

**EXTRACT 1 (pp 1-2): OPENING SEQUENCE**  
**[King Kong 00.00 → 4.10]**

EXT. CENTRAL PARK - DAY

CLOSE ON: A scrawny MONKEY scratches.

ANGLES ON: Defeated, listless ANIMALS, in the bleak environs of a dilapidated ZOO.

WIDER: It is CENTRAL PARK ZOO in depression era NEW YORK. The PARK itself is like a GARBAGE DUMP, dotted with squalid SHANTY TOWNS.

Against these BLEAK IMAGES, the SOUND of a BRIGHT, BRASSY SONG fades up: Al Jolson, singing "I'm Sitting on Top of the World".

The sky line of MANHATTAN rises in the background, a grim steaming jungle on this cold FALL day.

EXT. NY STREETS - DAY

LONG continues over:

IMAGES: The CROWDED STREETS of NEW YORK ... beneath the bustle is a sense of despair.

LONG SOUP LINES snake along the STREETS.

The HUNGRY search through RUBBISH BINS for FOOD. SKYSCRAPERS rise steadily upwards as more people are evicted from their homes.

HOMELESS sleep amid steaming VENTS and GARBAGE STREWN GUTTERS.

Intercut:

INT. VAUDEVILLE THEATRE - NIGHT

SONG continues over:

SANNY, an old-time VAUDEVILLIAN, hurriedly fixes a large DROOPY MOUSTACHE on to a YOUNG WOMAN'S TOP LIP ... this is ANN DARROW.

IMAGES: Weird and wonderful snatches of VAUDEVILLE ACTS follow ...singers, jugglers, boxing ladies.

Intercut with:

EXT. NY STREETS - DAY

The COLOR and MUSIC contrast with the SOUP LINES and SLUMPED SHOULDERS of the REAL WORLD.

INT. VAUDEVILLE THEATRE - NIGHT

ANGLE ON: ANN on STAGE ... dressed as an ELEGANT GENT, she launches into 'I'm Just Wild About Harry' with HARRY, a larger-than-life PERFORMER dressed in a FRILLY DRESS, BRASSY RED WIG and FALSIES.

MANNY's CHARACTER joins in ... SNEEZING LOUDLY and causing ANN to take a SUDDEN PRAT FALL.

and so the ROUTINE BUILDS ... ANN and HARRY singing and dancing ... MANNY SNEEZING ... ANN falling.

The AUDIENCE look on with bored expressions on their faces. All except ONE MAN at the BACK, who is LAUGHING HYSTERICALLY.

CLOSE ON: ANN throwing everything into her ACT ... SWEAT rolls down her face ... she tries not to get distracted by the LAUGHING, WHEEZING MAN.

WIDER: A SMATTERING of APPLAUSE from the TINY AUDIENCE. 40 PEOPLE in a THEATRE designed for 500.

Crash cut:

INT. DRESSING ROOM - NIGHT

CLOSE ON: MANNY in the NOISY, CROWDED DRESSING ROOM, which is full of VAUDEVILLE PERFORMERS in various stages of undress.

MANNY fires off a loud comical SNEEZE. He looks around at the others.

MANNY

That's a funny one! Isn't that funnier?

HARRY

It's hysterical, Manny. As long as we're laughing we won't be crying over the box office. Talk about depressing.

ANGLE ON: ANN sitting down at a MIRROR, starting to take off her VEST ... a book entitled "ISOLATION" by Jack Driscoll lies half open on the counter top nearby...

ANN

Twenty girls in feather boas prancing around like circus ponies! That's depressing!

ANGLE ON: MAUDE, a BLOWSY SINGER, lighting up a cigarette.

MAUDE (fondly)

I love a good chorus line!

**EXTRACT 2 (pp. 28-9): A LION OR A CHIMPANZEE? [King Kong 23.15 → 24.15]**

INT. SHIP'S HOLD - NIGHT

ANGLE ON: CHOY is showing JACK to his sleeping QUARTERS, carrying BLANKETS.

JACK stares in DISBELIEF at the DINGY HOLD strewn with STRAW BALES and EMPTY ANIMAL CAGES. He reacts to the SMELL.

CHOY

This room very comfortable, plenty dim light ... fresh straw.

JACK

What'd you keep down here?

CHOY

Lion, tiger, hippo - you name it.

JACK

What, do you sell them to Zoos?

CHOY

Zoos ... circus ... (lowers voice) Skipper get big money for rare animal. (alarmed) Careful! Camel have bad accident on floor. Stain unremovable ...

JACK looks down. He's standing in a dark, viscous PUDDLE OF GUNGE.

CHOY (cont'd) (lowers voice)

Skipper catch any animal you want. He do you real good price on rhite wino.

ENGLEHORN (sternly)

Choy!

ANGLE ON: CHOY clams up as ENGLEHORN strolls into the hold.

ENGLEHORN (cont'd)

My apologies for not being able to offer you a cabin. Have you found an enclosure to your taste?

JACK (dryly)

Spoilt for choice.

ENGLEHORN surveys a COUPLE OF LARGE CAGES.

ENGLEHORN

What are you, Mr. Driscoll, a lion or a chimpanzee?

JACK opens a CAGE large enough to sleep in.

JACK

Maybe, I'll take this one.

**EXTRACT 3 (pp. 80-82): CONNECTION [King Kong 1.25.48 → 1.32.17]**

EXT. JUNGLE RUINS - DAY

WIDE ON: KONG SITS on the EDGE of a RUIN, surveying the JUNGLE.

He SITS with his BACK to ANN, in the crumbling remains of an enclosed ENTRY AREA ... which also provides the only way out.

With a splintering rip, KONG pulls off one of the DINOSAUR'S LEGS and starts EATING it.

ANGLE ON: ANN, having feigned unconsciousness, she now cautiously searches for a way to escape.

CLOSE ON: ANN LIFTING HER HEAD, risking a quick look around. The WALLS are TOO STEEP to attempt an escape ...

... but there is a NARROW STAIRWAY across the COURTYARD, leading down into the JUNGLE.

INCH by INCH ANN starts to EDGE FORWARD, CRAWLING on her STOMACH towards the STAIRS. KONG is CHEWING NOISILY ... he SHIFTS HIS WEIGHT, half turning ... ANN FREEZES.

KONG GLANCES at ANN, who has resumed her LIFELESS POSE. KONG doesn't appear to notice she's moved several feet. He continues EATING ...

ANN again starts to EDGE FORWARD ... she is STARTLED when some CREEPY INSECTS swarm out of a CRACK in the FLAGSTONES, inches from her FACE!

With only a few feet left to go, ANN quietly rises and scurries towards the STAIRWAY. She clammers into the NARROW PASSAGE - finally out of KONG'S SIGHT! Glancing back over her shoulder, ANN hurries down the STAIRWAY towards FREEDOM!

EXT. BOTTOM OF STAIRWAY/JUNGLE - DAY

ANN pauses at the BOTTOM of the STAIRS, listening for sounds of KONG. All is QUIET ... she glances back up the stairs ... no sign of him there ...

... gathering all her strength ANN emerges from the PASSAGE and makes a bold run across the CLEARING towards the cover of the JUNGLE!

THUD! KONG'S FIST SLAMS DOWN in FRONT of ANN!

She GASPS and tries to change direction ... THUD! Another FIST blocks her way. KONG GROWLS ANGRILY!

ANN swings around and FACES KONG ... he SNARLS at HER, FURIOUS and DEADLY.

**EXTRACT 3 (pp. 80-82): CONNECTION**  
**[King Kong 1.25.48 → 1.32.17] cont...**

ANGLE ON: ANN suddenly ducks under KONG'S ARM and makes a last ditch attempt to escape! She is half way across the clearing when she TRIPS and FALLS!

ANGLE ON: KONG bounds over to ANN, SLAPPING his HANDS on the GROUND in a frenzy of excitement - he utters a GUTTERAL SQUEAL.

CLOSE ON: ANN, flat on the ground, eyes shut, lying still.

ANGLE ON: KONG .. circling around ANN, SUSPICIOUS. He PRODS her a couple of times ...no response. KONG moves on ... ANN'S EYES flick OPEN! At that moment KONG doubles back - CATCHING her out!

... ANN SPRINGS UP, looks at KONG for a desperate moment, wonders if she should run, decides she'll never make it ... and takes another PRATFALL!!

KONG cocks his HEAD! He GRIMACES, baring his teeth and CIRCLES her.

ANN repeats the COMIC FALL! KONG SLAPS his HANDS on the GROUND, SHAKES his HEAD and GROWLS.

ANN starts to draw upon her VAUDEVILLE ROUTINE, swaying drunkenly and falling, then bouncing back up ... working her timing around KONG'S reactions - he grows increasingly ENGAGED.

ANGLE ON: ANN BOUNCES UP ... PANTING ... BEADS of SWEAT trickle down her face. Her EYES dart between the JUNGLE and KONG, she's looking for her chance ...

... but KONG is a DEMANDING audience. He wants more ... he wants ANN to fall down again.

KONG PRODS ANN ROUGHLY, knocking her OFF HER FEET. She FALLS to the GROUND ... WINDED.

KONG slaps his hands on the GROUND, and lets out another EXCITED GROWL. He thumps the GROUND with his FISTS, and SHAKES his HEAD, delighted with the GAME.

ANN tries to get up - KONG pushes her over again! This time she stays on the GROUND, breathing HEAVILY.

THUMP! THUMP! THUMP! KONG wants more! He tries to PROD ANN into getting up and is STARTLED when she HITS his FINGER AWAY!

ANN (gasping)  
No! I said no!

KONG cocks his HEAD ... he THUMPS his FISTS on the GROUND.

THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!

ANN (cont'd) (gasping)  
That's all there is ... there isn't any more.

KONG RISES TO HIS FEET, and BEATS his CHEST, towering over ANN.

His HUGE FIST rises into the air and comes SLAMMING DOWN straight TOWARDS ANN!

CLOSE ON: ANN shuts her eyes ... KONG'S FIST THUDS into the ground inches away from her.

THUD! Another FIST SLAMS into the GROUND!

ANGLE ON: KONG ROARS and beats his chest in a dramatic display of ANGER and FRUSTRATION. He rips a TREE from the ground as his ANGER spirals into violent MADNESS.

CLOSE ON: ANN as the GROUND SHAKES with the fury of his RAGE. For a brief moment KONG and ANN lock in EYE CONTACT!

CLOSE ON: KONG stares at the small figure in his hand who is waiting for DEATH to come.

In this moment an UNFAMILIAR feeling wells inside him ... a half formed emotion he hasn't experienced much in his long life: he feels a connection to this tiny creature.

The SPARK of RAGE goes out in KONG'S EYES ...

KONG stares at ANN as a confusion of feelings wash over him.

KONG pulls back from ANN ... overcome by sudden UNCERTAINTY. He knows only that she has somehow disarmed him ... and this has in turn, DIMINISHED his power.

KONG starts to BACK AWAY from ANN - slowly at first, until DOUBT and FEAR compel him to move faster. Suddenly he turns away.

ANN watches as KONG lopes off. He pulls himself up and over a RUINED WALL and DISAPPEARS from SIGHT.

ANGLE ON: ANN, rising to her feet, finally free of her captor.

**EXTRACT 4 (pp. 91-4): KONG'S LAIR**  
[King Kong 1.52.32 → 1.56.30]

EXT. KONG'S LAIR - DUSK

WIDE ON: KONG steps out of a LARGE ROUND CAVE onto a LEDGE that juts out high over SKULL ISLAND ...

This is KONG'S LAIR ... Over the ledge is a DIZZYING DROP of at least 1000-feet down to the JUNGLE.

The "VENTURE" can be seen - moored off the TIP of the ISLAND, some three miles away.

ANGLE ON: KONG gently places ANN on the GROUND ... ANN watches as he moves away and sits to one side of the LEDGE.

The SKY is a FIERY ORANGE as the SUN goes down ... SILHOUETTING the FIGURE of KONG ...

CLOSE ON: ANN looks around the CAVE taking in her STRANGE SURROUNDINGS ... her eyes fall upon a HUGE GORILLA SKULL and SKELETON which lie within the recesses of the CAVE ...

ANN turns and looks back at KONG ... realizing these are the BONES of his FOREBEARS ... that KONG was not always alone.

SUDDEN flutter in the DARK recesses of the LAIR, a SINISTER SOUND, sends ANN scurrying towards KONG ...

KONG won't look at her.

ANN breaks into a few tap steps ... NO RESPONSE. She leans down and picks up some STONES ... JUGGLING them, attempting to amuse him as she did before. KONG's gaze remains averted ...

He looks out over the JUNGLE CANOPY. ANN follows his GAZE, taking in the RUGGED LANDSCAPE which is bathed in the last EVENING RAYS of the SUN. She stares out to sea, a RAIN CLOUD casts shadows over the OCEAN.

ANN (softly)  
It's beautiful.

KONG sits QUIETLY staring out over the JUNGLE ... she looks up at him.

ANN (cont'd)  
Beautiful.

ANN places her HAND against her heart.

ANN (cont'd)  
Beau-ti-ful.

KONG'S BIG PAW unfurls beside ANN ... she hesitates for a moment, then CLIMBS into it.

ANGLE ON: KONG gently lifts ANN ...

WIDE ON: KONG with ANN, high above the JUNGLE, as the last of the DUSK LIGHT FADES.

**EXTRACT 5 (pp. 101-5): CAPTURE**  
[King Kong 2.05.50 → 2.12.26]

EXT. NATIVE VILLAGE/WALL - DAWN

ANGLE ON: JACK and ANN run into the VILLAGE ... it looks deserted. DENHAM suddenly rises and walks past them towards the GATE, fixated on the ROARING BEAST, smashing at the TIMBERS.

CLOSE ON: ANN ... seeing GROUPS of SAILORS crouched behind rocks, with GRAPPLING HOOKS at the ready. PRESTON lies to one side, a RAG held against his BLEEDING FACE. ENGLEHORN gripping a CRATE OF CHLOROFORM BOTTLES.

ENGLEHORN (shouting)  
Now!!!

ANGLE ON: KONG SMASHES through the GATE! For a BRIEF MOMENT KONG makes EYE CONTACT with ANN ... she looks at him DESPAIRINGLY. He reaches towards her ...

DENHAM (to ENGLEHORN)  
Bring him down! Do it!

ANGLES ON: SAILORS THROW GRAPPLING HOOKS at KONG, HAULING on the ROPES

ANN  
No!JACK  
Are you out of your mind? Carl!

BRUCE rushes forward, pulling PRESTON to his feet, hustling him towards the TUNNEL EXIT.

ENGLEHORN yells at SAILORS poised on the TOP of the WALL.

DENHAM  
Drop the net!

ANGLE ON: The SAILORS drop BOULDERS attached to a LARGE SHIP NET ... KONG is PUSHED to the GROUND by the WEIGHT.

CLOSE ON: DENHAM turns to ENGLEHORN.

DENHAM (cont'd)  
Gas him!ANN (sobbing)  
No! Please - don't do this!

CLOSE ON: JACK holding ANN back.

JACK  
Ann ... He'll kill you!



**EXTRACT 5 (pp. 101-5): CAPTURE**  
**[King Kong 2.05.50 → 2.12.26] cont...**

ANN  
No, he won't.

ANGLE ON: KONG trying to get up ...

ENGLEHORN hurls the CHLOROFORM BOTTLE at KONG, smashing it on the ground right under his face.

ANN (cont'd)  
No!

KONG breathes in the cloud of CHLOROFORM, he tries to push himself up.

ENGLEHORN  
Keep him down!

SAILORS throw BOULDERS down from the TOP of the WALL, pummeling KONG'S HEAD.

ANN breaks away from JACK, rushes at ENGLEHORN, grabbing his arm just as he prepares to throw another CHLOROFORM BOTTLE.

ANN  
Stop it! You're killing him!

ENGLEHORN  
Get her out of here! Get her out of his sight!

JACK takes ANN'S ARM ... DENHAM yells at him, as KONG'S RAGE intensifies.

DENHAM  
Do it!

CLOSE ON: ANN STARES up at JACK.

ANN  
Let go of me ...

CLOSE ON: JACK, he STARES at ANN, torn about what to do. His eyes flicker towards KONG. He makes his decision.

ANGLE ON: JACK pulling ANN by the HAND towards the TUNNEL ENTRANCE. She struggles to break free.

CLOSE ON: KONG WATCHING ANN being DRAGGED AWAY ... he EXPLODES with ANGER, suddenly RISING to his FEET, ripping the NET to PIECES! He SWINGS the ROPES AWAY, sending HAPLESS SAILORS flying through the AIR!

CLOSE ON: DENHAM looks on in HORROR, as his PLAN to CAPTURE KONG falls apart.

SAILOR  
We can't contain him!

ENGLEHORN  
Kill it!

DENHAM  
No!

ENGLEHORN  
It's over, you Goddamn lunatic!

DENHAM  
I need him alive!

ENGLEHORN  
Shoot it!!!

ANGLE ON: ENRAGED KONG throwing SAILORS and overturning STONE BUILDINGS.

CLOSE ON: JIMMY, gripping a TOMMY GUN, stands in front of KONG ... his POSE reflecting HAYES' last stand. ENGLEHORN pulls JIMMY away by the collar, shoving him down the path.

ENGLEHORN (cont'd)  
Jimmy - get out of here! Get to the boat!  
(yelling)  
All of you! Run!

KONG climbs DOWN THE WALL.

EXT. BEACH - DAWN

ANGLE ON: JACK running with ANN towards a waiting BOAT ... ANN fights as JACK tries to LIFT her on BOARD ... both turn!

JACK  
Get in the boat!

ANN (distracted)  
No! It's me he wants. I can stop this -

KONG stampedes down towards the COVE ... JIMMY stands his ground with his TOMMY GUN.

JACK yells at BRUCE.

JACK  
Take her!

BRUCE takes ANN, as ENGLEHORN leaps into their BOAT ... he yells to the SAILORS.

ANN  
Let me go to him!

ENGLEHORN  
Row! Get the hell out of here!

ANGLE ON: JACK pushes JIMMY into the SECOND BOAT.

JACK  
Jimmy! No!

JACK tries to prevent JIMMY from shooting at KONG, as SAILORS push their BOAT away from the shore.

**EXTRACT 5 (pp. 101-5): CAPTURE**  
**[King Kong 2.05.50 → 2.12.26] cont...**

CLOSE ON: DENHAM finds a CRATE of CHLOROFORM BOTTLES on the FLOOR of the BOAT. He snatches one up ... prepares to throw.

ANGLE ON: JIMMY manages to fire a BURST at KONG ... KONG CHARGES in FURY and THUMPS his FIST down on the BOW of the BOAT.

ANGLE ON: DENHAM is flung into the water, still clutching the CHLOROFORM BOTTLE.

ANGLE ON: KONG flings the BOAT against the COVE WALL, smashing it - sending JACK, JIMMY and SAILORS into the SEA!

ANN looks on in horror as JACK SURFACES, holding onto JIMMY, who is COUGHING SEA WATER.

KONG turns to ANN'S BOAT ... he looks at her ...

ANN  
Go back!

KONG PAUSES at the SOUND of her VOICE ... as if sensing her fear for him.

ENGLEHORN  
Hold her!

BRUCE holds ANN as ENGLEHORN suddenly FIRES a HARPOON into KONG'S KNEE ... KONG ROARS in PAIN and SINKS into the water. ANN is sobbing with DISTRESS.

ANGLE ON: ENGLEHORN starts LOADING a SECOND HARPOON ... DENHAM scrambles on to a ROCK, clutching the CHLOROFORM BOTTLE.

DENHAM  
Wait!

ENGLEHORN ignores him, intent on killing KONG with his next HARPOON.

ANGLE ON: KONG starts CRAWLING painfully towards ANN. ENGLEHORN has almost finished LOADING.

ANN  
Leave him alone!

ANGLE ON: DENHAM steadies himself on his rock as KONG crawls past. He hurls the CHLOROFORM BOTTLE ... it smashes against KONG'S FACE. KONG starts choking on the GAS.

ANGLE ON: JACK in the sea, holding the unconscious JIMMY, watching ANN from across the void of water ...

KONG starts to succumb to the GAS ... he reaches for ANN.

ANN watches KONG'S HAND reach out to her ....

But she can no longer help him ... she has failed to stop this happening.

CLOSE ON: ANN turns away from KONG ... as he slumps into unconsciousness.

CLOSE ON: ANN and JACK make EYE CONTACT across the water .... She starts to CRY. JACK is unable to offer her any comfort.

ANGLE ON: DENHAM steps up to the UNCONSCIOUS KONG:

DENHAM  
The whole world will pay to see this. We're millionaires, boys. I'll share it with all of you! In a few months his name will be up in lights on Broadway! "Kong - the Eighth Wonder of the World"!

**EXTRACT 6 (pp. 109-115): FOR THE PRICE OF AN ADMISSION TICKET**  
**[King Kong 2.16.30 → 2.24.13]**

INT. BROADWAY THEATRE - NIGHT

WIDE ON: The HUGE AUDITORIUM is filled with nearly 2000 people. The EXCITEMENT in the air is PALPABLE.

WIDE ON: The LARGE CROWD APPLAUDS as DENHAM strides onto the stage in the GLARE of THE SINGLE SPOTLIGHT. He waves enthusiastically to the AUDIENCE, basking in the acclaim he has wanted for so long.

DENHAM  
Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Ladies and Gentlemen, I am here to tell you a very strange story ... a story of our adventure in which seventeen of our party suffered horrible deaths! Their lives lost in pursuit of a savage Beast, a monstrous aberration of nature! But even the meanest brute can be tamed. Yes, Ladies and Gentlemen, as you will see, the Beast was no match for the charms of a girl - a girl from New York ... who melted his heart. Bringing to mind that old Arabian proverb ...

INT. THEATRE DRESSING ROOM - NIGHT

CLOSE ON: ANN, now in a WHITE VELVET GOWN, a look of SADNESS in her EYES.

DENHAM V/O cont'd  
"And lo the Beast looked upon the face of Beauty and Beauty stayed his hand and from that day forward he was as one dead ..."

A VOICE interrupts ANN'S contemplation.

STAGE MANAGER  
You're on, Miss Darrow, five minutes.

ANN stands up ...

**EXTRACT 6 (pp. 109-115): FOR THE PRICE OF AN ADMISSION TICKET [King Kong 2.16.30 → 2.24.13] cont...**

INT. BROADWAY THEATRE STAGE - NIGHT

DENHAM basking in the SPOTLIGHT.

DENHAM

And now Ladies & Gentlemen, I'm going to show you the greatest thing your eyes have ever beheld. He was a King in the world he knew but he comes to you now ... a captive!

DENHAM lifts his ARMS ...

DENHAM (cont'd)

Ladies and gentlemen: I give you Kong - the Eighth Wonder of the World!!

STAGE MUSIC strikes up.

INT. BROADWAY THEATRE STAGE - NIGHT

WIDE ON: With a DRAMATIC FLOURISH the CURTAIN slowly rises to REVEAL:

KONG sitting slumped and unresponsive, his WRISTS MANACLED to a STEEL SCAFFOLD. Other MANACLES and CHAINS secure his ANKLES, NECK and WAIST.

There is a BIG GASP from the AUDIENCE ... KONG'S sheer size is OVERWHELMING.

CLOSE ON: DENHAM ... euphoric, as the collective GASP of 2000 PEOPLE washes over him.

ANGLE ON: KONG's head lolls, as if he is barely aware of his surroundings ...

DENHAM

Don't be alarmed, ladies and gentlemen. It is perfectly safe. These chains are made of chrome steel!

WILD APPLAUSE!

EXT. NEW YORK STREETS - NIGHT

ANGLE ON: JACK, jostled on a crowded NEW YORK STREET hurrying rapidly along the sidewalk. JACK crosses the BUSY ROAD, heading straight towards the BROADWAY THEATRE.

INT. BROADWAY THEATRE STAGE - NIGHT

WIDE ON: DENHAM on stage with KONG ...

DENHAM (dramatic)

Observe if you will, I am touching the beast! I am actually laying my hand on the twenty-five foot gorilla.

DENHAM reaches up and touches KONG'S LEG. KONG'S foot twitches slightly causing DENHAM to jump back in fright ...

CLOSE ON: JACK enters the AUDITORIUM.

ANGLE ON: DENHAM signals to the STAGE HANDS in the WINGS ...

ANGLE ON: A STAGE HAND begins to CRANK a WINCH ... the CHAINS at KONG'S WRISTS tighten ... the AUDIENCE GASP as KONG is SLOWLY FORCED to his FULL HEIGHT ...

ANGLE ON: JACK walks into the BACK of the BALCONY of the darkened AUDITORIUM. He quietly makes his way down the SHADOWED AISLE.

ANGLE ON: DENHAM turns back to face the AUDIENCE ...

DENHAM (cont'd)

We have in the auditorium tonight, a surprise guest. The real life hero of this story ... the man who hunted down the mighty "Kong"!

CLOSE ON: JACK as he watches DENHAM, unnerved by the SPECTACLE.

DENHAM (cont'd)

The man who risked all to win the freedom of a helpless female! A big hand for ... Mr. Bruce Baxter!

ANGLE ON: BRUCE striding on stage, dressed as the Great White Hunter.

HUGE AUDIENCE ACCLAIM! DENHAM shakes BRUCE by the hand, slapping him on the BACK as if they were OLD FRIENDS ... BRUCE turns and acknowledges the ADULATION of the AUDIENCE.

A LINE of DANCERS, dressed as cheesy NATIVES appear from either side of the stage. They dance to the beat, playing to KONG, who stares impassively at them.

A PULSATING DRUM BEAT begins to fill the AUDITORIUM!

DENHAM (cont'd)

Ladies and Gentlemen, imagine if you will an uncharted island ... a forgotten fragment from another time ... And clinging to life in this savage place, imagine a people untutored in the ways of the civilized world. A people who have dwelt all their lives in the shadow of Fear! In the shadow of ... "Kong"!

CLOSE ON: JACK ... staring TRANSFIXED at the STAGE.

BEHIND him in the DARKNESS of the AUDITORIUM a FIGURE rises from a SEAT.

PRESTON (quietly)

He was right ...

JACK turns to find PRESTON standing beside him ...

**EXTRACT 6 (pp. 109-115): FOR  
THE PRICE OF AN ADMISSION TICKET**  
[King Kong 2.16.30 → 2.24.13] cont...

PRESTON (cont'd)  
... about there still being some mystery left in  
this world ...

CLOSE ON: PRESTON stares down at the figure of  
DENHAM, standing to one side of the STAGE ...

PRESTON (cont'd) (softly)  
And we can all have a piece of it ... for the price  
of an admission ticket.

ANGLE ON: PRESTON turns to look at JACK ...  
JACK'S EYES flicker towards the SCAR which runs  
down one side of PRESTON'S CHEEK ...

JACK (quietly)  
That's the thing you come to learn about Carl ...  
his unfailing ability to destroy the things he loves.

ANGLE ON: DENHAM as he strides to the FRONT  
of the STAGE ...

DENHAM  
Please remain calm, Ladies and Gentlemen  
- for we now come to the climax of this savage  
ritual ... the Sacrifice of a beautiful young girl!

The CROWD erupts into WILD CHEERS!

The LIGHTS DIM ... The DRUM BEAT increases ... The  
NATIVE DANCERS fall to their KNEES in WORSHIP  
as a PLATFORM rises from beneath the STAGE ...

DENHAM (cont'd)  
Behold her terror as she is offered up to the  
mighty "Kong"! A big hand folks for the bravest  
girl I ever met! Miss Ann Darrow!

A DRAMATIC SILHOUETTE of a WOMAN dressed  
in a WHITE SILK GOWN. She is tied to a wooden  
ALTAR, her BACK to the audience.

CLOSE ON: KONG, a flicker of HOPE in his EYES.

The TINY FIGURE tethered to the ALTAR looks up!  
For the first time KONG sees her FACE.

ANGLE ON: KONG utterly CONFUSED; this is  
NOT ANN, but a woman in a blonde wig, dressed to  
look LIKE HER!

KONG roars!

FAKE ANN thrashes around SCREAMING  
unconvincingly!

FAKE ANN  
No! No! Help me, no!

ANGLE ON: KONG staring at FAKE ANN with  
mounting CONFUSION and ANGER!

CLOSE ON: JACK as he realises it is not ANN on  
stage. He turns to PRESTON.

JACK  
Where is she?

INT. BROADWAY THEATRE STAGE - NIGHT

CLOSE ON: JACK glances at PRESTON, who turns  
away looking UNCOMFORTABLE.

JACK (urgent)  
Where's Ann?

PRESTON  
I've no idea. I heard he offered her all kinds of  
money and she turned him down flat.

INT. SHOWGIRL'S THEATRE - NIGHT SLOW,  
DREAMY MUSIC ... A FEATHERED FAN sweeps  
across a FACE to reveal ... ANN.

WIDER: ANN dancing in a LINE of CHORUS  
GIRLS, all identically dressed ...

ANGLE ON: A MALE DANCER slides into VIEW ...  
the STAR of the SHOW ... the WOMEN behind him,  
merely window dressing.

PUSH IN: on ANN as she goes through the motions  
of the routine ... a look of DISTANT SORROW on her  
FACE.

INT. BROADWAY THEATRE STAGE - NIGHT

CLOSE ON: PHOTOGRAPHERS push forward,  
LIGHT BULBS flash at KONG who ROARS  
ANGRILY.

DENHAM signals to BRUCE to join him ... behind  
them we can see the FAKE ANN still performing her  
feigned terror ...

DENHAM  
Here's your story, boys - "Beauty and the Man  
who saved her from the Beast".

ANGLE ON: JACK watching from the BALCONY ...  
he STARES at KONG who is BREATHING HARD  
through his NOSTRILS ... JACK can feel KONG'S  
mounting ANGER.

JACK (turning to PRESTON)  
We have get these people out of here -

JACK'S eyes turn to the AUDIENCE seated nearby  
... he gets up and attempts to usher people out.

JACK (cont'd)  
Everyone has to leave.

CLOSE ON: KONG, his ANGER growing as he  
struggles against his chains.

PRESS MAN 2  
How did you feel, Mr. Baxter - when  
you were on the island?



**EXTRACT 6 (pp. 109-115): FOR THE PRICE OF AN ADMISSION TICKET [King Kong 2.16.30 → 2.24.13] cont...**

BRUCE

Well to be honest with you, I had some anxious moments ...

The MEMBERS of the PRESS all nod, understandingly ...

BRUCE (cont'd)

For a while there it looked like I wasn't going to get paid ... But as it turned out, Mr. Denham here has been more than generous -

CLOSE ON: DENHAM ...

DENHAM

Let him roar! It makes a swell picture!!!

ANGLE ON: DENHAM and BRUCE as they POSE for the PHOTOGRAPHERS.

ANGLE ON: JACK heading down the STAIRS, trying to convince members of the audience to leave.

JACK

Head for the exits ...

AUDIENCE 2

Get your own seat Buddy - you ain't having mine.

The CONFUSED AUDIENCE continue to APPLAUD ...

CLOSE ON: The FAKE ANN'S EYES suddenly WIDEN as:

KONG rips one of his MANACLED HANDS FREE!

FAKE ANN lets out her most CONVINCING SCREAM!

JOURNALISTS and PHOTOGRAPHERS start backing away, snapping pictures as they retreat ... FLASHBULBS POP ... KONG COWERS BACK shielding his eyes ... ROARING in DEFIANCE!

ANOTHER DEAFENING ROAR!!! DENHAM looks up, AWESTRUCK, as he sees KONG TEARING FREE of the rest of his CHAINS!!

The AUDIENCE BEGIN TO RISE from their SEATS ... PANIC sets in!

AAAARRRRRRGH!!!! The FAKE ANN tethered to the ALTAR screams again for help!

KONG reaches across and picks her up, HURLING the FAKE ANN and the ALTAR across the wide AUDITORIUM!

SLOW MOTION: LINKS snapping ... CHAINS breaking, BOLTS lifting from the FLOOR!

With a MIGHTY FLOURISH, KONG rips off his WAIST RESTRAINTS and is at last completely FREE! The AUDIENCE RUSH the EXITS in a COLLECTIVE STAMPEDE!

**EXTRACT 7 (pp. 120-122): BEAUTIFUL [King Kong 2.34.38 → 2.39.40]**

EXT. EMPIRE STATE BUILDING/MANHATTAN - PRE DAWN

Looking at MANHATTAN from the HARBOUR ... the EMPIRE STATE BUILDING rises from the MIDDTOWN area like a giant solitary finger, reaching for the heavens.

WIDE SHOT ... KONG climbing the EMPIRE STATE BUILDING, silhouetted against the LIGHTENING SKY.

LOOKING DOWN ... ANN clings to KONG'S SHOULDER, a DIZZING 1000 foot drop to the street below.

KONG climbs onto the OBSERVATION DECK of the EMPIRE STATE BUILDING. He gently places ANN down ... a CHILL WIND catches at her DRESS. ANN looks up at KONG ... BLOOD slowly seeps from his numerous WOUNDS ...

KONG sits still, staring out across the CITY ...

To the EAST the sun is rising, casting a soft glow over buildings ... glinting off the WATERS of the EAST...

KONG looks down at ANN ... he gestures with his hands ... touching his heart ... ANN looks at him confused, he repeats the gesture ...

CLOSE ON: ANN, she understands ...

ANN (whisper)  
Beautiful ...

Here, high above the squalor and the noise and confusion, the city lies quiet, almost peaceful ...

ANN (cont'd)  
Yes ... yes it is.

WIDER ... KONG cradles ANN in his HAND as they SHARE the moment.

WIDE ON: KONG and ANN sit on the LEDGE, watching the SUN RISE. SIX NAVAL BIPLANES suddenly ROAR INTO SHOT, sweeping low over the DOWNTOWN BUSINESS DISTRICT ... and closing in on KONG. These are TWO-SEATERS, armed with TWIN MACHINE-GUNS for the PILOT, and a flexible MACHINE-GUN for the OBSERVER.

CLOSE ON: PILOT'S FINGER on trigger.

A COLD WIND blows ANN'S hair as she watches the PLANES approach. KONG is UNEASY about these BUZZING PREDATORS as they CIRCLE above him.

The NAVAL PLANES peel off into an ATTACKING DIVE at KONG.

DOWN GUN-SIGHTS ... drifting left and right as KONG grows in size ... LOCKED ON!

**EXTRACT 7 (pp. 120-122): BEAUTIFUL  
[King Kong 2.34.38 → 2.39.40] cont...**

KONG is suddenly FEARFUL ... he INSTINCTIVELY pushes ANN towards the BUILDING'S WALL!

The PLANES split to either side of KONG, ZOOMING straight at him!

KONG ROARS at the PLANES, as if issuing a CHALLENGE.

ANN is screaming ...

ANN (cont'd)  
No!!!

THE SIX NAVAL PLANES fly at KONG from different directions! MACHINE-GUNS START FIRING!

KONG ROARS ... and SNATCHES at the NAVAL PLANES as they ZOOM by... he FLINCHES as he is HIT BY BULLETS!

KONG clammers onto the SIDE of the BUILDING and begins climbing to the UPPER MOST LEVEL... attempting to DRAW the PLANES away from ANN ...

CLOSE ON: The MASKED FACE of a PILOT as he heads straight for KONG.

ANGLE ON: KONG swipes at the MOORING MAST and sends it crashing down to the streets below.

WIDER ON: KONG stands atop the BUILDING, ROARING & DRUMMING HIS CHEST in ANGER.

**EXTRACT 8 (p. 125): JUST A DUMB ANIMAL  
[King Kong 2.48.54-2.50.28]**

EXT. FIFTH AVENUE - MORNING

CROWDS are gathering to STARE at KONG'S BODY. A SWARM of JOURNALISTS converge on KONG ... light-bulbs flashing ...

ANGLE ON: TWO PHOTOGRAPHERS climb onto KONG'S CHEST ... CAMERAS AIMED right at KONG'S FACE ... they jostle for position.

A POLICEMAN drags them off ...

POLICEMAN  
Come on, boys, move on! Show's over! Stay back! Behind the line!

As the NATIONAL GUARD begin holding the CROWD of ONLOOKERS BACK.

SOLDIERS pose for PHOTOS.

CLOSE ON: PHOTOGRAPHER 1 staring up the long length of the EMPIRE STATE BUILDING ... the distance that KONG has plummeted.

PHOTOGRAPHER 1  
Why'd he do that? Climb up there and get himself cornered? The ape musta known what was comin'.

PHOTOGRAPHER 2  
It's just a dumb animal - it didn't know nuthin'!

ANGLE ON: DENHAM pushing through the CROWD. He stares at KONG, DREAD, REALIZATION dawning on his face.

PHOTOGRAPHER 2 (cont'd)  
What does it matter? The airplanes got him.

PUSH IN ... on DENHAM staring at KONG, an ASHEN expression on his face.

DENHAM  
It wasn't the airplanes ...

The PHOTOGRAPHERS stare at DENHAM ... expectant.

DENHAM (cont'd)  
... it was beauty killed the beast.

ANGLE ON: DENHAM turns and slowly walks away from CAMERA.

**FADE TO BLACK**

**THE END**