

THE DEATH OF MINNEHAHA

A Choric Drama

by
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



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A Choric Drama

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Arranged from "Hiawatha."

FIRST CHORUS: Oh, the long and dreary winter!
Oh, the cold and cruel winter!

ECHO VOICES*: Ever thicker, *thicker, thicker,

DARK VOICES: Froze the ice on lake and river;

ECHO VOICES*: Ever deeper, *deeper, deeper,

FIRST CHORUS: Fell the snow o'er all the landscape,
Fell the covering snow, and drifted
Through the forest, round the village.

SECOND CHORUS: Hardly from his buried wigwam
Could the hunter force a passage;
With his mittens and his snow-shoes
Vainly walked he through the forest,
Sought for bird or beast, and found none;

FIRST CHORUS: Saw no track of deer or rabbit,
In the snow beheld no footprints,
In the ghastly, gleaming forest
Fell, and could not rise from weakness,
Perish'd there from cold and hunger,

LIGHT VOICES: Oh, the famine and the fever!

MEDIUM VOICES: Oh, the wasting of the famine!

DARK VOICES: Oh, the blasting of the fever!

FIRST CHORUS: All the earth was sick and famished;
Hungry was the air around them,
Hungry was the sky above them,
And the hungry stars in heaven
Like the eyes of wolves glared at them!

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