

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



MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP

No 76

WEEK ENDING
APRIL 3, 1976

PLANET OF THE APES

8p

THE
DECREE
HAS COME--
TODAY **ALL**
HUMANS
DIE!

JUDGEMENT IN THE
FORBIDDEN ZONE!



MAYBE SO--BUT I'M
TAKING YOU WITH ME,
MONKEY-FACE!

ALSO
THE
BLACK
PANTHER
AND THE
SAVAGE
KA-ZAR!

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

“EVEN AN APE WHO IS
PURE OF HEART.”

IT'S A STRANGE GROUP, THIS
BAND OF RIVER-BOAT TRAVELLERS,
WHICH SUDDENLY STUMBLES ON
A BAND OF GYPSIES IN THE
MIDDLE OF THE FORBIDDEN ZONE.

BOTH GROUPS ARE
SOMEWHAT AT A
LOSS FOR WORDS.

DOUG MOENCH • MIKE PLOOG
WRITER ARTIST

UNTIL...





SOME WINE, MALAGUENA-- TO MAKE THE INTRODUCTIONS FLOW MORE SMOOTHLY!

BUT WHILE A WARM GLOW MANTLES THE CARAVAN-CIRCLED CAMP...

... ALL IS NOT QUITE SO FELICITOUS IN THE SEEMINGLY ELASTIC COMPLEX OF ADOBE STRUCTURES KNOWN AS THE CITY...

...WHERE A SOMEWHAT FRETFUL SCRIBE RUSHES TO THE QUARTERS OF THE CITY'S DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, HE WHO GOVERNS IN THE LAWGIVER'S ABSENCE...

XAVIER--! I MUST SEE XAVIER AT ONCE--!

ENTER THEN...

...AND DON'T BE SO SHRILL ABOUT IT.

THREE MORE HUMANS HAVE BEEN SLAIN, XAVIER-- ALLEGEDLY BY THE SAME BAND OF BLACK-HOODED GORILLAS!

OH, MY-- OH MY, MY, MY--! I DO SO WISH THE LAWGIVER WERE HERE. WHAT-EVER SHALL WE DO--?

WE'D BETTER DO SOMETHING, BECAUSE JUST BY LOOKING OUT THAT WINDOW--

--YOU CAN CLEARLY SEE THAT WE'RE HEADING FOR A FULL-FLEDGED CIVIL WAR!!

MY GOODNESS-- I HAD NO IDEA IT WAS SO EXTREME--!

OWN' WITH GORILLA TERRORISM

STAY IN YOUR OWN SECTOR OF THE CITY, HUMAN--!

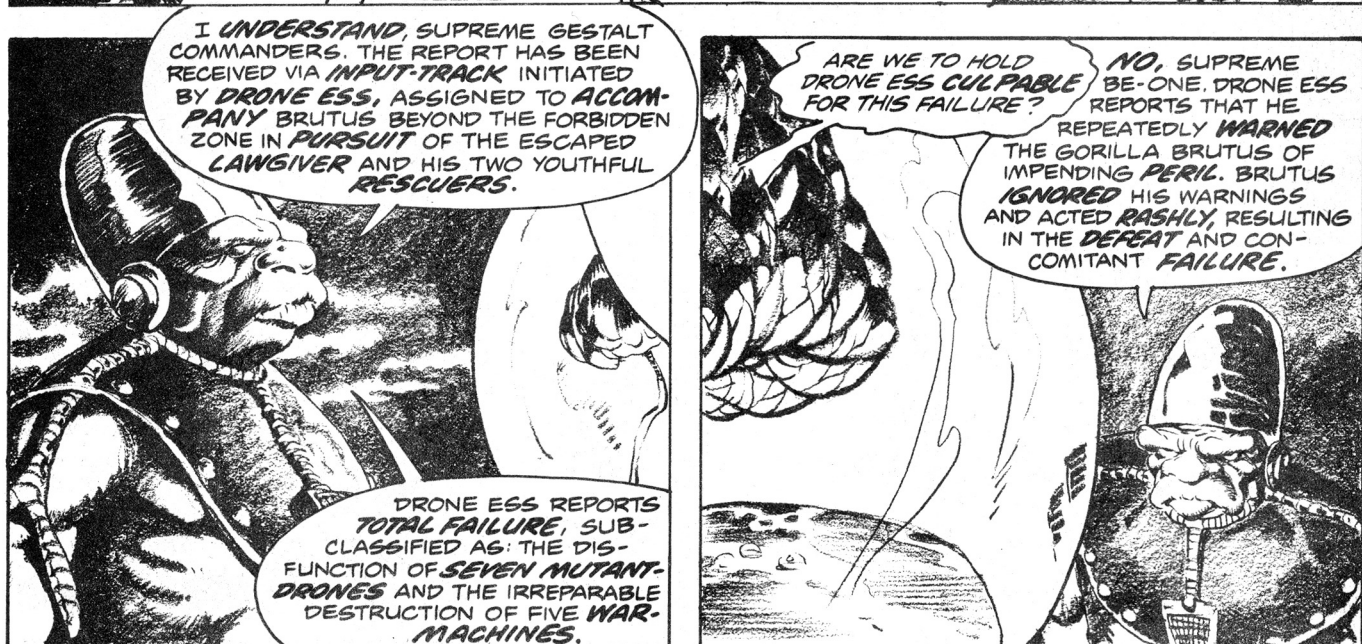
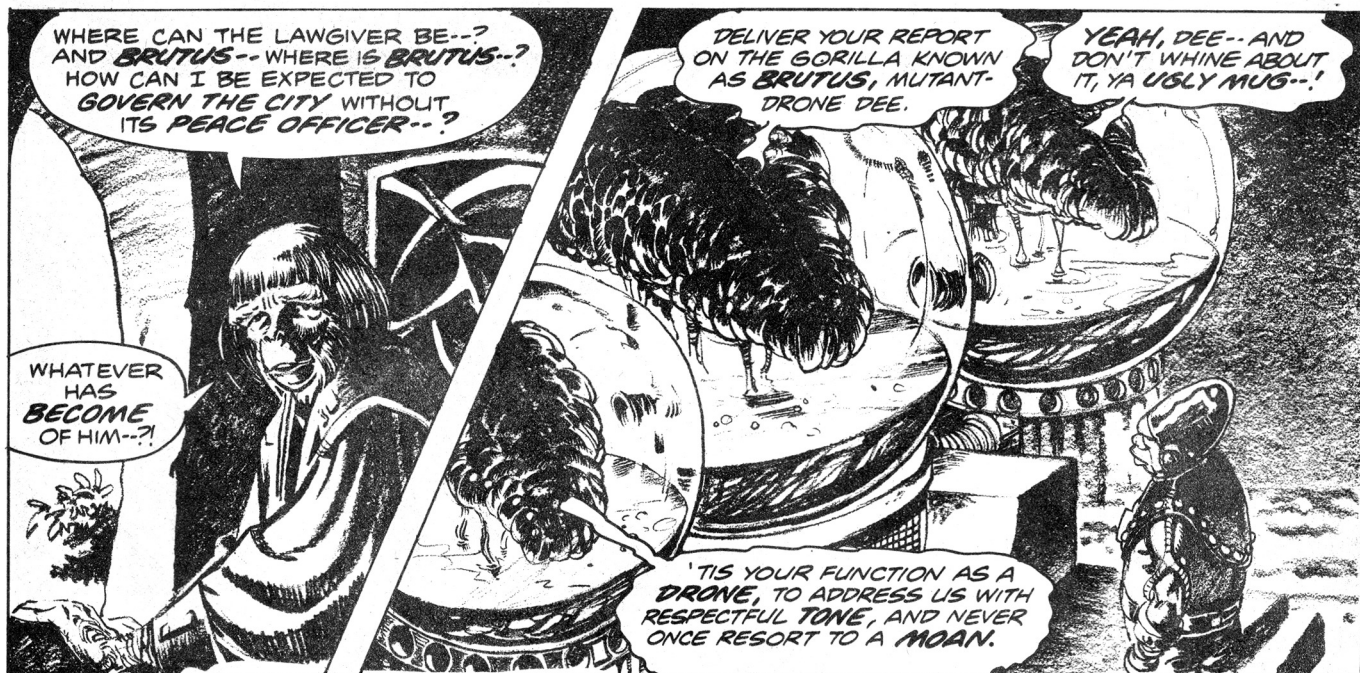
WE DON'T ALLOW TROUBLE-MAKERS HERE!!

STOP THE PERSECUTION OF HUMANS

STOP THE KILLING

MURDER STOP







HEY, ALEX-- GIT THE LITTLE FELLER TUH PASS SOME O' THEM THERE VITTLES ON DOWN THIS WAY...

HUH--? OH, YOU MEAN THAT LITTLE FELLOW...

JASON, THE WAY THAT MALAGUEÑA-HONEY'S BEEN STARIN' AT YA, IT'S A PLUMB WONDER SHE AIN'T WORN YORE SKIN OFF. I THINK SHE'S TAKEN A SHINE TO YA, BOY--!



OH--!

WHA--?



PLEASE-- FORGIVE ME. I DID NOT MEAN TO--

THAT'S ALL RIGHT. IT'S NOTHING. REALLY...



NO, I INSIST. AT LEAST LET ME WIPE OFF... YOUR SHOULDER...

WELL, UH... THANK YOU.



THEY SAY YOUR NAME IS MALAGUEÑA...?

YES. AND I HAVE HEARD YOUR FRIENDS CALL YOU JASON. I HAVE NEVER HEARD A NAME LIKE THAT BEFORE...

DARK, SURLY EYES WITNESS THE SOFT EXCHANGE...



...AND A DARK, VOLATILE TEMPER EXPLODES IN VIOLENCE.

LEAVE HER ALONE--!! MALAGUEÑA IS MINE!!

UNFFF--!!





A FLURRY OF URGENT MOTION, AND THE TWO ANTAGONISTS ARE RESTRAINED...

GOLDURN IT ALL, JASON-- WHY'D YA HAVE TO GO AN' RUIN SETCH A BELLY-THUMPIN' FINE FEAST-?

YOUR TEMPER HAS MADE THE NIGHT MOST DARK, GRIMALDI...

MAMA LENA HAS THE LOOK IN HER EYES...



WE HAVE SEEN THE FLAMES OF JEALOUSY FLARE BRIGHTER THAN OUR CAMPFIRE TONIGHT. AND WE HAVE TRIED TO RESTRAIN THE TWO WHO HAVE BEEN CONSUMED IN THESE FLAMES...

BUT MATTERS OF JEALOUSY CAN NEVER BE RESOLVED BY RESTRAINT. THIS IS A MATTER ONLY FOR--

-- THE KNIVES.



AS IS OUR CUSTOM, WE WILL GIVE THEM THE ROOM TO FIGHT... UNTIL THIS MATTER HAS BEEN SETTLED.



THIS SASH WILL BIND YOUR HATRED TOGETHER, UNTIL THE END OF YOUR FIGHT...

...WHEN THE ONE WHO STANDS MAY CUT IT FREE.



NO--! YOU MUST STOP THEM-- STOP THEM BEFORE THEY ARE HURT--!!

IT IS THE ONLY WAY, MALAGUENA. MAMA LENA HAS PASSED HER DECISION.



LET'S MAKE IT A **HUM-DINGER**,
JASE-BOY! I BEEN **HANKERIN'**
TUH SEE A GOOD FIGHT **ALL**
NIGHT NOW--!

IT IS **SAD**. GRIMALDI
WILL FIGHT FOR NOTHING
LESS THAN **DEATH**.

THEY **CIRCLE**... **SLOWLY**, **WARILY**... EYES **FLICKERING**
FROM **FACE** TO **KNIFE** AND **BACK** AGAIN...



THEN, THE **FIRST SLASH** WHISTLES **SHARPLY**...

...AS IT
CUTS
NOTHING
BUT
AIR.



JASON **THRUSTS**,
A **LURCHINGLY**
SAVAGE MOVE
WHICH **SHREDS**
EMBROIDERED
SILK...

...BUT LEAVES
FLESH AND **FUR**
UNSCATHED.



IT IS THE MISS, PERHAPS, WHICH ANGERS JASON MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE...



THE GYPSY CHIMP IS STRONGER, MORE SKILLED IN THIS MODE OF FIGHTING, AND IF JASON IS TO LIVE--



HEARING THE LAST WORDS, A FLASH OF HOT CRIMSON FLOODS JASON'S SIGHT--



--AND HE BOLTS FORWARD, ALL POWER AND FURY, LIKE A JAGGED SLICE OF QUICKSILVER LIGHTNING...

...STRIKING IN BLISTERING SAVAGERY...



...AND, YES, IN MOMENTARY MADNESS...

IT IS THE MADNESS WHICH NOW DEMANDS THE MOST OMINOUS TOLL...



...FOR IN ITS EXECUTION, JASON HAS SACRIFICED HIS DAGGER.

YOU MAY AS WELL CONCEDE DEATH NOW, HUMAN...

I'LL TAKE MY CHANCES WITH THE FIREBRAND, PAL, SO JUST DON'T WORRY ABOUT--



NO, JASON--! HERE-- YOU MUST TAKE THIS--!

MALAGUEÑA--! BUT I THOUGHT GRIMALDI WAS YOUR--

SO DID I, JASON... BUT I WAS WRONG.

TAKE THE DAGGER.

THEN, A SHARP HISS OF AIR...



AND--

MALAGUEÑA-- GET BACK!!



NEXT THE BATTLE WITH BRUTUS--
ISSUE: AND A CONFRONTATION WITH: *THE* **PLANET INHERITORS!**

Dear Stan and Mutations!

I know I might have different views from the weekly POTA fans. I think Rico Rival cannot draw apes. For example, issue 58, page 7, frame 5. The gorilla in that frame is an example of his useless skill in drawing apes. I think all he can draw are the humans. I must, however, congratulate him on his drawings of Dr. Hasslein, he's real evil looking. Another example, issue 56, page 7, frame 2. Here the nose is all wrong, the shape of the brow and the muzzle are all wrong.

I'm not very good at drawing humans, but I am sure I can draw apes.

Alfredo Alcalá, now he's good, brilliant, fantastic. . .

How about giving us some more pictures on "Escape. . ."? We've only had two so far, and when "Beneath. . ." was on there were pictures galore. Back to Rico (sorry, Rico) somehow I think Mr. Zane (31-34) looks very much like Dr. Dixon in "Escape. . ."

Stan, how about giving us another art comp, seeing I missed the first one. And keep the good work going. It's FANTASTIC.

Gregory Dunne, QNS
Co. Derry, Ireland.

Beauty, 'tis said, is in the eye of the beholder. So an artist (be he Rembrandt or Rico) is dependent upon what other people seen in his work. And since even Michaelangelo had his critics, it's hardly surprising that Rico has his. It's the way of the world, and will, doubtless, ever be so. Now, on to those pics your heart is craving for. We make it a rule to include in POTA any info or pictures that we can lay hand to. Which means that if we can find 'em, you shall surely see 'em. Now then. . . Another art competition? Just how true are you, believer? If you'd bought ish 2 of our new weekly, "The Titans", you'd have seen an art competition entry form on the back page! Looks like you musta missed out on that!

Dear Stan and army,

Over the last few months people have been writing in asking if they are too old to read your wonderful mags. Well, here is a comforter for all of them. I buy TWO POTA mags each week, one for myself and one for my gran, who is 71 years old. . . er. . . I mean 71 year young.

Anyhow, now to the serious part of my letter. I read your POTA mag and

APES FORUM

AVENGERS, and I used to read Titans. I think POTA is absolutely the best mag anyone ever produced, especially all your pics and info (keep 'em up.) But I have a small problem. I heard that POTA was coming out and I was all set to go. Then, unfortunately, I had appendicitis and was rushed to hospital. While I was in hospital I asked my mom to get Planet for me, but it was so popular that she wasn't able to, so I missed some early issues. Please, please print my letter, because some kind person might swam or even sell me some issues so that I can make up for some very precious lost Marvel time.

Steve Meredith, KOF
8 Orchard Road,
Shifnal, Salop

Seems that all over the country the hunt is on for back issues of Planet of The Apes. Which must mean that (like all object d'art) they're getting rarer. So the lesson should be clear to all Marvelites — Hang on to those collections! As everyone seems to be saying these days: "What's the good of money?"

Dear Stan,

In POTA ish 58, N.V. French said he/she was doing a POTA scrap-book and needed more info and pics. Well, I'm also doing a scrap-book and it's only about the TV series. I'm desperately short of info and pics on this, as everyone except you seems to have the idea that the craze has finished. You promised more photos for us ardent scrapbook fillers, so please do what you can. Also, if any other readers have anything I could put in my scrap book about the series I'd be very grateful to receive it if they send it to me. I'd swap pieces of info and pics if they wanted some in exchange.

Also, if anyone want to sell any back copies of POTA with anything in about the series at a profit, please let me know, I'm willing to buy them off you.

Amanda Hill,
71 Lees Hall Road,
Norton Lees, Sheffield.

Amanda — if we had any pix or info of the type you seek we'd be delighted to send it to you. Alas, all we CAN send are our sincere hopes that the publication of your plea will produce results. It's happened before. Times without number.

Dear Stan,

Wow, Stan! You're groovy! First it's "Planet. . ." Then "Beneath. . ." and now "Escape." You're just ace. I have all your mags except three. They are numbers one, forty-two and fifty-two. If you have any of these, could you send me them and name a price.

Anyway, what I really want to say is your mag is ace, real groovy like. Don't change it. I love the interviews you do on the stars and films. Try to do some more.

Mark Marsden,
Leeds 17, Yorks.

Alas and Alack! Back issues are something we cannot supply. But, now that your plea has appeared in our peerless print it could be that someone, somewhere will be moved to pity. SO-O-O-O fingers crossed and keep hoping.

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