

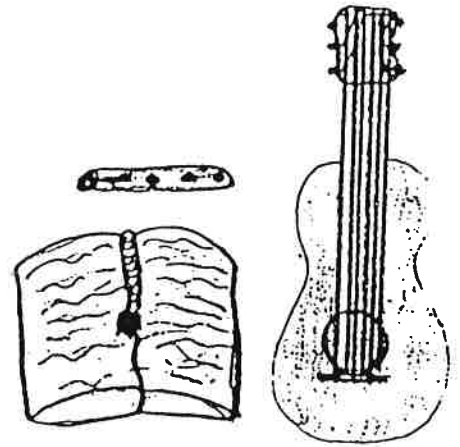
BEARS ON HEMLOCK MOUNTAIN

by

Students of
Northern Lights Academy
Rigolet

Bears on Hemlock Mountain is a story about a boy who was sent by his mother to get a large pot. To do so he had to go over Hemlock Mountain where there were bears.

Members of Cast: ADA SHEPPARD
 WINSTON BLAKE
 PETER SHIWAK
 PAULINE WOLFREY
 MELVIN PALLISER



ICU, KABRADOR ARTS FESTIVAL

BEARS ON HEMLOCK MOUNTAIN

A book by Alice Dalgliesh, rewritten as
a play for Creative Arts Festival

April, 1985

SCENE I (Father is washing dishes. Mother is wiping them.)

Father: Did you hear when John and Ruth are getting married?

Mother: Next Friday night. All the aunts, uncles and cousins will be coming to Rigolet for the wedding.

Father: We should invite them to our house. How about Saturday for dinner?

Mother: That's 20 people!! What will I give them to eat?

Father: You could make a big pot of soup and then give them cookies. That should be enough.

Mother: That's a good idea. But where will I get a pot big enough to make soup for 20 people?

(Enter Jonathan with an armful of wood.)

Mother: (to Jonathan) I know!! Your Aunt Emma on the other side of Hemlock Mountain has the biggest pot I ever saw. Jonathan, you can go and fetch it.

Jonathan: Me? All alone? There are bears on Hemlock Mountain.

Mother: Don't be silly. I've been over Hemlock Mountain lots of times and I never saw a bear. All the bears are asleep now anyway. Besides, there are no bears.

Jonathan: It's a long way and the pot will be heavy.

Mother: You are 9 years old now. Put on your coat, cap, mitts, and boots and go quickly, so you get back before dark.

(Jonathan gets dressed to go.)

Here are some cookies. You might get hungry.

Jonathan: Thank you. I won't be late because maybe there are bears on Hemlock Mountain.

Scene 2

(Jonathan walks up the mountain saying in time to his steps--

There are no bears on Hemlock Mountain, no bears, no bears, no bears at all.

(At the top he sits down to rest and eat a cookie.)

(He gets up, goes down the mountain, and comes to Aunt Emma's house. He knocks. Aunt Emma is cutting out cookies. She gets up and opens the door--

Emma: Mercy sakes! What are you doing here, Jonathan?

(Jonathan goes in, brushes snow from his boots. He takes off boots, coat, cap, and mitts. He sits down in the chair. Emma sits across from him. The cat comes and rubs against his leg. He strokes it.)

Well, what brings you here?

Jonathan: I came to see you, Aunt Emma.

Emma: You came all the way over Hemlock Mountain just for a visit? Jonathan, did you come over Hemlock Mountain?

Jonathan: Yes, why?

Emma: Because...

Jonathan: Because why?

Emma: Oh, just because...

Jonathan: (Snuffs) It smells good in here. (He sniffs again.)

Emma: Mercy sakes!! You must be hungry coming all the way over Hemlock Mountain. Would you like a cookie?

Jonathan: Yes, please.

(Aunt Emma brings a plate of cookies, pitcher of milk and cup to him. He begins to eat.)

Emma goes on making cookies. Jonathan eats, and drinks, and gets very sleepy. He goes to sleep on the chair.)

Emma: (Looking at Jonathan.) I wonder that the boy wanted. He must be very tired. I will not wake him now.

Scene 3

(Father and mother again wash and wipe dishes.)

Mother: I hope Jonathan gets home before it gets dark.

Father: I should go out to meet him. It gets dark early now.

(He slowly puts on boots, coat, hat, mitts, and picks up his gun and a flashlight.)

Scene 4

(Jonathan wakes up when the cat rubs against his leg.)

Jonathan: Oh, it is late. I must get home before dark.

(He puts on his boots, coat, cap, mitts)

Goodbye, Aunt Emma.

Emma: Good-bye, Jonathan. Hurry now. Don't waste time on the mountain.

Jonathan: Why?

Emma: Oh, just because (Jonathan walks a short way,. He stops.)

Jonathan: Oh, the pot. I forgot to ask Aunt Emma for the big pot.

(He goes back. Knocks. Emma comes to the door.)

Emma: Did you forget something?

Jonathan: I forgot to ask you for your big pot. Mom wants to use it to make soup for all

the aunts and uncles and cousins
after the concert.

Emma: I'll get it for you. (She gets the pot.)
Do you think you can carry it?

Jonathan: Yes. (He leaves with pot on his back.)

Lights down. Spot light on Jonathan.

Scene 5

(Jonathan climbs the mountain slowly, saying --

There are no bears on Hemlock Mountain,
no bears at all.

(Bears enter slowly from left. Jonathan
sees them and gets under the pot.
Bears come up to pot and smell around it.)

(Father turns on flashlight, carries gun
and begins climbing mountain.)

Father: Hel.llo..., Jonathan!!

Jonathan: (From under the pot) Hel..lo, Dad!!

(Bears exit from Emma.)

Father: Hell..O, Jonathan!

Jonathan: Hel--lo, Dad! (He pushed back the pot
and stands up.)

Father: Jonathan, where have you been all this time?

Jonathan: Coming up Hemlock Mountain.

Father: (Looking at the pot upside-down.) What is
this? Why is the pot upside down?

Jonathan: Bears. There are bears on Hemlock Mountain.

(He points to tracks in snow.) Look at
the tracks. There are bears on Hemlock
Mountain.

Father: Come, let's go home. Your mother is
worrying about you.

(Father carries the pot.)

(Jonathan and father arrive home.)

Mother: Jonathan, I'm glad you are home safe.

Jonathan: There are bears on Hemlock Mountain.
(He gives the pot to mother.) I brought
it all the way over Hemlock Mountain and
here it is!

Lights out.

Lights up.

ISSUMATSASIUK

Jens Haven Memorial - Nain

Isaac, the main character has to make a choice between going to a Science Fair and going on the traditional deer hunt.

Players:

Isaac - Elias Obed

Father - Sabina Hunter

Teacher, Mother - Beatrice Hunter

Jacko - David Harris

Diane - Lucy Jararuse