

3. MOON ROPE

The BIRDS dissolve into GRASS.

MOON appears.

MOON

A harvest moon filled the sky...

HILL

Una luna brillante. [A bright moon.]

MOON

...while all the woodland creatures rested.

HILL

Todos dormían. [Everyone slept.]

MOON

Except for Fox and Topo.

FOX appears. He stares at MOON with the same look of happiness he had previously.

Moments later, TOPO appears and digs for worms. Unable to find a worm, TOPO moves to a different spot. Still nothing. Frustration.

TOPO notices FOX.

TOPO

¿Que ves? What are you looking at?

FOX

La luna. What a magical sight!
That's how you say "the moon," am I right?

TOPO

Si, la luna.

FOX

You ever just look at la luna? And I don't mean glance.
I mean really look at her 'til you fall into a trance.

TOPO

Time staring at la luna is time I could be using to look for comida.

FOX

Look up sometime. 'stead of always lookin' down.
There's more to see--

TOPO
 "You gotta look around."

FOX
 Exactly.

TOPO
 I've heard this already.

TOPO returns to digging for worms.

FOX
 If you could have anything in the world, on land, air, or sea, what would you desire, Topo? What would it be?

TOPO
 Worms.

FOX
 Worms?

TOPO
 Si. Gusanos, gusanos y mas gusanos. And you?

FOX
 (Pointing at MOON)
 La luna.

TOPO
 ¿Deseas la luna? [You want the moon?]

FOX
 I want to go there.
 Way up in the air.

TOPO
 ¿A la luna?!
 (FOX nods.)
 How do you plan on getting there?

FOX
 I don't know.
 But I'll go.

TOPO
 If you ever make it to la luna, I'll start looking up.

FOX
 Really?
 Or are you being silly?

TOPO
 I'll keep my head up and never look down. If you make it.

Promise?

FOX

Si. Una promesa.

TOPO
(Nodding.)
[A promise.]

Paws?

FOX
(Holding out paw)

Paws and claws.

TOPO

They shake. TOPO disappears into HILL.

As FOX stares at MOON, MAPLE TREE appears.

Señor Fox pensaba en viajar a la luna.

MOON

FOX notices MAPLE TREE.

I have an idea.

FOX

FOX approaches MAPLE TREE and climbs. He stretches towards MOON. No luck.

Then, FOX notices HILL.

I have a better idea.

FOX

FOX runs up HILL and jumps. He reaches for MOON but manages to fall in the GRASS.

As FOX lays in the GRASS, he notices how tall it is.

Struck with yet another idea, FOX ties a piece of GRASS together and stares at it. Wide grin.

Then...

TOPO! TOPO!

FOX

TOPO appears.

FOX

I've got it! I've got it! I've figured out a way.
Both of us can reach la luna. But we should start today.

TOPO

Both of us? Yo no quiero ir. I don't want to go.

FOX

On no certain terms? Not even if there were...worms?

TOPO

¿Hay gusanos? [It has worms?]

FOX

(Nodding.)

Muchos. [Many.]

TOPO

¿Muchos gusanos? [Many worms?]

FOX

Huge!

TOPO

¿Son grandes tambien? [They are big too?]

FOX

Do you wanna go?
Yes or No?

TOPO

Si! Si! Quiero ir! Quiero ir! [Yes. Yes. I want to go!
I want to go!]

FOX

Fabulous! I have an idea. One that should work. I hope.
Tie this grass together. I'll tie that one to that one.
Soon we'll have...

TOPO

Un lazo! [A rope.]

FOX

That means rope, right?

MOON

Fox and Topo braided the grass para hacer un lazo largo. [to
make a long rope.]

*Immediately, FOX and TOPO tie
GRASS together until they make a
long piece of ROPE.*

FOX

Now, all we have to do is throw this way up in the sky.
It should hook onto la luna. C'mon, let's try.
Ready?

TOPO

Lista! [Ready!]

*FOX twirls ROPE and then tosses
it into air.*

As ROPE sails towards MOON...

FOX

Look. It's working! It's working!

Suddenly, ROPE falls back.

FOX

It's not working. It's not working!

*ROPE crashes into FOX. TOPO
snickers.*

FOX

I don't suppose you have a better idea, amiga mia? [My
friend.]

TOPO

I do. Cucú.

FOX

Cucú? How is she going to--
(Realizing.)
Oh! Cucú.

TOPO

Cucú!

FOX

Cucú!

TOPO AND FOX

Cucú!

CUCU appears.

FOX

Do me a big favor and take this rope here.
Take it and hitch it to la luna. Please, be a dear.

CUCU shakes her head.

TOPO
Ayudanos, por favor.

When CUCU see TOPO, her demeanor changes quickly CUCU motions her wings to create sign language.

FOX
I don't understand that bird. Not a single word.

TOPO
She says, "For you, no way, Jose. But for a friend, she'd do anything."

CUCU nods. Then she grabs ROPE and flies towards MOON.

MOON
Cucú tomó el lazo en su pico, y voló...

ALL
Voló y voló.
Voló y voló.

FOX
Wow! She can fly. Super high.

MOON
...voló alto, alto, alto en el cielo.

CUCU returns.

TOPO
Gracias, amiga mia. [Thank you, my friend.]

CUCU and TOPO embrace, FOX mounts ROPE.

FOX
Vamónos! [Let's go!]

TOPO mounts ROPE and CUCU disappears.

FOX
Listen to me. Keep your eyes off the ground.
Follow me and don't ever look down.

TOPO
(To herself.)
No mires hacía abajo. [Don't look down.]

FOX quickly climbs towards MOON as TOPO moves cautiously.

FOX
We're so high in the air. We're almost almost there!

Within seconds, FOX disappears.

TOPO
FOX! FOX! ¿Donde estás? [Where are you?] FOX! FOX!

TOPO looks down, loses her grip and falls.

As TOPO falls, ROPE disappears.

MOON
Topo fell through the air.

ALL
Abajo, abajo, abajo.

MOON
Down, down downuntil she landed on a bird.
Pero no era cualquier pájaro.

CUCU appears.

TOPO
CUCU!

CUCU and TOPO soar through the air then land on HILL.

TOPO
Thank you again, mi amiga.

CUCU moves her wings to say "my friend" then flies away.

A hiss. SNAKE slithers by.

SNAKE
Topo can't climb worth a dime!

TOPO
Me caí. [I fell.]

SNAKE
You fell? You probably let go.

TOPO
No. Me caí. Me caí!

TOPO climbs inside HILL.

Hisses and laughter hangs in the air as SNAKE dissolves into GRASS.

MOON

Por muchos días y noches [For many days and nights] Topo stayed inside her hill.

RACCOON and SKUNK appear.

SKUNK
(Knocking.)

Topo!

RACCOON

Topo!

SKUNK
Topo! ¿Sabes donde está Señor Fox? [Do you know where Mr. Fox is?]

RACCOON
Yeah, do you know where Fox is?

SKUNK
Topo!

RACCOON
Topo!

SKUNK & RACCOON
Topo!

SKUNK and RACCOON leave.

MOON
Then one day...

HILL
Un día.

MOON
Topo thought about Fox.

HILL
Y salió de la loma. [And she came out of the hill.]

As MOON speaks, TOPO climbs out of HILL. TOPO notices GRASS waving in the wind and approaches it.

TOPO ties a piece of GRASS together.

She grins then suddenly she looks up and sees MOON. Is this the first time she's actually seen it?

FOX appears.

TOPO

Fox, is that you?

FOX grins.

TOPO

Are you going to laugh at me too?

FOX

Laugh? Why? Because you tried?

TOPO

Es verdad. [It's true.] I did try.

FOX

Trying is what many animals in this forest are afraid to do. That's not something to laugh at. I'm proud of you.

TOPO

I'm going to keep my promise too.

FOX

Una promesa. That's what you called it, right? The promise you made to me the other night.

TOPO

Sí. Una promesa.

FOX

I'm glad you made that promise,
More glad you're keeping it true.
There's more to see beyond this forest,
More than what's in front of you.

TOPO

Otra vez? [Again?] You like to repeat yourself don't you?

FOX grins.

TOPO

Paws and claws?

FOX

Paws and claws.

As FOX speaks, TOPO strolls down HILL.

FOX
(As MOON)

Topo wandered the woods

HILL

Paseo por el bosque el resto del día. [She walked the the woods for the rest of the day.]

*TOPO takes a drink from LAKE.
Ahhhh! She drinks more. Gulp!*

FOX
(As MOON)

She looked up...

HILL

Miraba arriba...

TOPO looks at the sky. She sees the MOON and smiles.

FOX
(As MOON)

And all around.

HILL

En todas las direcciones.

FOX

She looked and looked...

HILL

Miraba y miraba...

FOX

She never looked down.

TOPO takes a deep breath, smells something she's never really smelled before.

TOPO approaches MAPLE TREE. She sniffs. Sugar maple? She scratches it and take a big whiff. YUM!

As TOPO leaves, GRASS sways, POND ripples and the faint sounds of Cucú's song fills the air.

Blackout.

END OF PLAY.