

*Mowgli has just run from Baloo and Bagheera, who have told him he must return to the village. Mowgli wanders alone, depressed. Wearing, he sits to rest. Kaa enters.*

MOWGLI: Kaa! It's you!

KAA: Yes, Man Cub. So nice to see you again.

MOWGLI: Oh, go away. Leave me alone.

KAA: Let me look at you. *(Mowgli turns and hides his eyes)* You don't want me to look at you? *(turns Mowgli's head)* Then you look at me.

MOWGLI: No, sir. I know what you're trying to do, Kaa.

KAA: You do? Uh, I mean, you don't trust me?

MOWGLI: No.

KAA: Then there's nothing I can do to help.

MOWGLI: You want to help me?

KAA: Certainly. I can see to it that you never have to leave this jungle.

MOWGLI: How can you do that?

KAA: Hmm? Oh, I have my own subtle little ways. But first you must trust me.

MOWGLI: I don't trust anyone anymore.

KAA *(beginning to hypnotize Mowgli)*: But don't you understand? I don't want to hurt you. I just want to give you a big hug! Sssss! Ah...mmmm...

SHERE KHAN *(from offstage)*: Kaa, is that you? *(the moment is broken)*

KAA: Quick! Hide! It's Shere Khan!