

## Stan Lee PRESENTS: PLANTET OF THE APESS.















































































































































Dear Stan and Co.,

So far, your stories are pretty good, especially "Terror on the Planet of The Apes", which I think was brilliant. I'd like to congratulate Doug Moench for such a brilliant plot, in which we had the Apes as both heroes (Alex, The Lawgiver, and Gunpowder Julius) and villains (Brutus and his mob.) It also showed that the apes were every bit as "Human" as the humans themselves. Wisely enough the amount of featuring of humans, besides the Mutants, was kept down to a minimum (Jason and Steely Dan). In your other stories, the humans feature more prominently than the Apes. This is wrong. The mag is called "Planet of the Apes", so let's stick to the Apes, huh? Anyway, the gradual development of all the characters in "Terror" was equally brilliant. From the spineless Xavier to Brutus, Alex, Jason and the Lawgiver, they were all real-life individuals with personalities and attractions of their own. Even to the final page of the saga's conclusion, they still retained this vital quality. As for Mike Ploog and Frank Chiaramonte's artwork, they really did credit a fine story. Altogether, as a team they are the finest trio that have ever worked on the Apes. They really have a gift of bringing characters and plot alive. Also depicted was something I am most interested in, the Apes' culture. I am more interested in their culture than their technology. So let's cut out the idea of the Apes being a super-technological race who live in mighty modern New-York metropolises. It just doesn't suit the Apes. Anyway, I can't thank you enough for bringing out those articles about the Apes films. Being an Ape-ophile I snap them up. I don't like the idea about having the mag in colour. It would just eliminate the high-standard shading, and then you'd have to raise the price.

Mark Powell, Carshalton, Surrey.

Mark — we're gonna pay more attention to your criticism than to your praise (not that we didn't bask in every delightful word of it!). But we're more interested in where we might be going wrong than in where we're going right. And having studied your letter, we get what you're driving at. So we take your point and pass you our grateful thanks for a worthwhile piece of reader-participation.

Dear Stan.

I think your magazine "Planet of The Apes" is great, but some of the stories you put with it are not very good, especially 'Enter; The Machine Age'. I thought the drawing was very bad. The posters are great, and the features you have about the Planet of The Apes films and TV series are good, I enjoy reading them.

Now I come to the main point of my letter. I have decided to collect all of the "Planet of The Apes" magazines, but I only came across it by accident. The one I found was number 13, and I have been collecting them from that number. I would like to know if the copies of numbers 1 to 12 are available, and, if so, will please let me know the price.

Mark Warren, Lowestoft, Suffolk.

Hooo Boy! As long as we've got fans like you, Mark, there's never gonna be any danger of us sitting back and becoming fat and complacent! You really know how to apply the spur. Not that we're complaining — 'cos that's the way we like it to be. In giving us honest criticism we reckon you're doing us a service. We only wish we could return the favour and do you the service of supplying you with those back issues you're seeking. But back issues disappear faster than the cakes that Mother used to make.

Dear Stan,

I think "Planet of The Apes" is one of the best comics you can buy. I also think that the Ape interviews are great. But that's not really what I'M writing about. I would like to know if you could bring out a book on how to draw Apes, because I'm keen to learn and have been drawing them for ages. (That is, ever since Planet of The Apes came out.)

Ian Sheppard, Barking, Essex.

We can only give you the advice we give to every Marvelite burning with the ambition to follow in the footsteps of Jack Kirby, Gene Colan et al. Decide upon the kind of artwork you most admire and keep copying it. Believe us, it's the best way to begin.

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

## THE APES ON TOWN

We have no more information on the Apes T.V. re-runs, but meanwhile we are re-running some of the scenes from the T.V. series.

