

# MY JUNGLE BOOK



by : Eric Vettraino

Even as a young adult one can be childlike in respect to having a playful outlook. I have seen the Disney version of The Jungle Book about two dozen times, but the latest viewings, the one that have been watched by eighteen year old me, had the strongest effect. I was finally able to fully understand and relate to the material of the story as a young adult. In the Disney version, Mowgli is guided into young adulthood by Baloo, who is known throughout the jungle as the “bum of the jungle” as he represents a symbol for not wanting to grow up. The relationship between Mowgli and Baloo is important for me as I make the transformation from childhood into young adulthood.