

## Audition Scene 8 – Gilbert and Anne

*(Gilbert found out about Anne giving up her scholarship to college in order to stay at Green Gables and care for Marilla. Gilbert gives up his job teaching at the local school so Anne can take that job and support her and her family. They FINALLY become friends after years of disrespect and hatred for each other.)*

**ANNE:** Gilbert.

**GILBERT:** I understand from Mrs. Lynde that you plan to sell the farm.

**ANNE:** Why does Avonlea need a newspaper when it has Rachel Lynde? (They laugh.) Marilla was going to sell. But not anymore.

**GILBERT:** Because you're going to stay here – and give up your scholarship.

**ANNE:** How did you know?

**GILBERT:** I know you – and your love for Green Gables. But how will you manage? You don't have a job, do you?

**ANNE:** I'll – find something.

**GILBERT:** How about the teaching job here in Avonlea?

**ANNE:** But that job is yours. I hear the board of trustees has already approved –

**GILBERT** *(handing Anne an envelope):* Open it.

**ANNE** *(opens and reads the letter):* "We would be prepared to agree to your proposal to engage Miss Shirley under contract for one year in the post of teacher at Avonlea Public School." But that's your post!

**GILBERT:** I withdrew my application.

**ANNE:** But why?

**GILBERT:** I... found a teaching job at Carmody. I recommended you for the position here. The board said all you need to do is apply.

**ANNE:** I don't know what to say.

**GILBERT:** Don't say anything.

**ANNE:** But you'd have to pay for your board. You'll never save enough for college. You can't...

**GILBERT:** I'll save enough. Besides, I'm keeping up my studies by correspondence.

**ANNE** (*very moved*): So am I. Thank you. Thank you for giving up the school for me, Gilbert. It's very good of you and I want you to know that I really appreciate it.

**GILBERT:** I figure you can give me help with my studies, and we'll call it a fair exchange.

**ANNE:** Aren't you worried I'm liable to break another slate over your head?

**GILBERT:** I'm more worried I might break one over yours... Carrots. (*Tenderly moving a strand of hair away from her face. A long pause and gaze into each other's eyes.*) I hope after this we can be friends and that you'll forgive me my old faults.

**ANNE:** I forgave you long ago. I was just too stubborn to admit it.

**GILBERT:** May I walk you to church? I think the service has already started.

**ANNE:** You go ahead. I'll be there soon.

**GILBERT:** It's too bad Mr. Phillips won't be there.

**ANNE:** Our old schoolteacher? Why him?

**GILBERT:** He might make us sit together for being late.

**ANNE:** Then let's pretend he is there, and we'll sit together anyway.

**GILBERT:** I have an idea. Why don't I re-introduce myself, and we'll start all over again.

**ANNE:** An excellent idea.

**GILBERT:** My name is Gilbert Blythe. I'm very pleased to meet you. I'll be waiting for you at church. (*He exits.*)

**ANNE** (*after a pause*): And my name is Anne Shirley, but please call me Cordelia. I think Cordelia is a much better... (*Her voice trails off as she smiles wistfully.*) My name is Anne – Anne of Green Gables. And at this moment, God is in his heaven, and all's right with the world.