



Herb and Lois Walker's  
SCRIPTS FOR  
SCHOOLS

If I Were The Only  
Person...

**A Choral Reading/Readers Theater  
Script for Elementary School  
Readers**

**By  
Lois Walker**

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## If I Were The Only Person...

By Lois Walker

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**NOTE:** To read this script, your students must be able to read simple words, phrases, and sentences. For younger grades, older Narrators (teachers or older students) might take the prose lines that ask the questions requiring a short **ALL** response from the readers. The script is flexible and is formatted so that you can use only 6 solo readers to perform the entire script (just ask them to divide and share the lines that follow below) or pencil in additional readers as the script goes along. You can probably give parts to your entire class, depending on how you decide to divide the reader lines. (You'll see that reader numbers have been left blank after the initial 6). Please fill them in, according to your class size and needs.

### ESTABLISHING THE RHYTHM

To find the proper rhythm for the poetry sections of 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 these sections during performance.

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READER 1:                    If I were the only person  
                                  Living in this town,

READER 2:                    I wouldn't need good manners -  
                                  Not with no one else around!

READER 3:                    No one else would be close by,  
                                  No one else would care.

READER 4: I wouldn't say "Excuse me"  
And I wouldn't have to share.

READER 5: But, no, I'm not alone here.  
So the question comes to whether...

READER 6: Good manners might help everyone  
Get along together.

**ALL:** **We say, "Thank you", We say, "Please",  
Turn away when we sneeze,  
Share our crackers, and our cheese,  
And we don't bully, fight or tease!**

READER What do you say when someone gives you a gift?

**ALL:** **Thank you!**

READER And what do you say when you ask for something?

**ALL:** **Please!**

READER What do you say if you walk in front of someone?

**ALL:** **Excuse me!**

READER                      And what do you say if you hurt someone?

**ALL:                      I'm sorry!**

READER                      If I were the only person  
Going to this school,

READER                      I wouldn't need good manners –  
I could act just like a fool.

READER                      No one else would bother me,  
No one else would dare.

READER                      I'd never ask, "Pardon me?"  
No one would be there.

READER                      But, we have lots of students,  
So the question comes to whether

READER                      Good manners might help everyone  
Get along together.

**ALL:                      We don't argue, we don't cuss,  
We listen when folks talk to us.  
Don't push our way onto the bus,  
Or loose our cool and cause a fuss!**

READER                      At lunch time, is it good manners to talk with  
your mouth full?

**ALL:                      No!**

READER                      When we play together, is it good manners to  
share and be polite to each other?

**ALL:                      Yes!**

READER                      When you're with your friends, is it good  
manners to whisper about classmates who are  
near by and hurt their feelings?

**ALL:                      No!**

READER                      When you want to say something, is it good  
manners to not interrupt and wait until the  
person talking is finished?

**ALL:                      Yes!**

READER                      If I were the only person  
Walking on this earth,

READER                      I wouldn't need good manners –  
Well, what would they be worth?