

Ah-tush-mit
is
Gobble Up
from
"Son of Raven, Son of Deer"
by
George Clutesi
Script Adaptation
by
Brenda Whitford

DEER

Cast:

Ah-tush-mit, the Son of Deer

Wicked Raven

A Good Neighbor

Woman Crow Doctor

Village People

Ah-tush-mit dances playfully across the stage. Ko-ishin-mit the wicked Raven watches him. He rubs his stomach to indicate his desire to eat Ah-tush-mit.

Ko-ishin-mit: (speaking to the audience) That little boy deer would make a lovely meal for me. I am always so hungry. Let's see if I can trick him into becoming my dinner.

Ko-ishin-mit goes near to Ah-tush-mit.

Ko-ishin-mit: Come Ah-tush-mit let us play in the woods.

Ah-tush-mit: No, my mother says never to go in the woods without her.

Ah-tush-mit skips away ignoring Ko-ishin-mit. Ko-ishin-mit stands back trying to think of another way to trick the boy deer.

Ko-ishin-mit gets an idea and runs to where Ah-tush-mit is playing.

Ko-ishin-mit: (excitedly) I've discovered a new game.

Ah-tush-mit: (acting unsurprised) A game! I know lots of games.

Ko-ishin-mit: But this is a new game. No one knows it except me. I wouldn't tell this to anyone but you, because you're my best friend and I trust you.

Ah-tush-mit: Well then, tell me.

Ko-ishin-mit: Shhh, not so loud. Remember this is a secret. (he looks around and over his shoulder) lets go up to the cliff so no one hears us. This is our secret.

Ah-tush-mit: No, my mother says.....

Ko-ishin-mit: (cutting him off) This isn't in the woods. Up on the cliff you can see the whole village. Come on your mother will never know. I'll show you the game up there. Come on, come on, my best friend.

Ah-tush-mit: Well okay but only for awhile... just for a little while.

They exit. Curtains

END Scene One

SCENE TWO

Scene two begins at the cliff (a riser or table??) The two enter climbing to the top.

Ah-tush-mit: Okay we're here, now show me this game.

Ko-ishin-mit: It's a new, new game. It's called the crying game.

Ah-tush-mit: Crying game! I don't want to cry. I'm happy. I couldn't cry if I tried.

Ko-ishin-mit: (paying no attention) You pretend to cry over your old, old Grandparents who have died a long time ago. (burying his face pretending to be sad)

Ah-tush-mit: I never saw my old, old Grandparents...and besides crying is no fun.

Ko-ishin-mit sits down.

Ko-ishin-mit: Sit like this and bend your head right back and cryyyy...sob, sob, boo! hoo! poorrr....old,old Grandparents.

After a minute he stops, wipes his eyes and looks at Ah-tush-mit.

Ko-ishin-mit: Now it's your turn.

Ah-tush-mit: I....I don't want to cry.

Ah-tush-mit sits down and holds his head down.

Ko-ishin-mit: No, not there, come over here closer to me.

Ah-tush-mit eases over to where Ko-ishin-mit is seated.

Ko-ishin-mit: Turn around and bend your head back as far as it will go....this will be fun for you.

Ah-tush-mit does as Ko-ishin-mit instructs. Just as Ah-tush-mit leans back Ko-ishin-mit pushes him over the cliff. The wicked Raven then swoops over and engulves the deer boy into his big cape signifying his gobbling up Ah-tush-mit. Ko-ishin-mit is so full he lays down to sleep.

END SCENE TWO

SCENE THREE

Ko-ishin-mit awakens by a sudden jolt. He holds his stomach.

Ko-ishin-mit: What is wrong with me. My stomach, oh...oh...oh....

The villagers hear the Raven and come running to see what all the noise is about.

Ko-ishin-mit: Go away, I don't want to see anyone.

A good neighbor runs off stage yelling.

Good Neighbor: Doctor, doctor, come quickly Ko-ishin-mit is so sick.

The woman crow doctor enters.

Woman Crow Doctor:

I see Ah-tush-mit, Son of Deer is here.

The Villagers:

Where? We don't see him.

A Good Neighbor:

Look at Ko-ishin-mit's stomach. See how it bounces. It looks like little deer hoofs poking out. Could it be??

A Villager:

Quick we must cut him out.

The villager opens the cape and out jumps Ah-tush-mit.

Ah-tush-mit:

I'll never believe Ko-ishin-mit again, I will never go somewhere alone honest, honest.

THE END

Ko-ishin-mit

invites

Chims-meet

to

Dinner

BEAR

CAST:

Ko-ishin-mit (Son of Raven)

Pash-hook (Raven's wife)

Chims-meet (the Bear)

Mamma Bear

Scene one is an autumn scene. The bears are busy putting food away for the winter. Mamma Bear is busy putting cut salmon up to dry. Other bears are picking berries. Always with their left hand. It is said that all bears are left handed.

Ko-ishin-mit enters, looking for a free meal as usual.

Cedar boxes of food are everywhere at the Bears.

Chims-meet: Well, well Son of Raven. What a nice day to see you. Come in, come in. Sit down and join us in a meal.

Ko-ishin-mit: What a lot of great boxes of food you have stored for the winter.

Chims-meet: Yes, we are all prepared for the coming cold. Tell me, are you prepared too?

Ko-ishin-mit: I have been out hunting but I haven't had much luck. The weather is too still.

(Mamma Bear enters with a big salmon on a plate. She gets it on her stove to cook. Ko-ishin-mit rubs his stomach and looks on greedily.)

Ko-ishin-mit: I sure hope they have some oil for this fine salmon.

(Mamma Bear sets down two large clam shells for her mate.)

Mamma Bear: There you are, all ready for you.

Chims-meet: Thank you (turns to Ko-ishin-mit) sit away from the fire while I draw the oil. (Chims-meet puts his hands over the shells.)

Clear oil run smooth,
Rich oil come now.

Ko-ishin-mit: (surprised) That is truly amazing.

(They sit down to eat and as usual Ko-ishin-mit gobbles up the salmon and oil without stopping. Mamma Bear shook her head but says nothing. Ko-ishin-mit lays down to sleep)

Ko-ishin-mit: (on awakening) Thank you for the lovely meal. Please, come and dine with myself and my wife Pash-hook.

Chims-meet: We would be honored.

End of Scene One

Scene two is in Ko-ishin-mit house.
Both are busy. The Bears enter.

Ko-ishin-mit: Come in my friends. Sit down, sit down. Pash-hook hurry and bring in more wood. Stoke the fire. Get the salmon ready to be cooked.

(Pash-hook scurries about trying to do everything her husband says.)

Pash-hook: What about oil for the salmon. We don't have any oil for the salmon.

Ko-ishin-mit: Hush now! Bring me a clamshell, no, bring me two shells. Now stand back while I draw the oil. (He goes over to the fire and pokes at it with a stick.) He sits down and holds his hands over the flames. Every now and then Ko-ishin-mit looks into the shells and keeps trying.

The bears wait patiently as Ko-ishin-mit works over the shells.

He sits there until he is burned black
(possibly putting on a black cape to
signify this.)

Chims-meet:

Poor Ko-ishin-mit. He is always trying
to copy everyone. It is not good to
want to be like someone else.

Bear Person:

This is why, to this day, Raven's are all
black, because Ko-ishin-mit the Son of
Raven, burned himself while trying to
copy the fat Chims-meet in drawing
oil from his hands.

End of Scene Two

How the

Human

People

Got the

First

Fire

Wolf

How the Human People
Got the First Fire
from
"Son of Raven, Son of Deer"

by

George Clutesi
Script adaptation

by

Brenda Whitford

Wolf

Cast:

Ah-tush-mit, the Son of Deer	Chief Wolf
The Wise Chief	Mamma Wolf
The Village People	The Wolf People
Drummers and Singers	
Narrator	

SCENE I

Scene one opens with a narration.

Narrator: Long, long time ago the human people had not fire. They couldn't cook their food, keep themselves warm or dry their clothes.

There wasn't any fire to give them light when the moon would not. The dreaded Wolf people owned the fire.

The village people are sitting around obviously cold and in discussion about the need to get fire.

The Wise Chief: Let's get all the brave and strong men together and steal the fire from the dreaded Wolf people.

One Villager: (boastfully) I will run off with the fire and bring it back. I am the fastest runner.

Wise Chief: You have all tried and failed. The guards that are near the Wolf village are too smart for you.

All Villagers: What will we do, what will we do. We will be cold and have to eat raw meat. We must have the fire. We must!

They become silent. Ah-tush-mit comes running and stops right in front of the wise one.

Ah-tush-mit: (in a small voice) I will get you the fire. The villagers begin to laugh. The Wise chief sits solemn faced, he does not laugh.

Ah-tush-mit: I will get you the fire. Give me a chance.

Wise Chief: Ah-tush-mit, my strongest and bravest have failed, go and do the best you can.

The villagers have shocked looks on their faces but rush to help prepare Ah-tush-mit. They help him put on a red cedar headband, a sash, bands for his knees, elbows and ankles, Ah-tush-mit tucks something into each knee band.

Ah-tush-mit: Now I need the best drummers and singers to come with me to the edge of the Wolf village. You must not enter and when I give you the signal you must run home.

The drummers, singers and Ah-tush-mit proceed along the way. Ah-tush-mit hides behind the procession.

One Villager: Look at what a coward Ah-tush-mit is, hiding behind us.

They come to the Wolf village. Wolf people enter opposite side.

The Wolf people are gathered around a fire. Suddenly Ah-tush-mit jumps in front of the drummer procession. He is down on all fours. A huge fierce looking wolf person comes forward. Ah-tush-mit signals the other humans to leave. The drummers and singers turn and exit. Ah-tush-mit remains dancing around.

Wolf Chief: What is all the noise about?

A Wolf person: It is only young Ah-tush-mit dancing.

Mamma Wolf: Bring him in, let us see him dance awhile.

The wolf people bring him to the chief and his wife. Ah-tush-mit quickens his dance steps to a hop. He leaps and sings with all his might. He

continues to leap and sing until he is in the exact spot. The wolf people cheer and applaud. Ah-tush-mit leaps over the fire.

Wolf People:

Look Ah-tush-mit is on fire.

Ah-tush-mit stops his dance and bounds out and away from the wolf house. The wolf people are in shock.

Narrator:

Yes, Ah-tush-mit had indeed outsmarted the wolf people. He had hidden a small bundle of very dry sticks in his knee bands with which to steal a spark of fire. Ah-tush-mit had burned himself though the inside of his knees were badly scorched, and that is why even today the inside of all deers knees are singed black. That is how the human people got their first fire.

END

Ko-ishin-mit and
the Shadow
People

from

Son of Raven, Son of Deer

by

George Clutesi

Script Adaptation

by

Brenda Whitford

RAVEN

Cast:

Ko-ishin-mit (Son of Raven) Shadow People

Pash-hook (His mate)

Villagers

Scene One opens with Ko-ishin-mit walking along. Some villagers are standing around having a discussion.

Villager:

There is a very strange place on a little island across the bay where no one lives. There are canoes and lots and lots of fresh food, even though there doesn't seem to be anyone living there. It is said if you get there before sundown and leave before sun up the first person may keep everything.

Ko-ishin-mit:

(greedily hopping up and down) What kind of things? Where is this place? How fare from here? The villagers ignore him.

Ko-ishin-mit:

(even more excited) I must find this place first. I must. I must.

Ko-ishin-mit runs off stage.

Villagers:

Look at greedy Ko-ishin-mit. He's always trying to get a free meal.

They leave, laughing.

END SCENE ONE

SCENE TWO

A small canoe on stage. Ko-ishin-mit and Pash-hook enter carrying a basket. They get into the canoe. They begin to paddle away. They paddle for awhile.

Ko-ishin-mit: Paddle harder Pash-hook, paddle harder. Look, I can see the beach. Look at all those canoes. Ko-ishin-mit jumps out of the canoe. Not even waiting for Pash-hook.

Ko-ishin-mit: I got here first, I got here first. It's all mine, mine, mine. The whole village is mine.

Pash-hook: Ko-ishin-mit look at all those cedar boxes, do you suppose they are full?

Ko-ishin-mit: Lets see,....yes....there is smoked salmon, oils, cured meats, herring roe, and dried berries and it's all mine, everything, everything is mine.

Pash-hook walks by her greedy husband and goes over to the fire. She sits down and warms her hands. Ko-ishin-mit begins loading up the canoe making many trips back and forth. He loads the canoe so full there isn't room for Pash-hook.

Ko-ishin-mit returns for Pash-hook. The Shadow people move on stage and hold Pash-hook down. Ko-ishin-mit goes over to her.

Ko-ishin-mit: Come Pash-hook! Hurry! We must go. (He moves away from her. She doesn't move) Come on Pash-hook, now! (she doesn't move) What is the matter with you? You have never disobeyed me before. (he grabs her and tries to lift her up but he fails) Something is wrong oh dear, oh dear. Pash-hook tries to say something.

Pash-hook: (whispering) There are strange people holding me down. Put back everything you took.

Ko-ishin-mit obeys immediately because he is frightened. After everything is put back, Pash-hook moves. The Shadow people let go and sit beside the fire.

Ko-ishin-mit and Pash-hook jump in their canoe and return home.

Pash-hook:

Yeah, I'm free. There were people up there I'm sure of it. I felt their hands holding me down. It is true what the old people say, all things belong to some one. It is not wise to keep anything you find.

END SCENE TWO