

“Times of Letting Go”

A Skit in 3 Pages

By

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Through out history, all mothers have one thing in common—the moment when they have to let go...

SETTING:

Each mom is in her respective "kitchen" arranged across the platform. Interactions with their "kid" are directed to the audience and mimed. The monologues represent one continuous flow from start to finish with each mom picking up from the same action/mark where the previous one left off.

CAST:

Modern Mom	Today, on prom night.
Colonial Mom	American Revolution, represents going off to war.
Ethnic Mom	Human rights protest, represents standing up for beliefs. (Note: Ethnic Mom can be African-American, Asian, Native American, etc. and the monologue adapted to ethnicity and time period.)
Renaissance Mom	Apprenticeship, represents going off to college.
Mary	Biblical with Jesus, represents leaving for ministry.

PROPS:

- 1) A chair for all the Moms except Modern Mom.
- 2) Other props can be used or mimed, however Mary's prayer shawl has to be mimed since there really isn't anyone there to give it to.
- 3) Costumes would be extremely effective, but not necessary.

First produced at Summit Assembly, Mother's Day, 2003. Directed by Dale Britnall. c2003 Julie King, all rights reserved.

SETTING: EACH MOM IS IN HER RESPECTIVE "KITCHEN" SPACED OUT ACROSS THE PLATFORM. INTERACTIONS WITH THEIR "KID" ARE DIRECTED TO THE AUDIENCE AND MIMED. THE MONOLOGUES REPRESENT ONE CONTINUOUS FLOW OF A CONVERSATION FROM START TO FINISH WITH EACH MOM PICKING UP FROM THE SAME ACTION/MARK WHERE THE PREVIOUS ONE LEFT OFF.

MODERN MOM: *(She is standing and "multitasking" by talking on a cordless phone propped up on one shoulder while stirring the contents of a bowl- pops it in the microwave.)*

Yeah, but it's your turn to drive. I can't pick everyone up this time because I have that appointment remember?

(Notices "kid" coming into the kitchen)

Oh wow, is it that time already? Listen, I've gotta go, see you at the meeting.

Yes, I won't forget- yes, yes... okay, bye.

(Goes up to "kid" beaming with pride)

Look at you! You look fabulous! I can't believe it's Prom night already. Where has the time gone? It just seems like yesterday you were toddling around here in your diapers and now. *(Listens)* Hey, I can get emotional if I want. It's a...

COLONIAL MOM: *(She is in the process of spinning threads on a spinning wheel. Picking up and continuing the previous action, she starts out standing in front of "kid", beaming with pride.)*

...Mother's prerogative.

(Starts fussing with "kid's" outfit)

I can't get over how grownup you look in that uniform! *(Listens)* Well, yes, I know you are grownup, but I remember how you use to run around outside- my little boy pretending to be a soldier and now here you are. *(Sighs)* But it's not pretend anymore, is it? *(Listens)* No, I'm not going to start crying- you are in God's hands and that's all that matters. You know that, right? No matter what happens, you will always be in God's Hands.

(Sits down and starts working the spinning wheel)

I have faith and I raised you to have faith, too. *(Listens)* I am being realistic, I know you're going off to fight in this Revolution...

ETHNIC MOM*: *(Picking up and continuing the previous action, she is sitting at the table in the process of repairing some clothes.)*

...Where you gonna get arrested- or even shot! Lord knows your intentions are peaceful chil', but these protests can turn ugly- seen it happen before- and you know it. Prejudices sure run deep an' all sorta bad things can happen when temper's flare. *(Pause)* Oh sure, the police! Times I wonder whose side they're on. *(Pause)* Yeah they're supposed to maintain justice but nonna our people can't even be on the force, and you think they ain't gonna protect onna their own

first?

(Sighs and gets up to hold "kid's" hands)

Alright, chil', no more arguing. We ain't never gonna agree an' I know you gotta go and do what you feel is right in your heart. *(Pause)* Me? Oh now chil', don't you be worrin 'bout me...

RENAISSANCE MOM: *(She is in the process of baking bread. Picking up and continuing the previous action, she standing and holding "kid's" hands.)*

...I will be just fine here. You must go and make a life for yourself. Not everyone is chosen become an apprentice to the Apothecary. It will be hard work and you must mind everything the master tells you to do, but I have heard he is a kind and compassionate man. Some masters can be so cruel- taking advantage of their charges at their mercy to learn a trade- but do your best and you will be just fine.

(Gives "kid's" hands a final squeeze, then sits down to resume making bread)

(Listens) Don't be silly, of course you are anxious- and I do so wish you needn't go so far away...

MARY: *(Picking up and continuing the previous action, she is sitting at the table putting the finishing touches on His prayer shawl.)*

...but I know it's the will of the Father who sent you. It's just that my heart grieves for what lies ahead and the path you have chosen to follow. *(Listens)* Faith? Ah yes, faith. I have been and always will be the Lord's servant, but I am also your mother. I will always wonder if you are getting enough to eat, if you are warm enough at night- *(Stops, listens and then chuckles)* No, no, you do not have to talk again about the sparrows and the grass in the fields, I know He provides. There! Now it is ready.

(Holds up prayer shawl for a final inspection.)

No, it was not fine the way it was- never you mind, I am not fussing.

(Gets up and gives it to Jesus, who gives her a hug)

My darling Son, all grown up and ready to go.

(MARY walks her Son to the door, while all MOMS simultaneously move to their own doors).

ALL MOMS IN UNISON: I knew this day was coming, and now that it is here, it is still not easy.

MARY: *(One more hug, and then waves good-bye, calling out.)* I love you!...

RENAISSANCE MOM: I am proud of you!

ETHNIC MOM: I'll always be here for you!

COLONIAL MOM: I am praying for you!

MODERN MOM: And don't forget, I will always be your mother.

ALL MOMS IN UNISON: *(Listens to watch "kid" go, then looks Heavenward)*
Just take care of my baby, that's all I ask.

THE END

(No time periods, pretend kids or chairs were harmed during the production of this script.)

*ETHNIC MOM (original neutral monologue):

...Where you could get arrested- or even shot! Lord knows your intentions are peaceful, but these protests can turn ugly. We've seen it happen before- and you know it. Prejudices run deep and bad things can happen when tempers flare.

(Listens) Hah, the authorities! At such times I wonder whose side they're on.

(Listens) Yes, they're supposed to maintain justice but you know they are going to protect one of their own first?

(Sighs and gets up to hold "kid's" hands)

All right, all right- no more arguing. We're not going to agree and I know you want to go and do what you feel is right in your heart. *(Listens)* Me? Oh don't worry about me...