

WHERE MAN ONCE STOOD SUPREME--NOW RULE THE APES!



PLANET
OF
THE
APES **8p**

**MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP**

PLANET OF THE APES

8p

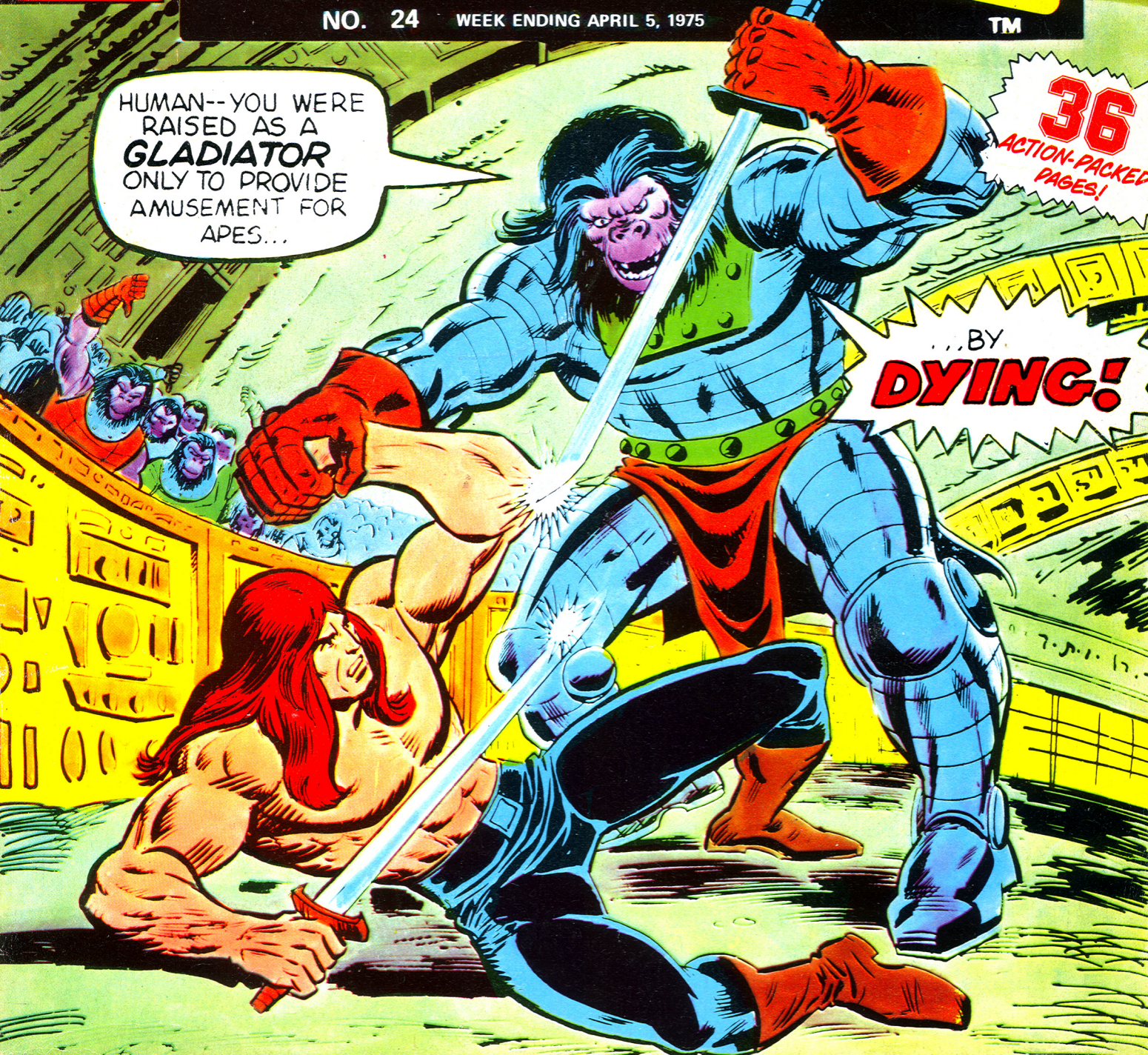
NO. 24 WEEK ENDING APRIL 5, 1975

TM

HUMAN--YOU WERE
RAISED AS A
GLADIATOR
ONLY TO PROVIDE
AMUSEMENT FOR
APES...

36
ACTION-PACKED
PAGES!

...BY
DYING!



Stan Lee PRESENTS: **PLANET OF THE APES!**TM

THE **BIRTH** OF **APESLAYER!**

PLOT & CONCEPT:
ROY THOMAS

SCRIPT:
GERRY CONWAY

HOWIE CHAYKIN, ARTIST
FRANK MONTE, INKER

EDITED BY:
MARY WOLFMAN



MEMORIES: THE GENERAL IS DYING, AND HIS SHORT-BREATHED SPUTTERINGS SPEAK OF APESLAYER'S PAST...



...A PAST WHERE HIS MOTHER RAN FROM THE CONQUERING APES IN HOPE OF SURVIVING...RAN TO A SMALL ISLAND WHERE SHE WAS BEFRIENDED BY DOCTOR CARVER... LEADER OF A HUMAN RESISTANCE GROUP.



AND NOW, THE MEMORIES CONTINUE...



"YOUR MOTHER AND DR. CARVER WENT OUTSIDE-- DETERMINED TO HIDE NO LONGER, NOW THAT THE ISSUE WAS FORCED--"



IF AN APE STICKS HIS HEAD THROUGH THAT DOOR--

-- I'LL BURN IT OFF SO FAST HE'LL SPIN!



"BUT NO APE APPEARED--"

"-- WE DID."



HUMANS! WE'RE SAVED, MAUREEN-- THE SIMIANS MUST HAVE BEEN DRIVEN BACK!

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT? WE'RE SAVED!

I-- IS IT TRUE, ANNE? IS IT TRUE?

LOOK FOR YOURSELF, MS. DOZER.

YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN DON'T NEED TO BE AFRAID ANYMORE!



WE'VE BEEN HERE TWO WEEKS--

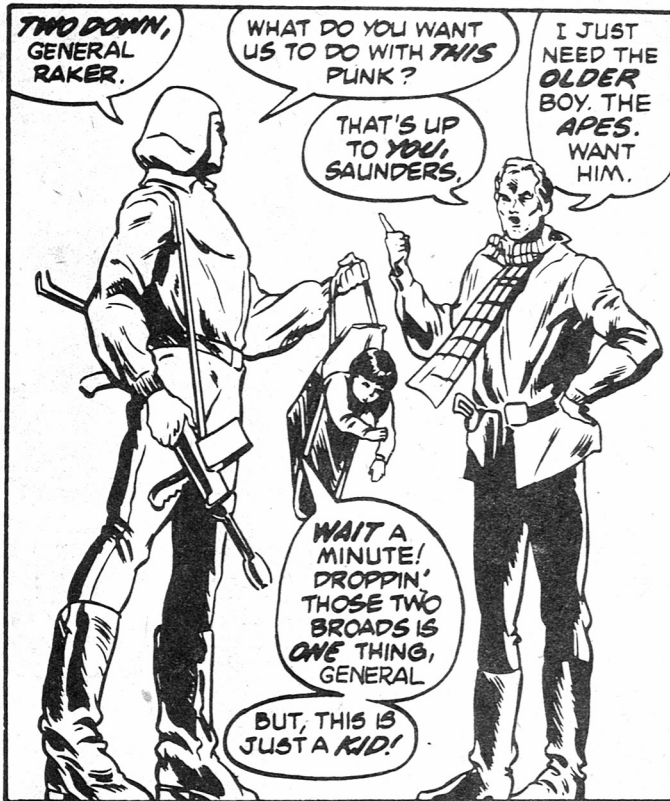
WHAT'S HAPPENED OUTSIDE? HOW DID YOU--?



KILL THEM...

... BUT BE CAREFUL NOT TO HARM THE CHILDREN.





TWO DOWN,
GENERAL
RAKER.

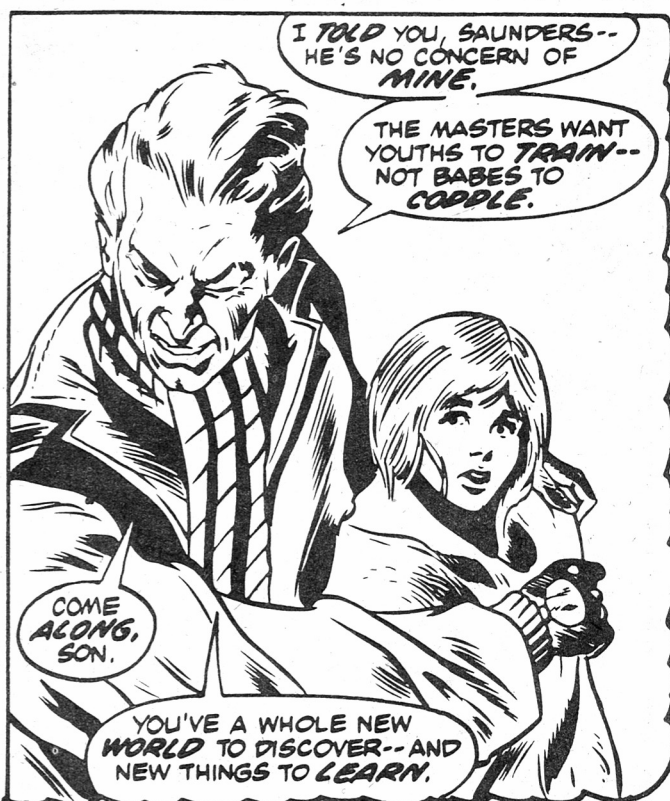
WHAT DO YOU WANT
US TO DO WITH *THIS*
PUNK?

THAT'S UP
TO YOU,
SAUNDERS.

I JUST
NEED THE
OLDER
BOY. THE
APES.
WANT
HIM.

WAIT A
MINUTE!
DROPPIN'
THOSE TWO
BROADS IS
ONE THING,
GENERAL

BUT, THIS IS
JUST A KID!



I TOLD YOU, SAUNDERS--
HE'S NO CONCERN OF
MINE.

THE MASTERS WANT
YOUTHS TO *TRAIN*--
NOT BABES TO
CODDLE.

COME
ALONG,
SON.

YOU'VE A WHOLE NEW
WORLD TO DISCOVER-- AND
NEW THINGS TO *LEARN*.



NOW DO YOU REMEMBER,
APESLAYER? THAT'S HOW
I FOUND YOU, ONE
BITTER DAWN...

IT'S HOW
YOUR MOTHER
DIED... AND YOUR
BROTHER... AND THE
WOMAN CALLED
DR. CARVER.

I'VE NEVER
FORGOTTEN,
OLD MAN.

THAT... OR THE
OTHER
THINGS...



... LIKE THE DAY
YOU BROUGHT ME
BEFORE THE *SIMIAN*
MASTER...

... AND LEFT ME
TO BE TOLD WHAT
MY *LIFE*
WOULD BE.

GLADIATORS...
THAT'S WHAT
YOU ARE.

YOU'LL BE TRAINED TO
FIGHT. TO KILL... FOR THE
PLEASURES OF YOUR MASTERS.

THE TRAINING
BEGINS NOW.

"I HARDLY UNDERSTOOD
WHAT THEY WERE TELLING
ME-- BUT I QUICKLY
LEARNED. WE ALL DID..

"THEY TAUGHT US ALL THE ANCIENT **ARTS**-- SWORD-PLAY, KARATE, SAVATE, WRESTLING-- AT FIRST, WE THOUGHT IT A **GAME**--



"--A GAME WITH **DEADLY RESULTS**--

"THEN THEY PITTED US AGAINST THEIR OWN **CHAMPIONS**...



"--AND I TOOK PLEASURE IN **BATTLING** THEM.

"I WAS GIVEN A NAME-- AT FIRST IT WAS SAID **MOCKINGLY**. BUT I CHERISHED IT--

APE-SLAYER!



"ALL THAT **TRAINING**-- FINALLY I HAD TO PUT IT TO **USE**.

SKREEEE! ATTEMPTED ESCAPE IN BLOCK 4-D... TRAINEE J. DOZER ATTACKING... **SKREEEE!**



QUIET, MONKEYS. THEY CAN PATCH YOU BACK TOGETHER--

I'M A LITTLE MORE **DIFFICULT**.

"BUT WORK IT I **DID**, AND SPENT THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS **FORAGING** FOR **FOOD** IN THE AREA THAT WAS ONCE CALLED **QUEENS**. THERE WERE WILD DOGS-- CATS-- OCCASIONALLY A **RABBIT** IN ONE OF THE **PARKS**--

"--AND ALL THE WHILE, **STUDYING** THE OLD BOOKS AND INFORMATION TAPES, **LEARNING** ABOUT LIFE **BEFORE** THE APES TOOK **CONTROL**.



"SOMEHOW, I **MANAGED** MY **ESCAPE**. I'VE ALWAYS WONDERED HOW I **WORKED** IT, WHEN THE OTHERS WHO **TRIED**-- **FAILED**--



"IT WASN'T EASY, OLD MAN-- THE SIMIANS AND THEIR HUMAN SLAVES WERE EVERYWHERE, COLLECTING THE REMAINING FREEMEN FOR THEIR GAMES-- AND THEIR STOCKYARDS."



"THEY'D CREATED SOME SORT OF SIREN-- WOMEN WHO COULD CALL MEN TO THEIR DOOM--"

"I LEARNED NEVER TO LOOK AT THEM-- FOR FEAR OF FALLING PREY TO THEIR SPELL."

"THERE WERE OTHERS, OF COURSE."



"I CAME ACROSS A GROUP OF THEM IN 'BROOKLYN HEIGHTS'--"

"--AND DIDN'T LIKE WHAT I SAW."

THAT'S ENOUGH, APE! IF THE WOMAN DOESN'T WANT YOU TOUCHING HER--

-- THEN YOU DON'T TOUCH!

PLAK!



"I'D BEEN TRAINED FOR AN ARENA-- NOT FOR A STREET-SIDE BRAWL. I HADN'T BEEN AWARE OF MY SKILL-- UNTIL THEN."

HE'S DEAD.

NO LOSS.

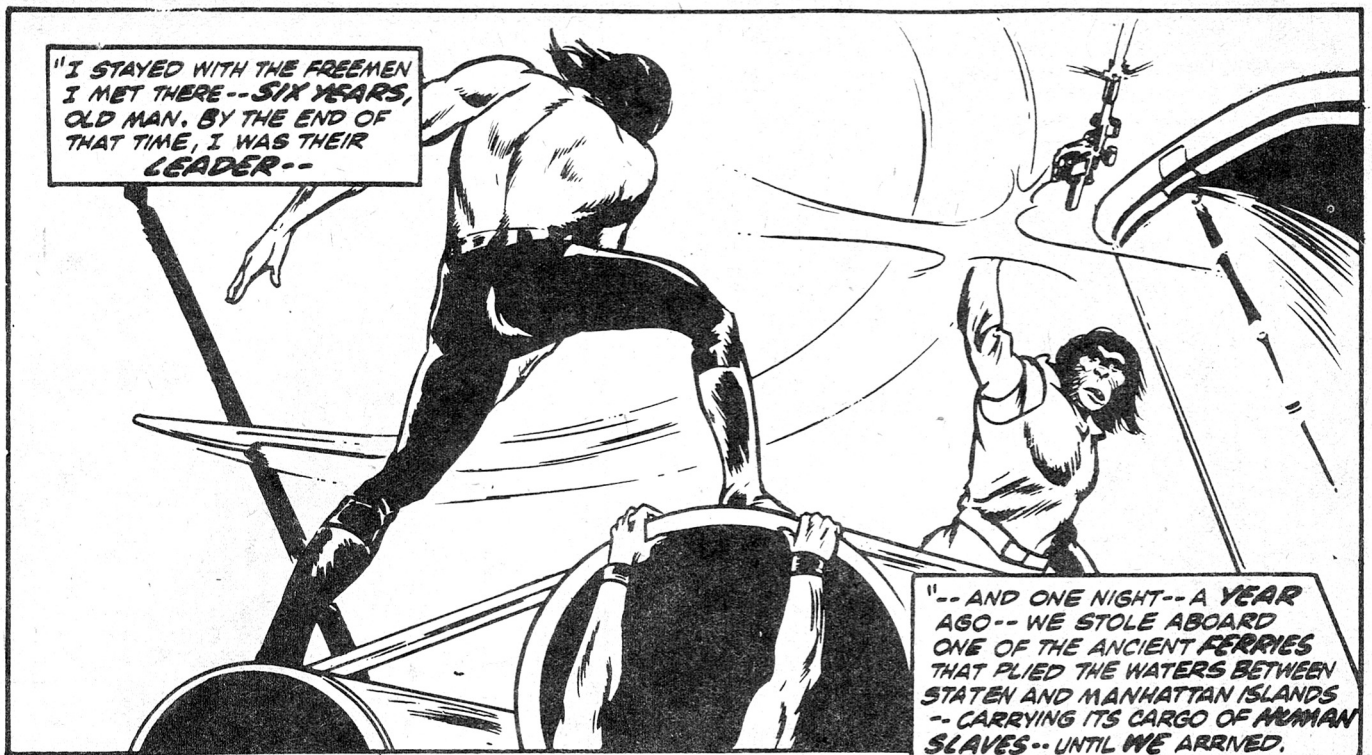
YOU CAN'T SLAY APES WITHOUT TROUBLE!



"I LEFT THAT EVENING, BUILDING A MAKESHIFT RAFT AND HEADING ACROSS THE BAY..."



"...TO THE ISLAND MEN ONCE CALLED STATEN."



"I STAYED WITH THE FREEMEN
I MET THERE--SIX YEARS,
OLD MAN. BY THE END OF
THAT TIME, I WAS THEIR
LEADER--

-- AND ONE NIGHT-- A YEAR
AGO-- WE STOLE ABOARD
ONE OF THE ANCIENT FERRIES
THAT PLIED THE WATERS BETWEEN
STATEN AND MANHATTAN ISLANDS
-- CARRYING ITS CARGO OF HUMAN
SLAVES-- UNTIL WE ARRIVED.



ALMOST NEW YEAR'S
EVE, IF THOSE
CALENDARS WERE
RIGHT.

THEY'RE
RIGHT,
APESLAYER--
OR CLOSE
ENOUGH.

THERE--
AHEAD--
THE PUPPET HUMAN-
MAYOR'S PALACE.



BLASTED APE
FILTH!

-- YOU SEE HIM
IN THERE?

SHALL
WE WISH
HIM
CHEER?!



"HE WAS STARTLED. I SUPPOSE
HE WAS SECURE IN HIS MARTIAN-
TRAINED GUARDS.

"THAT WAS A
MISTAKE.



GREETINGS OF THE
SEASON, MAYOR--
DID YOU KNOW IT'S
THE NEW YEAR?

WHAT DOES
HE CARE,
APESLAYER?

THE APES HAVEN'T
TOLD THEIR PUPPET
WHAT DAY IT IS-- SO
HOW CAN HE KNOW?

WHAT'S
WRONG,
MAYOR?

AREN'T YOU
ENTER-
TAINED?

"WE PUT THE FEAR OF APESLAYER IN HIM, OLD MAN-- AND THAT'S WHEN I GAINED MY FIRST TRUE RECOGNITION-- LARGE ENOUGH TO HELP ME ADD TO MY BAND OF MEN, SOON AFTER THE APES ATTACKED ME ON THE PUBLIC MONITORS!"



LISTEN TO HIM, DAGGER. "A CUT-THROAT AND THIEF!"

I THINK HE MISSED THE POINT.

I WANT REVENGE, NOT MONEY.



AS SOON AS WE GET ENOUGH MEN TOGETHER--

-- THERE'S A MAN I WANT TO SEE: THE GENERAL.

AND YOU'VE SEEN ME, APESLAYER... AND RELEASED ME AT LAST!

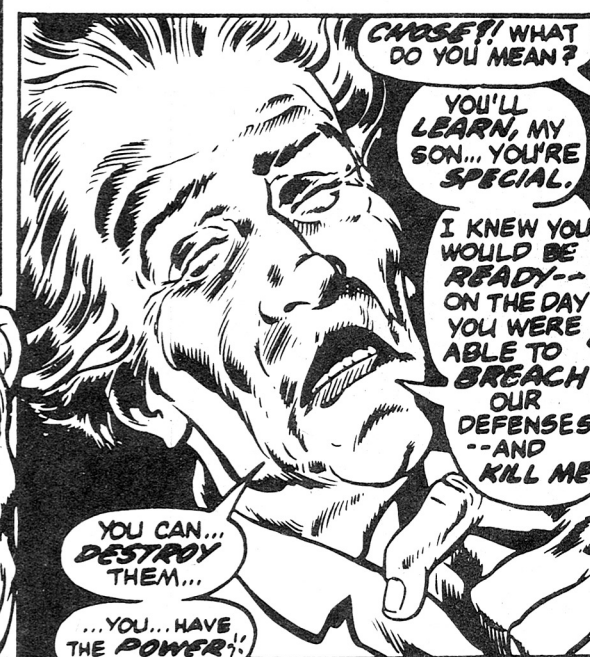
RELEASED YOU, OLD MAN?

THEY CONTROLLED ME, KILL RAVEN... AGAINST MY WILL.

IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO RESIST...



...EVEN... WHEN I CHOSE YOU!



CHOOSE?! WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

YOU'LL LEARN, MY SON... YOU'RE SPECIAL.

I KNEW YOU WOULD BE READY-- ON THE DAY YOU WERE ABLE TO BREACH OUR DEFENSES --AND KILL ME!

YOU CAN... DESTROY THEM...

...YOU... HAVE THE POWER!

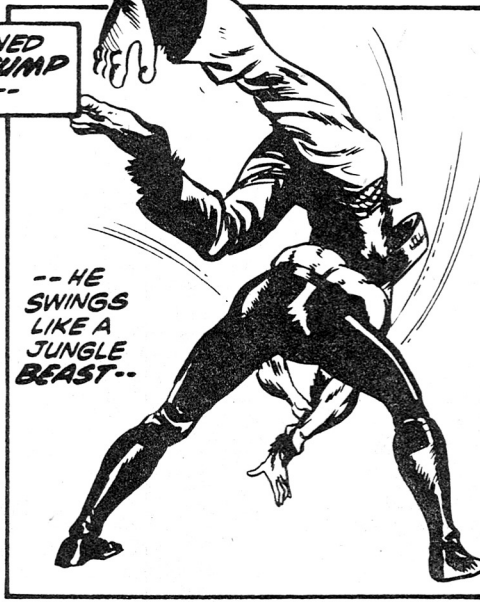


DEAD.

WHAT DID HE MEAN-- 'THE POWER'? I'M A MAN...

...JUST A MAN.

CRAZY OLD FOOL.



apes forum

Dear Stan,

"Planet of The Apes" is the best mag I've ever read, it is so packed with stories and features. In connection with Paul Donnachie's letter in issue 12, about giving Planet of The Apes its own mag and putting Ka-zar, Gullivar Jones and Doctor Doom in another mag, I'm sure this would settle all arguments about them. In issue 12 of Planet of The Apes the features were fantastic, and I was very interested.

Steve Rodgers,
33 Hillborough Road, Luton, Beds.

Since Paul Donnachie penned that letter to us a lot of water has flowed beneath the bridges and a lot of words have passed through this old typewriter. And to prove it, there are two new Marvel mags for the faithful. They may not contain the line-ups suggested in your letter. But it does prove we're trying!

Dear Stan,

You've done it! You've finally created the most fantastic comic ever. Planet of The Apes is tops!

But you've made two flaws. 1. The covers are dreadful. They let down the whole comic. 2. Why, oh why have you made up your "Apes" story? Why not make comic strip versions of all the "Apes" films?

Paul Rodriguez,
21 Mellbury Ave., Parkstone, Poole, Dorset.

We always take heed of all well-intentioned criticism (such as yours) that comes our way. Which is why we carried out a detailed check-up on all Planet of The Apes covers published to date. And here's the result of that microscopic examination. Unanimously we felt that the Planet of The Apes covers were as truly Marvel as those of our other mags. Inevitably there are gonna be times when you'll find yourself not in full agreement with us. We guess this is one of those times, Paul. But when it comes to your second point we're right with ya! It's our ambition to publish the story-lines of ALL the Apes films in comic-strip form. There are obstacles—but you know us. We don't give up easily!

Dear Stan and Co.,

I have Planet of The Apes from issue 1, and I hope to collect them all. Now, it's a pity the only way to get a No-prize is to point out mistakes in your work, but on the cover of Planet of The Apes issue 10, one of you made a mistake by spelling Zaius wrong in Taylor's speech.

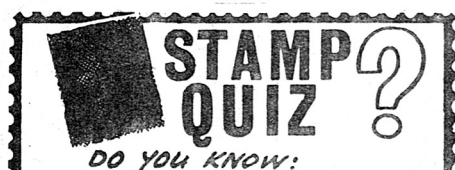
Before I sign off I would like a question answered. When people write to you in Spiderman and the Avengers, they put things like RFO, KOF, qns, TTB, PMM and FFF after their names. What do all these stand for?

Colin McLean,
40 Brandon Parade, Belfast, N. Ireland.

Welcome, Colin. And we say that because we have the feeling that your acquaintanceship with Marvel is not yet one of longstanding. And if you're wondering how we worked that out let's assure you it was done entirely without the use of a crystal ball! It's just that if you'd been with us a little longer you'd have known that pointing out mistakes, far from being the only way to gain a No-prize, is not even a guarantee of winning one. No-Prizes are awarded to Marvelites who contribute something 'special' to Marvel-dom—and if it's a mistake they're drawing our attention to then it has to be something more major than an extra leg on Spidey's spider emblem, or a simple spelling mistake. Get our drift, Tiger? Yep—that's right. We're trying to break it to you that we're sorry, but there'll be no No-Prize winging its way in your direction. But then, if you're a true Marvelite, you wouldn't want No-Prizes to be too easy to win, would you? As for those letters you mention—they're all ranks of Marvel-dom. We're not going to go into 'em all here and now because every so often we publish 'em as a refresher course. S-o-o-o-o, pay attention each week and eventually all shall be revealed. We'll relent this far, though. From now on You, Colin McLean, are a QNS. Because all who have a letter published in any of our merry mags are granted the life-title of 'Quite 'Nuff Sayer'. To you, QNS!

apes forum

MARVEL COMICS LTD Room 106
52 HIGH HOLBORN LONDON WC1V 6RZ



1. What country puts "C.C.C.P." on its stamps?
2. Does ICELAND issue stamps?
3. Name any country which has issued TRIANGULAR stamps?
4. What country issues special CHRISTMAS stamps?

PRIZES: We will send you a special prize packet of 25 choice stamps free for each question you answer correctly. 150 diff. fine stamps free (catalogued about £7.50) plus the famous 110-year-old British PENNY RED stamp (valued 10p) for 4 correct answers. We will also send you our wonderful New Approvals. Please inform your parents.

D. J. HANSON,
(Dept. M22) Eastrington, Goole, Yorks., DN14 7QU



MAKE SURE OF YOUR
COPY-EVERY WEEK!

HAND THIS TO YOUR NEWSAGENT

Mr. Newsagent, please reserve
PLANET of the APES for me every week

NAME

ADDRESS