M-O-T-H-E-R

C A B B C F G D F   E   C G C

"M" is for the million things she gave me,   "O" means only that
"M" is for the mercy she pos - ses - ses,   "O" means that I owe

D A   F F E F G F G A   C

she's growing old,   "T" is for the tears were shed to save me,
her all I own,   "T" is for her tender sweet ca - res - ses,

G A B C D A G   C A B C F
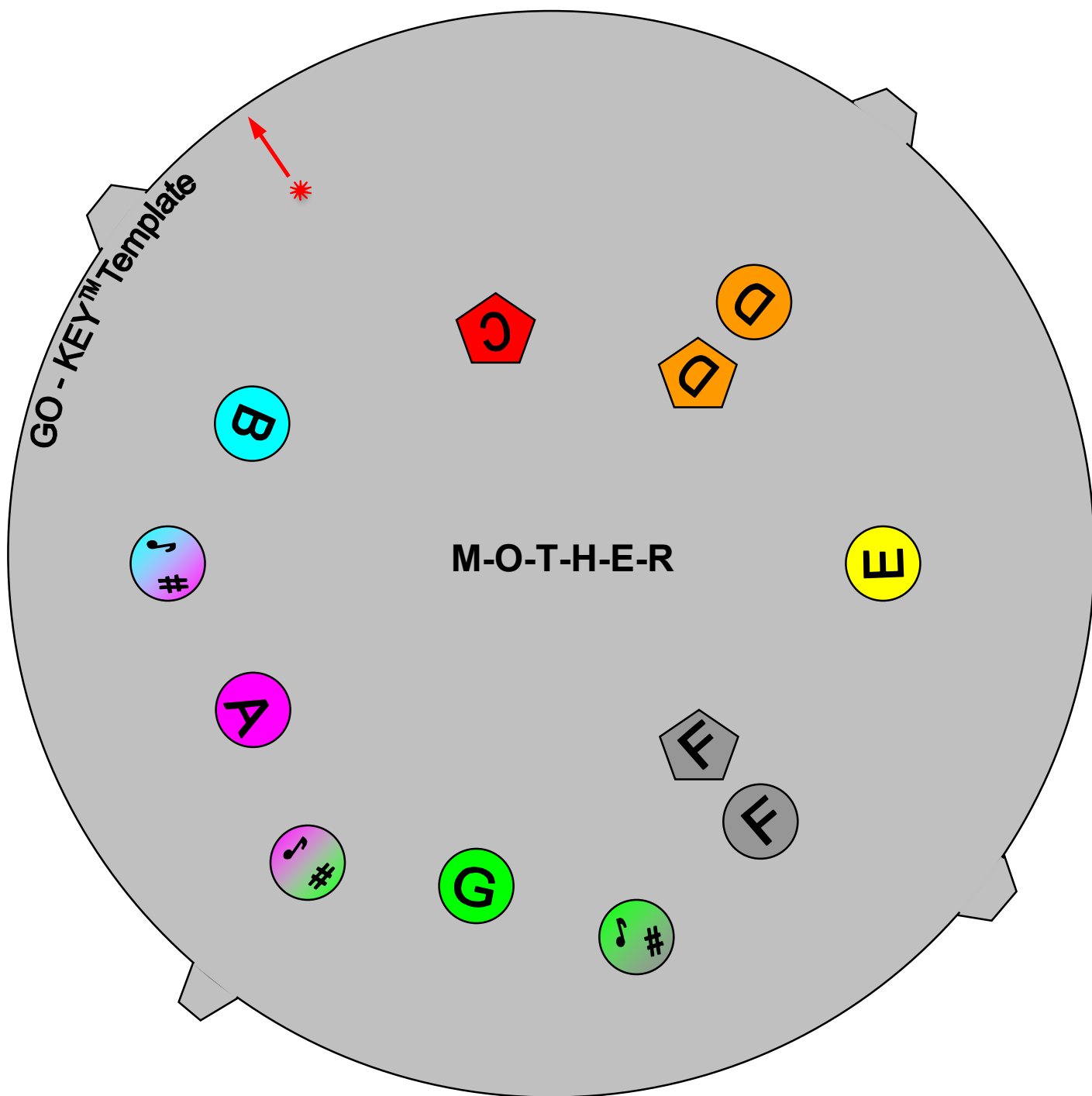
"H" is for her heart of purest gold,   "E" is for her eyes, with
"H" is for her hands that made a home,   "E" means everything she's

G D F E   G G G C G A A

love-light shining,   "R" means right, and right she'll always be,   Put
done to help me,   "R" means real and reg - u - lar, you see,   Put

A G F A A G F C   A   A G A C

them all to - geth - er, they spell "MOTHER",   a word that means the
them all to - geth - er, they spell "MOTHER",   a word that means the

D C F F

world to me.
world to

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M-O-T-H-E-R

History and Origin

"M-O-T-H-E-R : A Word That Means The World To Me." Notes were written by Theodore F. Morse an American composer of popular songs. Born in Washington D.C., Morse was educated at the Maryland Military & Naval Academy. He went on to study both violin and piano. He and his wife, Theodora Morse, became a successful songwriting team for Tin Pan Alley. Listed as Terriss & Morse, they were one of the earliest Tin Pan Alley husband-wife songwriting teams. Words were written by Howard E Johnson. Original Date of Copyright was 1915.

Only the notes for the two choruses are provided in template. The original song also contains notes for the following two verses.

Verse 1
I've been around the world, you bet,
But never went to school,
Hard knocks are all I seem to get,
Perhaps I've been a fool,
But still, some educated fool,
Supposed to be so swell,
Would fail, if they were called upon
 a simple word to spell,
Now if you'd like to put me to a test,
There's one dear name I can spell the best.

Chorus 1

Verse 2
When I was but a baby,
Long before I learned to walk,
While lying in my cradle,
I would try my best to talk,
It wasn't long, before I spoke,
and all the neighbors heard,
My folks were very proud of me
for "Mother" was the word,
Although I'll never lay a claim to fame,
I'm satisfied that I can spell this name.

Chorus 2