

CUT TO

THE BUSH just beyond- something is moving- an animal?- Impossible to say.

PATTERSON

I wasn't and you know it and don't push it- just listen- we have a problem in Tsavo-

ABDULLAH

(cutting in)

-at last you're right- we do- you are the problem in Tsavo-

PATTERSON

-careful, Abdullah-

Patterson and Abdullah and suddenly it's dangerous.

ABDULLAH

You do not tell me "careful"- you do not tell me anything- you listen while I talk-

(Now suddenly a shadow seems to cross-)

CUT TO

ABDULLAH. CLOSE UP. His eyes widen. PULL BACK TO REVEAL AN ENORMOUS PISTOL. Pressed hard against Abdullah's temple.

MAN'S VOICE (OVER)

-change in plan- you listen while I talk- because you have a question that needs answering.

(beat)

Will I pull the trigger?

PULL BACK FURTHER TO REVEAL REDBEARD.

We are looking at one of those legends- ageless and powerful, with a tanned face and a thick grey beard. He has seen everything and is capable of anything. Just now he seems more than capable of killing Abdullah. Very calmly, he cocks the pistol.

SAMUEL (OVER)

Abdullah- he'll kill you.

REDBEARD

(not looking around)

No hints, Samuel.

ABDULLAH

(The name has registered)
You don't know all that has happened
here- the Devil has come to Tsavo.

REDBEARD

You're right. The Devil has come. Look
at me. I am the Devil.

CUT TO

ABDULLAH, staring at Redbeard. Right now Redbeard just could
be.

ABDULLAH

(louder)
I am a man of peace.

REDBEARD

You sound like you want to live.

ABDULLAH

Most certainly. Absolutely. Yes.

REDBEARD

Excellent decision.
(Now he suddenly reaches)
(out, shakes Abdullah's hand)
Your name is Abdullah? I'm sure we'll
meet again. Go and enjoy the splendid
morning.

ABDULLAH

(dazed- leaving)
I think it's been a pleasure.

CUT TO

REDBEARD, and now he does another surprising thing: embraces
Samuel.

REDBEARD

(three words)
You got old.
(Now he releases Samuel,)
(turns to Patterson)
I'm sure you're John Patterson.
(before Patterson can reply)

Stay out of my way.

(And without another word, he's gone)