

# 9 - Next to Trying and Winning, the Best Thing Is Trying and Failing

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(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

**[00:01] Anne**

*Passing the Queen's Entrance*

**[00:05] Anne**

*meant that I would be leaving  
Avonlea come fall.*

**[00:10] Diana**

You must write me every day.

**[00:13] Anne**

We aren't parting forever, you know?

**[00:15] Anne**

But I will write often.

**[00:17] Marilla**

You take care, now.

**[00:20] Anne**

I will. And I'll come home on weekends.

**[00:27] Diana**

Anne!

**[01:28] Matthew**

There never was a luckier mistake  
than what Mrs. Spencer made.

**[01:35] Marilla**

I suppose not.

**[01:37] Matthew**

It was Providence,

**[01:41] Matthew**

because the Almighty saw  
we needed her, I reckon.

**SIGN** Chapter 9

**SIGN** Next to Trying and Winning,  
the Best Thing Is Trying  
and Failing

**[03:37] Jane**

I can't help admiring you, Anne.

**[03:39] Jane**

I mean, a First-Class teacher's license in one year?

**[03:43] Ruby**

We'll be doing Second-Class work in the same time.

**[03:47] Ruby**

It normally takes two years for a First-Class license, doesn't it?

**[03:50] Anne**

Miss Stacy advised me to take up Second-Year work.

**[03:54] Anne**

I'll work hard and hope I'm equal to the challenge.

**[03:57] Jane**

Won't Gilbert be in your class, then?

**[04:01] Jane**

Why don't you forget the past and be friends with him?

**[04:10] Jane**

I think you're being impossible.

**[04:12] Jane**

You don't know anyone else in your class but Gilbert, do you?

**[04:16] Ruby**

Oh, Gilbert!

**[04:21] Ruby**

Good morning.

**[04:22] Ruby**

We're at a school, but I hope we'll all stay friends.

**[04:25] Gilbert**

Sure.

**[04:26] Ruby**

Why, Gilbert, that shirt looks fetching on you.

**[04:30] Gilbert**

Oh, thank you.

**[04:38] Anne**

*Dearest Diana,*

**[04:40] Anne**

*It is so lonesome now I cannot bear it,  
surrounded by unfamiliar faces.*

**[04:46] Anne**

*I wouldn't feel so much like*

*a cat in a strange garret*

**[04:51] Anne**

*if only Jane and Ruby had gone  
in for First-Class, too.*

**[04:54] Anne**

*I wonder which of the girls here  
are going to be my friends.*

**[04:59] Anne**

*I like the look of that girl with the  
brown eyes and the crimson waist.*

**[05:03] Anne**

*She looks vivid and red-rosy;*

**[05:05] Anne**

*and there's that pale, fair  
one gazing out of the window.*

**[05:08] Anne**

*She has lovely hair, and looks as if  
she knew a thing or two about dreams.*

**[05:14] Anne**

*But just now I don't know them  
and they don't know me,*

**[05:19] Anne**

*and probably don't want  
to know me particularly.*

**[05:27] Anne**

*Gilbert looks awfully determined.*

**[05:31] Anne**

*I suppose he's made up his  
mind to win the medal.*

**[05:34] Anne**

*I feel thankful for any familiar  
face now, even Gilbert's.*

**[05:48] Anne**

*How homesick I feel, writing to  
you alone in my boarding house.*

**[05:53] Anne**

*But I won't cry. It's silly.*

**[06:01] Anne**

*I tell a lie.*

**[06:04] Anne**

*There's the third tear splashing down.*

**[06:08] Anne**

*I must think of something  
funny to stop them.*

**[06:11] Anne**

*But there's nothing funny except  
what is connected with Avonlea.*

**[06:15] Anne**

*Oh, Matthew is nearly home by now.*

**[06:19] Anne**

*And Marilla is at the gate,  
looking down the lane for him.*

**[06:22] Anne**

*Six, seven... Oh, there's  
no use in counting them!*

**[06:26] Anne**

*They're coming in a flood presently.*

**[06:29] Anne**

*I can't cheer up—I don't want to  
cheer up. It's nicer to be miserable!*

**[06:36] Josie**

You've been crying.

**[06:39] Anne**

What if I have?

**[06:40] Josie**

Are you honestly homesick *already*?

**[06:42] Anne**

What is it to you?

**[06:45] Anne**

But I'm so glad you came up.

**[06:47] Anne**

It's a relief to see any familiar face.

**[06:52] Josie**

Town's too jolly after  
that poky old Avonlea.

**[06:57] Josie**

Have you anything eatable around, Anne?

**[06:59] Josie**

I'm literally starving.

**[07:02] Josie**

I guessed Marilla'd  
load you up with treats.

**[07:08] Josie**

What? These are tiny.

**[07:12] Josie**

And they taste like the country.

**[07:22] Josie**

Oh, that reminds me, Queen's is to get  
one of the Avery scholarships after all.

**[07:27] Anne**

Is it really?!

**[07:29] Josie**

Yes. It will be announced  
in the Academy tomorrow.

**[07:35] Josie**

What's got into you?

**[07:40] Anne**

Then if I make the highest  
mark in English Literature,

**[07:43] Anne**

I'll win a scholarship at Redmond College?

**[07:48] Josie**

Two hundred and fifty dollars  
a year for four years.

**[07:52] Anne**

Wouldn't Matthew be proud if I won  
the Avery and got to be a B.A.?

**[08:00] Josie**

I know English is your subject,

**[08:03] Josie**

but you can't be serious.

**[08:05] Anne**

I'll win that scholarship  
if hard work can do it.

**[08:13] Anne**

Oh, it's delightful to have ambitions!

**[08:17] Anne**

Just as soon as you attain to one,

**[08:20] Anne**

you see another one  
glittering higher up still!

**[08:32] Anne**

*Dearest Diana,*

**[08:34] Anne**

*The girls in my class are so thoughtful,  
imaginative, and especially ambitious.*

**[08:40] Anne**

*The "rose-red" girl, Stella, is considered  
the handsomest girl in our year.*

**[08:47] Anne**

*The "dream girl," Priscilla, is full to  
the brim of mischief and pranks and fun.*

**[08:53] Stella**

The medal contestants have narrowed down  
to three—Anne, Gilbert, and Lewis.

**[08:59] Priscilla**

You're after the Avery, too, aren't you?

**[09:02] Priscilla**

You have more rivals for that.

**[09:05] Anne**

I'll just have to keep working.

**[09:09] Priscilla**

Why must getting a teacher's  
license be such a chore?

**[09:13] Anne**

Just think of going home for Christmas.  
That's something to look forward to.

**[09:17] Stella; Priscilla**

Oh, yes.

**[09:21] Diana**

Anne!

**[09:22] Anne**

Diana!

**[09:26] Diana**

Merry Christmas, Anne!

**[09:28] Anne**

Merry Christmas, Diana!

**[09:31] Jane**

They're at it again.

**[09:33] Ruby**

They see each other every weekend.

**[09:36] Anne**

What a joy it is to see your face.

**[09:40] Diana**

I thought you'd come to prefer  
Stella and Priscilla.

**[09:46] Anne**

They are both wonderful people.

**[09:49] Anne**

But no Queen's girl shall ever  
be as dear to me as you, Diana.

**[09:55] Anne**

If anything, I love you more than before.

**[10:29] Anne**

Thank you.

**[10:30] Anne**

I think the train will be here soon.  
You needn't wait in the cold with me.

**[10:36] Anne**

Go on.

**[10:39] Anne**

I'm ever so glad I got to  
spend Christmas with you.

**[10:42] Anne**

I won't see you again  
till spring, I suppose.

**[10:45] Matthew**

Mind your health, now.

**[10:48] Anne**

And you keep warm, Matthew.

**[11:22] Gilbert**

It's hard to believe the  
Christmas holidays are already over.

**[11:26] Gilbert**

We won't have time to come home  
again until after the exams.

**[11:32] Anne**

I suppose not.

**[11:33] Gilbert**

We'd better settle down to hard work.

**[11:36] Anne**

Yes.

**[11:39] Gilbert**

I won't let you beat me.

**[11:42] Anne**

Neither will I.

**[12:01] Jane**

It doesn't seem possible that  
the term is nearly over.

**[12:06] Jane**

It would be dreadful if I failed to get  
my license after spending so much money.

**[12:11] Josie**

If I don't pass this year,  
I'm coming back next.

**[12:15] Jane**

Is that so?

**[12:16] Josie**

By the way, Anne, Professor Tremaine said  
Gilbert Blythe was sure to get the medal

**[12:21] Josie**

and that Emily Clay would likely  
win the Avery scholarship.

**[12:24] Jane**

Really, Josie!

**[12:27] Anne**

That may make me feel  
badly tomorrow, Josie,

**[12:32] Anne**

but just now, as long as I know the violets  
are coming out below Green Gables

**[12:38] Anne**

and that little ferns are poking  
their heads up in Lovers' Lane,

**[12:42] Anne**

it's not a great deal of difference  
whether I win the Avery or not.

**[12:46] Anne**

I've done my best.

**[12:49] Ruby**

You've certainly done that.

**[12:52] Anne**

Girls, don't talk about exams!

**[12:55] Jane**

Hear, hear.

**[12:56] Anne**

Picture your future selves instead.

**[13:12] Anne**

*Dearest, dearest Diana,*

**[13:14] Anne**

*I have wonderful news.*

**[13:17] Anne**

*The other Avonlea girls all passed.*

**[13:20] Anne**

*Ruby is already obsessing over what  
she'll wear to commencement.*

**[13:26] Anne**

*Gilbert and I took the First-Class exam,  
and our results will be out next week.*

**[13:30] Anne**

*I am resolved to accept them,  
whatever they may be.*

**[13:35] Anne**

*I begin to understand what is meant  
by the "joy of the strife."*

**[13:40] Anne**

*Next to trying and winning,  
the best thing is trying and failing.*

**[13:57] Jane**

The First-Class results are finally out.

**[14:00] Jane**

Don't worry, Anne. Between the medal and  
the Avery, you'll win one of them anyhow.

**[14:06] Anne**

I wonder.

**[14:07] Anne**

Everybody says Emily will win the Avery.

**[14:11] Jane**

Never mind those rumors.

**[14:14] Anne**

Promise me, Jane. If I have failed,  
*don't sympathize with me.*

**[14:20] Anne**

I implore you in the name  
of our old friendship.

**[14:22] Jane**

Oh, all right.

**[14:24] Students**

Hurrah, hurrah!

**[14:27] Students**

Hurrah for Gilbert!

**[14:29] Students**

Hurrah for Gilbert Blythe, medalist!

**[14:33] Gilbert**

Thank you all.

**[14:33] Students**

Hurrah, hurrah!

**[14:36] Jane**

Stay there, Anne. I'll go look.

**[14:37] Students**

Hurrah, hurrah, hurrah!

**[14:42] Anne**

*Oh, Matthew will be heartbroken.*

**[14:46] Anne**

*He felt so sure I would win.*

**[14:50] Jane**

Three cheers for Anne Shirley,

**[14:53] Jane**

winner of the Avery!

**[14:54] Jane**

Hurrah for Anne Shirley!

**[15:01] Jane**

Oh, Anne!

**[15:02] Jane**

Oh, Anne, I'm so proud!

**SIGN** Avery Scholarship Winner

Anne Shirley

**[15:03] Ruby**

Isn't it splendid?!

**[15:04] Ruby**

Anne, Anne!

**[15:07] Anne**

Oh, it's like a dream come true.

**[15:10] Anne**

Won't Matthew and Marilla be pleased!

**[15:26] Headmaster**

We have high hopes for your college career.

**[15:30] Man A**

That girl won the Avery.

**[15:33] Man A**

And I hear she wrote this year's best essay.

**[15:36] Woman B**

My. Isn't that something?

**[15:44] Matthew**

Reckon you're glad we kept her, Marilla?

**[16:06] Marilla**

It's not the first time I've been glad.

**[16:29] Anne**

It's so good to be back again.

**[16:32] Anne**

It's so good to see those pointed firs  
coming out against the pink sky.

**[16:37] Anne**

Isn't the breath of the mint delicious?

**[16:41] Diana**

You've done splendidly, Anne.

**[16:43] Diana**

I suppose you won't be teaching  
now that you've won the Avery?

**[16:49] Anne**

No. I'm going to Redmond in September.

**[16:53] Anne**

After three glorious,  
golden months of vacation.

**[16:57] Diana**

And you say Jane and Ruby are going to teach?

**[17:02] Anne**

The Newbridge trustees have offered  
Jane their school already.

**[17:06] Diana**

Gilbert Blythe is going to teach, too.

**[17:09] Diana**

He has to.

**[17:12] Diana**

His father can't afford to send  
him to college next year, after all,

**[17:15] Diana**

so he means to earn his own way through.

**[17:18] Diana**

I expect he'll get the school here.

**[17:23] Anne**

Oh.

**[17:25] Anne**

*I had expected Gilbert would be  
going to Redmond with me.*

**[17:34] Marilla**

Matthew?

**[17:36] Anne**

Matthew?!

**[17:46] Anne**

Marilla, is Matthew quite well?

**[17:50] Marilla**

No, he isn't, but he won't  
spare himself a mite.

**[17:55] Marilla**

I've been real worried about him,

**[17:57] Marilla**

but he's some better this while back

**[18:01] Marilla**

and we've got Jerry to help him.

**[18:04] Marilla**

Maybe he'll pick up now you're home.  
You always cheer him up.

**[18:10] Anne**

You are not looking as well yourself  
as I'd like to see you, Marilla.

**[18:16] Marilla**

I'm all right.

**[18:22] Marilla**

It's my head. I've a pain so  
often now—behind my eyes.

**[18:28] Anne**

That sounds awful.

**[18:30] Marilla**

There is a distinguished oculist coming to  
the Island. I guess I'll have to see him.

**[18:36] Anne**

Yes, you must!

**[18:39] Marilla**

Well, Anne, you've done real  
well at Queen's, I must say.

**[18:44] Marilla**

To take First-Class license in one year  
and win the Avery scholarship.

**[18:49] Anne**

I couldn't have done it  
without you and Matthew.

**[18:53] Marilla**

Mrs. Lynde says she doesn't believe  
in the higher education of women at all.

**[19:01] Marilla**

I don't believe a word of it.

**[19:06] Marilla**

Speaking of Rachel reminds me—  
she said the Abbey Bank was shaky.

**[19:14] Marilla**

Did you hear anything, Anne?

**[19:16] Anne**

No, why?

**[19:18] Marilla**

All we have saved is in  
that bank—every penny.

**[19:21] Anne**

Is it really?

**[19:23] Marilla**

Matthew said any bank with Mr. Abbey at the  
head of it was good enough for anybody.

**[19:30] Marilla**

But listen to me, going on like this.

**[19:33] Marilla**

Aren't you taking a day with  
Diana to stretch your wings?

**[19:38] Marilla**

Go off and play.

**[19:40] Anne**

Yes. Thank you.

**[20:04] Anne**

Matthew, I'll take one of those.

**[20:06] Matthew**

They're heavy.

**[20:13] Anne**

How do you feel?

**[20:15] Matthew**

Oh, well enough.

**[20:19] Anne**

You've been working too hard.

**[20:23] Anne**

You have Jerry. Why won't  
you take things easier?

**[20:27] Matthew**

Well now, I can't seem to.

**[20:32] Matthew**

It's only that I'm getting old,  
Anne, and keep forgetting it.

**[20:37] Matthew**

Well, well, I've always worked pretty  
hard and I'd rather drop in harness.

**[20:47] Anne**

If I had been the boy you sent for,

**[20:50] Anne**

I'd be able to help you so much  
now and spare you in a hundred ways.

**[20:56] Matthew**

Well now, I'd rather have  
you than a dozen boys, Anne.

**[21:08] Matthew**

I guess it wasn't a boy that took  
the Avery scholarship, was it?

**[21:17] Matthew**

It was a girl.

**[21:20] Matthew**

My girl that I'm proud of.

**[21:43] Anne**

*It was the last night before  
sorrow touched my life.*

**[21:49] (Flashback) Matthew**

My girl that I'm proud of.

**[21:53] Anne**

*And no life is ever quite the same again*

**[21:58] Anne**

*when once that cold, sanctifying  
touch has been laid upon it.*

**SIGN** Next Time

**SIGN** I Don't Know What Lies  
Around the Bend, but I'm  
Going to Believe That the  
Best Does

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