THE CAPTURE OF TARZAN

of the pit they were digging.

Against the boles of nearby trees way. aned their long, oval shields of Tarzan laughed aloud and came thick buffalo hide, and the spears of closer above the head of the pachywho were doing the scooping. derm. Sweat glistened upon their smooth, "Tantor! Tantor!" he cried. "Bara.

startled ears. For a moment he stood the sound of a broken twig." statuesque but for his sensitively A rumbling noise, which might dilating nostrils; then he wheeled have been either a sign of contempt ing presence of man.

and slunk away.

and scolding, swung through the stood every word that he said. swaying limbs above the black war- Much there was which Tarzan But were they alone?

wavs of man.

He saw the pit grow in depth unthe trail-a hole which was amply of the six excavators. Tarzan could his bidding, Tantor would come from not handicapped by the second-hand, the strange disappearance of his large enough to hold at one time all mids, and set them at intervals upright in the bottom of the pit, his nderment but increased, nor was It satisfied with the placing of the light cross-poles over the pit, or the careful arrangement of leaves and performed.

Puzzle as he would, however, he sons of the year. but a short time before—the first of all the lower orders—their lives are rectly in his path and but a few were they silent, but instead clapped their kind to encroach upon the age- so occupied either with searching for yards away there rose from a clump their hands and shouted as they old supremacy of the beasts which food or with the processes of digeslaired there. To Numa, the lion, to tion that they have little time for saids for he browserd! around the elephant, paused with Tantor, the elephant, to the great other considerations. Doubtless it is aside, for he knew well enough what upraised trunk and tail, with great apes and the lesser apes, to each and this handicap which has kept them manner of creature the presence of ears uppricked, and then he swung savage wild, the ways of man were who has more time to give to multaneously Buto, the rhinoceros, fling pace—straight toward the covthese black, hairless creatures that walked erect upon their hind paws—
Tarzan but little, and Tantor not at the walked the walked the walked to his short legs and ered pit with its sharpend upstanding in the ground.

Tarzan but little, and Tantor not at the walked the walke always to their sorrow.

the lion, pausing for a moment to pour one's vague hopes and aspira-Low growls vibrated his cated his affection. It was difficult and serene. avy jowls and his great rage to know. which hid him from the view ney in the opposite direction. tormentor. With a final ce at his departing foe, harvest.

HE black warriors labored in the forging steadily along the jungle cluded him, as today. mid heat of the jurgle's stifling trail. Tarzan seized and broke a And as he roamed the jungle his With war spears they small tree limb, and at the sudden active mind busied itself not alone ad the thick, black loam and cracking sound the ponderous figure with his hunting, but with many deep layers of rotting vegeta-halted. Great ears were thrown other subjects. He had a habit of torward, and a long, supple trunk recalling often the events of the pread away the disintegrated rose quickly to wave to and fro in ceding days and hours. He lived with from the center of the age-old search of the scent of an enemy, over his visit with Tantor; he cogime trail. Often they ceased their while two weak little eyes peered tated upon the digging blacks and abors to squat, resting and gossip-suspiciously and futilely about in the strange, covered pit they had ng, with much laughter, at the edge quest of the author of the noise left behind them. He wondered again which had disturbed his peaceful and again what its purpose might be.

con skins, beneath which rolled the deer, is less fearful than youcounded muscles, supple in the per- you, Tantor, the elephant, greatest fection of nature's uncontaminated of the jungle folk, with the strength of as many Numas as I have toes A reed buck, stepping warily along upon my feet and fingers upon my the trail toward water, halted as a hands. Tantor, who can uproot burst of laughter broke upon his great trees, trembles with fear at

and fled noiselessly from the terrify- or a sigh of relief, was Tantor's only reply as the uplifted trunk and ears A hundred yards away, deep in the came down and the beast's tail tangle of impenetrable jungle, dropped to normal; but his eyes still the lion, raised his massive roved about in search of Tarzan. He bead. Numa had dined well, slept was not long kept in suspense, how-until almost daybreak and it had required much noise to awaken him. ape-man, for a second later the Now he lifted his muzzle and sniffed youth dropped lightly to the broad the air, caught the acrid scent spoor head of his old friend. Then stretchof the reed buck and the heavy scent ing himself at full length, he of man. But Numa was well filled, drummed with his bare toes upon With a low, disgusted grunt he rose the thick hide, and as his fingers scratched the more tender surfaces Brilliantly plumaged birds with beneath the great ears, he talked to raucous voices darted from tree to Tantor of the gossip of the jungle tree. Little monkeys! chattering as though the great beast under-

riors. Yet they were alone, for the could make Tantor understand, and ceeming jungle with all its myriad though the small talk of the wild life, like the swarming streets of a was beyond the great gray dreadgreat metropolis, is one of the lone- nought of the jungle, he stood with liest spots in God's great universe. | blinking eyes and gently swaying Above them, lightly balanced upon word of it with keenest appreciation. trunk as though drinking in every a leafy tree limb, a gray-eyed youth As a matter of fact it was the pleaswatched with eager intentness their ant, friendly voice and caressing every move. The fire of hate, re-strained, smoldered beneath the lad's joyed, and the close proximity of evident desire to know the purpose him whom he had often borne upon of the black men's labors. Such a his back since Tarzan, as a little ne as these it was who had slain child, had once fearlessly approached his beloved Kala. For them there the great bull, assuming upon the could be naught but enmity, yet he part of the pachyderm the same liked well to watch them, avid as he friendliness which filled his own rived at judgments. He compared above the threatening horn to the stood.

sessed an inexplicable power to gov- purpose God intended it, which was like a deer for the trees. ern and direct his mighty friend. At the less difficult because he was

veyed their handiwork with evident as they saw it, consisted principally his mind.

Presently he heard the sound for which he had been hoping—the crackling, snapping sound which satisfaction, and Tarzan surveyed it, too. Even to his practiced eye there in keeping their stomachs filled. To Swinging from swaying limb to heralded the approach of an eledence that the ancient game trail than to Tantor, for Tarzan's stomach middle terraces where the trees had been tampered with in any way.

So absorbed was the ape-man in speculation as to the purpose of the one sort did not come readily to silently and light of foot, over the from one to another, apprised the sovered pit that he permitted the hand, there were always many carpet of decaying vegetation, only most distant that the quarry was blacks to depart in the direction of their village without the usual baitwas less particular as to his diet the tangled undergrowth precluded toward the trail, taking positions in ing which had rendered him the tertror of Mbonga's people and had afbark of certain trees, and the wood

In his anxiety he cast discretion

Taking positions in trees down wind from the point at which Tantor must pass them. Siforded Tarzan both a vehicle of reof others, while a third appealed to the winds. The caution of the lently they waited and presently thim only through its leaves, and the wood to the winds. The caution of the lently they waited and presently beast was lost in the loyalty of the were rewarded by the sight of a these, perhaps, just at certain sea- man, and so it came that he entered mighty tusker carrying an amount

cealed pit, for the ways of the ter part of his life in filling his imblacks were still strange ways to mense stomach against the needs of dispute the way with him. irzan. They had entered his jungle his mighty thews. It is thus with all of the myriad creatures of this from advancing as rapidly as man,

Shortly after the blacks had de- of the elephant. He did not know parted Tarzan swung easily to the why. He did not know that because panic of fear as he attempts to estrail. Sniffing suspiciously, he cir- he was a human being-s normal, cape, or to the irascible temper with cled the edge of the pit. Squatting healthy human being-he craved upon his haunches, he scraped away some living thing upon which to a little earth to expose one of the lavish his affection. His childhood crossbars. He snifed at this, playmates among the apes of Kersched it, cocked his head upon one chak were now great, sullen brutes. and tossed, the chances are that side, and contemplated it gravely for They felt nor inspired but little affecseveral minutes. Then he carefully tion. The younger apes Tarzan still covered it, arranging the earth as played with occasionally. In his savatly as had the blacks. This done, age way he loved them; but they swung himself back among the were far from satisfying or restful aches of the trees and moved off companions. Tantor was a great n search of his hairy fellows, the mountain of calm, of poise, of stacreat apes of the tribe of Kerchak. | bility. It was restful and satisfying Once he crossed the trail of Numa, to sprawl upon his rough pate and url a soft fruit at the snarling face tions into the great ears which of his enemy, and to taunt and insult flapped ponderously to and fro in apn, calling him eater of carrion parent understanding. Of all the nd brother of Dango, the hyena. jungle folk, Tantor commanded Tarma, his yellow-green eyes round zan's greatest love since Kala had

tted to his sinuous tail a It was the call of the stomach- he stood. There had been no time to whiplike motion; but realiz- the most compelling and insistent seek safety in the trees beyond the gratulations that they entirely himself and his own powers. m past experience the futility call which the jungle knows-that clearing, nor had Tarzan any mind failed to note the silent passage of g-distance argument with the took Tarzan finally back to the trees to delay his journey because of Buto. the man-beast above their heads, nor of his bonds while the blacks were n, he turned presently and and off in search of food, while Tan- He had met the stupid beast before did Tantor, either, see or hear him, carrying him, for fear they would Mbonga had restored quiet and orack off into the tangled vegeta- tor continued his interrupted jour- and held him in greatest contempt.

For an hour the ape-man foraged. of jungle invective and an A loftly nest yielded its fresh, warm heavy horn inclined for the frightful

| miliar, pungent odor close at hand, foods. Meat, meat, meat! It was and a moment later there loomed be- always meat that Tarzan of the neath him a huge, gray-black bulk Apes hunted; but sometimes meat



"The sinuous trunk encircled him and hurled him far after the fleeing crowd"

and when Tarzan was squatted upon ered pit there loomed suddenly be- Tarzan's flight, and so the ape-man his head. Tantor would lumber fore his mental vision a huge, gray- came in safety to the trees and conthrough the jungle in any direction black bulk which lumbered ponder- tinued on his swift way through the which his rider bade him go. It was ously along a jungle trail. Instantly forest. the power of the man-mind over that Tarzan tensed to the shock of a sudof the brute and it was just as ef- den fear. Decision and action tor moved steadily along the wellfective as though both fully under- usually occurred simultaneously in worn elephant trail, and ahead of earth which completely hid from stood its origin, though neither did. the life of the ape-man, and now Tantor a crouching, black warrior For half an hour Tarzan sprawled he was away through the leafy listened intently in the middle of the there upon Tantor's back. Time had branches ere the realization of the path. Presently he heard the sound

a large clearing, denuded of trees, of ivory in his long tusks that set could not solve the mystery of the Tantor must needs spend the bet- without a thought of what might lie their greedy hearts to palpitating.

> these little sentinels proclaimed. Si- on along the trail at a rapid, shufscrambled to his short legs and ered pit with its sharpened stakes difficult to determine. Nor is the like a frightened deer-fled toward matter of little moment to one whom Buto charges, for if he be caught

across the few yards of knee-deep grass which separated them. Acof the ape-man, and then his weak eyes discerned the enemy, and with series of snorts he charged straight for him. The little rhino birds flut- pause to heed. tered and circled about their giant ward. Among the branches of the and scolded as the loud snorts of the and dancing in his wake, waving angry beast sent them scurrying af- their war spears and celebrating in d burning with concentrated hate, been taken from him. Sometimes frightedly to the upper terraces, advance the acquisition of the splen- birth to relying solely upon his own lagers came faintly to his sensitive up at the dancing figure Tarzan wondered if Tantor recipro- Tarzan alone appeared indifferent did ivory carried by their prey and resources, he did not cast about for ears, and he wheeled, as though in

Directly in the path of the charge would be theirs this night.

And now Buto was upon him, the to stop. massive head lowered and the long, e at his departing foe, harvest. Fruits, berries and tended designed and a shifting wind menu in the order that he happened was perman had sprung lightly aloft. The fleeing animal and then had been nestrils a facture of the fleeing animal and then had pricking him to a heavy man through the jungle heat, they set him upon his feet and hut where he might be confined and forced him forward among them, guarded against the coming of the passed him. At the pit's target the

judgments, reaching conclusions- broad back of the rhinoceros. An-

Buto, angered and mystified by stakes, sharpened at their upper piercing summons of the ape-man— And as he puzzled over the cov-chanced to be not the direction of

Some distance ahead of him Tan-

To his right and left in other parts

positions than the warriors clam-He was halfway across when di- bered from their perches. No longer

Behind him came the yelling warwalked erect upon their hind paws— and they were learning it slowly, and all. What the former knew was that his weak eyes he sees but poorly all. What the former knew was that all and these leaped lifted Tarzan out. he was happy in the companionship even at short distances, and whether flight which would not permit a carehis erratic rushes are due to the ful examination of the ground before None of the sharpened stakes had his savage brain? Could he be could have turned and scattered his the base of the brain indicated the call and measure the service the apeadversaries with a single charge, fled a hideous, torturing death.,

of the Apes, racing through the were quick to discover this, and saved Tarzan could be have known And today it chanced that Buto jungle forest with the speed and equally quick to bind their prikoner's the danger which confronted his bore down straight upon Tarzan, agility of a squirrel, for he had heard arms and legs before he should re- friend? You will doubt it. Any the shouts of the warriors and had gain consciousness, for they had one at all familiar with elephants interpreted them correctly. Once he learned to harbor a wholesome re- will doubt it. Englishmen who have cident started him in the direction uttered a piercing call that rever- spect for this strange man-beast hunted much with elephants in Inberated through the jungle, but Tan- that consorted with the hairy tree dia will tell you that they never tor, in the panic of terror, either folk. failed to hear, or hearing, dared not

even though Tarzan called to him become apprehensive and add to der, the voice of Tantor was scarcely

eyes permitted him to recognize his

hand.

old friend.

panic-stricken by terror. Before him yawned the pit, how not guess the purpose of so great a labor. And when they cut long cars could detect the shrill and others.

Before him yawned the pit, how greet them and usually erroneous, judgments of tically in another direction, which left lay the primeval jungle untouched by man. With a squeal the upon the prisoner, they went wild, among the warriors nearest him. A great beast turned suddenly at right and heavy jaws fell open in aston- blow sent one to earth, as, growling angles and burst his noisy way ishment and incredulity. For months and snarling, the beast-man leaped through the solid wall of matted they had lived in perpetual terror upon the breast of another. His

> any but him. Tarzan, standing upon the edge of describe, the pit, smiled as he watched Tanzan made a single herculean effort street. to throw himself forward, but it was too late. Backward and downward he went toward the sharpened stakes in the bottom of the pit.

When, a moment later, the blacks size of the hole in the pit covering was too small to have accommodated the huge bulk of an elephant. At but when they had come to the pit's quiet and still, at the bottom lay the

naked figure of a white giant. Some of them there had glimpsed this forest god before and they drew back in terror, awed by the presence which they had for some time believed to possess the miraculous power of a demon, but others there he said. were who pushed forward, thinking only of the capture of an enemy, and these leaped into the pit and

There was no scar upon his body. backward his head had struck upon that there could be no doubt.

distance toward their village when of a man in danger, even though Now the giant pachyderm was but the ape-man's eyelids quivered and the man had often befriended it. a few yards from the hidden death raised. He looked about him won- And so it is to be doubted that Tantrees at the edge of the clearing, a lurking in his path, and the blacks, deringly for a moment, and then full tor would have attempted to overscore or more monkeys chattered certain of success, were screaming consciousness returned and he come his instinctive fear of the black realized the seriousness of his pre- men in an effort to succor Tarzan. dicament. Accustomed almost from the surfeit of elephant meat which outside aid now, but devoted his terror, contemplating flight; but So intent were they upon their sibilities for escape which lay within turned about, raised his trunk, and

> He did not dare test the strength them. Presently his captors discov- audible to the blacks, but to the A few more stops would precipi- ered that he was conscious, and as keen ears of Tarzan of the Apes it tate Tantor upon the sharpened they had little stomach for carrying bore its emessage.

When they discovered that their

great beast halted to the upraised creased so that they soon desisted, They came and pushed him into the half believing that this strange white open, where his appearance was Tarzan turned and kicked aside giant was a supernatural being and greeted by wild shouts from the assome of the brush which hid the pit. so was immune from pain. As they approached their village

"Fight!" growled Tarzan. "They cries of successful warriors, so that preparatory to binding him there In the years of their association not always correct ones, it is true, other spring and he was on the are coming behind you." But Tan- by the time they reached the gate, securely for the dance of death that He saw the pit grow in depth un-til a great hole yawned the width of Tarzan had discovered that he pos-but at least he used his brain for the ground behind the brute and racing tor, the elephant, is a huge bunch dancing and waving their spears, a would presently encircle him, Tarof nerves, and now he was half great crowd of men, women and zan tensed his mighty thews and

tor's undignified flight. Soon the blacks would come. It was best village and from the midst of their foster people had taught him to when the that Tarzan of the Apes faded from companions as mysteriously and foster people had taught him to when they aver that this animal the scene. He essayed a step from completely as though they had been fight—fought like a wild beast cor- when they aver that this animal completely as though they had been fight—fought like a wild beast cor- when they aver that this animal completely as though they had been fight—fought like a wild beast corthe pit's edge, and as he threw the weight of his body upon his left night, their dead bodies had fallen, foot the earth crumbled away. Tark as from the heavens, into the village

This fearsome creature had appeared by night in the huts of the Apes could hope to successfully cope Tarzan of the Apes, cementing even village, killed, and disappeared, with half a hundred. leaving behind him in the huts with his dead strange and terrifying evi- him, though a score of them bled as'a little brown boy rode upon Tancame they saw even from a distance dences of an uncanny sense of hu-from ugly wounds, and two lay very tor's huge back through the moonlit

But now he was in their power! No longer could he terrorize them. first they thought that their prey upon them. A woman, screaming, top and then, warned, drawn back; ran forward and struck the ape-man across the face. Another and anverge and peered over, their eyes other rollowed her verge and peered over, their eyes Tarzan of the Apes was surrounded by a fighting, clawing, yelling mob of natives.

And then Mbonga, the chief, came, and laying his spear heavily across the shoulders of his people, drove them from their prev.

"We will save him until night,"

Far out in the jungle Tantor, the elephant, his first panic of fear allayed, stood with uppricked ears and undulating trunk. What was passing through the convolutions of Tantor, the elephant, who pierced him-only a swollen spot at searching for Tarzan? Could he renature of his injury. In falling man had performed for him? Of the side of one of the stakes, render- did he feel gratitude? Would he And behind them all came Tarzan ing him unconscious. The blacks have risked his own life to have heard of an instance in which one They had carried him but a short of these animals has gone to the aid

The screams of the infuriated vilmind to a consideration of the pos- something stayed him, and again he gave voice to a shrill cry. Then he stood listening.

In the distant village where

though their prisoner's arms were ject of his quest. securely bound behind him.

be imprisoned.

heard the bustle of preparation for mighty hands. the hut he saw the women laying the cooking fires and filling their earthen caldrons with water; but the jungle just beyond the palisade above it all his ears were bent across came a thunderous crashing. The the jungle in eager listening for the spear-head paused, the black cast a coming of Tantor.

better than Tantor knew himself, the subjugation of the ape-man. in the stoic calm of the wild beast thundered down upon them.

out to be butchered, and if he did- approach of the giant tusker. Tarzan licked his lips in anticipation, Upon these Tantor charged, trumand smiled a cold, grim smile. He powered him!

At last they came-painted, beprodding brought no outward evi- feathered warriors-even more hid-"Stop!" cried Tarzan, and the dence of suffering, their awe insembled villagers.

To the stake they led him, and as they shouted aloud the victorious they pushed him roughly against it children were gathered there to with a single powerful wrench greet them and hear the story of parted the loosened thongs which had secured his hands. Like thought, As the eyes of the villagers fell for quickness, he leaped forward vegetation that would have stopped of a weird, white demon whom but fangs were buried instantly in the but as they came Tantor swung Tarfew had ever glimpsed and lived to jugular of his adversary and then a half hundred black men had leaped Warriors had disappeared from upon him and borne him to earth.

a dozen men in a hand-to-hand struggle, but not even Tarzan of the

still beneath the trampling feet, and jungle beneath the equatorial stars. the rolling bodies of the contestants. Overpower him they might, hut could they keep him overpowered will appear Saturday, June 14.)

The Second of a Series of Jungle Tales By Edgar Rice Burroughs of Tarzan, Each Complete in Itself his torture-laden death. He halted while they bound him? A half hour as he heard the notes of Tantor's of desperate endeavor convinced call, and raising his head, gave vent Mbonga, who, like all good rulers, to a terrifying scream that sent cold had circled in the safety of the backchills through the superstitious ground, called to one to work his blacks and caused the warriors who way in and spear the victim. Gradguarded him to leap back even though their prisoner's arms were ually, through the milling, battling men, the warrior approached the ob-

He stood with poised spear above With raised spears they encircled his head waiting for the instant that him as for a moment longer he stood would expose a vulnerable part of listening. Faintly from the distance came another, an answering danger one of the blacks. Closer and closer he edged about, followcry, and Tarzan of the Apes, satis-ing the movements of the twisting, fied, turned and quietly pursued his scuffling combatants. The growls of way toward the hut where he was to the ape-man sent cold chills up the warrior's spine, causing him to go The afternoon wore on. From the carefully lest he miss at the first cast and lay himself open to an atsurrounding village the ape-man tack from those merciless teeth and

the feast. Through the doorway of At last he found an opening. quick glance in the direction of the Even Tarzan but half believed he disturbance, as did the others of the would come. He knew Tantor even blacks who were not occupied with

He knew the timid heart which lay In the glare of the fires they saw in the giant body. He knew the a huge bulk topping the barrier, panic of terror which the scent of They saw the palisade belly and the Gomangani inspired within that sway inward. They saw it burst as savage breast, and as, night drew though built of straws, and an inon, hope died within his heart and stant later Tantor, the elephant,

which he was, he resigned himself To right and left the blacks fled, to meet the fate which awaited him. screaming in terror. Some who hov-All afternoon he had been work- ered upon the verge of the strife ing, working, working with the bonds with Tarzan heard and made good that held his wrists. Very slowly their escape, but a half dozen there they were giving. He might free his were so wrapt in the blood-madness hands before they came to lead him of battle that they failed to note the

peting furiously. Above them he could imagine the feel of soft flesh stopped, his sensitive trunk weaving beneath his fingers and the sinking among them, and there, at the botof his white teeth into the throats tom, he found Tarzan, bloody, but

A warrior turned his eyes upward from the melee. Above him towered the gigantic bulk of the pachyderm, the little eyes flashing with the reflected light of the fires-wicked, frightful, terrifying. The warrior screamed, and as he screamed, the sinuous trunk encircled him, lifted him high above the ground, and hurled him far after the fleeing

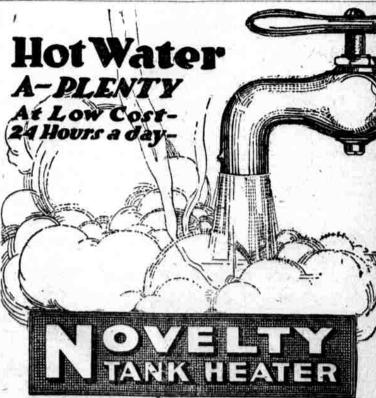
Another and another Tantor wrenched from the body of the apeman, throwing them to right and to left, where they lay either moaning or very quiet, as death came slowly or at once.

At a distance Mbonga rallied his warriors. His greedy eyes had noted the great ivory tusks of the bull. The first panic of terror relieved, he urged his men forward to attack with their heavy elephant spears, zan to his broad head, and, wheeling, lumbered off into the jungle through the great rent he had made in the

jungle beast.

And so it was that Tantor, the elephant, discharged an obligation to more closely the friendship that had Slowly they were overpowering existed between them since Tarzan

(The next complete ."Jungle Tale"



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