

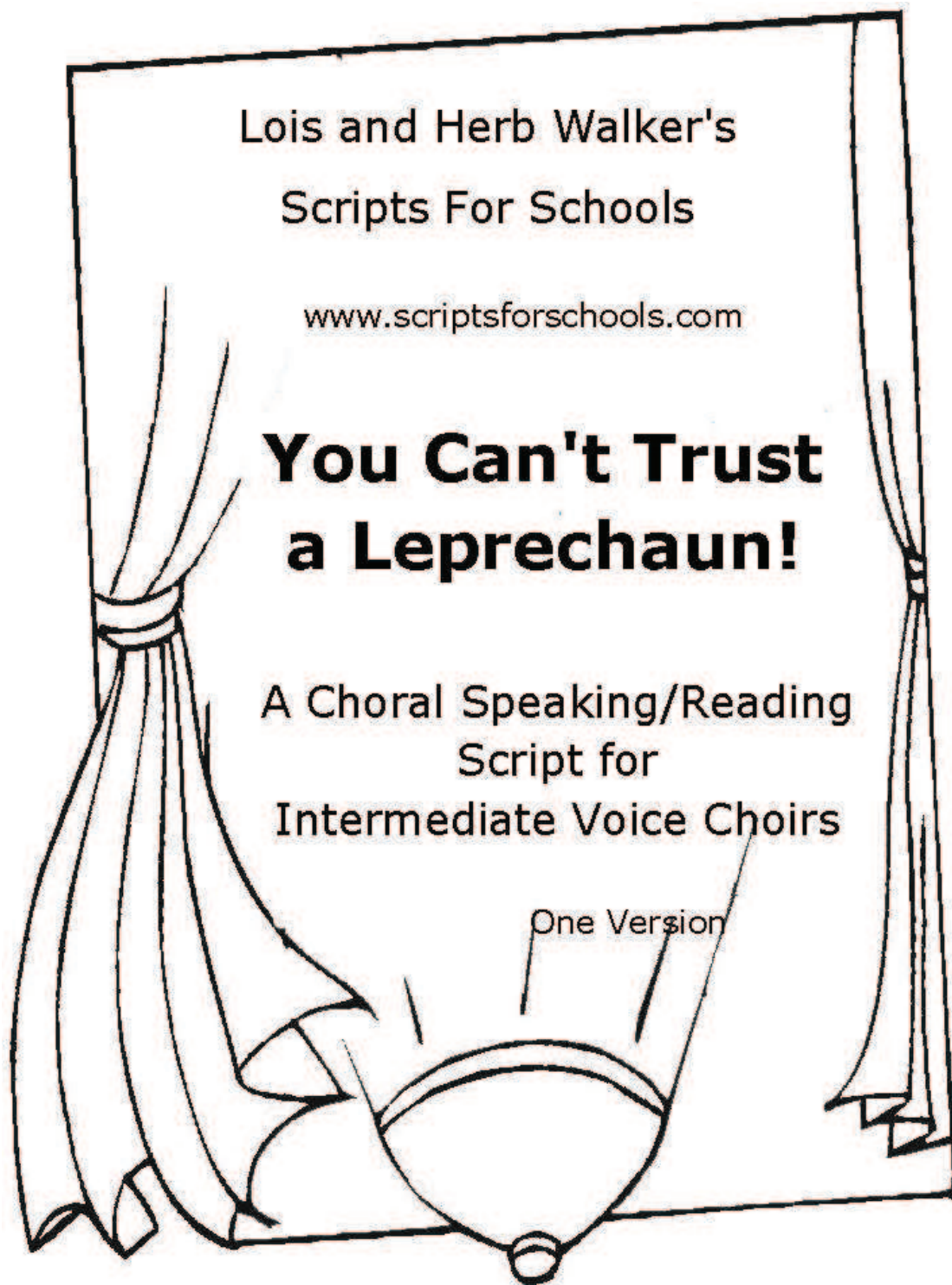
Lois and Herb Walker's
Scripts For Schools

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You Can't Trust a Leprechaun!

A Choral Speaking/Reading
Script for
Intermediate Voice Choirs

One Version



You Can't Trust a Leprechaun!

Based on an old Irish folktale
Created and Formatted
By Lois Walker

VOICE CHOIR FORMATTING: ALL, ALL GIRLS, ALL BOYS and LEPRECHAUN (a SOLO READER PART) **NOTE:** Voice Choir lines are poetry lines. The Leprechaun's lines are prose lines.

ESTABLISHING THE RHYTHM:

To find the proper beat or rhythm for this script, 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 the reading during performance. Once your readers feel comfortable with the beat and pace, it's time to interpret, improvise, experiment, and have fun with the piece.

WHAT IS A LEPRECHAUN?

A leprechaun is a short sly Irish elf who is said to live in the forest guarding his pot of gold. It is also said that at the end of every rainbow lies a leprechaun and his treasure. Leprechauns are tricky little fellows. Here is a short story about how one man learned "You Can't Trust a Leprechaun!"

There once was a man who came across a leprechaun and convinced the little creature to take him to the very bush in which his treasure was kept. This bush however, was in a very large field, which was covered by many other bushes. The man (who thought he was so clever) tied a red handkerchief to the bush so that when he came back to the bush with his shovel, he could easily find it and dig up the treasure at once. The man and the leprechaun parted, and after only three minutes, the man came back with his shovel. To his surprise, he found that the tricky leprechaun had tied a red handkerchief to every bush in the field!

This script features yet another tricky leprechaun. Please read on...

ALL: 'Twas a tip-top Irish mornin' (pause)...

ALL GIRLS: When an old grumpy troll,
Stomped off looking
For a pot of gold.
And as he stomped
He shouted a verse.
It was part Irish blessing
And part Irish curse:

ALL BOYS: I'm told there's gold,
Gold, my friend,
Resting in a pot
At the rainbow's end.
May the road rise to meet me
So I won't turn wrong,
And bad luck follow
Who follows along!
I'll find that gold,
Wherever it may be,
But I won't share!
Just wait and see.

ALL GIRLS: Who told that troll
Which way to go?

ALL BOYS: It was a leprechaun!
 He quickly appeared
 And then he was gone!

ALL GIRLS: Bad choice he chose,
 'Cause everyone knows

ALL: You can't trust a Leprechaun!

ALL GIRLS: But the grumpy old troll
 Didn't comprehend
 So he stomped his way
 To the rainbow's end.
 And when he arrived,
 Who should he see?

ALL BOYS: The leprechaun
 Sitting under a tree!

SOLO VOICE/

LEPRECHAUN: Hello there Troll. I see you did what I told you to do.
 That's great, but you have made *one* mistake. You
 have come to the beginning of the rainbow. The end
 of the rainbow isn't here. It's way over there!

(Leprechaun points to opposite end of the rainbow).

ALL: Oh no!

ALL GIRLS: Well, the troll was not
A happy camper.
He had to get going,
He had to scamper.
And as he scampered,
He shouted a verse.
It was part Irish blessing
And part Irish curse:

ALL BOYS: I'm told there's gold,
Gold, my friend,
Resting in a pot
At the rainbow's end.
May the road rise to meet me
So I won't turn wrong,
And bad luck follow
Who follows along!
I'll find that gold,
Wherever it may be,
But I won't share!
Just wait and see.

ALL GIRLS: Who told that troll
Which way to go?

ALL BOYS: It was a leprechaun!
Who was under the tree,
And then was gone!

ALL GIRLS: Bad choice he chose,
 'Cause everyone knows

ALL: You can't trust a Leprechaun!

ALL GIRLS: But the grumpy old troll
 Didn't comprehend
 So he stomped his way
 To the opposite end.
 And when he arrived,
 He had a shock:

ALL BOYS: There was the leprechaun
 Sitting on a rock!

SOLO VOICE/

LEPRECHAUN: Hello there Troll. You are very good at following
 directions. But I'm sad to say you have made
 another mistake. This isn't where the gold is kept.
 Look at your hands. You have a right hand and you
 have a left hand. The rainbow has a right end and a
 left end. You've arrived at the left end, but it's not
 the right end. The right end is way over there.

(Leprechaun points to opposite end of the rainbow).

ALL: Oh no!

ALL GIRLS: Troll bared his teeth
And growled out loud.
"I'll find that pot
Of gold," he vowed!
Stomped off again,
And shouted a verse.
It was part Irish blessing
And part Irish curse:

ALL BOYS: I'm told there's gold,
Gold, my friend,
Resting in a pot
At the rainbow's end.
May the road rise to meet me
So I won't turn wrong,
And bad luck follow
Who follows along!
I'll find that gold,
Whereever it may be,
But I won't share!
Just wait and see.

ALL GIRLS: Who told that troll
Which way to go?

ALL BOYS: It was a leprechaun!
Who was on that rock,
And then was gone!

ALL GIRLS: Bad choice he chose,
 'Cause everyone knows

ALL: You can't trust a Leprechaun!

ALL GIRLS: But the grumpy old troll
 Didn't comprehend
 So he started his search
 All over again.
 And when he arrived,
 Well, what do you think?

ALL BOYS: The leprechaun waved
 And gave him a wink!

SOLO VOICE/

LEPRECHAUN: Hello there Troll. I'm so happy to see you again. I forgot to tell you something important! Think of your home. You live in a cave with a front door and a back door. Well, the rainbow has a front side and a back side too. You've arrived at the back side, but it's not the right side. The pot of gold sits at the front side. That side is way over there.

(Leprechaun points to opposite end of the rainbow).

ALL: Oh no!