilbert: What do you care!

Billy: We need a guy to show her she's not so smart.

Gilbert: But she is smart. Deal with it!

Billy: Why, don't react like that, bud.

Gilbert: I'm not your bud. Why don't you take care of yourself?

Billy: Well, alright, bud.

Gilbert: I'm not your bud and let me give you a tip, if you hassle Anne again, you'll regret it!

Billy: What's your problem? That ugly orphan needs to go back where she comes from.

Gilbert: What's the problem? You are the problem. She's not.

Narrators:

Teenager 1: Yes, he's the problem! That Billy Andrews was a nasty thing.

Teenager Goof: I wish I could have....

Teenager 3: Gilbert Blythe was such a hero. So romantic ... so ...

Teenager 4: Hang on. Look! There was another fight with Anne and Billy Andrews. Gilbert stood up for Anne again.

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Slide : at school

Props: Games and skipping ropes

Scene 17: Ann fights with Billy (4^{ème} 7)

At school- Kids playing in different areas. Lunch time.

Anne and ruby doing skipping rope. Ruby falls over

Anne: Ruby, Are you alright?

(Ruby, crying)

Billy (mocking): Look at those two freaks. Great! Hey, you two, get out of the way!

Another boy: Girls are so useless! They can't even jump properly.

Billy: Hey, guess you should have stayed home in the kitchen!

Anne: What is wrong with you? She's hurt!

Billy: She's not hurt! Just hysteria. It's pathetic! Go back to your cookery book!

Anne: Why don't you make yourself useful, Billy Andrews, and come help Ruby. That would probably be too much to ask of you!

Billy: Shut up!

Gilbert arrives

Gilbert: Hey, there, are you alright? Let me help you.

Ruby: Thank you, Gilbert. You are so kind.

Teenagers in chorus: Oh, Gilbert! Gilbert is so nice!

Teenager goof: Don't you think I could have been Gilbert?

Teenager 1: Stop for a minute. Listen to this: Mr. Philipps, the schoolteacher, has left town! Look guys, it's written here. *(Reading out loud):*

"Today was the last day of school for Mr. Philipps. Anne came back crying though she had never really liked him. He was ever so strict. The Board of Trustees have hired a new teacher. He will meet with the Progressive Mothers."

Teenager 2: How lucky is that!

Teenager 3: So, what's his name? Where is he from?

Teenager goof: Can I have your ID please? What's your name? Where are you from? Are you married? So much suspense. I guess NYPD Blues couldn't have done better than the Progressive Mothers!

Anne of Green Gables - Story board

Based on the novel, the series Anne with an E and inspired by
[Letters To Anne Of Green Gables presented by Bethany Lutheran College - YouTube](#)

Slide : at Mrs Andrews's

Props : tables + books + tea

Scene 18: Miss Stacy meets with the Progressive Mothers 4^{ème} 1

House of Mrs. Andrews – several mothers in a circle, seated, waiting for Miss Stacy who is late + Mrs. Lynde

Mrs. Lynde: I am so impatient to see this new teacher. I'm sure the Board of Trustees have hired a highly educated man.

Mrs. Andrews: Well, he might have got lost because he is late.

(Bell rings- Mrs. Andrews goes to the door)

Miss Stacy: Hello, sorry I'm late. I'm Muriel. Muriel Stacy.

Mrs. Andrews: Good day to you, Miss Stacy, but may I ask you who you are?

Miss Stacy: Sorry I lost track of the time, as I was decorating my new home and then my motorbike broke down, so I'm ever so sorry for being late, really, and please excuse my appearance... but I'm the new teacher. I'm so pleased to have accepted this position in such a peaceful community!

Mrs. Andrew: The new teacher? There must be a mistake! We were expecting a man.

Miss Stacy: Well, my trousers might do the trick. I'm your MAN!

Rachel Lynde: Good day, Miss Stacy. I must say you are rather unrestrained!

Miss Stacy: I have never believed in corsets. Trousers are quite liberating; you should try them.

Rachel Lynde: I assume you are not married?

Miss Stacy: Feel free to assume.

Rachel Lynde: So you are determined to be an old maid and to have the unfulfilled life of an unmarried woman?

Another PM: People will certainly get the wrong impression.

Mrs. Andrews: Well, Miss Stacy, we have great expectations for our children here in Avonlea, and we want them to receive a high-quality education! That is why we ask you to remain conservative.

Another PM: Virtuous...

All PMs in chorus: Oh yes, virtuous!

Another PM: Strict...

All PMs in chorus: Certainly! Very strict!

Another PM: And restrained!

All PMs in chorus: ABSOLUTELY!

Mrs. Andrews: ...otherwise we can't imagine you will be the proper educator for our children.

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Miss Stacy: I see!

Mrs. Andrews: I'm glad you do. Now, may I please see you to the door? We've got to meet with the Board of Trustees, but we shall pay you a visit in class.

Miss Stacy: Please do!

Miss Stacy leaves

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Slide: At school

Sound of pupils at school talking

Scene 19: Children talking about Miss Stacy- at school (4^{ème} 1) 6 students speaking

Prissy: My mom thinks she is unsuitable.

Ruby: I know, she arrived late at the meeting. "That's unreliable," mother said.

Kid X: I heard she is from the mainland. That's not a good sign.

Kid Y: Well, my mother said she was a spinster and that she was quite unlady-like.

Billy Andrews: Well, my father wonders why an unmarried woman from the big city would want to come here? There is scandal in there, somewhere, you'll see!

Anne: Look! She rides a motorbike! How ladylike is that! I love it. She is just spectacular! She is just what we need!

Prissy: What kind of a woman rides a motorbike?

Miss Stacy walks past the students

Ruby: Oh – my – goodness! Oh my goodness...

Anne: She is not wearing a corset. She is just so ladylike. She's going to be fantastic!

Anne of Green Gables - Story board

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Slide: at school

+ Electricity scene + bulbs and sound of smashing glass

Scene 20: Miss Stacy at school- The science lesson (4^{ème} 1) 10 students speaking

Miss Stacy: Good morning, class.

Class: Good morning, Miss Stacy.

Miss Stacy: Good morning, Mrs. Cuthbert, would you care to stay and observe?

Marilla: I believe I would.

Miss Stacy: All right children. Science changes the world. Does anyone know what electricity is?

Anne: Light.

Miss Stacy: Yes, and?

Gilbert: A form of energy.

Miss Stacy: Yes, indeed. Have you ever watched bolts of lightening in a thunderstorm? That's electricity. Electrical currents live inside atoms. Atoms are very small particles. It takes millions of them to make a nail. Everything is made up with matter around you. Chocolate cake is made up with matter. The walls are made up with matter. You are made up with matter. Now, today we are going to make our own electric current in order to illuminate a light bulb. How many of you have ever seen one?

Gilbert: I did. When I was in New York.

Ann: In Charlottetown.

Diana: My aunt has electricity in the big city.

Miss Stacy: Well, today we are going to make light with some of PEI's finest potatoes!

Arrival of the Progressive mothers

Miss Stacy: Why, hello! Good timing. We were just brightening our day! Won't you join us?

Moody touching the potatoes

Anne and Gilbert: Moody! No! Don't!

Moody: Ah!

Light bulb falling

Moody: Oh no!

Miss Stacy: Everyone stand still.

Moody's mother: My child! My child!

Anne of Green Gables - Story board

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Miss Stacy: Please stay back. Thank you. Let's stay calm. There are no shards under your feet so let's keep it that way. Don't move and I'll fetch a broom.

Prissy and her mother (leaving): Let's get you away from this classroom. What if that glass had cut your pretty face? You wouldn't be able to find a decent husband.

Moody: Mother please, no it was my fault!

Moody's mother: You should have been sitting safe and sound at your desk. Children shouldn't be exposed to such dangerous nonsense.

Mrs. Andrews: Miss Stacy, may we have a word with you?

(Standing aside with other mothers)

Mrs. Andrews: As the leader of the Progressive Mothers, we deem it necessary to remind you that we expect this classroom to be orderly and calm. We expect you to conform to the curriculum.

Miss Stacy: Science is part of the curriculum.

Mrs. Lynde: That wasn't science! That was PRESTIDIGITATION.

Marilla: Oh, for heaven's sake! It was an excellent lesson.

Mrs. Andrews: We want our children to learn *safely* what is required to prepare them for higher education.

Mrs. Lynde: Not this circus.

Gilbert: Pardon me, but this was not a circus. This was science, and Miss Stay is a capable teacher.

Anne: She is a smart and lovely woman with great knowledge and knows more than most men around here!

Mrs. Andrews: Well, we will certainly have to see about that! A decision will have to be taken.

Mrs. Lynde: I will report this unfortunate incident to the Board of Trustees, and immediate action will be taken.

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Slide: TOWN HALL MEETING

Sound of people talking

Mrs Andrews claps her hands to draw attention

Props : benches and chairs + 2 tables + small lights held by students walking in

Scene 21: 4^{ème} 6 - The town Hall meeting (whole class)

Rachel Lynde / the Minister / the Progressive Mothers (Mrs. Andrews) / Miss Stacy and the community / Anne / Gilbert

Mrs. Andrews: We are now of opinion that Miss Stacy is nor qualified nor an appropriate person to shape the young minds of our dear community.

Rachel Lynde: Thank you Progressive Mothers

Progressive mothers: Thank you

Rachel Lynde: Minister, please remind our kind community what we should expect from a proper teacher

Minister: (*very seriously*):

A teacher is expected to enforce RULES

And to KEEP ORDER

A teacher must teach OBEDIENCE...FAITH...RESPECT FOR ELDERS...And MORALITY!

As for children, they should be SILENT....SHOW RESPECT...BE
HONEST...PUNCTUAL...CLEAN...and TIDY

They should always BEHAVE and follow directions given by adults.

There is no place for nonsense game and outdoor activities.

Children should study at their desk and spend time memorizing and reciting.

Mathematics and science should only be taught to *BOYS*.

Understanding concepts and ideas is of no use!

Sound of door slamming

-----Door opening- Miss Stacy walks down the room (if theatre) -----

Rachel Lynde: Miss Stacy! Miss Stacy, we are conducting a meeting of important matter, and your presence is not requested!

Miss Stacy: Indeed, but I feel I have a right to speak my mind. And I wish to ask you this question:

“What is the most important thing regarding your children’s education? Jealousy? Prejudice? Fear?

Shouldn’t you ask yourself: are your children learning?

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I believe they are.

Change is uncomfortable because it is unknown and yet it is necessary. I understand, I am unusual. My teaching methods are odd. But hands-on learning and active engagement are more effective than mere memorization.

Recently some dreamers created the TELEGRAPH, ELECTRICITY and the STEAM ENGINE!

Could you live without it? Dreamers can change the world.

I want to build STRONG students! CURIOUS students! BRIGHT students! This is why I'm here."

Kids entering from all entrances with little potato lights on.

Anne. THIS is what Miss Stacy has taught us. She taught us electricity, but she also kept us motivated. Miss Stacy is a dedicated teacher. She is an inspiration.

Gilbert: I returned to Avonlea because I need what has always been here, but why would I stay if I can't grow? Miss Stacy supports me. She is helping me to become a doctor. She is our chance to realize our dreams and become more than what we are now.

Marilla: Change is the only way to grow and learn.

Some children: Tell me / us and I / we forget

Other kids: Teach me / us and I / we remember

All kids together: Involve me / us and I / we learn

Teenagers in chorus:

There is always another way

To look at things

Different isn't bad!

It's just not the same.

(so we're unstoppable today)

Final song: I'm unstoppable by Sia + musicians playing it.