

Ode to a Thanksgiving Brussels Sprout

By Lois Walker

ESTABLISHING THE RHYTHM

The rhythm is a little tricky in this piece. To find the proper rhythm for the reading, 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 as steady as possible. Be careful not to read too fast! This is a rehearsal technique and readers will not clap throughout the reading during performance.

READERS: ALL, ALL GIRLS, ALL BOYS, and FOUR SOLO READING LINES (May be read by one solo reader or assigned individually to additional solo readers).

A Choral Speaking Teacher's Guide can be found online at:

http://www.scriptsforschools.com/90.html

ALL: Thanksgiving time,

With the <u>turkey</u> and the <u>stuffing</u>,

Mounds of <u>mash</u>ed potatoes:

Swirled, twirled, and <u>fluffing</u>.

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One yearning question burns,

There is no doubt.

SOLO READER: Will you **eat** a <u>brussels sprout</u>?

ALL GIRLS: So what, it's green?

Baby <u>cab</u>bage, Baby <u>let</u>tuce,

ALL BOYS: Or somewhere in between!

ALL: Thanksgiving time,

With the biscuits the honey,

Smooth no-lump gravy,

Thick, not <u>run</u>ny,

One looming question lurks,

No need to pout.

SOLO READER: Will you **eat** a <u>brussels sprout</u>?

ALL BOYS: So what, it's <u>chewy</u>,

Sticks to your gums, Sticks to your teeth,

ALL GIRLS: A little gooey?