

Monologue Mania!

Anne of Green Gables

Adapted by Jody Johnston Davidson

Female / Young teen / 1914

About the play: This heartwarming adaptation beautifully captures the highlights of the classic novel. Brother and sister Marilla and Matthew are looking to foster a boy to help with work around the house, but quite unexpectedly, Anne is sent to help them. Boisterously loud and wiry, Anne charms the pair into keeping her around. She gets into quite some mischief and has many adventures, yet touches the lives of all who come to know her and changes their lives for the better.

About the scene: Anne has invited over her friend Diana for tea. During this monologue, Anne repeatedly pours Diana wine instead of cordial, and Diana gets increasingly more intoxicated. Completely unaware of what is happening to Diana, Anne tells this story. (*Note: [...] indicates where Diana interrupts to request more to drink. Each time, Anne pours her more while hardly losing a beat in her storytelling.*)

* * *

ANNE:

Did I tell you what happened last Sunday when the minister was invited for dinner? Marilla thought it would be a nice gesture if we had the minister over for lunch after the Sunday service. She asked me to put the pudding sauce outside on the porch to keep it cool and to be sure and cover the top. Now, I meant to cover it as much as could be, but I had just finished reading “The Crimson Blade” —

[...]

Anyway, I was very busy imagining the suffering of poor lady Margaret, locked in the tower until her rescue by the dashing Lorenzo. Covering pudding sauce pales in comparison. The next day, Marilla asked me to fetch in the pudding sauce. I discovered, to my extreme horror, that a mouse had drowned in it. I lifted his body out with a spoon—imagine how pleasant it might be to drown in pudding sauce—and threw it out.

CONTINUED on the NEXT PAGE>

Monologue Mania!

Anne of Green Gables

(continued)

I washed the spoon, thoroughly, five times. Marilla was out milking, and I meant to tell her, but then I got involved pretending to be a frost fairy, turning the trees red and yellow.

[...]

Then we were off to church and back again, and the minister was here and we were all enjoying lunch, and then the next thing I know, Marilla is walking out with the plum pudding in one hand and the pitcher of warmed up plum pudding sauce in the other. Diana, that was a terrible moment.

So, Marilla cut a large slice for the minister and covered it with the tainted sauce. I wrestled with my conscience. He raised the fork to his mouth and... and... I leapt up in my place and shrieked, "Aaaaah! You mustn't eat that. A mouse drowned in the pudding sauce!"