

ROBINSON CRUSOE

A Jungle Pantomime

By

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Characters:

Mama Oclo Hullpa– A cool Goddess

Captain Claw – A Wicked Pirate

Chloe Claw - His Beautiful, but Somewhat Wayward Daughter

Man Friday – An Island Inhabitant

Robinson Crusoe – A Shipwrecked Sailor

Freddie Flotsam – A Mutineer

Jenny Jetsam – A Mutineer

Ethel Crusoe– Robinson's mother and the Ship's Cook

The Hunky Monkeys – a troupe of six acrobats, dancers and singers

ACT 1

Scene 1 A Clearing in the Jungle

*The audience enter the big top to the sounds of the jungle waking up in the morning. Birds shriek, monkeys chatter, and tigers growl. An occasional monkey may gambol across the playing area stopping to pick its fleas and offer the findings to members of the audience as a gift. They may steal an occasional sweet. The **HUNKY MONKEYS** impress the audience with their acrobatic prowess.*

*On clearance, the HUNKY MONKEYS climb up into the truss and **MAMA OCLLO** the Goddess of the Jungle enters from out of her tree stump with a pyro flash. She's a goddess with attitude.*

MAMA Yo! 'sup kids? [*Nothing comes back*] I said Yo! 'sup kids? [*They may say Yo back*]. Dudz you ain't getting' what I'm talkin' about. I say Yo! 'sup kids? and you say "'sup Mama." Let's do it. Yo! 'sup kids [*'Sup Mama*] Wot u say? Ain't getting' it. Yo! 'sup kids? [*'sup Mama*] Yo! I can't hear you. Gimme more. Yo! 'sup kids? [*'sup Mama*]. Now we're talkin'. You do that every time and we'll be cool. The name's Mama Ocllo Huallpa, the coolest goddess in the Jungle roun' dis here Orinoco river. But like I say you can call me Mama. Listen up here's a rhyme for you:

The following should be rewritten and arranged as a rap

The Jungle steams

The Jungle heaves

It shrieks and screams and roars

It's burning hot

The rain pours down

And races to the shores

The sun beats bright
And through the trees
The light turns forest green
And in this world
Where lion is king
Few men have yet been seen.

A sinking boat
A shipwrecked dude
Arrives now at our shore
What will he do?
Will he survive?
Just sit and watch some more!

*With which we go into the **opening number** introducing the audience to the idea that the Jungle is a fabulous place to be. The CAST and **CHORUS** sing and dance as vines drop from the very top of the tent and the **HUNKY MONKEYS**, descend the vines as impressively as possible and become part of the number.*

1 Island

MAMA

***On the globe
There are oceans,
And in the oceans
There are seas,
And in this sea
Is an island –
My island.***

***On my island
There are mountains,
And from the mountains
Flow the streams,
And the streams
Run to the jungle –***

***My jungle,
My island,
Mine.
Mama Mama.***

CHORUS

***Mama Oclo Hullpa... Oclo Mama.
Mama Oclo Hullpa... Oclo Mama Mama.
Mama Oclo Hullpa... Oclo Mama.***

*In my jungle
There are creatures
On the ground and in the air,
Rich in nature,
Rich in treasure...*

*But in our home
A dangerous stranger
Brings destruction
And searches in vain...
Causes havoc,
Causes hurt,
Causes hate...
Captain Claw.*

instrumental dance break – verse

MAMA
*On the globe
There are oceans,
And in the oceans
There are seas,
And in this sea
Sails a small ship –*

*Of pirates,
To my island,
Mine.
Mama Mama.
On the ship,
Jenny Jetsam
And Freddie Flotsam
Down below.
And in the galley
Ethel's cooking....*

MAMA & CHORUS
*But on deck,
Bravely our hero
Steers the ship
Towards a new land.
Keeping look out,
Keeping watch,
Keeping safe –
Robinson Crusoe.*

*In the skies
There are dark clouds,
And from the dark clouds
Pours the rain
And a storm –
Lightning! Thunder!*

Rough seas!

CHORUS

*Mama Ocllo Hullpa... Ocllo Mama.
Mama Ocllo Hullpa... Ocllo Mama Mama.
Mama Ocllo Hullpa... Ocllo Mama.*

Danger!
Help!

Once it has finished CAPTAIN CLAW enters to a clap of thunder. He carries a great wood-chopping axe. If the audience are on form they should boo him! Certainly everyone else, except MAMA, runs away.

CLAW Oh shut thy faces, barnacle bonces and stuff thy feet in thy mouths. 'tis Cap'n Claw be I, the greatest Pirate of 'em all and ruler of the Jungle.

MAMA Oh no you ain't man

CLAW Oh yes I be!

MAMA *with audience* Oh no you bain't

CLAW Oh yes I be!

MAMA *with audience* Oh no you bain't

CLAW Oh yes I be!

MAMA *with audience* Oh no you bain't

CLAW Fire and Brimstone, shut thy faces, or Claw will shut 'em for 'ee! 'Tis twenty year that I be on this accursed island. Abandoned by the mutinous crew of the Black Dragon [*he hawks and spits*]. Curs and dogs to a man, every one of them. Abandoned on the very island where the ancient pirates buried their treasure, but with no map to show the spot where it lies.

MAMA That treasure's like so not here, you've searched for ever man!

CLAW 'Tis here and I shall find it, even if I have to cut down every tree in this accursed jungle.

MAMA That' ain't cool. You gonna destroy th'environment.

CLAW What cares I for Nature? 'Tis for the chimps. Stand ye back or feel the blade of me axe!

He raises his axe and strides towards the nearest tree.

MAMA No man, don't do it!

He is in about to strike with the axe when CHLOE CLAW swings in on a vine. Having been raised on the island since a small girl she wears her father's castoffs and generally behaves like a tomboy.

CHLOE Father, what are you doing?

CLAW Begone, Chloe! I means to cut down every tree till the treasure be found.

CHLOE Oh father! There is no treasure. You have searched for so long. The mutinous crew of the Black Dragon [*she hawks and spits*] who abandoned you and I here when I was only a baby, must have lost the map. The treasure will remain hidden forever.

CLAW That it will not. My trusty axe will find it!

He raises it to strike once more.

CHLOE Father! No! Mama help!

MAMA My magic's puny Chlo'. Every time yo' Daddy chop down a tree, I lose more of my power! He's way too strong for me

CHLOE Then he'll turn this island into a desert! Father I beg you stop!

CLAW Cease thy caterwaulin' or thou'rt no daughter of mine.

CHLOE Oh Mama, what shall we do?

MAMA Ain't nuttin' we can do Chlo'

CLAW 'Cept be afeared, be very afeared!

CHLOE Oh Father you're such a bully. I'll stop you!

She clings to the tree

Now swing thy axe and do thy worst!

CLAW raises the axe once more and is about to bring it down when he chickens out.

CLAW Th'art the most irksome child, but I'll not slaughter 'ee. Plenty of other trees in the Jungle to chop. I'll see 'ee later scurvy scallywags and remember the treasure will be mine, mine, all mine!! Ha! Ha! Ha!

He goes

MAMA Man, who got outta bed on the wrong side this morning?! Yo Chlo!
Look who I see coming through the trees!

CHLOE Who Mama?

MAMA Well, he's kinda...you know? And he kinda.... now how shall I say
.... thinks that you're kinda.....you get what I'm talking about?

CHLOE Oh you mean Friday.

MAMA You got it girl! He loves you man an' he's hot!

CHLOE Oh Mama. Love is for the chimps!

*At which point **MAN FRIDAY** enters led by a couple of the **HUNKY MONKEYS** who deliver him acrobatically into the scene*

MAMA Yo! 'sup Friday?

FRIDAY *[dejected]* 'sup Mama

CHLOE Oh Friday, lost again?

FRIDAY Yes, I'm afraid so Chloe.

CHLOE But it's your island Friday. You're its ruler.

FRIDAY I know but I've never been able to find my way around! I just can't tell the wood from the trees.

MAMA Talkin' of trees Chlo.....

CHLOE Oh yes Mama! Friday, you must stop Father. He's going to chop down all the trees on the island.

FRIDAY *[suddenly animated]* Never! I'll stop him, just see if I don't. I'll bash him and trash him and that'll put a stop to his wicked, evil plan.

MAMA Yo! Go get him Friday!

FRIDAY begins to move off then comes back

FRIDAY Er... which way did he go?

MAMA Give me strength man! Come with me 'n I'll show you!

She goes in the direction that CLAW went off. FRIDAY hangs back.

FRIDAY Oh but I mustn't bash and trash him. He's your father.

CHLOE And he can be very stupid sometimes. Off you go, Friday, and put a stop to his wickedness.

FRIDAY All right then. *[He doesn't move]* Chloe....?

CHLOE Yes Friday

FRIDAY I.....

CHLOE Yes

FRIDAY I.....

CHLOE Yes

FRIDAY I'd better be going

*CHLOE is left alone and she sings a **Song** about what it might be like to live a normal life.*

2 Sittin' On The Dock Of The Bay

CHLOE

***Sittin' in the morning sun,
I'll be sittin' when the evening come,
Watching the ships roll in,
And I'll watch 'em roll away again, yeah.
I'm sittin' on the dock of the bay,
Watching the tide roll away, oh,***

***Just sittin' on the dock of the bay,
Wasting time.***

***I left our home with father,
Shipwrecked in this desert bay.
Grown up with no friends or family,
And looks like no-one's gonna come our way,***

***So I'm just goin' to sit on the dock of the bay
Watching the tide roll away,
I'm sittin' on the dock of the bay,
Wasting time.***

***Look like nothing's gonna change,
Everything still remain the same,
I won't do what father will tell me to do
So I guess I'll remain the same, yes,***

***Sittin' here, keeping my dreams
That this place will prove much more than it seems, yes,
Riches beyond any store...
Wish that father understood that there's more than money here...***

***Sittin' at the dock of the bay
Watching the tide roll away, oh,
Sittin' on the dock of the bay
Wasting time.***

*When she's finished she exits by grabbing hold of a vine and flying
away over the audience. A storm blows up....*