



Herb and Lois Walker's  
SCRIPTS FOR SCHOOLS

The Unicorn and The  
Young Arabian Oryx  
by Lois Walker

A Readers Theater  
Script for  
Intermediate Readers

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## **The Unicorn and the Young Arabian Oryx**

by Lois Walker

(With special thanks to songwriter Shel Silverstein.

A slightly revised version of his chorus from  
"The Unicorn Song" is inserted it below)

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READER 1: Long ago, in the Kingdom of Unicorn-on-the-cobia, there lived a young Arabian oryx. He was a handsome young oryx with a brown coat and special markings on his knees and tail.

READER 2: However, his very best features were on his head. These were two long slender horns. They were the longest and straightest two horns in his entire herd.

READER 3: Now you might think that special markings and spectacular horns would be enough to make the young oryx happy - but you would be wrong about that.

READER 4: The oryx actually hated his two horns. Day after day and night after night he dreamed of only one thing. He dreamed of being a unicorn!

READER 5: And unicorns, of course, have only...

ALL: ONE HORN.

READER 5:       The young oryx didn't dream about being...

ALL:               A green alligator or long-necked geese,  
Not a humpty backed camel or a chimpanzee,  
Not a cat, rat or elephant, but sure as you're born  
He just wanted to be a unicorn.

READER 1:       All the other oryx in his herd considered this dream  
totally inappropriate.

READER 2:       Mother said,

READER 3  
(MOTHER):       “What's wrong with my little one? Why in the world  
would he want to be a silly old unicorn? My boy is  
handsome, clever, and talented - and he has two  
spectacular horns.”

READER 2:       And unicorns, of course, have only

ALL:               ONE HORN.

READER 4:       Then Father said,

READER 5

(FATHER): "Mother, you've babied that young one. I hate to say it, but you're turning him into a sissy. There's no such thing as a unicorn anyway. Unicorns are myths. What our son needs is a taste of the *real world!*"

READER 1: But none of his parents' advice made a difference. The young oryx still didn't dream about being...

ALL: A green alligator or long-necked geese,  
Not a humpty backed camel or a chimpanzee,  
Not a cat, rat or elephant, but sure as you're born  
He just wanted to be a unicorn.

READER 2: Now, as rumor had it, there **was** a unicorn living right there in the Kingdom of Unicorn-on-the-cobia. According to the story, a magnificent unicorn lived in the king's palace. This unicorn wore a coat of gold and his single horn was also golden. It sparkled in the sunlight.

READER 3: And **this** unicorn lived in the *real world* because he had a *real* job. He served as the Queen's private coat rack. Whenever the queen took off her royal robe, she hung it on the unicorn's golden horn. She couldn't hang up any other pieces of her clothing because unicorns, of course, have only...