

-ANIMATION SEQUENCE-

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Dozens of SAAWANOOKI occupy their village. Women farm, men craft tools, and children complete their chores.

INT. FIELD - NIGHT

MOTSHEE MONITOO (Evil Spirit) gathers up red sand around a SAAWANOOKI WOMAN. It uses fire to reduce the woman to ash, mixing the remains with the red sand.

It forms the red mixture into two humanoid figures, molding the backs of the figures. Igniting the mixture, it bursts with flames ten feet high.

The flames settle, revealing a horrific creation. THE CREATURE (Double-Face), the front a normal woman and the back a slender, gnarly ghoul.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

A few SAAWANOOKI CHILDREN break-off from the village, sprinting around.

The Creature appears. it's head springs around, revealing the ghoulish face.

Grasping one of the children, the Creature's eye glow, paralyzing the BOY before he is ripped apart by the Creature's claws.

It repeats this until all the children are dismembered and ready to harvest.

EXT. VILLAGE - NIGHT

The village occupants pray to the Great Spirit before a blazing fire.

A few toss handfuls of tobacco into it as the smoke billows.

EXT. ABOVE THE MOON - NIGHT

WAUPOATHEE (Our Grandmother) cups her hand around her ear, hearing their prayers.

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

The Creature feasts on a body before bolting up. It shields itself, backing away from the approaching Waupoathee.

Waupoathee calmly pursues the Creature until it has backed itself into a cave.

-END ANIMATION SEQUENCE-

INT. WIGWAM - NIGHT

An ELDER SAAWANOOKI sits in front of a huddled GROUP OF CHILDREN. A simmering fire crackles between them.

ELDER SAAWANOOKI*
Our Grandmother banished the Creature
to the darkness of the caverns.
Swearing if it ever stepped foot
outside them, the Great Spirit would
use the sun to incinerate it
instantly.

The Group cowers, terrified from the story.

ELDER SAAWANOOKI* (cont'd)
And that is why you must never travel
into the caves alone.

A six-year-old PEPEKIHŠIMO (One Who Calls in the Dark, Male) sits in the group, trembling, his eyes wide.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Pepekihšimo, now 23, stealthily and efficiently Fox walks through the woods. His body doesn't shudder, his eyes devoid of any fear.

He has a bow in his left hand (which is minus a pinkie) and a quiver attached to his hip.

A sun-shower mists him and hints of autumn can be seen in the foliage.

He stalks along a long trail of hoof prints. The tracks' shape are distorted and filled with water.

EXT. FOREST - LATER

Pepekihšimo runs his hand alongside a rub mark, noting the chips of bark dusting freshly fallen leaves.

He continues alongside the tracks which are now unobscured and sharply imprinted in the dirt.

Stiffening, he zeroes-in on the faint rustling of leaves. He crouches behind a thick tree trunk.

He folds a leaf horizontally and positions it to his lips. He mimics a fawn bleat as he sucks in ...

... He nocks an arrow.

After a few seconds, he mimics another bleat. The rustling gets louder.

A large buck meanders out about thirty-five yards in front of Pepekihšimo.

He draws his bow and releases as the arrow lasers the buck in the heart. The buck takes off for a split second before collapsing.

Pepekihšimo crouches beside it, offering a prayer of thanks for the animal's sacrifice before unsheathing his knife.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Pepekihšimo kneels next to the gentle water. He checks his fishing weir which is loaded with a mix of perch and bass.

Downstream, six more fishing weirs can be seen.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Pepekihšimo enters the village, his twenty-five fish haul slung over his shoulder.

The village is lively: Women craft pottery, men play kickball, and children run and play.

INT. PEPEKIHŠIMO'S WIGWAM - DAY

Pepekihšimo enters his home, sweating, where his adoptive MOTHER and two AUNTS slave away at processing the buck. The hide being tanned, fat rendered, meat divided and prepared.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
Are you finished?

MOTHER*
No. Not even close.

Pepekihšimo looks around, snatching the antlers, he plops himself on the ground. He starts shaving the antlers with his knife.

Mother stops her work.

MOTHER* (cont'd)
Would you please take that coat off?
It's sweltering.

Pepekihšimo keeps working, sweat bouncing off his blade.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
Let's keep working, we don't have
much time.

Mother goes back to her work.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

HAAIITAAΘKAKA (One Who Stomps Firmly, 20, Male), performs
for THREE CHILDREN, all fellow Rabbit Clan Saawanooki.

HAAIITAAΘKAKA*
So, wildcat thought he would go out
and catch himself a plump rabbit. He
found one and chased it but could not
pounce on it for Rabbit was far too
fast. Rabbit knew he would escape
wildcat at the ledge for Rabbit could
easily hop the gap, unlike Wildcat.
But the run lasted longer and Rabbit
grew tired. With his wit and a plea,
he quickly ducked behind a tree and
dug under ground as his brother
bolted out. Wildcat chased brother
Rabbit all the way to the gap where
brother Rabbit jumped it with ease as
Wildcat fell to his death.

The children rub their eyes and yawn.

HAAIITAAΘKAKA* (cont'd)
So you see? Rabbits are smart and
agile. There is no shame in being a
Rabbit and not a wildcat ...
(MORE)

HAAYIITAAΘKAKA* (cont'd)
 A strong body without a smart mind is
 a body wasted.

Haayiitaaθkaka spots Pepekihšimo in the distance.

HAAYIITAAΘKAKA* (cont'd)
 (to the Children)
 Here comes a panther ... Let's be
 Rabbits.

All three children beam up. Haayiitaaθkaka picks up a stick.

HAAYIITAAΘKAKA* (cont'd)
 One of you play dead and the rest cry
 around him.

The children stage the mock death as Haayiitaaθkaka hides
 behind a wigwam, raising the stick over his head.

Pepekihšimo strolls around before spotting the children,
 rushing over to them.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
 What happened?

Haayiitaaθkaka sneaks up on Pepekihšimo, slamming the stick
 down on his head.

Pepekihšimo blocks the blow, disarming Haayiitaaθkaka, and
 forcing him to the ground.

Haayiitaaθkaka squirms under Pepekihšimo's grasp.

PEPEKIHŠIMO* (cont'd)
 (laughing)
 What was that?

HAAYIITAAΘKAKA*
 Teaching the kids a lesson.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
 (to the children)
 What was the lesson?

THREE CHILDREN*
 That wildcats are strong and stupid
 and rabbits are smart and agile.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
 And what if you're a rabbit that is
 not smart and agile?

The children stare blankly.

PEPEKIHŠIMO* (cont'd)
 Have a friend like me. Now go play,
 torture's over.

The children run off as Pepekihšimo let's Haayiitaaθkaka go.
 Haayiitaaθkaka brushes himself off.

HAAYIITAAθKAKA*
 Children in distress, thought it
 would have been enough to get you.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
 Let's try him.

Pepekihšimo points to WAAPIHŠIMO (One With a White Voice,
 26, Male) as Haayiitaaθkaka starts to retake his position.

PEPEKIHŠIMO* (cont'd)
 No, let me.

Pepekihšimo grabs the stick and hides.

HAAYIITAAθKAKA*
 Waapihšimo!

Waapihšimo smiles and waves as he strides over to
 Haayiitaaθkaka.

Right as Waapihšimo clears the Wigwam, Pepekihšimo slams the
 stick down on his head, landing the hit with a clunk.

WAAPIHŠIMO*
 What was that?!

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
 A test. You failed.

WAAPIHŠIMO*
 That really hurt!

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
 I can teach you how to say "Dead man"
 in English.

Pepekihšimo snickers as Waapihšimo storms off.

HAAYIITAAθKAKA*
 (to Waapihšimo)
 Don't be angry! It was just a game.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
 He'll be fine.

Pepekihšimo and Haayiitaaθkaka begin walking.

PEPEKI HŠIMO* (cont'd)

Do you have that piece of wood?

Haayiitaaθkaka thinks, stopping as he gazes at a couple YOUNG WOMEN. Pepekihšimo stops, looking between Haayiitaaθkaka and the young women.

HAAYIITAAΘKAKA*

You think if I bought a horse, that would be enough to get a proposal acceptance?

PEPEKI HŠIMO*

Can you afford a horse?

HAAYII TAAΘKAKA*

(sighs)

... No.

PEPEKI HŠIMO*

Maybe you should just prove yourself
a man?

HAAYII TAAΘKAKA*

How many ti--My bowstring snapped!

PEPEKI HŠIMO*

A true archer always brings a second.

PEPEKI HŠIMO*

You forgot it, I know.

HAAYII TAAΘKAKA*

I forgot it!

There is a lull.

PEPEKI HŠIMO*

How about you pick up a rake?

HAAYII TAAΘKAKA*

Would that get me closer to a marriage?

PEPEKI HŠIMO*

It would certainly get you closer to the women.

All of a sudden, from afar, WELEPIIWEHŠI (One with Fine Feathers, Female, 18) makes eye contact with Pepekihšimo.

She smiles as does Pepekihšimo.

HAAYIITAAΘKAKA*

Did you see that? She's smiling at me.

Haayiitaaθkaka, in pure elation, runs to Welepiiwehši, whose smile quickly fades as she rushes away.

Haayiitaaθkaka scratches his head, shuffling back.

HAAYIITAAΘKAKA* (cont'd)

What was that about? She was clearly smiling at me.

Pepekihšimo pats his shoulder.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

Let's get me that piece.

INT. PEPEKIHŠIMO'S WIGWAM - NIGHT

Pepekihšimo examines the small circular piece of wood that has three holes in it.

He ties it to a needle-like bone piece, finishing the pin and ring game.

INT. WELEPIIWEHŠI'S WIGWAM - NIGHT

Pepekihšimo kneels before WELEPIIWEHŠI'S FATHER, presenting the various gifts to him: venison, fish, clothes, whelk shell/beaded goods, etc.

WELEPIIWEHŠI'S MOTHER sits behind Father and Welepiiwehši to the side. All in total silence as Father contemplates.

Pepekihšimo bows his head. Father side-eyes his daughter, who gives a subtle nod.

WELEPIIWEHŠI'S FATHER*

We accept.

Pepekihšimo smiles. Moving over to Welepiiwehši, he presents her with a cloth. Unfolding it, he reveals the elegant hair comb made of deer antler.

WELEPIIWEHŠI*

Thank you.

Welepiiwehši caresses it before running it through her hair.

EXT. LAKE - NIGHT

The sun dips behind the treeline on the opposite side of the lake. The water shimmers as Pepekihšimo and Welepiiwehši, both facing each other wrapped in blue blankets, stand before a WEDDING OFFICIANT.

The entire village is in attendance.

OFFICIANT*

As you leave your respective blankets, you leave your singular loneliness and enter one life of harmony. You enter a unity of one being as singular as the blanket you are wrapped in.

The couple's TWO SPONSORS step up and remove the blue blankets from the couple.

OFFICIANT* (cont'd)

From this day on, may your love flourish as strong and abundant as the yearly crop. Just as cultivating the land is work, so is a marriage but when gentleness and kindness keep as the priority, the rewards are unparalleled.

The Sponsors come with a single white blanket, wrapping the couple in it. Pepekihšimo and Welepiiwehši hold each other.

OFFICIANT* (cont'd)

We thank the Great Spirit for bringing this union together and protecting our loved ones. We pray that your love remains as powerful as the wind, as soothing as calm water, as warm as fire, and as vital as Earth itself, and that it grows stronger everyday.

The husband and wife embrace.

EXT. VILLAGE - NIGHT

A gigantic, lively feast takes place. An assortment of stew, fruits, vegetables, venison, and corn-cakes is enjoyed.

People dance, stomping and chanting. Rattles are shook and drums are beaten.

Pepekihšimo, Haayiitaaθkaka, HOWEŠIPEMHΘE (One Who Travels Well, 34, Male), and, in his lap, his DAUGHTER (3) sit on the ground.

Pepekihšimo and Haayiitaaθkaka enjoy food as Howešipemhθe tries to get his Daughter to eat a corn-cake. His Daughter is far too preoccupied with her corn-husk doll.

The village DOG watches all their food attentively.

 HOWEŠIPEMHΘE*
 (to his Daughter)
Have some, you need to eat.

 PEPEKIHŠIMO*
 (to Haayiitaaθkaka)
Thank you.

 HAAYIITAAθKAKA*
Does your new bride have any sisters?

Pepekihšimo shakes his head, chuckling as Waapihšimo runs up with a copper kettle.

 WAAPIHŠIMO*
 (to Pepekihšimo)
Congratulations. I'd like to gift you
this kettle for your home.

Pepekihšimo accepts it as Haayiitaaθkaka rubs the sides.

 HAAYIITAAθKAKA* PEPEKIHŠIMO*
Wow! Thank you.

Waapihšimo goes back to the festivities.

Howešipemhθe wiggles a corn-cake in front of his Daughter's face. He tears off a smaller bit, but she doesn't budge.

 HAAYIITAAθKAKA*
I wonder how much he had to trade to
get this?

 PEPEKIHŠIMO*
English excrement.

Howešipemhθe tosses the small piece to the dog who snatches it midair.

HOWEŠIPEMHΘE*

(to his Daughter)

See how much he likes it? See how
much your friend likes it? Eat some,
see if you like it.

He tears off another piece, offering it to his Daughter to
no avail.

HAAYIITAAΘKAKA*

(re: kettle)

I guess it could be better.

Pepekihšimo pushes the kettle into Haayiitaaθkaka's hands.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

Keep it.

HAAYIITAAΘKAKA*

... Right. Maybe I can find someone
who likes this stuff.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

Save it to trade for that horse.

Haayiitaaθkaka nods as Pepekihšimo walks off. He turns to
Howešipemhθe.

HAAYIITAAΘKAKA*

Are you interested in thi--

HOWEŠIPEMHΘE*

--And I'd like to gift you this.

Howešipemhθe rips the corn-husk doll out of his Daughter's
hands, tossing it into the kettle. Through her wailing, he
still tries to feed her.

EXT. VILLAGE - LATER

The festivities have died down. Welepiiwehši stands before a
couple dozen logs of firewood. She picks up four logs,
seemingly all she can manage.

Eyeing the other logs, she shakes her head before filling
her arms with more.

Mustering all her strength, she tries to mosey off but the
logs topple out of her arms.

She huffs, staring at the scattered mess of wood.

EXT. PEPEKIHŠIMO'S WIGWAM - NIGHT

Pepekihšimo waits next to his wigwam as he spots Welepiiwehši approaching. In her arms is a carefully constructed tower of firewood.

She drops all the logs at his feet, panting. Pepekihšimo stands in a stunned silence before he clamors to the logs.

INT. PEPEKIHŠIMO WIGWAM - NIGHT

Pepekihšimo tosses some logs on the fire as Welepiiwehši sits on the bed, wrapped in their white blanket.

He moves over, sitting next to her as she wraps him up in the blanket.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

A GROUP OF WOMEN tend to the crops -- Welepiiwehši works double-time.

In the center of the village, children are playing, being chased by the dog.

In front of his wigwam, Pepekihšimo overlooks his village. He inhales and exhales deeply -- purely content.

He watches as Howešipemhøe's Daughter departs the group.

INT. HAAYIITAAØKAKA'S WIGWAM - DAY

Howešipemhøe's Daughter peeks in, making sure the home is empty before tip-toeing in.

She sloppily rummages around the wigwam before locating the copper kettle. She investigates -- empty.

She continues searching the home before locating her corn-husk doll. Howešipemhøe's Daughter hugs it tightly.

At that moment, HaayiitaaØkaka enters. A brief stare down ensues before she pouts, looking to the ground.

HaayiitaaØkaka moves away from the entrance and covers his eyes. Howešipemhøe's Daughter looks up, quickly fleeing out of the wigwam.

HaayiitaaØkaka uncovers his eyes, smirking, he moves over to the copper kettle, brushing it off.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Pepekihšimo observes the village as the sprinting dog freezes. Its snout points to the sky, sniffing feverishly.

Pepekihšimo squints, watching as the dog yawns. The dog continues barking before taking off.

VOICE (O.S.)

(faintly)

Help!

Pepekihšimo listens before ducking into his home, quickly coming out with his bow and quiver, chasing after the dog.

As the invading cries intensify, the entire village ceases to a silent standstill.

Howešipemhøe grabs his war-club, following Pepekihšimo. Waapihšimo armed with a matchlock and Haayiitaaθkaka armed with a spear follow suit.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

THREE ENGLISHMEN shuffle towards the village, exhausted and dirty. They are greeted by the dog, snarling rabidly.

Two walk, the other drags his feet. AUGUSTUS (25) and CHRISTIAN (17) carry the unconscious WILLIAM (32).

William has a cracked and bloody forehead, deathly pale and profusely sweating.

The men are well-supplied and carry one flintlock.

Besides Christian, remnants of an English accent can be heard in their dialect. Christian's plain dress also differentiates him from his two companions.

AUGUSTUS

Help!

The four armed Saawanooki appear, stopping the three strangers. Haayiitaaθkaka keeps his distance as the remaining three get right up close.

Pepekihšimo draws back his already nocked arrow. Christian cowers behind the wounded William.

AUGUSTUS (cont'd)

(holding up his hand)

Wait, wait, wait!

WAAPIHŠIMO*
 (to Pepekihšimo)
 What are you doing?

AUGUSTUS
 Peace, peace. He hath fallen and
 gashed his head, we need help.
 English?

There is a lull. Pepekihšimo relaxes his draw. Howešipemh0e
 silences the yapping dog.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
 These men are asking for help, this
 one fell.

Waapihšimo lights up, waving them towards the village.

Pepekihšimo lingers as they lead the strangers into their
 village. He rests his hand on the fletchings' in his quiver.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Waapihšimo and Haayiitaa0kaka lead the three men through the
 village as Howešipemh0e clears villagers out of the way.

The young children stare at the white men.

INT. WIGWAM - DAY

Augustus and Christian lay William down as they begin to
 shed their belongings.

TWO SAAWANOOKI WOMEN begin to loosen his coat and shirt as
 Waapihšimo ducks out.

Saawanooki Woman #1 feels William's forehead before wetting
 a cloth with cool water, wiping and applying it to his head.

Saawanooki Woman #2 boils water, dropping in minced willow
 bark. Saawanooki Woman #1 removes a chunk of pine resin,
 melting it down.

AUGUSTUS
 What art ye doing?

Waapihšimo returns with cups of fresh water, handing them to
 Augustus and Christian. Christian drinks, Augustus doesn't.

CHRISTIAN
 I thank thee.

AUGUSTUS
 (to Waapihšimo)
 What art they doing?

Waapihšimo doesn't understand. Pepekihšimo sneaks in, eyeing the flintlock leaning on the wall. He smoothly hides it among the structural posts.

Saawanooki Woman #2 pours some of the willow bark infusion into a cup. Saawanooki Woman #1 brings out the bowl full of pine resin, she scoops some up but is stopped by Augustus.

AUGUSTUS (cont'd)
 Stop. What is that?

PEPEKIHŠIMO
 Thou wanted help, let them help.

Augustus and Christian's head's spin around as Pepekihšimo steps forward.

CHRISTIAN
 Thou speak English?

PEPEKIHŠIMO
 (sarcastic)
 Nay--

AUGUSTUS
 --What art the concoction she maketh?

PEPEKIHŠIMO
 Pine resin to clean and seal the cut.

AUGUSTUS
 And the drink?

PEPEKIHŠIMO
 Willow bark for the fever and pain.

Augustus moves out of the women's way. The women smear the resin on his wound and nurse him the drink.

PEPEKIHŠIMO (cont'd)
 Let them care for thy friend.

Pepekihšimo, Waapihšimo, Augustus, and Christian leave.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Haayiitaaθkaka and Howešipemhθe wait outside the wigwam as the four men exit.

WAAPIHŠIMO*

What are their names?

PEPEKIHŠIMO

What are your names?

AUGUSTUS

My name is Augustus, he's Christian,
and our man inside is William.

WAAPIHŠIMO*

Are they hungry?

PEPEKIHŠIMO

Are ye hungry?

AUGUSTUS

Yea. Anything thou canst spare will
be appreciated.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

Bring some dried venison.

Waapihšimo runs off to fetch the food. Christian nervously
murmurs something to Augustus.

AUGUSTUS

--Yea, and a place to bathe would be
ideal.

PEPEKIHŠIMO

There is a lake nearby.

AUGUSTUS

Great.

Augustus goes to walk off but is stopped:

PEPEKIHŠIMO

Wherefore are ye here?

AUGUSTUS

I am uncertain. Our venture placed us
in unknown land, William became
injured.

PEPEKIHŠIMO

Where are you traveling?

AUGUSTUS

We're searching for someone, wherever
that may take us -- William's niece,
Mary.

PEPEKIHŠIMO

What happened to this Mary?

AUGUSTUS

There was a disagreement over some currency and this, acquaintance -- some cumber-world shot William's brother, took his horse, wagon, and his daughter who witnessed it.

Pepekihšimo eyes Christian who is breathing heavily.

AUGUSTUS (cont'd)

He cowers somewhere in these mountains. William has the map, we have been tracking em' for weeks. The pressure -- He hath been unable to escape his distress.

PEPEKIHŠIMO

(to Christian)

What's the matter with thee?

Christian's eyes go wide, he stammers.

AUGUSTUS

--Just winded.

CHRISTIAN

Yea. Toll of hard traveling.

AUGUSTUS

Where's that lake?

Pepekihšimo and Waapihšimo lead Augustus and Christian through the village.

EXT. LAKE - DAY

Augustus and Christian wash themselves off in the water.

AUGUSTUS

You need to calm down.

Christian stops washing.

CHRISTIAN

... Sorry.

Christian resumes.

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Pepekihšimo, Haayiitaaθkaka, Waapihšimo, and Howešipemhθe saunter back to the village.

HAAYIITAAθKAKA*

Are we going to help them?

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

We are. Tend to their friend then
send them on their way.

Waapihšimo stops.

WAAPIHŠIMO*

What about the girl?

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

She is not our responsibility, nor
will she become our burden.

Waapihšimo jogs back up to the group.

WAAPIHŠIMO*

We can't just do nothing? These men
could hardly make it here. How do you
think they will make it any further?

HOWEŠIPEMHθE*

They won't make it.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

(to Waapihšimo)

Worry about your own.

WAAPIHŠIMO*

I think we will take this to council.

Pepekihšimo stops, everyone halts behind him.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

Is that so?

WAAPIHŠIMO*

Yes.

Pepekihšimo looks to Howešipemhθe and Haayiitaaθkaka.

HOWEŠIPEMHθE*

I suppose that's only fair.

Haayiitaaθkaka nods along before looking at Pepekihšimo.

HAAIITAAOKAKA*

Maybe we should send them on their way and be done with it.

WAAPIHŠIMO*

We will take it to council.

Waapihšimo continues to the village as the rest follow him.

INT. COUNCIL HOUSE - DAY

Tribal Council -- Dozens of Saawanooki comprise the council.

Most of the demographic are elderly men with younger people and women being sparse.

Pepekihšimo, Waapihšimo, and Howešipemhøe are among them.

WAAPIHŠIMO*

They won't survive without our assistance.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

Why should we sacrifice ourselves for them? Our workers, our hunters, our protectors.

COUNCIL WOMAN #1*

Whatever our problems with the white people, a helpless little girl should not be the one to pay.

COUNCIL MAN #1*

Perhaps if it were the French we could consider it but not the English.

COUNCIL MAN #2*

The French are honest traders, they treat us as equals.

WAAPIHŠIMO*

What about Penn and the Quakers? They are English and men do not come any more honest than them.

COUNCIL MAN #1*

That is correct.

COUNCIL WOMAN #1*

That is true.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

The white people say one thing and do the opposite, they eat when they are not hungry.

HOWEŠIPEMHΘE*

I agree with Pepekihšimo, we should not jeopardize valuable men to our village for them.

COUNCIL MAN #3*

You criticize them for their judgment of us yet you do the same to them.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

I know them very closely.

WAAPIHŠIMO*

Maybe that's your issue.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

What does that mean?

WAAPIHŠIMO*

Set aside your bias.

Pepekihšimo squints as the room falls into silence.

COUNCIL MAN #3*

... What kind of people are we to leave a child to die?

COUNCIL WOMAN #1*

Most everyone here has children, do we want our children to live in a world where they are stranded?

A long contemplative silence ensues.

COUNCIL WOMAN #1* (cont'd)

Howešipemhθe. Do you want your daughter to live in that world?

HOWEŠIPEMHΘE*

No. No I do not.

COUNCIL WOMAN #1*

Pepekihšimo, you were just married. Do you plan on having children?

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

... Of course.

COUNCIL WOMAN #1*
Do you want to bring them into a
world like that?

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
No.

Pepekihšimo bows his head.

EXT. VILLAGE - NIGHT

Pepekihšimo storms from the council house and is immediately
greeted by Haayiitaaθkaka. They walk together.

HAAYIITAAθKAKA*
The decision?

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
Help them find their Mary.

HAAYIITAAθKAKA*
Who's going?

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
Howešipemhθe, Waapihšimo, and myself.

HAAYIITAAθKAKA*
You must take me with you.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
Why must I do that?

HAAYIITAAθKAKA*
Coming back through the village,
having rescued a little girl, the
women will be proposing to me. They
will have to gift me presents to have
my hand.

Pepekihšimo chuckles, patting his shoulder.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
Of course I'm bringing you along. I
need a true brother with me.

HAAYIITAAθKAKA*
Thank you, thank you.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
Is the food ready?

HAAYIITAAΘKAKA*

Yes.

They reach the wigwam where William is resting.

INT. WIGWAM - NIGHT

William is sitting up, holding out his overcoat. Saawanooki Woman #1 has her hands up.

WILLIAM

Please, take it.

SAAWANOOKI WOMAN #1*

No, no, no.

Pepekihšimo bursts in, Haayiitaaθkaka waits at the entrance.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

What'd he do?

SAAWANOOKI WOMAN #1*

He wants me to take his coat.

Pepekihšimo turns to William, pushing his coat back to him.

PEPEKIHŠIMO

She doth not need thy coat.

WILLIAM

I just, I--to thank her.

PEPEKIHŠIMO

Thou wilt freeze to death.

William removes a Spanish Dollar coin.

WILLIAM

What about this?

Pepekihšimo moves aside, looking to Saawanooki Woman #1. She steps forward, taking the coin.

SAAWANOOKI WOMAN #1*

Thank you.

William nods.

PEPEKIHŠIMO

She thanked you.

WILLIAM
How do I thank her?

PEPEKIHŠIMO*
Ne yi wa.

WILLIAM*
(to Saawanooki Woman
#1)
Ne yi wa.

PEPEKIHŠIMO
We have food, if thee art hungry.

WILLIAM
I'm starved.

William rises as Pepekihšimo leads him out.

EXT. VILLAGE - NIGHT

The village feast is laid out on a large blanket.

Augustus and Christian rush to William.

Waapihšimo greets them with three bowls and utensils,
handing them to Augustus, Christian, and William.

CHRISTIAN
How dost thou feel?

WILLIAM
Perfectly fine, just hungry.

They move over to the food before Pepekihšimo stops them.

PEPEKIHŠIMO
Elders eat first.

The men wait before stepping up for food.

Pepekihšimo, Haayiitaaθkaka, Howešipemhθe, and Waapihšimo
each take a single bowl of stew, piece of venison, and corn-
cake.

Augustus and William take a bowl of stew, four pieces of
venison, and, after having sniffed and nibbled the
suspicious food, two corn-cakes.

Christian hesitates at the blanket. Ultimately, he takes a
bowl of stew, a piece of venison, and a corn-cake.

They all sit, the Englishmen scarf their food down.

Howešipemhøe's Daughter stares at William. He catches her look, smiling.

She inches forward, her hands behind her back. She cautiously hands her doll to William, who accepts it.

WILLIAM*

Ne yi wa.

Shocked, Howešipemhøe's Daughter scatters. William, puzzled, examines the faceless doll. Howešipemhøe is speechless.

HOWEŠIPEMHØE*

... White men are certainly useful for something.

The Saawanooki chuckle. William smiles as if he knows what they are saying, holding up the doll.

WILLIAM

Wherefore is the doll without a face?

PEPEKIHŠIMO

The tale is of a woman who had a beautiful face and became so fascinated by herself, that her vanity neglected her village. Her punishment was that her face was permanently removed.

The Englishmen stare at Pepekihšimo.

PEPEKIHŠIMO (cont'd)

It teaches and reminds our children that they should not think they art better than anyone.

The Englishmen nod as William examines the doll closer.

WAAPIHŠIMO*

Do they know Penn?

PEPEKIHŠIMO

Are ye Quakers?

WILLIAM

(still examining the doll)

I was raised in a Quaker household.

AUGUSTUS

I'm a saint.

Pepekihšimo is not amused. He looks to Christian.

CHRISTIAN

I'm a ... I do not know.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

(pointing to William)

He's a Quaker.

(pointing to

Christian)

He doesn't know.

HOWEŠIPEMHØE*

He's still young yet.

Waapihšimo looks to William.

WAAPIHŠIMO*

We're going to help you find your
niece.

William looks to Pepekihšimo.

PEPEKIHŠIMO

We will help thou locate thy Mary.

AUGUSTUS

That's great.

WILLIAM

Thank you for your help.

CHRISTIAN

...

They continue eating.

EXT. FOREST - CLEARING - DAY

As the sun rises, a tranquil Christian rests against a tree
in silent worship, his eyes closed and head slightly bowed.

Next to his leg is a copy of *The Journal of George Fox*.

WILLIAM (O.S.)

(mocking)

What hath God led *thou* to in *thy*
solitude?

The startled Christian pops up, gripping the *Journal*.

CHRISTIAN
(sternly)
Convincement.

William strolls over to Christian. He snatches the book from Christian's hands.

WILLIAM
You do not need such filth.

Christian has a wounded look on his face.

CHRISTIAN
But thou dost.

WILLIAM
We are setting out.

Christian shuffles ahead as William eyes the *Journal* in his hands before following Christian.

EXT. VILLAGE - DAY

Pepekihšimo, Haayiitaaθkaka, Howešipemhθe, Waapihšimo, Augustus, William, and Christian stand at the edge of the village all geared up.

Howešipemhθe hugs his Daughter, the Dog beside them.

HOWEŠIPEMHΘE*
(to Dog)
Look after her while I'm gone.
(to Daughter)
I'll be gone and back so quick, you
won't even notice I'm away.

Howešipemhθe rubs the Dog's snout as his Daughter nestles her head in his neck.

Council Man #1 speaks with Pepekihšimo.

COUNCIL MAN #1*
I know you do not want to go on this journey but, you are doing a good deed. You, with all this help, you'll find her in no time. When the village breaks up in the winter, you will have plenty of time to relax, hunt, spend time with Welepiiwehši.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

Thank you.

The men begin to leave. Pepekihšimo stands before Welepīiwehši who wears a piqued expression.

WELEPIIWEHŠI*

I do not trust those men.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

Nor do I.

WELEPIIWEHŠI*

I do not like those men.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

(smiles)

Nor do I.

His smile fades.

PEPEKIHŠIMO* (cont'd)

I was going to wait until winter, but
I suppose now is best.

Pepekihšimo gently lays the ring and pin game in Welepīiwehši's palms.

PEPEKIHŠIMO* (cont'd)

From me to you, you to our children,
our children to their children, and
their children, and their children.

Welepīiwehši is tearing up. Pepekihšimo hugs her.

WELEPIIWEHŠI*

I love you.

PEPEKIHŠIMO*

I love you.

Pepekihšimo breaks away from her, gradually moving to the edge of the forest where the rest of the men are waiting.

Welepīiwehši watches Pepekihšimo go.

EXT. VARIOUS LOCATIONS - DAY

The journey begins. The group travels through the forest, crossing streams, minor hills and boulders, fields, etc.

They search for any inkling of human activity.