



Herb and Lois Walker's
SCRIPTS FOR SCHOOLS

**THE LEGEND OF
SUN-MOON LAKE**

by Lois Walker

A Readers Theater Script:
Origins of The
Holding Ball Dance
for
for Advanced Readers

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THE LEGEND OF SUN-MOON LAKE

Origins of The Holding Ball Dance

Adapted and Formatted for Readers Theater by Lois Walker

Cast: 5 Readers, including 3 Character Parts

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- READER 1: Once, long ago, a native tribe called Shao lived in the mountains near the central part of Taiwan.
- READER 2: The people planted corn, taro, and rice on their farmlands. They fished and hunted and lived a peaceful and carefree life.
- READER 3: One a sunny morning while the Shao people heard a huge sound.
- ALL: "Boom!"**
- READER 4: The land shook violently and the people cried:
- READERS 1,2,3,5: "Oh no! The sun is gone,"
- READER 5: The bright, shiny sun had disappeared before their eyes.
- READER 1: The Shao people held tight to each other and helped each other find their way home.
- READER 2: Fortunately, the moon came out at night.
- READER 3: Everyone could see again in the moonlight and was able to do some work.
- READER 4: Suddenly, another huge sound was heard.
- ALL: "Boom!"**
- READER 5: The houses shook and were almost knocked down by this huge sound. The people cried:
- READERS 1,2,3,4: "Oh no! The moon is also gone. What are we going to do?"
- READER 1: Everyone was frightened.
- READER 2: No one knew what had caused this incident.

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READER 3: And from that day on, there was no sun or moon in the sky and darkness covered the entire world.

READER 4: The crops in the fields gradually wilted;

READER 5: the fish hid in deep water;

READER 1: the flowers stopped blooming.

READER 2: The animals seemed lifeless.

READER 3: Without sunlight, nothing no crops grew. And the people cried:

READERS 1,2,3,5: "How can we live a life without sunlight?"

READER 4: DaJianGe and ShuiSheJie, A young couple, depended on growing corn for a living.

READER 5: Since the sun had disappeared, the crops had wilted and the corn did not have golden kernels anymore. One day, ShuiSheJie told her husband,

ShuiSheJie/1: "If the sun does not come out again, everyone in the village is going to die from hunger. We need to think of a plan."

DaJianGe nodded his head and said,

DaJianGe/2: "The sun and the moon must have fallen into a deep valley. Let us go and search for them."

READER 3: And the next day the young couple traveled toward the deep forest.

READER 4: They were determined to find the sun and the moon.

READER 5: Each of them held a torch and started the journey bravely.

READER 3: They climbed many mountains, swam across rivers, and explored the forests.

READER 4: But they could not find any sign of the sun and the moon. The whole world was still in darkness.

READER 5: Finally, the couple arrived at a big mountain top.

READER 3: ShuiSheJie saw a dim light in front of her.

- READER 4: She pointed to a lake opposite the mountain and said to DaJianGe,
- ShuiSheJie/1: "Look DaJianGe! There is a shiny light on top of that lake. I bet the sun and the moon are in that lake."
- DaJianGe/2: "Yes! Yes! That must be the sun and the moon. I think we've found them."
- READER 5: The couple ran toward the lake and discovered two fierce dragons playing with the two fire balls.
- ShuiSheJie/1: "Those fire balls are the sun and the moon!"
- DaJianGe/2: "No wonder the sun and the moon disappeared.
- ShuiSheJie/1: These two dragons stole the sun and the moon to be their playthings."
- READER 3: The couple hid behind a big rock and tried to think of a plan.
- READER 4: Suddenly, white smoke came out from under the rock in front of them. DaJianGe stood up and quietly pushed the rock away.
- READER 5: And under the rock they discovered a long, narrow, underground passageway filled with smoke.
- DaJianGe/2: "There's someone living down here. Let us go check and see."
- ShuiSheJie/1: "I'll be right behind you."
- READER 3: They cautiously stepped down the passageway.
- READER 4: As the curvy passageway got deeper, the atmosphere got damper and darker. After a while, they came upon a burning fire.
- READER 5: Suddenly the young couple realized they were in an underground kitchen. They saw an old white haired woman stood cooking in the kitchen.
- ShuiSheJie/1: "Excuse us, old lady, but can you tell us where we are?"
- READER 3: The old woman was surprised. She raised her white head and found two young people standing in front of her. She put down her cooking pot and said,