

Audition Sides

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 - End – Page 5 – “You won’t even know he’s here

- Terk & Tarzan – Side 2
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- Tarzan & Jane – Side 3
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- Jane & Porter – Side 4
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 - Start – Page 72 - “He’s coming with?”
 - End – Page 73 - “we can use his friends and relations for target practice”

(KALA)

SOMEONE IS CALLING FOR ME

(gazes in the direction of the Apes)

TWO WORLDS, ONE FAMILY

(enters tree house and opens trunk)

TRUST MY HEART

LET FATE DECIDE

TO GUIDE THIS LIFE I SEE

(A music box plays. Kala lifts and holds the cooing and laughing human baby. Hearing something, Kala returns the baby to the trunk. The leopard enters and pounces. Kala roars and strikes out, scaring the leopard away. Kala retrieves the baby.)

KALA, ENSEMBLE

WITH EVERY ENDING COMES A NEW BEGINNING

TWO WORLDS, ONE FAMILY

TRUST YOUR HEART

LET FATE DECIDE

TO GUIDE THIS LIFE

TO GUIDE THIS LIFE WE SEE

(Kala descends from the tree house with the human baby and travels to the ape nesting grounds, where other Apes gather.)

ENSEMBLE

PUT YOUR FAITH IN WHAT YOU MOST BELIEVE IN

KALA, ENSEMBLE

TWO WORLDS, ONE FAMILY

SCENE ONE: APE NESTING GROUNDS

START

(Apes sniff then reject the human baby. Kerchak enters.)

KERCHAK

Kala? Are you all right?

KALA

I'm fine...

(looking at the baby)

... now.

(Kerchak moves to embrace Kala, then sees the baby and pulls away.)

I'm going to call him "Tarzan."

KERCHAK

Don't give it a name!

KALA

If you don't want us, we'll go.

KERCHAK

No! You were missing for so long. I thought..

(embraces her)

Where did you find that thing?

KALA

Over the mountain, beyond the river.

KERCHAK

Was it alone?

KALA

There are no others. The leopard took his family.

KERCHAK

All of them?

KALA

Yes.

KERCHAK

You could've been killed!

KALA

But we fought that ol' cat off—together.

(cooing maternally)

And he'll never hurt us again, right, little one?

KERCHAK

(after a pause)

At least you're home safe.

(to Apes)

We'll nest here for the night!

(While Apes make nests, Kerchak takes Kala aside.)

You can't keep it.

KALA

He has no one, and our child is... gone.

KERCHAK

I know. And I'll never forgive myself. But you don't know the danger you're bringing into our family.

KALA

Is he really so scary? Look at that face.

KERCHAK

That thing will never take the place of our son.

(pause)

Make things easier on yourself and let it go--now.

KALA

I'm keeping him, Kerchak.

KERCHAK

Get rid of it! It doesn't belong with us.

(The baby starts to cry.)

KALA

Just leave him be. We'll be fine. I'll raise him. You won't even know he's here.

(Kala moves away from Kerchak to comfort the baby. Kerchak notices other Apes staring at the strange creature.)

END

KERCHAK

It's what she needs for now, but it won't live for long.

#3 - You'll Be In My Heart

Kala, Apes

(The Apes settle in for the night. The ape mothers and fathers easily get their babies to sleep. But baby Tarzan continues to cry.)

KALA

COME STOP YOUR CRYING
IT WILL BE ALL RIGHT
JUST TAKE MY HAND
HOLD IT TIGHT

(The baby's cries start to subside. Kerchak watches Kala with the child.)

I WILL PROTECT YOU FROM ALL AROUND YOU
I WILL BE HERE
DON'T YOU CRY

FOR ONE SO SMALL, YOU SEEM SO STRONG
MY ARMS WILL HOLD YOU
KEEP YOU SAFE AND WARM
THIS BOND BETWEEN US CAN'T BE BROKEN
I WILL BE HERE

side 2

#3A - Ten Years Pass

Male Solo

(Kala folds the baby into her arms. Ape mother and human child sit at the center of the universe. In the swirl of stars, years pass.)

SOLOIST (O.S.)

EH EE-YAH EH EE-YAH
EH EE-YAH EH EE-YAH

SCENE TWO: JUNGLE CLEARING

(YOUNG TARZAN emerges, a ten-year-old boy with pale skin and a shock of red hair.)

#1 - Old Man Dog

Band

(The Apes go about their daily activities, but Young Tarzan doesn't quite fit in. Actually, he doesn't fit in at all. Like schoolyard bullies, YOUNG APES taunt and pick on Young Tarzan, who is unable to defend himself. Kerchak enters and observes, but doesn't intervene. Just when Young Tarzan seems done for, YOUNG TERK enters and escorts him to safety. Young Terk is smarter than your average ape, or so he thinks.)

START

YOUNG TARZAN

Thanks.

YOUNG TERK

Don't worry about it, kid. See, I've been watching you.

YOUNG TARZAN

You have?

YOUNG TERK

You're getting huge. Auntie Kala won't be able to take care of you forever.

YOUNG TARZAN

I can take care of myself!

YOUNG TERK

Oh, really? Face it, kid, you need protection. That's why I'm here.

YOUNG TARZAN

You're gonna help me? What's the catch?

YOUNG TERK

For someone with no friends, you're way too suspicious.

YOUNG TARZAN

You're only doing this 'cuz the guys don't want to hang out with you either.

YOUNG TERK

No! I don't wanna hang out with those losers. Let's get that straight. Their idea of fun is to jump on each other and roll in their own poop.

YOUNG TARZAN

Yeah, I never really got into that.

YOUNG TERK

Whereas I—am a superior being.

(producing a stick, he strikes an affected pose)

Ta-dah!

YOUNG TARZAN

Big deal. You're holding a stick.

YOUNG TERK

Yeah, it's a sign of my intelligence.

YOUNG TARZAN

So what do you do with it?

YOUNG TERK

Do with it?!? You um—

(stymied, changes subject)

Trust me, this partnership is gonna be so good for you. You can start by scratching my back.

YOUNG TARZAN

No way!

YOUNG TERK

(trying to wrap his free arm around himself)

There's this part—I can't quite reach...

YOUNG TARZAN

Just use your stick!

(Young Tarzan guides Young Terk's other arm up and back, demonstrating how to use the stick as a back-scratcher.)

YOUNG TERK

Huh? How'd you do that?

(enjoying the sensation)

Ooooo. Ooooo! This partnership is working out great! Now, let's see—get me some fruit.

(Young Terk points to some fruit: low-hanging, but too high for Young Tarzan to reach. Young Tarzan makes a few feeble attempts.)

End

JANE

(correcting him slightly, exaggerating her mouth movements)

Ha-rrrrt!

TARZAN

(triumphantly exaggerating his mouth and replicating Jane's accent with precision)

Heart!

JANE

(nodding enthusiastically)

Yes! Heart!

TARZAN

(nodding like Jane)

Yesss! Heart!

*(then)*Heart, heart, heart!!!

JANE

*(realizing:)*Oh! You do speak!*(laughs and babbles with relief)*

And here, all this time, I thought you were merely the strong, silent type of wild man—

(Tarzan goes Ape! Jumping, crouching, leaping, pounding — exhilarated beyond any words. The dam has broken. Tarzan makes a boisterous dance, encircling Jane as joyful sounds pour from him! At first, she is caught up in his jubilation, but then she can't detect any additional language in it — a sobering moment.)

Oh. I see. You don't speak, do you? You don't speak at all.

*(eyes the jubilant wild man as she babbles on to cover her disappointment)*Of course not. Why would a barely covered—? I mean, how could such a natural creature—? Oh, get a hold of yourself, Jane Porter! One would think you'd never seen such a— well, of course, I haven't ever seen such a— oh, where is my—*(retrieves her journal, pulls out her charcoal, and begins making notations)*

If I can't speak with you, I can certainly sketch you, sir...

(Tarzan figures out the next step, to identify himself. He bounds right up to her face and points at himself enthusiastically.)

TARZAN

Tar—

STACT

JANE

(still trying to sketch Tarzan, pushes him back)

Distance please. I'm working with perspective.

TARZAN

(takes Jane's journal, pointing at himself again)

Tar-

JANE

(the light dawns; pointing to Tarzan)

"Tar..."

TARZAN

(very excited now, still pointing at himself)

Tar-zan! Tar-zan!

JANE

(pointing at Tarzan, and smiling)

"Tar-zan!"

(brings her hands in)

Oh, I see.

TARZAN

(pointing to himself)

Tar-zan.

(pointing at her)

"Oh, I-see."

(Then Jane snaps out of it, chuckling at Tarzan's error. He chuckles back.)

JANE

Oh; no, no, no, no.

(clears throat)

I'm Jane.

TARZAN

(mimicking exactly)

"Oh; no, no, no, no.

(clears throat)

I'm Jane."

JANE

Oh dear.
(emphatically)

No. My name is—

TARZAN

(mimicking exactly)
"Oh dear. No. My name is—"

JANE

Stop!!
(grabs Tarzan's shoulders to stop him, then points to him)

Tarzan.
(points to herself)

Jane.

TARZAN

(points to himself)
Tarzan.
(takes Jane's chin in his hand)

Jane.

JANE

(a bit flustered)

Exactly.

(Jane and Tarzan retreat slightly from one another, taking this all in.)

TARZAN

I'VE NEVER FELT LIKE THIS, I FEEL SO DIFFERENT
BEING THIS CLOSE TO HER
SOMETHING DEEP INSIDE FEELS SO DIFFERENT
SEEMS EVERYTHING HAS STIRRED

TARZAN, JANE

THIS SOMETHING, SO EXCITING
SOMEHOW OH SO INVITING
FEELS SO NEW, YET SO FAMILIAR
SOMETHING TELLS ME I WILL NEVER
EVER BE THE SAME AGAIN

END OF ACT ONE

JANE

No. And yet, I could happily spend many more hours with you.

(A distinct crescendo whistle of an African owl echoes.)

Listen—the Pearlsponsored Owl!

(Tarzan imitates the whistle, as Jane notes the horizon growing quickly dark.)

Oh dear—daylight is fading. I really must return to camp, before Father grows worried.

TARZAN

"Father."

JANE

Who could your father have been, I wonder?

(Noting Jane gathering her things, Tarzan lifts her hand and places his palm against hers in what has become their gesture of greeting.)

Goodbye, Tarzan.

(wills herself to pull away)

See you again?

(Tarzan gently replaces the pin in Jane's hair.)

TARZAN

"Again."

JANE

Yes. Please.

(Tarzan and Jane exit separately.)

SCENE FOUR: HUMAN CAMP / JUNGLE CANOPY

(Another morning, Porter enters with a tea tray. He sits, looks around, notices Jane's sketchpad, looks around again, then flips through some sketches. He realizes that Jane has been spending more time with Tarzan.)

PORTER

My word!

(Jane enters, somewhat distracted.)

Start

JANE

Sorry I'm late, Father.

(Porter shuts the sketchbook, grabs a teacup, and pretends not to have been snooping.)

PORTER

Ah! There you are, darling.

JANE

Oh, Daddy, my work has been going splendidly! Since we arrived here, I've identified thirty-six new living species.

PORTER

Wonderfull Any more gorilla sightings, perchance?

JANE

(having temporarily forgotten their primary mission)

Goril--? Oh... unfortunately, not yet. I've been a bit... distracted. Have you?

PORTER

Not a one. And our expedition clock is rapidly ticking...

JANE

The way Mr. Clayton wields that rifle and drives the fauna into hiding, I fear we may never see the gorillas again. I've had to sneak away to get any research done at all!

PORTER

(beat, glances at sketchbook)

So... then you have uncovered this wealth of material -- with no assistance whatsoever?

JANE

Well...

PORTER

Janey, it's been several days since you discovered your wild man. Have you seen this "Tarzan" again?

JANE

No! Why would you think--? Oh, I've never been able to lie to you, Daddy!

PORTER

But it's a testament to your character that you keep on trying!

JANE

(pulls out her sketchbook and flips to a portrait)

Just look at his eyes! So intense, burning through you. So strong and yet.. lost.

PORTER

Perhaps he's in need of an optometrist!

End

PORTER

SO, WE'VE BOTH MADE OUR DISCOVERIES
THOUGH I'LL KEEP MINE TO MYSELF
BUT IF MY INSTINCTS SERVE CORRECTLY
I MAY HAVE LOST MY GIRL!

JANE

Yes!
I'm not following you, Daddy!
Hmmm?
Oh, no, no, no, no, no!

JANE, PORTER

OH, THIS IS WHAT WE'VE WAITED FOR
WE ALWAYS KNEW ONE DAY
THIS IS THE LINK WE'VE BOTH BEEN SEARCHING FOR
IT'S JUST A BREATH AWAY
CAN THIS BE TRUE?
CAN THIS BE TRUE?
WE'LL SEE!

PORTER

Well, I'm off to prepare for today's expedition. Unless Mr. Clayton has located those gorillas, I shall be in search of the elusive *Blatilus africanus*.

JANE

The Great African Flying Cockroach—how exciting!
(then:)
Thank you, Daddy—for understanding.

PORTER

My dear Janey, this new enthusiasm reminds me of your darling mother. I pray she's watching from above, for she would be so proud.

(Porter smiles brightly, winks, and exits. Clayton enters from a different direction.)

START

CLAYTON

Miss Porter! There you are. You're nearly as difficult to locate as those blasted apes!

JANE

And a good morning to you too, Mr. Clayton.

CLAYTON

Stop wandering off! I can't trap gorillas and serve as your nanny.

JANE

Traps?! No violence, Mr. Clayton! We are modern scientists. Your methods are positively medieval!

CLAYTON

My traps are extremely modern! Every beast I've ever captured has survived—at least six weeks.

JANE

You lack any compassion at all for these creatures.

CLAYTON

Nonsense! If I spot one of their limbs growing infected, I hack it off immediately.

JANE

I order you—to treat the gorillas with dignity and respect.

CLAYTON

Argh! Educated people are so naïve! What—you think they're simply going to wander into our camp because they like us?

JANE

In fact, that was exactly what happened—

(Tarzan enters. Clayton sees him, but Jane does not.)

CLAYTON

Miss Porter—quiet!

JANE

I will not! Your attitude towards women is just as barbaric as your—

CLAYTON

(aims his rifle at Tarzan)

You—stay away!

END

JANE

(looking)

Tarzan!

(Jane knocks Clayton's rifle away and it fires. Tarzan grabs the barrel and easily wrests the rifle from Clayton's hands.)

CLAYTON

Tarzan?!

(to Tarzan)

No, that's dangerous. Let go— You think this is a game? That is not a toy!

(Clayton pursues Tarzan, who pivots, swivels and laughs, as though playing tag. Clayton is not amused with this game.)

JANE

(a little turned on)

Such reflexes!

(Porter enters.)

~~STORY~~

SCENE FIVE: DEEP IN THE JUNGLE

(Kala enters, a bit frantic, and sees Terk pouting.)

KALA

Terk! Do you know where Tarzan is? I need to find him.

TERK

Probably doing the usual Tarzan things: tying knots, making fire, working on his yell—

KALA

It's time to move the family and Kerchak wants Tar—

TERK

Kerchak, Kerchak, Kerchak! We spend half our lives trying to keep that old bull-ape from blowing his top! Did you realize when you met him that he'd be so high-maintenance? Or did his bad temper just creep up on you?

KALA

Terk! Kerchak is the head of our family. "That old bull-ape" would lay down his life for any one of us, and he deserves our respect. Now, where is Tarzan?

TERK

I haven't seen him, all right?!? Seems he'd rather spend all his time with that bony, hairless, female thing with the incomprehensible chatter! And you want to know something really weird? She has absolutely no body odor.

KALA

I noticed that.

TERK

You've met her? And you didn't tell me?!? I thought I was special!

KALA

You boys are both special! But I'm worried, Terk. Just when Kerchak accepts him back into the family, Tarzan leaves the nesting grounds before dawn and doesn't come back until dark. And he's becoming more and more like them. If Kerchak finds out what's going on... But she does seem kind, and I've never seen Tarzan so happy. I don't know what to do.

TERK

I say, let him go, the ungrateful freak. Who needs him?

KALA

(beat)

I miss him, too.

*(Kala and Terk hug then exit in different directions.)*END

JANE

Really? Do you mean it? Oh, I'm so relieved, I can't even begin to--

(Jane impulsively runs to kiss Tarzan, then catches herself and pulls away.)

You're quite certain this is what you wish to do?

TARZAN

Go now, with you. Yes.

PORTER

Well... In which case, it seems this great discovery is even more important than you ever imagined, my dears.

(Porter exits.)

JANE

I knew it! I knew you'd come! I knew you'd choose... us.

(beat)

Well, I'd best go review the packing. Especially now, that we're bringing back so many precious things. Are you coming back to the camp?

TARZAN

Yes. Soon.

JANE

Do hurry, please, I can't wait. Though suddenly, we have all the time in the world, don't we?

(Jane heads off, leaving Tarzan alone. Apes enter and study Tarzan's garments, appalled. Rifle in hand, Clayton emerges from the foliage with Snipes.)

Start

CLAYTON

He's coming with? Too perfect! Once our ship enters the Gulf of Guinea, Tarzan goes into a cage.

SNIPES

But I thought we were selling Apes.

CLAYTON

Why settle for a few hundred pounds, when I can make my fortune? "Come one, come all, to see the amazing Ape Man."

SNIPES

But what will the Professor and Miss Porter say?

CLAYTON

They won't object, once we toss them overboard.

SNIPES

Sir, you can't be serious. Apes are one thing, but--

CLAYTON

Well, isn't this touching? After Tarzan says his goodbyes, we can use his friends and relations for target practice.

(Clayton takes practice aim at the group with his rifle. Kerchak enters. When he sees Clayton's rifle, he roars and charges. Clayton turns and shoots Kerchak.)

End

KERCHAK

(reaching out to Tarzan)

Tarzan!

(Clayton shoots Kerchak again, in the back. Kerchak falls.)

#211 - New York Ape Man

End

(Apes enter and surround their wounded leader. Tarzan starts to charge. Clayton reloads just as Jane enters behind him.)

JANE

What's happened? Mr. Clayton!

(Jane reaches for the rifle, but Clayton violently knocks her back with the butt.)

Tarzan!

TARZAN

Jane!

CLAYTON

(trains the rifle back on Tarzan, nearly point-blank)

Mr. Snipes, are the cages prepared?

SNIPES

Yes, but—

(Snipes reveals a large animal cage.)

CLAYTON

Excellent. Well, ape-man, this accelerates my plans a bit: you can walk peacefully into the cage now. Or I'll shoot you and settle for your furry friends.

(After a beat, Tarzan makes his choice and heads towards the cage.)

JANE

No, Tarzan, you can't!

(Realizing matters are getting out of hand, Snipes runs offstage for help.)

SNIPES

Professor Porter!