

Enter Audrey. She is very angry, insulting and bitter. This speech should be played as if the actress playing Audrey is deliberately hijacking the scene - using 'her big moment' on-stage to rant to the audience about the author (who is in the audience) not allowing her to play the leading role of Anne. Occasionally she uses some of the lines she was supposed to deliver from the play, but mainly it's a very loud, and large, seemingly improvised, attack on the playwright - her on/off lover. The rest of the cast should be stunned - as if the actress is having a total meltdown, completely destroying the scene/play - and there's nothing they can do about it until she's done. Audrey should imagine the writer in a specified place in the audience, and direct most of her angst to that seat, as she attempts to turn the rest of the audience against the writer for his, alleged, wrongdoings against her.

AUDREY. Since I, ostensibly, could not play Anne,
And "wasn't right for Faith", so said the man,
The writer gave me here a heavy speech:
Apparently I'm Audrey - I can preach!
I'm told, "it's not my time" to play the lead,
Despite that with the author I did plead,
Upon my knees - within his bedroom, late:
She squeezes her breasts.
I showed him all my goods - he took them straight!
But that did nothing to secure the part:
20 He's overly protective of his 'art'!
(Mocking) And so, it falls to 'Audrey', here to tell,
How Anne, our 'on-stage beauty', is in hell!
Suddenly and dramatically.
(To Edmund) You've murdered love and hope!
(to the writer) A bulky line!
(To Edmund) Thou devil! O, what ignorant design!
(Aside) My cousin, Anne, is not asleep - no way!
She took an overdose - she's gone away!
Departed from this life - *(directed off)* BRING IN THE STIFF!
Enter Latimer and Faith (in shock) bearing Anne's body.
Behold her sacred body - take a whiff!
She wafts her hand to her nose, breathing in.
She's now a rotting carcass - want a kiss?
30 SIDNEY. O god!
AUDREY. Your interjections I dismiss!
I've started so I'll finish, as they say:
She really starts to lose it now. She is very loud and completely unhinged until the end.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M DOING IN THIS PLAY!
I run around expressing odd lines here,
But do I have a through-line? It's not clear!
It's obvious that Faith is just the slut!
All gasp.
And Anne, she has the writer's favourite butt!
All gasp. Anne looks up at Audrey in disgust, before remembering to be dead.
Yet who is Audrey - how can I play true?
The audience don't have a bloody clue!
O yes, I know - get back into the scene:
40 *(insincerely)* O Edmund, you're a villain! You are mean!
Ok, I'll stop my ranting - back to work;
(loud, at the writer) It's not my fault the writer is a jerk!
She's finally back on script.
(sincerely, acting well) O horror! Horror! Look, thou vile man:
You've murdered my sweet cousin! O poor Anne!
Audrey sobs over Anne's body.
EDMUND. *(Timidly)* You're finished?
AUDREY. *(Violently, at Edmund)* Yes! I'm finished!