

CZECH RADIO

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SUNDAY FAIRY TALE

MOWGLI

THE JUNGLE BOOK

Based on The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling
by Marie Špalová

Lyrics by Tereza Verecká

Translated by Kateřina Holá

CHARACTERS

Mowgli

Bagheera, a black panther

Baloo, a bear

Shere Khan, a tiger

Akela, a wolf

Father Wolf

Mother Wolf

Wolfie

Wolfy

Assembly of Wolves

Kaa, a snake

Monkey 1 (female)

Monkey 2 (female)

Monkey 3 (female)

Monkey crowd (females)

Chil, a kite

Indian Pythons (chorus)

Hathi, an elephant

Buffalos (chorus)

Animals (chorus)

1. Wolf's Cave

Two wolf cubs are already fighting, while their parents are just waking up.

Mother Wolf: Augrh. What are you doing?! Be quiet! Augrh! Your dad needs to sleep before he goes hunting!

Wolfy: But mommy, look outside the cave, it's night already!

Wolfie: No really, mommy, listen, the jungle is waking up to hunt.

Mother Wolf: You are right. *(to the sleeping Wolf)* You should get up.

Father Wolf: Augrrh! I can hear that, I can hear that. It is time to hunt.

Wolf cubs begin fighting again in the background.

Mother Wolf: Stop fighting! Out with you.

Father Wolf: Where do they get all this energy?!

Mother Wolf: No idea. I heard that Shere Khan is shifting his hunting grounds.

Father Wolf: What? He has no right! That limping tiger will frighten our game for ten miles around!

Mother Wolf: He is stealing cattle from the villagers from the Waingunga River and now he wants to anger our people here too?!

Wolfie: *(from the outside)* Mommy?

Mother Wolf: They'll be prowling for him far and wide in the jungle, and we'll have to run from the burning grass.

Wolfy: *(from the outside)* Mommy!

Mother Wolf: What now?!

Shere Khan: *(in the distance)* Oh not this! Damn work!

Mother Wolf: Shere Khan!

Shere Khan: I will eat you for dessert!

Father Wolf: What a fool. To begin a night's hunt with that noise!

Father and Mother Wolf are getting out of the cave.

Mother Wolf: Shh! Can you hear? He is not hunting for cattle or deer today. Today he is chasing... a human.

Wolfie: A human? But dad, the Law of the Jungle forbids beasts from eating humans, right?

Father Wolf: That is right.

Wolfy: But why?

Mother Wolf: If we kill a person, humans with rifles and torches will soon come and the whole jungle will suffer!

Father Wolf: It is said that whoever eats a human becomes mangy and loses their teeth.

Shere Khan: *(from a distance)* Roar!

Mother Wolf: He missed his prey.

Wolfy: How do you know?

Father Wolf: Listen... he jumped into the Red Flower and burnt his feet.

Wolfie: The Red Flower?

Mother Wolf: It grows in front of people's cottages. When you are close, it warms you up, but when you touch it, it burns you... What is that? Can you hear that?

Father Wolf: Someone is coming uphill... They'll be here soon!

Mother Wolf: Everyone back to the cave!

Little Mowgli's babbling.

Father Wolf: *(from the outside)* Arrrrgh. What are you?! Oh this can't be true!

Wolfie: Who is it?

Wolfy: Whose voice is it?

Father Wolf: *(from the outside)* A human!

Mother Wolf: What?

Father Wolf: *(from the outside)* A human cub.

Mother Wolf: A human cub? Bring it here! I have never seen one.

Father Wolf: *(with his mouth full)* Here you go.

Little Mowgli's babbling.

Mother Wolf: How tiny.

Wolfy: He is funny. He has no teeth.

Wolfie: And such small ears!

Wolfy: Ouch. He is pulling my tail!

Wolf cubs: Stop it, ouch! That's my ear. Get off me!

Mother Wolf: How daring! He is brave! Has any wolf family ever raised a human cub?

Father Wolf: I've heard of it before, but not in our Pack. He has no fur, he can't survive outside on his own.

Mother Wolf: Look, he isn't afraid of us.

A tiger's roar is suddenly heard outside the cave.

Mother Wolf: It's Shere Khan.

Wolfy: Mommy!

Mother Wolf: Don't worry, but be quiet.

Father Wolf: Stay behind me.

The tiger Sher Khan suddenly sticks his head into the mouth of the cave.

Shere Khan: Well, well, well!

Father Wolf: My, oh my. What a great honor. What do you want, Shere Khan?

Shere Khan: My prey. A human cub went this way. Give him to me.

Father Wolf: Wolves take orders only from the head of the Pack, and not from any striped cattle killer. The human cub is ours – to kill if we choose.

Shere Khan: If you choose! What talk! By the bull that I killed, am I to stand nosing into your dog's den for my fair dues? It is I, Shere Khan, who speaks!

Mowgli starts crying.

Shere Khan: There you are! I got you, boy!

Mother Wolf: Not so fast! I'm telling you! The human cub is mine! Forever mine. He will stay alive, run with the Pack and hunt with the Pack.

And watch out, Sher Khan! Because eventually he will catch you!
Now get lost!

Shere Khan: As you wish... Each dog barks in his own yard! But let's see what the Pack says to this fostering of human cubs. The cub is mine, and to my teeth he will come in the end. Remember that! (*runs away*)

Wolf cubs: Mommy!

Mother Wolf: Don't worry, it's alright now.

Father Wolf: I say. I almost forgot that I once won you fair and square against five other wolves. (*to the wolf cubs*) Mom was the queen of the Pack back then, everyone called her the Devil.

Mother Wolf: He knew I had the advantage. Because I am your mom and I will always fight to the death for you.

Mowgli's giggling.

Father Wolf: Oh, look at him.

Mother Wolf: Isn't he adorable?

Wolf cubs: Could we keep him? Pleeese!

Mother Wolf: Of course we will keep him.

Wolf cubs: Yey! We will have a brother! The least hairy brother in the world.
Yes!

Father Wolf: What will we call him?

Mother Wolf: Come to me, my little frog, Mowgli. We will call you Mowgli, the Frog.

Father Wolf: But Shere Khan speaks truth in one regard. The cub must be shown to the Pack.

Mother Wolf: When the time comes, we will take him, together with our cubs, to the Council Rock.

2. Song: The Pack Council

**Our fur glows silver in the moonlight,
The jungle echoes with our cries,
The Wolf Council convenes tonight,
To seal your fate beneath the skies.**

What will the Pack decide?

Akela's word is law (x3)

**The jungle echoes with our howls,
Tonight the Wolf Council convenes.**

Akela's word is law (x2)

3. Council Rock

Akela: The full moon is here, and I welcome all you wolves to the traditional Pack meeting at Council Rock. As the Law of the Jungle says, once wolf cubs stand on their own feet, their parents must bring them here to introduce them. If the cubs are accepted by the Pack, they will continue to enjoy the protection of the older wolves.

Mother Wolf: *(to the cubs)* Well, come on, hurry up, show yourself to the Pack.

Wolfy: Who is the gray wolf on top of the rock, dad?

Father Wolf: Akela, the lone wolf, the leader of our Pack.

Akela: If they are, however, not accepted by the Pack, they must leave the Jungle. That is the Law.

Mother Wolf: Akela knows the manners and ways of humans. As a young wolf, he fall into a human trap twice, but he always managed to save himself.

Akela: Now, please, show us your offspring.

Father Wolf: Go now and play nicely, so the other wolves can see how strong and talented you are. We have to show them our human frog too.

Wolf cubs: Come with us, Mowgli! Come on!

Mother Wolf: Show the Pack how talented you are.

Mowgli: Arrrgh!

Wolves: What is this? What is this supposed to mean? You call this a wolf?! (x3) It is a human cub!

Shere Khan: The cub is mine. Give it to me.

Akela: Shere Khan! You are not allowed to interrupt our meeting.

Shere Khan: What do wolves care about a human cub?

Akela: And what does the Pack care about a stranger's orders?

Wolves: That is true! What do we care! (x3) Akela is right. (x2)

Other Wolves: Wait, Shere Khan is right! What do we care about a human cub?

Wolves: That is also true. What do we care about a human cub?

Akela: If there is a dispute about whether a cub should be accepted, at least two members of the Pack must vouch for it.

Mother Wolf: I do! He is my little frog!

Father Wolf: Me too! Mowgli is ours!

Akela: But not a father and a mother. Who from our Pack vouches for this child?

Mother Wolf: I will not give him Mowgli. I will fight him.

Father Wolf: Don't, please, it will be your last fight.

Mother Wolf: I know that very well.

Akela: Wolfpack, is there anyone who would vouch for this cub?

Shere Khan: Seems like no one...

Baloo: Let me see the human cub! Let me through. Come on, move...

Mother Wolf: Baloo!

Shere Khan: Not this big...

Wolfie: Who is it, mommy? That's no wolf!

Mother Wolf: That is old Baloo. The sleepy brown bear Baloo.

Father Wolf: He teaches wolf cubs the Law of the Jungle.

Baloo: Let me see the human cub.

Mowgli: (*babbling*)

Baloo: Are you not afraid of me?

Mother Wolf: He likes you, Baloo.

Baloo: Who are you to hug an old bear like that? You must have some real courage. I vouch for this human cub.

Wolves: What? He doesn't even have claws! He doesn't have fur! He doesn't have teeth! He can't do anything. Nothing at all!

Baloo: A human cub won't harm anyone. Let him run with the Pack, let him be accepted along with the others. I'll teach him myself.

Mother Wolf: Thank you!

Akela: So, the teacher of our cubs, Baloo, is vouching for this child. Anyone else? At least two members of the Pack must vouch for him.

Shere Khan: Well, let's not drag this out, shall we? No one else is speaking up, so with your permission, I'll take care of him.

Bagheera: Good evening, everyone! Greetings, Shere Khan!

Shere Khan: What is that arrogant panther doing here?

Wolves: It's Bagheera! It's Bagheera! He's come to take a look at the human cub.

Mother Wolf: We wolves respect the black panther Bagheera.

Akela: Why have you come to our meeting, Bagheera?

Bagheera: Akela, I know I have no place here.

Shere Khan: That's what I think too!

Bagheera: But when there's doubt about whether a newborn should be killed or not, the Law of the Jungle allows the life of the cub to be

bought out. The law doesn't specify who can or can not buy it out.
Am I right?

Akela: Yes, that's correct!

Shere Khan: What kind of rule is that? That's my prey!

Akela: It's not a rule, it's the Law of the Jungle, Shere Khan!

Wolves: Buy it out? You mean we could get something for him? So, we'd let him stay with us in the Pack? That's not a bad idea. We're hungry!

Bagheera: I know I don't have the right to speak here, but may I?

Shere Khan: Don't listen to him!

Wolves: Speak! Speak, speak! Bagheera!

Bagheera: Killing a little cub is a disgrace. When he grows up, you might get a better feast out of him. Baloo has vouched for him. If you accept the human cub as your own according to the Law, I'll offer you a fat bull I've just killed and left less than a mile from here. Add that to Baloo's word. What do you say?

Wolves: He'll die in the winter rains anyway. He'll roast in the sun. A hairless frog won't harm us. Let him run with the Pack. Let's accept the cub. And where's that bull, Bagheera?

Bagheera: The bull lies by the waterholes over there...

Wolves: Quickly! Let's run! To the feast! (*they run away*)

Shere Khan: Wait, where are you going? Come back!

Bagheera: And they're gone. That was fast...

Akela: ...one bull was enough.

Father Wolf: Thank you, Bagheera.

Shere Khan: There's no deal!

Akela: Yes there is. For one bull and on Baloo's recommendation, we hereby accept this human cub into our Wolf Pack. What will you call him?

Wolfie: We call him Mowgli.
Akela: Welcome among us, Mowgli.
Shere Khan: You and I are not finished, little boy! (*he runs away*)
Bagheera: Shout all you want, Shere Khan! As someone who knows what a human is, one day this little cub will teach you to roar a different tune.
Baloo: We made the right choice. Humans and their cubs are clever!
Akela: Take him and teach him everything a member of the jungle needs to know.

4. Song: The Law of the Jungle

ALL You must learn to run, to leap, and track your prey.
Treat every member of your Pack with respect each day.
If ever you're tempted by prey that's not your own,
Forget about it – only a jackal steals another's bone!

**Wash your ears, tail, and paws with care!
Those who wash too little, fleas will ensnare!
Wolves live together, they play and hunt.
And all of us here today
Are loyal to Akela, hooray!**

**What we all recommend to you, Mowgli,
Is to get up and start learning quickly!**

5. How Mowgli Learned

Mowgli: If ever you're tempted by prey that's not your own—forget about it... uh... (*doesn't remember the rest*)

Baloo: ... only...

Mowgli: Only a jackal steals!

Baloo: Very good! What's next?!

Mowgli: Baloo, I'm bored. Shouldn't school be fun? Let's play instead.

Baloo: Absolutely not.

Mowgli: How about a small break? We could climb to the bees for some honey, what do you say? Wouldn't you like that?

Baloo: Mowgli, I know your wolf brothers ran off as soon as they memorized the hunting poem, but you're a human cub. You have much more to learn.

Mowgli: Yeah, I know!

Baloo: So, keep reciting and stop swinging on that vine! The Law of the Jungle says:

Mowgli: Guard the young of others like your own. Guard the young... (*has an idea*) ... or you will get hit by a stone!

Baloo: You need to learn everything, everything! How to tell a dry branch from a healthy one. How to respectfully greet the Queen of the jungle, the elephant Hathi. And how to warn the water snakes before you jump into their pool.

Bagheera: Greetings, Baloo.

Baloo: Bagheera! You startled me!

Bagheera: How's the teaching going?

Baloo: The human cub must learn all the Laws of the Jungle.

Bagheera: You're right, but I think he's doing well. He can swing on vines... (*we hear Mowgli's laughter from somewhere up in the trees*)

Baloo: He's my most talented student. That's why I'm so strict with him. Better than him getting into trouble due to ignorance. I'm teaching him the jungle's safety phrases. They'll protect him from birds,

snakes, and predators. Once he remembers them, he can demand protection from almost anyone in the jungle.

Bagheera: And what are these safety words? I am not planning to ever ask for help... but I'd like to know them anyway. Just in case.

Baloo: Call Mowgli, he'll tell you—if he feels like it.

Bagheera: Mowgli! Froggy!

Mowgli: (*sliding down a tree trunk*) Bagheeraaaaa!

Bagheera: Froggy!

Baloo: Welcome back.

Mowgli: I'm coming to see Bagheera, not you, you fatty! Hi, Bagheera!

Bagheera: Who's this monkey who dares to mock his respected teacher?

Mowgli: Well look at his belly!

Baloo: Hm, respect for the teacher is nowhere to be found here. Mowgli, tell Bagheera the jungle's safety phrases that I taught you today.

Mowgli: In which language? The jungle has many languages. I know them all.

Baloo: Tell us, wise one, the words of the predators.

Mowgli: There is the same blood between you and I.

Bagheera: Wow. And do you know how to speak to the jungle's main messenger, the kite bird?

Mowgli: There is the same blood between you and I.

Bagheera: And with the snakes?

Mowgli: There issssss the sssssame blood between you and I.

Bagheera: Bravo!

Baloo: There you go. You'll remember me someday.

Mowgli: I think of you all the time. And I don't mind that you're overweight...

Baloo: Well now, listen to this kid! Almost nothing can harm Mowgli in the jungle now. Neither snake, nor bird, nor predator. He has nothing to fear.

Bagheera: Except for his own Pack.

Mowgli: Do you know I'm already attending the meetings at Council Rock, Bagheera?

Bagheera: Oh really?

Mowgli: I pull long thorns from everyone's paws. And search for ticks in their fur. That bothers wolves the most.

Bagheera: That is kind of you.

Mowgli: And you know what I've discovered? If I stare directly at any wolf, they can't help but lower their eyes, whether they want to or not.

Baloo and Bagheera don't know how to respond. Is that a good thing?

Bagheera: Hm, that's not exactly common, you know. Only a human's gaze can make us animals lower our eyes.

Mowgli: But-

Baloo: You see, you're from a different breed after all.

Mowgli: I'll be with a totally different breed someday, and I'll spend all day climbing up the branches with them!

Bagheera: What are you babbling about, Froggy? What breed?

Mowgli: Yes, I will! And I'll be throwing sticks and mud at old Baloo.

Baloo: What is this nonsense.

Mowgli: They promised me!

Baloo: Who did?

Mowgli: Well, the... *(he screeches like a monkey)*

Bagheera: Mowgli, you've been talking to the Bandar-log?

Mowgli: They gave me nuts and bananas and carried me up to the top of the tallest tree! They said I'm their blood brother, just missing a tail. And one day, they said, I'll be their leader!

Baloo: But monkeys don't have a leader.

Bagheera: They've always lied. Don't listen to them!

Mowgli: They were kind to me! They said I should come back! They stand on their hind legs like I do. They play all day long!

Baloo: Mowgli, monkeys lack memory. They show off and boast about everything they can do in the jungle, but as soon as a nut falls from a tree, they start laughing and forget everything.

The monkeys drop a nut on Baloo from above and laugh cheekily.

Baloo: Ouch! See what I mean?

Bagheera: Baloo is right, Mowgli. The Bandar-log are evil, dirty, rude, and crave nothing but attention!

The monkeys drop another nut on Baloo.

Baloo: Ouch, you damned monkeys...-

Bagheera: - But we ignore them, even when they drop nuts on our heads.

Baloo: The jungle's inhabitants must have nothing to do with the Bandar-log. Remember that. Let's go... (*walks away*)

Bagheera: You should have warned him about them earlier. (*follows Baloo*)

Baloo: How should I have guessed he'd want to play with the monkeys?

Bagheera: (*calls*) Come on, Mowgli!

Mowgli: (*calls back*) Coming! (*to himself*) So monkeys...

Just then, the monkeys drop another nut on Mowgli and then climb down to him.

Mowgli: Ouch! Ow! What's the matter with you?

Monkey 3: Greetings, our King!

Monkey 2: Greetings!

Monkey 1: We heard you can build houses out of fallen branches!

Mowgli: That's true, I can.

Monkey 3: Could you teach us?
Mowgli: Sure I could.
Monkey 3: Imagine if we actually had a ruler.
Monkey 1: The monkeys would become the wisest in the jungle -
Monkey 2: Everyone would envy us!
Mowgli: Ha-ha! Yeah. Yes!
Monkey 1 a 3: What are you laughing at? Well?
Mowgli: Nothing.
Monkey 3: Grab him! Grab him, and let's go!
Mowgli: I'm not going anywhere with you.
Monkey 2: Sorry, King, but we have to go.
The monkeys grab Mowgli under his arms and carry him up into the trees.
Mowgli: Aaaaah! What are you doing? Let me go! Let me go! Baloo!
Bagheera!
Baloo: *(somewhere below)* Mowgli! Mowgli!
Bagheera: *(somewhere below)* You'll regret this, you damned monkeys!
Monkey 2: They saw us!
Monkey 1: Run!
Monkey: 3: Throw him on your shoulder!
Monkey 2: Don't worry, King, I won't drop you!
Mowgli: Help! Let me go!

6. Song: Road Song of the Bandar-log

**I'll fit, I'll fit five coconuts in my mouth!
Oh really, oh really, just watch, they'll all go south!
The jungle, the jungle, it echoes with our laugh,
We'll pinch you on the butt,
Then vanish in a flash!**

**Bandar-log, Bandar-log, when we stroll by,
We poke our noses with our tails, oh my!
Bandar-log, Bandar-log, when we go through,
—oops, I just lost a hair—who knew!**

**We're the best, we're the best, we're beyond compare,
We're the most beautiful monkeys out there!
We're the best, we're the best, we're beyond compare,
We're the most beautiful monkeys out there!**

—oops, there goes another hair!

7. The Kidnapping of Mowgli

Mowgli: Help! Help! Bagheera! Baloo! Let me go, you monkeys! We're so high up, I'm getting dizzy.

Chil: *Whistles.*

Mowgli: That's Chil the Kite! He watches everything that moves in the jungle. (*shouting*) Chil! (*whistles like a kite*) There is the same blood between you and I. Tell Baloo and Bagheera that I've been kidnapped by the Bandar-log, and I need help!

Chil: I'll pass on the message, brother. And who are you?

Mowgli: I'm a human cub. Mowgli. Follow my trail!

Monkey 3: What's he doing?

Monkey 2: Talking to some bird.

Monkey 1: No way! Gag him!

Monkey 2: What?

Monkey 3: What's that about a bag?

Monkey 1: Shut his mouth!

Mowgli: What are you doing? Let go of me, you monkey! Chil, do you hear me?!

Chil: *Whistle!*

8. Kaa, The Snake

Baloo: Hurry. Hurry! Maybe – maybe we can catch up to them!

Bagheera: At your speed? You wouldn't catch a wounded cow like this. Stop, we need to think.

Baloo: Maybe they got tired of carrying him and dropped him. You can't trust those monkeys! Lay dead bats on my head. Give me blackened bones to eat! I'm the saddest bear in the world.

Bagheera: Come on, Baloo! The little Frog is smart; he's learned a lot. And most importantly: everyone in the jungle gets scared when Mowgli just looks at them.

Baloo: But the monkeys aren't afraid of any of us.

Bagheera: They must be afraid of someone.

Baloo: I've got it! The elephant Hathi once said: everyone is afraid of something. And the monkeys are afraid of Kaa, the rock python. He steals their babies at night. Just mention him, and their tails freeze in fear. Let's go find Kaa.

Bagheera: He doesn't even have legs!

Baloo: He's incredibly clever. When I met him ten days ago, he was starting to shed his skin. And he said he hadn't eaten yet! He must be around here. Kaa? Look! There he is! Good hunting, Kaa!

Bagheera: He's not moving at all.

Baloo: Kaa? Hello, Kaa, wake up!

Kaa: You've missssstaken me for my sssshed sssssskin. Good hunting, friendsssss. Hasssss any prey been sssspotted nearby? I'm assssss dry assssss a well. And sssssso are all the treessss. Their branchessss are withered. On my lasssssst hunt, I nearly fell and the monkeysssss mocked me.

Bagheera: Oh yes, they called you a legless yellow worm!

Kaa: Tssssss! What did they ssssay? They made fun of me?

Baloo: What a “shamelesssssss” bunch, those Bandar-log, huh?

Kaa: I’ll sssssskin them alive!

Bagheera: We’re actually chasing the Bandar-log right now.

Kaa: What bringssss two hunterssss like you on the trail of those apesssss?

Baloo: I’m really just an old and sometimes quite foolish teacher of the law –

Bagheera: Here’s the deal: those cursed monkeys have stolen our human cub! Surely you’ve heard of him by now.

Kaa: Yesssss, I ssssupossee, but I didn’t believe it....

Baloo: There’s never been a human cub like this one. He’s the wisest and bravest—he’s my pupil, and he’ll make my name famous across—

Bagheera: Mowgli is in the hands of the Bandar-log, and as you know, they fear no one in the jungle but you, Kaa.

Kaa: Chatterboxessss, foolssss, and braggartsssss—that’ssssss what they are! Where did they take the ssssssmall cub?

Baloo: Only the jungle knows.

Chil: *Whistle!* Up, up!

Baloo: That’s Chil the Kite!

Chil: I’ve got a message for you from Mowgli! The Bandar-log captured him and took him across the river to the abandoned human city—

Kaa: You mean the Cold Lairsssss? I know that placccccce.

Bagheera: A full belly and deep sleep to you, Chil. I’ll remember you when I make a kill, and I’ll save you the head, my friend.

Baloo: Thank you!

Chil: You are welcome. The boy remembered the safety phrase. So why wouldn't I help him? (*flies away*)

Baloo: Such a little fellow, being dragged through the trees, and he still remembers the safety phrase in bird language.

Bagheera: I'm proud of him. And of you too. But now we must head to the Cold Lairs. The journey will take us half the night—but only if we hurry.

Kaa: I sssslide like the wind.

Baloo: I'll go as fast as I can!

Bagheera: We can't wait for you. Follow us, Baloo.

Baloo: (*calling after them from a distance*) I'll catch up as soon as I can!

Bagheera: I must admit, you're not slow, Kaa.

Kaa: Of coursssse not, I am ssssstarving and those apesssss mocked me, calling me a ssssssnail.

Bagheera: A worm! A yellow worm, at that.

Kaa: Make hasssste! I'll enjoy feasssting on them. I'll go firsssst, meet me there!

9. The Cold Lairs

Monkey 3: No one in the whole jungle is as strong as the Bandar-log, the monkey people!

Monkey crowd: No one is as strong!

Monkey 2: I've got muscles, big and strong! Go ahead, feel 'em!

Monkey 1: I'm not gonna feel them, leave me alone!

Monkey 3: Brothers of the Bandar-log, we have captured a human cub. I declare this to be a turning point in the history of the Bandar-log.

Monkey crowd: A turning point! A turning point! A turning point!

Monkey 2: What? Whose joint?

Monkey 1: Point! Like an important moment!

Monkey 3: Welcome, human cub! Welcome, our new leader!

Monkeys: Leader! Leader!

Monkey 3: Let the leader speak!

Monkey 2: Why isn't he talking?

Monkey 1: Probably because he's gagged, right?

Monkey 2: Bagged?

Monkey 1: He is gagged! Take it off!

Monkey: Take off the gag!

Mowgli: I'm hungry! I don't know this part of the jungle. Either give me something to eat or let me go back home.

Monkey 3: Bring food for our leader!

Monkeys: I'll go pick nuts for him! And I'll get wild papayas! Me too! (*they run off*)

Monkey 3: So, what do you think of our city?

Mowgli: I heard that it was built long ago by humans.

Monkey 2: What?

Monkey 3: It's true, some king had this palace built for himself long ago. But ever since the humans left, this city has been ours!

Monkey 1: See all that marble shining everywhere.

Mowgli: It's just a pile of ruins.

Monkey 3: But marble ruins! Aha!

Monkey 2: Look, there's even a small pool over there!

Mowgli: Do you swim in it?

Monkey 1: We don't know how to swim.

Mowgli: So what do you do here all day?

Monkey 2: We play and pretend to be humans.

Monkey 1: Run around the palace!

Monkey 3: Search through the chambers!

Mowgli: And what have you found in them?

Monkey 3: Where?

Mowgli: In those chambers.

Monkey 2: In the chambers...? Hey, do you know what we found there?

Monkey 1: Where?

Mowgli: This is unbelievable, you don't remember anything?

Monkeys: (*returning*) We're here! We're back! We're here now!

Mowgli: Where are the nuts? And where are the papayas?

Monkeys: What nuts? What papayas?

Mowgli: You promised to bring me food.

Monkeys: Food? You want food? I can bring you nuts! And wild papayas!

Mowgli: But you already promised that earlier! Where have you been all this time?

Monkeys: We were playing around the water tank. We almost fell in. Yeah! That would've been something. Can you swim? I can't... Me neither! You can't either?

Mowgli: You were supposed to bring food to your leader.

Monkeys: What leader? Who's the leader? The Bandar-log have no leader!

Mowgli: Ahh... this is pointless. Baloo was right. I want to go back to my jungle. Take care! (*he starts to leave*)

Monkey 3: He's running away! The human cub is escaping!

Monkeys: Catch him! Catch him! Where is he? Over there!

Mowgli: Let me go! Don't touch me! Ouch, that hurts! Stop pinching me!

10. Rescuing Mowgli

Bagheera: Hello everyone.

Mowgli: Bagheera! I knew you'd come rescue me. But where's Baloo?

Bagheera: He's on his way

Monkeys: Bagheera! The black panther is here! What will we do? What will we do?

Monkey 3: There is nothing to worry about. He is all alone. Kill him! Kill him!

Monkeys: Get him! Jump on his back!

Bagheera: Ouch! Where's Kaa? He should be here by now! He must have taken the other side. Ouch. Stop biting me! Kaa, where are you?

Monkey 3: And throw the kid into the pit with the poisonous ones.

Monkey 1: Come on.

Mowgli: Let me be! Let go!

Monkey 2: Stop squirming!

Bagheera: Mowgli!

Mowgli: Let me go! Bagheera, help!

Bagheera: Hold on, Mowgli! And don't forget what Baloo taught you.

Monkey 1: No lessons will help you now!

Monkey 2: Say hello down there!

The monkeys throw Mowgli into a pit.

Mowgli: Aaaaaaaaaah!

From the top of the dark pit, the monkeys are heard.

Monkey 1: We'll kill Bagheera first!

Monkey 2: And then we'll have some fun with you.

Monkey 1: That is, if the poisonous ones let you live.

11. In the Pit, Among the Snakes

Pythons: Hissss... Can you sssssssmell it? Prey!

Mowgli: Aah. Help!

Pythons: A visssssssitor. A ssssssnack! Let'ssssss eat him.

Mowgli: There isssssss the sssssame blood between you and I.

Pythons: What wasssssss that?

Mowgli: There isssssss the sssssame blood between you and I.

Pythons: Sssss. Sssshhh. Don't ssssscream. We hear you! Who are you?

Mowgli: My name is Mowgli, and I don't want to harm you.

Pythons: Alright then. But sssstand sssstill, you might sssstep on ussss.

Mowgli: Thank you, friends. I'll try not to move.

Pythons: What'ssss going on up there? Who are the monkeyssss fighting with?

Mowgli: That's Bagheera. The black panther. He's my friend.

Pythons: It sseemsss like he issssss fighting for hissssss life.

Mowgli: Hopefully, Baloo is nearby. Bagheera wouldn't have come alone.
(*calls out*) To the water tank, Bagheera! Jump into the water!

Monkeys: Grab his tail! Jump on him!

Bagheera: Stop pinching me!

Monkeys: Surprised, Bagheera, aren't you!

Bagheera: Leave me alone! Do you hear me?!

Monkeys: The Bandar-log are the terror of the jungle! Even the black panther fears us!

Bagheera: Aaah! Just you wait!

Mowgli: (*voice from the depths*) Bagheera, the monkeys can't swim! Jump into the water!

Bagheera: If only I could, Mowgli.

Baloo: (*shouting from a distance*) Bagheera, I'm here. I'm climbing up. I'm coming!

Bagheera: Baloo! Where have you been?

Baloo: Sorry. I'm almost there! The rocks are crumbling under my feet.

Monkeys: Strangle him! Grab him by the neck! Gouge his eyes out!

Bagheera: Ouch! I can't hold on much longer, Baloo! Where's Kaa?!

Baloo: Hold on, friend! Come at me, you lousy Bandar-log!

Monkeys: Baloo! Baloo! Baloo! Quickly, get him!

Baloo: Bagheera, jump into the water! Now!

Bagheera: Thanks, Baloo. (*jumps*)

Baloo: You Bandar-log scoundrels, how dare you?! Take that! And that!
And that!

Bagheera: Kaa! Where are you, Kaa?! There isssssss the sssssame blood
between you and I.

Kaa: Sssssss. I'm sssso clossse, don't worry! I'm here.

Bagheera: What took you so long?

Kaa: I had ssssome trouble at the wesssstern wallssss. Sssso what do
we have here, a little ssssweet treat?

Monkeys: Kaa! It's Kaa! Run! Run away! The terror of the jungle is here!

Kaa: Ssstay in the treesss, little monkeysss. I'll be right there!

Mowgli: Hello, Baloo!

Baloo: We need to get Mowgli out of this trap and get out of here before
the monkeys attack again!

Kaa: They won't move until I ssssay sssso.

Baloo: Where were you, Kaa? I ended up getting here faster than you!

Kaa: My apologiesss, I couldn't get here any ssssooner. I got tangled up
in the lianasssss.

Mowgli: Bagheera, help!

Bagheera: I thought you had abandoned us.

Kaa: What do you think of me! Ssseemed to me that ussed the
emergency phrassse, eh?

Bagheera: Well... that was more of a battle cry, Kaa.

Baloo: I think you saved our lives, Kaa. Thanks!

Kaa: It wasss my pleasssure. And where isss that little human cub?

Mowgli: Nice of you to remember! I'm here! I can't climb up!

Pythons: Take him away. He'ssss jumping around like a crazzzzzzy
persssoon. He'll trample our babiesss.

Kaa: Hoho, it ssseemsss the human cub hasss friendsss everywhere. I'll
go get him down there. Sssslide on me.

Mowgli: There isssss the sssame blood between you and I. So, you're Kaa.

Kaa: And you mussst be Mowgli. You have ssssmooth sssskin, sssso be careful I don't misssstake you for a monkey next time. Grab hold of me.

Mowgli: Thank you, Kaa.

Kaa: (*emerges from the depths*) Here he issss!

Mowgli: Bagheera, Baloo!

Baloo and Bagheera: Froggy! Mowgli!

Mowgli: Kaa, you saved my life tonight. Thank you.

Kaa: A brave heart and a ressspectful tongue, with thesse, little human cub, you'll go far. But now get out of here. What'sss coming nexsst isssn't for you. Now, where are you, monkeysss? Kaa'sss hungry dancce isss about to begin. Ssssss!

Baloo: Come on, Mowgli, let's get out of here quickly.

12. Song: Kaa's Song

**Sssslithering body, sssshadowsss bend,
When I sssstart my feassst, there's no end.
Sssstrength I have, in massss and might,
I'll ssssing for you, sssslowly tonight.**

**My ssssong I love, it's my delight,
Listen to hear the bonessss crack tight,
Listen to hear the bonessss crack tight.**

When Kaa sssslides after it's prey,

**You cannot hide from my embrace,
No den or burrow issss a ssssafe place,
No nssst hidden in the tree'ssss lace.**

When Kaa sssslides after the prey,

My ssssong I love, it's my delight,

Listen to hear the bonessss crack tight,

Listen to hear the bonessss crack tight.

13. You Better Remember This!

Mowgli: That's the end of the monkeys?

Bagheera: We were almost finished too.

Baloo: The Jungle's inhabitants must have nothing to do with them. Now you better remember that.

Mowgli: You bet I will.

Bagheera: Alright, Mowgli. Now hop on my back, we need to go home.

14. At the Waterhole

Mowgli: There is the same blood between you and I, buffaloes!

Buffalos: Moo... Moo... Greetings, Mowgli.

Bagheera: Mmmm, yummy buffaloes!

Baloo: Calm down, Bagheera, remember the truce.

Bagheera: I've been eating nothing but turtles and frogs for weeks. I might as well start munching on twigs.

Buffalos: That wouldn't bother us buffaloes at all. Moo...

Mowgli: Baloo, why are predators standing peacefully next to deer without attacking them? I've never seen that before!

Baloo: The jungle hasn't seen a drought like this in a long time!

Animals: Thirst, thirst, it's a cruel affront.

We will dry up and bear the brunt.

We're thirsty and hungry, we want and want.

But in this drought, no one dares to hunt.

Bagheera: They say Peace Rock hasn't been seen in fifty years.

Mowgli: Peace Rock?

Baloo: Look over there! Usually, it's deep underwater, but now it's visible. That's why Hathi, the elephant leader respected by all in the jungle, raised her trunk and declared the Water Truce, just like her father did.

**Animals: When the first drops wet the land,
The hunters will start to band.**

Bagheera: Water is more important than food. When the jungle's inhabitants gather at the only water source, peace must immediately prevail.

Shere Khan: Aaaargh.

Mowgli: Shere Khan is coming.

Baloo: Don't worry, Mowgli. The truce is in effect.

Shere Khan: Well, well, well! The jungle has turned into a nursery.
Look at me, human cub.

Mowgli: What do you want here?

Shere Khan: Is this even a human? He isn't afraid of me. Next year, I might have to ask him for permission before I drink.

Bagheera: That could very well happen. It could happen soon, Shere Khan!
What do those greasy stains on your muzzle mean?! What disgrace have you brought upon us now?

Shere Khan: I killed a human an hour ago.

Mowgli: Baloo, he isn't allowed to do that!

Shere Khan: I came to wash him down and clean myself. Is someone going to stop me?

Baloo: Killing a human at such a time! Couldn't you find other prey?

Shere Khan: I wanted a delicacy, not just food. That's why I killed him.

Animals: Hathi, tell him something. He can't do this!

Hathi: Get out of here. The river is for drinking, not for polluting.
Whether you've cleaned yourself or not, leave, Shere Khan, go
back to your lair.

Shere Khan: Relax, elephant, relax... I'll just drop by the wolves! Farewell!
(runs away)

Bagheera: Scumbag.

Mowgli: Now I understand why Shere Khan wanted me to look into his
eyes. He wanted to see me bow before him on his special night.
But I'm not a human. I belong to the Wolf Pack; that's my family.

Bagheera: Look over there, across the river, at your so-called "family."

Baloo: Akela has aged and grown weak.

Bagheera: And Shere Khan has been cozying up to the younger wolves. They
follow him, feeding on his scraps.

Baloo: If Akela had his strength, he wouldn't stand for it.

Bagheera: But Akela is old. One day, he'll fail to bring down the bull, and
he'll no longer be the leader.

Baloo: The young wolves have been convinced by Shere Khan that a
human cub has no place in the Pack!

Mowgli: I was born in the jungle, I follow its laws, and I've faithfully
helped the wolves in our Pack by pulling thorns from their paws.
They are my brothers!

Bagheera: Mowgli... I'm going to tell you a secret. No one in the jungle
knows this, except Baloo.

Mowgli: What secret?

Bagheera: I... was born among humans. In a cage in a royal palace. They fed
me through the bars on painted plates, but one night, I realized that
I am Bagheera, a panther, not someone's plaything. With one
swipe of my paw, I broke the lock and escaped. And because I

know human ways, I became an even greater terror in the jungle than Shere Khan. Isn't that right?

Baloo: Of course! How else.

Mowgli: You're right. The whole jungle fears you—except for me.

Bagheera: I returned to the jungle, and you will have no choice but to return to the humans, to your brothers... unless the wolves kill you at Council Rock first.

Mowgli: Why? Why would they kill me?

Bagheera: Even I can't look into your eyes for long, and I was born among humans, and I care about you. The others hate you. They can't bear your gaze because you are wise. Because you are human.

Mowgli: I didn't know that.

Baloo: Don't be sad, Mowgli. They won't dare harm you now. The Wolf Pack will honor the Water Truce.

Bagheera: Not now, but it's wise to be prepared.

Mowgli: What do you mean, prepared?

Bagheera: The Red Flower!

Mowgli: The Red Flower? You mean the fire that sometimes blooms near human huts?

Bagheera: Exactly that. When the drought ends, go to the human village and take some, so you'll have a stronger friend than I or Baloo.

Baloo: Mowgli won't go to the humans! It's too dangerous!

Mowgli: I've already been there! Sometimes at night, I sneak into the village and peek into their huts.

Baloo: You knew about this, Bagheera?!

Bagheera: Baloo, they are his kind.

Baloo: But I don't agree with this at all. I refuse!

Bagheera: Baloo, calm down. Have a drink and relax. And you, Mowgli, remember: when the time comes, take the Red Flower for help.

15. The Red Flower

Wolf Pack is stalking a deer.

Young Wolves: There he is! After him! Cut him off! We've almost got him!

We'll surround him. Go around the other side! There you are!

Akela! Akela! Alela! Show us your strength. Jump, Akela! Jump, jump, jump!

Akela: Almost... It was... so close.

Young Wolves: Akela missed! He missed his prey! Akela missed! Missed!

Missed!

Bagheera: Mowgli, Akela missed his prey

Mowgli: I heard.

Bagheera: They were ready to kill him, but they needed you. They've been searching for you everywhere.

Mowgli: Look! I'm ready.

Bagheera: Ah, the Red Flower. You're not afraid of it?

Mowgli: No, I'm not. I vaguely remember that before I became a Wolf, I lay beside the Red Flower, and it kept me warm. Let's go, the flame is strong, and it will last the journey.

Bagheera: Excellent, we can head to Council Rock.

16. The Council Rock

Wolves: Akela missed. He can't be the leader anymore. Who will lead us now?

Shere Khan: Wolf Pack! I'm glad to see so many of you gathered here.

Wolves: Akela's done! That's clear. But why did Shere Khan call us together? Why?

Baloo: There you are! Finally! You've got the Red Flower, Mowgli?! You went to the village?

Mowgli: I need to hide it with you for a moment. Be careful, don't burn yourself.

Bagheera: Why is Shere Khan standing on that rock? What does he think he's doing?!

Baloo: Akela is already lying down by the rock; it's clear someone else will be the leader of the Pack.

Bagheera: But Shere Khan has no right to speak at this gathering. Go tell them, Mowgli.

Mowgli: My brothers! Wolves! Does Shere Khan lead the Pack? What business does a tiger have telling us who our leader should be?

Wolves: Mowgli! Mowgli is here. Mowgli. He's not my brother... Mowgli! Not mine either. No, no, no!

Shere Khan: The position of leader is vacant... And the young wolves have asked me to speak –

Young Wolves: Yes, we asked him. Go ahead, Shere Khan.

Mowgli: But the whole Pack decides the leader. What about the older wolves? Do you want him too?

Young Wolves: Be quiet, you're just a human! You're not even a wolf!

Older Wolves: Mowgli! Let him speak, he's right! We elders have a say in this too. Let the Dead Wolf speak.

Mowgli: Dead Wolf? Who do they mean?

Bagheera: Akela.

Baloo: When the leader of the Pack misses his prey, while he's still alive... which doesn't last long... he's called the "Dead Wolf."

Akela: Wolf Pack, I've led you for twelve seasons from prey to prey, and in all that time no one has been trapped or maimed. Now I missed my kill. But you know it was a plot. You're just Shere Khan's puppets! You brought me a young deer so you could show how weak I've become. It was cleverly done. Your right is to kill me

here on Council Rock, now. Therefore, I ask, who will end the life of Akela, the Lone Wolf? By the Law of the Jungle, it is my right that you come one by one.

Wolves: But it's Akela... We can't kill Akela. He taught me to hunt. He always let me have the best piece of meat. We can't kill him!

Shere Khan: Who cares about that toothless fool. He's as good as dead anyway. Now let's deal with the human cub. Give him to me. He's been mine from the start. He's not a wolf like you. HE'S A HUMAN!

Young Wolves: A human has no place among us! No place. No place! Let him be taken!

Shere Khan: He'll set the villagers on us. You'd better hand him over to me. He is a human, none of us can look him in the eyes.

Older Wolves: He ate with us. He slept with us. He chased prey for us.

Akela: Mowgli has never once broken the Law of the Jungle.

Bagheera: I paid for him with a bull when you accepted him among you. The worth of a bull is little, but Bagheera's honour is something that he will fight for.

Young Wolves: That was ages ago! What do we care about old bones? We can't eat those now!

Shere Khan: Give me Mowgli! I'll bring you as many bulls as you want!

Akela: He is our brother in all but blood, and you would kill him. You are cowards, and it is to cowards I speak. It is certain that I must die, and my life is of no worth, or I would offer that in the human cub's place. But for the sake of the Honour of the Pack, I say: let him go, let him go his own way. He is your brother, whom you accepted into the Pack.

Shere Khan: He's no brother of yours!

Young Wolves: He's no brother of ours. He's a human – human – human! He's just a human!

Bagheera: Now it's up to you, Mowgli. We can only fight for you.

Mowgli: Listen! If it were up to me, I would have stayed a wolf until my end. But you shout at me that I'm a human. And you're right. You are no longer my brothers, but dogs! What you do or don't do doesn't matter. It only matters what I decide. And to make it clear to everyone here, I brought this!

Wolf Pack: The Red Flower! No! He's using the Red Flower against us! No!

Mowgli: Where are you, Shere Khan?! Where are you?! Are you hiding from the Red Flower? Are you afraid?

Shere Khan: You little human brat. You brought the Red Flower against us?

Mowgli: Stand up, Shere Khan, when a human speaks to you, or I'll set your fur on fire.

Shere Khan: Ow!

Mowgli: Move a whisker, and I'll shove the Red Flower down your throat!

Shere Khan. Alright, alright, I'm going! I'm going!

Mowgli: And remember, when I return to Council Rock, I'll be wearing your skin!

Shere Khan: (*from a distance*) We'll see about that!

Mowgli: Now the rest of you! Wolves of the Pack, I thought of you as my family!

Wolves: Stop waving that torch around! Put down the Red Flower! Put it down! Do you hear?

Mowgli: I'm leaving you to go to my own kind. The jungle is closed to me. I have to forget that I lived with you. But I will act better than you. I am your brother, even if not by blood. When I'm among humans, I promise you, I won't betray you as you betrayed me.

Wolves: We didn't mean to betray you. We didn't! We didn't! Put away the Red Flower.

Mowgli: I won't. Before I leave, I have one more debt to settle. Akela will live in peace. You won't kill him because I don't want you to! Now get out! Get out! What are you sitting here with your tongues out for? I'll drive you out. Get out! Get out!

Wolves: Run! Quickly! (*they scatter*)

Baloo, Akela, Bagheera: Mowgli! Little Froggy! Come to us.

Mowgli: Baloo! Bagheera. Akela... I don't want to leave.

Akela: You are brave. You are no longer a human cub, but a human. The jungle is truly closed to you now.

Mowgli: What is this? What's flowing from my eyes? Am I dying?

Bagheera: No, Mowgli. Those are tears. Humans shed them. Just let them flow.

Mowgli: Don't forget me.

Baloo: How could we.

Mowgli: And tell others in the jungle not to forget me either.

Bagheera: Don't worry, they won't forget.

Mowgli: And now I'll go to the humans.