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Anne Of Green Gables Full Movie 1985 Part 1

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Rediscovering the Magic of Avonlea: A Deep Dive into Anne of Green Gables Full Movie 1985 Part 1

There are some stories that transcend time, touching the hearts of generation after generation. Few tales have achieved this quite like Lucy Maud Montgomery's classic novel, *Anne of Green Gables*. While the book has seen numerous adaptations, one version remains the undisputed gold standard: the 1985 television film produced by CBC and Sullivan Entertainment. For those seeking to experience the beginning of this beloved journey, **Anne Of Green Gables Full Movie 1985 Part 1**offers an unparalleled introduction to the spirited, imaginative, and irrepressible Anne Shirley. This article explores the magic of this classic film, its plot, its unforgettable characters, and why it continues to captivate audiences nearly four decades after its release.

Whether you are a long-time fan revisiting a childhood favorite or a newcomer curious about the red-headed orphan who captured the world's heart, understanding the depth and artistry of this adaptation is a rewarding experience. This is more than just a children's movie; it is a masterclass in storytelling, character development, and cinematic beauty. Let us journey back to Prince Edward Island and discover why the 1985 film remains the definitive version for so many.

The Enduring Legacy of the 1985 Adaptation

When Sullivan Entertainment set out to adapt *Anne of Green Gables* for television, they aimed for something special. They succeeded beyond their wildest expectations. The film premiered on CBC Television in Canada in 1985 and was later broadcast on PBS in the United States as part of *WonderWorks*. It was an immediate critical and popular success, earning numerous awards, including seven Gemini Awards (the Canadian equivalent of the Emmys) and an Emmy Award for Outstanding Children's Program.

The decision to produce the story as a two-part miniseries was crucial. It allowed the filmmakers to remain remarkably faithful to the source material, capturing the nuances of Anne's development and the rhythms of life in the fictional town of Avonlea. **Anne Of Green Gables Full Movie 1985 Part 1**effectively sets the stage, introducing the audience to the stark beauty of the landscape and the complex characters who will shape Anne's destiny. This first part is not merely a prelude; it is a complete and satisfying narrative arc that establishes the central conflicts and joys of the story.

A Faithful and Heartfelt Adaptation

Unlike many film adaptations that take significant liberties with the original text, the 1985 film is renowned for its fidelity to Montgomery's novel. The dialogue is often lifted directly from the pages, preserving the charming, verbose, and dramatic manner of speaking that defines Anne. This respect for the source material grounds the

story. By watching **Anne Of Green Gables Full Movie 1985 Part 1**, you are experiencing the story as it was meant to be told, with all its warmth, humor, and pathos intact.

The Plot Unveiled: From Mistaken Identity to Belonging

The story begins with a case of mistaken identity that sets the entire plot in motion. Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert, a quiet, middle-aged brother and sister living at Green Gables farm in Avonlea, decide to adopt an orphan boy to help Matthew with the farm work. However, a miscommunication at the orphanage results in a talkative, imaginative, and scrawny red-headed girl arriving at the train station instead. Matthew, a painfully shy man, is instantly won over by the girl's earnest chatter and decides to take her home despite the mix-up.

The Arrival of Anne Shirley

This first part of the film masterfully depicts Anne's arrival and her immediate impact on the Cuthberts' orderly world. Marilla is stern and practical, initially determined to send Anne back. She is a woman of duty and order, and Anne's imaginative flights of fancy and frequent "scrapes" are a constant source of friction. The plot of **Anne Of Green Gables Full Movie 1985 Part 1**beautifully captures Anne's desperate quest for a home and a place to belong. Her famous line, "I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers," perfectly captures her optimism and her ability to find beauty in everything around her.

Trials, Tribulations, and a Kindred Spirit

The first part of the film chronicles Anne's early days in Avonlea, including her many misadventures. She breaks a slate over Gilbert Blythe's head after he calls her "Carrots," leading to a fierce rivalry that will eventually blossom into something more. She accidentally gets her best friend, Diana Barry, drunk on currant wine, incurring the wrath of Mrs. Barry. She dyes her hair green in a disastrous attempt to become a brunette. Each "scrape" is a lesson, and through it all, her indomitable spirit remains unbroken. This section of the film is filled with the humor and warmth that makes the story so beloved. The climax of Part 1 is the heart-wrenching moment when Matthew finally confirms that Anne can stay, a moment of pure emotional catharsis that secures her place in the family and in the hearts of the audience.

Characters Who Feel Like Family

The success of any adaptation of *Anne of Green Gables*hinges on its casting, and the 1985 film achieves perfection in this regard. The actors do not merely play their roles; they inhabit them so completely that they become the definitive versions of these beloved characters.

Megan Follows as Anne Shirley

Megan Follows delivers a career-defining performance as Anne. She perfectly captures the character's unique blend of fiery temper, dramatic flair, boundless imagination, and deep sensitivity. Her expressive face, from her wide-eyed wonder to her stubborn frown, tells a story in itself. Her voice, with its rapid-fire delivery and dramatic intonations, brings Anne's poetic speeches to life. Watching **Anne Of Green Gables Full Movie 1985 Part 1**is to watch a young actress give one of the most iconic performances in television history. She is the heart and soul of the film.

Colleen Dewhurst as Marilla Cuthbert

The late Colleen Dewhurst is magnificent as the outwardly stern but inwardly loving Marilla. She portrays the character's struggle between her rigid sense of propriety and her growing, unspoken love for the strange, wonderful child she has taken in. Dewhurst's Marilla is not a caricature of a strict spinster; she is a complex woman burdened by responsibility who slowly learns to show affection. The subtle shifts in her expression and the softening of her voice as she comes to accept Anne are some of the film's most powerful moments.

Richard Farnsworth as Matthew Cuthbert

Richard Farnsworth brings immense warmth and gentle humor to the role of Matthew. His shy, kind-hearted farmer is Anne's first champion and her "kindred spirit." Farnsworth's performance is heartbreakingly tender. His quiet, affirming presence is the safe harbor Anne so desperately needs. The deep, silent bond he forms with Anne is the emotional anchor of **Anne Of Green Gables Full Movie 1985 Part 1**, and his devotion to her is palpable in every scene.

Cinematic Excellence: The Look and Sound of Avonlea

Beyond the performances, the film is a visual and auditory masterpiece. The decision to shoot on location in Prince Edward Island was inspired. The cinematography captures the island's rural beauty in all its glory, from the lush green fields and rolling hills to the red sandstone cliffs and sparkling blue waters.

The Scenery of Prince Edward Island

The film is a love letter to Prince Edward Island. The iconic shots of Anne and Matthew riding in the buggy down the "White Way of Delight" (a lane lined with blooming apple trees) and the walk through "The Haunted Wood" are visually stunning and deeply evocative. The landscape is not just a backdrop; it is a character in itself. It reflects Anne's inner world—a place of wonder, beauty, and possibility. The "Lake of Shining Waters" and the "Violet Vale" are not just locations; they are symbols of Anne's imaginative power. You cannot watch **Anne Of Green Gables Full Movie 1985 Part 1** without feeling a deep longing to visit this magical place.

The Memorable Musical Score

Composed by Hagood Hardy, the film’s musical score is as iconic as the visuals. The main theme, a simple, hauntingly beautiful melody, perfectly captures the emotional tone of the story—a blend of nostalgia, hope, and gentle melancholy. The music swells at exactly the right moments, underscoring the joy of Anne’s triumphs and the poignancy of her struggles. It is a soundtrack that stays with you long after the credits roll, instantly transporting you back to the world of Avonlea.

Key Themes Explored in the First Part

Anne Of Green Gables Full Movie 1985 Part 1 is rich with themes that resonate with audiences of all ages.

- The Power of Imagination: Anne’s vivid imagination is both her greatest gift and the source of her troubles. It allows her to transform a bleak world into one of beauty and possibility, teaching the Cuthberts and the viewer the value of wonder.
- The Meaning of Home and Belonging: The central quest of the story is Anne’s search for a home where she is loved and wanted. Her journey from a lonely orphan to a cherished member of the Green Gables family is profoundly moving.
- Forgiveness and Redemption: Anne’s many mistakes and her genuine remorse teach important lessons about forgiveness—both forgiving others and being forgiven. Her friendship with Diana and her evolving rivalry with Gilbert are central to this theme.
- The Value of Individuality: In a world that prizes conformity, Anne is unapologetically herself. The film celebrates her unique spirit and shows how her distinct personality, though initially a source of friction, ultimately enriches the lives of everyone around her.
- Growing Up and Finding Your Way: Part 1 focuses on the beginning of Anne’s maturation. She starts as a wild, untamed child and begins to learn discipline and self-control, while still retaining her core spirit. This journey of growth is the foundation of the entire narrative.

Why Part 1 is a Perfect Introduction

While the entire 1985 miniseries is a triumph, the first part holds a special place in the hearts of fans. It contains

the most iconic scenes and the most significant emotional turning points of the early story. It is the part where Anne's character is fully introduced and where her relationship with Matthew is solidified. The emotional climax of the film—Matthew telling Anne, "That's all right. We're going to keep you"—is arguably the most powerful moment in the entire series.

Furthermore, this first part does not rely on prior knowledge of the books. It stands alone as a complete and compelling story. It introduces you to the world, makes you fall in love with the characters, and takes you on a full emotional journey. This makes **Anne Of Green Gables Full Movie 1985 Part 1**an accessible entry point for new viewers. For those who have seen it before, it is a nostalgic return to a beloved friend.

Modern Viewing and Cultural Impact

The film has enjoyed multiple re-releases on DVD and Blu-ray and is frequently available on streaming platforms. Its continued popularity is a testament to its timeless quality. The film has inspired a devoted fanbase, countless pieces of fan art, and has even drawn tourists to Prince Edward Island, where they can visit the real-life Green Gables farm and the sites featured in the film. The enduring love for this film shows that the story of an orphan girl who changes a community with her spirit is as relevant today as it was in 1908.

If you are looking for a film that offers warmth, laughter, tears, and a profound sense of hope, you need look no further. The story of the red-headed girl with a soul full of imagination and a heart full of love is waiting for you. Watching **Anne Of Green Gables Full Movie 1985 Part 1** is not just watching a

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