Herb and Lois Walker's

SCRIPTS FOR SCHOOLS

THE LITTLE FROG IN THE WELL

by Lois Walker

A Taiwanese Fable Concerning
The Joy of Moving on in Life

A Readers Theater Script
for Intermediate/Advanced
Readers

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THE LITTLE FROG IN THE WELL

A Taiwanese Fable Concerning: The Joy of Moving on in Life
Adapted and formatted by Lois Walker

Cast: 5 Readers Including 3 Character Parts

READER 1:   My good friends, imagine you lived at the bottom of
                   deep, dark well.

READER 2:   What kind of world would you see?

READER 3:   Here's a story about a frog who did just that…

READER 4:   Once upon a time, there was a Little Frog who lived at the
                   bottom of a deep, dark well.

READER 5:   It was a very old well filled with shallow water at the bottom.
                   The walls of the well were all covered with wet moss.

READER 1:   When the Little Frog was thirsty, he drank a little bit of the
                   well water, and when he was hungry, he ate some insects.

READER 2:   When he was tired, he lay on a little rock at the bottom of the
                   well and looked up at the sky above him.

READER 3:   Sometimes he saw passing clouds. He was very happy and
                   satisfied.

READER 4:   Now, the Little Frog had been living at the bottom of this old
                   well since he was born. He had never been to the outside
                   world.

READER 5:   Whenever a bird flew by and stopped at the edge of
                   the well, the Little Frog always looked up and bragged,

FROG/1:   "Hello! why don't you come down here and play with me. It's
                   so pleasant down here. Look, I have cool water to drink and

lots of insects to eat. Come down! At night I can watch

the twinkling stars, and sometimes I can see the beautiful

moon, too."

READER 2:   Sometimes a bird would say to the Little Frog:

BIRD/3:   "Hi, Little Frog! The outside world is much bigger

and nicer than your well. It's many times more beautiful.

READER 4:   But the Little Frog would not believe this.

FROG/1:   "Don't lie to me. I don't believe there is any place that could

be better than here."

READER 5:   Gradually, all the birds began to dislike him. They thought he

was too stubborn and stopped talking to him.

READER 2:   The Little Frog could not understand why nobody wanted

to come down to his nice place.

READER 3:   One day, a yellow sparrow stopped by at the edge of the

well. The Little Frog was so excited he greeted the sparrow

and invited the sparrow eagerly.

FROG/1:   "Hello, Mr. Yellow Sparrow. How are you? Please come

down to my most beautiful house."

READER 4:   The yellow sparrow did not say a word and flew away. The

next day the yellow sparrow came again and the same thing

happened again.

READER 5:   It went on for six days. On the seventh day, the yellow

sparrow finally said,

SPARROW/2:   "Little Frog, may I show you the outside world?"

FROG/1:   "No thank you. I've told you before and I'll say it again: I'm
                 happy in my well!"

READER 3:   Finally the yellow sparrow became angry. He flew down to
                 the bottom of the well, picked up the Little Frog, and flew out of
                 the well carrying Little Frog on his back.

READER 4:   Little Frog looked down and cried,

FROG/1:   "Oh! How did the outside world get so big?"

READER 2:   He had been in the bottom of his dark well for so long that
                 the bright sunshine made his eyes blink shut, and he could
                 hardly open his eyes to see.

READER 3:   When he finally opened his eyes, he saw so many things
                 around him.

FROG/1:   "Hey! Be careful! Don't hit this strange thing. What are all
                 these green high and low things?" Ha! Ha! These are mountains
                 and valleys. There are countless mountains in this world. The
                 Himalayas, the Swiss Alps, the Rockies and..."

READER 4:   The Little Frog could not believe there were so many big
                 mountains in the world. When they flew over the high
                 mountains, the next view made the Little Frog
                 even more surprised.

FROG/1:   "What is this long, silvery, shiny view?"

SPARROW/2:   "It is a river."

FROG/1:   "Then what is that round, blue thing over there?"

SPARROW/ 2:   "It's a pond of water."

FROG/1:   Wow! That's much more water than my well."