

Audition Scene 5 – Diana and Anne

(Diana and Anne meet for the first time after hearing about an ice cream social being planned at the church. Anne is looking for someone her age to be best friends with and finds it in Diana.)

DIANA *(after a pause)*: You're going to be late for church.

ANNE *(dreamily)*: Ice cream. I've never tasted ice cream before.

DIANA: You will at the picnic. It's going to be near the pond where I live.

ANNE: Oh, yes. The Lake of Shining waters.

DIANA: Lake of Shining Waters?

ANNE: I like to give fancy names to things. You must be Diana Barry.

DIANA: I am.

ANNE *(gazing at her)*: Marilla said you were pretty, but you're actually beautiful!

DIANA *(embarrassed, but pleased)*: Oh...

ANNE: You are. Honestly. Oh, my name is Anne Shirley – spelled with an "e." I'd rather be called Cordelia, but Marilla says that would just confuse everybody.

DIANA *(extending her hand)*: I'm pleased to meet you, Anne.

ANNE *(as they shake, somewhat awkwardly)*: Oh, likewise, I'm sure. We live very near each other. I'm at Green Gables.

DIANA: I know. It'll be nice to have someone to play with. No other girls live near me, and my sister – Minnie May – is too little.

ANNE: Then it's settled.

DIANA: What's settled?

ANNE: We can be bosom friends.

DIANA: I – suppose so.

ANNE: Will you swear to be my bosom friend forever and ever?

DIANA: It's dreadfully wicked to swear. Especially in a church.

ANNE: Not this kind of swearing. It just means promising solemnly.

DIANA: That's okay then. How do you do it?

ANNE: We join hands. *(They take each other's hands.)* Now, I'll say the oath first. *(Chanting rapidly.)* "I solemnly swear to be faithful to my bosom friend, Diana Barry, as long as the sun and moon shall endure." Now, you repeat it, and put my name in.

DIANA *(trying hard to repeat everything she just hear):* "I solemnly swear to be faithful to my bosom friend, Anne Shirley... *(trying to remember)*

ANNE: As long as the sun and moon shall endure.

DIANA: As long as the sun and moon shall endure. *(They laugh happily.)* I heard that you were a strange girl, Anne Shirley, but I think I'm going to like you really well.