

Audition Monologues for *Disney's The Lion King, Jr.*

CHOOSE ONE TO PERFORM

SCAR

Mufasa's death was a terrible tragedy; but to lose Simba, who had barely begun to live... For me it is a deep personal loss. So it is with a heavy heart that I assume the throne. Yet, out of the ashes of this tragedy, we shall rise to greet the dawning of a new era... in which lion and hyena come together, in a great and glorious future!

MUFASA

Look Simba. Everything the light touches is our kingdom. A king's time as ruler rises and falls like the sun. One day Simba, the sun will set on my time here- and will rise with you as the new king. Everything you see exists together, in a delicate balance. As king, you need to understand that balance, and respect all the creatures-- from the crawling ant to the leaping antelope. When we die, our bodies become the grass. And the antelope eat the grass. And so we are all connected in the great Circle of Life.

YOUNG SIMBA

Hey Uncle Scar, guess what! *I'm* going to be king of Pride Rock. My Dad just showed me the whole kingdom, and I'm going to *rule* it all. Heh heh. I'm gonna be a mighty king so enemies beware. I'm working on my roar. Here, listen! Roar!! I can't wait to be king! No one bossing me around... Free to play all day... Free to do it all my way! Hey, Uncle Scar? When I'm king, what will that make you?

ZAZU

Oh, just *look* at you two. Little seeds of romance blossoming in the savannah. Your parents will be thrilled... what with your being betrothed and all. {trying to explain} Betrothed. Intended. Affianced. One day you two are going to be *married!* {beat} Well, sorry to *bust* your *bubble*, but you two turtle doves have no choice. It's a tradition... going back generations. {beat} Oh, you can't fire *me*. Only a *king* can do that. You're not a king *yet*. And with an attitude like that, I'm afraid you're shaping up to be a pretty pathetic king indeed. If this is where the monarchy is headed count me out! Out of service, out of Africa, I wouldn't hang about!

SHENZI

Well, well, well, Banzai. What have we got here? A trio of *trespassers*!! Whoa, whoa, wait wait wait.... I know you. {points to Zazu} You're Mufasa's little *stooge*. And that would make *you*... {turning to Simba} the future king? Do you know what we *do* to kings who step out of their kingdom? {blocking Simba's path} Whoa, what's the hurry? We'd *love* you to stick around for dinner. We could have whatever's ... *lion around!* Get it? Lion around! Oh wait, wait, wait. I got another one. Make mine a *cub* sandwich. Whatcha think? {beat} Where'd they go?!

NALA

Simba? {pause for realization} ***Whoah!!!*** Well how did you.. where did you come from ... it's great to see *you*.. Wait 'til everybody finds out you've been *here* all this time. And your mother... what will *she* think? Everyone thinks you're dead. Scar told us about the stampede. You're alive. What else matters? And that means... you're the king! {Quietly} It's like you're back from the dead. You don't know how much this will mean to everyone. {Pained expression} ...What it means to me. I've really missed you.

NALA

This place is beautiful... But I don't understand something. You've been alive all this time. Why didn't you come back to Pride Rock? We need you! You're the king. {beat} Simba, Scar let the hyenas take over the Pride Lands. Everything's destroyed. There's no food, no water. Simba, if you don't do something soon, everyone will *starve*. It's your *responsibility* to help. Don't you understand? You're our *only hope*. {beat} What's happened to you? You're not the Simba I remember.

SIMBA

Well, I just ... needed to get out on my own. Live my own life. And I did. And it's great! No one needs me. {beat} Nala, we've been through this. I'm not the king. Scar is. {beat} I can't go back. You wouldn't understand. It doesn't matter. Hakuna Matata. It's something I learned out here. Look, sometimes bad things happen... and there's nothing you can *do* about it! So *why worry?* {beat} *Listen!* You think you can just show up and tell me how to live my life? You don't even know what I've been through. You're *wrong*. I can't go back. What would it prove, anyway? It won't change anything. You can't change the past. {beat} {He looks up at the stars, speaking to his father} You said you'd always be there for me!... But you're not. And it's because of *me*. It's my fault.... It's my ... *fault*.