

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 Here

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.)

#21C - Man vs. Ape Man

band

(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!