

# The Holiday Letter

Drena Heizer





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**ArtAge Publications**

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THE HOLIDAY LETTER

From  
*Age on Stage: Comedies for Readers Theatre*  
Volume 1

by Drena Heizer

CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

INTRODUCTION

ERMA: Wife.

FRANK: Husband.

MARGIE: Daughter.

STAGE POSITIONS: *From stage left, moving toward stage right: FRANK, ERMA, and MARGIE, who enters later.*

PROPS: *An envelope containing a Christmas card, from which MARGIE reads a written message as the skit ends. The lines which appear in the script are actually written on the inside of the card, so MARGIE reads directly from the card. The envelope is addressed and has a stamp, to appear that it has arrived in the mail.*

PERFORMANCE NOTES: *MARGIE is a teenager. No problem. We're ACTORS!*

THE HOLIDAY LETTER

INTRODUCTION: Do you ever get those annual letters from distant relatives, old classmates and former neighbors that you haven't seen for yours? Those long, detailed, annoying letters describing their exciting adventures, their brilliant children and their fantastic accomplishments? Those letters that make you feel like two cents because you haven't been anywhere or done anything, and the most brilliant thing YOUR kids ever do is show up for meals? Well then you can sympathize with the woman in our skit entitled "The Holiday Letter."

ERMA: Frank, this year I'm going to get the jump on Muffy.

FRANK: Who?

ERMA: Muffy Duffy. You remember — my college roommate.

FRANK: Oh. Yeah. The blonde. When you and I started going together she was dating that fat guy. What did she call him?

ERMA: Puffy.

FRANK: And then she went out with that guy on the wrestling team.

ERMA: Yeah. Tuffy.

FRANK: And then there was that long-haired hippy character with the paper clip through his nose.

ERMA: *(nodding)* Scruffy.

FRANK: Boy, she sure did get around. But then she ended up marrying that business major. What was he called?

ERMA: Stuffy.

FRANK: Isn't she the one who sends us those gushy letters every year, bragging about her brilliant daughter?

ERMA: *(rolling her eyes)* Buffy.

FRANK: And her prize-winning poodle dog?

ERMA: *(sarcastic)* Fluffy.

FRANK: Those letters that you read aloud to me and then you run to the bathroom and gag?

ERMA: Yep. That's Muffy-Wuffy.

FRANK: Okay, I get the picture. So what about it?

ERMA: Well, this year I'm going to beat her at her own game! She's going to get a bragging holiday letter from me! I've already started it.

FRANK: What are you writing about?

ERMA: The same stuff she writes to me about. You know—personal and family stuff.

FRANK: But you don't even tell your MOTHER our family stuff! What have you done? Made up a bunch of lies?

ERMA: Certainly not. Everything I have written about you and me and the children is true.

FRANK: Erma! You gotta be kidding! You WOULDN'T!

ERMA: Oh yes, I would. Everything I have written is true. I've just gotten what you might call a little CREATIVE with my choice of words, that's all.

FRANK: A little creative?

ERMA: All right. VERY creative.

FRANK: This I gotta hear!

ERMA: Okay. I'll read it to you. The letter starts out: Dear Muffy—

FRANK: THAT'S very creative.

ERMA: Don't be sarcastic.

FRANK: Sorry. Go on.

ERMA: Dear Muffy: I'm SO thrilled that the holiday season is just tippy-toeing up on us again.

FRANK: Tippy-toeing? Thrilled? What happened to your usual bah, humbug?

ERMA: Don't interrupt. I'm trying to write just like Muffy-Wuffy does. That's the way she starts HER annual letters.

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