## **KERCHAK**

I SWEAR I WILL

### KALA

IT WOULD BE NICE TO SEE YOU MORE OFTEN

# **KERCHAK**

WHY DON'T YOU COME BACK? OH, I MISS YOU SO

KALA

YOU DO?

KERCHAK

I DO

KALA

BUT YOU KNOW! CAN'T COME BACK ALONE

(Shaking his head, Kerchak walks off. Kala climbs back up into the trees. The sun sets.)

# #9A – Leopard Trap

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(In the darkness, just before dawn, we hear the sound of one stone striking another.)

TARZAN

Mom, I gotta show you this.

KALA

Sweetheart, I can't see a thing.

(We see a spark as Tarzan lights a torch, which barely illuminates Kala in the tree.)

TARZAN

Yes, you can.

KALA

Are you supposed to be playing with that?

**TARZAN** 

Relax, I've got it all under control.

(Terk enters wearing a loincloth.)

# Start Here

TERK

Maybe this works for you, but it's just not me.

(pause)

Though I must admit, it's oddly pleasurable.

(sniffs the air)

## (TERK)

Is something burning?

(does a double-take when he sees the flame)

Sorry to inform you, Tarzan, but... your arm is on fire!

### **TARZAN**

Try it.

### **TERK**

This isn't going to be like that time you made me climb a tree to learn about lightning?

(Tarzan hands the torch to Terk, who reluctantly holds it up.)

Look at me, I'm King of the Jungle! Okay, that was fun.

(Terk hands the torch back to Tarzan, who mounts it so they can see better.)

### **TARZAN**

C'mon, let's get back to work.

#### TERK

You're such a drag.

### **TARZAN**

(explaining the trap he has engineered)

The leopard steps in here, his leg is snared, he gets pulled upside down—and he's caught.

### **TERK**

Is that a plan, or just wishful thinking?

# **TARZAN**

I'm rigging these vines into a trap! Now help me with these knots.

### TERK

Look, I don't go in for arts and crafts.

### **TARZAN**

Here... all you have to do is make a loop, then -

### **KALA**

(calling down from high above)

Tarzan, he doesn't want to tie knots! Now stop torturing him.

### **TARZAN**

But he can do this, I know he can!

(then:)

How'd you know we were tying knots?

#### KALA

I'm your mother. I know everything.

(Tarzan returns to working on the snare. Terk gamely tries to imitate him.)

# #9B-Leopard Fight

ban

### TERK

I was sitting around the other night, getting in touch with my instincts, when I suddenly asked myself: when did you start being able to do all these new things I can't?

### TARZAN

Terk, I still need you. I've been tracking the leopard's movements. For three moons, he's circled closer and closer to the nesting grounds. We've got to stop him—to protect the family.

**TERK** 

"We"?

# TARZAN

You're going to draw him into the snare as bait.

### TERK

No, no, no. The first instinct of any animal is self preservation. Holler at you later. (Terk tries to get up, then falls immediately onto his face. He's inadvertently tied himself up in the vines. Suddenly, the leopard leaps out with a roar and heads straight for the helpless Terk. Tarzan drives the leopard away with the torch. Kala climbs down.)

TARZAN

Mother, go!

TERK

Get help!

END

(Kala exits. Terk scrambles off to a safe spot. Tarzan searches for the leopard, which appears and disappears then attacks again. Tarzan draws a dagger he's fashioned from his old fruit-picker. Kerchak appears with Kala and several Apes to witness the battle. After a beat, Tarzan emerges triumphant and lays the leopard's body before Kerchak, the dagger sticking out. The Apes are silent in anticipation of their leader's reaction. Kerchak studies the dead leopard then pulls the dagger from the corpse.)

KERCHAK

Tarzan... come with us.

**TARZAN** 

Where are we going?