



A Reader's Theater Script

Based on an Algonquin folk tale

Word count: 291

Characters:

Narrator 1

Narrator 2

Glooskap

Tattler the Loon

Winter

Summer

Narrator 1:

Long ago, it grew very cold.

Ice and snow covered the land.

Fires couldn't keep people warm,
and corn couldn't grow.

Glooskap:

I will have to do something to help my people.

Narrator 2:

Glooskap traveled far to the north.

Everything was white with snow.

He came to a house made of solid ice
where a giant named Winter lived.

Winter:

Come inside, Glooskap.

I will tell you stories of when I ruled the world.

Narrator 1:

Soon, Glooskap fell asleep under Winter's spell.

Tattler the Loon:

Wake up, Glooskap!

Travel far to the south.

There, you will find a woman who can defeat Winter.

Narrator 2:

Glooskap escaped and traveled far to the south.

Here, it was finally warm.

Grass and flowers bloomed.

Narrator 1:

Glooskap saw women dancing in circles.

At the center was Summer.

She had long brown hair, and she wore a crown of flowers.

Glooskap:

Summer, will you come north with me?

I need your help to defeat Winter.

Narrator 2:

Summer followed Glooskap to Winter's house of ice.

Winter:

Come inside, Glooskap.
I will tell you more stories.

Narrator 1:

But Winter's stories could not capture Summer.
She began to tell her own stories.
Sweat ran down Winter's face.

Summer:

I am stronger than you.
You must leave this land and thaw your icy
breath.

Narrator 2:

Winter wept, and his tears became rivers
of melting snow and ice.
The corn grew, and flowers bloomed again.

Summer:

You will have your own land in the north.
It will always be winter there.
You may come to visit other lands for part
of the year.
But in the spring, I will drive you out.

Narrator 1:

Since that day, winter has ruled for part of the year.

But every spring, summer drives him away.

Narrator 2:

Sometimes it seems like winter will never end.

But Summer is stronger than Winter.

Spring will always come.