



The Boreal King

Detailed scenario

The Character

The character is called *Boreas*, literally means "the north wind". He carries with him the sounds of nature, birds chirping, the colours, and the smells of the environment he lives in.

Synopsis

This majestic moose can suddenly appear in the city centre, between condominium buildings or in the parking lot of a long-term care centre. He walks around, carrying the sounds, the essence, and the smells of nature. During his tour, Boreas allows spectators to experience the four seasons, visually, olfactory as well as poetically. On the lookout, our character moves slowly, as he is discovering a new world, trying to fit in all this concrete, and in few small green spaces, which remind him of his natural habitat. This adventure brings the audience in the heart of nature's cycle, which includes sounds, smells, and colours of winter, spring, summer, and autumn. The Boreal King enables us to see, hear, and feel, and let ourselves be carried away by all this poetry.

Curious and intrigued by this unfamiliar environment, Boreas invites people to experience the season cycle. They perceive snow on his body after a snowstorm, they hear various winter sounds, and snow crunching under his footsteps. One can observe the awakening of nature in spring, see snow melting on his coat and hear streams created by the thaw, and smell the earth warming up and getting wet. Then, spectators see Boreas' antler grow completely and feel the gentleness of summer, hear the moose swimming. They also recognize rut cries, admire hundreds of shades of autumn colours, perceive the leaves under his footsteps, smell vegetation and wet earth, and finally they can see Boreas' antler fall. All can contemplate the effect of the northern lights on the animal's flank, see a constellation emerging in his antler, then in his whole body. Boreas ventures in the streets with care, yet with great openness and curiosity that generate unusual encounters with the audience.

Prelude

A car pulling a closed trailer arrives. You can already hear noise coming from the inside: wind, then stronger winds, then a blizzard! By the small windows on each side, people can see an electric blue light in motion. The car stops, we feel that something might be alive inside; it is moving.

A wildlife officer gets out of the car and opens the trailer.

Scene 1—Winter—The Apparition

Thick smoke and a smell of balsam fir escape from the trailer. We can discern a luminous animal. We still hear the blizzard, some winter sounds, and fierce winds. The cold blue light is moving on the animal as it is moving forward a few steps and, from the top of the trailer, Boreas looks around, shouting. We now see the seven-foot high and nine-foot-long imposing moose. He comes out gently, curious. Each step he takes is accompanied by cracking sounds of snow coming from his hooves, and an icy luminous white impulse goes up in his paw, to illustrate the exchange of energy between the earth and the moose. Once the animal is completely out, the wind intensifies, and the moose starts to fight against it. He then shakes himself to remove the snow left from the storm. He keeps walking to discover this new universe.

We gradually hear birds chirping; it is the arrival of spring. Boreas is listening carefully.

Scene 2—Spring—The Awakening

We can see and hear nature awakening. The wind slowly subsides. We now perceive spring birds chirping. Boreas, who is still on the move, becomes violet. When he walks, his footsteps sound like small cracking branches. When his hooves hit the ground, a cyan light pulsation is activated from the bottom to the top in his paws. On the side of the moose, we see snow melting and hear its runoff. A smell of lilacs emanates from the moose while he is drinking. We now hear geese arriving, Boreas raises his head and watches them as he turns in place. Boreas shouts towards the sky, his way of saying welcome.

Thunder is heard in the distance and lightning seen from the trailer; Boreas is still on guard.

Scene 3—Summer—The Crowning

Frogs are heard as a storm is approaching. Boreas is now all dressed in green. Summer has arrived and a storm breaks out. Lightning and thunder are heard and seen coming from Boreas who is now walking in water. The luminous pulsations of his paws are turning to sky blue. Boreas stops in order to let the water run down on him, as if he were in a shower, then he shakes himself. Nature around him is still alive, the audience can hear squirrels. The storm fades and we can now see a moving rainbow stretching from Boreas' head to his feet. It is a celebration, he bows, knee to the ground. This is the crowning of

the Boreal King. A smell of wintergreen emanates, and, solemnly, Boreas is wearing his majestic antler and rises. All lights and sounds go off, Boreas changes into a constellation, up to the tip of his antler and slowly becomes golden. With his head held high, Boreas parades proudly. He is the King.

You can hear animals all around and the songs of the cicadas announcing the end of summer.

Scene 4—Autumn—The Rut

The moving light gradually changes to orange and yellow, then in hundreds of autumnal colours. Very slowly, the constellation on Boreas disappears. The wind rises, Boreas' footsteps now sound like screeching of fallen leaves and are accompanied by a bright red luminous impulse that rises in his paws as they touch the ground. The call of a female is heard in the distance. Boreas replies. At the second cry, Boreas runs towards it, then stops. He lost track of the female. We hear geese leaving, Boreas raises his head to look at them. There is a smell of apples and cinnamon. The cawing of crows gradually replaces the sound of the geese that are now gone; it is the end of autumn.

Boreas loses his antler; he seems sad.

Scene 5—Return of Winter—The Departure

Blue jays' songs are announcing the first snowfall and bitter winds rise. Boreas walks towards the trailer, he switches to electric blue again, he walks in the snow with white pulsations. We then hear wolves in the distance. Boreas stops and stamps furiously. In his flank, there is a shadow of a wolf howling at the full moon. Boreas rubs his hind legs and urinates to warn other moose about the wolf. He then walks towards the trailer. The winds intensify, he stops and faces the blizzard again. Northern lights fill Boreas, then disappear before reappearing in the trailer. A huge cloud of fog and a smell of balsam fir escape from the trailer. Boreas gets into it; the wildlife officer closes the door, and the vehicle leaves the scene.

End.



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