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### JACK LEARNS THE APE LANGUAGE AND HE AND AKUT BECOME BOON CRONIES—PAULVITCH ATTEMPTS MURDER AND IS HIMSELF KILLED FOR TREACHERY

**Synopsis.**—A scientific expedition off the African coast rescues a humanడeciever, Alexis Paulvitch. He brings aboard an ape, intelligent and friendly, and reaches London. Jack, son of Lord Greystoke, the original Tarzan, has inherited a love of wild life and steals from home to see the ape, now a drawing card in a music hall. The ape makes friends with him. The ape refuses to leave Jack despite his trainer, Tarzan appears and is joyfully recognized by the ape, for Tarzan had been king of his tribe. Tarzan agrees to buy Akut, the ape, and send him back to Africa.

#### CHAPTER III—Continued.

Tarzan visited Akut the following day, but though Jack begged to be allowed to accompany him, he was refused. This time Tarzan saw the pockmarked old owner of the ape, whom he did not recognize as the wily Paulvitch of former days. Tarzan, induced by Akut's pleadings, broached the question of the ape's purchase, but Paulvitch would not name any price, saying that he would consider the matter.

When Tarzan returned home Jack was all excitement to hear the details of his visit, and finally suggested that his father buy the ape and bring it home. Lady Greystoke was horrified at the suggestion.

The boy was insistent. Tarzan explained that he had wished to purchase Akut and return him to his jungle home, and to this the mother assented. Jack asked to be allowed to visit the ape, but again he was met with flat refusal.

He had the address, however, which the trainer had given his father, and two days later he found the opportunity to eavesdrop on his new tutor—who had replaced the terrified Mr. Moore—and after considerable search through a section of London which he had never before visited he found the sniveling little quarters of the pockmarked old man.

The old fellow himself replied to his knocking, and when Jack stated that he had come to see Ajax, opened the door and admitted him to the little room which he and the great ape occupied.

At sight of the youth the ape leaped to the floor and shuffled forward. The man, not recognizing his visitor and fearing that the ape meant mischief, stepped between them, ordering the ape back to the head.

"He will not hurt me!" cried the boy. "We are friends, and before he was my father's friend. They knew one another in the jungle. My father is Lord Greystoke. He does not know that I have come here. My mother forbade my coming, but I wished to see Ajax, and I will pay you if you will let me come often to see him."

Paulvitch encouraged the boy to come and see him often and always he played upon the lad's craving for tales of the savage world, with which Paulvitch was all too familiar. He left him alone with Ajax until it was not long until he was surprised to learn that the boy could make the great beast understand him—that he had actually learned much of the primitive language of the apes.

During this period Tarzan came several times to visit Paulvitch. He seemed anxious to purchase Ajax, and at last he told the man frankly that he was prompted not only by a desire upon his part to return the beast to the liberty of his native jungle, but also because his wife feared that in some way her son might learn the whereabouts of the ape and through his attachment for the beast become imbued with the raving lustful which, as Tarzan explained to Paulvitch, had so influenced his own life.

The Russian could scarce repress a smile as he listened to Lord Greystoke's words for scarce a half hour had passed since the future Lord Greystoke had been sitting upon the disordered bed, babbling away to Ajax with all the fluency of a born ape.

Everything played into Paulvitch's hands. As chance would have it, Tarzan's son overheard his father relating to the boy's mother the steps he was taking to return Akut safely to his jungle home, and, having overheard, he begged them to bring the ape home that he might have him for a playfellow. Tarzan would not have been aware of this plan, but Lady Greystoke was horrified at the very thought of it.

Jack pleased with his mother, but all unwillingly. She was obstinate, and at last the lad appeared to acquiesce in his mother's decision that the ape

him violently to the floor, leaping upon his breast as he fell. From the bed the ape growled and struggled with his bonds.

The boy did not cry out—a trait inherited from his savage sire, who during years in the jungle following the death of his foster mother, Kaka, the great ape, had learned that there was none to come to the succor of the fallen.

Paulvitch's fingers sought the lad's throat. He grimed down horribly into the face of his victim.

"Your father ruined me," he mumbled. "This will pay him. He will think that the ape did it; I will tell him that the ape did it; that I left him alone for a few minutes and that you sneaked in and the ape killed you. I will throw your body upon the bed after I have choked the life out of you, and when I bring your father he will see the ape squatting over it," and the twisted hand cackled in gloating laughter.

His fingers closed upon the boy's throat.

Behind them the growling of the maddened beast reverberated against the walls of the little room. The boy tensed, but no other sign of fear or panic showed upon his countenance. He was the son of Tarzan. The fingers tightened their grip upon his throat. It was with difficulty that he breathed gaspingly.

The ape lunged against the stout cord that held him. Turning, he wrapped the cord about his hands, as a man might have done, and surged heavily backward. The great muscles stood out beneath his shaggy hide.

There was a rending as of splintered wood—the cord held, but a portion of the footboard of the bed came away.

At the sound Paulvitch looked up. His hideous face went white in terror—the ape was free!

With a single bound the creature was upon him. The man shrieked. The brute writhed him from the body of the boy. Great fingers sank into his flesh. Yellow fangs gashed close to his throat—he struggled futilely—



His Hideous Face Went White in Terror—The Ape Was Free!

and then they closed, and the soul of Alexis Paulvitch passed into the keeping of the demons who had long been awaiting it.

The boy struggled to his feet, assisted by Akut. For two hours, under his instructions, the ape worked upon the knots that seemed his friend's wrists. Finally they gave in their secret, and the boy was free.

He cut the cord that still dangled from the ape's body. Then he opened one of his bags and drew forth some garments.

His plans had been well made. He did not consult the beast, which did all that he directed. Together they slunk from the house, but no casual observer might have noted that one of them was an ape.

Paulvitch carried another piece of cord in his hand. There was a noose in one end of it, which he was continually playing with, as he walked back and forth up and down the room. His pockmarked features were working restlessly as he talked silently to himself. The lad had never seen him thus.

At last Paulvitch stopped on the opposite side of the room far from the ape.

"Come here," he said to the lad. "I will show you how to secure the ape should he show signs of rebellion during the trip."

The lad laughed. "It will not be necessary," he replied. "Ajax will do whatever I tell him to do."

The old man stamped his feet angrily. "Come here, I tell you," he repeated. "If you do not do as I say you shall not accompany the ape to Dover. I will take no chances upon his escape."

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Still smiling, the lad crossed the room and stood before the Russ.

"Turn around, with your back toward me," directed the latter, "so I can show you how to bind him quickly."

The boy did as he was bid, placing his hands behind him when Paulvitch told him to do so. Instantly the old man slipped the running noose over one of the lad's wrists, took a couple of half hitches about his other wrist and knotted the cord. The moment that the boy was secured the attitude of the man changed. He had known and bitterly hated Tarzan in Africa years before, for Tarzan had broken up his business as a slave dealer. Now, with an angry oath, he wheeled Tarzan's son about, tripped him and hurried

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### BAKER ISSUES WAR REVIEW FOR WEEK

SECRETARY CONTEMPLATES FUTURE IN ITALIAN THEATRE WITH CONFIDENCE.

### ENEMY STRENGTH STIFFENING

Reinforcements Are Arriving—Further Offensive on Western Front Increased by Increased Artillery Fire—American Worthy of Best.

Washington—Hardening of the Italian defense and the precision with which British and French reinforcements are being delivered in the Italian war theatre leads Secretary Baker in his weekly war review to contemplate the future in that field with confidence. He points out, however, that the full strength of the Austro-German efforts has not yet been developed.

Further allied offensives on the western front, Mr. Baker says, are indicated by increased artillery fire and the nervousness exhibited by the Germans. The only reference to the sector of this front where American troops occupy first line trenches is that the men have shown themselves worthy of the best traditions of the American army.

The training of our national army is now progressing rapidly, the statement says. "At all the camps the morale of our new citizens-soldiers is reported as excellent."

"The men who have been called upon to defend our country in the present emergency are taking hold of the work in a serious, high-minded spirit, which will produce the best result."

"The British and French officers who are to assist in instructing our new armies are arriving. They come for the purpose of initiating our men into the latest developments of modern warfare, so that from the very outset our forces may be trained according to the most efficient time and lifesaving methods."

"In France, the training of our troops is likewise being carefully continued. In the sector where our forces are in the trenches, they have shown themselves worthy of the best traditions of our armies."

"After the successes gained by the allies in the west during the preceding week, the relative calm of the last seven-day period was to be anticipated."

"It is significant, however, that the reaction of the enemy has been relatively slight, both in the region north of the Aisne and in Flanders."

"At this season of the year the golden log-hewn fields of Flanders and the bad weather which prevails along the entire western front makes it difficult to coordinate major operations with precision. Nevertheless, artillery preparation has continued in the two chief theaters of activity in the west, presaging further offensive engagements."

"Destructive hostile artillery fire is noted in the area along the Yser, centering around Dixmude, and the shelling by the enemy increased during the latter part of the week, betraying a decided nervousness on the part of the Germans lest any unexpected offensive action develop."

"The news from Italy is more encouraging. Operations involving the skilful handling of large masses of troops and the reorganization of defensive positions, entailing superior manœuvres on the part of officers and men alike, have been carried out by the Italian armies with energy and courage."

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