



Performance Notes for Sunlight and Moonlight

THREE WAYS THAT STUDENTS AND TEACHERS CAN UTILIZE THIS PLAY:

1. *Students can read the play aloud while sitting in the classroom.* Ask the readers to skip all bracketed stage directions. You may prefer to rotate your actors to give all students a chance to read the speaking parts.
2. *Students can perform the play in the classroom.* Clear an area that can be used as the stage. Have the audience sit on the floor in front of the stage. Students in the play can make simple costumes and/or sets as described below. When the scene change, the characters "on stage" simply walk to the back of the room where they wait until their next appearance "on stage."
3. *Students can perform the play on stage.* Refer to the production notes that follow. Ask the actors to enter from the back of the room and move through the audience as they approach the stage.



COSTUMES

- QUEEN – A silky bathrobe with a turtleneck underneath (purple if possible), necklaces and bracelets galore, and a crown. If the actress has long hair, tie it in a bun.
- MAID – A peasant shirt, skirt, sandals, and no jewelry. Her hair is tied behind her neck.
- KHAN #1 – A buttoned-up shirt (not white), dark pants, nice shoes, a sash created from fabric or tissue paper, and a crown.
- SUNLIGHT & MOONLIGHT – White dress shirts, dark pants, dress shoes, and different brightly colored scarves tied around their necks.



- **HERMIT** – An old bathrobe (attach squares of fabric to give the appearance of patches), sandals, and a cotton knit hat. For a beard, glue white tissue paper onto a thick string or piece of yarn.
 - **SOLDIERS** – Brown shirts and brown pants or gray shirts and gray pants. To render a somber look, draw large, scowling eyebrows with face paint or eyebrow pencil. See prop notes for instructions on making the swords.
 - **KHAN #2** – Similar to KHAN #1 except that his crown should be bigger and higher because he is more powerful.
 - **PRINCESS #1 & #2** – Party dresses, necklaces, bracelets, white tights, and party shoes. Each princess wears her own crown.
- *Note: For all characters that need crowns, you can use plastic crowns or make your own out of construction paper.
- **DEMON-BEARS** – Round bear-ears, a snout if possible, tails, dark sneakers, and brown turtleneck shirts and sweatpants. You can make the ears out of construction paper and attach them to a plastic headband.



PROPS

Scene 1

- Pillows for the bed.

Scene 2

- No props.

Scene 3

- A cup.
- Swords for SOLDIERS. Cut the blades and handles from thick cardboard then attach with glue or staples. Wrap the blade with tin foil.

Scene 4- Scene 6

- No props.



SETS

To make scene transitions earlier, the stage can be split into three sections. You can make a backdrop that shows the three locations, or just rely on set pieces.

The three locations are:

- 1) QUEEN'S bedroom, on one side of the stage.
- 2) HERMIT'S house, in the middle of the stage.
- 3) KHAN #2's castle, on the other side of the stage.

Scenes 2 and 5 will take place in front of all the other sets.

Scene 1— The QUEEN'S bedroom (one side of the stage.) If you want to paint a backdrop, it can show a wall in the bedroom.

A bed sits on the stage. You can make the bed by putting two chairs next to each other and placing milk crates next to each other in front of the chair, like ottomans. Cover the chairs and crates with sheets or fabric. Place a blanket and pillow on top. If possible, use royal colors, such as purple, gold, or dark red for the bedding.

Scene 2— The desert. This scene can take place in front of all the other sets. Actors can enter at the front of the stage and stay there for the whole scene.

Optional: If you want to differentiate this location, you can paint a desert backdrop on paper, or just use a long piece of fabric, and have stagehands come onstage for this scene and hold the backdrop or fabric up behind actors.

Scene 3— The Hermit's house is in the middle of the stage. If you want to make a backdrop, you can paint it to show a wall in the house.

There is a table and two chairs onstage.

Scene 4— KHAN #2's castle. If you want to make a backdrop, it can show the interior of the throne room- stone walls and tapestries.

Three Thrones sit in a row on stage. Use regular chairs and cover them in nice fabric. The KING'S throne is in the middle- make this one sit a little taller by placing a pillow on the chair seat, under the fabric. Or you can use a higher chair.

Scene 5— Demon Bear's Cave. This scene can take place in front of all the other sets. Actors can enter at the front of the stage and stay there for the whole scene.

Optional: If you want to differentiate this location, you can paint a cave backdrop on paper, or just use a long piece of fabric, and have stagehands come onstage for this scene and hold the backdrop or fabric up behind actors.

Scene 6— Same as Scene 4.