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Anne Of Green Gables Series In Order

PUBLISHED
November 25, 2026

REFERENCE
#1795583597348962

Discovering the Magical World of Avonlea: The Complete Anne of Green Gables Series in Order

For over a century, readers around the globe have fallen in love with the spirited red-haired orphan, Anne Shirley, and her adventures on Prince Edward Island. L.M. Montgomery's beloved series begins with the classic **Anne of Green Gables** and continues through eight heartwarming novels that trace Anne's journey from an imaginative child to a wise grandmother. But for new readers, knowing the **Anne of Green Gables series in order**can be the key to fully savoring her story. This guide provides a comprehensive, book-by-book breakdown of the series in the order they were written and are best read, along with helpful insights into the characters, themes, and lasting legacy of this timeless literary treasure.

Why Reading the Anne of Green Gables Series in Order Matters

L.M. Montgomery crafted Anne's life as a continuous arc, with each book building on the previous one. While the novels can be enjoyed individually, reading them in publication order allows you to witness Anne's growth from an impulsive eleven-year-old to a mature woman and mother. The setting expands from the cozy farmhouse at Green Gables to the wider community of Avonlea, then to Summerside, and eventually into the lives of Anne's children. Each book deepens our understanding of Anne's character—her imagination, her friendships, her romantic journey with Gilbert Blythe, and her role as a mother. Following the **Anne of Green Gables series in order**also reveals Montgomery's evolving writing style and her deepening exploration of themes such as loss, love, community, and the passage of time.

The Eight Novels in the Original Anne of Green Gables Series

The core series consists of eight novels published between 1908 and 1921, with two later collections added posthumously. Below is the definitive list of the **Anne of Green Gables series in order**as intended by Montgomery.

1. Anne of Green Gables (1908)

This is where it all begins. Matthew and Marilla Cuthbert, middle-aged siblings living on a farm in Avonlea, decide to adopt an orphan boy to help with the work. Instead, they receive a talkative, imaginative girl named Anne Shirley. Despite the initial mix-up, Anne's charm wins over the stern Marilla and the gentle Matthew. The novel follows Anne's mishaps, her friendship with Diana Barry, her rivalry and eventual friendship with Gilbert Blythe, and her academic successes. It introduces the unforgettable landscapes of Prince Edward Island and establishes Anne as one of literature's most endearing heroines. The story of Anne's first few years at Green Gables is essential reading before moving on to the next books in the **Anne of Green Gables series in order**.

2. Anne of Avonlea (1909)

Set two years after the first book, Anne is now sixteen and teaching at the Avonlea school while continuing her studies. The novel explores her experiences as a teacher, her involvement in the village improvement society, and her deepening friendship with Gilbert. We meet new characters like the mischievous twins Davy and Dora Keith, who come to live at Green Gables. Anne's passion for life remains undimmed, but she begins to mature, learning lessons about forgiveness, duty, and love. This book bridges her childhood and young adulthood.

3. Anne of the Island (1915)

Anne leaves Avonlea to attend Redmond College in Kingsport along with Gilbert, her friend Priscilla, and her old chum Charlie Sloane. Here she fulfills her dream of earning a Bachelor's degree while navigating the complexities of college life, new friendships, and romantic entanglements. She rejects Gilbert's first proposal, but over time realizes her true feelings. The novel also includes the poignant story of Anne's friendship with the lonely Ruby Gillis. By the end, Anne accepts Gilbert's second proposal, solidifying their lifelong partnership. This book marks a major turning point in Anne's emotional and intellectual development.

4. Anne of Windy Poplars (1936)

Although published later, this novel fits chronologically between *Anne of the Island* and *Anne's House of Dreams* . It covers the three years Anne spends as principal of Summerside High School while Gilbert finishes medical school. Written as a series of letters from Anne to Gilbert, the book depicts her triumphs and trials in a new community, including her friendship with the mysterious "Aunt" Chatty and other residents of Windy Poplars. This novel deepens our understanding of Anne's independence and her ability to bring out the best in others. Readers who follow the **Anne of Green Gables series in order**will appreciate how this interlude enriches the love story.

5. Anne's House of Dreams (1917)

Anne and Gilbert marry and move to the coastal village of Four Winds Point. Their first home, a little house with a sea view (the "house of dreams"), becomes the setting for new adventures. Anne befriends the eccentric Captain Jim and the lonely Leslie Moore. The novel deals with profound themes: the joy of marriage, the sorrow of losing a child, the strength of friendship, and the resilience of the human spirit. This book is often considered one of the most emotionally rich in the series.

6. Anne of Ingleside (1939)

Now the mother of five children (with a sixth on the way), Anne is settled in her beloved home, Ingleside. The book focuses on domestic life, the antics of her children—Jem, Walter, Nan, Di, and Shirley—and Anne's role as a loving but wise mother. We also see how her relationship with Gilbert matures, though a shadow of jealousy and misunderstanding briefly tests their bond. This novel offers a warm, humorous, and sometimes bittersweet look at family life.

7. Rainbow Valley (1919)

This book shifts focus to Anne's children and their friends, the Meredith children, who live next door at the manse. The children form a close-knit group and play in a beautiful glen they call Rainbow Valley. The story is largely about their mischievous adventures and their influence on the adults around them. It introduces the widowed minister John Meredith and his eventual romance with the kind-hearted Rosemary West. While Anne appears less frequently, her presence and values permeate the story.

8. Rilla of Ingleside (1921)

The final book in the main series is a poignant tale set during World War I. It follows Anne's youngest daughter, Rilla, from a frivolous fifteen-year-old to a courageous young woman who keeps the home front together while her brothers and friends go off to war. The novel is a powerful depiction of sacrifice, loss, and the strength of women during wartime. The famous "Piper" poem by Walter Blythe appears here. Rilla's coming-of-age story provides a fitting and deeply moving conclusion to the **Anne of Green Gables series in order**.

The Complete Chronological Timeline for Devoted Readers

While the publication order above is the recommended reading sequence, some fans enjoy a strictly chronological timeline. For reference, here is the life of Anne Shirley Blythe in chronological order:

- Anne of Green Gables (age 11–16)
- Anne of Avonlea (age 16–18)
- Anne of the Island (age 18–22)
- Anne of Windy Poplars (age 22–25)
- Anne's House of Dreams (age 25–27)
- Anne of Ingleside (age 34–40, with flashbacks)
- Rainbow Valley (Anne is about 41, children ages 6–13)
- Rilla of Ingleside (Anne is in her 50s, World War I years)

Note that *The Blythes Are Quoted*, a collection of short stories and poems published posthumously in 2009, takes place after *Rilla of Ingleside*and offers glimpses into the later lives of the Blythe family. While not a novel in the traditional sense, it is a lovely epilogue for completists.

Beyond the Eight: Related Books and Adaptations

Several companion works expand the world of Avonlea. Prequels such as *Before Green Gables* by Budge Wilson (2008) tell Anne's early life before arriving at the Cuthbert farm. Collections like *Chronicles of Avonlea* and *Further Chronicles of Avonlea* feature short stories set in the community but not always centered on Anne. The popularity of the series has also spawned numerous film, television, and stage adaptations, including the iconic 1985 miniseries starring Megan Follows. However, for the purest experience, nothing compares to reading the original novels in the **Anne of Green Gables series in order**.

Why This Series Endures After More Than a Century

L.M. Montgomery's creation transcends time and place. Anne's boundless optimism, her ability to find joy in simple things, her struggles with temper and vanity, and her deep loyalty to family and friends resonate with readers of all ages. The series also offers a vivid portrait of rural life in late 19th and early 20th century Canada. Each novel in the **Anne of Green Gables series in order**adds layers of meaning, showing how a person's character is shaped by both triumphs and sorrows. It is a story about growing up, falling in love, building a home, and leaving a legacy—all told with wit, warmth, and a touch of melancholy.

Conclusion: Start Your Journey Through Avonlea Today

Whether you are a first-time reader or returning to Prince Edward Island after many years, knowing the **Anne of Green Gables series in order** enriches the experience. Begin with the book that started it all—*Anne of Green Gables*—and let yourself be swept away by the enchanting voice of Anne Shirley. Follow her through school, college, marriage,

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