

DOCTOR DOLITTLE AND THE MONKEY MAYHEM

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Script Sample

Africa. The Jolliginki.

King Jolli sits on his throne. Next to him, Queen Ermintrude, Prince Bumpo and Princess Jemba. Guards surround them.

King Jolli Stick a fork in me and call me piggy, I am stuffed. Release the other prisoners, I won't need supper tonight after a dinner like that.

Princess J Daddy, wouldn't it be more sensible to keep them for another day?

King Jolli Lord, no, where's the fun in that? No, we'll catch some more when we get peckish.

Queen E I'm actually thinking about going vegetarian.

King Jolli Really? What a preposterous thought! Why on earth would you want to do that?

Queen E Well, just to see what all the fuss is about. I might even try quinoa.

Prince B Queen Wah? Isn't she the ruler of Umbondo?

Princess J Oh, Bumpo, you're such an ignoramus.

Prince B What does that mean?

Princess J I rest my case.

King Jolli Well, you won't catch me going veggie, that's for sure, not when I can have perfectly cooked rump or a beautiful boiled tongue.

Glock, King's guard and head of military, enters at a pace, along with other soldiers if available.

Glock Your majesty, enemy forces spotted up river and sailing this way.

King Jolli What! Sailing, you say? Oh I do love sailing, such a civilized endeavour.

Glock Yes, sire. But it was more the “enemy” bit I thought might interest you.

King Jolli Oh my goodness, you’re right. How many men are we talking about?

Glock One, sire. At least, one that I could see.

King Jolli One man! Well that barely counts as a starter.

Glock He’s got plenty of animals with him though, they’re a motley crew to say the least. He even had a parrot on his shoulder.

Prince B Pirates!

Queen E Heavens, they’ll kill us in our sleep and use our eyeballs for earrings.

Princess J They don’t sound like pirates to me.

Prince B How do you know what a pirate sounds like? You’ve never even met a pirate!

Queen E I’ve met many, they’re rude and rough; not a manner between them. Oh but they’re strong and manly too.

Princess J One man, a parrot and a few animals doesn’t sound like a pirate ship. It sounds like a poorly-thought-out zoo.

King Jolli Either way, they’re on our turf.

Prince B Actually they’re on our water.

King Jolli Yes, quite. Captain, send out an interception party, I want these ... creatures ... boiling in my pot before sunset.

Glock Of course, your majesty.

Queen E Wait. Send out a ‘welcome’ party instead. Make them feel very welcome. Give them food, give them wine.

King Jolli Oh yes, plump them up, make sure they’re fit for purpose. I like your thinking, my dear.

Princess J Do we have to ... you know? Can't we just ... talk with them?

Prince B Talk with them. They're animals. Animals can't talk.

Princess J The man's not an animal. He's a person, an ordinary man. Let's get to know him.

King Jolli We WILL get to know him, my darling. We'll talk with him, we'll laugh with him, we'll drink with him ... and then we'll cook with him!