

Our Script for The Sign of the Beaver as Retold in 6 Scenes

Scene 1

M: The cabin looks good Pa.

PA: I guess I will be going now. I have to get to ma, the baby and your sister.

M: (starts crying) I'm going to miss you! Oh pa! Do you have to leave?

Pa: (quietly) yes, son. I have to do what is best for the family. They can't travel on their own.
Especially the baby. Stay warm in the cabin and use the hunting skills I taught you.

M: don't leave, pa.

Pa: I have to do what is best for us. Be good Matt. Do the best for you!

M: I will pa, I will! Pa, I will miss you.

(Matt goes to cabin)

M: ok, seven sticks in a bundle, that counts as a week. Pa said it would be seven weeks, so seven of those and he will be back.

KNOCK! KNOCK!

M: oh, hi! Come in, it is getting cold fast!

Ben: thank you

oooo, that's a nice rifle!

M: um, thank you

They go to sleep

M: (yawning) oh my gosh, NO!!!!!!!

Scene 2

M: I can't believe that Ben stole my gun! How am I gonna protect myself?
Now that the bear stole my sugar and syrup, I want to see if I can find something sweet.

(At beehive, Matt chased by bees and falls in water. Saknis saves Matt.)

S: you teach atlean to read white man words. We help you.

(S talks to A in native tongue)

S: atlean does not like white man.

M: anyway, we are going to read a book. It's called Robinson Crusoe.

A: how long it take?

M: What do you mean?

A: how long it take to learn to read white man words?

M: it can take a month. A year at the longest.

A: I not want to learn if take a year.

(Attean leaves cabin. Show night then day. Show reading lesson. Show with bow.)

A: bend hand, not straight arm.good.

M: thank you!

Scene 3.

M: Attean, wait up! Where are we going?

A: we go to village. (Rattle in bushes)

M: did you hear that?

A: bear hungry, we go

M: b-ut, aren't you gong to hunt it?

A: we no hunt until attacked. (Growl).

M: are you sure? Attean, I think it's going to hunt us! M

A: no, we go now...

(Roar!!!!)

M: attean, look out! (whine)

A: uhh, what happened?

M: the bear attacked you

A: bear foolish. He attack, he get killed.

M: it was a mother.

A: fmgdia monathe loan moathe loneht!

M: what was that?

A: me take bad spirits away.

M: oh

A: me no mean to kill mother. Mother had cub.

M: what should we do?

A: we leave and go to village

M: we can't just leave the cub here

A: we are have bear feast

M: how are we going to carry it there?

A: I tell my people we kill bear, come.

M: ok

A: I tell Indiana people we come tonight and I bring you.

M: why are you telling them?

A: white man killed my mother, so white man no welcome in my village.

M: but aren't we almost there? Can't I go now with you?

A: you stay! I tell them no be scared.

M: what would they think if I just came with you now?

A: they think you kill them.

M: but I'm just a boy?

A: you might be white boy, but you danger to my people.

M: okay. The you go and tell them.

(In the evening)

A: shgole meeon locano recacrs Pune

M: what are they saying?

A: they say you not welcome, but you stay for bear feast only.

M: well, okay

A: people. I have friend, no harm. We killed bear for feast.

S: Matt, I feed you. I help you. I not say come to village. But I glad you help attean.

M: I'm starving!!!

(Several hours later)

M: I can smell the food, it smells great!!!!

S: bear is done. Feast now begins. Hamfh dimen.

A: he say dear spirits, let us live in peace.

(Much later, around the fire)

M: yawn...I'm tired.

(Sun has risen)

M: yawn...where am I?

A: you sleep in wigwam, you very tired, sleep as log in night. (Giggles)

M: you mean I slept like a log! (Laughs too) I think I need to get back to my cabin now.

Scene 4

Several days later, Matt is walking through the woods alone. Attean is in search of his manitou, Matt is all alone.

M: I wonder what that noise is? It sounds like a howl.

M: oh, no! It's attean's dog and he is caught in the trap! I need to get help!

At indian village

M: where is attean?

Marie: he hunting with men.

A: if you stay, you die.

Ma: no, I won't. I know they will come.

S: if that what you want, that what you get.

A: here, take dog. He no good for hunt.

M: hmmm.....wait here. (Goes to cabin and returns)

Here.

A: what this?

M: it is a watch, and it will tell you the time.

A: oh, thank you.

M: bye!

S and A: bye!

Scene 6

(Matt alone in the winter with dog)

Dog: woof, woof

M: we have to go and gather wood for the fire. I think a storm is coming.

(Matt looks out window).

M: I guess it has all ready started! We can't go get more wood and we don't have much to eat.

(Time passes)

M: well, it is really pretty outside. Let's go and enjoy it.

M: no! Come back here boy!

Dog: woof, woof, woof!!!!

M: can it be? Pa! Ma!!!

Ma and Pa: Matt!!!!

M: you are here! You came back!!!

Ma: Matt, I missed you so much! M

Pa: oh, Matt, I love you!

M: how did you make it here?

Pa: well, this man named Ben helped us, he showed us the way.

M: Ben?

Ma: you know him?

M: let's just say we have met.

Ma: okay, should we go inside?

Pa: it's really cold outside. I would like to see what you have done with the place, Matt.

Ma: wow! You both built this place?

Pa: yes. I am happy to see it still standing!

Ma: Matt, you and Sarah go get some rest.

Pa: yes, am and I will take care of everything.

M: no! You all go get some rest. You have been walking for a long time to get here.

Pa and Ma: are you sure Hun?

M: yes, I am sure. Look, Sarah is all ready in bed!

Ma: Pa, look what he made!?

M: I made that for the baby. Where is the baby?

Pa: Matt, we have something to tell you...

Ma: Matt, your brother died.

M: what? No!!! Why???

Pa: I'm sorry for the bad news. Matt, he got the fever and he wasn't strong like you.
I am so proud of you Matt.

M: his dog is caught in a trap. I can't get him out by myself. Help me! I got hurt trying to release the trap.

Marie: grandma, help!!!

Grandma: me not like you, but you help attean. Let me see your hand.

Grandma: this will make it better.

Grandma: Marie will go and help you save the dog.

Marie: let's take some meat for the dog.

(At trap....)

Marie: I feed dog, you release trap.

M: there! He's free. Let him go!

(Back at village)

Marie: Attean, Matt rescued your dog!!!!

A: stupid dog.

Scene 5

(at Matt's cabin)

A: I found manitou.

S: we leave soon. Not come back.

M: oh...why?

S: we need hunt moose.

M: oh.

A: you not survive winter. You come with us, you like my Indian brother.

S: yes, attean insist you come, there no chance your family come.

M: no! I know they will come, I believe in them!

