

AOGG Audition Cut #6: Young Anne, Diana, & Aunt Josephine

AUNT JOSEPHINE. There you are! You are the worst behaved girl I ever saw. Your parents ought to be ashamed for the way they've brought you up.

ANNE. But Miss Barry—

AUNT JOSEPHINE. Who are you? (*Back to DIANA.*) And another thing. I will *not* pay for your music lessons as I had promised your father.

ANNE. But Miss Barry—

AUNT JOSEPHINE. Who are you? (*To DIANA.*) And another thing. I will not stay two weeks as planned. I shall return to Charlottetown tomorrow, taking with me any monetary considerations I had for this family.

ANNE. But Miss Barry—

AUNT JOSEPHINE. Who are you? (*To DIANA.*) And another thing... (*Back to ANNE.*) Who are you?

ANNE. Anne Shirley. I live at Green Gables. This was all my fault, Miss Barry – jumping on your bed like that. Diana is a very ladylike girl. You mustn't blame her.

AUNT JOSEPHINE. Oh, I mustn't, eh?

ANNE. It was only in fun. Please forgive us, Miss Barry. At least forgive Diana, and let her have her music lessons. If you must be cross with anyone, be cross with me. (*Gently playing the martyr.*) In my early days as an orphan, many people were cross with me. So I can endure it much better than Diana.

AUNT JOSEPHINE (*after a pause, somewhat placated*). Only in fun, you say?

ANNE. That's all. We had no idea you were in there.

AUNT JOSEPHINE. You don't know what it's like to be awakened from a sound sleep after a long journey by two big girls bouncing up and down on you.

ANNE. But I can imagine – just as I'm sure you can imagine how a little orphan girl who never had the honor of sleeping in a *spare* room would be in such a hurry to jump into bed.

AUNT JOSEPHINE (*after a pause*). Well, I suppose your claim to sympathy is as strong as mine. You seem like an interesting girl.

ANNE. And you, Miss Barry, might even be a kindred spirit. Even if you don't look like one.

AUNT JOSEPHINE. Perhaps we can sit down this week, and you can tell me something about yourself.

DIANA. Then you're not leaving in the morning, Aunt Josephine?

AUNT JOSEPHINE. No, I'll stay the whole two weeks. I want to be here for your first music lesson so I'll know if you're getting my money's worth. And maybe this Anne-girl will come over and talk to me occasionally.

ANNE. Of course I will, Miss Barry. (*AUNT JOSEPHINE exits, toddling toward the bedroom.*)

DIANA. Good-night, Aunt Josephine. (*The GIRLS give a deep sigh of relief.*) Thank you, Anne. I'll be eternally grateful.

ANNE. Well, it was my fault. Mrs. Lynde says I'm too impulsive. But when something flashes into your mind, it's so exciting, you just have to do it. If you stop to think it over, you spoil it all.