

WINNIE THE POOH

By Greg Cummings

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By Greg Cummings

Adapted from A. A. Milne's "Winnie the Pooh"

SYNOPSIS: "Winnie the Pooh" traces the various adventures of Pooh, Christopher Robin, Rabbit, Piglet, Owl, Eeyore, Kanga, and Roo as they try to track Woozles, trap Heffalumps, find Eeyore's tail, bathe with Roo in Kanga's pouch, save Piglet from a rainstorm, and, of course, secure honey for Pooh.

DURATION: 30 minutes.

TIME: Various times and days in the not-too-distant past.

SETTING: A bare stage representing the Hundred Acre Wood and surroundings.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(8 either)

CHRISTOPHER ROBIN (m/f).....	(105 lines)
WINNIE THE POOH (m/f).....	(171 lines)
PIGLET (m/f).....	(90 lines)
OWL (m/f).....	(37 lines)
EEYORE (m/f).....	(60 lines)
RABBIT (m/f).....	(54 lines)
KANGA (m/f).....	(39 lines)
ROO (m/f).....	(36 lines)

SET

A bare stage. All set pieces are mimed.

COSTUMES

All costumes should be simple and colorful.

PROPS

- necktie
- honey jar, big enough to fit over Pooh's head.
- deflated balloon.
- laundry basket.
- broom handle

Most props are mimed.

DEDICATION

To the Giving Tree Theater Family in Marion, Iowa.

DO NOT COPY

SCENE 1

AT START: *ALL enter quickly, stand in a line across the stage and face the audience.*

CHRIS: Hi! I'm Christopher Robin!

PIGLET: I'm Piglet!

OWL: Owl!

EEYORE: Eeyore!

RABBIT: Rabbit!

KANGA: I'm Kanga! And this, this is my baby Roo!

ROO: Roooooooo!

POOH: And I'm Winnie the Pooh! And right now, we'd like to welcome you all to the Hundred Acre Wood, and our production of...

ALL: Winnie the Pooh!

POOH: We'd *like* to welcome you all to our production of Winnie the Pooh, so we *will* invite you all to our production of Winnie the Pooh! Right now! Ready? One, two, three:

ALL: Welcome to our production of: Winnie the Pooh!

ALL exit quickly. ALL enter quickly and face the audience.

ALL: Chapter One: In Which We are Introduced to Winnie the Pooh! And Christopher Robin! Oh, and Some Bees!

ALL exit quickly.

ALL: *(Offstage, softly.)* Buzzzzzzzzz.

ALL enter quickly.

ALL: Those are the bees! Oh, don't worry, they aren't real bees. It's us, offstage, pretending to be bees!

ALL exit quickly.

Offstage, ALL softly "Buzzzzzzz." This continues under...

POOH enters, following the buzzing.

POOH: Buzzing! Buzzing! Buzzing! Winnie the Pooh hears buzzing! And, if I'm not mistaken... buzzing always means.... *(Crosses to downstage center and looks to the ceiling.)* A beehive! And a beehive always means.... *(Pointing to the ceiling.)* Honey bees! And honey bees always means... honey! *(Rubs its stomach.)* For me! Honey, yummmmmm! *(Calls offstage.)* Christopher Robin! Christopher Robin!

CHRISTOPHER ROBIN enters.

CHRIS: What is it, Pooh?

POOH: Look, Christopher Robin! *(Pointing to the ceiling.)* It's a beehive! And: honey bees! And: honey! For me! Yummmm.

CHRIS: You do love your honey, Pooh! But how will you get up there?

POOH: I don't know. Yes, I do! Bring me a balloon! I'll float up there, under the balloon!

CHRIS: Good idea! But what color balloon?

POOH: I don't know. Yes, I do! Bring me a *blue* balloon! A sky-blue balloon! So the bees will think it's the sky!

CHRIS: Good idea! But won't the bees see you *under* the balloon?

POOH: I don't know! Yes, I do! I'll roll about in the dirt! That way I'll look like a dark rain cloud floating *under* the sky-blue balloon!

CHRIS: Good idea! And I can walk about and say, "Tut-tut, look at that dark rain cloud! Sure looks like rain!"

POOH: Good idea, Christopher Robin!

CHRIS: Thanks, Pooh! I'll go get the sky-blue balloon!

POOH: And I'll roll about in the dirt so I will look like a dark rain cloud!

CHRIS exits. POOH rolls on the ground, then stands and regards itself.

POOH: Winnie the Pooh? Who's that? Not me! I'm a dark rain cloud now!

CHRIS enters blowing up a mime balloon.

CHRIS: One sky-blue balloon... coming up! (*CHRIS finishes blowing up the mime balloon.*) And... tying a string on the sky-blue balloon... (*Ties a mime string to it.*) Ready, dark rain cloud?

POOH: Ready, Christopher Robin!

CHRIS: Here's the sky-blue rain cloud! Hold on tight, dark rain cloud!

CHRIS hands the mime string of the mime balloon to POOH. POOH holds onto the string of the balloon and, its hands above its head, "floats" up (goes on tippytoes.) To help show that POOH is floating, CHRIS crouches a bit and, thus crouched, walks about.

CHRIS: Tut-tut, look at that dark rain cloud! Sure looks like rain! Tut-tut, look at that dark rain cloud! Sure looks like rain.

CHRIS and POOH wink and give each other a thumbs up! Offstage, ALL very loudly by now, "Bzzzzzz."

POOH: (*Surrounded by bees.*) Oh no! Oh no! Christopher Robin!
Christopher Robin!

CHRIS: What is it, Pooh?

POOH: I'm not fooling the bees! They don't think I'm a dark rain cloud at all! They're all around me! Bring me down! Now!

CHRIS: Bring you down? How?

POOH: I don't know! Yes, I do! Pop the balloon!

CHRIS: Pop the balloon?

POOH: Pop the balloon, Christopher Robin!

CHRIS: But if I pop the balloon, Pooh, you'll fall!

POOH: I'd rather fall than be stung by bees, Christopher Robin!!

CHRIS: Good idea, Pooh!

CHRIS runs offstage.

POOH: Hurry, Christopher Robin, hurry!

CHRIS runs on stage, still in the crouched position, looks up, and makes a "pop" sound! The "pop" hits POOH'S paw.

POOH: Ouch! You hit my paw!

CHRIS: Sorry, Pooh. I'll try again!

CHRIS makes another "pop" sound! This time, the "pop" hits the mime balloon! The mime balloon starts to slowly deflate. Offstage buzzing stops. CHRIS stops crouching and stands up straight, as POOH slowly falls to the floor. POOH'S arms, however, remain straight up in the air.

CHRIS: Pooh? I'm glad you're back on the ground, but why are your arms still up in the air?

POOH: I don't know. Yes, I do! I was holding the balloon for so long that now my arms are stuck this way!

Offstage sound one of one fly. POOH and CHRIS watch this mime fly land on POOH'S nose.

CHRIS: Pooh? There's a fly on your nose!

POOH: I know! But I can't brush it away with my arms! Wait! *(To the fly.)* Pooh! Pooh!

THEY watch the fly fly away.

CHRIS: Wait. Pooh, you "poohed" that fly and the fly flew away! Is that why everyone calls you "Pooh"?

POOH: I don't know. Yes, I do. I believe you're right, Christopher Robin! I believe that is why everyone calls me Pooh!

CHRIS: *(With love.)* Come on, silly old bear. Let's go home.

POOH: Good idea, Christopher Robin! Good idea!

CHRIS takes one of POOH'S still-upraised arms and THEY exit together. As THEY exit, we hear the sound of one more fly. CHRIS and POOH watch it land on POOH'S nose.

POOH: Pooh! Pooh!

CHRIS and POOH watch the fly fly away, smile, and continue their exit. Fade to black.

SCENE 2

AT START: *ALL enter quickly and face the audience.*

ALL: Chapter Two: In Which Pooh Goes Visiting! And Gets Into a Tight Place!

ALL exit quickly. RABBIT enters stage left, hopping/running, stops center stage.

RABBIT: Oh, hi! Remember me? I'm Rabbit! And this... *(Points to the floor, downstage center.)* is my home! Well, down the rabbit hole, as they say! Whoever *they* are! It's tea time!

RABBIT climbs a mime ladder down a mime rabbit hole, center, prepares a mime cup of tea and drinks it. POOH wanders in, stage right, sniffing the air.

POOH: Wait. Is that... honey my sniffer is sniffing...?

RABBIT: Winnie? Winnie the Pooh? Is that you up there?

POOH: Rabbit? Rabbit? Where are you?

RABBIT: Down here in my rabbit hole, of course.

POOH: *(Sniffing.)* So that's where the honey is! *(Calling.)* Tell me, Rabbit, would you care for a visitor at this friendly time of day?

RABBIT: Why, of course, you know I always love a visit from you, Pooh!

POOH: Thanks, Rabbit! I'll be right down the rabbit hole!

POOH crosses to center stage, climbs down the mime ladder to the mime rabbit hole, and sits next to RABBIT.

POOH: Hi, Rabbit!

RABBIT: Hi, Pooh! I'd offer you some tea with honey, but I'm entirely out of tea.

POOH: "Entirely out of tea" is one thing, Rabbit. The big question is: are you out of honey?

RABBIT: “Out of honey”? Oh, no. Look at the jar on that shelf there. *(Points upstage to a mime jar of honey on a mime shelf.)* That jar is full of honey.

POOH: That jar is full of honey?

RABBIT: That jar is full of honey! Well, I’m going to brush my teeth now, and then spend the day running errands. You can come with me! Wait here! I’ll be right back!

RABBIT exits left.

POOH: *(Crossing upstage to the mime shelf.)* A jar... full of... honey? All for me...

RABBIT: *(Off left.)* Be right with you, Pooh!

POOH: Take your time, Rabbit! *(Unscrewing the mime cap of the mime honey jar.)* Oh, surely Rabbit won’t notice... *(Tastes the mime honey.)* if just a little bit of his honey is missing. *(Tasting.)* Honey. Yum

RABBIT: *(Off left.)* Still... brushing... my teeth, Pooh! Almost done!

POOH: *(Eating the honey from the jar.)* Or if a little bit more of his honey is missing. Or... a little bit more...

As POOH slurps down the mime honey from the mime jar, he gets visibly fuller with each slurp, and eventually needs to sit down. RABBIT enters left.

RABBIT: Ta da! Done! Teeth all brushed and ready to do my errands! Come on, Pooh!

RABBIT climbs the ladder out of the mime rabbit hole.

POOH: *(Logy.)* Be... right... with... you, Rabbit...

POOH slowly stands and climbs the mime ladder but gets stuck at the top of the mime rabbit hole. His top half sticks out of the mime rabbit hole, but his bottom half remains in the mime rabbit hole.

POOH: Um. Rabbit?

RABBIT: Yes, Pooh?

POOH: I seem to be stuck... in your rabbit hole. Half of me is in and half of me is out.

RABBIT: I see! Oh Pooh, did you eat my entire jar of honey?

POOH: Perhaps I did get a little carried away. (*Reaching to RABBIT.*) Would you mind pulling me?

RABBIT: Not at all (*RABBIT tries to pull POOH out but fails and falls.*) Hm. I need help. (*Calling.*) Christopher Robin? Christopher Robin?

CHRIS enters.

CHRIS: Hi Rabbit.

RABBIT: Hi Christopher Robin.

CHRIS: Hi Pooh.

POOH: Hi, Christopher Robin. I ate a jar of Rabbit's honey.

CHRIS: And got stuck in the rabbit hole?

POOH: Would you mind helping Rabbit?

CHRIS: Not at all!

CHRIS holds one of POOH'S hands, RABBIT holds the other.

RABBIT, CHRIS, and POOH: One, two, three... pull!

CHRIS and RABBIT pull mightily! And pull POOH out of the rabbit hole! ALL fall down!

POOH: Wheeeee! (*Still logy, slowly stands.*) Thanks, Rabbit! Thanks, Christopher Robin! (*Suddenly stands and sniffs the air.*)

RABBIT: What is it, Pooh?

POOH, sniffing, slowly turns to exit right.

CHRIS: Pooh? Where are you going?

POOH: I do believe that my sniffer is sniffing... (*Starts exiting right.*)

RABBIT: ...more honey?

POOH: (*Exiting, sniffing.*) More honey, indeed, Rabbit!

CHRIS: Pooh, you're still hungry?

POOH: (*Exiting, sniffing.*) Oh, just for honey, Christopher Robin. Just hungry for honey.

RABBIT and CHRIS smile. POOH, still full and logy, follows his sniffer and exits right. RABBIT and CHRIS follow. Fade to black.

SCENE 3

AT START: *ALL enter quickly and face the audience.*

ALL: Next: Chapter Three: In Which Pooh and Piglet Go Hunting! And Nearly Catch a Woozle!

ALL exit, variously, running. POOH enters, crosses to center, muses as he walks in a small circle. HE stops and just happens to look at the circle he's just walked.

POOH: *(Astonished.)* Goodness! I see the footprints... of a Woozle!

PIGLET enters.

PIGLET: Hi, Pooh

POOH: Hi, Piglet.

PIGLET: What are you doing?

POOH: It appears that I'm following the footprints... of a Woozle!

PIGLET crosses to POOH and looks at the circle of footprints

PIGLET: The footprints of a Woozle!

POOH: The footprints of a Woozle! Walk with me, Piglet! We'll follow these Woozle footprints together!

BOTH, side by side, walk in the same small circle.

PIGLET: Stop, Pooh!

THEY stop.

PIGLET: Look!

BOTH look at the circle they just walked.

PIGLET: I see the footprints of *two more* Woozles, Pooh!

POOH: Me, too. Walk with me, Piglet! We'll follow these Woozle footprints together!

BOTH side by side, walk in the same small circle.

PIGLET: Stop, Pooh!

THEY stop.

PIGLET: Look!

BOTH look at the circle they just walked.

PIGLET: I see the footprints of *two more* Woozles, Pooh!

POOH: Me, too! Walk with me, Piglet! We'll follow these Woozle footprints together!

BOTH, side by side, walk in the same small circle. CHRISTOPHER ROBIN enters. He watches as POOH and PIGLET walk.

PIGLET: Stop!

POOH and PIGLET stop.

CHRIS: Um. Pooh? Piglet?

PIGLET: Not now, Christopher Robin! We're following the footprints of Woozles! Many, many Woozles!

POOH: Look, Christopher Robin! There must be hundreds of Woozle footprints here!

CHRIS crosses to the circle POOH and PIGLET have been walking.

CHRIS: Um. Pooh? Piglet? I think those might be *your* footprints.

POOH and PIGLET: What?

CHRIS: They look an awful lot like *your* footprints.

POOH and PIGLET: *Our* footprints?

CHRIS: Over and over again. Tell me, have the two of you been walking in this circle for a while?

PIGLET: Yes...

POOH: Quite a while...

POOH and PIGLET stop and look at the footprints in the circle they've been walking. THEY fit their paws and hooves into the tracks and realize...

POOH: Christopher Robin is right, Piglet. These *are* our footprints. It's us. We've just been walking in the same circle over and over again.

PIGLET: So, no Woozles?

CHRIS: No Woozles today, Piglet.

PIGLET: Well, now I just feel silly.

CHRIS: Oh, don't feel that way, Piglet...

PIGLET exits left.

POOH: Me, too, Christopher Robin. I feel silly now, too. I feel like a bear with no brain at all.

CHRIS: Nonsense, Pooh. I won't hear of it! You're the best bear in all the world!

POOH: I am, Christopher Robin?

CHRIS: You are, Winnie the Pooh! Plus, it's almost lunchtime!

POOH: Almost lunchtime? Why didn't you say so?! Let's go!

POOH leads CHRIS as they exit stage right. Fade to black.

SCENE 4

AT START: *ALL enter quickly and face the audience.*

ALL: And now: Chapter Four: In Which Eeyore Loses a Tail! And Pooh Finds One! With the Help of Owl!

ALL exit, variously, running. Enter EEYORE, left, melancholy.

EEYORE: Hi. I'm Eeyore. That's just the way it is.

EEYORE crosses to center and comes to a realization. It looks at its back pocket.

EEYORE: It's gone.

POOH enters, right.

POOH: Hi, Eeyore.

EEYORE: Hi, Pooh. It's gone.

POOH: What's gone, Eeyore?

EEYORE: My tail.

POOH: Your tail?

EEYORE: My tail. Look.

POOH: *(Looking at EEYORE'S back pocket.)* Why, your tail is gone, Eeyore. Where did you last see it?

EEYORE: Let me see. I had it this morning. Oh, I must've left it somewhere in the forest. Oh, what do I do now, Pooh, without my tail? Oh woe is me. Oh woe is me, Pooh.

POOH: No! No woe is you, Eeyore!

EEYORE: No woe is me, Pooh?

POOH: No woe is you, Eeyore! Have no fear! For I, Winnie-the-Pooh, will find your tail for you! But first, I might just need some help! *(Calling.)* Owl! Oh, Owl! *(To EEYORE.)* Owl knows everything! If anyone can find your tail, Eeyore, Owl can, I'm sure of it!

EEYORE: *(Always melancholy.)* Whatever you say, Pooh...

POOH: *(Calling.)* Owl!

OWL enters stage left, wearing a tie.

POOH: Hi, Owl.

OWL: Whooooo's there?

POOH: Winnie the Pooh.

EEYORE: And Eeyore.

POOH: Nice tie, Owl!

OWL: Thanks, Pooooooh. What can I do for youuuuuuu twoooooo?

POOH: Well, you see, Owl...

EEYORE: Psst, Pooh?

POOH: Not now, Eeyore, I'm speaking with Owl.

EEYORE: But Pooh...

POOH: Eeyore, I'm trying to find out where your tail is.

EEYORE: But I know where my tail is, Pooh.

POOH: Where?

EEYORE: Right there. (*EEYORE points to OWL'S tie.*) Owl's tie is my tail.

POOH: Owl's tie is your tail?

OWL: My tie is your tail? How is that even possible?

EEYORE: I don't know, Owl. I lost my tail in the Hundred Acre Wood today....

OWL: Really? Why, I found this beautiful tie in the Hundred Acre Wood today...

OWL picks up tie. POOH examines it.

POOH: Owl, your tie is definitely Eeyore's tail!

OWL: You're right, Pooooooh! Oh, I am soooo sorry, Eeyore. (*Hands the tie to EEYORE.*) My tie is no longer my tie! My tie is now your tail again.

EEYORE: (*As overjoyed as he ever gets.*) Owl! Pooh! I am so happy... (*Takes some tape from his pocket.*) to have my tail back. How can I ever thank you? (*Tapes the tie to his back pocket.*) Oh! Having my tail back makes me so happy. So happy I want to dance. (*Closes eyes. Dances. It looks to us like complete stillness.*)

OWL: Um. Eeyore? Eeyore?

POOH: (*Smiling.*) Sh. Owl. (*Smiling.*) Eeyore's dancing.

OWL: (*Smiling.*) Ah.

Fade to black.

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