

CUB SCOUT GRADUATION CEREMONY

The character enters dressed as a chief or a medicine man. He goes to the front center and address the group as follows.

Long ago there was a tribe living upon the plains. The leader was aging and knew that he was soon to go the way of his ancestors. So he called his five sons before him and said to them;

“My sons, I am soon to die and would like to leave the tribe in the charge of the most capable of you. Thus, for me to know which of you it is, I am setting you upon a test to show me your strength and determination. Tomorrow you will each begin a journey towards the setting sun and the high mountains in the distance. Each of you will go as far as you can towards the peak of the mountain and bring me back a branch of the highest growing plant that you find there and tell me of the sights that you see there.”

So the next morning, at the break of day, the sons of the great chief set forth upon their journey. Each had the hope of being the victor and returning to their father ready to sit at his side. Each took the journey along a different trail and thus lost sight of each other.

After the passing of many days, the old chief saw the return of his first son. When they met, the son said; “Father, I return to you bringing the branch of a sage brush. I was able to go to the shoulders of the hills on the grassy plains. There I was able to see the antelope feeding and racing to and fro as I rested from the journey.”

The chief was gladdened by the return of his son, but was disappointed that his son had stopped just as his journey was beginning. This is as the Bobcat, where the trail through Cub Scouting is just starting.

After several more days, the second son returned and, reporting to the chief, said; “Father, I return to you bringing the branch of the Juniper tree. I climbed to the highest of the hills towering over the plains. I was able to see the deer grazing there and look down upon the plains where the antelope appeared as ants to me. I tired and that was as far as I could go.”

The chief was again gladdened to see this son return, but was disheartened by his stopping just as he was beginning to climb to the heights of the mountains. This is as the Wolf, where the trail of Cub Scouting has a firm foothold and strong beginning.

Several days later, the third son returned from his journey saying; “Father, I have returned to you with the branch of the mighty pine tree. I was able to climb to the high meadows of the mountains where I saw the mighty elk feeding there. The plains and low hills lay far out below me. This was as far as I could go for there my strength was gone.”

The old chief lovingly welcomed home his son, but was saddened by his stopping so near the to the goal. This is the Bear, most of the way there, but just not yet.

A few more days passed before the fourth son returned. Reporting to the chief, he said; “Father, I present you with this shale rock from the high shoulders of the mountain. There was nothing growing there, the wind was cold and the footing was loose. I saw only the sturdy mountain goat moving about there. I could climb no further for my strength failed me there.”

The chief elated by the return of this son was none the less downhearted by his failure with the end in plain sight. This is the Webleos, the end of Cub Scouting, but not quite the pinnacle.

Several days more passed before the fifth son returned home and said to the chief; “O Great Chief, I have returned from my test. I climbed to the very top of the mountain and found nothing growing there to bring back to you. As I sat for many hours, I noticed the flight of the great eagle soaring high above me. I followed his path,

longing to see the world as he does from such a lofty place. It was then that I noticed his nesting place and there gathered several feathers to bring back as proof of my journey.”

The chief called for a celebration, for the return of this son signaled the start of a new leader for the tribe. This is where you are now, as you are graduating from the Cub Scout program. You have climbed all the way to the top, and yours is the victory.

However, this son was not at peace. The great chief looked upon his sadness and inquired of its cause. The son replied; “Father, as I sat upon the peak of the mountain, I saw other peaks in the distance, far greater than the one upon which I was. I would like to journey to each of those and see the world that is opened to me from them.”

The old chief looked proudly upon his son, and said to him; “My son, I will let you go and journey to these other pinnacles that you have seen. You are truly the chosen one. I charge you, however, to gather the feathers of eagles at each peak and return to me, dressed as an eagle.”

Now as you are about to journey into Boy Scouting, I challenge you to climb to each peak, and gather the feathers of the eagle. I challenge you to return and report to us when you have completed your journey, dressed in the uniform of an Eagle Scout. Your journey is just beginning, good luck, you are one of the best. Congratulations.

Graduation Ceremony

This ceremony may be done alone or in conjunction with the arrow of light ceremony.

Unmarked lines are in both versions. Lines preceded by * are in the stand alone version. Lines preceded by \$ are in the version with the arrow of light. When used in conjunction with the arrow of light, omit the last line from the arrow of light ceremony.

*(Nutiket enters with drum followed by Meteu.)

*Meteu: Brother Nutiket, why have we been called here tonight?

*Nutiket: Because some of these webelos have advanced in their pack.

*Meteu: Then we shall call forth Allowat Sakima the mighty chief.

*(Nutiket beats drum three times. Allowat enters to beating drum.)

*Allowat: Brother Meteu, why have you called me out here tonight.

*Meteu: Because some of these webelos have finished their cub scouting life and are now *progressing to Boy Scouts.

\$Allowat: Brother Meteu, have we finished the business for which we have gathered.

\$Meteu: No, some of these webelos have finished their cub scouting life and are now progressing to Boy Scouts.

\$Nutiket: Will all the parents and those webelos not entering Boy Scouts please take their seats.

Allowat: Have they been told the story of (insert story name).

Meteu: No they have not.

Allowat: Then I as chief shall tell it to them. (insert story)

Meteu: Would the Cubmaster who presents these webelos please stand at the right side of the bridge. (if no bridge is present, from a bridge with two lines of scouts) Would the Scoutmaster who receives these new Boy Scouts please stand at the left side of the bridge.

Nutiket: Please raise your right hand to the scout sign and repeat, after Allowat Sakima, the Scout Oath and Law.

(Allowat says the Scout Oath and Law, pausing for the webelos to repeat after him)

Allowat: You will now follow Nutiket as he leads you across the bridge into Boy Scouting.

(Nutiket leads webelos across)

Nutiket: We now conclude our ceremony and leave you to meet your new Scoutmaster.

(All exit to drum beat.)