

SEASONS OF IMMIGRATION
"WELCOME TO CANADA"



Actor 1: Wait.

Actor 2: What are we waiting for?

Actor 3: Just wait.

Actor 4: Wait for what?

Actor 5: Why are we waiting?

Actor 1: Because we should wait.

Actor 6: Why should we wait?

Actor 1: I don't know. Somebody said wait.

Actor 6: Who told you wait?

Actor 3: I'm a good waiter.

Actor 6: I don't want to wait.

Actor 2: Wait. Wait. Wait.

Actor 4: Wait for it.

Actor 5: I am waiting. I am waiting. I am waiting ... *(to the Hallelujah Chorus)*

Actor 3: I don't think that's what we're waiting for.

Actor 1: Wait quietly.

Actor 2: Waiting builds character.

Actor 3: Waiting is good for the soul.

Actor 4: I've been waiting to heat that bit of wisdom all my life.

Actor 6: You don't look like you're waiting.

Actor 4: Just'cause I don't look like I'm waiting doesn't mean I'm not waiting.

Actor 6: Then how does one look when they're waiting?

Actors form clump in centre, waiting. After a twenty-second pause, crew hands out passports.

Actors take their passports. Various reactions.

Actor 6: I'm outta here!

Music swells.

They all turn around and grab their suitcase.

Each sits on their luggage (airplane seats). They each repeat a small action (reading book, checking overhead luggage, putting seatbelts, looking out window, etc.)

One character goes up the aisle to the bathroom, the others decide to go too. There us a traffic jam of bodies that ends up in a clump. They retch from sir sickness.

They all slowly return to their seats.

Each sits exhausted from their trio. They each go from a look of frustration to peace.

They all smile as they remember how they got here.

They all grab their suitcases and run stage right and freeze in a shape.

They all run stage left and freeze in a shape, except Actor 5.

Music fades under dialogue.

Actor 5: Everything I have worked for all my life ... in one suitcase.

They all run up stage centre and freeze in a shape, except Actor 4 and Actor 6.

Actor 4: (to Actor 6) Oh, Stephania, I forgot something.

Actor 6: That's good, 'cause now they charge you \$35 for extra weight. Let's go.

They all run stage right and freeze in a shape, except Actor 3.

Actor 3: Thirty kilograms of living. Everything O own now has a new value.

They all run stage left and freeze in a shape, except Actor 2 and Actor 6.

Actor 2: *(to Actor 6)* Do I take my favourite silk shirt or my favourite shoes? The shirt weighs less than the shoes, so I should take the shirt. But the shoes are worth more than the shirt, so I'll take the shoes. But my wife says I look more handsome in my shirt, so I'll take the shirt.

(Actor 6 drags Actor 2 towards centre stage.) But ... but ... but ...

They all run centre stage and freeze in a shape, except Actor 5 and Actor 1.

Actor 5: *(playing the father of Actor 1)* We had no time. We were in a hurry. So I just took one empty suitcase.

Actor 1: Papa? Why do we have an empty suitcase?

Actor 5: It's not empty. It's full. See? *(He strains to lift it)*

She lifts it easily, then has a look of wonderment on her face.

Ahhh ... it's filled with dreams. You must be a big dreamer.

Music swells.

They all move and weave around each other. Three line up downstage and bend over and spread their arms like a plane, Three others get on their backs and spread their arms too. They are flying ... soaring.

They become three couples. The couples do a short dance that foreshadows the journey ahead.

They all get in a circle facing out.

They put their luggage down, pass it to the right. They repeat several times, making a luggage carousel.

They grab their luggage one at a time and exit