

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



**MARVEL  
COMICS  
GROUP**

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**8<sup>p</sup>**  
**36 GREAT  
PAGES**

# PLANET OF THE APES

TM



**BEGINNING--MARVEL'S**  
STUNNING ADAPTATION OF  
**BENEATH THE PLANET  
OF THE APES!**



# Stan Lee PRESENTS: **PLANET OF THE APES!**<sup>TM</sup>

FROM THE  
WRITINGS  
OF LUCIUS:

"THIS IS THE  
TRUTH ETERNAL:  
WHATEVER THINKS  
CAN SPEAK.

"AND WHATEVER  
SPEAKS... CAN  
MURDER.

"WHEN THE ASTRONAUT, TAYLOR, FIRST CAME  
AMONG US FROM A VOYAGE IN OUTERMOST  
SPACE, HE PERCEIVED THAT HIS SHIP HAD  
PASSED THROUGH A FOLD IN THE **FOURTH**  
DIMENSION...

"THAT  
DIMENSION  
IS TIME  
AND TAYLOR  
KNEW THAT  
HE HAD AGED  
**BEYOND** THE  
ELAPSED  
TIME OF HIS  
VOYAGE...  
BY **TWO**  
**THOUSAND**  
**YEARS** AND  
**TEN.**

BUT IN THE FIRST DAYS HE DID **NOT** KNOW THE  
NAME OF THE STRANGE PLANET ON WHICH HE  
HAD SET **FOOT**-- WHERE APES (RISEN TO  
GREAT ESTATE) HAD ACQUIRED THE POWER  
OF TONGUES...

"...WHILE  
MAN (FALLEN  
FROM HIS  
ZENITH TO  
BECOME A  
BEAST OF  
THE EARTH)  
HAD **LOST**  
THE MEANS  
OF SPEECH,  
AND WAS...  
**DUMB.**

"NOW  
TAYLOR  
HATED  
WAR.

"AND SINCE MAN HAD MADE WAR  
UPON **HIMSELF**--**MURDERED** HIMSELF--  
OVER AND OVER AGAIN, EVER SINCE  
THE FIRST TOWN WAS BUILT AND BURNED  
AND **BLOODIED**...

"...TAYLOR BELIEVED  
THAT THE RACE OF  
MAN WAS **HOPELESS.**

"YET THE **GREAT APES** WERE HARDLY **BETTER.**  
THEY PUT TAYLOR IN A **CAGE**... AS THEY  
HAD ONCE BEEN **CAGED.**

"WHEN HE AND HIS WOMAN **ESCAPED** FROM  
THE CITY OF THE APES INTO THE BLEAK  
WILDERNESS CALLED **FORBIDDEN ZONE**...

"...HE FOUND A DESSERT LAND OF **ROCK** AND  
**STONE**-- BARREN, DESOLATE, DEVOID OF LIFE  
AND ETERNALLY LAID WASTE BY **MAN'S**  
VILEST WAR IN **MANKIND'S** HISTORY...

...AND **HERE,**  
IN THIS FORSAKEN  
**WILDERNESS,**  
TAYLOR FIRST  
SET EYES UPON--



-- THE STATUE...

NOOOOOO!!

BLAST YOU--  
BLAST YOU ALL  
TO HELL !!

... AND  
TAYLOR  
KNEW...

... KNEW HE  
WAS BACK  
ON EARTH...  
AN EARTH  
DEFILED AND  
DESTROYED BY  
THE CLENCHED  
HAND OF MAN.

"SET THIS DOWN:  
WHATEVER SPEAKS...  
CAN MURDER."

# BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES

Writer: DOUG MOENCH Art: ALFREDO ALCALA



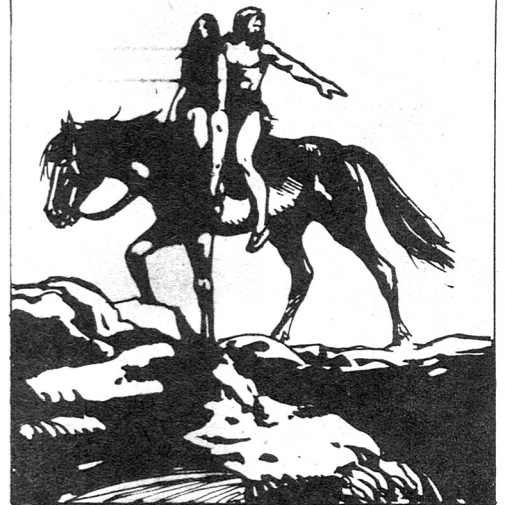
THREE DAYS HAVE NOW PASSED... THREE DAYS SINCE TAYLOR FIRST SET EYES ON THE **STATUE**... AND HOWLED IN **ANGUISH** AT THE GHOST OF **LIBERTY**...

THREE DAYS OF INTERMINABLE **TREKKING**... A MINDLESS JOURNEY THROUGH **DESOLATION** AND **WASTE**... THROUGH **ROCKY, ARID** TERRAIN AND **TRACKLESS DESERT**...



THREE DAYS **CULMINATING** IN THE DISCOVERY OF --

**WATER--!!**



AN **OASIS**...

... BUT THE **TREES** ARE **DEAD**...



... **POISONED**...?



IT **SEEMS** TO BE ALL RIGHT, NOVA...

YOU AND THE **HORSE** MIGHT AS WELL WET YOUR **WHISTLES**. GOD KNOWS WE COULD **USE** A **CHEERFUL TUNE**...







SO WHERE DO WE GO FROM **HERE**...?

OR DO WE JUST **STOP OFF** AND FOUND A NEW **HUMAN COLONY**? PLAY **HOUSE** TOGETHER LIKE **ADAM AND EVE**...

AT LEAST THE **KIDS** WOULD LEARN TO **TALK**... HAVE BETTER **SENSE** THAN THE **APES**...



...WHICH **REMINDS** ME-- TIME TO PLAY **ME TARZAN**, YOU **JANE** AGAIN.

TRY TO SAY THE **NAME** I GAVE YOU-- **NOVA**.



**NO-VA**...  
**NO-VA**...  
**NO-VA**...



ALL RIGHT; LET'S TRY IT **THIS WAY**... I'M **TAYLOR**.

**TAY-LOR**...  
**TAY-LOR**...  
**TAY-LOR**...



NO **DICE**, HUH? OKAY; LOOK AT THIS LITTLE **METAL THING**. IT'S AN **IDENTITY TAG**-- SORT OF LIKE A **DOG-TAG**, EXCEPT THEY GIVE IT TO **ASTRONAUTS** SO THEY WON'T FORGET WHO THEY **ARE**.

IT SAYS **TAYLOR** ON IT. THAT'S **ME**...



**HERE**-- LET ME PUT IT AROUND YOUR **NECK**. IT MEANS WE'RE **GOING STEADY** NOW...

NOW WHAT DOES THE TAG SAY? WHO ARE YOU **GOING STEADY** WITH?

**TAYLOR**, THAT'S WHO. SAY IT-- SAY MY NAME... **TAY-LOR**...





WELL,  
THERE'S NO  
**SOUND...**

...BUT THEN  
MAYBE YOU DON'T  
NEED WORDS...



COME  
ON.

LET'S FIND  
A **HOME.**



AND AGAIN  
THE **TREK**  
RESUMES...  
A JOURNEY  
LARGELY  
PASSED IN  
HOLLOW  
**SILENCE...**

...AND THE  
MOCKING  
ECHOES OF  
SILENCE...



...UNTIL...

WELL... I'LL  
BE A **MONKEY'S**  
**UNCLE--** HOME  
SWEET HOME,  
NOVA...

JUST LOOK AT  
THOSE CRUMBLD  
TOMBSTONES--  
THE GRAND CLIMAX  
OF **FIFTY-THOUSAND**  
YEARS OF HUMAN  
CULTURE--MANHATTAN,  
NEW YORK CITY...  
THE **BIG APPLE**  
ITSELF...



I WONDER WHO LIVES  
HERE **NOW...** BESIDES  
**RADIOACTIVE WORMS**  
THAT IS.

LET'S GO  
**SEE.**



THEN, AS THEY SLOWLY  
APPROACH THE JUMBLE  
OF CHARRED RUINS...



... A WALL OF WHINING FLAME ABRUPTLY  
SPURTS FROM THE GROUND ...

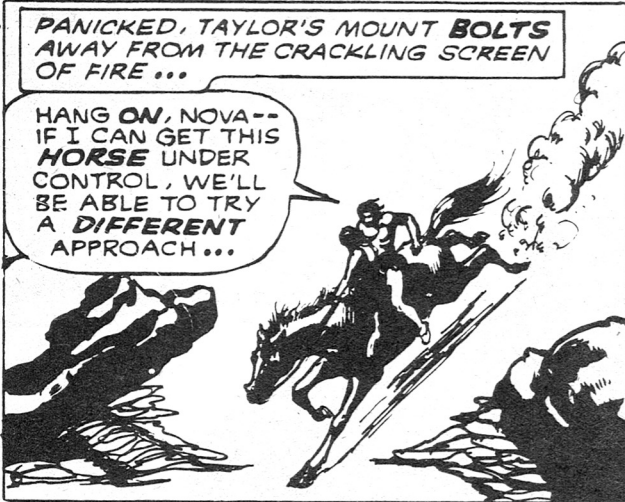
WHAT...  
WHAT THE  
BLAZES IS  
FEEDING  
IT--?!

THERE'S  
NOTHING  
TO **BURN**!!



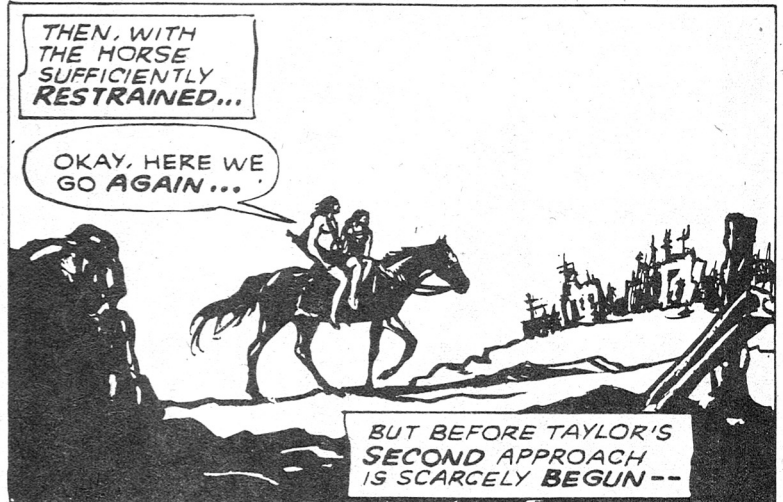
PANICKED, TAYLOR'S MOUNT **BOLTS**  
AWAY FROM THE CRACKLING SCREEN  
OF FIRE ...

HANG ON, NOVA--  
IF I CAN GET THIS  
**HORSE** UNDER  
CONTROL, WE'LL  
BE ABLE TO TRY  
A **DIFFERENT**  
APPROACH ...



THEN, WITH  
THE HORSE  
SUFFICIENTLY  
**RESTRAINED**...

OKAY, HERE WE  
GO AGAIN...



BUT BEFORE TAYLOR'S  
**SECOND APPROACH**  
IS SCARCELY **BEGUN**--

-- THE SKIES  
**BLACKEN** WITH  
THICK **STORM**  
**CLOUDS**, FORMED  
INSTANTLY AND  
FROM **NOTHING**...

IT'S  
**IMPOSSIBLE**--?!



THE SKY CRACK WITH A **DEAFENING**  
**ROAR**, AND JAGGED BOLTS OF **NEON-**  
**LIGHTNING** STAB DOWN TO IMPALE THE  
**GROUND**-- LIKE THE GLITTERING  
STAKES OF AN **ELECTRIFIED PICKET**  
**FENCE**...





AGAIN, TAYLOR'S MOUNT BOLTS IN PANICKED FRENZY...

SEEMS NATURE'S HELL-BENT ON WIPING OUT OUR MISTAKE--!



THEN, EVEN AS THE SKY CLEARS BEHIND THEM...

THIS IS INSANE-- IT'S SHEER MADNESS!

...THE GROUND SPLITS INTO A MASSIVE FISSURE AT THEIR VERY FEET...



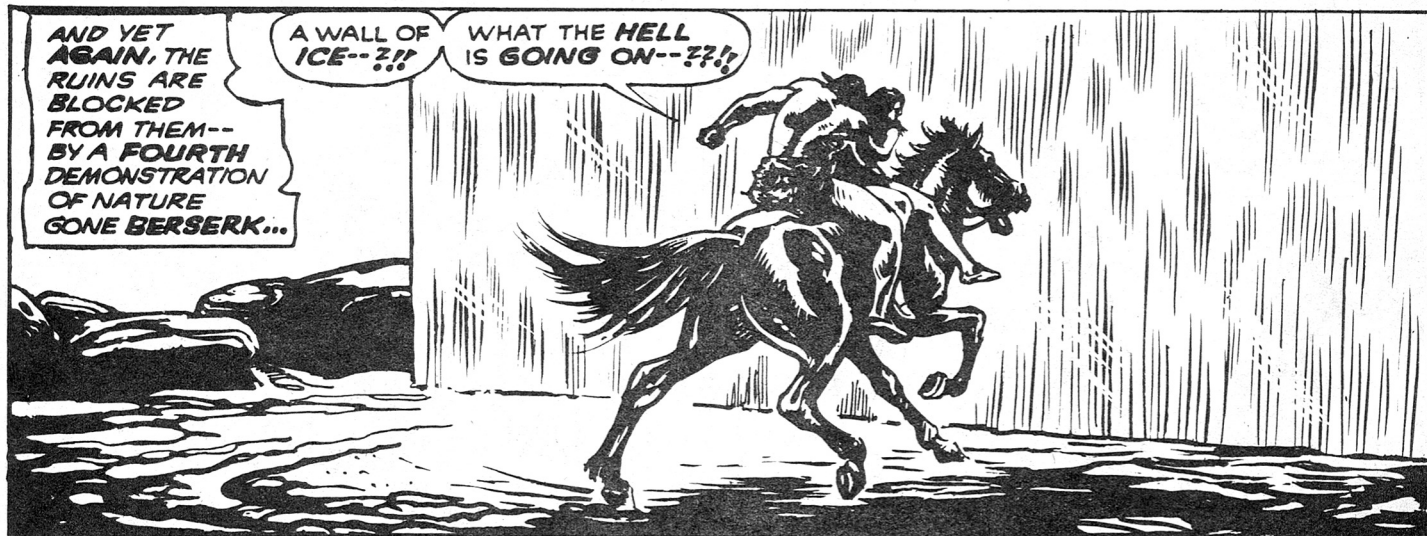
REVERSING DIRECTION AFTER NARROWLY AVOIDING A HEADLONG PLUNGE INTO THE GAPING CHASM, TAYLOR KICKS HIS HORSE INTO A GALLOP TOWARD THE RUINS...



AND YET AGAIN, THE RUINS ARE BLOCKED FROM THEM-- BY A FOURTH DEMONSTRATION OF NATURE GONE BERSERK...

A WALL OF ICE--?!!

WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON--??!!



A MINUTE AGO, THAT WASN'T HERE-- IT JUST WASN'T HERE!! AND THERE'S NO WAY ON EARTH IT CAN BE HERE NOW--!

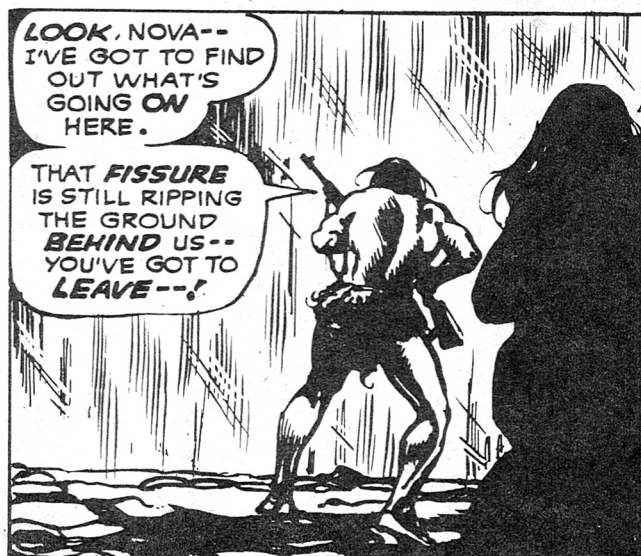
BUT IT ISN'T JUST ME WHO'S SEEING IT-- YOU SEE IT TOO, DON'T YOU, NOVA...?

CAN TWO PEOPLE HAVE THE SAME NIGHTMARE?!



LOOK, NOVA-- I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON HERE.

THAT FISSURE IS STILL RIPPING THE GROUND BEHIND US-- YOU'VE GOT TO LEAVE--!





GO TO THE  
APE CITY--  
NOT TO THE  
GORILLAS...

GO TO THE  
CHIMPANZEE  
QUARTER--THERE'S  
NO OTHER WAY--!  
FIND ZIRA--ZI-RA...  
DO YOU UNDER-  
STAND?



WELL, I HOPE  
THAT WAS A **NOD**  
YOU JUST GAVE ME...  
BECAUSE IT'S TIME  
FOR ME TO --



-- SCALE  
THIS GIANT  
ICE-CUBE.

AND SINCE **ICE**  
IS TRADITIONALLY  
**SLIPPERY**...



...IT LOOKS  
LIKE I'D BETTER  
USE MY **RIFLE**  
**BUTT** TO START  
CHOPPING  
FOOTHOLDS...



BUT AS  
TAYLOR  
RAMS HIS  
RIFLE  
FORWARD,  
HE FINDS NO  
IMPACT OF  
RESISTANCE  
WHATSOEVER--



--AND THE  
**MOMENTUM**  
OF HIS THRUST  
CARRIES HIM  
**THROUGH**  
THE **ETHEREAL**  
WALL ...



...UNTIL HE  
**VANISHES.**

EEEEEE!!





AND SOON TAYLOR'S DISAPPEARANCE IS FOLLOWED BY THE IMPOSSIBLE WALL OF ICE ITSELF...

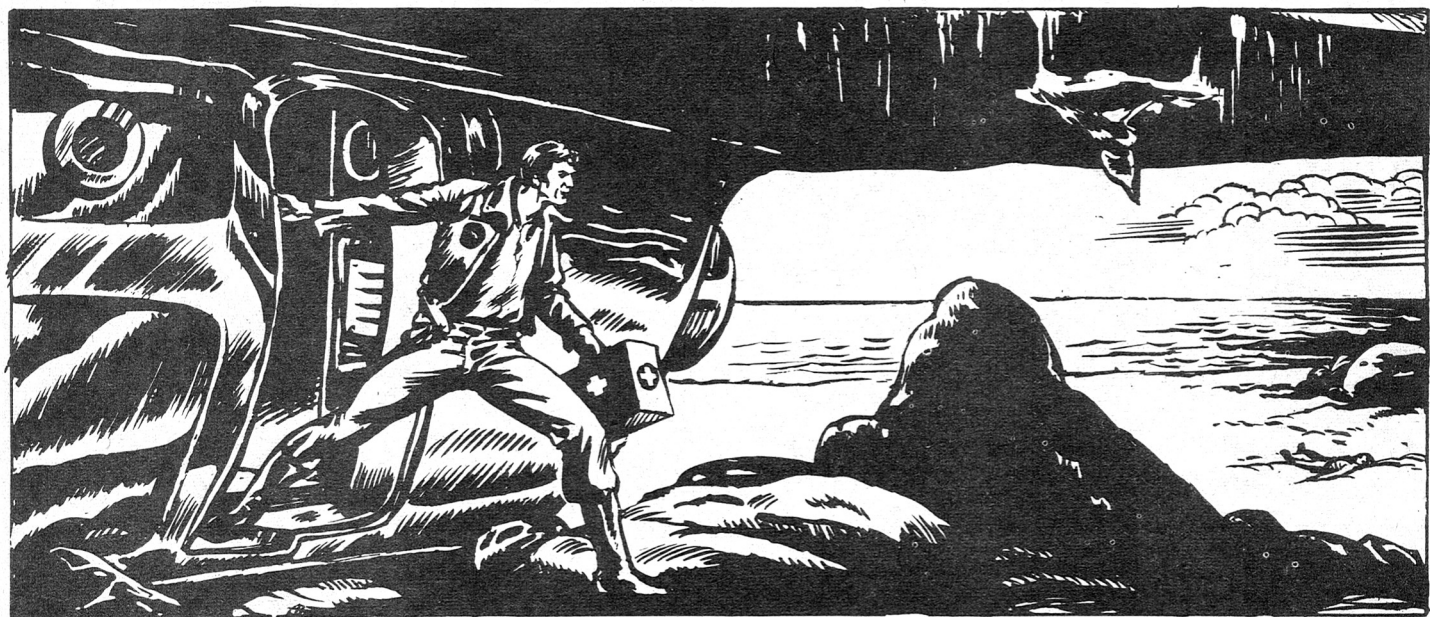
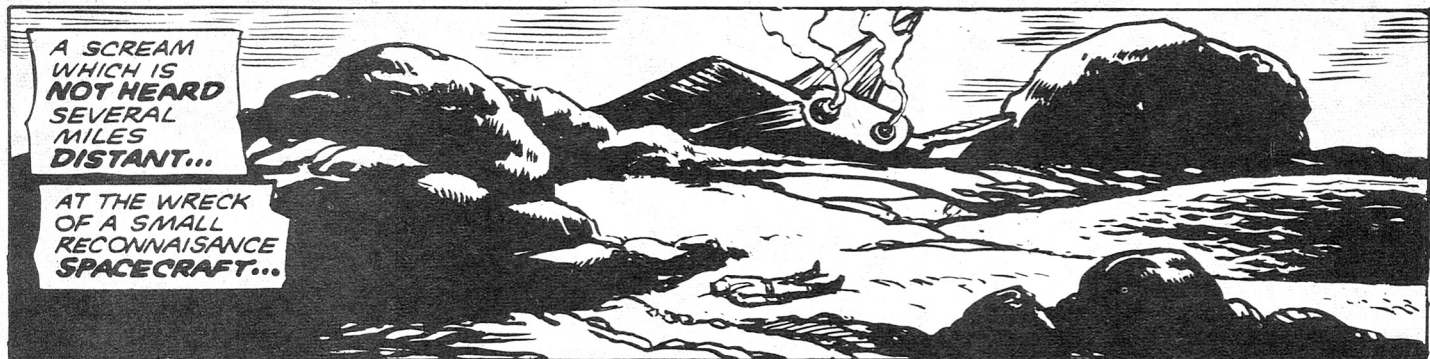


...UNTIL THERE IS NOTHING...



A SCREAM WHICH IS NOT HEARD SEVERAL MILES DISTANT...

AT THE WRECK OF A SMALL RECONNAISSANCE SPACECRAFT...



WHO'S THAT?

JUST ME, AGAIN, SIR...

BRENT... I CAN'T SEE...



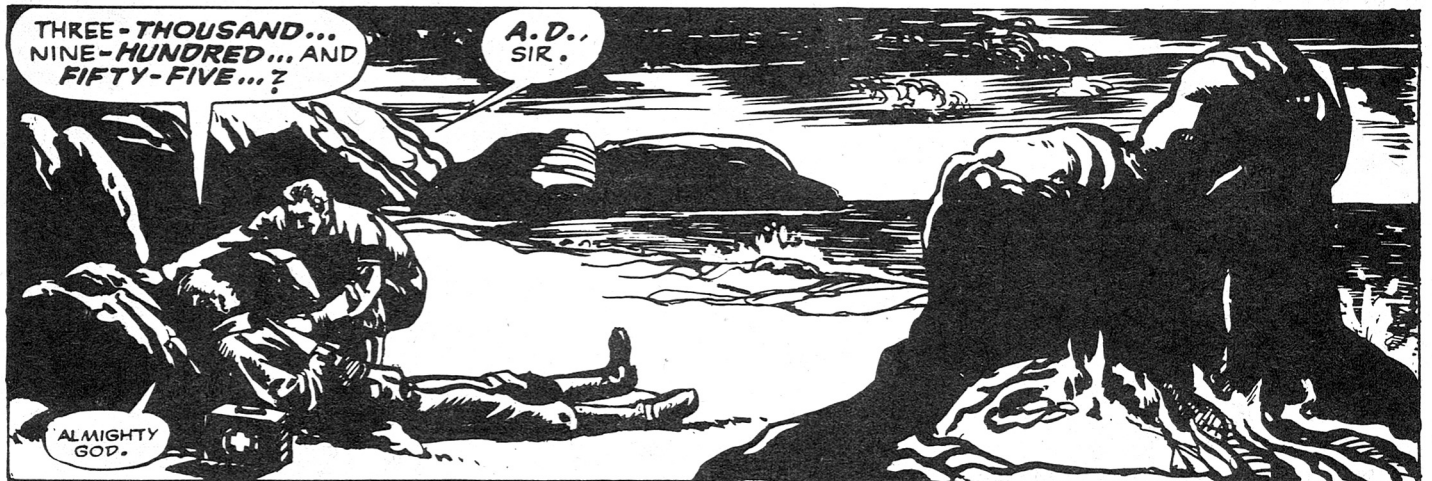
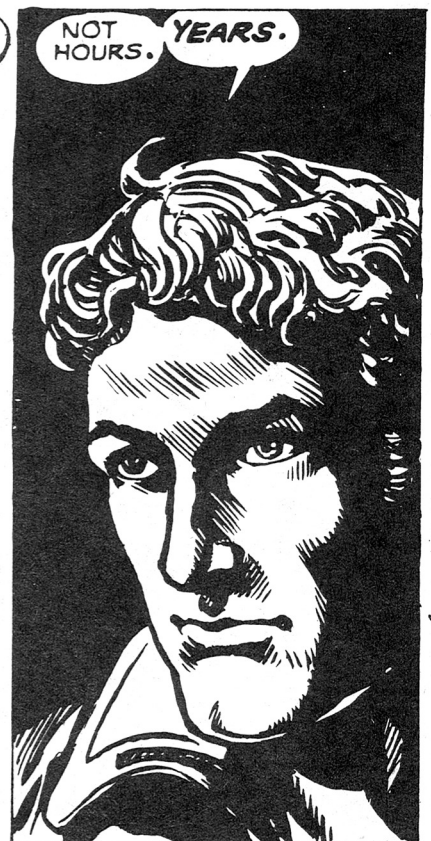
I...I KNOW THAT, SIR...

BRENT, THE DOCTORS COULD CURE ME -- THEY COULD RESTORE MY SIGHT...

HAVE YOU CONTACTED THEM? HAVE YOU CONTACTED EARTH...?











GOD, IF I COULD ONLY SEE THE **SUN!**

BUT YOU CAN **FEEL** IT ON YOUR **HAND**, SKIPPER-- IT'S **THERE!**

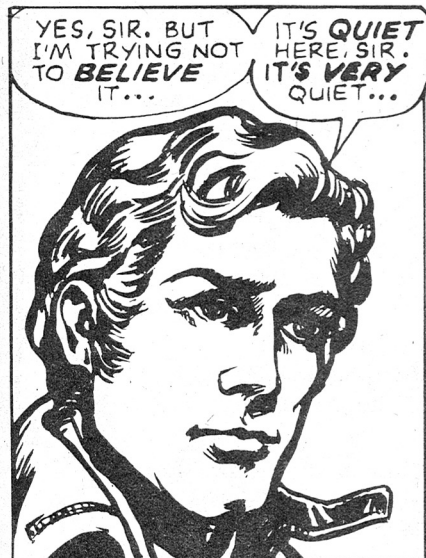
YES... BUT WHICH **SUN** IS IT?



I DON'T **KNOW**. OUR **COMPUTER** IS SHOT. BUT WE'RE STILL **LUCKY** TO BE **ALIVE**-- YOU'VE GOT TO **BELIEVE** THAT, SKIPPER.

**LUCKY?!** LUCKY TO BE **ALIVE** IN **3955 A.D.--?**

**NO. BRENT.** WHAT ABOUT MY **WIFE...** MY TWO **DAUGHTERS?** **DEAD.** EVERYONE I EVER **KNEW**-- **DEAD...** EVERYONE'S **DEAD!**



YES, SIR. BUT I'M TRYING NOT TO **BELIEVE** IT...

IT'S **QUIET** HERE, SIR. IT'S **VERY** **QUIET...**



**PAIN.** BRENT-- RIBS CRUSHING MY **LUNGS...**

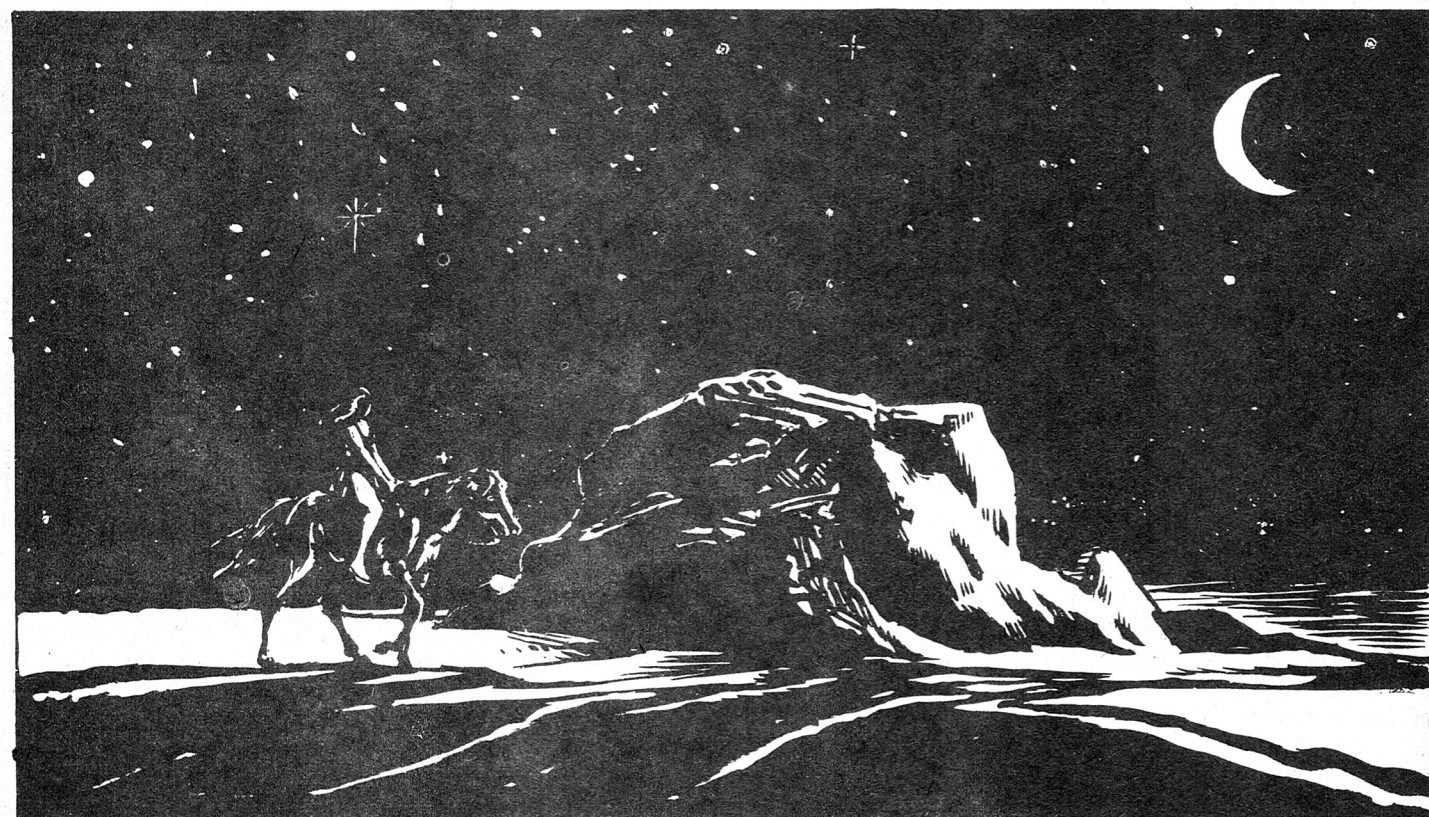
**OXYGEN--** MORE **OXYGEN...**

YES, SIR... YOU'RE GOING TO BE **FINE.**



HANG ON, SIR... AND YOU'LL PULL THROUGH **FINE...**

... JUST **FINE...**



**NE**XT: NOVA RIDES TOWARD A-- **"FATEFUL ENCOUNTER!!"**



# apes forum

Dear Stan,

Here I am writing to Marvel again. I still think your mags are the greatest, especially the new ones you have just brought out. The other week I saw you on TV, on 'Magpie', which I found interesting to watch.

Last Friday I went to the cinema to see "Planet of The Apes" and "Escape from the Planet of The Apes", both of which were very good. I noticed how similar "Planet of The Apes" was to your first story in the new magazine "Planet of The Apes", which I now get every week. I like the artwork and the presentation of the stories.

Before I finish, I would like to be awarded a K.O.F. as two of my friends buy your new Marvel mags every week thanks to my encouragement. Also, if any readers are interested, I have Mighty World of Marvel 20 — 120 inclusive and Avengers 1 — 71 inclusive for sale.

John Lane,  
East Farm, Aston Eyre,  
Morvill, Bridgnorth,  
Shropshire.

*Stand tall, face front — because as from now you're the owner of the KOF. Ever-obliging, as we earnestly endeavour to be, we've published your announcement concerning those Marvel mags you're disposing of. But aren't you gonna MISS a collection like that?*

Dear Stan,

I think that Planet of the Apes comic is one of the best comics going and I wondered how on earth you managed to think of such a great comic. Mind you, I would like to see the stories about Pete, Alan and Galen and not about the films. I also think that your interviews are great.

Oh, and Stan. Do you think that they will change their minds and carry on filming "Planet of the Apes", let alone bring it back on our screens?

Carol Smith,  
Dagenham, Essex.

*We're still as convinced as ever that "Planet of The Apes" is one of the most fascinating ideas in entertainment for a long, long time. So, although we don't have and never have had, any hand in*

*the making of the Apes films, we just can't see such a fine situation enjoyed by so many people, abandoned. Which means, that in our view there's every good reason to keep hoping.*

Dear Bullpen,

My first thoughts on purchasing Planet of The Apes No. 23 were that the gentleman on the cover looked remarkably like my old friend Killraven. On turning to the first page, imagine my excitement to see Mr. Neal Adams credited with the art. The challenge of drawing the apes must have been too much to resist, thought I innocently. How disappointing to discover, therefore, that the whole thing was a panel by panel copy of the first issue of your American mag 'War of the Worlds'. Add a few apes' heads here and there, substitute the word 'ape' for 'martian', and you've got a story.

Still, this isn't just a complaining letter, and after all that's gone before, I hope you can lend an ear to a few suggestions.

As it is obvious that the aforementioned situation will continue to arise in Planet of The Apes, I suggest you change the title of the mag to 'Science Fiction Weekly'. This would be in keeping with the general line that the mag is taking, with the Sci-Fi adaptations and the Gullivar Jones series.

Anyway, I still think Planet of The Apes is a fine mag, and will go on buying it, hoping that the Killraven affair will not continue for too long.

Ken Harrison,  
Leigh, Lancs.

*Okay, Ken. You're one of the world's privileged people. Because long before ish 23 of Planet of The Apes came into your possession, you knew the experience of enjoying a picture story executed by Neal Adams. So can you really fault us for bringing that experience to a host of Marvelites to whom Neal Adams had been but a name? And as for 'the general line that the mag is taking' (to quote you), we can reveal that the line the mag WILL be taking is a 12-part series of Beneath The Planet of The Apes. Then a two-part adaptation of "Day of The Triffids" by John Wyndham. Guess we shouldn't be revealing all these secrets, but you kinda stung us into it!*



# BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES



A human astronaut at  
the mercy of the  
APE Doctors! Scenes from  
the film Beneath  
the Planet of the Apes

