

# **WE SALUTE YOU, MOTHER!**

By Lois Walker

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## **ESTABLISHING THE RHYTHM**

To find the proper rhythm for this rhyming piece, first read-aloud and clap through the sections as you go. Each underlined word or word part falls directly on a beat. As you read, clap on each underlined word, keeping the rhythm steady. Be careful not to read too fast! This is a rehearsal technique and readers will not clap throughout these sections during performance. After you have established the beat, it is time to start interpreting, experimenting, and having fun with the words by varying tempo, volume, inflection, and expression.

**READERS:** You can use from 4 to 16 solo readers to perform this script. As you will see below, I've numbered the first 4 reader parts only. The rest of the reader numbers have been left blank so you can pencil in as many reader parts as you need. Simply pencil them in and divide the lines as evenly as possible. If you wish to use only 4 solo readers, those 4 can perform the entire piece by following the model below. The script is formatted for SOLO READERS, ALL GIRLS, ALL BOYS, and ALL.

**NOTE:** There are eight prizes awarded during this reading: THE ACADEMY AWARD, OLYMPIC GOLD, THE BEST OF SHOW, THE PULITZER PRIZE, DANCING WITH THE STARS WIN, AMERICAN IDOL WIN, MOST VALUABLE PLAYER, and MISS UNIVERSE. It might be nice if your readers created hand-made certificates and/or drawings of the statues that can be handed out by each child to his or her mother right after the performance.

**BEGINNING READERS:** If you want to use this script with Beginning Readers, you might enlist some older readers to help read the more difficult lines (other teachers, your librarian, older students) and rehearse your Beginning Readers in reading the easier lines and participating in the ALL CHORUS.

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ALL: MOTHER!

READER 1: For all you've done and who you are  
We think you're better than a movie star.

READER 2: And you deserve...

ALL: THE ACADEMY AWARD!

READER 2: To show how much you are adored.

ALL GIRLS: MOTHER!

ALL CHORUS: We salute you, MOTHER.  
Let's all give a cheer.  
We can't wait to celebrate,  
Then do it again next year!

READER 3: For your strength and dedication,  
You have all our admiration.

READER 4: So now it's time, you must be told  
That you deserve...

ALL: OLYMPIC GOLD!

ALL BOYS: MOTHER!

ALL CHORUS: We salute you, MOTHER.  
Let's all give a cheer.  
We can't wait to celebrate,  
Then do it again next year!

READER : For all your love and loyalty,  
We think of you as royalty:

READER : A true best friend, so you must know  
That you deserve...

ALL: THE BEST OF SHOW!

ALL GIRLS: MOTHER!

ALL CHORUS: We salute you, MOTHER.  
Let's all give a cheer.  
We can't wait to celebrate,  
Then do it again next year!

READER : For helping us with spelling  
Always patient, never yelling,

READER : Always listening, always wise:  
You deserve the...

ALL: PULITZER PRIZE!

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