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PLANET  
OF THE APES  
JUNE No. 21

NOW ONLY

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WHERE MAN ONCE STOOD SUPREME--NOW RULE THE APES

# PLANET OF THE APES

FINAL  
FIERY  
CHAPTER!



CONQUEST  
OF PLANET OF THE APES

NAREN

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# BEAST

ON THE PLANET OF THE APES!

ON THE EARTH OF 1974, WITHIN THE SOCIETY CREATED AND RULED BY MEN, DEREK ZANE WAS CALLED A STARK, EYED DREAMER-- A FOOL.

ON THE WORLD OF THE FUTURE, ON A PLANET DOMINATED BY APES, DEREK ZANE IS REVEALED AS A FREAK-- AND NAILED AS A HERO.

I'M STILL STUCK HERE IN THE FUTURE, AND I'M STILL DEREK ZANE-- AND THOUGH I'M CERTAIN I'VE CHANGED, I'M STILL A DREAMER, A FOOL, A FREAK... AND A HERO.

Story: DOUG MOENCH

Art: HERB TRIMPE, DAN ADKINS &  
SAL TRAPANI AG 208

IT WAS FALL  
WHEN I LEFT  
THE CASTLE OF  
CAMELOT-- A  
BRIGHT, CRISP  
MORNING IN WHICH THE  
SOUND OF MY STEED'S  
CANTERING HOOFES  
STRUCK SHARPLY ON  
THE MOAT SPANNING  
DRAWBRIDGE.

A GOOD  
DAY, JUST  
TO BE  
ALIVE.

AND UPON LEAV-  
ING, I REMEMBER  
ED MY FIRST  
ARRIVAL. I'D  
ESCAPED THE MAIN-  
LAND! AND THE ONE-  
EYED GORILLA  
GORDON BY  
BUILDING A RAFT...

... AND BEACHED AVEDON'S SHORES ONLY TO BE  
CAPTURED BY A GORILLA IN SHINING ARMOR  
WHO SAID HE WAS SIR GAWAIN.

HE TOOK ME TO KING  
ARTHUR, WHO JUST  
HAPPENED TO BE AN  
ORANGUTAN--

-- AND WHO ASKED  
ME TO SLAY A  
DRAGON, AS A  
GESTURE OF  
GOOD FAITH...

... WHICH I  
PROMPTLY DID,  
PUMPING FOUR  
SLUGS FROM MY  
AUTOMATIC  
INTO THE UGLY  
THING'S BRAIN.

THAT LITTLE FEAT  
EARNED ME THE  
CHANCE TO FACE  
GAWAIN IN A  
Jousting  
TOURNAMENT,  
AND AFTER I'D  
DEFEATED HIM  
WITH A FEW  
CONNECTICUT  
YANKEE TRICKS,  
I WAS PLACED IN  
CHARGE OF DE-  
FENSE DURING  
GOOD OLD GORDON'S  
SIEGE OF  
CAMELOT.

WE WON THE BATTLE, AND  
AS A REWARD--

I'D FOUND THE EMBODI-  
MENT OF MY STARRY-  
EYED DREAMS HERE ON  
THE FAIR ISLAND OF  
AVEDON. HERE, I COULD  
TOSS MY ROSE-COLORED  
GLASSES TO THE WIND--  
AND STILL GAZE UPON  
THE GLORIOUS DELUSIONS  
OF MY FANTASIES. TO  
ME, AVEDON WAS HEAVEN.

STILL, I HAD TO  
LEAVE.

-- I WAS PRIVILEGED TO  
TAKE THE HAND OF LADY  
ANDREA IN MARRIAGE--  
AND TRULY, SHE IS THE  
FAIREST MAIDEN IN ALL THE  
WONDERFULLY COCKEYED  
LAND.

SO YOU SEE, IT WAS LUNACY TO RIDE  
AWAY FROM ALL THIS...

HYAAH!



TRouble is: even a LUNATIC HAS A CONSCIENCE.



AND EVEN AS I BASKED AND VEGE-TATED IN THE LUXURIOUS COMPANY OF LADY ANDREA AND MY FULFILL-ED FANTASIES, I COULDN'T SHAKE THE MEMORY OF WHY I'D COME TO THIS CRAZY YEAR OF 3975 IN THE FIRST PLACE.

I'D MEANT TO FIND THE FOUR MISSING ASTRONAUTS -- TAYLOR, STEWART, LANGON & DODGE -- AND BY NOW, I KNEW THEY WEREN'T ON AVEPON.

SO, IF THEY WERE HERE AT ALL, THEY HAD TO BE SOMEWHERE ON THE MAIN- LAND -- AND I CERTAINLY WOULDN'T FIND THEM IN MY FANTASIES.



I DREW GANDALF TO HALT (YEAH, I'D BEEN A TOLKIEN BUG) AND LOOKED DOWN UPON THE SITE OF MY ARRIVAL...



THE RAFT WAS STILL THERE, AS I'D HOPED.

NOW I COULD USE IT TO --

-- LEAVE, LADY ANDREA, THOUGH IT GRIEVES ME SORELY TO DEPRIVE MY EYES OF THEE.

THERE'S NO NEED FOR THE FORMAL SPEECH OF THE COURT, DEREK -- NOT AT A TIME LIKE THIS.

IN YOUR OWN WORDS, TELL ME WHY YOU MUST LEAVE. EVERYTHING YOU NEED IS RIGHT HERE.

TRUE, ANDREA -- BUT THERE ARE OTHERS WHO MAY NEED ME...

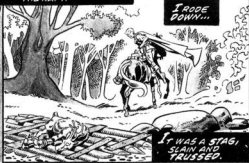
...AND I CAN'T HIDE FROM THAT FACT ANY LONGER.



MY LAST MEMORY OF ANDREA -- OF MY WIFE -- FADED...

...AND MY FINE FINALLY REGISTERED WHAT MY EYES HAD ALREADY SEEN.

THERE WAS SOMETHING ON THE RAFT.



I RODE DOWN...

IT WAS A STAG, SLAIN AND TRUSSED.



AS AN ISLAND, AVEDON WAS ISOLATED. APES AND HUMANS LIVED IN PEACE. BUT ON THE MAIN LAND, APES HUNTED AND KILLED HUMANS. SO, IF THE FOUR ASTRONAUTS WERE ON THE MAINLAND...

I COULDN'T LET A DEAD DEER STOP MY SEARCHING FOR THEM.

WHOOOPS!

MAYBE A DEAD STAG WOULDN'T STOP ME...

STOK! BUT AN ARROW...

THE STAG BELONGS TO ROBIN HOOD, VARLET -- AND I AM ROBIN.

HE WAS ALSO A CHIMP-ANZEE.

NO DOUBT, FRIEND ROBIN...

...BUT I AM DEREK ZANE-- AND THE RAFT BELONGS TO ME.

NOT SO, MASTER DEREK-- YOU SEE I FOUND IT FIRST.

AH... BUT I BUILT IT FIRST.

I INTEND TO USE THE RAFT TO TRANSPORT ME TO THE MAINLAND. WHAT WERE YOUR INTENTIONS?

THE VERY SAME, MY FOPPISH KNIGHT OF THE ROUND TABLE.

THEN WHY DON'T WE SHARE THE RAFT, GOOD ROBIN--?

FAUGH!

WHY SHARE IT--

-- WHEN WE CAN FIGHT FOR IT ?!

I SWUNG MY DRIFTWOOD STAFF, WANTING TO KNOCK THE RAKISH SMIRK RIGHT OFF HIS FACE.

BUT HE DUCKED--

--AND JABBED ME RIGHT IN THE BREADBASKET.

IT HURT, BUT I MANAGED TO HOLD ONTO MY COOKIES, AT LEAST...

OOPW!

HE LUNGED AT ME, ONTO THE RAFT...

...AND THEN I FELT LIKE I WAS TRAPPED IN A HOWARD PYLE ILLUSTRATION.



HE MADE ME MAD!!!



HE MADE ME YELP!!!



HE MADE ME HATE HIS INCESSANT CHUCKLING!!!



FINALLY, HE MADE ME CARELESS!!!



...AND...

PLOOSH!



HAH!



YOU LEFT YOURSELF WIDE OPEN, MASTER DEREK--

--AND ROBIN HOOD IS NOT ONE TO REFUSE AN INVITATION!



HE WAS STILL LAUGHING--

--WHEN I SURFACED BEHIND HIM--



--AND YANKED HIS ANKLE.



THEN, AFTER I'D FINISHED WITH MY LAUGHING, AND AFTER WE'D SPLASHED WATER AT EACH OTHER FOR A WHILE--



--ESPECIALLY SINCE THE EFFORTS OF OUR LITTLE CONTEST--

--HAVE ALREADY PROPELLED US HALFWAY ACROSS THE CHANNEL.



AND WHO WAS I TO ARGUE WITH THE ROGISH ROBIN HOOD--?

I USED THE REST OF THE JOURNEY TO DELIVER MY BITCH...

YOU SAY TALKING HUMANS ARE RARE ON THE MAINLAND?

EXTREMELY RARE.

MMMM...

BUT LOOK!

IT SEEMS THE FIRST STAGE OF OUR PLAN IS APPROACHING.

I COULD TELL I WAS GETTING TO HIM...

SO IT SHOULD NOT BE DIFFICULT TO FIND FOUR TALKING HUMANS...

CORRECT-- UNLESS THEY'VE MET WITH DEATH... OR WE MEET THE SAME...

AND BY THE TIME WE CLAMBERED ASHORE...

VERY WELL, SIR DEREK-- I SHALL AID YOU IN YOUR QUEST.

BINGO... SLY DEVIL THAT I WAS.

WE HIT THE DUSTY PATH, GETTING THINGS STRAIGHT AS WE STROLLED...

--AND THEN YOU WILL--

YES, SIR DEREK, I SEE YOUR MEANING-- AND A GOOD PLAN IT IS.

ROBIN'S EYES HAD BEEN HUNTO TO SPOT A BROWN STAG AGAINST TREE TRUNKS AT A THOUSAND YARDS.

I TRUSTED HIM, SHINNED THE TREE...

...AND WAITED AS HE HAILED THE CHIMP RIDER.

WHAT HO, FELLOW APE, AND ALL THAT JOLLY ROT--!

HUH--?

HAST THOU HEARD NEWS OF ANY TALKING HUMANS IN THIS REGION?

WHY, YES-- THERE ARE RUMORS OF A SPEAKING ANIMAL. THEY SAY HE'S QUARTERED IN THE VIVISECTION LAB OF A CITY TO THE SOUTH...

BUT WHY DO YOU ASK? AND WHY ARE YOU ATTIRED SO STRANGELY...?

BECAUSE HE  
HASN'T HAD A  
CHANCE--



OH NO.



--TO BORROW  
YOUR  
THREADS!

CHIN!

I HIGH-DIVED  
FROM THE TREE  
LIMB--

--AND SLUGGED WHILE  
ROBIN CHEERED FROM THE  
SIDELINES.

TIS WORKING--  
SIR DEREK--



OUR PLAN IS  
WORKING!!

AND AFTER ROBIN HAD AWAKED  
HIMSELF OF THE UNCONSCIOUS  
CHIMP'S CLOTHING...



JUST LET ME STUFF  
MY SHERWOOD  
GREENS INTO THIS  
SADDLEBAG--AND  
WE'LL SET TO WORK  
ON YOU.

WH-WHAT DO  
YOU MEAN...?

I MEAN, SIR DEREK, TIS TIME  
TO RID YOU OF THESE FODDISH  
GARMENTS!

IF WE WANT THIS CHARADE TO  
BE CONVINCING, YOU CAN'T  
VERY WELL MARCH INTO THEIR  
CITY LOOKING LIKE A ROYAL  
KNIGHT OF KING ARTHUR'S  
COURT-- CAN YOU?



MAYBE NOT-- BUT YOU DON'T HAVE  
TO RID THE STUFF OFF ...!

AH, BUT YOU SAID THE HUMANS  
HERE ON THE MAINLAND DRESS  
THEMSELVES IN RAGS...



AND NOW-- DO  
YOU NOT FIT  
THE ROLE?

YEAH, BUT HE DIDN'T HAVE TO  
MAKE A HAM OUT OF ME!

COME ALONG, BEAST-- BUT HAVE A  
CARE NOT TO BRING YOUR VERMIN  
AND RABIES TOO CLOSE TO MY  
CIVILIZED SENSIBILITIES.



YOU DON'T MISS A  
TRICK, DO YOU?

NO, SIR DEREK...

... I DO NOT.

SPOKEN LIKE A  
TRUE ROGUE.

FROM RICHES TO RAGS IN TWENTY CENTURIES FLAT. MY MIND DIPPED INTO THE PAST AGAIN, FURTHER BACK THIS TIME--TO THE ERA IN WHICH I WAS BORN...



...THE DREAMLESS TIME I DESPISED...

THEN THE MEETING AT NASA, WITH MR. HIGH AND MIGHTY KRINGSTIEN...

TIME MACHINES! HASSELEIN'S THEORIES OF DIMENSIONAL MATRICES AND INFINITE REGRESSION! DO YOU TAKE ME FOR AN IDIOT, MR. ZANE?



BUT I CAN FIND THE FOUR MISSING--

OUT--GET OUT!

THEN MY INITIATION TO THIS BRAVE NEW WORLD OF 3975...



BLAM

HUNTED--  
LIKE AN ANIMAL--  
BY GORODON  
AND HIS  
GORILLA  
THUGS.

THERE WAS MY LAST MEETING WITH MICHELE, IN THE OUTDOOR CAFE...



--REALIZE NOW THAT YOU'LL NEVER BUCKLE DOWN, DEREK...

...NEVER LEAVE YOUR PERSONAL CLOUD NINE LONG ENOUGH TO COPE WITH REALITY...

THE LAST MOMENTS IN THE SLEAZY APARTMENT, WITH MY TIME MACHINE...



WE'LL SHOW 'N OLD BUDDY --WE'LL SHOW 'EM ALL!

AND HERBERT GEORGE'LL BE PROUD OF US!

THE FINAL MEMORY IS THE ONE WHICH SIZZLES THE MOST--THE ONE I'LL NEVER FORGET. GORDON BRUTALLY MURDERING A FELLOW APE, MERELY TO FURTHER HIS OWN POWER.



THEY WERE JUST LIKE US...

WE LIVE IN SEPARATE WORLDS, DEREK-- I NEED A MAN I CAN RESPECT, A MAN WITH A FUTURE. I NEED SECURITY, DEREK, AND THAT'S WHY WE MUST...



...I SAY GOODBYE.

YEAH, MISH... GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.



THEN THE TRIP ITSELF--HORRIFYING, AND YET THE ONLY SALVATION...

THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE TAYLOR AND THE OTHERS--AS WELL AS MY OWN SANITY.

...JUST LIKE THE PEOPLE OF THE COLD, HEARTLESS WORLD I'D LEFT BEHIND. EXCEPT THEY WERE STRONGER, AND PERHAPS EVEN MORE BRUTAL.



AND NOW, I WAS LETTING MYSELF BE DRAGGED RIGHT INTO THEIR MIDST--ALL TO HELP FOUR STRANGERS FROM THE TIME WHICH ABUSED AND REJECTED ME.

THE CITY WAS JUST AS BIZARRE AS I'D REMEMBERED IT-- A FLOWING, FREE-FORM SCULPTURE OF OZZING ROCK...

...BASIC, PRIMITIVE, FUNCTIONAL. BUCKY FULLMINSTER WOULD'VE LOVED IT.

ON THE OTHER HAND, I HATED IT... AND MORE, FEARED IT.

ROBIN SAID NOTHING AS WE ENTERED THIS WEIRDSVILLE, THOUGH HE MUST HAVE BEEN AWED -- THIS BEING HIS FIRST TRIP TO THE MAINLAND...

...THOUGH HE DID BELIEVE A LITTLE EMOTION WHEN THE GORILLA THUNDERED TOWARD US...

WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH THAT HUMAN-SCUM--?

TO THE PEN FOR TARGET-PRACTICE?

NO-- I'M TAKING THIS ANIMAL TO THE VIVISECTION LAB.

WHAT-- AGAIN?!

ON YOUR GUARD, SIR DEREK!

MAN, WAS HE UGLY!

AND HE LOOKED MORE THAN A LITTLE MEAN...

THOSE LOUSY CHIMP SURGEONS HAVE ALL THE SPECIMENS THEY NEED.

I DON'T CARE WHAT THEY SAY-- I SAY THIS HUMAN IS GOING TO BE USED FOR MY SOLDIERS' TARGET PRACTICE.

YOU SAY--? AND WHO ARE YOU?

I ALMOST GAGGED...

... BECAUSE SAUCY ROBIN REALLY BLEW IT THAT TIME.

WHO AM I--?!!

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN HIDING, FOOL--? I'M GENERAL ZATNOR-- AND I'VE BEEN THE GENERAL EVER SINCE THAT IDIOT GORDON DISAPPEARED WITH TWO-HUNDRED GORILLAS ON HIS FOLLY OF VENGEANCE!

OH, OF COURSE, GENERAL ZATNOR-- I'VE HEARD MUCH ABOUT YOU, BUT UNFORTUNATELY I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU BEFORE.

YOU SEE, I'VE BEEN STUDYING IN A CITY TO THE EAST FOR SOME TIME NOW-- BUT IN ANY CASE, I'M AFRAID THIS HUMAN MUST GO TO THE LABS-- BY AUTHORITY OF DR. CASSIUS.

CASSIUS AGAIN, EH--? VERY WELL-- TAKE THE BEAST AWAY...

ROBIN'S BLUFF WORKED. CASSIUS WAS STILL AROUND, AS I'D HOPED... BUT OUT OF SPITE AND A SADIST'S DISAPPOINTMENT.

-- ZATNOR CLOBBERED ME IN THE CHOPS.

WOK!

UHHN!

IT HURT LIKE HELL--

-- AND IT WAS MY TURN TO BLOW IT...

WHY YOU DIR--

WHAT?!! DID YOU HEAR THAT--?

OH, I DOUBT THAT VERY MUCH, GENERAL ZATNOR, SIR-- PROBABLY JUST A GROWL. HOWEVER, THERE IS SOME SLIGHT REASON TO BELIEVE THE HUMAN MIGHT BE CAPABLE OF SPEECH...

NIMMM...

... AND IN VIEW OF THAT, I'M SURE YOU'LL UNDERSTAND DR. CASSIUS' DESIRE TO STUDY HIM.

THIS HUMAN SPOKE!!

I'D LEARNED THE LOCATION OF THE LABS DURING MY FIRST VISIT TO THE CITY, AND AFTER I'D WHISPERED DIRECTIONS TO ROBIN...

GOOD MORNING, GUARD--DELIVERY FOR DR. CASSIUS HERE...

I'M DR. CASSIUS...

... BUT I ORDERED NO DELIVERY...

YOU DIDN'T--?

AH, WELL... UH... I, UH... OF COURSE YOU DIDN'T DOCTOR...

YOU SEE, DR. HERKIMER FROM THE CITY TO THE EAST ASKED ME TO BRING THIS PARTICULAR SPECIMEN TO YOU...

HE HAS REASON TO BELIEVE THE HUMAN MAY BE INTELLIGENT-- AND THOUGHT YOU MIGHT WISH TO STUDY HIM.

DR. HERKIMER FUNNY I DON'T RECALL ANY DOCTOR BY THAT NAME-- NEVER HEARD OF A HERKIMER.

OH, BUT HERKIMER HAS HEARD OF YOU, DR. CASSIUS-- AND WHO HASN'T? INDEED, YOU'RE THE MOST RENOWNED ANIMAL SURGEON IN THE WORLD!

HARUMPH! WELL, YES-- BUT OF COURSE.

WELL, BRING THE BEAST INSIDE, THEN.

BINGO AGAIN.

STRAP THE SPECIMEN ONTO THE OPERATING TABLE OVER THERE...

MY ASSISTANT PLEXIPES WILL HELP YOU, SHOULD THE BEAST PUT UP A STRUGGLE.

OPERATING TABLE? BUT, UH... AREN'T YOU EVEN GOING TO, UH, TEST HIS INTELLIGENCE FIRST...?

OF COURSE I AM-- BUT I WANT THE ANIMAL RESTRAINED WHILE I DO SO. NOW DON'T QUESTION MY ORDERS ANY FURTHER!

STRAP THE BEAST DOWN.

I COULD TELL ROBIN WAS WORRIED...

WELL, SEE YOU AROUND...

... DOCTOR.

HE SHOULD'VE KNOWN NOW I FELT.



WELL, WHAT DO YOU THINK, DR. CASSIUS-- SHALL WE USE THIS ONE FOR A LOBOTOMY EXPERIMENT?

I'M SURPRISED THEY DIDN'T HEAR ME GULP.

--OR ZAYNOR TAKES HER AWAY FROM US AND WE GET NOTHING.

NO, PLEXIDES-- THIS IS ANOTHER SUPPOSEDLY "INTELLIGENT" HUMAN ...

OH, THAT REMINDS ME, DOCTOR --ZAYNOR SAYS IF WE DON'T FINISH UP WITH OUR OTHER "TALKING HUMAN, HE'S GOING TO GET CUSTODY ORDERS FROM MAGISTRATE HASTUS.

ANOTHER TALKING HUMAN? THAT WAS BINGO NUMBER THREE!

BUT I'M NOT READY TO FINISH UP WITH THE BEAST-- I WANT TO DO MORE TESTING!

NEVERTHELESS, EITHER WE FINISH TODAY AND GET SOME USE OUT OF THE ANIMAL--

BUT THEN I REMEMBERED --THERE WAS A WOMAN AMONG THE FOUR ASTRONAUTS-- STEWART, IF I REMEMBERED RIGHT...

FOR A MOMENT, I FLASHED ON THE JACKPOT AGAIN... BUT THEN, AS I WATCHED THE GIRLS FRIGHTENED, ANIMAL-LIKE ATTITUDE...

... MY HOPES SANK. THIS PITIFUL CREATURE BELONGED IN A CAVE-- SHE COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE ASTRONAUT STEWART.

MY JUMP INTO THE FRYING PAN HAD BEEN FOR NOTHING-- AND THE FIRE WAS GETTING HOTTER.

NO-- HURT! NO HURT!!

A RITZ-- SHE DOES SEEM TO POSSESS RUDIMENTARY INTELLIGENCE...

THEY WERE BLUNT, JAGGED, AND RUSTY.

NO, I'M AFRAID THE BEST WE CAN DO IS REMOVE HER LARYNX--

... AT LEAST THE ABILITY TO MIMIC OUR SPEECH. HERE, DR. HASTUS-- BETTER STRAP HER IN WHILE I GET THE SCALPES...

HASTUS WOULD NEVER LISTEN TO OUR APPEALS. HE'S GONE OVER TO THE GORILLAS' SIDE-- HE'S AFRAID OF THE GORILLAS. BUT US--2 WHO'D BE AFRAID OF PEACEFUL CHIMPANZEES?

NO-- HURT!

AND COMPARE IT TO THE THROATS OF MON- MIMICKING HUMANS

HE MOVED THE RUSTY THING TOWARD HER THROAT...

I COULDN'T STAND IT.

NOOO!!

WHAT THE--??

YOU CAN'T DO IT-- IT'S MURDER! IT'S COLD-BLOODED MURDER!!

THEIR JAWS DROPPED IN ASTONISHMENT AND THEY FORGOT ABOUT THE GIRL ... AS THEY MOVED TOWARD ME...

YOU... YOU SPOKE-- COHERENTLY! -- FORMED ENTIRE SENTENCES!

OF COURSE I DID-- AND YOU'VE GOT TO LISTEN TO ME! HUMANS ARE NOT BEASTS-- WE'RE JUST AS INTELLIGENT AS YOU! AT ONE TIME, WE WERE FAR MORE INTELLIGENT THAN APES.

YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME, DR. CASSIUS-- YOU SHOWED A SPARK OF DUTY FOR THE GIRL! NOW HAVE PITY ON OUR WHOLE RACE!

--AND TEACH THE APE TO STOP KILLING HUMANS!

THIS IS AMAZING, PLEXIDES-- QUITE A NOVELTY...

SHUT UP AND ANSWER ME, FOR GOD'S SAKE! WILL YOU HELP ME OR NOT!!

I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, WHY YOU'RE HERE, OR HOW IT IS YOU CAN REASON AND SPEAK-- BUT NO, I WILL NOT "HELP" YOU. THE GIRL IS A BEAST, AND I HAVE NO PITY FOR BEASTS.

I WAS CONCERNED ONLY WITH MY EXPERIMENTS...

SHE WAS MOVING CLOSER, A JAGGED PIECE OF RUST IN HER HAND...

TO HELP YOU OR HER WOULD CONSTITUTE HERESY, AND I'LL HAVE NO PART OF IT. IN FACT I'M TEMPTED TO KILL YOU RIGHT--

--AGHKK--!!

DR. CASSIUS HAD LIVED BY THE SCALPEL...

... AND NOW HE DIED BY THE SCALPEL.

BUT HIS ASSISTANT WAS STILL ALIVE...

FREE-- FREE YOU!

REPT

BUT THANK GOD PLEXIDES WAS TOO STUNNED TO MOVE FOR A MOMENT-- IT GAVE THE GIRL TIME TO CUT ONE OF MY ANKLE STRAPS...

... AND BY THE TIME HE COULD MOVE, AND LUNGED AT US--



-- I KICKED HIM OUT OF THE RUNNING.



YOU SAID A MOUTHFUL, BABE-- THAT INTELLIGENCE MUST BE IN YOUR GENES.



DON'T SUPPOSE YOU HAVE A NAME, THOUGH...

NEVER MIND-- OUR FIRST CONCERN IS MAKING IT TO THE--



SORRY TO BARGE THROUGH, FELLAS...

...BUT US ANIMALS ARE KINDA SHORT ON MANNERS!

-- HEARD HIM WITH MY OWN EARS, HASTUS-- THE HUMAN SPOKE--

AND CASSIUS IS HARBORING HIM UNDER FALSE PRETENSES--



WE'LL SOON SEE ABOUT THAT GENERAL ZAYNOR...



-- POOR

UH OH.

THEN I REMEMBERED...



WHAT A BIG-MOUTH-- GUESS HE DIDN'T LIKE GETTING DUMPED ON HIS BUTT...

HE BELLOWED EVEN LOUDER WHEN HE CLUMBED TO HIS MONKEY-SPLATED FEET!!!

GET THEM!!

AND THE GORILLAS-- THE DAMN, STUPID GORILLAS --WERE MORE THAN EAGER TO OBEY.

WE SCRAMBLED OVER THE ROCK CAUSEWAY, THINKING OURSELVES CLEVER FOR PICKING A ROUTE THEIR HORSES COULDN'T FOLLOW.

HOW WERE WE SUPPOSED TO KNOW THERE WAS A COUPLE OF BRUTES LURKING IN AMBUSH--? OR THAT ZAYNOR WAS ONE OF THEM--?

OR THAT THEY HAD A NET--?

OKAY, BABE, IT LOOKS LIKE WE LOST THEM.

FAMOUS LAST WORDS...

IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT I'D BEEN THRU THIS MOVIE BEFORE...

HURRY, HONEY--

--IT'S TIME TO MAKE QUICK LIKE A BUNNY!!

LORD KNOWS WHERE I FOUND THE FLIPPANCY...

...AND IT WAS TIME FOR BINGO NUMBER ONE ON THEIR SIDE.

TAKE HIM OFF TO THE TRIBUNAL--!

AND KEEP SEARCHING FOR THE FEMALE!

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MY LAST GLIMPSE OF HER, AS THEY HAULED ME OFF IN THE NET, WAS AT LEAST RE-ASSURING.



SHE WAS SCURRYING DOWN THE DUSTY ALLEYWAYS LIKE A TERRIFIED JACKRABBIT.

I LOST SIGHT OF HER, THEN, BUT I HOPED AND PRAYED THAT SHE'D MAKE IT...



...THAT SHE WOULDN'T GET--

--CAUGHT.



MMRPHH--!

QUIET, WENCH-- THIS IS NO MANGY MAINLAND APE SPEAKIN' AT TO!

THIS IS ROBIN HOOD-- SLAYER OF HIS MAJESTY'S STAGS!

I'LL NOT HARM YOU-- AND IF WE'RE TO RESCUE ZANE, YOU'VE GOT TO COOPERATE!



DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

MMMEFF!!

TALK ABOUT DEVA VU-- I WAS GETTING JUST A LITTLE TIRED OF ROPES AROUND MY NECK!!!

THIS TRIBUNAL WILL NOW COME TO ORDER!



I, NASTUS-- MAGISTRATE OF THIS CITY-- SHALL PRE-SIDE OVER THE TRIAL!!!

TRIAL--?! THIS IS NO TRIAL-- IT'S A FARCE!!



AS IF THEY DIDN'T ALREADY KNOW IT.

STILL, I GUESS I'M JUST  
BIG-HEADED!!!

YOU'VE CONVISED TO DECIDE  
MY FATE-- AND YOU'VE AL-  
READY GOT THE NOOSE  
AROUND MY NECK!!



SHUT UP,  
BEAST!

WAK!

ANIMALS CAN'T  
TALK AND YOU  
KNOW IT!!

SO WHO COULD ARGUE  
WITH LOGIC LIKE THAT.

HASTUS OBVIOUSLY WASN'T A  
TIME-WASTER. HE STOOD TO  
READ THE SENTENCE!!!

FOR CRIMES AGAINST THE NAT-  
URAL LAW, HERESY, AND IM-  
POSING UPON THE EXCLUSIVE  
RIGHTS OF  
ARES!

--THE HUMAN IS  
HEREBY SENTENCED  
TO DEATH BY  
HANGING-- NOW!!

ZAYNOR'S HAND  
SLAPPED THE  
LEVER--



THERE WAS A  
SUDDEN DRAFT  
BETWEEN MY  
TOES.



THE ROPE  
WENT TAUT--



-- SQUISHING  
APPLESAUCE  
INTO MY  
THROAT --



--AND--

HUH?



WHEN!!

I SPLIT.



HEY!!

WHAT'S  
GOING ON--?

STOP  
HIM!!

I SPUN AROUND A CORNER AND THERE WAS ROBIN. HE'D CHANGED HIS CLOTHES FOR THE OCCASION...



MAKE HASTE, GOOD DEREK-- LEST THE ROGUE SNATCH US BOTH!

WHERE'S THE GIRL, ROBIN--?

ACCORDING TO PLAN, SHE WAS TO DIVERT THEM WHILST WE ESCAPED-- AND WE WERE TO PICK HER UP OUTSIDE THE CITY!

BUT EITHER SHE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND--

--OR SHE GOT SCARED AND RAN OFF!

BUT THERE'S LITTLE WE CAN DO ABOUT IT NOW, SIR DEREK--

--WITH THOSE BLACKGUARD KNAVES IN HOT PURSUIT!



WELL, WHADDAYA KNOW--? YOUR PAL AND MINE...

ZAYNOR LED THE PACK, AND HE WAS GAINING...

MONKEY PUSS, YOU'LL NEVER KNOW HOW MUCH I'VE BEEN ITCHING TO DO--



I GAVE HIM MY SUNDAY-BEST, RIGHT IN THE SNOUT--

--AND HE DIDN'T FEEL A THING.

YOU'LL DIE FOR THAT, HUMAN!



HACKNEYED, MAYBE, BUT HE WAS SURE PULPING MY WRIST!

SEEING AS NOW I WAS RIDING WITH ROBIN HOOD--



--THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING TO DO...



...SO I DID IT.

I WAS REMINDED OF KONG TOPPLING OFF THE SUMMIT OF THE EMPIRE STATE...



AND, TOO, KONG HAD GOTTEN  
A EULOGY FROM CARL DENHAM...



THEN I SAW HER, DARTING OUT OF FROM AN ALLEYWAY...





I RIPPED A TATTER  
FROM MY RAGS--

--WRAPPED IT A-  
ROUND THE POINT--

--FLICKED MY CIGAR-  
ETTE LIGHTER--

--AND STOLE ROBIN  
HOOD'S THUNDER.



YEP.

IT WAS THEIR ARMORY, ALL RIGHT-- THEIR  
AMMO DUMP -- AND THE KEGS HAD BEEN  
FILLED WITH GUNPOWDER.

OBVIOUSLY, THEY'D HAD TO MOVE THE  
ARMORY TO A NEW LOCATION, SINCE I'D  
BURNED THEIR OLD ONE DOWN. SOME  
APES NEVER LEARN...

WE BURIED THE GIRL, SEVERAL HOURS LATER,  
BY THE BEACH. SHE HAD DIED CALLING MY NAME,  
SO I GAVE HER A NAME...



... AND I CARVED "HOPE" ON THE CRUDE MARKER.  
DOING A SLOPPY JOB OF IT BECAUSE THE TEARS  
KEPT BLURRING MY VISION. I WISHED HOPE  
COULD'VE LIVED LONG ENOUGH TO HEAR HER NAME...

COME, SIR DEREK--  
LET US HIE BACK TO  
FAIR AVEDON, WHERE  
TIS PEACEFUL AND  
SAFE.

NO, ROBIN, I CAN'T GO  
BACK. AVEDON IS THE  
FANTASY-LAND I'VE AL-  
WAYS WANTED-- THE  
WORLD MADE OF THE  
DREAMS I'VE DREAMED  
A THOUSAND TIMES!

... BUT I  
CAN'T GO  
BACK. I CAN'T  
RUN AWAY  
ANY  
LONGER.

BUT WHAT OF  
LADY ANDREA--?

I'LL GO BACK TO HER  
SOMEDAY... BUT NOT  
JUST YET, ROBIN...

SHE'D  
UNDERSTAND.  
IN TIME...

FAREWELL  
THEN, SIR  
DEREK!

AYE, ROBIN -- FARE... WELL.



... AND IF  
SHE DIDN'T,  
WELL... I  
FINALLY  
DID!

# HAIL CAESAR! HAIL THE KING!

**T**HERE IS CONFUSION THIS DARK NIGHT, A SWARM OF CHAOS WRAPPED IN SHRILL ALARMS AND GARISHLY SWEEPING SEARCHLIGHTS... AN EXPLOSION OF EMOTIONS RANGING FROM PANIC AND FEAR TO EXUBERANCE AND WRATH...

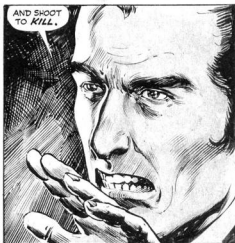
**S**OME WOULD CALL IT A DISORGANIZED RIOT... A FORM OF PANDEMONIUM AKIN TO THAT INSPIRED BY FIRE RAGING UNCONTROLLED THROUGH A MENAGERIE OR ZOO.

**A**ND OTHERS WOULD SWEAR IT IS FAR MORE THAN THAT-- SOMETHING TANTAMOUNT TO AN UPRISING, AN ANGRY REVOLT... A FULLY COORDINATED AND RUTHLESSLY ORGANIZED PRISON BREAK.

**O**NE OF THOSE OTHERS IS CAESAR, THE INTELLIGENT APE WHO HAS ENGINEERED THE ESCAPE, WHO HAS SUNDERED THE SHACKLES OF OPPRESSION... AND WHO NOW LEADS HIS ENRAGED FELLOWS INTO THE CITY...

... INTO OPEN, BLOODY REBELLION.







...AND WHO HAS TRANSFORMED IT INTO A SECRET ARSENAL OF IMPROVISED WEAPONRY.



THE APES ACCEPT THE LETHAL IMPLEMENTS READILY... ALMOST GREEDILY...

HERE, TAKE.



...AND GREED SOON SHATTERS PATIENCE, AS THE APES PRESS FORWARD TO SNATCH AT THE WEAPONS.

ALL RIGHT-- GO AHEAD AND GRAB IF YOU CAN'T WAIT FOR ORDERLY DISPENSATION...

BUT I'M WARNING YOU-- IN THE FUTURE YOU'LL LEARN SOME MANNERS.



NOW--THE KEROSENE CANS...

TAKE THEM TO THE CIVIC CENTER--



-- AND PLACE THEM WHERE I SHOWED YOU...

...WITHOUT BEING SEEN.



...AND WE REPEAT: A SMALL MIXED GROUP OF APES SCHEDULED FOR RE-CONDITIONING--



-- HAVE ESCAPED FROM THEIR DETENTION QUARTERS AT THE APE MANAGEMENT COMPLEX...

UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN ROUNDED UP BY THE POLICE. ALL CITIZENS ARE CAUTIONED TO REMAIN **INDOORS.**

A FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE AS SOON AS **RECAPTURE** IS AFFECTED.



GUESS THAT KILLS THE OPERA FOR **TONIGHT**. WE'D BETTER GET **HOME.**



AND **HERE**, I GUESS **IS** THAT ANNOUNCEMENT.

I'VE JUST BEEN HANDED A **BULLETIN** FROM OUR **NEWSROOM** WHICH NO DOUBT--



OH **NO...**

LADIES AND GENTLEMAN... APE MANAGEMENT IS NOW IN THE HANDS OF THE **APES**. MANY... MANY OFFICIALS ARE EITHER... DEAD... OR HELD **HOSTAGE**...

...AND THE **MAIN BAND** OF RIOTING APES ARE, AT THIS VERY **MOMENT**--



-- MARCHING ON THE **CITY**. IT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED THAT THE APE MOB IS UNDER THE "COMMAND" OF A **SUPRA-NORMALLY INTELLIGENT CHIMPANZEE** WHO...UH...HAS--





ACQUIRED  
THE POWER  
OF SPEECH.



THAT *IDIOT!!*  
MACDONALD, I  
WANT YOU TO CALL  
THAT STATION--GET  
AN *IMMEDIATE*  
RETRACTION!

HAVE THEM ANNOUNCE  
THAT THE TALKING APE HAS  
BEEN *APPREHENDED*  
AND PUT TO *DEATH!*



ARE YOU  
*CERTAIN*  
OF THAT...  
"SIR?"

WHAT THE HELL DO  
YOU *MEAN* BY THAT.  
MACDONALD--*B*' OF  
COURSE I'M  
CERTAIN--!!

I *STOOD*  
AND *WATCHED*  
AS CAESAR WAS  
*ELECTROCUTED!*



THAT'S RIGHT,  
GOVERNOR--YOU  
DID AT *THAT*.

I'LL  
CALL THE  
STATION.



THIS WOULD SUGGEST THAT  
THE APE LEADER MAY BE THE  
*CHILD*--PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT  
TO HAVE BEEN *DESTROYED*  
IN *INFANCY*--



--OF THE TWO TALKING  
CHIMPANZEES, *CORNELIUS*  
AND *ZIRA*, WHO CAME TO  
US FROM OUTER SPACE  
TWENTY YEARS AGO...



IF THIS IS *TRUE*, HE  
CONSTITUTES A THREAT  
TO THE FUTURE OF THE  
*ENTIRE HUMAN*  
*RACE*.

**NOW THE EERIE HUSH OF EVACUATED STREETS  
BEGINS TO ASSUME AN OMINOUS FORBODING  
AS POLICE AND FIREMAN STAND TENSELY,  
PEERING INTO THE GLOOM...**

... WAITING ...



... WAITING ...



... WAITING ...



... WAITING FOR SOMETHING  
WHICH HAS NEVER OCCURED  
IN HISTORY BEFORE ...



... WAITING FOR A PITCHED BATTLE  
LAUNCHED BY FORMER SERVANTS...



... BY THE APES ...

ALL RIGHT...  
QUIET NOW...



SEEMS DESERTED  
THIS WAY... SAFE  
ENOUGH...

COME.





**THE REVERBERATING ECHO OF THE RIFLE SHOT  
STILL RINGS THROUGH THE AIR...**



...AND IS HEARD ELSEWHERE  
IN THE DESERTED CITY...

**URG URMP  
RURRG**



... BY A GROUP OF APES  
STATIONED AT THE CIVIC  
CENTER...



... BY APES WHO HAVE BEEN  
WAITING TO ACT.



RETURNING HOME UPON RECEIVING ORDERS TO EVACUATE THE **STREETS** MANY (IF NOT **ALL**) CITIZENS WILL BE PERTURBED TO FIND THEIR SERVANTS AND MAIDS **MISSING...** AND WILL WONDER WHERE THE APES HAVE GONE...



THEY WILL SOON FIND OUT.

THE GROWING FLAMES LEAP HIGHER OVER THE CIVIC CENTER. SPREAD TO BUILDINGS FLICKER ABOVE ROOFTOPS AND SHOW THEMSELVES TO THE CITY EVERYWHERE...



... AND EVERYWHERE. SERVANTS AND MAIDS POUR FORTH FROM THE SHADOWS. THEY HAVE SEEN THE LURIDLY BLAZING SIGNAL...

... AND THEY SURGE FORWARD TO ANSWER IT. GATHERING FORCE WITH EVERY PASSED STREET CORNER, COALESCING INTO A ROLLING TIDE OF INEXORABLE RAGE...



BREESH!



RURRG RARRR URRGH



KREESH KRASH!



RURRG RARRR URRGH

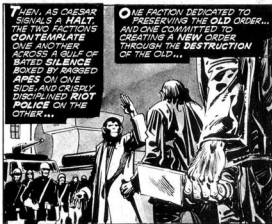


**THE GOVERNOR'S COMMAND POST: LOCATED IN ONE SECTION OF THE STRICKEN CITY WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN RAVAGED BY THE BERSERK MOB OF HOWLING APES...**

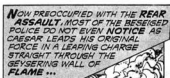


**... A PLACE WHICH IS PERHAPS THE LAST BASTION OF HOPE FOR HUMANKIND.**













AH! HERE  
COME THE  
GORILLAS...

IF THEY'VE  
SUCCEEDED IN  
THEIR APPOINTED  
TASK...



YES-- THEY  
GOT THEM--!

GOOD.  
EXCELLENT--!



NOW WE'RE  
TRULY READY  
TO FACE  
THEM...

READY TO MOVE  
ON OUR FINAL  
OBJECTIVE--



--BRECK'S  
SUPPOSEDLY  
IMPREGNABLE  
COMMAND  
POST!



THE SHOOTING  
SEEMS TO HAVE  
DIED DOWN...

PERHAPS IT  
TURNED THEM  
BACK.



YES... THE  
PLAZA'S QUIET  
ENOUGH...

BUT I WOULDN'T  
BET ON IT. APES  
ARE TOO STUPID  
TO REALIZE  
WHEN THEY  
DON'T HAVE  
A CHANCE...



THEY'LL ATTACK **AGAIN**--I'M **SURE** OF IT... USING NOTHING BUT **BRUTE FORCE** TO TRY AND BATTER THEIR WAY IN...



"...AND THAT'S WHERE THEY'LL FAIL. MR. McDONALD... WHEN INFERIOR BRUTE FORCE MEETS RATIONAL ORGANIZED DEFENSE."



THE MONITORING SCREEN--/ WHAT'S HAPPENED TO IT--?

IT'S GONE BLACK, MR. GOVERNOR.



I CAN SEE THAT, YOU IDIOT!! FIX IT--GET IT FUNCTIONING AGAIN--!

GOD KNOWS WHAT'S LIABLE TO HAPPEN OUT IN THE PLAZA--!



NOW--FIRE--!!







**IT IS DRAWING TO AN END NOW, IN BRUTALITY AND TRIUMPH, AS BRECK AND MacDONALD ARE DRAGGED FROM THE FORMERLY IMPREGNABLE COMMAND POST...**



**... AND OUT INTO A NIGHT PAINTED IN HELLISH FLAMES, ACROSS THE PLAZA, THE APE'S LEADER AWAITS HIS CAPTIVES...**





BUT... BUT  
I SAW YOU  
DIE--!

THE KING  
IS **DEAD**--  
LONG LIVE  
THE KING.

TELL ME, BRECK,  
BEFORE **YOU** DIE--  
HOW DO WE **DIFFER**  
FROM THE **DOGS**  
AND **CATS** THAT YOU  
AND YOUR KIND  
ONCE **LOVED**...?



WHY DID  
YOU TURN US  
FROM **PETS**...

... INTO  
**SLAVES**?



BECAUSE **YOUR** KIND  
WERE ONCE OUR  
**ANCESTORS**, BECAUSE  
MAN WAS **BORN** OF  
APES... AND BECAUSE  
THERE'S STILL AN  
**APE** CURLED UP  
INSIDE OF EVERY  
**MAN**.

YOU'RE THE  
**BEAST** IN US  
THAT WE HAVE  
TO **WHIP** INTO  
**SUBMISSION**.  
YOU'RE THE **SAVAGE**  
THAT WE NEED TO  
SHACKLE IN  
**CHAINS**...



YOU **TAINT** US,  
**CAESAR**-- YOU  
**POISON** OUR  
**GUTS**!

WHEN WE **HATE**  
YOU, WE'RE HATING  
THE **STINKING**  
DARK SIDE OF  
**OURSELVES**...



**KILL  
HIM!!**



**CAESAR--  
WAIT--!!**





AND DO **YOU** THINK THIS RIOT IS GOING TO WIN FREEDOM FOR **ALL** YOUR KIND? WHY, BY **TOMORROW--**

BY **TOMORROW** IT WILL BE **TOO LATE!!**



IF A SMALL, **MINDLESS** INSECT LIKE AN **EMPEROR MOTH** CAN COMMUNICATE WITH ANOTHER OF ITS KIND OVER A DISTANCE OF **EIGHTY MILES** CAN'T YOU SEE THAT--



--AN **EMPEROR APE** MIGHT DO SLIGHTLY **BETTER...?**



SLIGHTLY?

WHAT WE HAVE DONE **TODAY** WILL BE **IMITATED** BY EVERY APE IN THE FIVE CONTINENTS **TOMORROW.**

WITH **KNIVES** AGAINST **GUNS?** WITH **KEROSENE CANS** AGAINST **FLAME-THROWERS?** **NAKED BODIES** AGAINST **ARMORED TANKS--?** **CLAWS** AND **FANGS** AGAINST **BOMBS--?**



WHERE THERE'S **FIRE**, THERE'S **SMOKE**, MR. **MACDONALD**, AND IN THE **SMOKE**, FROM THIS DAY **FORWARD**, MY PEOPLE WILL CROUCH AND CONSPIRE AND PLOT AND PLAN AGAINST THE INEVITABLE DAY OF **MAN'S DOWNFALL--**

-- THE DAY WHEN YOU FINALLY AND **SELF-DESTRUCTIVELY** TURN YOUR WEAPONS AGAINST YOUR **OWN KIND...**



THE DAY OF THE **WRITING IN THE SKY**, WHEN YOUR CITIES LIE BURIED UNDER THE **RADIOACTIVE RUBBLE**, AND THE SEA HAS BECOME A **DEAD SEA--** AND THE LAND A **WASTELAND** FROM WHICH I SHALL LEAD MY PEOPLE OUT OF THEIR **CAPTIVITY...**

