

Edgar Rice Burroughs

TARZAN®

THE 1951 COMMODORE RADIO SERIES



"From the heart of the jungle comes a savage cry of victory. This is Tarzan, Lord of the Jungle! From the black core of dark Africa... land of enchantment, mystery and violence comes one of the most colorful figures of all time. Transcribed from the immortal pen of Edgar Rice Burroughs—Tarzan, the bronzed, white son of the jungle!" Thus Commodore Productions introduced their 1951 radio series based on Edgar Rice Burroughs' immortal character, played by Lamont Johnson. These exciting stories carry Tarzan the length and breadth of Africa and let listeners' imaginations send them on flights of fancy throughout the Dark Continent.

TARZAN ON RADIO

from

An Anecdotal Guide to Edgar Rice Burroughs' Tarzan On Radio

by Robert Barrett

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Edgar Rice Burroughs passed away on March 19, 1950. In the fall of 1950, Walter White, Jr. of Commodore Productions and Artists, Inc. contacted Cyril Ralph Rothmund, General Manager of Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc., to discuss acquiring the national radio rights to Tarzan. On December 21, 1950, Rothmund and White signed a contract giving Commodore Productions the right to produce a series of half-hour Tarzan radio programs.

Commodore Productions was basically a one-man show. His partner was his wife, Shirley Thomas, actress and co-producer -- to whom he was wed three times in three years! Commodore was a struggling concern until they acquired the rights to *Hopalong Cassidy* in 1948. Far from an instant success, *Hopalong Cassidy* languished until, for some unknown reason, it seemed to catch on. At about the same time, the old Hopalong Cassidy films were becoming popular on television. By 1950 William Boyd was at the centre of a storm of national popularity.

With the success of *Hopalong Cassidy*, Walter White, Jr. decided to create another radio adventure drama, *The Clyde Beatty Show*, starring Vic Perrin as Clyde Beatty and Eve McVeagh as his wife Harriet. This, too, was a success until it left radio for television. It was no wonder that the Whites considered Tarzan next to add to their growing roster of radio shows.

While all of the Commodore Tarzan programs are available, there is still much mystery surrounding the show. For one thing, very little is known about which parts the actors starring on the show played with the exception of Lamont Johnson, who played Tarzan. At various times, other cast members included: Jan Arven, Dick Beales, Bob Bruce, Larry Dobkins, Virginia Eller, Eddie Firestone Jr., Frank Gersten, Gloria Grant, Virginia Gregg, Gladys Holland, Charlie Lawton, Raymond Lawrence, Sidney Mason, Eve McVeagh, Shepard (Shep) Menken, Marvin Miller, Roland Morris, Donald Morrison, Jack Moyles, Jay Novello, Dan O'Herlihy, Jill Oppenheim, GeGe Pearson, Victor Rodman, Olan Soule, Theodore (Ted) von Eltz, Walter White III, David Wolfe and Barbara Jean Wong.

Lamont Johnson seems to have performed on radio from the mid-1940s through the early 1950s in a variety of roles on such shows as *The Adventures of Frank Merriwell*, *Alias Jane Doe*, *Broadway is My Beat*, *Let's Pretend*, *The Modern Adventures of Casanova and Wendy Warren and the News*. He went into television in the early 1950s where he acted and directed for several years. He eventually concentrated on film work, which he also began in the early 1950s as an actor, before becoming a respected director of such films as *Kona Coast*, *One On One*, *A Gunfight*, *Lipstick*, *The Groundstar Conspiracy*, *The McKenzie Break* and *Spacehunter: Adventures in the Forbidden Zone*.

No roster of the other players seems to exist. Walter White, Jr. produced them and they were written by Budd Lesser. It has been noted that at least three of the shows were scripted by others, "Volcano in the Sun" and "The Arena of Death" were scripted by Robert Schaeffer and Eric Freewall, and "Jungle Smoke" was scripted by David Chandler. Surviving letters from Budd Lesser in the files of Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc. indicate that he authored all of the scripts, but this may have been because he was trying to enlist the assistance of ERB, Inc. in his suit for monies against Walter White, Jr.

The early 1930s Tarzan radio serials, those produced by American Radio Syndicate and Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc. tried to portray the character of Tarzan as he was created by Burroughs. The half-hour Commodore shows seem to try and create a character based on Burroughs' Tarzan books and the MGM and RKO Tarzan films. Lamont Johnson portrays Tarzan as articulate rather than speaking in the "Me Tarzan, you Jane!" kind of gutturals from the movies; he notes that he was raised by the apes and prefers the jungle to civilization. The jungle background, as well as the cities and villages that are featured in the half hour shows, owe more to the movie than to Ed's stories.

From the heart of the jungle comes a savage cry of victory. This is Tarzan, Lord of the jungle! From the black core of dark Africa . . . land of enchantment, mystery, and violence comes one of the most colorful figures of all time. Transcribed from the immortal pen of Edgar Rice Burroughs -- Tarzan, the bronzed, white son of the jungle! And now in the very words of Mr. Burroughs:

Whether he was consciously or unconsciously misleading his audience, Walter White, Jr. in his introduction each week, stated that these stories were "transcribed from the immortal pen of Edgar Rice Burroughs." In fact, none of these stories have any resemblance to any Tarzan stories written by Burroughs, with the exception of "Omen of the Emerald" and "The Arena of Death" (which are based on some elements from the novels *Tarzan the Magnificent* and **Tarzan and the City of Gold**).

On this series of shows, Tarzan seems much too civilized, given to loquaciousness and, instead of living with his wife, Jane, on their vast African estate, he resides in the seacoast cabin built by his parents, who were set ashore by mutineers before his birth. The cabin seems to act as his office, in which he waits until being contacted by Captain Stanley Lawrence of the Governmental Police of some unnamed West African British colony or by one of the area's natives. In fact, Tarzan is more a Robin Hood of the jungle than the character portrayed in the novels. In Burroughs' novels, Tarzan would rather spend his time alone in the jungle, yet in the Commodore programs he feels a definite need for human companionship and seems to spend a lot of time with the Punya tribe. He seems more like a splendidly athletic man who can travel through the trees than one who spent all of his time in the company of apes until he was twenty.

Also interesting is the fact that all of the natives in these shows call the animals by their ape names rather than calling them by the names in their tribal dialect. Having said that, the shows are really quite entertaining, mostly involving some mystery that Tarzan must solve, usually involving slave traders, uranium hunters, gold thieves, ivory poachers or cannibals. It's amazing that so much story could have been crowded into only a half-hour.

Tarzan debuted over Los Angeles radio station KHJ January 4, 1951. It replaced *The Clyde Beatty Show*, which moved to Mutual, airing three times a week at 5:30 pm. *Tarzan* was eventually broadcast over the entire Don Lee Mutual Broadcasting System, comprised of 45 stations in the Western States and was sponsored by Dr. Ross Dog and Cat Food. A total of 54 shows were broadcast before White was able to interest a national sponsor into purchasing the show, and it would be broadcast nationally.

On March 17, 1952, Walter White, Jr. signed a contract with Foote, Cone & Belding on behalf of their client, General Foods, who already had an agreement with CBC to broadcast the shows at 8:30 pm from their New York studios. CBC premiered the show March 22, 1952, and aired a total of 64 programs plus three repeats. Since Commodore produced a total of 75 shows, CBS failed to air eleven of them.

The *Daily Variety*, dated Thursday, January 8, 1953, noted that Tarzan was included in the Nielsen ratings at number 8, between *Jack Benny*, *Amos 'n' Andy*, *Charlie McCarthy*, *Our Miss Brooks*, *Lux Radio Theatre*, *People Are Funny*, *Groucho Marx* and *The Philip Morris Playhouse*, with *Gene Autry* coming in tenth. It seemed strange that General Foods notified Commodore on June 5, 1953 that it intended to take a summer hiatus of thirteen weeks and that the *Tarzan* show would go off the air with the June 27 broadcast. A hiatus that, for the Tarzan show, would prove to be permanent.

In the mid-1950s, Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc. sold the rights for a Tarzan radio program to Artransa in Sydney, Australia. These were to be original fifteen-minutes-a-day serials developed from either original scripts or adapted from the 1930s scripts furnished to them by ERB, Inc. These programs were also broadcast in New Zealand, as well as South Africa. However, Rothmund seemed to have overlooked the fact that he had signed the Australian rights for the Tarzan radio show to Walter White, Jr. As a result, Rothmund apologized to White and began turning Artransa's checks over to White. It is unknown just how many of these Australian radio shows were produced, but at least over 800.

After General Foods and CBS dropped the Tarzan radio show, Walter White, Jr. had little luck placing the show with another national sponsor or network. In the late 1950s and early 1960s, he was able to place the shows with KCOW in Alliance, Nebraska; KULA in Honolulu, Hawaii; three different stations in Canada and stations in Bermuda and Trinidad.

Commodore and Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc. had a falling out in 1956 due to the prospect of a Tarzan television show. ERB, Inc. tried to find an excuse to nullify their contract with Commodore but were unsuccessful in the suit -- the court finding in favour of Commodore. Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc. preferred that Sol Lesser produce a Tarzan television show since they were already involved in making the Tarzan films. Commodore then filed suit against Sol Lesser, who was trying to get a Tarzan television show produced. In this case, Commodore bit off more than they could chew and lost their case. Eventually, on November 18, 1963, Walter White, Jr. signed an agreement giving Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc. all 75 of their tapes of the Tarzan programs and turning all rights to these shows to ERB, Inc.

TARZAN®

THE 1951 COMMODORE RADIO SERIES

RADIO THEATRE: STUDIO I

Shows 1-20



Unpublished Tarzan Sunday page featuring the characters of Captain Lawrence, Torgo and Mama N'gama of the Punya tribe from the Commodore Tarzan radio show. Circa 1970s.
Script writer: John Rose ~ Artist: Franc Reyes

Click Titles to Play - A new show each week.

1. [The Decoy](#) - 51.01.04 - (Pilot program) Baron, a wild animal broker, his daughter, Zyra, and Hammet, a white hunter, invade Tarzan's jungle. They have two goals: to capture elephants (which they plan to round using female elephants as decoys) and Tarzan. Zyra is the decoy to capture Tarzan. The Lord of the Jungle falls for the beautiful girl, who he refers to as his "White Goddess." His infatuation, however, is short lived when he discovers that beauty is only skin deep and narrowly escapes being caged.

2. [Black Ivory](#) - 51.01.11 - (CBS: 52.04.12) Tarzan is adopted into the Mawa tribe, whose members are noted for their tall and handsome physiques. But he didn't realize that he would be required to take Velda, the chief's daughter, as his wife. This creates problems with Kalo, who she had previously been promised; further complicating matters is Ajib Ben Zahman, a Bedouin slave trader, who is determined to make slaves of the Mawa.

3. [Hooded Death](#) - 51.01.18 (CBS: 53.02.21) - Tarzan accompanies an American research scientist to the village of the snake people. The scientist is conducting research into the use of snake venom as a cure for certain illnesses. He gets more than he bargained for with this tribe who worships the King Cobra.

4. [The Maneuma](#) - 51.01.25 - (CBS: 52.03.29) - Drought has ravaged the crops of the Punya. To save them, Tarzan will lead them to the mountains where there is sure to be rain. However, in the mountains the Maneuma living in the shadow of the volcano, Kenya are also suffering from lack of rain. Their witch doctor states that the volcano is angry with them because they have gone too long without giving Kenya a sacrifice. Tarzan's friend Torgo, a small native boy of

the Punya, is captured by the Manuema cannibals. Tarzan must rescue him before he is sacrificed.

5. [The Siren of Omdurmara](#) - 51.02.01 - (CBS: 52.03.22) - CBS used this episode as their pilot when they purchased the syndicated series for national broadcast. Jalnar, the beautiful and sultry "Siren of Omdurmara," will only accept the suitor who brings to her the sacred emerald of the Karniki. Ibn el Suman journeys to Karniki and steals the gem. Tarzan travels to Omdurmara in search of the thief, and when wounded is nursed by the self-centered Jalnar -- who learns to care for someone other than herself.

6. [Black Gold of Africa](#) - 51.02.08 (CBS: 52.04.05) - Alexis Verron and Herbert Graves, two unscrupulous prospectors, persuade Tarzan to give them permission to mine for gold on Punyan land. They find oil instead, and whenever Tarzan is absent, they mistreat and cheat the natives. After discovering their duplicity, Tarzan must protect the Punyas.

7. [The Coward](#) - 51.02.15 - (CBS: 52.04.19) - William Pembler, a self-made millionaire, is disappointed in his gentle bookish son Billy. Pembler decides that the way to make a man of Billy is to take him on an African safari. Accompanying them is a villainous cousin Harry. Harry owes money to a bookie, and when he learns that he will inherit the Pembler estate, he plans a hunting accident for father and son. Tarzan must rescue both, and in the course of their adventure, both father and son learn the true meaning of manhood.

8. [Female of the Species](#) - (51.02.22 - (CBS: 52.04.26) - Tarzan is asked by Murivo for help against the strange women warriors of the Kahili. These Amazons use a strange music to cast a spell, which allows them to capture men, who they sacrifice. Tarzan and Murivo, after being captured, must use subterfuge to escape the city of "man killers."

9. [End of the World](#) - 51.03.01 - (CBS: 53.03.28) - Tarzan saves the Reverend Thadious Martin from an attack by a rogue elephant. Reverend Martin tells Tarzan that he is on his way to the village of the Nagalas who are being robbed by a magician who has them believing that the world is about to end. As he is performing a trick, the magician renders Tarzan temporarily blind and binds him in chains. The rogue elephant, still in the area, charges the native compound, wreaking havoc, which allows Tarzan to break free. Tarzan then kills the elephant with his knife.

10. [Across a Continent](#) - 51.03.08 - Tarzan helps Gabrielle, a singer in an African cafe, to escape from two men. She tells him that she had worked for the underground in Warsaw during World War II and that the men are Nazi war criminals. Tarzan escorts Gabrielle across the continent from Bachurata to Angola, during which he falls under the spell of her charms. He soon discovers that he has been duped and that she is really a diamond smuggler.

11. [The Killer](#) - 51.03.15 - (CBS: 52.05.03) - Herbert Graves, an old enemy seeks revenge against Tarzan and enlists the aid of a giant prizefighter. Dressing the fighter like Tarzan, Graves instructs him to commit several robberies and murders -- all of which are blamed on Tarzan. Tarzan is arrested by his friend, Captain Lawrence, but soon escapes. He discovers Graves and

the "killer" in the village of Yumboos, which they have terrorized. A terrific battle ensues with Tarzan emerging victorious.

12. [Jungle Legacy](#) - 51.03.22 - (CBS: 52.05.10) - Alexis Verron returns, intent on revenging himself against Tarzan. This time he joins forces with an enemy agent of a foreign power in search of uranium in the country of the Mowa. Once again, Tarzan foils his prospecting plans.

13. [Jungle Orchids](#) - 51.03.29 (CBS: 52.05.17) - Tarzan encounters the exotically beautiful Edwina Clarke, and he is instantly smitten with the almond-eyed, silver-haired woman. Edwina seems as fragile, gently and beautiful as the orchids she is collecting. Soon, however, Tarzan discovers that, like some orchids, her beauty covers an evil disposition.

14. [Gold Coast Robbery](#) - 51.04.05 - (CBS: 52.05.24) - An exhausted native, Nungo, arrives at Tarzan's cabin begging for help. He is being pursued by Abdul el Kafin, chief of the Cassonia Railway police, who suspects him of being part of a native group who robbed the gold train. El Kafin states that he has found some of the gold in Nungo's hut, and he and his fellow warriors must stand trial for robbery. He accuses Tarzan of being the possible mastermind behind the robbery, but does Abdul el Kafin accuse too loudly?

15. [Life or Death](#) - 51.04.12 - (CBS: 52.05.31) - Tarzan agrees to lead the safari of an American multimillionaire, his daughter and son-in-law on a quest for the fabled fountain of youth. Thinking they have discovered the secret of the riches and knowledge it will bring them, they are soon at one another's throats. Tarzan settles things and brings peace once more to the jungle.

16. [D is for Diamonds and Death](#) - 51.04.19 (CBS: 52.06.07) - A native chief asks Tarzan to find his son and to bring him back to his tribe. Tarzan ends up working at the mine in order to help the chief's son return a diamond that he has stolen. Vincent, the mine owner, believes Tarzan is the thief and plans to brand him on the forehead with the "D" of a diamond thief.

17. [Pirates of Cape Bandeira](#) - 51.04.26 - (CBS: 52.06.14) - Tarzan decides that he needs a vacation from dealing with the various trials and tribulations encountered in the jungle and sails down the coast in a small skiff. His vacation comes to an end when he must join a band of pirates in order to thwart their evil plans.

18. [Contraband](#) - 51.05.03 - Unrest and rebellion is fomented on the island of San Laurencia by the sultry beauty, Tah. Captain Lawrence enlists the aid of Tarzan to quell the revolt. He crosses the desert to the land of the berber to discover who is making the guns (the contraband of the title) used by the insurgents. Captured and left to die in the desert by Ali es Tagar, Tarzan arrives on San Laurencia in time to stop the use of the guns.

19. [Lake of Blood](#) - 51.05.10 - (CBS: 52.06.21) - Tarzan and Natessa search for Torgo, the small Puna boy, who has followed a flight of cranes to their winter grounds. Tarzan discovers the forbidden Lake of Blood, whose waters are the color of blood and nothing survives within them. Trader Morgan, who runs a small trading post in the area is taking advantage of the native's superstitions.

20. [Congo Magic](#) - 51.05.17 - In Fort Zaroka, Captain Lawrence takes Tarzan to his Club and introduces him to the various guests. Mr. Mooney ridicules Tarzan and plays practical jokes on Shorty, the dwarf bartender. The local pygmies think Shorty possesses great magic and try to kill him in order to acquire that magic. Tarzan, Mooney and Shorty travel by safari to the pygmy village to learn the origin of their belief in Shorty's magic.

RADIO THEATRE: STUDIO II

Shows 21-40

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Unpublished Tarzan Sunday page featuring the characters of Captain Lawrence, Torgo and Mama N'gama of the Punya tribe from the Commodore Tarzan radio show. Circa 1970s.

Script writer: John Rose ~ Artist: Franc Reyes

Copyright Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc.

Click Titles to Play - A new show each week.

21. [Jungle Heat](#) - 51-5.24 - (CBS: 52.06.28) - Hugh Hutchinson, a British solicitor, travels to Africa to try and convince Tarzan to return to England and take up his rightful place in the House of Lords. Louise Wells and her daughter, Carol, are traveling on the same boat with Hutchinson. Mrs. Wells is searching for a rich suitor for Carol, but she loves Bob Hale, who is following them. Carol is abducted by Ben Zeyd Bey, and Tarzan comes to the rescue.

22. [Jungle Hijackers](#) - 51.05.31 - (CBS: 52.07.05) - Someone has been hijacking government supplies and equipment, and Major Haybrook, Commander of the joint Transportation Command, enlists the aid of Captain Lawrence to learn the identity of the hijackers and stop the thefts., Lawrence asks Tarzan for his help, and they end up captured by Vincent, the mine owner.

23. [The Stranger](#) - 51.06.07 - (CBS: 52.07.12) - Tarzan saves the life of Clement Kenner, a disillusioned doctor. Kenner decides to stay in the jungle after he learns of an epidemic of bubonic plague which, with Tarzan's help, he tries to cure.

24. [Arab Vengeance](#) - 51.06.14 - (CBS: 52.07.19) - When an Arab tries to sell his beautiful daughter into marriage with a powerful Sheik, Tarzan intervenes and escapes with the young girl. Tarzan must foil the Sheik's plan to obtain the girl and return her to her mother.

25. [In Captivity](#) - 51.06.21 - (CBS: 52.07.26) - An Arabian wazir, with a pack of panthers under his control, forces Tarzan to accompany him to his master, the Caliph of Karadan. The Caliph wishes Tarzan to tutor his young son. Tarzan agrees to the task when he sees that the boy might grow up to be a despotic ruler with no regard to human life. The wazir doesn't approve of Tarzan's teachings and tries to kill him. The Caliph and his son help him to escape.

26. [Gold of the Sudan](#) - 51.06.28 - (CBS: 52.08.02) - Tarzan accompanies Captain Lawrence to Khartoum to investigate the apparent random kidnappings of native men over the age of forty-five. Once again, Tarzan encounters his old enemy, Alexis Verron, who is searching for gold that was to have been used during World War I to purchase supplies from the natives. Before it could be used, the gold was hidden, and Tarzan must once again thwart Verron's plans.

27. [Stolen Jewels](#) - 51.07.05 - (CBS: 52.08.09) - Tarzan is invited to attend a birthday celebration in honor of the Pasha of Omdurmara. Told to arrive in fine raiment, Tarzan enters the celebration dressed in eagle feathers. When jewels are stolen, Tarzan is suspected of their theft and must prove his innocence.

28. [Drum Without a Heart](#) - 51.07.12 - (CBS: 52.08.16) - Torgo, the Punya boy, is accompanying a party of mountain climbers. He is captured by a savage tribe that follows an ancient and barbaric custom when making their drums. A child is made to crawl inside a hollow log to scrape it out. While inside the log, hides are fastened to both ends so that the child cannot escape. Thus, the child is left to die inside, giving the drum its heart. Tarzan must rescue his little friend.

29. [Terror at Night](#) - 51.07.19 - (CBS: 52.08.30) - Tarzan comes across two men wandering aimlessly in the jungle. Pete, an Englishman, and Harry, an American, mariners who have jumped ship and fled into the jungle, only to become lost. They tell Tarzan a strange story of spending the night in a cave and of alien creatures who steal their food but leave pearls in exchange. Tarzan and the two men return to the caves to investigate the subterranean dwellers.

30. [Trouble Off San Laurencia](#) - 51.07.26 - (CBS: 52.08.23) - Della Carter, a young American girl, enlists the aid of Andre Deveroux to search for her grandfather, Simon Carter (who had organized an expedition to search for gold in the Congo). Deveroux had financed the expedition and expected to get his share and more of the fortune in gold that Carter had found. Della and Andre locate Tarzan and ask his help in locating Simon Carter, whose life he had saved a year before. They discover that he was aboard a ship, which sank off the coast of San Laurencia. They attempt to retrieve Della's inheritance from the depths of the ocean.

31. [Curse of the Pharaohs](#) - 51.08.02 - Captain Lawrence asks a favor of Tarzan, which, once again, causes him to journey far from his beloved seacoast cabin. El Amon, in the Libyan Desert, is an archaeological site in which the tomb of an ancient Pharaoh is being excavated by Dr. Ericson, his daughter Ilsa and Arnold Brown. They find a note warning them to leave or suffer the Curse of the Pharaohs. That same evening, Mouli, a bearer standing guard duty, is murdered with the mark of twin (entwined snakes on his forehead). Tarzan suspects Arnold Brown because he is wearing a ring with the same snake design, but he too is murdered -- the mystery deepens.

32. [Head Hunters of Wombesi](#) - 51.08.09 - (CBS: 52.09.06) - Red Hale, a magazine photographer, travels to Africa to prove that it is no longer the "Dark Continent." Tarzan agrees to guide him in order to disprove his theory and to assure that he survives the ordeal.

33. [Trophy Room](#) - 51.08.16 - (CBS: 52.09.13) - While exploring an unfamiliar area, Tarzan saves Althea Baldwin from a lioness. However, she is ungrateful because she wanted to kill the lioness herself, thus proving herself worthy of her husband's love. Byron Baldwin lives only to hunt and neglects his beautiful wife. Althea invites Tarzan to their home to meet Byron, and he finds himself the quarry of the hunt., There is little doubt that this story was inspired by Richard Connell's famous short story, "The Most Dangerous Game."

34. [Tarzan's Mistake](#) - 51.08.23 - Tarzan is sold a prophecy by a native shaman that the construction of a railroad will bring death and destruction to the jungle. Believing the witch doctor, Tarzan leads the natives in an attack on the engineers. Captain Lawrence arrives and impresses Tarzan with the error of his ways. Tarzan and the Puny tribe lend their help in finishing the railroad.

35. [Death Has Small Wings](#) - 51.08.30 - (CBS: 52.09.20) The story title is a colloquialism that the natives apply to the deadly tsetse fly. Tarzan saves beautiful but spoiled Gale Stevens from Gimla the crocodile. Gale and her scientist father are travelling to the Doodoo country, and Tarzan decides to accompany them. After being bitten by a tsetse fly, Tarzan falls unconscious and dreams that he is in a strange paradise. He soon grows tired of the idyllic life and requests that he be returned to his own country. The High Lama gives him a potion that will return him to reality but gives him a second one that he says will return Tarzan to paradise if he drinks of it. On drinking the first potion, he awakens to find that he has been unconscious for five days. Was it only a dream? If so, then what of the second vial of amber liquid he holds in his hand?

36. [Magic Amulet](#) - 51.09.06 - (CBS: 52.09.27) - As Tarzan watches from the upper terraces, he sees a beautiful native girl, Kao, save a native youth from the fangs of Sabor, the lioness. But another lion, drawn by the scent of blood, attacks and Tarzan saves them both. He learns that the youth, Ruka, believes himself a coward and Kao is his betrothed. He tells Tarzan that his father, Yaki, chief of the Molgu, will be poisoned and then himself because the tribe has fallen on hard times. Tarzan gives Ruka a "magic amulet" and tells him that its magic gives Tarzan strength and bravery. Ruka believes and saves Tarzan and his tribe.

37. [The Strange Book of Araby](#) - 51.09.13 (CBS: 52.10.04) - Mara, a slave girl, passes out from exhaustion after escaping from her captors. Tarzan gives her aid and promises to help her people, the Wamanusi. He discovers that his old friend, the Caliph of Karadan, has been deposed

by his Grand Vizier, Ben Ayoub, whose soldiers terrorize the countryside taking food and slaves. Tarzan meets the Oracle of Karadan and is shown the Strange Book of Araby, which is said to contain the secret of his future.

38. [Cathedral of the Congo](#) - 51.09.20 - (CBS: 52.10.11) - The Reverend Nathaniel Malcomb has been trying for years to raise the money to build a cathedral in the jungle home of the Miranawa people. On the eve of success, he is garroted in the tower of Tarak. The murderer, Slim Cronin, assumes Malcomb's identity in order to steal the building fund (being brought from America by Laura Mason). Tarzan accompanies the two missionaries into the jungle -- unaware that one of them is the murderous impostor.

39. [City of Sleep](#) - 51.09.27 - (CBS: 52.10.18) - Tarzan discovers his friend, Captain Lawrence, dazed and wandering in the jungle. After saving him from some wart hogs, he discovers that he has been drugged. After recovering, Captain Lawrence tells Tarzan that he has been investigating drug traffic in the City of Sleep, El Hadi. Tarzan returns to El Hadi with Captain Lawrence to discover who drugged his friend and who is behind the drug trafficking.

40. [Jungle Odds](#) - 51.10.04 - (CBS: 52.10.25) - Jerry Mulqueen, a compulsive gambler, flees to Africa with his daughter after welshing on a bet. The bookie he cheated finds him, and Tarzan must save the gambler and his daughter. Jerry learns a valuable lesson.

RADIO THEATRE: STUDIO III

Shows 41-60



Unpublished Tarzan Sunday page featuring the characters of Captain Lawrence, Torgo and Mama N'gama of the Punya tribe from the Commodore Tarzan radio show. Circa 1970s.

Script writer: John Rose ~ Artist: Franc Reyes

Click Titles to Play - A new show each week.

41. [All Presumed Dead](#) - 51.10.11 - Tarzan tries to save the Meyugu from a hurricane, but they refuse to leave unless Anakeea, a beautiful native girl, leaves also. She is waiting for the great "man-bird." At the same time, Rex Hakon, pilot of a DC-4 from Cairo, bails out of his plane leaving the crew and passengers to a horrible death. Tarzan and Captain Lawrence search for the wreckage and the reason for its plunge to earth.

42. [Small Packages](#) - 51.10.18 - (CBS: 52.11.01) - Lord Kerracebrook hopes to interest his grandson Anthony in business and sets up an account for him at a financial institution. Anthony longs for a life of adventure and draws against his account to run off to Africa. An unscrupulous Arab trader attempts to kidnap the youth and hold him for ransom, but Tarzan intervenes.

43. [Ghost of Karmiki](#) - 51.10.25 - Tarzan rescues Najugi, a youth of the Karmiki tribe, from the slave block. But Najugi runs away and returns to the slave mart. Tarzan travels to the land of the Karmiki to solve the mystery of Najugi's strange behaviour and must battle an evil magician.

44. [Adventure on the Road to Timbuktu](#) - 51.11.01 - (CBS: 52.11.08) - Tarzan receives a mysterious summons to come to the city of Tarzak. There he meets Keith Roberts, who persuades Tarzan to accompany him to Timbuktu. They are attacked, captured and taken to the Temple of the Golden Zebra where they are brought before Kayir, the supreme ruler. Kayir had planned for Tarzan's arrival because he considers himself to be Lord of the Jungle and wants to rid himself of the upstart using his title.

45. [Strange Island](#) - 51.11.08 - (CBS: 52.11.15) - Lieutenant Jacque Corday hates Africa and decides to arrest Tarzan in order to achieve a transfer. When Tarzan kills a protected white rhino to save a life, Cordayi sees his chance. When Tarzan and Corday travelling by a small sailboat are sunk, a mysterious island has newly arisen from the ocean depths. On the island is the beautiful seventeen-year-old Pamela Johns, who tells Tarzan that she has long had a crush on him. Tarzan must also face the false accusations of Lt. Corday who swears that he tried to kill him.

46. [Message to Fort Shabier](#) - 51.11.15- Major Beekman, newly appointed commander of Fort Shabier, is disliked by his men because of his arrogance. He thinks more about getting a new uniform than acquiring the needed ammunition to put down a possible native uprising. Unknown to the men of Fort Shabier, the Kameuma tribe is planning to rebel against the hated British. When the soldiers are attacked in an almost indefensible area, Tarzan must carry a message to Fort Shabier for ammunition and reinforcements.

47. [African Thanksgiving](#) - 51.11.22 - (CBS: 52.11.22) - Tarzan saves Renee, a young French girl, who has fallen into an animal pit with a lion. After killing the lion, Tarzan discovers that the girl has apparently returned to a nearby town where she has once again fallen into the clutches of Sheik Hassan en Mohammed Hazara. Sheik Hazara lies to the girl about Tarzan, telling her that a terrible fate would befall her if she leaves with the ape-man. Later, Tarzan meets an American, who is no in love with Renee, and they set out to rescue her.

48. [Hunter's Fury](#) - 51.11.29 - (CBS: 52.11.29) - Herbert Riggs, an unscrupulous contractor, blackmails Douglas Hanley, an assistant zoo curator, to go to Africa with him to capture animals

for zoos. Torgo, the Punaya boy, raises a panther cub to adulthood and when he is told the beast is too dangerous to keep in the village, he runs away with the beast. He stumbles into the camp of Riggs and Hanley, and they keep him to track animals for them. Tarzan, searching for Torgo, falls into a trap and is caged and left to die. With the help of Nkima, the monkey, he escapes and takes up the trail.

49. [Trouble Comes in Pairs](#) - 51.12.06 - Jackie and Jill Evans, twin dancers from America, are booked to appear in Africa by their agent, Robert Elliot. The spoiled Jackie doesn't like the Dark Continent and insists that they leave on the next boat. Since there won't be another boat in some time, they decide to trek cross-country to another port. They must travel through the land of the Biyuko who have a custom and tradition that twins are really one person and must share everything from wives to death. When Jackie dies from eating a poisonous toadstool, the Biyukos insist that Jill must also die. Tarzan must outsmart the Biyukos so that Jill may live.

50. [Congo Murder](#) - 51.12.13 - (CBS: 52.12.06) - Tarzan befriends a young American named Johnny Convy, who is in Africa prospecting for gold. When he makes a rich strike, he travels to Omdurmara to have his samples assayed. Following him at a later date, Tarzan discovers that young Johnny has been murdered. It is up to Tarzan to discover who killed his friend.

51. [Congo Christmas](#) - 51.12.20 - (CBS: 52.12.20) - In the isolated village of the Karmiki, Reverend Collier has established a mission school and a small church. He is opposed by the High Priest of the Moon God and must constantly struggle against the heathen rites practiced in the Temple of Neomopo, the Moon God. Tarzan sees what he is up against and comes to his aid.

52. [Hand of Death](#) - 51.12.27 (CBS: 53.01.03) - (A special March of Dimes show.) Mike, an American, and his wife Deborah, an English woman arrive home from a rare evening out to discover Steven, their nine-year-old son, under the care of a doctor. The doctor tells them that Steven has contracted poliomyelitis and his diagnosis is that he may be crippled for the rest of his life. Mike, who once had saved Tarzan's life, decides that because of his magnificent body and knowledge of jungle remedies, Tarzan can help his son recover his health. Tarzan takes the boy to his jungle cabin and begins a regimen of physical therapy and mineral spring baths.

53. [The Man from Another World](#) - 52.01.03 - (CBS: 53.01.10) - Tarzan saves the life of Joanna van Kruger and escorts her back to her father's rubber plantation. Tarzan's motive is double: to make sure Joanna arrives safely and to check rumours about van Kruger's cruelty to his workers. While there the plantation seems to be visited by a strange being - who claims to have come from the planet Uranus.

54. [Quicksands of Wadehara](#) - 52.01.10 - (CBS: 53.01.17) - Her Royal Highness of an unnamed European country travels incognito to Africa and takes a safari (under the name of Jane Higgins) into the interior. Accompanying her is the villainous white hunter Jungle Harry. A diplomat of her country asks Tarzan to watch over her, and he takes a job as second guide of the safari under the name of John Clayton. Jungle Harry figures he can use Tarzan as a scapegoat if anything happens to the girl. An Arab potentate abducts the girl for his harem, and Tarzan must go to her rescue.

55. [The Trail of Death](#) - (CBS: 53.01.24) - Tarzan relates to Captain Lawrence that he is tired of being "Robin Hood of the Jungle" and is disillusioned with the people he's tried to help; he wants to get as far away from civilization as he possibly can. He decides to return to the Mutea Escarpment where he was raised by the great apes. Unscrupulous George Anthony Fellows wants to find the Mutea Escarpment and the elephant's graveyard. He conspires with his nephew, Malcom, to start a fight with Tarzan and make it appear as if Tarzan has killed him, whereby Fellows persuades Tarzan to flee from the law so that he can accompany him to the Escarpment. (Based on elements from the MGM Tarzan films starring Johnny Weissmuller.)

56. [Killer at Large](#) - (CBS: 53.01.31) - One of Africa's most beloved citizens, Judge Cartwright, is found murdered. Captain Lawrence once again asks for Tarzan's help. A convict had earlier escaped from the prison but the warden for some reason has been covering up. Tarzan, undercover, enters the prison to discover the identity of the escaped prisoner and to determine if he might have had a motive for killing the judge. Discovering his name, Tarzan tracks the man down only to make a surprising discover.

57. [First Prize: Death](#) - (Not broadcast over the Don Lee Mutual Broadcasting System nor by CBS.) - Reginald Whiting, an Egyptian assuming an English name, asks the governor of the province to back a contest in America to find the All-American girl. Because tourism has suffered due to Arab and native unrest, the contest is presented to the governor as a means of attracting publicity. However, the contest is rigged so that the daughter of dead archaeologist Emil Johnson is the winner because he once desecrated the tomb of the Pharaoh. Tarzan is asked to watch over the girl and must save her from sacrifice at the hands of the priests of Nakhar.

58. [Paradise Island](#) - (CBS: 53.02.07) - A man, his wife, and small son are flying in a chartered plane off the West Coast of Africa. The plane crash lands on Paradise Island, and Tarzan and a native friend see the plane go down. They canoe to the island to see if they can give aid. They find the family unhurt although the pilot has a minor injury. As the pilot recovers, Tarzan encourages the others to enjoy the beauty and peace of the tropical island. Little does he realize that giving the boy a piece of quartz (pretending that it is a diamond) will reduce the others to greed and avarice.

59. [The Demon of Rongu](#) - (CBS: 53.02.14) - Tarzan tries to settle a dispute between the Punya and the Rongu tribes. He learns that a "demon" has been terrorizing the Rongu, stealing food and animals. When he tracks down the "demon," he is surprised to learn that it is a wild, white boy. Tarzan decides to take the boy back to his seaside cabin and raise him as his son -- educating him in the process -- not realizing that the boy's relatives are searching for him.

60. [Simba Hudari](#) - (CBS: 53.02.28) - Tarzan finds Professor Reynolds, an archaeologist, from whom his bearers have stolen a valuable notebook and deserted him. He and the professor track the bearers to their homeland. They discover that they are members of a tribe who punish thievery and lesser crimes with death, while allowing murderers to go free. They are also lion worshippers, and when Tarzan saves a member of one tribe from a man-eating lion, trouble ensues.

Rerun: Pirates of Cape Bandera - 52-03-06

Rerun: Hooded Death - 52-03-13

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61. [Oman of the Emeralds](#) - 52-03-20
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62. [Volcano](#) - 52-03-27
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63. [None So Blind](#) - 52-04-03
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64. [Tarzan and the Arena of Death](#) - 52-04-10
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65. [Jungle Smoke](#) - 52-04-17
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66. [Evidence Destroyed](#) - 52-04-24
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67. [The Missing Element](#) - 52-05-01
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68. [Tarzan and the Lypagor](#) - 52-05-08
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69. [Mask of Montiki](#) - 52-05-15
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70. [Night Riders of Tomkia](#) - 52-05-22
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71. [Tarzan and the American Family Robinson](#) - 52-05-29
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72. [Tarzan and the Long Journey](#) - 52-06-12
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ALTERNATE REPORTED RELEASES

May 16, 1953 61 "Tarzan And The Hot Rod Kid"
May 23, 1953 62 "Mask Of Monatiki"
May 30, 1953 63 "None So Blind"
Jun 06, 1953 64 "Night Riders Of Tomkia"
Jun 13, 1953 65 "The American Family Robinson"
Jun 20, 1953 66 "Tarzan And The Long Journey"
Jun 27, 1953 67 "Two In The Bush"
