

We opened fire on the apemen, and the guards who were holding Summerlee were the first to fall. The apemen ran around in confusion; some climbed up into the trees, others disappeared into the forest.

Challenger grabbed Summerlee and the two of them ran towards us. The remaining apemen started chasing us, but we were much too fast for them. We fired several more rounds at our pursuers until finally, they gave up. Once we reached our camp, the apes were nowhere to be seen.

We had just closed the thorny gate to our camp, when we heard the sound of voices outside the entrance. Lord John rushed forward, rifle in hand, and threw the gate open. There in front of us were the four surviving Indians, trembling with fear and begging us to protect them.

'By George,' exclaimed Lord John. 'What are we going to do with them?'

Summerlee looked at the men with pity. 'We have to help them,' he said. 'Just like you two helped us. I can't thank you enough for what you did.'

'We will always be grateful to you both,' said Challenger.

'We did what we had to do,' said Lord John. 'The question now, is what do we do with these Indians? I suppose we should take them home, but I don't know where they live.'

'They live in the caves on the other side of the lake,' I said. 'It's about twenty miles from here.'

In the distance, we heard the cries of the apemen, and the Indians began shivering with fear.

'We must move quickly,' said Lord John. 'Let's take some provisions with us and go back to our hiding place in the woods.'

Half an hour later, we arrived at the hiding place. For the rest of the day, we listened to the sounds of the apemen coming from the direction of our camp; luckily, none of the apemen came our way. We spent the night in the forest and began the journey to the Indian village early the following morning.

The Indians were small, well-built and active men. They couldn't speak English, but we managed to communicate using hand signals. They pointed to each other and said the word 'Accala' several times which we assumed was the name of their tribe. They used the word

