

# LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

By Jerry Rabushka

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# LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

*A Comedy Monologue*

**by Jerry Rabushka**

**SYNOPSIS:** An actress who wins a Lifetime Achievement Award reminds her audience just why she won. It's because... "I'm better than you." Ego reigns supreme as our award recipient gets that "special moment" to tell her adoring fans exactly what she thinks... that no one deserves this award more than she does. You'll have fun being outraged and offended, and don't forget to live-tweet about it!

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

*(1 female)*

CLAUDIA DAVENPORT (f)..... Has had a long successful career in the arts. She's also over the top full of herself, and while we can see she's had a hard life at times, the humor in her character comes from her having no filter. Character also plays family, producers, and announcers.

**TIME:** Present day.

**SETTING:** Silver Planet Awards TV show.

**SET:** Can be an elaborate awards stage or performed on a bare stage.

**COSTUMES:** She is dressed to the nines, speaking at an awards show.

## PROPS

- ☐ Award – trophy or statuette (optional)
- ☐ A note (optional)

## SOUND EFFECTS

- ☐ Audience applause (optional)
- ☐ Audience laughter (optional)
- ☐ Award ceremony background music (optional)

**AT RISE:** *CLAUDIA is on a TV awards show, so it's phony and grandiloquent and spoken to an audience of millions.*

**CLAUDIA:** *(As award presenter.) And now... I am (With each word, become more self-indulgent.) excited, privileged...honored...to make this very special presentation at tonight's Silver Planet Awards: The Lifetime Achievement Award. Everyone's life has that special moment – but Claudia Davenport has had a lifetime of them! Now, we help her celebrate the moment of lifetime. A lifetime of success, starting from when she was three years old and won her first Golden Globe, her first Oscar, her first Emmy, and her first Grammy.*

*There were always rumors: is Claudia finished at five? Sinking at seven? A nonentity at nineteen? Are we sick of her at seventy-three? Whatever the outrage, whatever the scandal, she's kept us glued to the screen. Please welcome the recipient of the Silver Planet Lifetime Achievement Award... Claudia Wheelbarrow Davenport! (Hold out the award, which you still hold during the character change.)*

*SFX: Audience applause and Award ceremony background music. CLAUDIA is all smiles and over the top, basking in the applause and lovingly looking at the statuette. This can go on for a short while as we see that she just likes to stand around and be applauded.*

*Thank you! Thank you, thank you, and thank you. I'd pass out more thank yous, but I accomplished most of this myself.*

*SFX: Audience laughter.*

*One more time, I ascend to the podium to receive a testament to my own greatness. Yawn...haha! Yet this is different. This is not for one performance, but the culmination of my stellar contribution to the entertainment industry. We must ask ourselves, why did I get this award? Why have I been recognized when so many have not? The answer is simple: it's because...I'm better than you.*

My record speaks for itself. My Grammy-winning record, that is. My record of achievement. My record of just being better at everything than anyone else here at everything I do.

Speaking of “do,” some thanks may be due, but you’ll forgive me if I’m stingy. Thank you, Hollywood, for recognizing my substantial talent at an early age. (*Trying for sympathy but faring poorly.*) Thank you (*Bitter.*) Mother! For pushing me into a career I knew nothing about. I missed kindergarten and spent my youth with childhood tutors. I grew up with no socialization skills, getting what I wanted and when I wanted it.

Now I see a variety-pack of jealous, pouting faces in the crowd, trying, yet failing, to smile when you’d rather pelt me with the vegetable of the day, many of you thinking “why not me?” Why not? Because I’m simply better, and the sooner you realize that no amount of flying tomatoes can change that, the sooner you’ll be satisfied sitting in your assigned seat, leaving this award to me.

Now... even though I’m addressing a capacity crowd, let’s talk about some people who... (*Short laugh.*) aren’t here. Like Margaret Rixenhouse. Margaret, who appeared in her first movie as a supporting actress, to me. She remained at second billing while I cruised to the top in my yacht of superiority, a major box office draw, while she, finally entrusted with her first leading role, flopped like a teenager on a trampoline.

Here I am getting an award while you, Margaret, are sitting home in torn spandex stuffing stale potato chips into your forgotten face and paying a house boy to tell you you’re still pretty.

(*Hand to her ear, loving every moment of this.*) I can hear her now...

(*As Margaret, glamorous, yet broken and wistful.*) Remind me of my success, Sebastian. It won’t take long, as there is so little to recall. Clap for me, so I can grasp at the meaning of applause. Bring your friends so they can cheer together, so I can bask in the sound of five people clapping at once.

*SFX: Award ceremony background music.*

(As *host.*) Uh...Claudia...Claudia...time's up. Time was up...  
(*Sarcastic.*) about a year and a half ago.

What is time, over a lifetime? (*Arm outstretched to the crowd.*)  
These people want to hear what I have to say.

(As *host.*) No, Claudia, they do not. (*To audience.*) But here to shed  
some light, and darkness, on Claudia Davenport...her manager.

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