

THE STORY OF SUN-MOON LAKE

Origins of: The Holding Ball Dance

Adapted and Formatted for Readers Theater by Lois Walker

Cast: 2 Narrators (2 teachers or a teacher and an older student) and up to 25 easy-reader lines. A teacher may use as many or as few easy-reader lines as needed by simply assigning the easy-reader lines to as many readers as you have in your class.

NARRATOR 1: Long ago in Taiwan, someone stole the moon and sun.

ALL: **Someone stole the moon and sun!**
Was it you? Are you the one?

READER 1 Taiwan grew dark.

READER 2 The crops died.

READER 3 The flowers died.

READER 4 The fish hid.

READER 5 The people were scared.

NARRATOR 2: How could they find the sun and moon? They asked everyone:

GIRL READERS: Did you take the sun,
Take the sun,
Take the sun?

BOY READERS: Take the sun and run,
And then run,
And then run?

ALL: **Someone took the light of day,
Now we cannot find our way!**

GIRL READERS: Did you take the moon,
Take the moon,
Take the moon?

BOY READERS: Quick as a monsoon,
A monsoon,
A monsoon?

ALL: **Someone took our pale moonlight,
Now we have no light at night.**

GIRL READERS: Will you bring them home,
Bring them home,
Bring them home?

BOY READERS: Then leave us alone,
Us alone,
Us alone?

NARRATOR 1: When you do, we'll be alright,

ALL: **With the sun in the morning and the moon at
night.**

NARRATOR 2: But no one could help. Two scary dragons had taken the
moon and sun and two children wanted to put them
back in the sky where they belonged.

READER 6: So the children ran away.

READER 7: They climbed mountains.

READER 8: They swam in rivers.

READER 9: They walked in the forests.

READER 10: They asked everyone this question:

GIRL READERS: Did you take the sun,
 Take the sun,
 Take the sun?

BOY READERS: Take the sun and run,
 And then run,
 And then run?

**ALL: Someone took the light of day,
 Now we cannot find our way!**

GIRL READERS: Did you take the moon,
 Take the moon,
 Take the moon?

BOY READERS: Quick as a monsoon,
 A monsoon,
 A monsoon?

**ALL: Someone took our pale moonlight,
 Now we have no light at night.**

GIRL READERS: Will you bring them home,
 Bring them home,
 Bring them home?

BOY READERS: Then leave us alone,
 Us alone,
 Us alone?

NARRATOR 1: When you do, we'll be alright,

ALL: **With the sun in the morning and the moon at night.**

NARRATOR: But no one knew where the sun and the moon had gone.

READER 11: The whole world was dark.

READER 12: The children came to a mountain.

READER 13: The girl saw a lake and a light.

NARRATOR 2: Then the girl said, "Look! I see a light in the water. I bet the sun and moon are in that lake." The children ran to the lake and what did they find?

READER 14: Two scary dragons!

READER 15: Two scary dragons playing with two fire balls!

READER 16: The fire balls were the sun and the moon!

NARRATOR 1: The boy said, "Look! That is why the sun and the moon went away. The dragons took the sun and the moon so they could play with them." Being brave children, they called out:

GIRL READERS: Did you take the sun,
Take the sun,
Take the sun?

BOY READERS: Take the sun and run,
And then run,
And then run?

ALL: **Someone took the light of day,
Now we cannot find our way!**

GIRL READERS: Did you take the moon,
 Take the moon,
 Take the moon?

BOY READERS: Quick as a monsoon,
 A monsoon,
 A monsoon?

**ALL: Someone took our pale moonlight,
 Now we have no light at night.**

GIRL READERS: Will you bring them home,
 Bring them home,
 Bring them home?

BOY READERS: Then leave us alone,
 Us alone,
 Us alone?

NARRATOR 2: When you do, we'll be alright,

**ALL: With the sun in the morning and the moon at
 night.**

NARRATOR 1: The dragons stopped playing and began to
 run after the children.

READER 17: The children ran fast.

READER 18: The dragons grew closer.

NARRATOR 2: The children knew they had to run very fast and they
 cried:

ALL: "Help!"