Mutasa

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.

MUFASA

YOUNG SIMBA

And this'll all be mine?

MUFASA

Everything.

YOUNG SIMBA

(in awe)

Everything the light touches...

(looks off in the distance)

What about that shadowy place over there?

MUFASA

That's beyond our borders. You must never go there, Simba.

YOUNG SIMBA

But I thought a king can do whatever he wants.

MUFASA

Well, there's a lot more to being king than getting your way all the time.

YOUNG SIMBA

(pointing in the distance)

Dad, what are those birds over there?

MUFASA

They're buzzards.

YOUNG SIMBA

They're scary. Why don't you chase 'em away?

MUFASA

I don't have to. They're doing what they're supposed to do. You see, Simba, everything exists in a delicate balance. As king, you need to understand that balance and respect all creatures - from the crawling ant to the leaping antelope.

YOUNG SIMBA

But Dad, don't we eat the antelope?

MUFASA

Yes, but when we die, our bodies become the grass, and the antelope eat the grass. Everything is connected in the great circle of life.

(ZAZU flaps in.)

ZAZU

Siiiiiire! Where are you? Siiiiire!

(MUFASA and YOUNG SIMBA descend from Pride Rock.)

MUFASA

Good morning, Zazu.

ZAZU

Sire, there you are. Urgent news!! Hyenas! In the Pridelands!

MUFASA

Zazu, take Simba home.

YOUNG SIMBA

Aw, Dad, can't I come?

MUFASA

No, Son.

(MUFASA exits.)

YOUNG SIMBA

I never get to go anywhere.

ZAZU

Oh, young Master, one day <u>you</u> will be king. Then you can chase away those slobbering, mangy, stupid poachers from dawn until dusk.

(YOUNG SIMBA and ZAZU exit. #5 RETURN TO SCAR'S CAVE.)

SCENE 4: SCAR'S CAVE

(SCAR lounges in the shade. YOUNG SIMBA, pumped up by Zazu's speech, enters.)

YOUNG SIMBA

Hey, Uncle Scar! Guess what? I'm gonna be king of Pride Rock!

SCAR

Oh, goodie. Well, forgive me for not leaping for joy. Bad back, you know.

YOUNG SIMBA

My dad just showed me the whole kingdom! And I'm gonna rule it all!

SCENE 7: THE PRIDELANDS

(Night has fallen. MUFASA walks ahead of ZAZU, YOUNG NALA, and a dejected YOUNG SIMBA.)

MUFASA

Zazu!

ZAZU

Yes, sire?

MUFASA

Take Nala home. I've got to teach my son a lesson.

ZAZU

Come, Nala.

YOUNG NALA

Simba... Good luck.

(ZAZU and YOUNG NALA exit. RAFIKI enters and watches from a distance.)

MUFASA

Simba, I'm very disappointed in you.

YOUNG SIMBA

I know.

MUFASA

I told you not to go there. You and Nala could have been killed!

YOUNG SIMBA

I was just trying to be brave, like you.

MUFASA

I'm only brave when I have to be.

YOUNG SIMBA

But you're not scared of anything.

MUFASA

I was today.

YOUNG SIMBA

You were?

MUFASA

Yes. I thought I might lose you.

YOUNG SIMBA

Oh. I guess even kings get scared, huh? (confiding)

But you know what?

MUFASA

What?

YOUNG SIMBA

I bet those hyenas were even scareder!

MUFASA

That's 'cause nobody messes with your dad! C'mere, you!

(MUFASA and YOUNG SIMBA tussle playfully. **#13 THEY LIVE** IN YOU.)

YOUNG SIMBA

Dad?

MUFASA

What?

YOUNG SIMBA

We're pals, right?

MUFASA

Right.

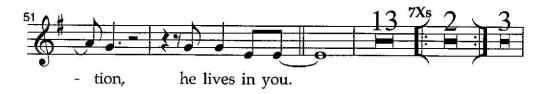
YOUNG SIMBA

And we'll always be together. Right?

THEY LIVE IN YOU







(A vision of MUFASA appears.)

MUFASA

Simba...

SIMBA

Father?

MUFASA

Simba, you have forgotten me.

SIMBA

No! How could I?

MUFASA

You have forgotten who you are, and so, have forgotten me. Look inside yourself, Simba. You must take your place in the circle of life.

SIMBA

How can I go back? I'm not who I used to be.

MUFASA

Remember who you are... You are my son and the one true king.

(The vision of MUFASA fades.)

SIMBA

No! Wait! Don't leave me! Please! Don't leave me!

(The vision is gone. SIMBA is alone. RAFIKI approaches.)