Herb and Lois Walker's

SCRIPTS FOR SCHOOLS

THIS SAGUARO IS FINE



READERS THEATER
STUDENT/INTERMEDIATE
BY LOIS WALKER

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THIS SAGUARO IS FINE!

The Life Story of a Saguaro Cactus Told in Verse

Written and Formatted for Readers Theatre
By Lois Walker

10 Reader parts: 8 solo reader parts and 2 duet readers. All voices read in unison on CHORUS and selected "ALL" phrases.

NOTE: To find the proper rhythm for this piece, you might want to first read-aloud and clap through the piece as you go. Each word or word part falling directly on a clap (beat) is underlined below. Practice this piece slowly. If you go too fast, it becomes a real tongue twister and you won't have time to have fun with the interpretation!

VERSE I

READER 1: I know a cactus hotel:

ALL: THE SAGUARO!

READER 2: Or <u>may</u>be it's a <u>mo</u>tel:

ALL: THE SAGUARO!

READER 1: It <u>takes</u> this cactus <u>50</u> years to <u>grow</u> some

fruit,

And that's like opening up a diner on its roof.

READER 2: Soon lots of hungry desert critters come to

dine

And say,

READERS 3&6: "We think we'll stay here.

This saguaro is fine!

ALL: Fine, fine,

This SAGUARO is fine.

(rest) We think we'll stay here,

This saguaro is <u>fine!</u>

VERSE II

READER 4: I know a cactus townhouse:

ALL: <u>THE SAGUARO!</u>

READER 5: A <u>prickly</u> up and <u>down</u> house:

ALL: <u>THE SAGUARO!</u>

READER 4: First a Gila woodpecker, then white winged

dove

Build two boots for <u>nesting</u>, one below, one

a<u>bove</u>.

READER 5: With <u>space</u> left for new <u>neighbors</u> to the <u>side</u>

and behind

They <u>say</u>,

READER 3&6: "We think we'll live here.

This saguaro is fine!

ALL: <u>Fine</u>, <u>fine</u>,

This SAGUARO is fine.

(beat)We think we'll live here,

This saguaro is fine!

VERSE III

READER 7: I know a cactus condo:

ALL: <u>THE SAGUARO!</u>

READER 8: It's one I am quite fond of;

ALL: <u>THE SAGUARO!</u>

READER 7: Soon these cactus <u>nesters</u>: the <u>dove</u> and the

woodpecker

Share the space with Harris Hawks, standing

triple-<u>dec</u>ker.

READER 8: <u>Pack</u>rats come and <u>then</u> they go, with <u>pass</u>age

of time,

READERS 3&6: And <u>all</u> agree on <u>one</u> thing:

This saguaro is fine!

ALL: Fine, fine,

This SAGUARO is fine.

All agree on one thing,

This saguaro is fine!

VERSE IV

READER 9: I know a cactus flophouse:

ALL: THE SAGUARO!

READER 10: A toppled-over drop house:

ALL: <u>THE SAGUA</u>RO

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