

Glooscap and the Baby  
An Algonquin Tale  
Adapted by Jenny Lombard

Characters:

GLOOSCAP:	Powerful god. Very full of himself.
OLD WOMAN:	Wiser than she looks.
WASIS:	A baby.

Setting:

An Algonquin village. OLD WOMAN and WASIS are sitting in front of a teepee when GLOOSCAP arrives, fresh from battle.

Props:

The baby is sucking on a piece of maple sugar candy that looks like a lollypop.

*The curtain rises on the god GLOOSCAP. He looks powerful because he is powerful.*

GLOOSCAP

I am mighty Glooscap, god of the Algonquin people, returning to my village after years of battle.

*He spies OLD WOMAN and WASIS sitting in front of a teepee.*

Ah, there's an old woman and a little baby. Surely they have come to welcome me back to the village.

*He approaches them.*

WASIS

Ga ga goo goo.

OLD WOMAN

Hello great master Glooscap.

GLOOSCAP

You are right to call me "great master" because of all my incredible deeds.

OLD WOMAN

Yes, you are truly a powerful god.

GLOOSCAP

You have no idea. Old woman, feel my arm.

*GLOOSCAP holds out his arm.. OLD WOMAN feels his muscle.*

OLD WOMAN

Very strong

GLOOSCAP

With my right arm, I tossed our greatest enemy, the magic giant, into the air.

OLD WOMAN

Impressive.

GLOOSCAP

Now, feel my left arm.....

*GLOOSCAP holds out his left arm. OLD WOMAN squeezes it too.*

WASIS

Ga ga goo goo.

OLD WOMAN

Equally strong, oh great one.

GLOOSCAP

Don't I know it. With my left arm I put the evil troll out of commission by wrestling him into the underworld. Check it.....

*GLOOSCAP removes his shoe and shows the old woman his toe.*

OLD WOMAN

Your big toe.

GLOOSCAP

Not just any big toe, old woman. This is the big toe of Glooscap. It kicked the evil night spirit into a thousand pieces.

*He holds out his finger.*

OLD WOMAN

Your pinky finger?

GLOOSCAP

Defeated Cannibals.

*Now he holds out his elbow.*

OLD WOMAN

Elbow?

GLOOSCAP

Destroyed the goblins.

*He indicates his ear.*

OLD WOMAN

Right earlobe?

GLOOSCAP

Fiends tremble when they upon it.

WASIS

Ga ga goo goo.

GLOOSCAP

Wow. Master Glooscap, I don't know what to say.

GLOOSCAP

Then say what is obvious old woman! I, the mighty Glooscap, am unconquerable!

OLD WOMAN

Ahhh....well.

GLOOSCAP

Well....what?

OLD WOMAN

I am sorry great master. There is one being you can't defeat.

WASIS

Ga ga goo goo.

GLOOSCAP

Who? Where is he?

OLD WOMAN

You're looking at him, oh master.

WASIS

Ga ga goo goo.

GLOOSCAP

That? That tiny, weak creature?

WASIS

Ga ga goo goo.

OLD WOMAN

He is tiny, master but not weak. His name is Wasis, great one.

GLOOSCAP

Old woman, you joke with me. Surely you are not suggesting that this child sitting there in the dirt, sucking on a piece of maple sugar candy is a fitting opponent for me?

OLD WOMAN

You may have beaten trolls, witches, giants and cannibals but the child Wasis is unconquerable.

GLOOSCAP

Impossible.

*WASIS puts his foot in his mouth.*

GLOOSCAP

He just put his foot in his mouth.

OLD WOMAN

Yes, mighty one. Babies do that sort of thing.

GLOOSCAP

They do?

OLD WOMAN

You don't have kids, do you master?

GLOOSCAP

Not yet.

OLD WOMAN

Like I was saying. Unconquerable.

GLOOSCAP

That is nonsense old woman.

OLD WOMAN

Give it a try, fearless one.

GLOOSCAP

I am Glooscap. I have defeated far more powerful beings than this tiny human.

OLD WOMAN

Then give it a go. Try to get him to come to you.

GLOOSCAP

Ha ha, old woman. That is barely a challenge at all! Baby. Come here.

*WASIS does not move.*

WASIS

Ga ga goo goo.

GLOOSCAP

Baby, I said put that candy down and come here.

*WASIS still does not move.*

WASIS

Ga ga goo goo.

GLOOSCAP

Hmm. Stubborn little tyke, isn't he? I know....I will use my most beautiful voice. I will imitate the song of the lark.

OLD WOMAN

That's a good idea.

GLOOSCAP

Just one of my many talents.

OLD WOMAN

If you say so.

GLOOSCAP

La la la la.....baby, come here.

*WASIS just smiles at GLOOSCAP.*

WASIS

Ga ga goo goo.

GLOOSCAP

Grrr. Baby, I order you!

*WASIS is becoming scared. He takes the candy out of his mouth.*

WASIS

Gaga?

GLOOSCAP

Wasis - right here, or else.

WASIS

Goo goo?

GLOOSCAP

I will bring the thunder and the lightening!!

OLD WOMAN

I wouldn't do that if I were you!

GLOOSCAP

I have been challenged and I must defeat Wasis!

*Crash Bang! Crash bang! Glooscap brings thunder and lightening. WASIS begins to cry.*

WASIS

WaaaaaahhhhhhhhWaaaaaahhhhhh Waahhh!!

GLOOSCAP

That noise! That terrible noise! Make it stop!

*WASIS cries louder.*

WASIS

WaaaaaahhhhhhhhWaaaaaahhhhhh Waahhh!!

OLD WOMAN

Once Wasis starts crying, he can't be stopped!

*WASIS cries louder, still.*

WASIS

WaaaaaahhhhhhhhWaaaaaahhhhhh Waahhh!!

GLOOSCAP



Ahhh! Wasis has defeated me! Run away! Run away!

*Hands over his ears, the god GLOOSCAP runs away.*

OLD WOMAN

There, there, little one. Have your candy back. From now on, every time you say.....

WASIS

Ga ga goo goo.

OLD WOMAN

You will remember how you defeated the great god Glooscap.

WASIS

Ga ga goo goo.....the end.