KANITUKULUK

("Nah Far")

Characters: Harriet/Old Man

Amos

Selma Lizzie Sophie Johannes

Scott (City Slicker)

Scene I The bell rings for recess at Jens Haven Memorial School. Kids start yelling. All friends meet.

Amos: (speaking to everyone) Hey, how was your holiday dudes?

Everyone: Great, no sweat, fine, excellent etc.

Johannes: Guess wha? You see that movie on those kids getting lost?

Amos: Yeah, good ole movie eh? Crazy ole kids didn't know anything. Only getting lost boy.

Selma: Yeah, bet we couldn't get lost in a century. We're too good.

Sophie: (She hasn't really been listening. She's been looking through a magazine.) Hey, my uncle said we could use his skidoo and komatik this weekend. Wanna go off or wha?

Selam: Yeah, how 'bout going on a camping trip up to ...ah...you know dah place.

Amos: Ya mean that place near Antalak.

Sophie: Great idea - it's good over there boy.

Elizabeth. We gotta ask our daddies or we'll get bawled at.

Everyone: OK, sounds great etc. (All crowd in for a bit of a close conference about it.)

Lizzie: (looking across the stage at Scott) Hey, who's that boy over there decked out in those clothes?

Harriet: Dunno. Amos, let's go see.

(Harriet and Amos walk over the "the dude" while the rest of the gang hangs back listening.)

Amos: They call me Amos. What they call you my man?

Scott: They call me Scott.

Harriet: What a cool name. Where are you from?

Selma: Ole kalunak. What's so great about the name Scott? He looks funny, boy.

(Johannes saunters over and joins the group by Scott)

Scott: Toronto.

Johannes: How long you here for boy?

Sophie: Hope he isn't here for too long - foolish looking ole kalunak.

Scott: I'm here till school ends.

Harriet: Only for school? How short, in a gorgeous town like this.

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18

Lizzie: He's too cool for this town anyway - he might freeze.

Scott: Gee, too bad eh? Sick eh boy. School is too short too, eh boy?

(Johannes walks back across to join Lizzie and others)

Lizzie: (shouts over to Scoet) Don't you know how to talk or wha boy?

Amos: Hey dude. Coming camping with us or wha?

Johannes: I thought this trip was for us. Not for crazy ole kalunak.

Bell rings. School is in again. Everyone groans.

Scene III The next day at school.

Amos: I'm allowed to go - no sweat.

(Chorus of "I am too" etc.)

Harriet: Let's go ask that new guy Scott again.

Amos: Yeah, good ole idea boy.

(Others grumble but reluctantly agree.)

Selma: Hey kid, you wamma go camping or wha?

Scott: Where are you going?

Harriet: Near Antalak

Scott: When are you going and how long are you going for? Are any adults going?

Amos: Gee boy, "Who" "What" "When" "Where"... too many ole question's boy.

Sophie: Yeah, hurry up, what's your answer boy? Wanna go or not?

Scott: Sure, my Dad doesn't care what I do anyway.

Johannes: Let's go talk about what to bring eh?

(Go over and pull some desks together.)

Amos: I could bring a box of 3006 Spring bullets. Anybody got a gun - or are we gonna throw the bullets?

Johannes: Quit joking around for once Amos. I could bring a coleman stove.

Sophie: I could bring some sleeping bags.

Selma: I can bring some old pillows. Hey Scott, make sure you bring some think socks and sweaters — and ole longjohns.

Harriet: I think we should take extra gas and a belt too.

(Scott looks at his belt, takes it off and offers it as the extra.)

Amos: Nah, we got enough stuff already.

Harriet: Well what if we run out of gas? Or burn out a belt? My dad almost froze to death once when he broke down with no extra belt.

Lizzie . Who cares eh? We don't have money for all that stuff anyway.

Harriet: You don't have money for extra gas and a belt but you've got lots for junk I bet.

Johannes: Yeah, and we're gonna spend it on junk too.

(Chorus of agreements.)

Harriet: If you don't take extra gas and a belt then I'm not going.

Selma: OK beat it, who cares?

Lizzie: Yeah, go see your mommy.

Sophie: Hug your teddy bear and suck your thumb.

Johannes: Hey Harriet, don't you ever take a chance - try your luck?

Amos: Nothin's gonna happen. Not gonna die:

(All exit except Harriet. She leaves slowly after the others have gone.)

Scene III Packing scene.

Scott is on one side of the stage packing his things, carefully folded, into a suitcase. He is obviously taking the wrong things.

Johannes is on the other side packing appropriate things into an old duffle bag.

(Background singing.) Ittulaite

Scene Iv Travelling.

Lizzie: We must be halfway there by now.

Sophie: Good ole skidoo boy.

Johannes: Good thing your dad didn't see us burn up that hill.

Amos: Cold day eh? Scott: I wish I had some hot chocolate!! (He is getting cold and is shivering as he sits frozen on the komatik. The others get off and move around to warm up.)

Selma: Cold already? We only left not too long ago.

Lizzie: Let's dance some action into our feet. Amos: Looks like this skidoo is low on gas boy. Sophie: That gauge isn't right you crazy ole boy.

Selma: Come on Scott move around.

Scott: I'm just fine thanks...

Johannes: We don't want no inukshuk on our komatik. Let's move man before we lose the sunlight;

Lizzie: Let's get cracking.
Scott: OK OK I'm moving, I'm moving.

Sophie: Scottie boy sure didn't move far. Man he acts like an old etok.

Scene V At the campsite.

Scott: Where's the winter cabin? I wanna watch TV.

Johannes: Isumakangelatit (Got no brains or wha?)

Amos: Hey look. He's walking like an ole etok.

Selma: Some people get the tent up and some get the fire wood.

Johannes: What??! The tent's not here? Harriet was supposed to bring the tent. Sick ole girl.

Scott: What? No tent: No cabin: NO LIFE: I'm froze boy. Gee boy my life is ending. (Groan) Where's my fire, my heat??

Amos: Ole etok. Ittualuk

Selma: Hurry up, Atsût. Get that fire going.

Lizzie: Poor ole baby, warm him up, help him.

Sophie: Help him?! Help me. What am I gonna do?

Johannes: We'll think of something. Don't have to go crazy!

Scott: Don't just stand there, do something. Don't you realize that I will die?

(scott starts to panic.)

Scott: I'm going back even if I have to walk back!

Lizzie: Let's cuddle, that will calm you down.

Selam: Let me cuddle with him Liz.

Amos: Let him walk back. Just warn him about the wolves and the black bears.

Scott: I must be dreaming. What do you mean wolves and black bears? You mean you guys never told me about those wild animals? They could eat us alive! Ain't they supposed to be in the zoo?

Johannes: Face it kid, you're not dreaming.

Amos: What's the big deal about that city slicker, that nerd?

Johannes: We're not getting anywhere by complaining. Let's get to work.

Sophie: Yeah right, that's my duty.

Johannes: Let's make a fire. Amos and Scott go and get some fire wood.

Lizzie: I'll go with Scott, you stay here Amos.

Selma: Buzz off Liz, we gotta get some work done. Let Amos go with him.

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Scott: I'm not going to get anything. I'm staying here covered up in the sleeping bag.

Amos: Stay here? No way! If you come and get fire wood you'll stay warmer. Besides, if you stay here the wolves are gonna get ya!

(Amos and Scott go off to get fire wood.)

Sophie: The rest of us will stay here to think of something for shelter.

(All wander and think.)

Johannes: I have an idea. Last year I read in a magazine about some explorers who lost their tent so they made this thing called a leaner. All they're made of is branches, sticks and a sheet or blanket to cover it.

Selma: Oh yeah, Iknow what it is.

Lizzie: I think I've heard of it.

(Scott and Amos return, they heard the conversation.)

Scott: Will it keep us warm?

Amos: Well, it's better than nothing. Wanna try to make one?

Scott: I'll try anything to keep warm.

Scene VI: The leaner is made with a blanket covering it.

Johannes: It's getting dark eh?

Lizzie: I'll get the ole sleeping bags.

Selma: I'll get the pillows.

Amos: I'll get the rest of the stuff OK.

(They gather their things into the leaner and crawl into the sleeping bags and go to sleep. Later Amos starts to snore.)

Scott: Elizabeth, Elizabeth, do you hear it? The bear...

Lizzie: (moaning) That's not a bear it's Amos snoring. Now everything's OK so go back to sleep.

(Morning - Everybody wakes up except Scott.)

Selma: Amos, Sophie, get up it's morning and I'm hungry boy!

Johannes: I think it's time for breakfast.

Amos: I agree. Go get the stove Sophie.

Lizzie: Here's the beans. (Everybody groans) Well how am I supposed to know what you like? You didn't tell me.

Sophie: Well when you're hungry you don't care. You just eat.

Selma: Hey, Scott's still sleeping.

Lizzie: I thought I woke him up.

Amos: Stupid ole city slicker.

(Johannes wakes Scott.)

Scott: I'm cold boy! What time is it?

Johannes: It's only 8:00 city boy.

Sophie: Beans are ready! Come and get 'em. Better enjoy it, the stove's out of fuel.

15

Selma: Here Scott, here's a plate full of beans.

Scott: (groaning) Beans? Where are my fropgs legs and scrambled eggs?

Lizzie: (Groaning right back at him) How gross! But anyway eat up.

Scott: My legs are cold.

Amos: Didn't Selma tell you to bring longjohns?

Scott: I did.

Amos: Put them on then boy!

Scott: Put these on? (He holds up longjohns candy) How do you put candy on? (Everyone laughs)

Johannes: I don't get you city boy. We meant for you to bring

long underwear.

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Selma: We might as well enjoy them.

Lizzie: Looking good Scottie boy. (Staring at Scott as he hands them out.)

Selma: These are good boy. I should buy these at Tom's.

Johannes: Ha: You can't get them there, you can only get them in the city stupid.

Sophie: Hey, candies, candies...CANDLES! Candles, (jumps into the leaner) let's share the candles and that will make some warmth.

(She passes candles around and they light them.)

Amos: (looking at Scott) Stop Shaking boy.

(Scott doesn't stop and accidentally drops hot wax on his fingers, drops the candle, his clothes start on fire and Johannes leaps over quickly and rolls Scott around in the snow to put the fire out.)

Scott: Thanks Johannes, I owe you one!

Johannes: That's alright Scottie boy. Free of charge.

Lizzie: Would you two stop it.

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Sophie; I'm getting sick of this. I wanna go home now. I smell my mommy's bread. My life is flashing in front of my cute face.

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(Amos comes over and slaps Sophie.)

Sophie: Stop that Amos, you brat! Hey wait, I hear something... Glen Tilley on Here and Now.

(Sophie collapses. They all calm down and sit in silence for a few moments.)

Lizzie: Hey guys, it looks like a blizzard's coming.

Johannes: Yeah right! (He looks around and suddenly his jaw drops in surprise) Maybe we should head for home folks.

Sophie: All righ, get your gear!

Amos: I'll get the skidoos ready and the rest of yous pack up.

Scott: We're going home!

(Everyone starts packing up - someone tossing stuff out of the leaner. Several minutes pass and they are all ready to go but Amos cannot start the skidoos.)

Amos: I give up!. I can't get this stupid skidoo started.

What do you mean you can't get the stupid skidoo started! We'll run out of food. We'll starve! Scott:

We could start to walk back, it's only 15 miles (she's still

dazed from her fit).

Lizzie: What? Are you crazy? There's a storm coming.

Johannes: Well, I guess it's the best thing to do.

Selma: Do everybody agree to start back?

Scott: (falls to his knees praying) Please let this be a nightmare, please 0 God: Tell my brother he can keep my ghetto-blaster.

Let's head back folks.

Sophie: What about the storm???

If we hurry up we'll be home before the storm starts. Johannes:

let's go.

Selma: What about the skidoos?

Just leave them here. Let's get out of here. We'll come

back later with help.

That's if we get help, we'll probably die first!!

Scene VII All enter exhausted from stage right.

Two hours... we've been dragging through the snow for two

hours...

Amos : Hey smoke! Which means...

Scott: FIRE!! Heat! Food!

(They all run into the cabin. Inside the cabin an old man is sitting on a rocking chair with his back to the audience.)

Johannes: Could you, ah., tell us where we are?

(Silence - no response)

Sophie: (Louder) Excuse me. Could you tell us where we are?

(Still no response)

Lizzie: Mybe he's deaf or speechless.

Selma: Maybe he don't have a tongue.

(Suddenly the old man jumps up and starts to sing and dance. is also playing his drum.)

Old Man: Ai ya ya ya ya

Amos: Maybe you should dance with him just to be friendly. Go on Scott.

Scott: Me?

Johannes: No, your mother - you fool!

Scott: OK, I'll dance with him but only if you promise you'll get food from him.

Sophie: OK we promise.

(Scott starts to dance.)

Johannes: You can stop dancing now. By the way, he's not playing rock and roll.

Scott: Stink ole smell: Smell like pee...

Old Man: Suna?

Amos: (pointing at Scott): Mamangetualôk, sulu Kuisimajuk Kalimine.

(Old Man walks over to Scott and hits him on the head with a Bible.)

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Scott: Ouch, you, you... bad-tempered, ancient piece of blubber.

Old Man: Kanuilijuk? (What did he say?)

Johannes: Kuviasotijuk. (He's making fun of you.)

Lizzie: Translate "How to get home?"

Johannes: Kanuk Nainimunialikita?

Old Man: Make yourself some tea. (Then Old Man exits.)

(All help themselves to food, tea and the warmth of the fire.)

Sophie: Hey wait, I hear a skidoo coming.

Selma: (looking out the window) Hey Harriet is coming!

Amos: Yeah, alright man!

(Chorus of cheering)

Scott: We're finally leaving, I'm naw going camping ever again!
(Harriet enters)

Harriet: Hi guys, I was expecting to see you later. I just came to bring you some extra gas and a belt just in case you needed it. I was just stopping here to say hi to Etwa first.

Johannes: Do we ever need that stuff. One of our skidoos ran out of gas and the other one's belt wore out.

Harriet: Intold you you would need the extras.

Lizzie: We're sorry we called you a baby.

Sophie: Yeah, we didn't mean it.

Johannes: We should have listened to you in the first place.

Harriet: That's OK. Right now let's go fix the skidoos.

(They exit to fix the broken down machines.)

Scene VIII Two weeks later the group meets again.

Harriet: Hey, my father said we can use his skidoo to go camping.

How about it?

Everyone: NO!!

End