

AUDITION MATERIALS

CHARACTER SCRIPT

Mowgli and Bagheera

MOWGLI (stretching and yawning): Bagheera, I'm getting a little sleepy. Shouldn't we start back home?

BAGHEERA: Mowgli, this time we're not going back. I'm taking you to a man-village.

(A COCONUT TREE drops a coconut on MOWGLI, who catches it, breaks it open, and eats it.)

MOWGLI: But why?

BAGHEERA: Because Shere Khan the tiger has returned to this part of the jungle, and he wants to hurt you.

(MOWGLI hops off BAGHEERA's back and climbs the COCONUT TREE, which hugs him.)

MOWGLI: Me? But I've never even met him.

BAGHEERA: He hates man. Man makes fire and hunts tigers with guns.

MOWGLI: Oh, we'll just explain to him that I'd never do that.

BAGHEERA: You can't explain things to tigers.

MOWGLI: But I want to stay in the jungle!

BAGHEERA: It's not safe for you anymore.

MOWGLI: I can take care of myself!

BAGHEERA (chuckling): Alone? I don't think so. **(yawning)** Now, come down from there and get some rest. You're going to need it.

(The COCONUT TREE gently releases MOWGLI as BAGHEERA finds a comfortable spot and falls asleep. MOWGLI, frustrated, curls up at the foot of the COCONUT TREE.)

MOWGLI: Not safe for me anymore. HA!

Baloo

MOWGLI (pushing away): Hey! You're not a rock!

BALOO (fending him off): Easy, man...

MOWGLI (preparing to punch): Get outta my way!

(MOWGLI grunts and groans as he tries to punch and kick BALOO, to no effect.)

BALOO (laughing): Well, now. That's pretty big talk, little bratches.

MOWGLI: I'm warning you. You're asking for it!

BALOO: You want to fight like a bear? Go ahead, give me a big bear growl. Scare me.

MOWGLI (gritting his teeth "ferociously"): Rrrr.

BALOO: Oh, boy. I'm talkin' about a big bear. Right from your toes.

MOWGLI (trying again): Grrrrrrraaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah.

BALOO: No, silly. Like this:

GRRRRRRRRRAAH!!!!

(BALOO sends out a roar that shakes the whole JUNGLE, sending MOWGLI reeling into the BUSHES. The JUNGLE laughs. BAGHEERA runs on.)

BAGHEERA: You were supposed to stay right behind me!!!!

MOWGLI: I'm not hurt.

BALOO: Let me help you, there ... (BALOO helps MOWGLI up.)

KAA
(Read all KAA 1-6)

KAA appears with five coils, all hissing and rattling, and slithers over to MOWGLI.

KAA 1: Ssss-say now. What have we here?

KAA 2 (*giggles*): Oh, it's a man-cub.

KAA 3: A delicious man-cub.

MOWGLI: Who are you?

KAA 4: Why, I am Kaa.

KAA 5: Ssssooooo nice to meet you.

KAA 6: I've been ssssooooo hungry for visitors!

(*KAA encircles MOWGLI, who stiffens, not sure what to do.*)

MOWGLI: Let me go!

KAA 1: Sssssssilly man-cub!

KAA 2: Don't you trust me?

MOWGLI: No!

Shere Khan

SHERE KHAN: Now ... let's see. Where can that little man-cub be?

(*SHERE KHAN casually struts, then pounces.*)

Could he be ... here??? (Two BUSHES fall down. Nothing. SHERE KHAN pounces again.)

Could he be ... here??? (Two TREES fall down. Nothing.)

Surely someone saw something??? (The JUNGLE remains silent, still trembling.)

He can't hide forever, you know. And rest assured, man-cub, I'll find you, wherever you are ...

(*SHERE KHAN exits.*)

Colonel Hathi

HATHI: Inspection! Arms!

(*COLONEL HATHI turns to the BABY ELEPHANT, who stands at attention and salutes. MOWGLI does the same.*)

Well, a new recruit, hey? (*laughs*) I say, what happened to your trunk?

(*COLONEL HATHI pokes MOWGLI's nose.*)

MOWGLI: Hey! Stop that!

HATHI: Hah. (*sputters*) A man-cub! This is treason! Sabotage! I'll have no man-cub in my jungle!

MOWGLI: It's not your jungle! (*BAGHEERA intervenes.*)

BAGHEERA: Hold it! Hold it! i can explain. The man-cub is with me.

COCONUT TREE: He's taking him to the man-village.

HATHI: To stay?

BAGHEERA: You have my word.

HATHI: Good. That's where he belongs. And remember, an elephant never forgets! (*huffs*) Forward ... march!

(*COLONEL HATHI turns and marches off with his troops. CRASH offstage.*)

MOWGLI: What happened?

BAGHEERA: I think he forgot to say "Halt!"

ALL OTHER CHARACTERS

NARRATOR: Visitors? Oh Hello, and there's no need to tell me why they're here. Visitors come to this village for only one reason, to hear the story of the jungle boy. The one the wolves named Mowgli. What a peculiar name to give a child. For it means Little Frog. Did you ever hear the like, Little Frog? Make yourself comfortable while I tell you a story from the book of the jungle.
