

I'm a Girl Scout Leader

Original poem (I am a Den Leader) by Julie H. Erickson, adapted by Barb Hunter

I am a Girl Scout leader, I own a hot glue gun,
A 3-ring notebook, an American flag, and a seven-passenger van.
I know all about Safety-Wise, permission slips, and registration forms.
I save bits of string, scraps of fabric, old tin cans,
And a whole garage full of recyclables.

I am a Girl Scout leader.

I get excited over paper sack kites that really fly,
Girls who remember to bring their books,
And a perfectly toasted marshmallow.
I ooh and ah at crayon-drawn pictures,
Cheer for a paper kickball game,
And sing "I'm a Stinky Little Skunk" at troop meetings.
I once wept with a Girl Scout who just found out her parents were getting a divorce.

I am a Girl Scout leader.

I have twisted and turned new Brownies at the pond,
Herded unruly girls along museum tours,
Proven myself outdoors building a fire,
And quietly panicked upon sight of a spider.
I have threatened to quit more than once,
But I am still a Girl Scout leader.

My card says I'm trained.
But I know I still have a lot to learn from other leaders,
My service unit, and especially my girls.
And I still have one more lesson to teach.
I will not give up on any of my girls,
So I am still a Girl Scout leader.

I like to think there is a special place in heaven reserved for leaders.
Surely they would have a need for bird feeders and sit-upons,
And someone who could love a giggling Girl Scout.
I hope when I die there is a hot glue gun plugged in and waiting.
For ... I am a Girl Scout leader!