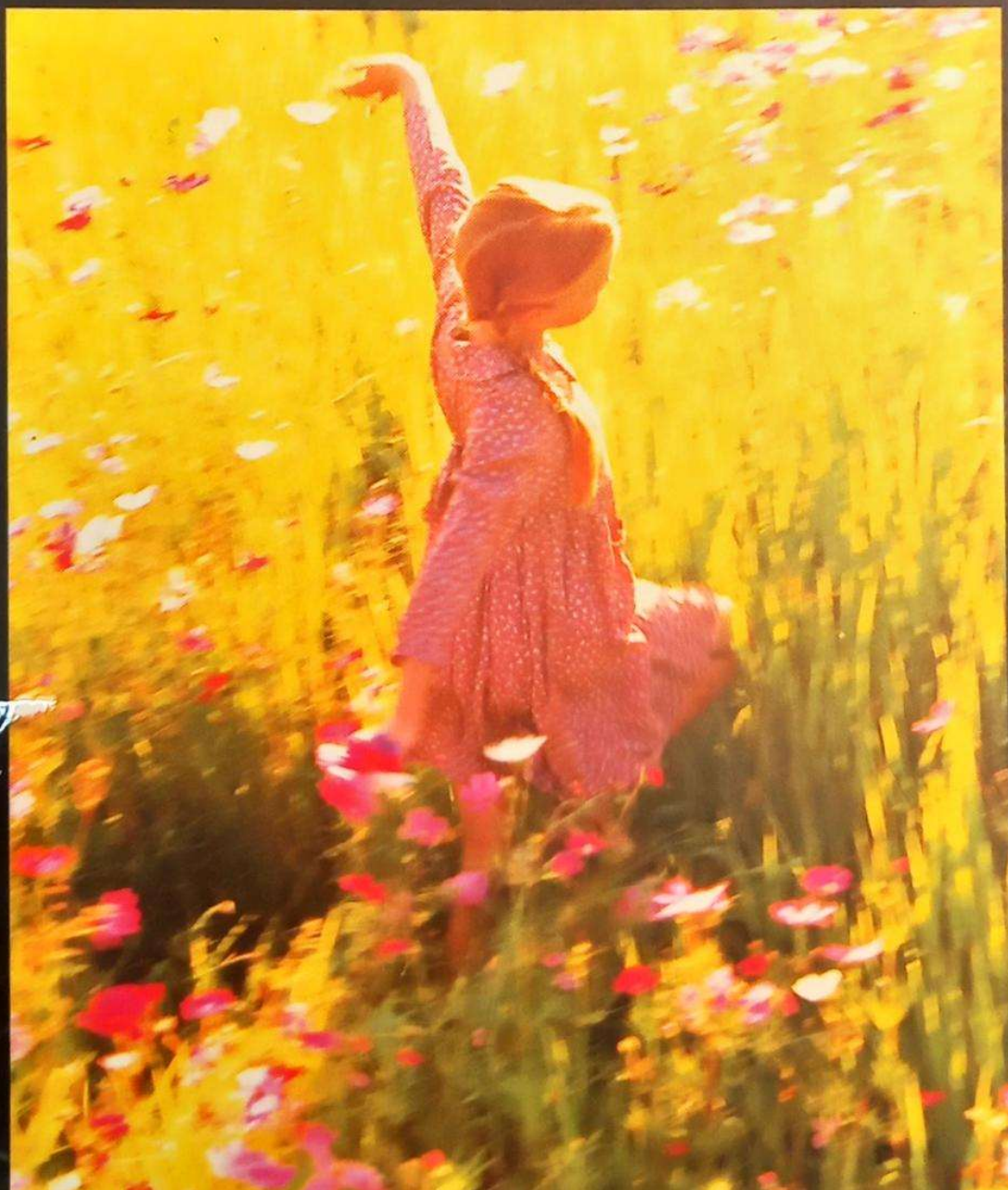


ANNE *of* GREEN GABLES

L. M. MONTGOMERY



ANNE OF GREEN GABLES

'Carrots! Carrots!' whispers Gilbert Blythe across the school desk, and he puts out his arm and pulls Anne's long red plaits. But Anne jumps up and cries, 'You horrible boy! I hate you!' And she hits him hard over the head with her book.

Life in the sleepy village of Avonlea is never boring after Anne Shirley comes to live with the Cuthberts. They wanted to adopt an orphan boy, to help with the farm work at Green Gables. But instead, they get Anne, who has red hair and freckles and who never stops talking. She's a loving child, but she's always in trouble! There's the visit from Mrs Lynde, then the cake for the vicar's wife, and the trouble with her hair . . .

And after the fight at school, will she ever speak to Gilbert Blythe again?



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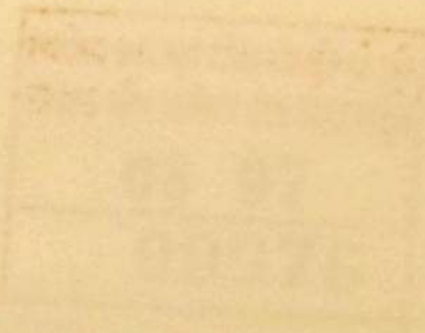
Human Interest

Anne of Green Gables

Stage 2 (700 headwords)

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Kate Simpson



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CONTENTS

STORY INTRODUCTION	i
1 A surprise for the Cuthberts	1
2 At Green Gables	7
3 At Avonlea school	14
4 More trouble for Anne	20
5 Queen's College	28
6 Matthew and Marilla	35
GLOSSARY	42
ACTIVITIES: Before Reading	45
ACTIVITIES: While Reading	46
ACTIVITIES: After Reading	48
ABOUT THE AUTHOR	52
ABOUT BOOKWORMS	53

A surprise for the Cuthberts

Matthew Cuthbert lived with his sister Marilla on their farm on Prince Edward Island in Canada. Their farmhouse, Green Gables, was just outside the little village of Avonlea. Matthew was nearly sixty and had a long brown beard. His sister was five years younger. They were both tall and thin, with dark hair. Everybody in Avonlea knew that the Cuthberts were quiet people who worked very hard on their farm.

One afternoon Matthew drove the horse and cart to the station. 'Has the five-thirty train arrived yet?' he asked the station-master.



One afternoon Matthew drove the horse and cart to the station.

'Yes,' the man replied. 'And there's a passenger who's waiting for you. A little girl.'

'A little girl?' asked Matthew. 'But I've come for a boy! The children's home is sending us one of their orphan boys. We're going to adopt him, you see, and he's going to help me with the farm work.'

'Well, perhaps the children's home didn't have any boys, so they sent you a girl,' answered the station-master carelessly. 'Here she is.'

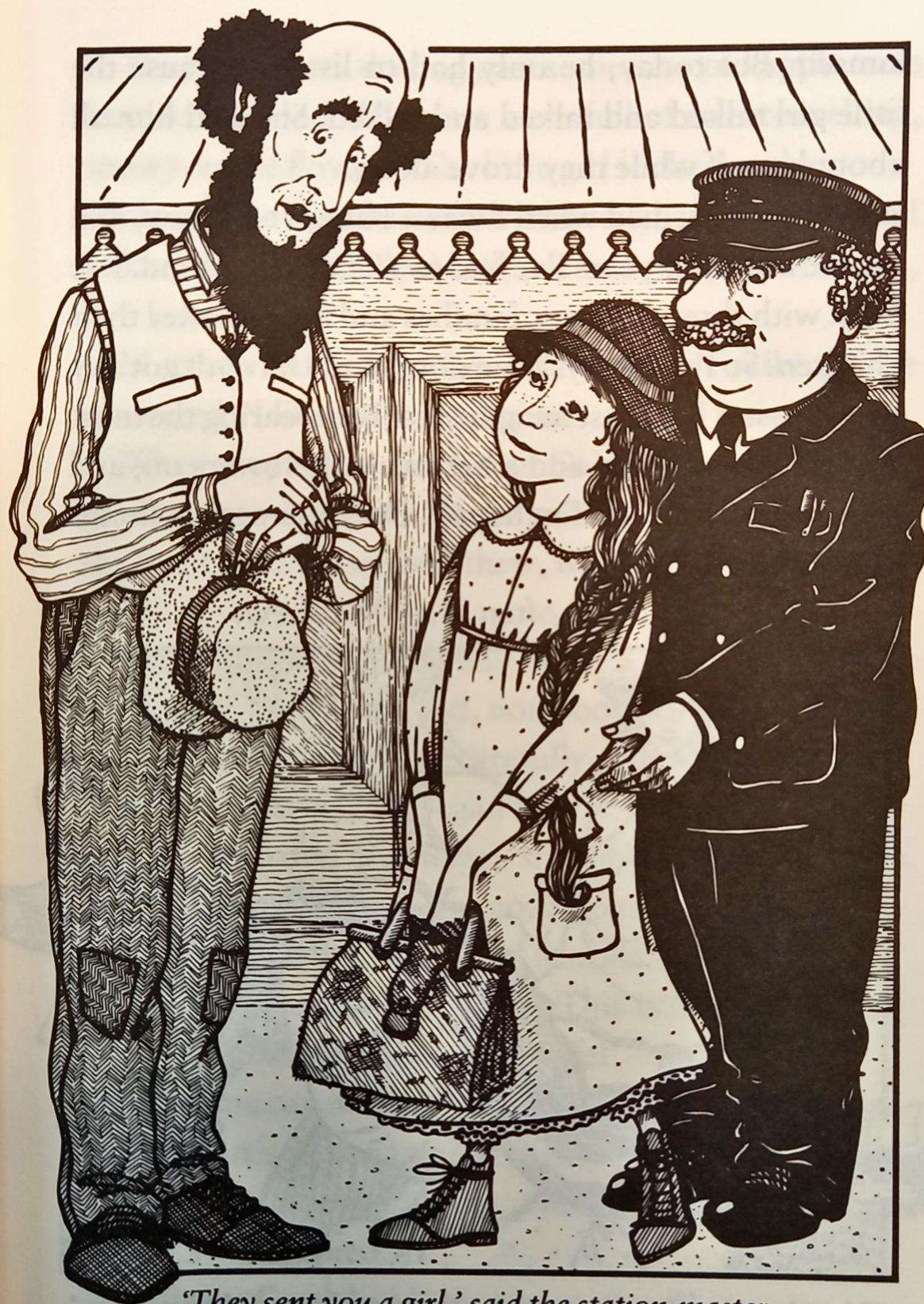
Matthew turned shyly to speak to the child. She was about eleven, with long red hair in two plaits. Her face was small, white and thin, with a lot of freckles, and she had large grey-green eyes. She was wearing an old brown hat and a dress which was too small for her.

'Are you Mr Cuthbert of Green Gables?' she asked excitedly in a high, sweet voice. 'I'm very happy to come and live with you, and belong to you. I've never belonged to anyone, you see. The people at the children's home were very kind, but it's not very exciting to live in a place like that, is it?'

Matthew felt sorry for the child. How could he tell her that it was all a mistake? But he couldn't just leave her at the station. He decided to take her home with him. Marilla could explain the mistake to her.

He was surprised that he enjoyed the journey home. He was a quiet, shy man, and he didn't like talking

A surprise for the Cuthberts



'They sent you a girl,' said the station-master.