

Dark Jungle

A one act musical play

by James Skousen

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

<u>DR. GRANDE:</u>	60s, an English anthropologist
<u>JACK:</u>	30s, a fortune hunter
<u>VIV:</u>	30s, a girl
<u>THE QUEEN OF EVIL:</u>	50s, ruler of the Bendaba
<u>BAFAH BONGA:</u>	20s - the prince
<u>BWAJUKA:</u>	20s - the ugliest woman alive
<u>DOCTOR KOKU:</u>	50s - the witchdoctor
<u>BAHMBO:</u>	60s - Keeper of The Vault
<u>BAH-MUNGA:</u>	20s - the tart maker
<u>THE BENDABA TRIBE:</u>	20s-60s

PLACE

A lecture hall and the jungle of the Congo

TIME

The 1930's

A stage with a podium and large projector screen which says "*Doctor Charles Grande - Anthropologist - an expedition on behalf of the British Museum*". The music of Petah Betambo Obeh Benanga plays underneath. The lights fade and Dr. Grande comes FORWARD to the podium. The slides begin.

INTRO - GRANDE LECTURE PART 1

SLIDE #1 SCENE 1 - PYGMIES SMOKING

GRANDE

I was working with the pygmies of the Congo trying to get them to stop smoking. So severe was their tobacco addiction, it prevented them from doing little else but satisfy their cravings; not even food or the promise of procreation could distract them. As a result, their tiny population lay on the brink of extinction.

SLIDE #2 SCENE 1 - PYGMIES SMOKING AND EMACIATED

GRANDE

My team was at a loss of what to do. We tried cutting off the supply but couldn't stop the pygmies smuggling in tobacco from neighboring tribes. For months we watched the poor little fellows starve to death while we tried in vain to help them. It seemed hopeless.

SLIDE #3 SCENE 1 - SCIENTISTS IN LAB COATS, VERY HUNG OVER, WITH VIALS AND BEAKERS, UNDER A CANVAS TENT WITH JUNGLE ALL AROUND. PARTY DECORATIONS, WHISKEY AND BEER BOTTLES ARE EVERYWHERE.

GRANDE

Then, after an all night research detail I came up with a plan: If we couldn't make them stop, why not hook them on something stronger; a substance so powerful in its addictive qualities and mind altering effects it would not simply mute but destroy their tobacco cravings. If it was available only through us so they couldn't smuggle it in, once it supplanted the tobacco we could cut it off and force them to quit. It was a bold and innovative plan. Though initially painful for the pygmies, it would certainly save their lives.

After careful deliberation we concluded the only chemical powerful enough to fulfill our requirements was... medical grade opium.

SLIDE #4 SCENE 1 - SHORT, ANGRY Pettyhume BEHIND DESK

GRANDE

Approval for the experiment from my superior, Dr. Trevor Pettyhume, was not forthcoming. He was a little on the short side and had begun to identify with the size of our subjects, as well as their tribal natures. An avid smoker himself, Dr. Pettyhume ridiculed the idea that a chemical could cure anyone of anything, let alone smoking. I found his objections an oversimplification of my thesis and proceeded in what I considered to be the best interest of the pygmies.

SLIDE #5 SCENE 1 - DOCTOR GRANDE AND COLLEAGUES IN JUNGLE WITH A LINE OF PYGMIES RECEIVING INJECTIONS

Grande

The pygmies didn't want the injections at first so we fell to bribery: one cigarette for each shot. They agreed and began taking their medicine. In a week they were bringing dates.

SLIDE #6 SCENE 1 - PYGMIES WITH DOZENS OF CIGARETTES IN THEIR MOUTHS

Grande

We knew we were in trouble when not only did the smoking continue unabated but was accompanied by violent demands for more and more cigarettes. Soon they were popping the tops off the syringes and taking the medication orally,

SLIDE #7 SCENE 1 - DAZED, SMILING PYGMIES LEAVING HUT ENGULFED IN SMOKE

Grande

then building great huts out of tobacco leaves, climbing inside and setting them on fire so they could breathe nothing but the toxic, drug infused air the fire would produce.

This they christened the cocktail hour and after brief fits of mania would disappear for days at a time.

SLIDE #8 SCENE 1 - PYGMY GANG ATTACKING PROFESSOR GRANDE,
POINTING AND RIPPING OFF HIS CLOTHES

Grande

They would occasionally return, but only to embarrass us in the most horrible and intimate ways.

SLIDE #9 SCENE 1 - EMPTY PYGMY VILLAGE

Grande

Then- they vanished completely. For weeks we could find nothing of their little hides or little hairs. Not a trace. We were about to accept the inevitable, that the entire experiment was an abysmal failure when one day, they unexpectedly returned.

SLIDE #10 SCENE 1 - GRANDE AND TEAM LOOKING SKYWARD

Grande

We didn't recognize them because they looked nothing like the child-like people we had come to know. It appeared, through an extraordinary coincidence of circumstances and chemicals, that our potent concoction had accidentally caused a fundamental rupture in their genetic code and they were now

SLIDE #11 SCENE 1 - GIANT PYGMIES

Grande

over seven feet tall. Once we understood who and what they were it became difficult to bear the responsibility for their creation. Although it was NOT intentional I felt a bit to blame for their misfortune because sometime during the experiment, which I believe happened to coincide with Müller's birthday celebration,

SLIDE #12 SCENE 1 - PROFESSOR GRANDE DRUNK WITH MÜLLER AND COLLEAGUES AT PARTY. WITH HATS.

Grande

I may have accidentally dropped into their medicine a vile of serum derived from the beeja-beeja plant, which is colossally huge. Or I may have thrown it in there thinking it was the trash- I don't remember but it was not intentional. I do remember these grotesque, giant pygmies stepping on everyone and massacring my entire research team.

SLIDE #13 SCENE 1- MAYHEM, DESTRUCTION, FIRE, AND GIANT PYGMIES CHASING RESEARCHERS

Grande

I was able to escape only because at the time I was two sheets in the wind and in my tent looking for the third. Oh I heard it all from an ever-increasing distance: Terrible screaming, gunshots, fires, my tea set broken (mother was furious). When I managed to struggle back to base and inform Dr. Pettyhume, he was strangely calm. He sat behind his desk rubbing his chin and saying "Hmmm" over and over. He thanked me politely, announced he had quit smoking, stood up, and towered over me.

SLIDE #14 SCENE 1 - OF PETTYHUME TOWERING OVER PROFESSOR GRANDE

Grande

He had grown 13 inches since our last meeting.

The slide goes out and the lights of the jungle come in.

Grande

I was quickly and quietly relieved of my duties. Pettyhume disappeared into the jungle shortly after that. The last I heard he'd founded a colony of giant worshipers and changed his name to Kurtz...

Grande's scene slowly disappears upstage as he continues talking until...

SCENE 1 - TRIBAL Hunger

Vivian and Jack enter walking through the jungle. Jack walks alertly, a pistol at his side and a leather map in his hand. VIV wears a hat and trudges carelessly. Both speak in the stiff style of a 1930's movie.

VIV

Jack...

JACK

Shh.

VIV

I think I saw something.

JACK

Then you probably did. This is the heart of the deep jungle. Danger lurks around every rock, behind every tree. Watch out!

Jack pushes her down then brings something to his nose and sniffs.

VIV

What is it?

JACK

Footprints. Stay close.

Viv grabs him round the waist.

VIV

I never thought I'd see you put yourself in front of danger to protect me.

JACK

Shh.

VIV

Maybe after this trip we can get married.

JACK

Quiet.

VIV

You'll never know unless you ask me. I'll say yes. Ask me.

VIV steps in something.

VIV

Eyoo this place is the worst. Lousy food, no place to pee and don't tell me to go behind a tree because "Danger lurks behind every tree."

JACK

Shut up. I'm trying to listen.

VIV

To me?

JACK

No.

VIV

Oh.

JACK

(looking at map)

We're close.

VIV

To what?

JACK

Peteh Bahtambo Ob-beh Bananga.

VIV

Are you making love to me?

JACK

The mythical diamond city of Africa.

VIV

Diamonds?

Jack

If we find it we'll have more diamonds than you'll know what to do with.

VIV
I only need one, Jack.

Jack stops.

JACK
Do you feel that?

VIV
I'm trying to.

A low rumble begins. (Off Stage
the natives stomp their feet and
hit the ground.)

JACK
Something's coming, something big. Get closer
to me!

The rumble grows.

VIV
OK. But you'll have to take off your shirt.

JACK
Closer-

VIV
Yes.

JACK
Closer!

VIV
Yes!

The natives rumble on, stomping.
Jack and VIV are surrounded and
outnumbered.

VIV
They're naked.

He grabs her to run but it's too
late. The tribe threatens them
with spears, ties them and piles
branches around them, singing.

VIV

What are they doing?

JACK

They're cannibals. They're going to cook us and eat us and shrink our heads.

VIV

Like a psychiatrist?

JACK

No, like that.

A tribesman dangles a necklace of heads.

VIV

Is that real?

JACK

That'll be you and me. Two heads knocking around an anthropophagite's neck.

VIV

But we'll be together?

JACK

Well, yeah. Try and be brave.

VIV

Not until you get to second base. Help!

DR. KOKU

Your cries will do you no good, my dear. No one can hear you. Don't struggle, you'll ruin the fat cap.

VIV

(bristling)

The what?

DR. KOKU

You're tight. You've got a knot right here that's going to break somebody's tooth.

VIV

Are you tenderizing me? How can you eat us?
It's inhuman.

DR. KOKU

No my dear, no. Living in the jungle, that's inhuman. You wouldn't believe what we have to do to survive. Most of the time we eat little monkeys. Tiny, cute monkeys. You try feeding your kids a fluffy, little monkey and see how popular you are at home. Sure, everybody's got little monkey shoes and mittens but what good are monkey mittens in the middle of the jungle? But when a meal comes along in one big package-
(He tugs at her clothing.)
-wrapped - I'm getting the cookbook and not asking questions.

LET'S EAT

DR. KOKU

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE
LIVING IN THE JUNGLE
WHEN EVERY DAY'S A BLOODY STRUGGLE
JUST TO STAY ALIVE
EVERYBODY DIES
BUT HEY
IT AIN'T GONNA BE ME
TAKE YOUR TROUBLE IN STRIDE
SEE YOUR CONTRIBUTION
AS AN ELEGANT SOLUTION TO THE
PERIL WE SURVIVE
AND IF I MAY CONFIDE -THINK!
THOUGH WE SHRINK YOUR HEAD
ALL OUR KIDS ARE FED
HAPPILY IN BED
SLEEPING A SLEEP OF THE DEAD
AND I DON'T WANNNA EAT ANOTHER MASHED DUNG BEETLE

TRIBE

LET'S EAT!

DR. KOKU

POUR ON THAT TENDERIZER

TRIBE
LET'S EAT!

DR. KOKU
THAT SMELL'S A TANTALIZER

TRIBE
LET'S EAT!

DR. KOKU
SWEET MEAT IS WHEN THE HEAT HAS REACHED 175

BAH-MUNGA
OH, WELL DONE

TRIBE
EAT!

DR. KOKU
WE'RE GONNA HAVE A HOT TIME

TRIBE
EAT!

DR. KOKU
AND WATCH THE TEMPERATURE CLIMB

TRIBE
EAT!

DR. KOKU
BETWEEN US TWO IT'S GONNA GET MUCH HOTTER FOR YOU
I BET IT'S GOT TO BE TOUGH
KNOWING THAT YOUR EVERYTHING
IS CATERING THE JUNGLE FLING
I WISH THERE WAS A WAY
WE COULD MAKE YOUR STAY
EASIER ON THE-

TRIBESMAN 1
CHUCK-

BAFAH
FLANK STEAK!

BAH-MUNGA
RUMP ROAST!

DR. KOKU
-ON YOUR NERVES
THINK OF US AS A SPA
PAMPERING AND SPOILING
WHILE THE MUSCLE BOY IS OILING
YOU WITH GREASE AND SAVORY HERBS
THE RUBBING WILL ENSURE YOU'RE
RIGHT OUT OF THE GATE
READY FOR THE PLATE
WE'RE IN SUCH A STATE
NOBODY GONNA WAIT
AND HOW'M I GONNA PICK BETWEEN THE DARK AND LIGHT MEAT?

TRIBE
EAT!

DR. KOKU
COME GET THIS FIRE STARTED

TRIBE
LET'S EAT!

DR. KOKU
AND COOK THE SOON DEPARTED

TRIBE
LET'S EAT!

DR. KOKU
THE BIG ONE HERE, I FEAR, WILL TAKE NEAR A COUPLE OF DAYS

VIV
Watch it!

TRIBE
LET'S EAT!

DR. KOKU
WITH SUCH FANTASTIC FLAVORS

TRIBE
LET'S EAT!

DR. KOKU
WE'RE GONNA BRING THE NEIGHBORS

TRIBE
EAT!

DR. KOKU
BUT WHAT WILL WE CHEW IF WE'RE NOT THROUGH AND WE RUN OUT OF
YOU
ALL DAY CLIMBING TREES
AND BUMPING HEADS AND BANGING KNEES
AND FOR IT WHAT DO YOU GET?

TRIBE
NOTHING'S LEFT TO EAT, OUR CUPBOARD'S BARE

DR. KOKU
WHAT DO YOU GET?
HUNTING GAME WITH SPEARS
AND SHOOTING ARROWS THAT GET NOWHERE NEAR
WHAT YOU WANT TO GET

TRIBE
JUST ONE PIECE OF MEAT AND NEVER RARE

DR. KOKU
SO WHAT DO YOU GET?
A ONE WAY TICKET TO THE TIGER CLAW
OR YOUR HEAD JAMMED DEEP IN THE LION JAW
A RUSH OF DARK DOWN THE BOA MAW
OR THE BLOODY BRUSH OF THE
PANTHER PAW
PANTHER PAW
PANTHER PAW
WHEN WE GONNA EAT!

VIV

Gee. Your little monkey shoes do have little
monkey faces on them. How can I help?

DR. KOKU

Here drink this.

LOOSEN UP AND ENJOY
TAKE A LITTLE DRINK
UNTIL YOU THINK YOU START TO SINK
INTO A WARM AND MELLOW GLOW
TASTES JUST LIKE MERLOT AND
MARINATES FROM WITHIN
BASTING OFTEN IS BEST
COVER THAT CONFECTION
WITH A SUCCULENT PROTECTION SO THE
MEAL MELTS IN YOU MOUTH
DON'T LET IT DRY OUT
BOY!
'CAUSE ONCE OUR CHUBBY GUEST
HAS BEEN PUT TO REST
AND THE FOOD IS BLESSED
WE'LL PUT TASTE TO THE TEST
AND WHO COULD TRY THE JUNGLE CHAMP OF BARBECUE
A - THAT'S ME!

TRIBE
SOON YOU CAN COME AND GET IT

DR. KOKU
LET'S EAT!

TRIBE
TASTE TEMPTING TREATS YOU BET IT

DR.KOKU
LET'S EAT

TRIBE
FEELS GREAT TO EAT YOUR WEIGHT

BAH-MUNGA
BUT LEAVE SOME ROOM FOR THE TART

TRIBE
LET'S EAT!

DR. KOKU
THE DINNER BELL IS RINGING

TRIBE
LET'S EAT!

DR. KOKU
LIP SMACKING FOOD WERE BRINGING

TRIBE
LET'S EAT

DR. KOKU
THE TIME HAS FINALLY COME TO
SET YOU ABLAZE
BROWN YOU AND BRAISE
ONCE ON THE HOUR GLAZE
'CAUSE YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE!

ALL
LET'S EAT!

Dr. Koku takes out a zippo and
aimlessly flicks it.

DR. KOKU
Any last words?

VIV
This is our final moment together. Is there
anything you want to say?

JACK
Years spent-

VIV

Don't you want to say something you've never said before and will never get a chance to say again?

JACK

And the planning-

VIV

Look at me. Jack! (he looks) Before I leave this life make me the happiest woman in the world. Say those three little words.

JACK

I was drunk.

VIV

Ever since the day we met I knew you were the one. That night I followed you home and the next night, and the next. When I realized it wasn't you I made bail and tracked you down.

JACK

We're so close-

VIV

Yes we are. I knew you needed me.

JACK

Where's the map?

VIV

You don't need a map to find my lips.

She leans in to kiss him. He jerks his head back.

JACK

What are you doing?

The tribe clues him in.

Oh.

He returns her kiss.

THE TRIBE

Ahhh.

VIV

Second base.

They kiss again and VIV's hat falls off to reveals her long, luxurious, very blonde hair. Bafah points.

BAFAH

It's a girl!

JACK

See, they couldn't tell either.

Music swells as BAFAH stumbles to her with his diamond encrusted club. VIV cringes away as it looks like BAFAH is about to strike... but he gets down on one knee and pulls a baseball sized diamond ring from his pocket and puts it on her finger. VIV un-cringes.

VIV

Is that real?

BAFAH hits her on the head with the betrothal club. She falls over his shoulder.

BAFAH

It's official, we're engaged!

He carries her off. The tribe stands there, uncertain.

TRIBESMAN 1

What do we do now?

TRIBESMAN 2

Kinda killed the whole jungle BBQ thing didn't he.

BAHMUNGA

What about that tart?

TRIBESMAN 1

Alright.

They exit. Jack is left alone still tied. Tarzan, Jane, Boy and Cheetah appear. Tarzan is old and fat with a belly so large it obscures his loincloth. Jane is an skinny, old shrew. Boy is a stoner man with long, greasy hair. Cheetah is a man in a gorilla suit. They cross down of the scene change behind them.

JANE

All day long you swing through the trees while I stay home with boy. You think one time you could swing through the house and clean it up?

TARZAN

Mmm.

JANE

And swing a comb through your hair. You're in the public eye, you have to make a good impression, don't slouch, suck in your stomach, act like a man.

TARZAN

Mmm.

JANE

You think a man is all riding the bull elephant, talking to the animals, diving off of cliffs? A man takes responsibility. A man says what he means and means what he says and is sensitive to the feelings of others. Get your finger out of there.

Jane exits talking.

JANE

If you'd listened to me you'd be way ahead instead of keeping me here like an animal. I think you like it here. Well I hate it.

You want to know how to get ahead and I don't mean a head from those Bendaba cannibal bastards I mean move forward in this world. You listen to me. I'll TELL you how to get ahead...

Tarzan stops. Cut's Jacks ropes.

TARZAN

One day - Tarzan kill Jane.

Jack runs after Viv. Tarzan exits.

SCENE #2 Captured!

Bafah's hut. VIV lies unconscious on the bed. She awakens, rubs her head. She runs to the door but it's locked. She runs to the window but it has bamboo bars. There are multiple crashes and screaming outside the door.

VOICE 1

Ahhh. Get away!

VOICE 2

Don't come near me Ahhhh!

VOICE 3

Run children! Ahhhgh!

Children scream. The door slams open. A hooded Bwajuka enters, face hidden. She skips in happily with flowers, then sees VIV.

BWAJUKA

Who the hell are you?

Pointing to the ring.

BWAJUKA

WHERE THE HELL DID YOU GET THAT!

VIV

Wh-

BWAJUKA

You're not allowed. I'm the only one left. I am.

VIV

Ye-

BWAJUKA

He doesn't have a choice any more. He has to propose.

VIV

Sur-

BWAJUKA

Every other girl in town is dead. There's only me now. I'm his last hope.

VIV

Wel-

BWAJUKA

Where do you get off saying anything to anybody? What have you done? I stood by watching my friends get proposed to and secretly hating them because they got what I could never get, then feeling guilty about feeling good when every girl in town *inexplicably* died because it meant I had a shot and I waited, oh how I waited for the prince to propose, which he never DID so I begin to wonder WHY because there's nobody LEFT and I know he's out of time so he has to pick me so I came here to throw myself on him and make passionate love and get proposed to but then I open the door and find you. A GIRL. Auuuhh!

VIV

Yes I am.

BWAJUKA

GIVE ME THAT RING!

She jumps on Viv and tears at the ring

VIV

Here take it take it!

It won't come off.

VIV

It won't come off!

BWAJUKA

I'll cut it off!

She grabs bolt cutters. Viv offers her hand.

VIV

The ring?

BWAJUKA

Your finger!

They struggle. Viv prevails and throws the bolt cutters across the room. Bwajuka collapses on VIV and sobs.

BWAJUKA

This should have been my turn, this should have been happening to me!

VIV

There, there. I'm sure your time will come.

BWAJUKA

No it won't. I was his last hope, but he found you didn't he. I'm cursed.

VIV

No you're not.

BWAJUKA

What would he ever see in me? Not like you. You're gorgeous.

VIV

Now, now- I'm what?

BWAJUKA

I don't stand a chance against you, as if I
ever stood a chance against anyone.

VIV

That's not true. You think I'm pretty?

BWAJUKA

What's wrong with me?

VIV

Not a thing. How am I pretty?

BWAJUKA

I'm going to drown myself.

VIV

Don't even think it. I don't know what the
problem is but I would never let the fact that
I'm pretty interfere. And look at you...
You're-

BWAJUKA

Don't. I am Bwajuka.

VIV

Why that's... that's a lovely name.

BWAJUKA

You don't speak Bendaba. Bwajuka means-

Bwajuka pulls back the hood.

BWAJUKA

I'm the ugliest woman alive!

VIV is confronted by the world's
ugliest woman and screams.

I AM AN UGLY GIRL

BWAJUKA

TAKE ONE LOOK GOOD AT ME AND PRAY YOU DON'T FALL DEAD
MY FACE WILL BLIND YOUR EYES AND MAKE YOU WET THE BED
I CAUSE MORE NIGHTMARES THAN THE POETRY OF POE
A LIVING HORROR VERSE
DRESSED IN A PALE PINK SKIRT

I AM AN UGLY GIRL
 I'D MAKE AN UGLY BOY
 DON'T TURN AWAY FROM ME OR TREAT ME LIKE A TOY
 LOOK DEEP INTO MY HEART
 QUIT STARING AT MY FACE
 THERE'S NOTHING OUT THERE FOR THE GIRL INSIDE

WHEN I WAS BORN THE STARS TURNED BLACK AGAINST THE SKY
 MY PARENTS PRAYED TO GOD "IF ONLY SHE WOULD DIE."
 FROM HOSPITAL TO HOME THEY RODE UPON THAT DREAM
 WE WENT BY FUNERAL HEARSE
 BUT I DIDN'T DIE AND THAT'S THE CURSE

I AM AN UGLY GIRL
 I'D MAKE AN UGLY BOY
 DON'T TURN AWAY FROM ME OR TREAT ME LIKE A TOY
 LOOK DEEP INTO MY HEART
 QUIT STARING AT MY FACE
 THERE'S NOTHING OUT THERE FOR THE GIRL INSIDE

PEOPLE WHO SEE FROM A COMFORTABLE DISTANCE
 FEEL SAFE TO COME TAKE IN THE VIEW
 BUT FACE-TO-FACE THEY ATTACK ME WITH MACE
 AND THEN CART ME AWAY TO THE ZOO

ugly jungle dance

MY EARS ARE POUNDED DAILY BY RELENTLESS SCREAMS
 THE ONLY BREAK I EVER GET IS HALLOWEEN
 SOME SAY THE DEVIL BURNED HIS BRANDING MARK ON ME
 THE BEAST IN RAVEN CURLS
 SENT FROM THE UNDERWORLD

I AM AN UGLY GIRL
 I'D MAKE AN UGLY BOY
 DON'T TURN AWAY FROM ME OR TREAT ME LIKE A TOY
 LOOK DEEP INTO MY HEART
 QUIT STARING AT MY FACE
 THERE'S NOTHING OUT THERE FOR THE GIRL INSIDE

VIV

What happened? Did you fall down on your face
 over and over and over?

Bwajuka takes a step.

VIV

You can't throw a thing like that at someone
without- is that a boil?

BWAJUKA

I pick at it. It gets bigger.

Viv pulls out ointment

VIV

Here put some ointment on it.

BWAJUKA

Thanks.

Bwajuka rubs at the spot.

VIV

(gesturing her whole body)

No, the whole thing.

She offers it back.

VIV

Keep it.

BWAJUKA

Where did he find you?

VIV

The last thing I remember is getting hit on the
head.

BWAJUKA

Damn him!

VIV

Damn who?

BWAJUKA

The prince. You're engaged to the prince.

VIV

I am?

BWAJUKA

YOU'RE THE ONE WITH THE RING!

VIV

That's very flattering and it's not that I haven't been trying to be a fiancé for a long time but I can't marry someone I don't love, let alone someone I've never seen before let alone someone who proposes to me by cracking me over the head. Although the ring is big...

Bwajuka grabs the bolt cutters.

VIV

(resolutely)

No. I want Jack. Help me find him and I'm out of here.

Bwajuka sits next to her on the bed pulls some jerky from her cloak and chews.

BWAJUKA

It's a deal.

They shake.

VIV

Sticky. So you're in love with him-

VIV wipes her hand on the bed.

BWAJUKA

I want to live inside every molecule of his body. Marriage is a compromise. People jerky?

VIV

No thanks. Sounds like love. Now how can you get us out of here?

BWAJUKA

You're not trying to trick me or anything? Bafha is one hot little number.

VIV

I swear, I am only accidentally engaged. I just want to find Jack and leave.

BWAJUKA

Ok.

Bwajuka goes to a rack of cloaks.

BWAJUKA

Wear this identical cloak. With the hood up everyone will think you're me and they'll run away screaming. We look like sisters! Wanna see the voodoo doll I made of him?

VIV

Sure.

Bwajuka pulls out a doll, which is the likeness of BAFAH.

BWAJUKA

It still needs Dr. Koku's voodoo spell of auto animation but you can totally control what a person does with one of these. It was my insurance but now I just sleep with it. I put his little head on a pillow next to me, I cover him with a little blanket, I kiss him good night. He kisses me back. Suddenly he's pressing his lips hard against me, pinning me. I struggle but he's too strong and I relent, his hot mouth pressing-

VIV

STOP!

BWAJUKA

I'm going to run to the palace, find BAFAH and make him hit me over the head with the betrothal club. Ooo. I just got goose-pimples.

VIV

I thought it always looked like that. I'm so happy for you.

They hug.

VIV

Lumpy.

They hear the march of the
Conjugal Guard.

VIV

What's that?

Bwajuka runs to the window.

BWAJUKA

It's the Conjugal Guard! Bafah's coming to
take you to the wedding. Put up the hood and
run!

They run, the door slams.
Immediately Jack bursts through
the door.

JACK

VIV! Vi-iv! Not in here.

The Conjugal Guard arrives behind
him. He panics and hides behind
the rack of cloaks as Bafah and
the guard enter. Bafah wears a
dead boa constrictor.

BAFAH

Sweet heart, I'm back.

The rack shakes.

BAFAH

Are you hiding? Come out. I have a present!
(gesturing the snake)

The guards throw open the rack
revealing Jack dressed in a hood.
They react as if he's Bwajuka.

Bwajuka! Where's my albino fiancé! If you
killed her so I'd marry you, forget it! You're
still the ugliest woman alive and you scare the
crap out of me. Now you're going to tell me
where she is, see. Won't talk eh? Then we'll
go to the palace and get you tortured.

That'll loosen those lips. If those are lips.
Come with me.

The Conjugal Guard grab Jack and
leave, accompanied by screams,
for the palace.

SCENE #3 QUEEN OF EVIL

Acid guitar.

The queen enters carried roughly
on a litter which pitches harshly.
Grande is towed beside by his
leash. The palace is assembled.
The tribesmen bring her center and
drop it.

QUEEN

Son of a...

DR. KOKU

Bow low and tremble, fear and despair, her
Royal Highness THE QUEEN OF EVIL!

She sings harsh metal with a
handheld.

QUEEN OF EVIL

AIN'T SHE MEAN
AND UNCLEAN
SHE'S THE QUEEN
THE QUEEN OF EVIL

THEY MAKE ME GO OUT TO RESTAURANTS AND SPEND MY TIME WITH
FRIENDS
HAVE A SLEEPOVER, BRAID MY HAIR, PAINT NAILS, AND FIX SPLIT
ENDS

WHERE DO I FIT WHEN I DON'T BELONG
WHO AM I WHEN EVERYONE HAS GONE

COME AND SEE (QUEEN OF EVIL)
DARK AND FREE (QUEEN OF EVIL)
HEY THAT'S ME
THE QUEEN OF EVIL

PRETEND TO HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH WINE AND PILLOW FIGHTS
TAKING WALKS TO GO SEE THE LEAVES CHANGE BELTING "CATS" ALL
NIGHT

WHY AM I IN LOVE WITH WHAT IS WRONG (WRONG THAT TURNS ME ON)
WHO CAN I BE WHEN I'M ALL ALONE

AIN'T I MEAN (SUFFERING FROM DEMEN-CHI-AH)
AND OBSCENE (THAT'S HOW SHE'S GONNA GET-CHI-AH)
I'M THE QUEEN
THE QUEEN OF EVIL

IF THE WORLD GOTTA COME IN FROM THE OUTSIDE THEN I'M DONE
I'M BETTER OFF IF I LIE THAN TRY THE WRONG END OF A GUN

MENTALLY I'M ONLY SLIGHTLY ILL (MENTALLY SHE'S ILL)
BUT SO PSYCHOPATHICALLY CHILL

OPEN WIDE (NA NA NA NA NA NA)
LOOK INSIDE (NA NA NA NA NA NA)
BETTER HIDE
THE QUEEN OF EVIL

GET OUT OR GET ON BUT GET GOING
GIVE UP WITHOUT OUT THEM EVER KNOWING
QUEEN
OF
EVIL

QUEEN

Grande! What have you done? I took you in,
gave you rank and privilege and how do you
repay me? You try to escape.

GRANDE

I am your servant.

QUEEN

Yes you will! You will spend the rest of your
life doting on your queen.

GRANDE

I will your highness.

QUEEN

Don't contradict me! You will be banished! Just kidding. I love you. Come, let me beat you.

A tribesman appears with a paddle.
The queen spansks him once,
lightly, with the paddle then
drops it, overwhelmed. She falls
back into the chair.

QUEEN

It was better than I imagined.

Grabbing the leash.

QUEEN

Get back on the pillow, concubine and don't you make me spankie you again.

She removes the leash. The collar stays.

QUEEN

(in a low voice)

Did you bring it?

Grande pops out a puppet Clark Gable. The queen is taken aback.

QUEEN

Auugh! Don't let it sneak up on me like that. You know how I-

Gable leans over and whispers.
The queen is terrified and
thrilled at the same time.

QUEEN

What? Oh say that- Hee-hee. You're a nasty, nasty. Put it away! You're a devil. Stop it, it's looking at me.

Gable whispers again.

QUEEN

Court's adjourned. Concubine, in my chambers.

The queen gets up to leave. Bafah enters with the hooded Jack, who is pushed forward by the guard.

BAFAH

Mother, I need you to torture Bwajuka for me.

QUEEN

What? I heard you found some albino girl to marry.

BAFAH

I'll die before I marry Bwajuka. Bwajuka knows where albino girl is.

QUEEN

I understand you're desperate. You've gotta marry someone if you're gonna be king, gotta make those baby Bendabans, but right now mommy's got some dictating to do.

Bwajuka enters, hood on.

BWAJUKA

Bafah I'm here, your last hope for the marriage 'cause I'm the only one left...(To Jack thinking it's VIV) How did you beat me here?

JACK

I, uhm...

QUEEN

Two uglies. This is bad.

JACK

Uhm...

VIV runs in, hood on. She addresses Jack as Bwajuka

VIV

Bwajuka, I got lost and...

QUEEN

Three uglies? Get the blow gun.

VIV

I'm so glad I found you.

Bwajuka

(to VIV)

If you're- then who are you?

QUEEN

Koku, take off her hoods.

The witch doctor rips off Jack's hood. Everyone gets ready to scream. It's Jack. They breathe easy.

QUEEN

That one.

The witch doctor rips off VIV's hood. Everyone gets ready to scream. It's VIV. One person screams.

VIV

Thanks a lot.

JACK

You're alive!

VIV

Oh Jack!

DR. KOKU directs the queen to the last possible choice. She hits him.

QUEEN

I know! That one.

The witch doctor rips off Bwajuka's hood. Everyone gets ready to scream. It's Bwajuka. Everyone screams.

JACK

Geez, put some make-up on!

BWAJUKA

I've got make-up on!

JACK

Did you put it on with a hammer?

He mimes smacking himself with a
hammer. VIV touches him
obsessively.

VIV

Jack, how did you escape the natives?

JACK

Lack of variety in the menu. I came to save
you.

VIV

You came back for me?

JACK

I guess I did...

VIV

Oh Jack I missed every little thing about you.

JACK

I don't know if it's that I just looked into
the face that stopped a thousand clocks but
baby, right now you look almost attractive.

VIV

(Fanning herself)

Ohhhh. Is it warm in here?

QUEEN

It's the damn Africa jungle hot but I'm as cold
as a damn fish from all this damn interrupting!
My concubine's gonna have to start all over.
You two are never going to interrupt anybody
again. I sentence you to die in the Pit of
Torment.

On "Pit of Torment" her voice
echoes.

QUEEN

Interrupt *that* you sons of bitches.

THE TRIBE

(Chanting)

Pit, Pit, Pit.

QUEEN

Prepare the Pit

The Pit of Torment rolls onstage.
It's volcano like, with flashing
red light and smoke coming from
the interior. There's a short
stairway leading up to the mouth.
There's a set of steps on the
interior.

BAFAH

Not albino girl. She's my fiancé!

QUEEN

Shut up Bafah! Marry Bwajuka and be done with
it.

BAFAH

Never! I'll commit Babehoowa first!

He screams Babehoowa and runs
away.

BWAJUKA

Bahbehoowa! Not Bahbehoowa! No Bafah no!

She chases after him. The drums
intensify. Spears force Viv and
Jack up the stairs. At the edge...

VIV

You can't do this. We just found each other
again. He loves me. The restraining order was
a mistake. Don't love count for nothin'?

The queen hold up her hand.
Everything stops.

QUEEN

Yes it does. Do you love this girl?

Jack squirms

QUEEN

I'm about to throw you in The Pit of Torment.
You will not survive. Tell the kid you love
her.

Silence

QUEEN

If you say it, maybe I'll spare your life.

Jack squirms in silence.

QUEEN

You don't even have to mean it.

VIV

Ah come on! We're gonna die!

NO BETTER WAY

JACK

I DIDN'T LIKE YOU THEN
I REALLY HATE YOU NOW
THERE SEEMS NO BETTER WAY TO SAY
I LOVE YOU

VIV

YOU WERE STUPID THEN
AND YOU'RE A MORON NOW
I WISH I DIDN'T HAVE TO SAY
I LOVE YOU

JACK

I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOUR FACE IN COLD DAYLIGHT
MAYBE WE COULD MEET
ON A DARK DESERTED STREET

AND IF I DITCH YOU IN THE ALLEY
 DON'T BE LED ASTRAY
 I REALLY ONLY WANT TO SAY
 I LOVE YOU

YOU'RE A LITTLE FAT
 MOST OF WHICH IS IN THE BACK
 SOMETIMES I WANT TO SCREAM IT
 I LOVE YOU

VIV
 YOU'RE A LITTLE DENSE
 MOST OF WHICH IS CAUSE YOU'RE DUMB
 DON'T MAKE ME HAVE TO SAY IT
 I LOVE YOU

I'M SORRY THAT I ASKED YOU TO ADD TWO PLUS TWO
 I THOUGHT ALL ALONG
 HOW COULD YOU GET IT WRONG
 BUT WHEN YOU SAID THAT TWO PLUS TWO EQUALS CAT
 I KNEW THAT I WOULD ONLY EVER LOVE YOU

BOTH
 JUST ONE MORE TIME TO REJECT YOU
 JUST SOME MORE TIME NOT TO SOAK YOU IN
 I NEED A CHANCE TO UPSET YOU
 IN THAT SPECIAL LITTLE WAY I CAN

DR. KOKU (SPOKEN)
 DO YOU MISS YOUR SWEETHEART ON A SATURDAY NIGHT?
 DO YOU THINK SHE'S OUT AND SNEAKING 'ROUND THE TOWN?
 HE WILL NEVER SUFFER SUCH A SUCKER'S SACRIFICE BECAUSE-
 REPULSIVE GIRLS NEVER LEAVE THE HOUSE
 YOU'RE DOOMED.
 SHE'S GOT WEBBED FEET.
 AND HE'S NO PRIZE-
 HE THINKS THAT MOZART WROTE HANDEL'S MESSIAH

JACK
 LUDWIG VON MOZART

VIV
 I THOUGHT YOU WERE A MAN

BUT NOW I'M NOT SO SURE
 I CAN'T TELL US APART BECAUSE
 I LOVE YOU

JACK
 I THOUGHT YOU WERE A PRETTY GIRL
 BUT THEN I SAW YOUR FACE
 CAN'T YOU WEAR A VEIL AND SAY
 I LOVE YOU

BOTH
 AND IF I NEVER HOLD YOUR HANDS
 OR KISS YOUR LIPS
 WHISPER IN YOUR EAR
 ALL THE THINGS YOU WANT TO HEAR
 THEN WE COULD BE TOGETHER
 TIL OUR DYING DAY
 THERE SEEMS NO BETTER WAY
 NO BETTER WAY TO SAY
 I LOVE YOU
 YOU'RE GROSS

VIV
 Throw him in the pit! WAIT! I'm sure he meant
 something else-

Gable
I love you VIV.

QUEEN
 (to Gable)
 Slut.

Scary Drums. She looks down.

VIV
 I can't see the bottom.

JACK
 Smells awful.

QUEEN

(Cheery)

I know. Throw them in!

GRANDE

My queen I beg you! You cannot do this! They're
of my kind. Please, spare their lives!

QUEEN

Nooo. This is how I keep order in the jungle.

GABLE

What about for me.

QUEEN

Ahyahh. He's looking at me, put him away.
Wait. Give me a little kiss first. Ooooo I
can't take it. Throw them in.

VIV starts to cry.

JACK

C'mon, put on a brave face.

VIV

(sniffling)

I can't.

JACK

It's got to be better than the one you have.

DR. KOKU

Moh bwapa boobah bee eh behno dehbeh. Or not.
(I send your bodies to a better place.)

He pushes VIV in. She climbs down
the interior steps then pretends
to drop, screaming all the way
down.

QUEEN

Again!

The witch doctor pushes Jack in.
He climbs down the interior steps
then pretends to drop, screaming
all the way down.

QUEEN

I love this job.

Suddenly Grande runs up the steps
and stands at the edge with Gable.

GRANDE

So long Queenie. I'm free.

GABLE

You'll never take me alive!

Grande jumps in after Jack.

QUEEN

NOOOO

Hysterical, she runs to the pit
and looks down.

QUEEN

My poor, poor concubine. A more complicated
and passionate man I never knew. And one hot
little number. I will miss him. Geez that
stinks.

The tribe picks up her liter and
roughly carries during Queen of
Evil Reprise while Bafah runs in
screaming across the stage.

BAFAH

Bahbeh-oowa! Bahbeh-oowa! Anything is better
than the ugly! Bahbeh-oowa!

Bwajuka follows.

BWAJUKA

No Bafah! Not the Bahbeh-oowa!

Tarzan, boy and Cheetah who were
invisibly part of the crowd, walk
to the pit.

They spin the steps so they are DS. Tarzan steps up, back to audience, looks around then pees into the pit. Steams billows up from the hot rock below. Jane walks in from where the crowd left. She is horrified and runs over.

JANE

Stop that! Stop that right now. You're three damned wild animals. That's why the Betahmbah's don't invite us over anymore. You killed her houseplants.

She grabs Tarzan by the ear and pulls him down the steps. She puts the steps back to their original position and climbs up to peer in the pit, still holding Tarzan.

JANE

Don't you run away from me. If anybody saw you three idiots... (to Cheetah) I expect it from them, but you?

Tarzan tries his famous yell to save him. Jane swats him.

JANE

No, no, no. I've heard enough of *that* to last my whole damn life. No elephant's gonna save you now.

Tarzan pushes her into the pit. She screams. Tarzan, Boy and Cheetah start off. They are joined by Tarzan's pygmy mistress. They hold hands and exit, skipping. As Boy and Cheetah exit they spin The Pit of Torment to reveal The Caves of Terror.

SCENE #4 THE CAVES OF TERROR

Uranium glows in veins in the rock. VIV rolls out of the wall. KIMO Stands un-noticed to the side.

VIV

What's happening?

Jack rolls out of the wall.

JACK

We're alive?

VIV clings to Jack. Grande rolls out of the wall.

JACK

How did you get here?

GRANDE

I escaped. I'm glad you're both all right.

JACK

What is this place?

GRANDE

These must be The Caves of Terror.

JACK

Terror huh? What's so terror-ble?

GRANDE

I don't know but since no one returns from the Pit of Torment something strange and horrible must happen to anyone who lands down here.

JACK

Well they're weird. How many caves do you know you can walk around without a torch?

They are surrounded by a strange luminescence glowing out of the rocks. It pulsates in streaked crystalline patterns along veins in the walls.

JACK

What is it Doc, silver?

He touches it.

JACK

It's warm.

GRANDE

You ever hear of uraninite.

JACK

I'm not particularly religious.

GRANDE

Uraninite is a highly radioactive material.

JACK

Radioactive? You mean the stuff they use for x-rays?

GRANDE

Yes-

JACK

That makes you sterile?

GRANDE

Yes-

JACK And impotent?

GRANDE

Yes-

JACK

See you later.

GRANDE

Stop. We don't want to go further in. These tunnels could go on for miles. We don't want to get too deep.

JACK

I've said that many times.

They start out then KIMO, unseen, coughs wetly. He is tall, gaunt; his skin is blacklight glowing and completely hairless.

He has a large key hung around his neck and a spear he uses to hold himself up. KIMO enters, coughs.

KIMO

Hello. May I help you?

GRANDE

Where did you come from?

KIMO coughs.

KIMO

(Points)

Right there. Are you on the queen's business?

JACK

The queen's business?

KIMO

This is an official area and visitors are not allowed. Unless you're on the queen's business you have to leave.

JACK

Leave, yeah, that's right, show us out.

KIMO

Certainly. Follow me.

GRANDE

Wait a minute. Yes we are on the queen's business.

JACK

What are you doing? Sure, fine for you, you're past your prime, but me, I'm standing here getting irradiated at the peak of my manliness.

VIV

Your what?

GRANDE

Cool it. (To KIMO) The Queen has asked us to inspect this facility and to make the necessary recommendations.

KIMO
Your credentials?

KIMO faints against the wall.

GRANDE
I think he fainted.

They help him back up.

KIMO
A letter of authorization from the queen, a
token of hers, the password maybe- excuse me.

KIMO disappears behind the Caves
of Terror and coughs horribly.

BWAJUKA
That poor man.

JACK
He's a loon Doc but he was going to get us out
of here. Come on, we gotta move!

GRANDE
We won't be down here long enough to do you
that kind of harm. I think I know where we
are, and if I'm right it could be very much
worth our while to stay and find out.

KIMO returns.

KIMO
If you have no consent you'll have to leave.
If you refuse I must warn you I am authorized
to use force to eject you.

He throws his spear at them, and
all it does is fall down.

KIMO
And don't come back.

He coughs the most wretched cough
imaginable.

GRANDE

Sir I have incontestable verification of our authority.

Grande pulls out Gable. Gable whispers in Kimo's ear. Kimo giggles.

KIMO

Naughty. Welcome sir to you and your party. Please follow me and be careful. Booby traps.

JACK

(To Viv)

Not yours.

KIMO

Here we are.

KIMO quickly retches. He has brought them to an enormous safe. He sits down on a stool next to it breathing heavily.

JACK

What is it?

KIMO

This is royal depository 1A. There are many others in The Caves of Terror, but this is the largest. I hope you'll find everything in order.

JACK

Oh my gosh this must be it. Is this what you wanted us to see? This is has to be where they keep all the mythical diamonds of Peteh Bahtambo Ob-beh Bananga. We found it, we're going to be rich. I'm so happy.

KIMO goes to open the safe with the key, but only bonks his head on the safe.

KIMO

That was a mistake.

GRANDE

Here.

Grande takes the key, puts it into the lock, turns it and a great unlocking sequence begins ending with an tremendous clang. The two men move to open the great door and a brilliant light emits. Hordes of diamonds shine out. They stand in awe.

KIMO

There are other vaults. Though I doubt you'll find anything in them better than the Queen's personal supply.

JACK

And they are...

KIMO

Deeper down. Last time I almost didn't make it back I got so tired. The deeper I go the worse it is.

RUNNING OUT OF TIME

KIMO

I'M RUNNING OUT OF TIME
TO ORDER MY AFFAIRS
A BRAND-NEW PARADIGM
I'M LOSING ALL MY HAIRS
CHROMOSOMAL ABERRATIONS
MUTATE MY DESIGN
I DON'T THINK I'LL BE FINE
YOU A-BOMB
TIME

I'M RUNNING OUT OF TIME
AS INSIDES REARRANGE
ISOTOPES HAVE CLIMBED
AND CAUSED INTERNAL CHANGE
MARROW LEAKING, BONES ARE SHRIEKING
AS THEY TURN TO SLIME
A RADIATION CRIME
YOU JACKASS

TIME

NOSE FLUTE, SHAKER, KALIMBA SOLO

I'M RUNNING OUT OF TIME
 THESE LUMPS WON'T GO AWAY
 I DON'T THINK THEY'RE BENIGN
 THEY'RE OOZING EVERY WAY (AND EVERY DAY)
 FEVER REAVING, ENDLESS HEAVING
 MAKES ME THINK THAT SOON I'LL BE DIVINE
 BEFORE MY TIME
 THE BELL WILL CHIME
 YOU BASTARD
 TIME

(He passes out snoring)

Jack and Grande fill their pockets
 with diamonds. Jane rolls out of
 the wall.

VIV

How did you get here?

JANE

Oh I couldn't be here? Because I'm a woman? If
 you were a woman what would you do!

VIV

I'm a-

JANE

It's another example of a male dominated
 society exerting control over what it fears the
 most: The ultimate power of women. Oppression.
 Domination. That's the tragic history of our
 sex. You're like little boys, all of you - Grow
 up and be the sensitive, caring, emotional
 males we expect, instead of the nose picking,
 selfish, bastards you are!

She storms out.

VIV

I'm a woman.

Jack

Good one.

VIV

Can we get out of here?

Viv kicks KIMO awake.

KIMO

That way.

VIV

Thanks.

GRANDE

Jerky?

They exit. The Caves and safe move away. A stagehand throws KIMO over his shoulder and exits.

Bwajuka enters sobbing and joins them center.

VIV

Ohh Bwajuka what's wrong?

BWAJUKA

I've lost him forever!

VIV

Maybe...

BWAJUKA

Didn't you hear him scream the final cry of the Bahbeh-oowa?

Grande

The ritual suicide.

ViV

Oh.

BWAJUKA

He's chosen death instead of being with me.
There's no power on heaven or earth that can
force a man to-! Wait a minute-

She reaches into her clothes and
pulls out the voodoo doll and the
spell.

BWAJUKA

That's it! THAT'S IT!

Bwajuka turns to Grande

BWAJUKA

Bafah's in his hut. Go stop him before he
completes the Bahbeh-oowa. I'll work the
voodoo spell of auto-animation and we'll meet
back here as fast as we can.

GRANDE

What would be the point dear, you said-

She shows him the doll.

BWAJUKA

Voodoo damn it voodoo!

GRANDE

Of course!

BWAJUKA

By the love gods of Bohbahbahlahlah I will make
him propose! He's going to hug me...

All

Oh.

BWAJUKA

...and Squeeze me...

ALL

Ooo!

BWAJUKA

And kiss me all over...

All

Yech.

BWAJUKA

Let's go!

Grande, VIV and Jack run off. She holds the spell high in the air as the lights change to voodoo purple around her. A large smoky cauldron rolls on.

SCENE #5 VODOO CURSE

The tribal drums beat. Bwajuka consults the recipe.

BWAJUKA

Dr. Koku's Voodoo Wonder Spell of Auto Animation. "Jimson weed?" Check. "Iboga?" Check. "Trimethoxyphenethylamine?" Check. "Insert the doll with a personal possession and place it in a cauldron of smokey water."

She take out some of his hair, kisses it and pushes it into the doll. She tastes the dip.

BWAJUKA

Mmmmm. Colors. "Dip it in the mixture and say the following incantation: Oh great voodoo god Flimani Koku. Give this doll the power to command."

DR. KOKU'S VODOO WONDER SPELL OF AUTO ANIMATION

BWAJUKA

AS THE DOLL BEARS THE IMAGE
LET THE SPIRIT FORM THE DEED

AS THE DARKNESS BEARS THE SIN
LET THE VODOO FILL THE NEED

ALL I DO AND SAY HE DOES
ALL I AM HE IS

SHE DIPS THE DOLL IN THE WATER.

AS THE DOLL BEARS THE IMAGE
 LET THE SPIRIT FORM THE DEED
 AS THE DARKNESS BEARS THE SIN
 LET THE VODOO FILL THE NEED
 ALL I SAY AND DO HE SAYS
 ALL I AM HE IS

As she recites the spell, the drums grow louder and a great storm builds around her. Wind blows, lightning flashes.

BWAJUKA

I AM FULL OF VODOO
 FOR YOU!

The bedlam ends abruptly with a single champagne cork "pop". She holds the doll in her hands and it pulsates with light.

BWAJUKA

Let's go get him.

She runs off as Bafah's hut returns.

SCENE #6 Savage HAMMER

BAFAH sits on the floor in meditation, his face painted white and his body marked with the patterns of the Bahbehoowa. Dr. Koku stands behind him as his second. BAFAH moans as the witch doctor sprinkles white powder over him then snorts a bit. BAFAH's eyes snap open. He looks to the leather wrappings in front of him and unfolds them. Inside is a giant hammer. He holds it up. Dr. Koku sprinkles it with powder then snorts a bit. Bafah grabs the hammer by one hand and lifts it over his head. Testing various bonk-your-head positions he sings:

HOW LONG?

BAFAH

WHERE AM I GOING TO
 WHEN WORDS CAN NEVER PLEASE
 WHEN CAN I REST MY EYES
 IN FRIENDLY COMPANY

HOW LONG CAN THIS GO ON
 HOW LONG WILL I WAIT FOR LOVE
 TO COME FOR THE HEART IN ME

WHEN CAN I GO TO SLEEP
 WITH COURAGE AND IN FAITH
 FALL INTO THE RESTFUL DEEP
 AND NEVER WANT TO WAKE

HOW LONG CAN THIS GO ON
 HOW LONG WILL I WAIT FOR LOVE
 TO COME FOR THE HEART IN ME
 TIME WAS NEVER ON MY SIDE
 PUT THE LIGHT OUT THEN
 PUT OUT THE LIGHT

HOW LONG CAN THIS GO ON
 HOW LONG WILL I WAIT FOR LOVE
 TO COME FOR THE HEART IN ME

BAFAH

I have failed. I couldn't find a bride and
 because of this, the line of Kings will end.
 Could I live with this shame? No, death is
 better. In death there is peace. There's
 nothing left for me here but agony. Are you
 ready?

Dr. Koku snorts a bit, reaches
 behind him and picks up an even
 larger hammer.

BAFAH

You know what to do if I fail.

Dr. Koku raises the hammer above
 his head.

DR. KOKU

Ka-Bonga.

BAFAH

And so. I go to the great jungle in the sky.

He closes his eyes and whacks
himself on the head.

BAFAH

Ow. Oh geez!

He rolls on the floor as Dr. Koku
takes his swing with his hammer,
missing BAFAH by inches. Dr. Koku
tries again but BAFAH sees it in
time and rolls away.

BAFAH

Hey what the hell are you doing?

DR. KOKU

KA-BONGA!

Koku swings again and misses BAFAH
but hits and crashes things in the
room. BAFAH runs from the pounding
hammer.

BAFAH

Hey! Help!

Grande, Jack and VIV burst in.
They grab Dr. Koku, wrestle him to
the ground and take away his
hammer. VIV drags it aside.

GRANDE

Are you all right?

BAFAH

I think so. Can you believe this guy?

JACK

Why was he doing that?

BAFAH

It's his job-

GRANDE

Part of the ritual.

BAFAH

(Sobbing)

I can't even get that right. Hey, you guys are dead.

GRANDE

We're alive and so is Bwajuka. Now you can marry her and be the king!

BAFAH

What? NO! The only thing worse than living with my mother the rest of my life would be living with that deformed, malignant, hairy girl. Just looking at her smells bad and I can't look without puking and neither can anyone else. The kingdom is not worth a lifetime of the ugliest woman ever.

GRANDE

But she's your last hope.

BAFAH

Get out, get out, get out. For the first time in my life I'm finally going to say something and make it stick. I'll DIE before I marry Bwajuka!

Dr. Koku has wrestled the hammer from VIV and whacks BAFAH in the head. BAFAH drops to the ground out cold. Jack right-crosses Dr. Koku and knocks him out.

GRANDE

Grab an end.

They drag BAFAH out by his feet, his head bouncing all the way. Dr. Koku comes to and follows with his big hammer.

SCENE #7

FURY OF KOKU

BWAJUKA

They have to bring him they have to.

Bwajuka holds the betrothal club.
Grande and Jack enter dragging the
unconscious BAFAH, his head
bouncing along.

BWAJUKA

Yay! Is he alive?

GRANDE

Barely.

VIV and Bwajuka hug.

VIV

Greasy.

Jack slaps Bafah lightly.

BAFAH

Where am I?

Bwajuka gets down on her knees
next to him.

BWAJUKA

Hi. Bafah.

BAFAH screams.

BAFAH

Got to get away, got to get away, got to get
away!

He's crawling on the floor while
Jack and Grande have a hold of
each foot.

JACK

Jeez, he's strong.

GRANDE

If that voodoo doll is going to work you better use it now!

Bwajuka pulls out the doll, whispers to it then points it at him. BAFAH stops struggling and calmly walks to Bwajuka. He gets on one knee, pulls out an even larger ring than VIV's and slips it on her finger. He looks out.

BAFAH

I want to marry Bwajuka, the most beautiful woman in the world, this gorgeous creature that walks in beauty, like the night, of cloudless climes and starry skies...

He takes the betrothal club from her and hits her over the head.

BWAJUKA

Yes, yes, YES! Ow love hurts.

DR. KOKU

Woop! Woop! Woop!

Grande

It's the witch doctor sounding the alarm!

Dr. Koku takes a final swing at Bafah but Jack takes away the hammer. The queen enters dressed in pajamas and little monkey slippers.

QUEEN

Who sounded that alarm? Grande! Still alive eh? Well I won't say I'm unhappy. I forgive you. Sit on your pillow. Get the baby powder!

GRANDE

We're through. I never want to see you again.

QUEEN

You always know the right thing to say.

DR. KOKU

There has been a marriage proposal. Before the marriage can be allowed the applicant must prove her fertility.

VIV

How you gonna do that?

BWAJUKA

I dunno.

DR. KOKU

The Ritual Trial of Fecundity.

ALL

Right.

Drums and mayhem.

THE RITUAL TRAIL OF FECUNDITY FERTILITY DANCE

Danced to the the Rhythm of Petah Betahmbo Obek Benanga

The tribe brings on the bleachers. They all run up and sit. It's an instant party. A concessionaire walks up and down the aisles selling shrunken heads, glowing radioactive rocks and people jerky. A fight breaks out in the stands. Three drunken Bendabans throw their arms around each other and sing. A beach ball is bounced around. People throw popcorn. Cheetah and Boy are down front with Tarzan who is making out with his pygmy mistress.

Bahmunga enters with the Bendaba flag.

Everyone calms down, removes their headdresses. They sing The Bendaba National Anthem, salute and sob. Dr. Koku translates into English and signs in ASL.

THE BENDABA NATIONAL ANTHEM

(SUNG TO THE TUNE OF DEUTSCHLANDLIED)

OH BENDABA MAE BENDABA
(OH BENDABA, ALL BENDABA)

BLEBEH EH BYANGOMBEH
(BLESSED BY BYANGOMBEH)

PETAH BETAHMBO OBEH BA-
(SECRET, HOLY CITY OF THE JUNGLE)

-NANGA EHBOO FABOWEH
(SAFE FOREVER)

Everyone cheers.

BWAJUKA
(handing Grande the doll)
Here take this! Keep him in line until I get
back!

She runs out through the audience.
The trial is delivered OUT,
narrated as sports coverage by
Bahmunga through a fur bullhorn.
He carries the Fecundity rulebook.

BAFAH
What? How did I get here? What happened?
What's Bwajuka doing on the starting platform
of the fertility trial?

GRANDE
You proposed.

BAFAHBONGA
The hell I did.

BAHMUNGA
Ladies and gentlemen welcome to this impromptu
Ritual Trial of Fecundity, starring the tribe's
own- Bwajuka!

The crowd screams in horror.

BAFAH

What have I done? I'm getting out of here.

GRANDE

Not so fast!

He jumps up and runs but Grande is quick with the doll. It glows as Grande walks him back.

BAFAH

What the hell!

Grande sits him down in the stands to watch.

BAHMUNGA

Let the trial commence.

The drums begin.

BAHMUNGA

The first test is a tightrope walk over hungry crocodiles. She stepping onto the rope. She's walking, she's oh, oh, uh oh, whew!

Tribe sways and teeters and almost falls copying the description of Bahmunga.

BAHMUNGA

SHE'S MADE IT! She made it over the horde of terrifying crocodiles.

The crowd reacts in astonishment. Grande causes Bafah to jump up and scream like a freak.

JACK

Did you do that?

GRANDE

I did.

JACK

Gimme a turn.

GRANDE

No.

BAHMUNGA

She's moving on to the second challenge. This is thrilling. No one has ever made it this far before -Face to face with a vicious man-eating lion. She's going to the cage, she's opening it.

We hear the cage open and close with a slam, then the roar of a vicious lion.

BAHMUNGA

Ooo, he hasn't been fed in a while. Look at the size of those teeth. She's in the cage. The lion's pacing back and forth. Bwajuka looks very calm. Here he comes, he's pouncing, claws extended, mouth stretched wide in anticipation of the lethal bite to come. Oh hang on. She just stuck her whole head inside his mouth. He's not chewing, he's rolling her around inside his mouth, he's retching... He spit her out and he's running away! Bwajuka has beaten the second challenge by letting the lion thoroughly taste her! Yuck.

The crowd cheers.

BAFAH

BOO! No fair!

Bafah stands suddenly up and sings and does a fast interpretive dance.

JACK

Come one. Just for a second.

GRANDE

No.

BAHMUNGA

She's off to the last and most dangerous challenge. A high dive from a cliff into a pool of fire while our skilled tribesmen shoot her with poison darts.

QUEEN

What are you doing? Get up there!

The dart team runs out through the audience.

BAHMUNGA

There she is at the top of the cliff overlooking the pool of fire. She's ready for the deadly dive. It doesn't look good; the dart blowers are in place and from that distance they can hardly miss. They're raising their blow guns, taking deep breaths ready to blow- wait a minute... Oh my- don't do that- Oh, oh, oh -Augh!

The dart team runs in through the audience, screaming. Bahmunga has to turn away but looks through his fingers to describe the action.

BAHMUNGA

Ladies and gentlemen, in a stunning maneuver, Bwajuka has incapacitated the shooters by removing all her clothes.

THE TRIBE

Ewoo.

BAHMUNGA

Boy she's hairy. She's now ready to jump, the pool of fire is blazing. She's holding her arms out, ready to dive into the deadly flames. There she goes. She's sailing through the air. If you've ever seen a flying squirrel you know what I'm looking at. I don't know how she thinks she'll survive that burning pool- Wait. She's scrunching up her body into a ball. A gigantic human hair ball! She's hit the water. Oh the splash is enormous. The cannonball dive has extinguished the flames. Brilliant. She's done it. Bwajuka is fertile!

The tribe cheers.

Bafah is jerking back and forth, slamming in his neighbors on either side and making strange, guttural screams.

Jack and Grande both have a grip on the doll and tug it back and forth.

JACK

Give it to me.

GRANDE

I'm not done yet.

JACK

You've had it enough.

GRANDE

Get-your-hands-off-it!

Viv

Is that real?

Grande slaps Jack's hand with each word. Bafah responds to each slap until the last sends him and the doll sprawling. The doll is lost under the bleachers. The bleacher people try to help find it. Bafah is momentarily released. Bwajuka enters from the audience, wet. Bahmunga runs up to her with a microphone.

BAHMUNGA

Bwajuka, you just won the Ritual Trial of Fecundity. What were you thinking in that moment?

She points both fingers up then taps her heart with her fist.

BWAJUKA

I just wanna thank my god Khonvoun for making me what I am today, I just had to go out, make some plays and execute, not trying to do too much, focus on my mechanics, just try and keep things simple, it's just one fertility trial at a time and at the end of the day, it is what it is.

BAHMUNGA

Now everybody knows you're fertile. How do you feel?

BWAJUKA

Moist.

BAFAH

Stop! Stop celebrating! You can't use your face as a weapon.

He grabs the rule book from Bahmunga.

BAFAH

"Use of artificial performance enhancements will result in immediate disqualification."

BWAJUKA

Grande! The voodoo doll!

BAFAH

Don't you dare! I'll throw you in The Cage of Eternal Screams. It's pretty scary. They scream a long time.

Grande has retrieved the doll.
Bafah tries to run but is hauled back by the voodoo.

BWAJUKA

Quick Dr. Koku marry us.

DR. KOKU

Do you?

BWAJUKA

I do.

DR. Koku

Do you?

BAFAH

I do.

DR. KOKU

They do.

BAFAH kisses then dips her.
Cheers from the crowd. Happy music
and the tribe comes down and
dances. Confetti flies. The party
is raucous. Tarzan is swinging on
a vine through the party. He does
his famous yell. He crashes and
others swing.

BWAJUKA

This is going to work out just fine.

The queen approaches holding a
whip and the pink pillow.

QUEEN

Well Grande?

Grande points Gable at the queen.

QUEEN

No, don't look at me like that, I can't take
it. Your eyes are dead, they're dead I tell
you.

He hands the doll to Bahmunga who
drives her offstage.

QUEEN

You're thrilling and revolting me at the same
time. No, no. Don't get too close. Just a
little kiss. No, no, NOOO!

Bwajuka approaches Grande with
Bafah. Bafah is rigid. Grande
hands the doll to Bwajuka. Bafah
can't keep his hands off her.

BWAJUKA

(To Grande)

What will you do now?

GRANDE

Back to the lecture hall. I might apply for a position near Epulu. I hear they're doing some important work with the Efe pygmies there.

As he speaks the lights behind him dim. The canvas drops in behind and we are back in the lecture hall. The raucous party stays but is heard as background. Grande speaks directly to the audience again. There is low music under throughout.

SCENE #8 GRANDE LECTURE PART 2

SLIDE #1 SCENE #8 - JACK AND VIV IN TUXEDO AND WEDDING DRESS, JACK ALL OVER VIV AND VIV LOOKING AT HER LARGE DIAMOND RING, BORED.

GRANDE

Jack and Viv went home to America very, very rich. Jack got his treasure and Viv got hers. And while hers ended up being a bit of a disappointment, at least the diamond was big.

SLIDE #2 SCENE #8 - BAFAH HOPELESSLY CONTORTED IN AN APRON DOING DISHES WHILE BWAJUKA, HOLDING THE VOODOO DOLL, IS BEGINNING TO LOOK LIKE HER MOTHER-IN-LAW.

GRANDE

Bafah and Bwajuka lived happily thanks to the voodoo spell. They managed to have one child, a son. That boy is the ugliest son of a bitch you've ever seen.

SLIDE #3 SCENE #8 - THE QUEEN COWERING IN A CORNER. BAHMUNGA SEATED, ARM OUTSTRETCHED WITH PUPPET AT END.

GRANDE

Bahmunga the tart maker and the Queen lived quietly after her abdication. She never got out of line again, thanks to the possessed puppet, and became so dependent on it she couldn't go five minutes without looking into its eyes, or as she called them "Those perilous orbs of darkness and joy".

SLIDE #4 SCENE #8 DIAMOND MINE

GRANDE

Peteh Bahtambo ob-beh Bananga, the secret city of diamonds, was revealed to the world by a French conglomerate, intent on exploiting the riches found there. The Bendaba Cannibal Tribe was forced to move, but not before striking an extremely lucrative deal with De Beers, the diamond giant. They did very well for themselves and now cruise the world in a giant yacht they christened "Headshrinker".

SLIDE #5 SCENE #8 - AFT OF "HEADSHRINKER" WITH GANGPLANK SIGN VISIBLE IN THE BACK

GRANDE

While in port, curious tourists see it and assume it belongs to a wealthy psychiatrist. Some even board the ship tempted by a sign above the gangplank: "Free Session of Psychoanalysis". Tourists who accept this offer are never seen again.

The party starts to be heard again and grows increasingly louder, with the music, competing with Grande.

SLIDE #6 SCENE #8 - GORGEOUS CONGO JUNGLE

Grande

And I? I cannot stay away from Africa very long. I hear those drums in my head every day and soon, I'll cash in some diamonds and return to the only place that was ever truly my home: Dark Jungle. Good night.

The party returns with whole cast and the music comes up.