

A cluster of thirteen year old girls suddenly surround them: JANE ANDREWS, (from Episode 102) practical and pleasant, RUBY GILLIS, emotional and nice, JOSIE PYE, smart, snooty and judgmental, and TILLIE BOULTER, chubby and shy. They all wear fashionable dresses with puffed sleeves.

DIANA

This is Jane Andrews and Josie Pye and Ruby Gillis and Tillie Boulter. Everybody, this is Anne.

JANE

Hello, Anne.

RUBY

Hello.

TILLIE

Nice to meet you.

Josie merely looks Anne up and down.

ANNE

(formal, nervous)

It's a scrumptious pleasure to make your acquaintances. I shall do my utmost to prove myself worthy of your friendship.

The girls meet eyes -- *ookay, this new girl is strange.*

DIANA

(trying to help)

Anne loves to read. She knows ever so many big words.

JOSIE

Does she use them all in every sentence?

TILLIE

(trying to please)

I like to read, too.

RUBY

No, you don't.

TILLIE

(the truth)

No, I don't.

JANE

I saw you at the Church Picnic.
I'm sorry, I should've said
"hello..."

ANNE

(gracious)
There were an awful lot of people
there.

JANE

Mother wouldn't let me.

JOSIE

Why do they make you wear that old
lady dress?

ANNE

(flummoxed)
I... They... It's just nice to have
something new.

JOSIE

If you're an orphan, I suppose. I
wouldn't be caught dead in it.

The trio, though aghast, *GIGGLE* nevertheless. Anne flushes.

DIANA

(defending)
Anne isn't an orphan anymore.
She's been adopted.

Anne's not sure what to make of this. As gently as she can --

ANNE

I'm still an orphan, Diana. I'll
always be an orphan.

TILLIE

(sincere)
Goodness, I'd hate to be an orphan.

RUBY

(emotional, earnest)
I feel real sorry for you, Anne.