

CAVE KISSES
by
Ingrid Goldberg

(Based on a play by Ingrid Goldberg)

Yuclean Lullaby by
David Hackett(Woktela)
Information and facts of the Yuchi Tribe
Given by Yuclean Shaman, David Hackett(Woktela)
[Www.yuchi.org](http://www.yuchi.org)

Permission to use Addie George(MawMaw) as a
Character given by her daughter Valerie Harjo

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Note: The "essay" about the Yuclean Trail of Tears that
Addie tells on page 31 is a transcript from an interview
with Addie George(MawMaw) in 2005. She was 94 years old.

Ext. Dusk

A bird's eye view of a lush woods with paths leading to a lively sparkling spring.

A thunderstorm approaches.

a flute plays a fast but melancholy native american melody.

It echoes hauntingly as the storm clouds race in the sky.

As some of the clouds part a cave entrance is revealed shining in the brief full moon light.

In the threshold of the cave entrance there stands a small white creature panting as if it has just had a hard struggle of some kind.

Lightning rapidly strikes the cave followed by a sharp peal of thunder as the deafening roar of a downpour of rain comes.

The white creature is lit by the lightning as it bounds out of the cave. It seems to be a white raccoon. It carries something in its mouth. A surround sound of lightning and thunder zigzags and crackles all around the area where the raccoon bounded as if trying to target it. The lightning catches a glimpse of it jumping into the trees...

FADE TO: INT.
ADDIE'S HOUSE

The sound of the flute becomes louder as we travel to the inside of a small house closing in on the flute player's fingers and mouth.

As he plays the lights in the house flicker....

ZOOM IN ON: AN
OLD WOMAN'S
FACE. EYES
CLOSED

This is MAWMAW. Addie's great grandma. She is pure blood "Yuchi" native american. Once a dynamic and striking spirit who fought all of her life to preserve her people's ways and traditions.

A nurse with a plain but kind face checks an IV and tucks the covers around her.

The lights flicker again more strongly and go out.

The flute stops.

ADDIE'S VOICE
(strong but quavering)
Father.

ALEX'S VOICE (THE FLUTE PLAYER)
(Calmly)
They will come back.

A distant rumbling and lightening as the rain pours down.

The lights come back on revealing young Addie George sitting at the kitchen table with an open Social Studies book and a messy pile of school papers scattered around. She is staring hard at her father. She has long black hair and a very pretty but chiseled face. She is about 12 or so. There is an almost awkward angularity about her. It is in complete opposition to her father who seems to be round in every way.

NURSE LINDA

(coming from MawMaw's room)

That's always a little scary!

(Hands Alex papers to sign)

She seems to be resting peacefully. Call us anytime. The number's right there on the card. Where did you learn to play the flute like that? It was beautiful.

ALEX

(Indicates MawMaw)

She taught me.

NURSE LINDA

Could I speak to you and your wife privately for a moment?

ALEX

(Hands her the signed paperwork)

Its just me and Addie.

NURSE LINDA

Oh! Could I speak to you alone?

Nurse Linda looks over at Addie who has buried herself in her Social Studies book.

ALEX

It's okay. I always tell Addie everything.

NURSE LINDA

(to Addie)

Ah! So your name is Addie George too! You are your great grandma's namesake. That's sweet.

(Addie just stares at her without comment)

Well, from the signs that I've seen today....I don't think it will be much longer. A week...maybe two.

(MORE)

NURSE LINDA (CONT'D)

Do you want to put her in the hospital or do you want her to stay at home with you?

Alex looks at Addie but Addie is looking down, her hands gripping the sides of the table.

ALEX

(quietly)

At home with us.

NURSE LINDA

Fine. If you change your mind just give us a call. Did you receive your emergency packet and do you understand what to do?

ALEX

It's in the refrigerator unopened like the directions said.

NURSE LINDA

Good. Well, I'd say two drops of morphine would probably be enough for her but if you need to give her more it is okay. It cannot harm or kill her.

She walks over to Addie and gives her a pat on the head.

NURSE LINDA (CONT'D)

Are you alright, Sweetie?

ADDIE

I'm fine.

NURSE LINDA

(as she's leaving)

Well, good night to you both. I'll be here the day after tomorrow but call if you need me sooner.

(opens the door. It is still raining)

Looks like it's letting up a little. Good night.

(she leaves)

An awkward silence between Addie and Alex. Neither one knows how to comfort the other.

Thunder and lightning are heard in the distance as the rain picks up again.

ALEX

Addie.

(he hesitates not knowing
what to say)

ADDIE

Yes, father.

(she waits expectantly for
a comforting word)

ALEX

(Blurts out)

There is a town meeting tonight
about selling the cave to a water
bottling company.

ADDIE

(Disappointed and confused)

Yes, they told us about that at
school.

ALEX

Don't you understand, Addie? It
will destroy the cave.

ADDIE

(shocked)

They will destroy the cave?

ALEX

(quietly, sadly)

Yes, Addie. They will slowly
section her off bit by bit until
she is drained dry. Then they will
abandon her without a thought.

ADDIE

(downcast)

There's nothing we can do.

ALEX

(nearly crying)

You know how attached your MawMaw
was...is... to that cave. I want to
go for her. I want to try to fight
for it. Do you want to come with
me?

ADDIE

(Doesn't believe that it could make
a difference)

Go to the town meeting, father.
I'll be fine.

Alex is disappointed. He starts going to various cabinets pulling out flashlights and candles as he talks

ALEX

Well, listen. Here are some candles and flashlights just in case. I'll be working the night shift after so I won't see you until the morning. Here is the cell phone in case the phones go out...oh, and here's a lighter for the candles and...

ADDIE

I'm worried about Yo.

ALEX

(putting on his raincoat etc.)
Cats have a way of knowing where to go in a storm. She'll be back.

He goes up to Addie as if to hug her....but gives her a pat on the head instead and leaves.

ADDIE

(to herself)
What am I....a Dog?

Addie gets up from the table and slowly goes to MawMaw's bedroom door. She opens the door and silently stares at MawMaw.

ADDIE (CONT'D)

MawMaw.

FADE TO:
FLASHBACK

Int. Mawsmaw's bedroom 3 years ago. Addie is a child of 9 running into MAWMAW's room. A white cat follows her. MAWmaw is sitting sewing a quilt and drops everything to embrace the child that runs to her.

ADDIE CHILD

MAWMAW! MAWMAW! I'm scared!
(she runs into MawMaw's arms)

MAWMAW

(holding Addie tight and rocking her like a baby)
I will never leave you. Never ever.

JUMP CUT TO:

PRESENT-CAT
HOWLING

Yo, a white cat, is howling and scratching at the front door.

Addie runs to the front door forgetting to close MawMaw's bedroom door.

ADDIE
(with joy and relief)
YO! Yo! You came back!

Addie opens the front door forgetting to close it as...Yo, sopping wet and anxious, rushes in and immediately leaps onto the table on top of Addie's open social studies book sending the cell phone to the floor in the process.

ADDIE (CONT'D)
(grabbing a towel from the kitchen)
YO! Oh NO!

Addie drops the towel on Yo and scoops her up in her arms.

A huge white spider pops out of Yo's mouth and lands on Addie's wrist and bites her.

ADDIE (CONT'D)
(brushing off the spider and dropping Yo)
What the...aahhh!

A great peal of thunder and lightening.

Yo retrieves the spider and runs with it into MawMaw's room. The lights go out. A crunch as Addie steps on the cell phone. In a great flash of lightning a huge tie-snake slithers into the house and into MawMaw's room. The lights flicker back on.

Addie is holding her wrist.

ADDIE (CONT'D)
Benadryl! Where's the Benadryl?

Addie rummages in one of the kitchen drawers and finds a bottle of Benadryl. She chugs down half the bottle)

Addie sits down and puts her head down on the other arm.

Yo comes in from the bedroom and jumps up on the table and proceeds to lick Addie's wrist where the bite is. A brown spot emerges from the wound...looking curiously like the silhouette of a bear.

Yo lays down and begins to purr. The purr encompasses everything

CUT TO: MAWMAW'S
BEDROOM.

The white spider furiously weaves a web on mawmaw's iv stand. mawmaw's closed eyes flutter.

CUT TO: DEEP
INSIDE THE CAVE.

A white spider furiously weaves a web over the top of a crevice. the inside of the crevice glows with dark blues.

CUT TO: CAVE
ENTRANCE

The silhouette of a huge bear growls victoriously as the thunder storm rages.

CUT BACK TO:
ADDIE STILL IN A
SWOON

Coming back to consciousness Addie lifts her hand to pet Yo.

But something is amiss. The creature she is petting is bigger than a cat. She opens her eyes and realizes that it is not Yo. It is a white raccoon. A silent stare down happens. The raccoon appears to be smiling.

The raccoon bounds off the table and runs into MawMaw's room. A crash is heard as Addie follows the raccoon.

The tie-snake is on MawMaw's bed. Coiling faster and faster. The raccoon watches from the dresser.

Addie stops in her tracks. Frozen with fear. A memory strikes her.

ADDIE (CONT'D)
Noise. I need to make loud noise.

Shaking with fear and urgency she runs into the kitchen and finds two pans. She starts hitting the pans together and stomping as loud as she can going as close as she dares to the bedroom.

The white raccoon pounces on the bed and the tie-snake slithers off and out the front door.

Addie slams the front door shut and collapses to the floor.

CUT TO: MAWMAW'S
FACE. SHE IS

SMILING

BACK TO:ADDIE ON
THE FLOOR

Yo yowls and runs from the bedroom to Addie. She is helplessly tangled up in something.

Addie giggles and slowly but efficiently disentangles Yo. Kissing and petting her as she does so.

She looks at the thing that had entangled Yo. It is a medicine bag. She recognizes it as being MawMaw's.

ADDIE (CONT'D)

Why did they take this off? They should never have taken this off.

Addie goes to MawMaw. She gently lifts her head and puts the medicine bag on her.

CUT TO: MAWMAW'S
FACE. HER EYES
OPENCUT TO: DEEP
INSIDE THE CAVE.

Whispering voices swirl up from the crevice as the white spider continues to weave. "Tayoyone, Tayoyone, Tayoyone" The stalactites drip glowing blue drops that sizzle as they touch the ground.

BACK TO: ADDIE
STANDING OVER
MAWMAW

Addie sees the white spider on the IV stand and lifts her hands to brush it away.

In a sudden and swift movement MawMaw catches Addie's hands in her own in mid motion. Firmly but gently.

MAWMAW

Tayoyone! K'alaYuSala!

FADE TO:
FLASHBACK CAVE
ENTRANCE

A beautiful spring day. The spring in front of the cave is bubbling joyfully.

Addie is a child of five.

She is wading in the spring as mawmaw sits on the bank

dangling her feet in the cool water.
 alex, addie's mom and grandma are in the distance filling
 containers with the sweet water from a small waterfall.
 addie runs up to mawmaw and playfully splashes her. They
 laugh. Addie grabs onto mawmaw and peers into her face.

ADDIE CHILD

I want a Yuchi name MawMaw. Give me
 a Yuchi name.

MAWMAW

Addie! You have a Yuchi name. I
 gave it to you. You don't remember
 it?

ADDIE CHILD

Ta....Taa....

A butterfly lands on Addie's hair.

MAWMAW

(smiles as she looks at
 the butterfly on Addie)
 Tayoyone. Little Star on the Wind.
 She was an ancestor of yours.
 Legend says she became the spirit
 of this cave.

Addie dances and twirls back into the stream. The butterfly
 follows her as she twirls around and around.

ADDIE CHILD

Tayoyone. (twirling) Tayoyone. I am
 the spirit of the cave.

FADE OUT. BACK
 TO PRESENT
 MAWMAW AND ADDIE
 HOLDING
 EACHOTHER

They find themselves a little entangled in the IV tubes.

MAWMAW

Ach! Get these off!

ADDIE

Should I call the nurse?

MAWMAW

This is not a time for nurses. Oh
 my! I have diapers on!
 (She laughs as she removes
 the IV's)
 (MORE)

MAWMAW (CONT'D)

This is like a very slow past life regression.

ADDIE

MAWMAW!!!!

MAWMAW

Addie! Addie George. Here is Addie George taking care of Addie George! How long have I been asleep?

ADDIE

Days. The nurse said....

MAWMAW

(takes Addie's face in her hands)

Let me take a good look at you. You look terrible. We must do something for you very quick.

ADDIE

WHAT!?!?!? MawMaw.....you are the one who is dy.....

(stops herself just in time)

MAWMAW

Dying? Yes, my body is dying but not my spirit.

ADDIE

MawMaw.... Everyone is leaving me behind.

MAWMAW

No, Addie. I need you to think hard. I told you I would never leave you. It is you who are leaving us.

ADDIE

I don't understand.

MAWMAW

You know what you know. But you have forgotten what it is that you know.

ADDIE

(quietly frustrated and intensely puzzled)

I want to understand...

MawMaw stares hard at Addie.

MAWMAW

Addie. I am very thirsty. Do we have water from the Cave Spring in the house? That good sweet water! Bring me some....and you have some with me.....like Old times.

Addie goes to the kitchen followed by Yo who jumps on the counter as Addie pulls out a huge water container with a spout from the fridge. She fills two big glasses with the water and carries them to the bedroom.

She has not closed the spout fully so the container continues to drip water to the floor.

The drops of water from the spout become a glowing blue as they hit the floor. Yo jumps down and laps them up.

CUT TO: BEDROOM

Addie hands a glass to MawMaw who has a twinkle in her eyes.

MAWMAW (CONT'D)

Just like old times.....whoever finishes their glass first gets to tell a story. Ready....one, two , three....go!

MawMaw and Addie take their old game seriously as they each chug away at the water...keeping an eye on eachother.

CUT TO:YO BY THE
WATER CONTAINER

YO BEGINS TO JUMP AT THE SPOUT TO OPEN IT.

CUT TO:MAWMAW
AND ADDIE
CHUGGING THE
WATER

As they come to the last gulps the water starts glowing blue. Addie chokes with surprise as she sees this happening.

MAWMAW

I win!

CUT TO:YO BY THE
WATER CONTAINER

Yo succeeds in opening the spout. She meows as the water pours down on her. The water all turns a glowing blue as yo

transforms into a white raccoon running in a spring that flows noisily and rapidly from the cave entrance.

EXT. CAVE NIGHT

SUPER: IT IS THE YEAR 1832

A great fire is lit. The "Yuchi" tribe celebrates the end of the "Green Corn" celebration with great jubilation. Singing, Dancing the "Stomp Dance". The women wear the ceremonial turtle shell shakers that creates a rattling sound.

CLOSE UP ON: TAYOYONE. A GIRL OF 10 WHO LOOKS AS IF SHE COULD BE ADDIE'S TWIN SISTER. SHE LAUGHS AS SHE PLAYS WITH THE OTHER CHILDREN AND A WHITE RACCOON TRYING TO CATCH MINNOWS IN THE SPRING.

CUT TO: THE
STORYTELLER,
WEHI

WEHI, AN OLD REGAL WOMAN IN FULL CEREMONIAL DRESS, GATHERS ALL FOR STORYTELLING. SHE CARRIES A BASKET OF LUMPS OF CLAY WHICH SHE WILL SHAPE INTO THE CHARACTERS OF THE STORY AS SHE TELLS ABOUT THEM.

Tayoyone rushes to the front of the gathering with great joyous excitement.

The white raccoon comes bounding into her arms. She holds and cuddles her.

WEHI

Tsoyaha! We, the children of the sun. We, the Yuchi tribe, we were born from the blood of our grandmother Tso the sun.

As Wehi bends down to gather a lump of clay her narration becomes a beautifully drawn animation encompassing the screen depicting the story as she relates it.

K'alaYuSaLa.

(MORE)

WEHI (CONT'D)

We are all related, two legged, four legged, finned, winged, creepy, greens and stone- Our Tsoyaha grandparents tell us of our origin. This is the story as told to me by my ancestor. After the chief spirit, Gohantoney, and Yonweekeelaha, grandmother spider, weaved the web of life, Gohantoney realized that something was missing. The animals all knew, but they did not know that they knew.

CUT TO:EXT.
SURROUNDING
WOODS

An ominous gathering of men somewhere deep in the woods. Some are in soldiers uniforms, some are in Native American Warrior dress with masks.

One mask stands out more than the others as it is horribly scary with a snake carved on the top.

They are all huddled closely together whispering.

CUT BACK TO:
WEHI'S ANIMATED
STORY

WEHI (CONT'D)

Gohantoney decided to enter the web herself. First, she entered the hare, but the hare could not contain her. So then she tried to enter Grandmother Earth, but she quaked and split at her seams. She then entered the Sun, which sputtered and spit great tongues of fire, but just managed to contain her. The effort of containment rained much fire upon the world.

(MORE)

WEHI (CONT'D)

Great balls of fire punched holes
in the land. One chased down bear
and burned his beautiful tail off.

CUT TO:

All the children sitting in front of the gathered tribe stare with wide eyed awe as WeHi tells her story. One small girl holds a rabbit. Another girl with a crow feather in her hair hiccups with fear when she hears how the bear got his tail burned off. Tayoyone holds onto the arm of the boy sitting beside her.

CUT TO:

Group of men silently picking their way to the campground.

CUT BACK TO:

ANIMATED STORY

WEHI (CONT'D)

Yonweeke, Grandmother spider's son, decided that something must be done to stop this firestorm. When the Sun was directly overhead, he flung an arrow into the sun. The wound relieved the Sun of it's swollen rage. As She passed over a few drops of blood fell to the earth. Grandmother Spider gathered them up and wove them into cocoons. The Tsoyaha, our people, sprung from the cocoons as the direct descendants of the sun. This is how the Tsoyaha came to be.

The animation ends.

Though our people know that they know, many have forgotten to know that they know, that is enough for now.

WeHi hands the clay figures to the children.

Tayoyone receives the "Sun" figure with great excitement and happiness. She runs over to the edge of the camp holding the "Sun" up as if it were high in the sky.

Suddenly, the snake masked warrior emerges from behind the tree.

Tayoyone screams, drops the "Sun" and runs towards the cave.

All mayhem breaks loose

Gun shots

A booming voice

VOICE (O.S.)

You must leave this place by order
of the President of the United
States. We are ordered to escort
you to your new lands.

CUT TO:

3 A BATTLE ENSUES

3

A child runs and picks up the "Sun" that Tayoyone had dropped.

Tayoyone manages to escape with her raccoon deep into the cave.

CUT TO:ADDIE
LISTENING TO
MAWMAW'S STORY

ADDIE CRYING. SHE HOLDS THE SLEEPING YO.

CUT BACK TO:
MAWMAW'S STORY
INT. CAVE JUST
BEFORE DAWN

4 TAYOYONE LIGHTLY ILLUMINED BY THE RISING DAWN. TEARS POURING
DOWN HER FACE. SHE HOLDS THE SLEEPING WHITE RACCOON. THE
STALACTITES DRIP ALL AROUND AS IF THE CAVE IS WEEPING.

Softly she puts the raccoon down as she rises and makes her
way cautiously towards the entrance of the cave.

Her breath rattles with tears. There is a fine drizzle
outside.

Various groups of animals war over the food scattered
everywhere on the ground.

Possums, crows, raccoons, bears, all partake in the feast.

To the far left there is a big lump wrapped in a blanket. If
an animal gets close to it, it flaps and screeches" AIREEYAH!
SHOO! SHOO! The child's face lights up as bright as the sun!

TAYOYONE

Grandmother! Grandmother!

Putting caution aside she flies out of the cave and runs to
the lump which is indeed her grandmother. The Storyteller,
WeHi.

Tayoyone lifts up the blanket and crawls into WeHi's lap.
They hold each other tight.

CUT TO: EXT.
SURROUNDING
WOODS. SAME
MORNING

A huge bear is running with great snorts and speed chasing a
figure which turns out to be the Snake Mask Warrior. The bear
gains on the warrior. The bear seems to shift shapes in mid
action, sometimes bear, sometimes panther... as he becomes
the bear again he traps the warrior, he is against a group of
trees, the bear is so close he can feel his breath.

SNAKE MASK WARRIOR

Mercy! Mercy! Great spirit bear!

BEAR

Why should I give you what you withheld?

SNAKE MASK WARRIOR

Not all. Not all. I had mercy on a little girl!

BEAR

HUH! Mercy or fear?

SNAKE MASK WARRIOR

Mercy! Here, look at my eyes. (He tries to lift the mask off his face... but he cannot.) What? What has happened?

BEAR

Eleazar Wiggan!

SNAKE MASK WARRIOR

You know my name?!?

BEAR

Eleazar, you were born from a great love between two different worlds. And you have betrayed them both. You have become the evil that you performed last night.

SNAKE MASK WARRIOR

(angry and defiant) I hate and curse you all.

The bear raises his paw for a killing swipe but stops himself at the last moment. He stares at the warrior with a great sadness in his eyes as he slowly lowers his paw.

BEAR (SIGHS DEEPLY)

I will leave you now to learn your lesson from the misery of your spirit. Maybe, one day, the child you showed mercy to will show it back to you. Only she can tell you how to remove the mask.

The bear runs back to the cave.

SNAKE MASK WARRIOR

No! No! (he hits his head on the ground until he has no more strength)
I must destroy all who know. No one must survive to tell the story. Then I will be able to remove the mask and become what I was before....before.....

FADE BACK TO:
EXT. CAVE

Tayoyone and WeHi are trapped because of all of the animals.

They stare with horror as the gigantic bear comes their way.

BEAR

Do not fear me! I am here for you.

WEHI

So, I have lived to see legends walking upon the earth!?! Are you Booger Bear?

BOOGER BEAR

I am he... or you would not be here to ask the question. Come, I will protect you as you make your way back to the cave. Then, I will bring you food, fire, blankets and perhaps a little comfort Come, come.

TAYOYONE

What about the others are they
alive?

BOOGER BEAR

Many will die. But some will make
it to a place called Oklahoma.

Tayoyone and WeHi lean on the bear as he guides them to the
cave entrance.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)

You must be careful in this cave.
It holds many portals to the
underworld. So, tell me, do you
wish to stay or go. I can help you
either way.

TAYOYONE

I want to stay. I will never leave.

WEHI

And so, I will never leave this
child.

BOOGER BEAR

Good, so that decided..... I'd love
to hear a story or two as we eat
and rest...

WEHI

It will be an honor.

TAYOYONE

I will never ever leave....

FADE TO:
FLASHBACK

ADDIE CHILD TWIRLING IN THE CAVE SPRING FOLLOWED BY THE BUTTERFLY.

ADDIE CHILD
Tayoyone. (twirling) I am Tayoyone.
I am the spirit of the cave.

FADE OUT: BACK
TO INT. MAWMAW'S
BEDROOM

MAWMAW FINISHES THE STORY.

MAWMAW
We all know what we know. But
sometimes we forget what it is that
we know. That's enough for now.

ADDIE
The cave! MawMaw! They are going to
destroy the cave!

MAWMAW
We must not let that happen.

Addie's spider bite glows a dark blue.

ADDIE
WE? MawMaw....I'm tired.

MAWMAW
Come, get under the covers. Go to
sleep.

Addie gets up in the bed and under the covers clinging to MawMaw she drifts off

FADE TO:
FLASHBACK

ADDIE CHILD OF 9 IN THE BACK SEAT OF AN OLD CAR. HER MOTHER IS DRIVING AND HER GRANDMA SITS IN THE FRONT SEAT. THERE ARE PILES OF GROCERIES IN THE BACK WITH ADDIE. THEY ARE ALL LAUGHING AT SOMETHING ADDIE HAS SAID.

GRANDMA
She has the gift.

MOTHER
Tell us another one Addie!

Addie chews happily on a piece of chocolate as she talks.

ADDIE CHILD

Ok. This is the story of how the
bald eagle became bald as told to
me by my ancestor Addie George.

They all burst out laughing.

They are suddenly hit by another car. Their car spins out of
control.

Addie screams as the car rolls over.

Everything becomes black and a glimpse of the Snake Mask
Warrior is seen briefly as

BACK TO: ADDIE
WAKING UP IN
MAWMAW'S BED

ADDIE (SCREAMING)

Help me...It's my....It's my....

MawMaw holds her and rocks her like a baby.

MAWMAW

6

Hush. Hush. Little Star on the
Wind. (She sings to her softly)

6

Het si ha'a chix ane'a ke'e soho'e

(Quiet little mouse, lie there very still)

Gox tsa'ne di'go ne yo tsyas pa

(Sleep, my sleepy baby)

Hix togo ta yothya yu dze ha

(wrapped in mother's love)

Tso wo no xafa wono do wek'ahane

(sun(spirit), moon(spirit), and star(spirit) they together
watch over you)

K'ala se la we tso bi hala

(promises of peaceful dreams)

Addie has fallen deeply and peacefully asleep in MAWMAW's arms.

MawMaw gently lays her down and kisses her.

The white raccoon jumps on MawMaw's lap.

MAWMAW (CONT'D)

I'm hungry! Come on, let's clean up the kitchen and make some corn bread.

She gets up and makes her way to the kitchen as the white raccoon follows her.

FADE TO: EXT.
LONELY ROAD DAWN

ALEX IS DRIVING HOME FROM HIS JOB IN A BEAT UP OLD RED TRUCK THAT HAS SEEN BETTER DAYS. HE IS IN A SECURITY GUARD OUTFIT. THE RADIO GOES IN AND OUT. DEBRIS FROM THE STORM IS ALL OVER THE ROAD.

Out of the corner of his eye he sees a huge bear running along side the truck. He does a double take. It is gone. He shakes his head.

FLASHBACK TO:
TOWN HALL
MEETING EARLIER
LAST EVENING

A BIG CROWD OF TOWN FOLK ARE GATHERED OUTSIDE THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING. SOME CARRY SIGNS "SAVE THE CAVE". THE FACES ARE UPSET AND SOME ANGRY. IT IS VERY WINDY THOUGH THE RAIN HAS DWINDLED DOWN TO A DRIZZLE.

The Mayor, Thomas C. Hawkins stands on the podium surrounded by "his" people. He is a very well dressed and slightly overweight man who seems to be sweating even though it is not hot at all. He wheezes when he talks.

MAYOR THOMAS C. HAWKINS

Now...wait a minute. Wait a minute. I'm one of you. I love that cave too. Why my grandpa use to say we had a treasure in that cave. We use to fish for our dinner in that spring. There just comes a time when....

ALEX

(shy but strong)
Wasn't there a deed? A deed that
gave the cave and park to the towns
people. My grandma Addie George
says there was a deed.

OLD LADY WITH THICK GLASSES

Yes'm. There sure was. And I think
it was one of your ancestors who
took out that deed, Tommy!

MAYOR THOMAS C. HAWKINS

Legend. That's just pure legend. We
searched everywhere. Its just as
much a legend as Booger Bear and
the Spirit of Cave Spring. If any
one knows where that deed
is....just bring it right up to me.

Alex stares a moment and looking at his watch leaves.

DISSOLVE TO:ALEX
PULLING UP TO
HIS HOUSE

He is visibly tired. As he walks in the door the first thing
that hits him is the wonderful smell of freshly baked corn
bread.

MawMaw is just as in the beginning. Sleeping with the IV
tubes in place as if nothing has happened.

He is very puzzled and surprised to see Addie sleeping beside
her. He is even more surprised to see a medicine bag around
her neck.

ALEX

Addie! Addie! Wake up! You're going
to miss the bus!

Addie wakes up with a start. She looks at MawMaw.

ADDIE

HUH?

ALEX

What are you doing there?

ADDIE

Father, she was awake. She told me
a story. A spider bit me.

She looks at her wrist but there is nothing there. She discovers she is wearing the medicine bag.

ADDIE (CONT'D)

I gave her this.

Alex does not believe a word she is saying.

ALEX

You're going to be late!

Addie jumps out of bed and goes upstairs.

Alex spies the corn bread on the kitchen counter. A big slice is out of it. He cuts himself a piece and sits down to eat it.

It is delicious.

Addie comes back in dressed for school. She has not removed the medicine bag. She hurriedly scoops up her books and papers into her bookbag.

ALEX (CONT'D)

You made very good corn bread.

Addie looks hard at him and the corn bread.

ADDIE

I don't know how to make corn bread.

She hears the bus and zooms out the door just in time.

CUT TO: EXT.
ADDIE'S HOUSE

ADDIE RUNS DOWN THE HILL JUST IN TIME TO CATCH THE SCHOOL BUS. THE DOORS SWING OPEN AND SHE RUNS IN OUT OF BREATH.

The bus driver, Mr. Stew, is an unkempt elderly man who is listening to the radio as he drives and eats a P B & J while slugging coffee all at the same time. He's been doing this for centuries.

Addie stares at the P B & J for an instant. She is VERY hungry

As this scene progresses Mr. Stew makes many stops to let other children on. They all know better than to try to say good morning to him.

Addie progresses down the aisle when she is tripped by Scuddy.

Scuddy is a fine young ADHD boy of 11 with a round face and bushy eyebrows. He sits next to Josh, a tall, skinny, sharp witted boy, his best buddy since babyhood.

SCUDDY

Here's Maddie Addie!

As Addie trips her medicine bag goes flying to the floor.

JOSH

What's that? Wearing garlic to scare away vampires? (makes a "vampire face".)

Tracy a girl of 8 with big frizzy hair and glasses reaches out to pick up the medicine bag.

ADDIE

No, Tracy! Don't touch that!

TRACY

Huh? (she hiccups) Just trying to help.

Alice, a beautiful angelic girl of 6 sitting by Tracy giggles softly.

Addie retrieves her medicine bag and sits next to George.

George, a slightly overweight sweet boy, is busy sneaking eating a candy bar.

George has a deep crush on Addie and becomes visibly flustered when she sits down by him. His mouth and hands are covered with melted chocolate.

GEORGE

Oh! Uh! Hi! Um! (he desperately looks for something to wipe his hands on)

Addie hands him a tissue from her pocket.

GEORGE (CONT'D)

Oh! Thanks!

All of a sudden Scuddy and Josh, their faces pressed to the window shout out together.

SCUDDY & JOSH

ROAD KILL!!!!

SCUDDY

Squirrel.

Philip, an extremely neat and brushed boy of twelve stands up to look.

PHILIP

Looks like a possum to me.

Kayla, a very bright girl of 10 rolls her eyes and shakes her head.

KAYLA

Do I have to go through this every single day of my life?

GEORGE (TO ADDIE)

Um. Would you like a bite? (he turns red) I mean would you like a piece...I um...would you like some chocolate?

SCUDDY & JOSH

ROAD KILL!

SCUDDY

Rabbit. I think.

ADDIE (TO GEORGE)

Actually, yes. Yes, I would. Thank you.

George hands her a piece. He is in heaven.

Addie begins tucking the medicine bag under her shirt.

GEORGE

That's a medicine bag isn't it?

ADDIE

Yes, my great grandmother gave it to me.

GEORGE

Wow! I didn't know you were.....what tribe are you from?

ADDIE

(She has never told this to anyone)
Yuchi. Full blood.

GEORGE

Yuchi? I've never heard of them.

SCUDDY & JOSH
ROAD KILL!

SCUDDY
Something..... white.

ADDIE (TO GEORGE)
Not many people have heard of them.
A lot of their stories are lost.

GEORGE
Lost? Do you know some?

ADDIE
(She never thought of it before)
Yes. Actually, I know many of them
from my mother, grandmother and
great grand mother.....but they are
all.....

GEORGE
You see, I want to be an
anthropologist.....I love hearing
all about dead cultures!

ADDIE
Dead?

SCUDDY & JOSH
Ro-----! (high pitched) BEAR! A
LIVE BEAR!

A huge live bear suddenly appears charging across the road as if attacking something.

The bus driver sees it just in time to swerve around it as it bounds into the woods.

The children are all flung about.

Addie and George are flung into a very awkward embrace.

Mr. Stew stops the bus and stands.

MR. STEW
Is everybody alright!

Mumbling and grumbling the kids all answer separately that they are alright.

Addie and George both turn bright red and separate as quickly as possible. Addie slides to the end of the seat as far as she can.

Mr. Stew is very shaken. He looks cautiously around the road before starting the bus again.

SCUDDY & JOSH
LAWSUIT!

Everyone laughs as.....

FADE TO: INT.
MIDDLE SCHOOL
SOCIAL STUDIES
CLASSROOM

THE BELL RINGS AS THE STUDENTS ARE SHUFFLING INTO THE CLASSROOM. THE SMART BOARD HAS "THE INDIAN WARS" AND "THE TRAIL OF TEARS" WRITTEN ON IT. "ESSAYS WILL BE READ TODAY IN CLASS".

George and Philip are also in this class.

George tries to say hi to Addie but she doesn't notice.

Addie is trying to organize her scattered papers that she had stuck in her book on her way out that morning.

She realizes with horror that all of her papers are a disastrous mess. Unreadable from water damage caused when Yo sat on them.

She silently prays her name will not be called.

The teacher Ms. Price looks at the roster to pick a name.

MS. PRICE
Good afternoon class. We don't have much time so let's just begin. Let's see.....Adam Parker let's start with you.

Addie breathes a sigh of relief as Adam clears his throat to begin.

CUT TO: EXT. WOODS BEFORE THE CAVE. SAME DAY

The huge bear runs faster and faster becoming a blue glowing light as hundreds of butterflies follow in its wake

CUT TO:

EXT. ENTRANCE TO THE CAVE

Shagok, the snake-masked warrior, is backing out of the cave waving his hands beckoning a swarm of bats out of the entrance. He chants an ancient Native American spell to destroy life.

As the bats hit the outside they become snakes coiling on the ground.

Shagok twirls faster and faster as he chants

SHAGOK

Listen! Now I have come to step
over your soul. I bury your soul
under earth. I cover you with
black rock. I cover you with black
cloth.

A small whirlwind starts to happen around the area gaining strength. The trees begin to sway and the sky darkens.

The snakes move with coiling action closer and closer into the spinning Shagok.

SHAGOK (CONT'D)

So be it for you. The black clay of
darkening land covers you. Your
soul fades away. When darkness
comes your spirit shrivels and
dwindles to disappear forever.
Listen!

The sky becomes even darker tinged with green as the snakes turn into a black mass spiraling up to a cloud.

The blue glowing light followed by the butterflies bursts into the area and crash into the black mass creating sparks of light and darkness warring with each other.

BACK TO: ADDIE'S
CLASSROOM

MS. PRICE

That was interesting. Now, let's
see....Addie George.

Addie hangs her head and stares at her messed up papers.

Her spider bite wound appears glowing blue.

MS. PRICE (CONT'D)

Addie?

Addie slowly lifts up her head and begins, gaining confidence with every word.

ADDIE

This is the story of the "Yuchi"
Trail of Tears as told to me by my
ancestor, Addie George.

Addie's voice becomes the voice of Wehi from MawMaw's story.

ADDIE (CONT'D)

It is the year 1836....no 1832.
The soldiers forced them off their
land because they did not want to
give up their homes. So what they
would do is force them off...they
had to make them move. They just
wanted to get rid of them. Some of
the Yuchi had to get killed
fighting for their home.

Magically everyone in the room actually sees what she is depicting as a beautifully drawn animation that encompasses the screen.

ADDIE (CONT'D)

They caught a bunch of them and put chains on their feet and tied their hands together. They forced them to march all the way like that to the Mississippi River. They forced them to cross. Beyond hope they still tried to swim all tied up. They say those people just drowned. Nearly a whole tribe of Yuchi died before they got to Oklahoma. But some of them got across. Some they untied and they let them go by themselves. Good swimmers. They put the little children on their backs. I know my grandma's great grandma, she came across on her uncle's back, she was a baby. They tied her on her uncle's back and he swam across and got her safely to the other side. Then he went back into the water to go get another one and bring that one across. He brought many of them across like that. He lived. He was a strong man. We know what we know but sometimes we forget what it is we know. That is enough for now.

Addie stops speaking and everyone is transported back to the present classroom.

GEORGE

You have a gift.

A teacher suddenly bursts into the room.

TEACHER

OUT! OUT IN THE HALL. EVERYBODY OUT
NOW! DO NOT TALK! THIS IS NOT A
DRILL! GO TO THE HALLWAY NOW!

She exits and continues to give the same message to all the rooms in the hall.

Everyone files out with scared faces.

Addie has swooned at her desk. George gently shakes her and helps her walk out with the others. She is in a daze.

CUT TO: INT.
ADDIE'S HOUSE

ALEX IS ASLEEP ON THE COUCH SNORING LOUDLY. HOLDING THE NOW EMPTY CORN BREAD PAN. THE TV BLARING. THE PHONE IS RINGING BUT HE DOESN'T HEAR IT.

MawMaw's eyes are open. She is moving her hands in a circular motion chanting something under her breath.

BACK TO: INT.
ADDIE'S SCHOOL
HALLWAY

THE LIGHTS FLICKER. A VOICE OVER THE INTERCOM.

VOICE

A tornado has touched down in Alabama. Three more have been sited coming this direction. All parents have been contacted. Those students who have not been picked up by 2 p.m. and are on the bus route will be transported home by bus. All others will stay here. Do not panic. Please go to your home rooms. Try to be as organized and quiet as possible for the safety of all.

A scrawny kid in the back of the hallway bursts out uncontrollably in a high falsetto

SCRAWNY KID

I don't want to die a virgin!

Everyone laughs despite the desperate situation.

FADE TO:

CLOSE UP ON WALL
CLOCK IN ADDIE'S
SCHOOL HOMEROOM

THE CLOCK READS 1:45 MOST OF THE KIDS ARE GONE.

CLOSE UP ON
ADDIE'S FACE

ADDIE IS STARING HARD AT THE CLOCK. SHE HANGS HER HEAD.

ADDIE
(whispers to herself)
He doesn't care. He hates me.

FADE TO: EXT.
LONELY ROAD

MR. STEW'S FACE IS TWITCHING WITH NERVES AS HE DRIVES THE LAST OF THE CHILDREN HOME. ADDIE, GEORGE, KAYLA, PHILIP, ALICE, TRACY, SCUDDY AND JOSH ARE THE ONES WHO ARE LEFT.

The sky has darkened so much it seems to be dusk. The wind is strong. Everyone is quietly anxious.

Alice is whimpering a little as Tracy holds her and hiccups.

Mr. Stew sees a dark grey vertical line in the sky in the far distance. He abruptly stops the bus and opens the doors and quickly jumps out in a panic.

MR. STEW (AS HE JUMPS OUT OF THE BUS)
Everybody OUT! Come on! GET OUT!
We need to get in the ditch!

Before any of the children can make a move the tornado is upon them. It lifts the bus up and carries it as if it were a feather.

INSIDE THE TORNADO

The children all instinctively hold on to each other. A repetitive whistling echoes everywhere. Debris of all kinds constantly hits the bus with thuds producing a strange almost musical sound. Flashes of lightning. Hundreds of butterflies swarm into the bus as it spins strangely in slow motion.

The bus spirals down and with a sudden great whoosh, it is on the ground. It has landed upright in front of the cave.

The wind, thunder, lightning are at dangerous levels.

The children slowly let go of each other.

Addie realizes where they are.

ADDIE

To the cave! We need to get into the cave!

TRACY

(crying and hiccupping)
Addie! Alice has fainted.

GEORGE

I'll carry her! Addie's right the cave is the safest place.

They all manage to make it inside the cave. George carrying the fainted Alice. The artificial lights are miraculously still on in the cave entrance and beyond.

There is an old glass display cabinet and a handwritten sign saying "Cave Tour" \$2.00. Flashlight rental - \$1.00. Plastic Bottles - .50 , Fish Food - .25 And crackers - \$1.00.

They are all dazed and dripping wet but relieved to be out of the wind.

Addie takes Alice in her arms and gently rocks her. Everyone's attention is on Alice.

ADDIE (SOFTLY)

Alice....Alice. Wake up. We are in a safe place.

Tracy leans into Alice with great concern and hiccups loudly.

Alice's eyes pop open. She gives a little giggle and grabs onto Tracy. Everyone sighs in relief.

Josh and Scuddy spy the crackers in the cabinet.

SCUDDY & JOSH

FOOD!

Their attention moves to the cabinet.

PHILIP

Flashlights! How lucky is that!

GEORGE

We'll have to break in.

JOSH

No problem. It's just wood back here.

Philip, Josh, Scuddy and George start kicking the back of the cabinet.

Kayla peers outside at the bus.

KAYLA

Do you think we killed the wicked witch?

PHILIP

You know, this is really just awesome. If we get out of this alive....

TRACY

HUH? (hiccups)

PHILIP

We'll be famous. Everyone will want to know our story. We will be on national news! Why this, this is a scientific breakthrough! Practically no one has ever lived after riding inside a tornado!

The cabinet doors have finally broken free. Scuddy and Josh start grabbing all the crackers as George, Philip and Kayla start hauling out the flashlights.

Addie walks over to the entrance and stares out.

The lights flicker.

ADDIE

(softly intense)

There is something strange about all this. Something that doesn't meet the eye, so to speak.

(MORE)

ADDIE (CONT'D)

It's as if we were brought here.....on purpose.

TRACY

You're scaring me.

KAYLA

I don't get you. All we have to do is sit tight and wait for them to find us.

ADDIE

They don't know where we are.

KAYLA

They know we are missing. When the storm's over they'll start looking.

ADDIE

That might be days. (looks at Scuddy and Josh who are stuffing down the crackers) So you'd better not eat all those crackers.

Josh and Scuddy guiltily stop eating in mid bite.

KAYLA

Do you want something bad to happen?

ADDIE

Of course not!

GEORGE

Back off Kayla! It's a good idea to think things through.

PHILIP

I agree with Kayla. I mean what more could possibly happen?

ADDIE AND GEORGE

Don't say that!

A huge crack of lightening followed by a great gust of wind and thunder happens all at once.

SCUDDY

Jinx!

The lights flicker. The whole cave is shaking. Trees start crashing down covering up the entrance. Strange whispering laughter. The lights go out. They are in total darkness.

Alice softly giggles and Tracy hiccups.

ADDIE'S VOICE

UGH! Something touched me!

GEORGE'S VOICE

Sorry. That was me.

PHILIP

(turning on the
flashlights)

At least we've got these.

TRACY

This is serious. We might get lost
in here and die wondering around
endlessly looking for a way out and
get eaten by the bats....Are there
bats in here? (starts hiccupping)
Who knows what can happen in
caves.....I think I'm going to be
si.....

ALICE

Look! Look! A boy! Over there!

In the far distance by a big pool of water is a small
barefoot boy in overalls. He seems to be glowing in some kind
of reflective light.

The boy is making motions for them to follow him.

GEORGE

I've seen him before somewhere.

Alice starts running in the boy's direction.

ADDIE

Someone stop her. We've got to stay
together!

Addie's words are too late. Everyone seems to be running
helter- skelter.

CUT TO: INT.
ADDIE'S HOUSE

The television is blaring a weather warning signal.

Alex wakes up. The message machine is blinking a message.

It is totally dark outside.

TV announcer is telling about the devastation created by tornados all over the area.

Alex runs to the phone and plays the message from the school.

He looks at the clock. It is 4 p m.

He runs upstairs looking for Addie.

ALEX
Addie! Addie!

CUT TO:MAWMAW

MawMaw's eyes stare wide open. Her hands are still moving in a circular motion. Her voice rises strong and clear from her. She has a strange smile of glee on her face. Yo purrs by her side.

MAWMAW
S'akab'a! S'akab'a!

Alex runs to MawMaw. His face is pure desperation.

ALEX
MawMaw!

MAWMAW
S'akab'a! S'akab'a!

ALEX
S'akab'a?

Alex slowly remembers the meaning of the word.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Cave! Cave! Addie's in the cave!

MAWMAW
S'akab'a. (she begins to laugh softly)

Alex tears out of the house leaving the door wide open. He throws caution to the wind as he climbs in his truck and drives off.

The wind picks up speed and whistles forlornly. The door bangs in the wind.

The white raccoon runs in from MawMaw's bedroom and retrieves Alex's flute from the kitchen table. The white raccoon gives the flute to MawMaw.

MawMaw begins playing the beginning melody on the flute as

CLOSE UP ON
SPIDER SPINNING
FURIOUSLY ON TOP
OF MAWMAW'S IV
POST.

CUT TO: EXT.
LONELY ROAD

ALEX IS DRIVING WHEN SUDDENLY DEBRIS HITS HIS TRUCK SENDING THE TRUCK SPINNING INTO A DITCH AND TURNING UPSIDE DOWN. ALEX LIES UNCONSCIOUS. A SNAKE SLITHERS INTO THE TRUCK.

CUT BACK TO:
INT. CAVE WHERE
THE BOY WAS SEEN

CLOSE UP: ON ADDIE'S FACE AS SHE LOOKS INTO THE REFLECTIVE POOL. HER REFLECTION SHOWS HER BUT DRESSED IN A FULL NATIVE AMERICAN CEREMONIAL DRESS. AS SHE REACHES OUT TO TOUCH THE REFLECTION IT CHANGES BACK INTO JUST BEING HERSELF REFLECTED. GEORGE'S REFLECTION APPEARS NEXT TO HERS.

GEORGE

(softly but urgently)

Addie. That boy. I know him. My grandma used to tell a story about one of our ancestors. A boy named Casey. He was a deaf mute boy who was lost in the cave in the late 1800's. They never found him or even his body. I used to dream about him. Addie, he's a ghost!

Alice comes over to them along with Tracy.

ALICE

Where's the boy?

The other kids come over.

PHILIP

I don't get it.

KAYLA

This adventure or whatever it is, is starting to give me a headache.

SCUDDY

My grand'da used to say "If things
get too hard to figure out, stomp
your feet and start to shout."

Scuddy starts stomping his feet and shouting. Alice and Tracy
join him.

KAYLA

Well, thank you Scuddy's grand'da.
I'm sure he was a wise one.

JOSH

He used to shout a lot.

A roll of distant thunder followed by a deep dark laugh
echoes all around.

Scuddy, Alice and Tracy stop stomping and shouting.

A loud clicking noise happens as the cave begins to shake
sending a stalactite crashing down into the reflective pool
as an eerie searing screech invades the cave. There seems to
be a movement of shadows chasing shadows high above.

The children all hold on to eachother in a tight huddle.

A small white missile falls from high above into where the
children are.

As the cave stops shaking the sound echoes away except for a
consistent high pitched chirping sound.

TRACY

We've got to find a way out!!!!
(Hiccups)

ALICE

(softly)
Tracy? Addie? There is something in
my hair. Something alive.

The children slowly let go of eachother. The chirping
continues. Something white is moving in Alice's hair. George
and Philip shine their flashlights on Alice as Addie bravely
lifts her hair away. Alice is shaking.

ADDIE

It's a baby bat!

The baby bat makes little clicking noises which Addie
imitates as she gently disentangles him from Alice's hair.

ADDIE (CONT'D)

Come on little fella'. We won't hurt you. There you go.

Addie has successfully disentangled the baby bat and places him very gently onto the palms of Alice's hands. Alice stares at him with delight and love in her eyes as he grabs onto one of her thumbs.

SCUDDY

Are you sure it's not just some weird bug?

PHILIP

It looks like a Grey Bat. But it's white! It's eyes are red...I bet it's an albino!

KAYLA

Won't his mom come looking for him?

PHILIP

Well....I don't think so. From what I read, Grey Bat moms will drop or abandon their baby if they get extremely scared.

Josh looks up into the shadows above.

JOSH

I wonder what it was that scared her.

The baby bat looks up and gives a low clicking sound.

TRACY

(hiccups)

Are you sure it doesn't bite?

The baby bat gives a little hiccup sound and clings tighter to Alice's thumb.

ALICE

I will name him Al. Can we save him?

GEORGE

My dad saved a baby bat once. It needs food of course and it needs to be kept warm. I know, why don't you put him in your shirt pocket! That way he'll be warm and be next to your beating heart...that should comfort him.

Alice lifts Al to her pocket. With a little gurgling chirping sound he crawls inside. At first he peeks out then dives in latching his toes on the rim of the pocket.

ALICE
(full of delight)
He's hanging upside down!

GEORGE
Grey Bats are an endangered species.

ADDIE
Endangered species?

Addie's spider bite wound emerges and glows a dark blue. Her eyes have a faraway hypnotic look.

ADDIE (CONT'D)
My people, the Yuchi, lived in this cave. They were once a powerful yet gentle people. The Tsoyaha, the children of the sun. Their presence in the world is all but lost. Trampled on by greed and guilt. The guilty do not want their story to be remembered.

Everyone is staring at Addie in awe.

GEORGE
(gently touches her)
Addie?

ADDIE
Oh! A drop of cold water just splashed my eye! Now my hand! I've heard of these. They are called "Cave Kisses"

SCUDDY
Kisses? (makes kissing noises)

ADDIE
If you get hit with one it means you are "blessed."

Two more drops fall on Addie's open palm. Everyone crowds around Addie and stand waiting. Addie seems transfixed by the glistening droplets.

ADDIE (CONT'D)

No, no... It has to happen by accident.

SCUDDY

(frustrated at not getting a "cave kiss")

Awe, who believes in that stuff, anyway?

JOSH

I'd say we could use any help we can get.

All start trying to be caught by a kiss. Drops are heard now all over the cave.

All of the kids zig and zag, intent on landing a drop, not realizing that they are actually going further and further into a different part of the cave. There is a small waterfall gushing next to a crevice that is glowing blue deep inside.

Exclamations of surprise and joy as the drops find their mark.

KAYLA

(A drop lands on top of her head)
That was cold!

JOSH

(A drop lands on his cheek)
(Nervously telling the shadows) I'm blessed! That means I'm protected, right?

PHILIP

(A drop lands on his neck. He proudly smiles).

GEORGE

(A drop lands in his ear)
ADDIE! I got one!

TRACY

I want one! I want one! Why can't I
get...OH! (a drop lands in her mouth)

Scuddy bends over to tie his shoe. A huge drop falls smack on his hind quarters, leaving a huge wet mark.

Scuddy spins around, trying to see how bad it looks, like a dog chasing his tail.

All laugh except Alice, who is pouting.

ALICE

I guess the cave just doesn't love
me.

10 drops hit her all at once

ALICE (CONT'D)

WOW! (She giggles uncontrollably)

Al crawls out of her pocket and into her hand to catch a drop. He gets one on his face. As he shakes himself dry he topples over spreading his little wings to break the fall. He lands and rolls a little nearly falling into the crevice that is glowing blue deep inside.

ALICE (CONT'D)

AL!

She runs to save him from falling into the crevice just in time.

She scoops Al up and as Al pops back into her pocket she looks into the crevice.

Suddenly, Alice screams as she runs away AAARRRGH!

ALICE (CONT'D)

Giant spider! Look!

Tracy, Kayla, Josh and Scuddy all scream. Addie, George and Philip, arming themselves with rocks, rush over to the crevice with flashlights.

PHILIP

Where?

ALICE (POINTING TO THE GLOWING
CREVICE)

D-d-down there!

GEORGE (SHINING FLASHLIGHT)
That's a beauty!

The spider is indeed huge. About the size of a 3 month old
kitten.

Philip throws a rock at it. It hits the spider squarely on
it's head. It doesn't move.

GEORGE (CONT'D)
I think it's petrified! That's so
cool!

ADDIE (DIRECTLY INTO CHAMBER)
Hello, Spider!

ECHO
..iss d er er

ADDIE
I found it!

ECHO
It..it...t.t.t.

ADDIE
It's an echo chamber!

ECHO
.....er..er...er....

SCUDDY
Maybe it's an "Itchy". (laughs)

ADDIE
(still talking into the
crevice)
It's "Yuchi", you silly... YUCHI!...

ECHO
YESSSSS!

Everyone's eyes are glued to the source of the "echo", realizing it is NOT an echo.

TRACY

Huh?!? (She starts hiccupping)

ECHO

SHshshshsh

ECHO (CONT'D)

HHushshshsh

TRACY

I want my momma!(she starts hiccupping uncontrollably)

ECHO

Hushshsh

ECHO (CONT'D)

Hush, child..I won't hurt you!

George and Philip back away leaving Addie alone.

ADDIE

Hush! Be quiet, everybody. That's not an echo. That's a spirit!

GEORGE

Addie-get back! We don't know what's down there!

ADDIE

It's a cave spirit. We have to be really quiet and listen.

ECHO

Call me... Call me... Call me to you.

ADDIE

How! How? I don't know how.

ECHO

You know.

ADDIE

I know?

JOSH

What? Now Addie's the echo?

The entire group turns to him..

ALL

SHHHH!

ECHO

You know...Tayoyone!

ADDIE

19

Tayoyone? That's my Yuchi name! Oh
my....(to the spider) are you
Yonweekeelaha!?!

19

With a great sneeze the "petrified" spider (Yonweekeelaha) wakes up!

She runs up from the crevice and jumps on Philip who immediately starts screaming. Yonweekeelaha starts fussing at him continuously in Yuchean indicating her head with one of her legs. Philip flicks her away where she lands on Addie's arm.

Addie's spider bite wound glows a deep blue as Yonweekeelaha climbs up to Addie's forehead where she curls up and stops speaking.

ADDIE (CONT'D)

Goha-hane. Ancestor, old one. I am
glad to see you! Can you help me
help the cave spirit? Teach me how
to summon the waeno.

Yonweekeelaha perches on Alice's head and pulls on the clip that holds up Addie's hair... her long black hair falls past her waist... gently the spider lifts a single strand of hair and begins weaving something.

Miraculously, instruments appear... flutes, rattles, drums.

Addie hands the instruments to the other children.

ADDIE (CONT'D)

The spirit of the cave is trying to tell us something important. We must summon the cave spirit. She will show us the way out. But first, we must do battle.

The children are still amazed by the appearance of the instruments and leery of Yonweekeelaha.

ADDIE (CONT'D)

These are your magic instruments. You will know how to play them if you open your hearts and follow the rhythm inside you.

The children play a few notes-it sounds horrible, discordant.

ADDIE, CON'T

Listen with your hearts. Tracy-you must put your fear aside. Wonderful things are about to happen.

The children try again and slowly begin to play, gaining confidence with every note.

A soft rhythmic Native American music comes forth.

Addie stretches out her hands towards the echo chamber.

ADDIE (CONT'D CHANTING)

Che wa tha la ha
With open hands
(MORE)

ADDIE (CONT'D CHANTING) (CONT'D)

I'm calling the spirit
That calls me.
A breeze lifts my face
And soothes my fears
As I call this spirit
That calls me.

Yonweekeelaha throws out a spittle of web into the chamber.
A hand grabs hold of it as Addie speaks, the spirit pulls
herself up into a form that can be seen little by little.

ADDIE (CONT'D)

I stand as innocent and hungry
As any new born
I listen to your call
As I call this spirit that calls me
Speak to us with joy

20 INT. INSIDE CAVE "TAYOYONE THE CAVE SPIRIT"- CONTINUOUS 20

The cave spirit, Tayoyone, is completely there. She is the
beautiful little girl from MawMaw's story. Addie and she look
so alike that they could almost be twin sisters.

As the children continue to play, Tayoyone and Addie dance
the ribbon dance. At the end of the dance they embrace.

TAYOYONE

Addie.... Well done! (She and Addie
embrace) Sister! Children! Well
done!

GEORGE

You really have brought up your
echo!

The children marvel at Tayoyone's beauty and her strangeness,
reaching out to touch her, to see if she is real.

Yonweekeelaha uncurls herself and chattering goes onto Tayoyone's shoulder.

TAYOYONE

So good to hear and see you again
Yonweekeelaha. Quickly, let us
summon some spirits that will help
us.

PHILIP

More magic? More spirits? What is
happening here?

TAYOYONE

First let me summon the other
spirits, then I promise to explain,
brave one, if there is still time.

Yonweekeelaha moves to one of the drums that she beats after each name is called out.

As Tayoyone says each name, the spirits come forth as a flash, emanating one by one from the "cave kisses" of the children.

Each spirit brings forth their own light.

By the time the spirits are all there the cave area is strongly illuminated showing all its breathtaking beauty.

TAYOYONE (CONT'D)

Xaya (Squirrel spirit springs from
George)

Cane-no (Eagle spirit springs from
Kayla)

Tuwa (Crow spirit springs from
Tracy)

(MORE)

TAYOYONE (CONT'D)

Chixa (Rat spirit springs from
Josh)

Casdjiwane (Rabbit spirit springs
from Alice)

Xat'ane (Fox spirit springs from
Scuddy)

Wetc'o (Panther spirit springs from
Philip)

Welcome my spirit brothers and
sisters.

This could become a great day for
many.

Addie looks hard at Tayoyone. She is almost crying.

ADDIE

But where is my spirit?

TAYOYONE

I am your spirit, Addie.

High above on a ledge the boy suddenly appears.

ALICE

Look! Look! The boy!

The children's faces are all filled with fear as the boy
leaps off the ledge.

The boy's face is screaming his head off but no sound is
heard. He falls in slow motion.

GEORGE

(laughing) He's a ghost!

ALICE

(mostly to herself)

What? A...I'm in love with a ghost
boy!

The boy flies to Addie and Alice, gives them each a kiss then
drops down rolling on the floor silently laughing.

He is indeed Casey, the ghost of the lost deaf mute boy.

CASEY

(he only speaks in sign)
Did you see their
faces?!? (He mimics their
faces)

TAYOYONE

This is one of our bravest spirits.
His name is Casey. Once, a long
time ago when he was a live human
child, he tried to face Shagok all
on his own. Shagok killed him but
was never able to freeze his
spirit.

George walks up to Casey and embraces him.

GEORGE

He is one of my ancestors. I have
dreams about him.

SCUDDY

What is going down here? What's a
SHAAGOK? Is it still around? Are
you going to help us out of here?

Scuddy hides back in the group as Yonweekeelaha gives him a
slow once over.

Tayoyone and the other spirits realize that they are fading a
little.

TAYOYONE

Ahhh! We have very little time. I
will try to answer as quickly as
possible. Shagok was once a man
named Eleazar Wiggan who
transformed his spirit into a mad
devil of this cave. He has become
very powerful and at this moment he
is putting all his might into
destroying your whole town. He is
afraid that his secret has been
found out and will be remembered
and told. He has spent centuries
learning how to stop the natural
flow of history with a freezing
spell.

Tayoyone and the spirits throw all their light onto the formations of the cave. Paralyzed images of all kinds of towns people from different centuries are revealed trapped within.

SCUDDY

Look! There's grand'da!

TAYOYONE

Shagok has frozen their spirits so their stories will be forgotten. We ALL must find a way out...together. Past, present and future.

Addie starts crying and shaking as she sees her mother and grandmother among the images in the formation.

She runs to the formation containing her mother's and grandmother's frozen images and gently, lovingly touches them.

ADDIE

Mother! Grandmother! OOOOHHH! It was me! The stories I told! This is all my fault.

TAYOYONE

(goes to Addie)

Addie! You are indeed the last living storyteller of our tribe. This is not your fault. This is who you are. Accept and believe in yourself. You are the path to the way out for us all. But you do not stand alone.

ADDIE

You summoned me to summon you?

TAYOYONE

We all summoned all of you. Sweet, kind children you have already done great magic! But there is more...much more to come. We have yet to summon our greatest ally of all! The legendary "Booger Bear" hee kee sag a waeno.

TRACY

Booger Bear? (she hiccups)

TAYOYONE

I'm sorry, but there really is no more time.

(MORE)

TAYOYONE (CONT'D)

"Booger Bear" will know how to help
us beat this mad devil.

ADDIE

Why haven't you done this yourself
a long time ago?

TAYOYONE

Booger Bear will only come for live
children.

TRACY

Do we have to do this?

ALL

TRACY!

TRACY

All right! All right! But keep that
Yonweeke spider thingy away from
me.

21 Casey gleefully dances around in the air signing "Booger Bear!" 21

TAYOYONE

Gather round. Repeat and do as I
and the other spirits tell you.
Only good thoughts, good food, and
laughter can bring the bear. Now
think of good things to eat.

ALICE

Good FOOD? Think of good food?

GEORGE

Well, he is a bear, Alice. Bears
love to eat!

XA-YA:

Be he bear or be he Panther
(Everyone repeats)

(MORE)

XA-YA: (CONT'D)

CANE-NO:

It depends on what he's after
(Everyone repeats)

TU-WA:

He will come for lots of laughter
(Everyone repeats)

WETC'O:

Be he beaver or be he bear
(Everyone repeats)

CADJIWANE:

He will come fromanywhere
(Everyone repeats)

All the spirits swirl around the children emitting glowing colors of light....finally turning into a rich golden hue.

CHIXA

Now yell out things you love to
eat.

The children just stare at each other not sure what to do.

Alice giggles and Tracy hiccups.

Scuddy runs to the center of the circle. He starts yelling out all of the things he is really hungry for in a non-stop frenzy.

SCUDDY

Cotton candy, cookie dough, fried chicken, pizza rolls, cheeseburger, hot dogs, cup cakes, french fries, doughnuts, bacon, potato chips, corn dogs....(he runs out of breath)

ALL BURST OUT LAUGHING

ADDIE

Rice crispy treats!

GEORGE

Chocolate pudding!

ALICE & TRACY

Ice cream!

KAYLA
Apple fritters!

PHILIP
Pickles!

JOSH
(at the top of his voice)
PB & Ketchup!

Everyone looks at each other in surprise. Casey makes a funny face and all burst out laughing uncontrollably.

They continue laughing and yelling out things they love to eat.

Al peeks out of Alice's pocket and chirps loudly.

Right outside the cave a blue speeding light travels to where the children are and bursts into a magnificent huge bear standing on his hind legs and holding bag lunches filled with some of the food they called out in his arms.

BOOGER BEAR
I smell something sweet and joyful.
I am so hungry for this honey. Give
me some now!

EVERYONE
Booger Bear!
(Casey flies all round
signing Booger Bear with
glee.)

The children are in shock. This bear is huge. They don't know whether to cry, run or laugh.

Al pops out of Alice's pocket and begins chirping loudly. He is so excited that he is nearly dancing on the Alice's hand. Booger Bear pulls out a huge honeysuckle from one of the bags and places the end tip in Al's mouth. Al latches on then flips himself upside down holding onto Alice's thumb and gurgling softly rocks back and forth sucking on the honeysuckle.

Booger Bear sighs and grins from ear to ear.

SCUDDY & JOSH

FOOD!

The fear is broken.

Booger Bear hums the chant rhythm as he gives out the bags. He has his paws in all of them. Pulling out an apple here, a piece of pie there.

Tracy helps Alice with her bag.

When Addie opens her bag a butterfly flies out and lands on her hair.

Addie stands apart from the group not eating and stares hard at Booger Bear.

TAYOYONE

Come give us a hug, long lost
friend!

BOOGER BEAR (MOUTH FULL OF FOOD)

Tayoyone! It's been so long.

Booger Bear gives her a hug and sees Yonweekeelaha.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)

AH! Yonweekeelaha! Give us a
scratch like old times!

Yonweekeelaha climbs on top of bear's head and scratches both his ears at the same time.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)

AHAHAHA! You haven't lost your
touch!

Yonweekeelaha runs down his nose and gives him a smack.

BOOGER BEAR, CON'T.

What was that for?

Booger Bear grabs his neck as he feels Addie's stare.

BOOGER BEAR

OH! I haven't felt a stare down
like that in a century.

He walks over to Addie who does not flinch.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)

Addie? Addie George?

ADDIE

How did you know my name?

BOOGER BEAR

You look just like the Addie George
I used to know when she was your
age.

ADDIE

MawMaw? You were in many of her
stories. You were not always right
and sometimes you lost. What are
you Booger Bear?

BOOGER BEAR

I am a Trickster, Addie. I come
from the Chief Spirit to try and
trick people into changing the
world into something better.
Sometimes, a single tear can change
a whole universe. The way I love
the most is tricking people into
laughing at themselves so hard that
they change without even knowing
it. But Tricksters are not
perfect. We have to learn lessons
just like everyone else.

ADDIE

Why can't you just spirit us all
out of here the way you spirited
yourself in?

BOOGER BEAR

Sometimes there is a way in but not
a way out. By coming here I have
committed myself to helping you
all. There is no simple way out.

ADDIE

Tayoyone said I was a pathway. What
did she mean?

BOOGER BEAR

That is something that may be
answered only if the story is told.
But one thing I do know. You must
eat something to gather your
energies.

Addie stares hard again at Booger Bear. She is afraid of
change and she suspects a trick.

ADDIE

(defiant)
I'm NOT HUNGRY!

George gives a squeal of delight and rushes over to Addie.

GEORGE

ADDIE! ADDIE! LOOK! RICE CRISPY
TREATS!

George hands it to Addie with a big smile.

Addie looks at George's sweet face. She takes the rice
crispy treat from him.

ADDIE

You know, George, you really are
sweet.

George blushes deeply.

Addie stares at Booger Bear and slowly begins to eat. A smile
finally appearing on her face.

Al sleepily returns to Alice's pocket and hangs upside down.

Casey grabs one of the discarded paper bags and flies over to
Tracy and Alice.

He blows it up and with a grin bursts it. The burst is
magnified so it sounds like a gun shot.

Instantly a soft fluttering echoes and grows stronger as
hundreds of butterflies swirl in encompassing everything.
Landing here and there on the children and spirits. All the
bags and food disappear.

BOOGER BEAR

Children, spirits, ghosts gather
round now!

As Booger Bear says "now" a butterfly accidently flies into
his mouth. He coughs and sputters pointing to his mouth not
willing to swallow the butterfly.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)

Ah ah ah ah!

The children and spirits are trying to figure out what he means.

Yonweekeelaha finally understands the problem and muttering goes to Booger Bear's mouth and retrieves the butterfly. The butterfly is stunned for a moment then flies off.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)

Thank you Yonweekeelaha. I owe you once again.

(He pauses a moment)

Shagokwaeno. The cave demon and his minions are on their way back to the cave.

CUT TO: THE
SHAGOK RETURNING
FROM THE TOWN
WITH HIS MINIONS

Shagok, the snake mask warrior from MawMaw's story, treads slowly but happily along with his minions. Proudly perusing the devastation created by his storms. His seven minions are a mixture of bat/snake/human. They are invisible to the towns people.

Roofs are off. Debris and wounded are everywhere.

An emergency crew is pulling Alex out of his up ended truck.

ALEX

(he mutters hysterically
with all his strength)

Cave...cave. Addie. There are children in the cave. Go to the cave. The cave.

Alex has a snake bite on his hand.

CUT BACK TO:
INT. CAVE

KAYLA

Is this where you go poof or something and we all wind up all cozy in our beds wondering if this has all been a dream?

BOOGER BEAR

AHH. No. This is where I tell you like it is.

GEORGE

What's happening outside? Are our families okay?

BOOGER BEAR

Sadly, most of your homes are damaged or destroyed.

The children gasp and draw closer together.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)

However, all of your family members are okay, with one exception. Alex, Addie's father is in critical condition. He rode out into the storm to search for her and was hard hit.

Addie runs into Booger Bear's arms. He holds her close.

ADDIE

He's all I have left. (She cries quietly) He does care?

BOOGER BEAR

Yes, my child, he cares...he cares. He needs you.

ADDIE

(stands tall and brave and believing)

Tell us what we must do.

BOOGER BEAR

Together we must all break this devil's spell.

GEORGE

How?

BOOGER BEAR

Dance.

SCUDDY

(scared)

Dance?

BOOGER BEAR

The human children must "Dance the Devil Down". The spirits and I will help you. You must agree to do this of your own free will. If even one of you falters.....it will not work.

Tracy hiccups loudly. The light in the cave dims noticeably.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)

Ahhh! There is not much time. There is still more to prepare. Addie take my left paw. Tayoyone take my right paw. You must become one. Past, present, future and Yilbahe'! You will become our secret weapon. Addie...do you agree?

ADDIE

I agree.

BOOGER BEAR

Tayoyone...do you agree?

TAYOYONE

I agree.

BOOGER BEAR

Together we will send Shagaokwaeno on his journey to "the crushing cloud".

ADDIE

What is "the crushing cloud"?

BOOGER BEAR

It is the last thing a spirit must pass through to get to the "Other Side." If the spirit is crushed by the clouds.....it leaves this universe forever. This is what we want for Shagok.

Booger Bear begins to spin both Addie and Tayoyone.

As he spins them Booger Bear lifts up his head and roars with all his might.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)

K'ALAYUSALA!

CUT TO: INT.
ADDIE'S HOUSE

Mawmaw plays the flute with all her might. The white raccoon and Yo spin together on their hind legs in front of her.

The flute melody echoes throughout the following scenes.

CUT TO:
FLASHBACK

ADDIE CHILD TWIRLING IN THE WATER FOLLOWED BY THE BUTTERFLY.

ADDIE CHILD
Tayoyone (twirling) I am Tayoyone.
I am the spirit of the cave.

CUT TO:FLASHBACK
CAVE ENTRANCE

TAYOYONE LAUGHING AS SHE CATCHES MINNOWS IN THE SPRING.

CUT BACK TO:
INT. CAVE

ADDIE AND TAYOYONE ARE SPINNING AS ONE IN EACHOTHER'S ARMS. THEY SPIN SO FAST YOU CAN'T TELL ONE FROM THE OTHER. SPARKS OF COLOR FLY OUT. BOOGER BEAR BRINGS HIS PAWS TOGETHER EMITTING A THUNDEROUS SOUND. ADDIE STOPS SPINNING. TAYOYONE IS INSIDE HER GLOWING WITH A BLUE LIGHT.

The cave begins to shake a little together with a hissing sound that becomes gradually louder. The honey colored light changes to musty grayish purple.

ADDIE/TAYOYONE
Do we all agree to "Dance the Devil
Down"?

GEORGE
I say Yes! Let's do this thing!

All the children, spirits, and Casey say yes. Al peeks out of Alice's pocket and gives a chirp.

Booger Bear raises his paws over them and chants as Casey beats the rhythm on the drum. MawMaw's flute song grows in intensity.

Yonweekeelaha shoots a spittle of web high into the air. It bursts into a multitude of sparkling tiny webs which tinkle and fall on everyone like snowflakes.

BOOGER BEAR

Hayon, Hayon, Hayon-ya The earth is
our mother we must take care of her
Hayon, Hayon, Hayon-ya The earth is
our mother we must take care of her
Hayon, Hayon, Hayon-ya The earth is
our mother she will take care of
us.

22 A moment of silence as the webs tinkle down.

22

Shagok's booming voice breaks the silence.

SHAGOK'S VOICE

WHAT'S THAT SMELL?!?!?

In an instant Shagok and his minions appear.

Casey throws a huge snowball of cobwebs at the minions and then hides behind Booger Bear.

The minions, now covered in sticky stuff that stings them, whimper and cling to Shagok like scared dogs in a thunderstorm.

Shagok flings them roughly away from him.

SHAGOK

(flinging the minions off him) Get
OFF! GET OFF!

BOOGER BEAR

Shagok!

SHAGOK

Booger Bear!

CUT TO:FLASHBACK
EXT. WOODS
AROUND THE CAVE

THE GIGANTIC BEAR CHASING THE SNAKE MASKED WARRIOR.

CUT BACK TO:
INT. CAVE

TRACY

(BREAKS DOWN)

Booger Bear! Booger Bear... I'm
scared! (She starts hiccupping and
crying)

Tracy runs to Booger Bear. He lifts her up and cradles her in
his arms.

BOOGER BEAR

Don't worry little one.

SHAGOK

No, don't worry little one.
(Shagok glides swiftly to
Addie and points at her)
This one is the one I want.

Addie starts shaking all over but maintains control of
herself.

SHAGOK (CONT'D)

Addie George! How kind of you to
entice her here. She's mine!

With a grand gesture of his hand he lifts the quaking Addie
and throws her into the formation beside them.

Addie is frozen in the formation, her eyes screaming to get
out.

Everyone except Booger Bear moans. George nearly faints.

Tracy leaps out of Booger Bear's arms and gives Shagok a kick
with all her might.

TRACY

You let her out of there! You big
stinking BULLY!

Shagok stares at her as if she were some kind of amusing bug.

The other children silently circle around Shagok. Shagok's
minions stand whimpering and stupefied.

Booger Bear's eyes light up and he smiles. He roars.

BOOGER BEAR

SHAGOK! You are nothing but a
cough, a sneeze, a hiccup next to
these great spirits! (he indicates
the children).

Booger Bear stares with all his might at Addie in the formation.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)
Addie George! Come forth. It is only your own fear that keeps you there.

Addie's eyes lose their fear. She comes out of the formation beaming a proud smile and standing tall. The children all do a group hug.

Shagok raises his hand to strike once again but Booger Bear pounces in front of him making him stop.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)
You cannot have her without a proper fight Shagok! Let's put an end to this.

Booger Bear seems to grow taller as he speaks.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)
These "big smelly bear feet" have just walked on a road of honey. A straight path to challenge you. I evoke the ancient challenge of the dance. (A burst of light swirls out of Booger Bears paws and zig zags on the surrounding cave walls with a crackling sound) And THESE feet (indicating the children) will beat you down!

Booger Bear gives great stomp on the ground. The children's feet echo his movement spontaneously. They look at each other in surprise.)

The devil's minions make noises of fear, looking back to Shagok for approval.

SHAGOK
Silence, Slime! I'm not afraid of this smelly fur ball. We have fought before. Surely, you have not forgotten, BEGGAR BEAR!

BOOGER BEAR
 I backed off on purpose--(quietly)
 I felt sorry for you.

Shagok is enraged and full of wrath.

SHAGOK
 It does not matter what you felt.
 That is neither here nor there.

BOOGER BEAR
 I still feel sorry for you. You did
 not choose the right lesson to
 learn.

SHAGOK
 The lesson I did choose to learn
 has given me great power. Does that
 power scare you?

BOOGER BEAR
 Yes, Shagok, it both scares and
 saddens me. But enough talk. Do
 you accept the challenge?

Shagok moves in close to Addie George and stares at her with
 greed in every pore of his body.

SHAGOK
 I accept. Depending on the rules,
 you, as the challenger, set.

The spirits hover above the children, silently forming a
 circle around them. They hold the children's magical
 instruments in their hands.

BOOGER BEAR
 SHAGOK! I, as the challenger, now
 set these rules of play. There will
 be two rounds. The first round will
 be the human children against your
 minions. The dance will be the
 traditional dance of this region.
 Clog/flatfoot or Ceremonial Native
 American. We supply our musicians,
 you supply yours. A dancer is
 counted as defeated if he/she/or it
 falls to the ground. If we win the
 first round your minions will
 vanish from this place instantly,
 never to return. The human ghosts
 and spirits you have frozen will be
 released. If your minions win....
 (MORE)

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)
 all the children and the spirits
 and human ghosts will be yours with
 the exception of Addie George.

All the children grab onto eachother with great fear in their eyes.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)

Once the first round is completed
 the second round will begin
 immediately. This dance will be
 between Shagok and Addie George.
 This dance will be a dance to the
 death. If you win Addie George will
 be yours. If Addie George
 wins...you must begin your last
 journey to the Other Side. Each
 side will have five minutes to
 prepare....and Tricks ARE allowed.
 SHAGOK...do you accept?

SHAGOK

I accept!

One HUGE drum beat shakes the cave.

Shagok starts conjuring up his musicians. He and his minions huddle together whispering.

George gives Addie a kiss on her cheek.

Booger Bear gathers the children to the waterfall.

BOOGER BEAR
 Children, drink deeply from the
 sweet water of the cave and listen
 carefully.

All the children and Al begin to drink from the pool.

As Booger Bear speaks the next lines, Yonweekeelaha begins muttering furiously and spinning a thin silvery thread faster and faster... weaving a gossimer strand around each of the children's heads and Al who has peeked out. The gossimer shimmers and spins covering every child.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)

We all know what we know....but sometimes we forget to know what we know. Children open your hearts and minds and become a part of this web of collected memories. You know this dance. It is in your hearts. Believe in yourselves and those you sprung forth from. Allow them to become one with you and teach you. Fill yourselves with the fire of true spirit as you are being summoned into the Underworld! Dance the Devil Down!!!

The whole room seems to distort and whirl as everyone shifts into a different part of the cave.

High above is a large hole in the cave's roof which shows the sky.

As one, the children open their eyes, they are glowing with confidence and the energy of their combined strengths.

The "summoned" spirits begin playing as do the minion musicians rendering a mixture of Appalachian Blue Grass and Native American rhythm.

Addie/Tayoyone and Shagok stand on opposite sides waiting and watching.

Yonweekeelaha crawls onto Booger Bear's shoulder and together they stand back. Casey holds onto Booger Bear's paw.

The music is now in full swing and the dance begins in earnest.

It seems at first to be a simple back and forth battle.

One of the minions picks up another and with a mighty swing sends him into the midst of the children. Josh is hit and nearly falls but he moves just in time and the thrown minion hits the floor.

POP! The minion is gone!

A first win for the children! This gives them courage and strength.

Tracy is the first to falter with fatigue and starts to hiccup..but Kayla and Alice come to her rescue linking arms with her to hold her up.

The minions that are left, detecting a weakness, circle around them. They start making lunging movements into them.

George pulls out a flashlight he had pocketed and pokes at one of the minion's legs with it as he passes. This minion catches hold of the flashlight at which point George lets go so the demon slips and POP! He is gone!

The rest of the children link together surrounding the remaining five minions.

George again goes into his pockets and pulls out a handful of walnuts he had saved from Booger Bear's magic lunch bags which he throws into the center of the minions.

One slips and brings down another one with it. POP!POP! They are gone!

Only three minions remain, but the walnuts are still on the floor and Scuddy slips on one of them... he is saved in time by Kayla and Josh from crashing to the floor.

Everyone is becoming exhausted and scared. The only thing that is keeping them going is the fact that they are linked together.

One of the minions decides to concentrate on Alice as she seems to be the weakest link. She is stumbling with fatigue and this minion will not get out of her face. Her grip on Kayla and Tracy is slipping rapidly.

Suddenly, Al pops out of her pocket with a high pitched squawk and flies into the minion's face, fluttering around his eyes.

Blinded by the surprise attack the minion slips and falls. POP! He is gone.

Al returns to Alice's pocket. Alice grips Kayla and Tracy with renewed strength.

The remaining two minions start scratching and hitting at everything in a panic...they wind up hitting each other and POP!POP! They are gone.

The minion musicians disappear. The children all hug in their victory. The "summoned" spirits put down their instruments.

The children have won the first round.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)
Come here to me brave ones. The
second round must now begin!

Two HUGE drum beats shake the cave.

A sharp intake of breath from everyone.

Addie/Tayoyone faces Shagok. Addie/Tayoyone is shaking, using every ounce of strength not run away.

ADDIE/TAYOYONE

Grandmother.....

Yonweekeelaha crawls up to her, immediately transforming into a beautiful and agile old woman in full Yuchean ceremonial dress standing by her. Yonweekeelaha is WeHi, Tayoyone's grandmother. She gives Addie/Tayoyone a kiss then backs away.

WEHI

It is time.

CUT TO: INT.
ADDIE'S HOUSE

MAWMAW(WHISPERING)

It is time.

CUT TO: INT. E U
HOSPITAL ROOM

ALEX

(half unconscious)

It is time.

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CUT BACK TO: 26
INT. CAVE

BOOGER BEAR

It is time.

SHAGOK

Yes it is time. It is time to trick the Trickster! Did you think I did not see through your little prank from the beginning. Come....I Will win over all...past, present, future and Yilbahe'.

Slowly Shagok and Addie/Tayoyone begin the motions of the Lizard Dance.

The magnified sounds coming from the cave's spring and a swarm of flying bats turns into their music.

As they progress the flowing stream comes alive and echoes Addie's movements as the bats swarm and echo Shagok's.

The dance builds to frenzy. Shagok and Tayoyone/Addie leaping higher and higher as the water swirls with the bats.

The snake on Shagok's mask comes alive and begins hissing and coiling faster and faster. Both the snake's eyes and the mask's eyes are glowing a deep red.

Addie/Tayoyone starts to falter with fatigue...she is becoming hypnotized by the snake's eyes and coiling action. She is losing....

GEORGE
(shouting with all his
might)

The bag.....ADDIE...USE YOUR MEDICINE
BAG!

Addie/Tayoyone changes the dance to the Ribbon Dance...she pulls off her medicine bag and flings all it's elements into the air.

CUT TO:FLASHBACK
MAWMAW'S STORY

THE SNAKE MASK WARRIOR EMERGES FROM BEHIND THE TREE. TAYOYONE SCREAMS AND DROPS THE "SUN" FIGURE.

CUT BACK TO:
ADDIE/TAYOYONE
AND SHAGOK

The "clay sun" is in the medicine bag. It flies out and becomes a bright whirling dervish that hits Shagok's snake exploding with the impact and sending bits and pieces of clay jabbing and stinging Shagok until he stumbles and falls.

The snake on his mask turns back into a carving except for it's eyes which still glow a dark red.

Shagok has lost the challenge.

The elements of the spring and bats go back to normal...there is complete silence.

Suddenly all the ghosts that were trapped in the formations start fluttering out through the hole in the cave roof.

All chattering in their own way. Some laughing, some moaning, some whooping.....

Tayoyone comes forth from inside Addie.

SHAGOK

Tayoyone!

(Shagok makes a calculated
change of demeanor)

(He cries out to Tayoyone)

Mercy...I cry to you MERCY!

Tayoyone! Please...I am dying...

Booger Bear, sensing something amiss silently moves to stand by Addie and puts his paw on her arm.

TAYOYONE (BENDS DOWN CLOSER TO SHAGOK)

There are fates worse than dying,
Shagok.

SHAGOK

I will never pass through the
crushing cloud to the other side
with THIS.(indicates his Mask)

Shagok getting no response continues

SHAGOK (CONT'D)

Tayoyone! Addie! You are the only ones that can remove the mask! Take it off me! I cry to you MERCY!

TAYOYONE

I have heard you cry mercy for yourself but I have never heard you cry for what you have done to my people. If you do that.....I will remove the mask.

BOOGER BEAR

If you do that...you can remove the mask yourself.

Shagok bends down his head and shudders as he sighs deeply.

He looks back up to Tayoyne and reaches out both his hands to her.

Tayoyone kneels down to Shagok with great hope and expectation in her eyes. She takes Shagok's hands in her own.

Shagok slowly leans into her and whispers.

SHAGOK

(whispering) You do not exist.

Tayoyone moans as tears pour down her face.

Shagok lunges with the last of his strength and grabs Tayoyone. She cannot get loose and Booger Bear is afraid of harming her if he blasts Shagok.

SHAGOK (CONT'D)

So our spirits will be crushed together!

Shagok begins to float away holding onto Tayoyone.

Addie lunges forward.

BOOGER BEAR

NO! ADDIE! DON'T TOUCH THE MASK! It is filled with mad darkness!

It is too late.

Addie grabs the mask. It comes away in her hands with an echoing twanging sound.

Shagok's face is revealed. A strong handsome face but the mask has stolen his eyes. They are two black holes.

As Shagok spirals away the mask and Addie are pulled magnetically to him.

GEORGE
ADDIE! NO!

Addie can't let go of the mask.

George leaps and grabs hold of Addie's legs and so is carried with her.

They are all now flying with great speed to the hole.

BOOGER BEAR
(to Casey with
desperation)
Casey! You are our last hope. Can
you try to help them?

CASEY
(signs) I will do my best.

Casey flies after them.

Shagok throws down an electric bolt from a nod of his head as they all disappear through the hole.

The bolt boomerangs on its way down and creates an immediate avalanche in the cave.

All mayhem starts in the cave. Stalactites start falling and crashing down.

BOOGER BEAR
Everyone...try to stay together...to
me ..to me. I know a secret room
where we will be safe.

Booger Bear is sniffing out the walls as fast as he can.

A white raccoon bounds out of nowhere and jumps onto Booger Bear's back chattering. A huge white spider rides on its neck.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)
Ah! So that's where it is! Stand
back as much as you can everyone.

Booger Bear slams himself full force into a wall. It cracks wide open.

Everyone piles in.

It is indeed a room that is not affected by the chaos in the rest of the cave.

It is a room of great splendor and beauty. It is filled with all kinds of artifacts including huge woven baskets filled with coins.

Everyone stares in open-mouthed disbelief.

Booger Bear eyes the white spider on the white raccoon. It is the first time he shows fear. He tries to hide behind the children.

The white spider jumps off the white raccoon. It goes to the center of the room and begins to spin getting larger and larger until it is human size. It cracks open.

There stands MAWMAW with her flute in her hand.

MAWMAW

BOOGER BEAR! I see you! What has happened? Where is my great grandchild, Addie George?

CUT TO:
HIGH IN SPACE

ADDIE AND GEORGE ARE A LITTLE BELOW TAYOYONE WHO IS STILL HELD BY SHAGOK. ALL ARE SPIRALLING UPWARDS IN SLOW MOTION. BEHIND THEM THE STARS AND PLANETS ARE WHOOSHING PASSED THEM LIKE A PLANETARIUM SHOW GONE HAYWIRE. SHAGOK AND TAYOYONE GLOW A FUZZY PURPLISH COLOR AND SEEM TWO DIMENSIONAL. ADDIE AND GEORGE ARE STILL 3 DIMENSIONAL AND GLOWING A DIM WHITE. GEORGE HAS MANAGED TO CLIMB UP SO HE IS NOW HOLDING ONTO ADDIE'S BACK SHOULDERS.

The crushing cloud slowly appears above everything.

Sparkling with millions of fully charge electrodes of light. It is split into a top and bottom part which grinds rhythmically emitting a sound of a steam train constantly starting up.

GEORGE

ADDIE! LET GO!

CUT BACK TO:
INT. CAVE THE
ROOM OF
SPLENDOUR

MAWMAW AND BOOGER BEAR STAND FACING EACHOTHER. MAWMAW IS LIVID AND STARING AT BOOGER BEAR WITH DAGGERS IN HER EYES. BOOGER BEAR STANDS BEFORE HER AT A LOSS WITH HIS HEAD HANGING DOWN.

MAWMAW

I understand. Addie did not trust you. She literally took matters in her own hands to save Tayoyone. She still felt she was alone.

Alice rushes in between them, tears streaming down her face.

ALICE

Enough talk! Isn't there anything we can do?

Al peeks out of Alice's pocket and gives a little squawk.

MawMaw bends down to Alice and Al.

MAWMAW

Spoken like true warriors! Gather around everyone. You too, Booger Bear. All we can do now is try to make a safe pathway for them to travel back on.....if they succeed in breaking away. This can only be done with your hearts full of blind hope and caring. Follow the footsteps of Booger Bear. He knows the way. Your ancestors will guide us with their music.

The summoned spirits pull out the magical instruments and begin playing.

WeHi stands by MawMaw. They embrace.

Yo emerges from the inside of the white raccoon and stands by the children.

The white raccoon starts playing MawMaw's flute.

SCUDDY

So these guys are our ancestors?!?

MAWMAW

Have you not yet guessed? You are all related to the survivors of the "Trail of Tears".

All the children beam with the knowledge.

BOOGER BEAR

All get in a line behind me and
follow my steps.

Booger Bear begins to weave in and out with the rhythm of the music. The children and Yo echo his movements in a line behind him.

MawMaw and WeHi mirror each other's movements. They sway back and forth then reach up high.

When they reach up a block of dim white light appears.

The blocks of light stack up on top of each other creating a tower, a tunnel of light reaching higher and higher.

Butterflies swarm in out of nowhere and guide the tower with their movements to the hole in the cave roof through which the spirits had disappeared.

CUT TO: INT. E U
HOSPITAL ROOM

Alex cries out in delirium as he hears the distant beat of the music from the cave in his mind.

A nurse standing by shakes her head.

ALEX

The butterflies! Follow the
butterflies! I LOVE YOU ADDIE!

The nurse goes out of the room.

Alex opens his eyes. The music pulsates louder and louder in his head as he focuses all of strength on sitting up. He tears out the IV's. He forces himself to climb out of the bed. He staggers but gathers all of his strength once again. He quickly dresses and runs out.

CUT TO:
HIGH IN SPACE

CASEY APPEARS HOVERING ABOVE ADDIE AND GEORGE. TAYOYONE AND SHAGOK ARE NOW DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO THE CRUSHING CLOUDS.

GEORGE

Addie! You must let go of the mask!

ADDIE

I won't have anything to hold onto!

GEORGE

You can hold onto me! Trust me
Addie! Hold onto me.

Addie's fingers gently loosen their grip on the mask. She turns and holds onto George. They are suspended holding each other in mid-air as the mask spirals away from them towards the Crushing Clouds.

Casey surges forth with great speed. There are tears streaming down his face.

The eyes of the mask change color from red to a dark blue.

A single tear runs down the face of the mask as Casey pushes it onto Shagok's face.

Shagok releases Tayoyone in the impact as both he and Casey tumble and disappear into the crushing cloud.

Tayoyone disappears right before she touches the crushing clouds.

TAYOYONE'S VOICE

I've made it to the other side!

Addie and George give each other a look right before they start screaming as they are now free falling downwards rapidly.

Suddenly something gleaming and waving appears in their path.

They try to steer themselves towards it. When they get close enough the tunnel of light grabs them and swallows them into itself.

They find themselves sliding down the tunnel of light. Surrounded by butterflies and an eerie distorted music.

The tunnel melts away as they pass through it still holding on to each other.

The music becomes more distinct and clear.

As they arrive with a thump in the "room of splendour".

Everyone stops in mid motion with a gasp of pure joy.

Yo breaks the wondrous silence with a huge meow as she leaps into Addie's arms.

A huge group hug happens.

CUT TO CAVE
ENTRANCE

EMERGENCY VEHICLES, CROWDS, MEDIA, ALL GATHERED WITH URGENCY AT THE CAVED-IN ENTRANCE TO THE CAVE. THE BUS IS RIGHT BEFORE IT. ALL THE CHILDREN'S PARENTS AND RELATIVES ARE THERE.

Alex bursts through the crowd and jumps over the ropes. He yells at the top of his lungs.

ALEX
I KNOW ANOTHER WAY IN! Maybe it
isn't blocked!

The foreman goes over to Alex and he begins to tell him where it is.

CUT BACK TO:
INT. CAVE THE
ROOM OF
SPLENDOUR

ADDIE
Tayoyone made it to the other side.
But Casey...Casey....(she is
overcome with sadness).

GEORGE
(Puts his arm around Addie) Casey
sacrificed himself for us. He
pushed Shagok into the crushing
cloud andhe tumbled in.

ALICE
(bursts out crying)
Oh No!

Al crawls out of her pocket and chirping softly holds her thumb.

MAWMAW
Well...it may not be as bad as we
think. Remember Casey's story.
Shagok murdered him. Shagok was
Casey's ancestor.

George is stunned by this news. He seems to be the only one who has made the connection between himself and Shagok. His eyes search for Addie's but she has jumped up running into MawMaw's arms.

ADDIE

(hugging MawMaw)

MawMaw!!! MawMaw what are you doing here? If you are here....does that mean that you.....? No!

MAWMAW

Yes, Addie. It was my time to go. But do you not feel my presence here? Have you learned nothing!?!

ADDIE

Yes, MAWMAW. I understand. All the love you have given me.....I need to give to others. This is not just my story. It is OUR story. I will share our stories with the world so that our spirits will live again.

MAWMAW

Humph! Not bad for an ancestor of yours Booger Bear.

ALL THE CHILDREN

WHAT!!!!!!!!!!

Booger Bear gives a great cough.

MAWMAW

Ah yes! Booger Bear was once a great Shaman. Until one day when....

Booger Bear quickly interrupts her.

BOOGER BEAR

Well, well...I don't think there is really time for a lengthy tale right now. If my nose serves me right....I believe this part of the story is coming to an end. So let us all gather around one last time.

KAYLA

Is this the part where you finally show us a way out?

BOOGER BEAR

Ahh. No.

All the children groan.

BOOGER BEAR (CONT'D)
 But your rescuers are going to find
 a way in.

ALL
 Booger Bear!!!

All the children and Yo playfully jump on him.

BOOGER BEAR
 (adlibs)
 Now now! Whoah! That Tickle
Listen! Listen! Don't you want
 to say good bye to your ancestors?

The children all start pairing up with their spirit partners.

Al peeks out of Alice's pocket and chirps.

ALICE
 (softly to Al)
 Did you hear Al? We're going home.

Booger Bear and MawMaw holding the white raccoon come over to
 Addie who is holding Yo.

Addie is staring hard at Booger Bear and MawMaw.

Yo and the white raccoon jump out of their arms and begin
 playing and cuddling together.

BOOGER BEAR
 There's that look again!

ADDIE
 What happened to Tayoyone and
 Casey?

MAWMAW
 Tayoyone became a free spirit
 again. She may come and go as she
 pleases. Casey....well, the
 Crushing Cloud does not consume all
 that enter into it. His spirit may
 still exist. It might help if he is
 remembered by the living.

ADDIE
 I will keep his memory alive.

BOOGER BEAR
 I think there is someone here who
 will help you do that.

Addie looks over to where George is. It so happens that at that moment, he is looking at her.

Addie turns back to Booger Bear and MawMaw with a little smile on her face.

MAWMAW

There is something I am forgetting.
It is something important. Ah, yes.

MawMaw surveys the room until she spots a beautifully carved wooden box. She retrieves it and hands it to Addie.

MAWMAW (CONT'D)

Inside this box is a deed. Old Tommy Hawkins searched for it long and hard for most of his life. I'd love to see the look on his face when he sees it. It gives the cave and the park to the townspeople. The treasure that is found in the cave is given to you and your father. Use it well. There is enough here to rebuild all that Shagok has destroyed. All except.....

ADDIE (BEAMING)

It is your turn to trust me MawMaw and Booger Bear. I am the storyteller!

Yo gives out a huge screech!

She is entangled in a small funny looking gourd mask that echoes Shagok's mask.

She is entangled in such a way that it looks like the mask is dancing around on its own.

Everyone laughs.

CUT TO: INT.
CAVE THE HOLE IN
THE ROOF OF THE
CAVE

A ROPE LADDER HAS BEEN THROWN DOWN THE HOLE AND SEVERAL EMERGENCY CREW MEMBERS AND ALEX ARE CLIMBING DOWN IT.

They hear Yo's screech echoing.

FOREMAN

What was that! Quickly!

CUT BACK TO:
INT. CAVE THE
ROOM OF
SPLENDOUR

BOOGER BEAR SNIFFS THE AIR.

BOOGER BEAR

QUICKLY! Your rescuers are here!
One last big hug Brave Ones! You
can summon us anytime.

Everyone has a group hug. Booger Bear pops into a small blue light. MawMaw pops into a bright yellow light. All the summoned spirits turn into various colored dots of light.

The yellow light hovers around Addie.

MAWMAW'S VOICE

Addie! Take care of the cave. I
will return to be her spirit. But
first I am going to travel a little
with Booger Bear.

BOOGER BEAR'S VOICE

(he hiccups loudly) WHAT!?!

Their voices become distant as they spiral up and away.

MAWMAW'S VOICE

You owe me! First there was the
time....

BOOGER BEAR'S VOICE

I remember.....I remember.....

Their voices can no longer be heard.

All the children except Addie and George are at the threshold watching Yo...leaving Addie and George alone.

George puts his hand in Addie's.

ADDIE

Thank you, George.

GEORGE

I will always be here for you,
Addie.

George puts his face in his hands. He is trying not to cry.

ADDIE

George? What's wrong?

GEORGE

Will you ever be able to like me
Addie? Knowing now, that,
that...Shagok was my ancestor?

Addie gently takes his hands away from his face and holds them in her own. Her eyes are full of love and caring.

ADDIE

K'Alayusala. We are all related.
Maybe together we can heal many
wounds. I like YOU George.

A huge Cave Kiss splashes their entwined hands.

ADDIE (CONT'D)

We are blessed.

Yo still entangled in the mask yowls and makes a mad dash into the other room where the rescue team are still climbing down the rope ladder.

What they suddenly see appears to be a mask running all over the place by itself.

FOREMAN

What in the world is THAT?

Yo rolls around until she crashes into the wall and with a meow....the mask breaks apart and she is finally free.

The Foreman and Alex have reached the ground with a couple of other rescuers.

ALEX

Yo? I think that's my cat! Yo?

Yo jumps into his arms.

ALEX (CONT'D)

(Shouting) ADDIE!!!!

The children all come running out. The team start shouting up the hole.

RESUERS

(adlib)

WE FOUND THEM! WE FOUND THEM!
EVERYONE LOOKS OKAY!

Cries from above full of happiness and relief. Various parents call down to their children...the children call up to them...etc.

Addie runs into her father's arms. They hug each other tight. Tears are pouring down Alex's face.

ALEX (LAUGHING AND CRYING AT THE SAME TIME)

ADDIE! ADDIE! I thought I lost you.

ADDIE

(almost a whisper)
Daddy!

Yo meows.

ALEX

How in the world did that cat get here?

ADDIE

Well, Daddy, that's a long story.

Alex bursts out laughing as he collapses in Addie's arms.

ADDIE (CONT'D)

(Alarmed she calls out as she holds him tight) Daddy? Help! Someone help me!

The foreman runs over with several others. They lift him out of Addie's arms.

ALEX

(Calling out to Addie before he faints) I love you Addie.

CUT TO: DEEP
INSIDE THE CAVE.

CLOSE UP ON A DRIP SWIRLING DOWN A STALACTITE. THE DROP HITS A POOL OF WATER. THE RIPPLES THAT ARE CREATED FADE INTO A PASSAGE OF TIME.

FADE TO: EXT.
ENTRANCE TO THE
CAVE

SUPER: 15 YEARS LATER

Close up on Alex sitting on a bench playing his flute.

It is a beautiful spring day.

The spring is bubbling and flowing strongly and joyfully.

Children are laughing and trying to catch minnows in the spring.

It is the Cave Spring "Green Corn" festival day.

All kinds of booths are set up.

The school bus that transported the children in the tornado is roped off with a bronze placard in front of it.

Tourists and towns people alike crowd around enjoying the festival. Some are eating, some are serving, some are dancing.

There is an extremely long line in front of one of the booths where a large sign reads: "BOOK SIGNING".

A large poster shows a beautiful illustration of a bear, a white raccoon and a white spider. Underneath is written in large type: K'alaYuSala - stories from the Yuchi tribe. Written by Addie George Addleson. Illustrations by George Addleson.

And there is Addie and George side by side....all grown up and beaming with joy. Addie is busy signing books as George hands them out taking payment. The media is there taking pictures.

ADDIE

(looking hard toward the spring)
Where is he? I can't see him!

GEORGE

(looking at the spring area)
I see him. He's fine. He's playing
with the other kids. BB is looking
after him.

George hands a book to a young woman.

As she receives it she looks at it and hiccups loudly.

YOUNG WOMAN

Looks scarey to me!

ADDIE AND GEORGE
TRACY!!!!!!

The next two young men in line shout out together.

TWO YOUNG MEN
BUSTED!

ADDIE AND GEORGE
JOSH! SCUDDY!

Another young woman giggles. It is Alice.

KAYLA
Is this the part of the story where
we all have a group hug?

PHILIP
Ahhh. YES!

Addie and George come out from behind the booth and they all hug.

CUT TO: INT.
THRESHOLD TO THE
CAVE ENTRANCE IN
THE AREA OF THE
PLAYING CHILDREN

A WHITE RACCOON SUDDENLY APPEARS OUT OF NOWHERE. ONLY ONE OF THE CHILDREN SEES IT.

The white raccoon disappears into the cave.

The little boy who saw it climbs out of the water and follows it into the cave.

The raccoon stops at a crevice that is glowing blue from inside.

The boy reaches the raccoon. A stare down happens. The raccoon appears to be smiling.

Two beams of light, one blue and one yellow appear circling the raccoon and child.

The child and raccoon hug each other with joy. The boy looks just like Casey except for his modern clothes.

He signs to the raccoon.

CASEY (ADDIE AND GEORGE'S SON)
(signing) We all know what we know
but sometimes we forget what it is
that we know.

Addie comes in looking for him. Her anxious face turns to pure joy when she sees him surrounded by the lights holding the raccoon.

She slowly makes her way to him and sits beside him.

ADDIE
(she signs) I love you Casey.

CASEY
(signs as he hugs his mom) That is
enough for now.

A huge "Cave Kiss" hits them both. They both laugh together with delight. Casey laughs silently at first then suddenly a wonderful laughing noise bursts forth....he is no longer a mute.....he is no longer deaf.

All kinds of colored dots of light appear surrounding the two as Alex's flute echoes.

The white raccoon and a butterfly begin to dance to the flute music. A white bat joins them.

Run credits Fade to black

The end.