Jungle Book Mother Wolf audition scene

MOTHER WOLF Children, I need you to help me clean the cave. And afterward, straighten up

 your den.

CUB Do we have to? We want to play.

MOTHER WOLF What if the whole jungle wanted to play?

CUB Then we’d go out and play *with* them. *(A noise is heard offstage.)* Listen, it

 sounds like someone *is* playing out there. I’ll go see what it is.

MOTHER WOLF Children!...Anything to get out of work. If it’s one of the monkey people tell him

 to go away…And if it’s another cub, tell him you cannot play this evening. Well…

 what’s there? Can you see anything? *(Worried)* Children…why don’t you answer

 me? What is it?

CUB *(Offstage*) A cub!

MOTHER WOLF A cub? Then tell him you can’t play!

CUB *(Offstage)*  But Mother…look!

*(CUBS enter holding hands with a smiling child who wears a breech cloth.)*

MOTHER WOLF *(Alarmed*) It’s a human cub!

CUB Can we keep him?

MOTHER WOLF What is he doing here?

CUB He can stay with me.

MOTHER WOLF He’ll stay with no one. He must go back to his parents. They’re probably out

 looking for him right now.

CUB What is he saying?

MOTHER WOLF I don’t know. He speaks the language of humans.

CUB I’ll teach him our language.

MOTHER WOLF Quiet, children…I wish your father were here. *(A noise is heard offstage.)*

CUB What was that?

MOTHER WOLF *(Anxiously)* Probably his parents. If they find the boy in here, they’ll smoke us

 out with the red flower. Quick, children. Take him to the inner den. And keep

 him quiet.

*(The CUBS and CHILD exit. SHERE KHAN, a tiger, enters.)*

SHERE KHAN *(With a growl)* Where is he?

MOTHER WOLF *(nervously*) My husband? He has gone hunting.

SHERE KHAN I’m not speaking of Akela. Where is the child?

MOTHER WOLF Child?...My children are resting.

SHERE KHAN I’m speaking of the *human* child. My feast for tonight.

MOTHER WOLF But…there is no food here. Tabaqui took the last bone.

SHERE KHAN Do not toy with me. A child is here, and I intend to find him.

MOTHER WOLF This is not your home, Shere Khan. You are not welcome here.

SHERE KHAN Who is stopping me?

MOTHER WOLF I am.