

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



PLANET OF THE APES

8p



SHOCK
FOLLOWS SHOCK
WHEN
APE AND HUMAN
RIDE...

INTO
THE
TRAP!

**TERROR
ON THE
PLANET
OF THE APES
PHASE 2**

**THE MAGICK-MAN'S
LAST GASP
PURPLE LIGHT SHOW**

SOMEWHERE, A BIRD SHRIEKS.
TREETOPS THRASH. AND
JASON BELLOWS IN RAGE...

NOOOO!!

**IT'S NOT FAIR!!
DO YOU HEAR ME,
BRUTUS--IT'S NOT
RIGHT!!**

THEN, SAVE FOR
THE SOFT STIR
OF LEAVES, AND
FADING ECHOES,
THE GLADE FALLS
QUIET...

BUT JASON'S RAGE REMAINS. HE HAS TURNED
HIS BACK ON HIS HOME AND FRIENDS TO COME
HERE--TO THIS BIZARRE ARBOREAL BARRACKS.
HE HAS COME TO FIND AND KILL BRUTUS. AND
HE HAS FOUND NOTHING BUT FRUSTRATION.
THE TREEHOUSE ENCAMPMENT IS DESERTED...
FOR BRUTUS HAD FLED.

PERHAPS JASON IS RIGHT--PERHAPS
IT IS NOT FAIR. STILL, THERE IS LITTLE
HE MAY DO ABOUT IT...

...TO DARK
VISIONS SUCH
AS THESE--

LITTLE, THAT IS, BEYOND
SURRENDERING HIS MIND
TO THE HAUNTINGS OF
NIGHTMARES...

HIS MOTHER
AND FATHER--
MURDERED BY
BRUTUS'
HOODED
TERRORISTS.

SHAGGY, THE SIMPLE
CREATURE WHO KNEW
INNOCENCE BEST--

--SLAIN
BY BRITUS
HIMSELF.

XAVIER, THE LAWGIVER'S
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR,
ALSO VICTIM TO BRITUS'
HATE.

AND THE DARKEST
VISION OF ALL: FEEL-
ING VENGEANCE
WITHIN HIS GRASP--

--ONLY TO BE HELD
BACK, HELPLESS,
RESTRAINED AND
CHEATED, FORCED TO
WATCH BRITUS ESCAPE.

VISIONS, YES. OR NIGHTMARES.
BUT ALL TOO REAL... ALL TOO TRUE!

HE SCALES THE RICKETY STAIRWAY TO THE LARGEST OF THE TREE-HELD DWELLINGS, KNOWING IT IS EMPTY, BUT UNABLE TO RESIST ENTERING.



THE ONE WHO MADE HIS PARENTS SCREAM, AND DIE ONCE LIVED HERE...

THE SIGNS ARE SIMPLE; THERE IS NOT MUCH TO TELL. A HURRIED, HASTY DEPARTURE... FOLLOWING BRUTUS' EXILE FROM THE CITY...



A SENSE OF HIS LINGERING PRESENCE ...ALMOST IN THE FORM OF A STENCH.

ITEMS LEFT BEHIND, THINGS HE MUST HAVE TOUCHED...HUNDREDS OF TIMES...

THINGS FOULED BY HIS HANDS, MURDERING HANDS...

BUT NOTHING OF VALUE, NOTHING WORTH RESCUING FROM HIS TAINT...EXCEPT, PERHAPS--



...A CROSSBOW, AND A LEATHER QUIVER OF ARROWS. IS THIS THE WEAPON WHICH SLEW HIS PARENTS? SHAGGY? XAVIER--?

IF SO, IT MIGHT PROVE USEFUL...IF ONE WERE TO ADOPT A POETIC STANCE WHEN RELEASING ITS TRIGGER...



BUT THERE IS NOTHING MORE.

NOTHING BUT BITTER FRUSTRATION...AND A SILENT VOW TO CONTINUE THE SEARCH.



AND SO, JASON GLIDES TO THE GROUND, PONDERING DIRECTIONS. THERE ARE SO MANY...TOO MANY...



AND THE CHOICE IS TOO--

WAIT, ON THE TRAIL LEADING FROM THE GLADE...



...SOMETHING, ON THE GROUND, CATCHES HIS EYE...

A PARCHMENT...?



A MAP--!

EAGERLY, HIS EYES SCAN THE PARCHMENT, NOTING THE CITY, WHERE THE LAWGIVER AGAIN RULES... AND WHERE HE LEFT ALEX AND MALAGUENA IN THE HEAT OF VIOLENCE. TO THE NORTH, HIS PRESENT LOCATION --BRUTUS' TREEHOUSE ENCAMPMENT...

AND TWO OTHER LOCATIONS--THE FORBIDDEN ZONE TO THE WEST, BORDERED BY THE GREAT SEA... AND AN UNNAMED SITE TO THE EAST, IN THE CENTER OF A RING OF MOUNTAINS. BOTH OF THESE LATTER ARE...MARKED.

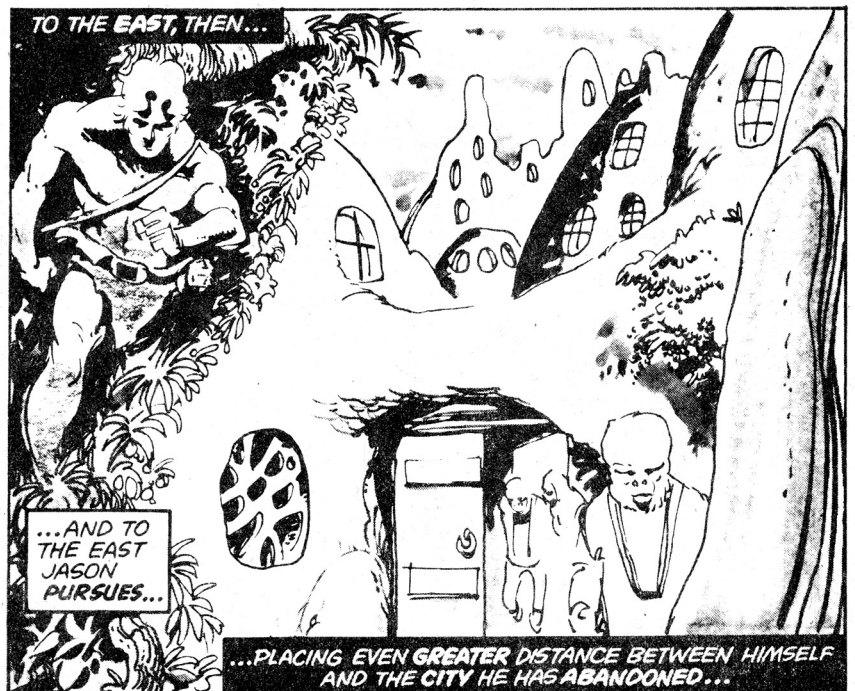


SURELY, THEN, BRUTUS AND HIS TERRORISTS HAVE FLED TO ONE OF THE MARKED LOCATIONS.



BUT WOULD HE RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN ZONE--AFTER BEING DECEIVED BY THE INHERITORS AND THEIR MUTANT-DRONES...AFTER BARELY ESCAPING DEATH AT THEIR HANDS...?

NO, IT IS NOT LIKELY.



TO THE EAST, THEN...

...AND TO THE EAST JASON PURSUES...

...PLACING EVEN GREATER DISTANCE BETWEEN HIMSELF AND THE CITY HE HAS ABANDONED...





AS YOU WISH. WHEN DO YOU PLAN TO LEAVE?

RIGHT NOW, SIR...RIGHT NOW.

I SEE. WELL, GOOD LUCK THEN.

I HOPE YOU WILL NOT NEED IT...BUT I FEAR YOU WILL...



AT ONE TIME THEY MIGHT HAVE BEEN HORSES...

BUT THEN, AT ONE TIME NUCLEAR WARFARE HAD BEEN ONLY A THREAT.

THAT TIME HAS LONG SINCE PASSED.

THE NOOSSED VINE SPURTS FROM NOWHERE, AND THE WEIRDLING BEAST KEENS ITS PANIC...



IT HAS BEEN A WEEK SINCE JASON LEFT THE TREE-HOUSE ENCAMPMENT MAP CLUTCHED IN HIS HAND...

HE IS TIRED OF WALKING.

GO ON--JUMP AROUND ALL YOU WANT--!



I'M JUST AS STUBBORN AS YOU--

--AND I'VE GOT THE ROPE!

COME ON NOW--CALM DOWN ALREADY! YOU MIGHT AS WELL ACCEPT ME THE EASY WAY--!

BUT THE BEAST REFUSES TO LISTEN...



...UNTIL, HOURS LATER AND LATHERED IN FROTH, THE WILD BEAST SLUMPS INTO DOMESTICATED STEED...

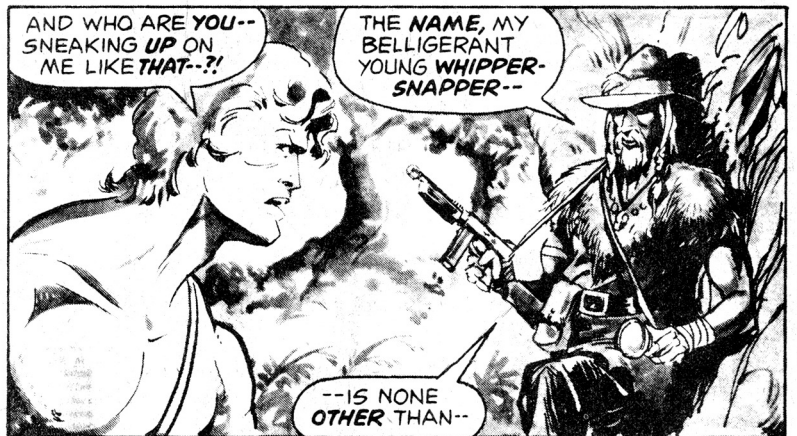
I TOLD YOU SO, FRIEND--WARNED YOU YOU'D GET TAMED...



INDEED! BUT YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TO SUBJUGATE POOR DUMB BEASTS--



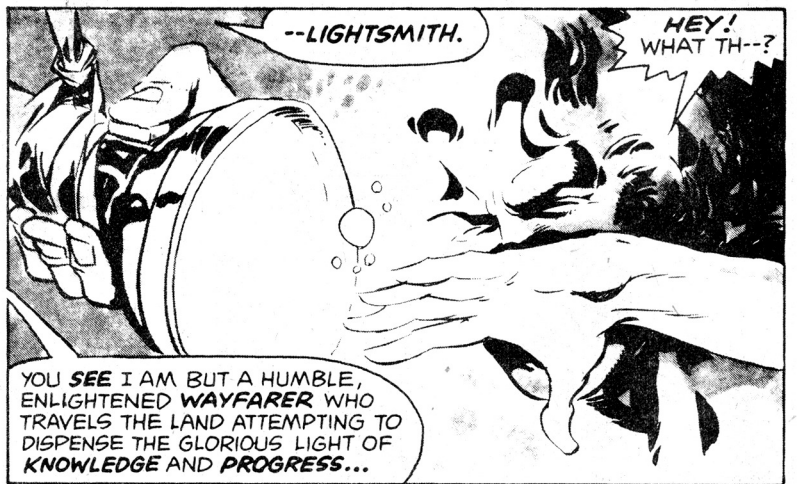
--IF YOU POSSESSED THE KNOWLEDGE OF PROGRESS... HEH HEH HEH.



AND WHO ARE YOU--SNEAKING UP ON ME LIKE THAT--?!

THE NAME, MY BELLIGERANT YOUNG WHIPPER-SNAPPER--

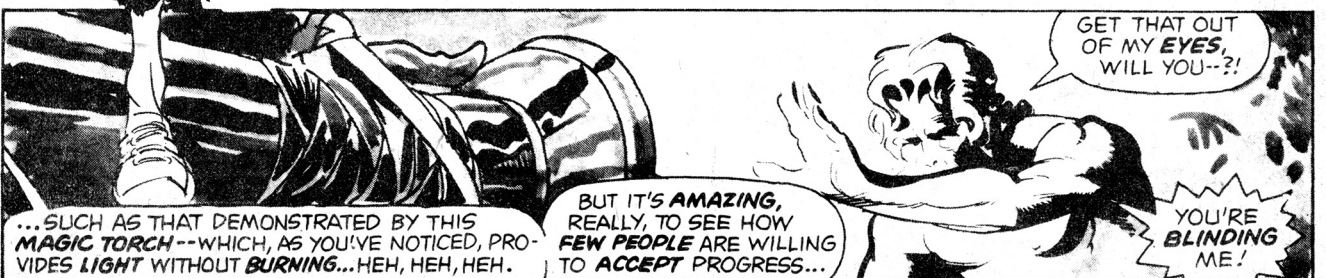
--IS NONE OTHER THAN--



--LIGHTSMITH.

HEY! WHAT TH--?

YOU SEE I AM BUT A HUMBLE, ENLIGHTENED WAYFARER WHO TRAVELS THE LAND ATTEMPTING TO DISPENSE THE GLORIOUS LIGHT OF KNOWLEDGE AND PROGRESS...

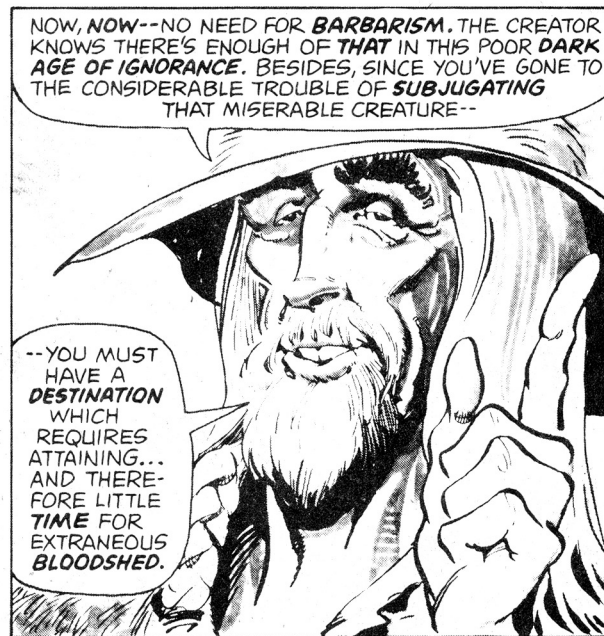


...SUCH AS THAT DEMONSTRATED BY THIS MAGIC TORCH--WHICH, AS YOU'VE NOTICED, PROVIDES LIGHT WITHOUT BURNING...HEH, HEH, HEH.

BUT IT'S AMAZING, REALLY, TO SEE HOW FEW PEOPLE ARE WILLING TO ACCEPT PROGRESS...

GET THAT OUT OF MY EYES, WILL YOU--?!

YOU'RE BLINDING ME!





Dear Marvel,

I'm twenty-eight. Am I too old to read Marvel comics? Too bad if I am, 'cos I read 'em anyway. I've been collecting and reading Marvel for about six months now, and I've really got the bug! Five British weeklies and about 18-20 monthlies, not to mention any B & W American mags I can get my hands on.

The reason behind this letter is mainly two-fold. Firstly to congratulate the team behind the art on the new Apes story "Malaguena in the Forbidden Zone". It doesn't credit the art in the mag, although I notice the magic word PLOOG working in the bottom corner of the first panel.

This art is really something! Far superior in my eyes to the harsher, more heavily-inked style. It's more like the style in your B & W mags. More subtle, and conveys more atmosphere and feeling to the exciting story.

Talking of American B & W mags, although I think you've scrapped a lot of good titles I'm just catching up to SSOC. I've just got issues 1, 2 and 3, and I'm pawning everything I own to get the rest!

Now on to my second point. I must take Mark Lawton to task over his comments in POTA 75 about 'Man-Gods'. This was a great story with spacey art. FANTASTIC!

I've also got this story in Marvel Preview ish 1, which I picked up in the local book shop for 15p. What a scoop!

Lastly, a few comments on POTA itself. The apes stories are great, but Ka-Zar, who I like, and Black Panther (who I hate on his own but he's OK with The Avengers) just don't fit in POTA.

Colin Jennings,
26 Albert Road, Tonbridge, Kent.

To paraphrase the great Dr. Johnson, "... when you're tired of Marvel you're tired of life ... " So relax, Colin. At a mere twenty-eight you've the best of your Marvel years ahead of you. We don't need to tell you (but we're going to, just the same!) that we appreciated and enjoyed your "Planet" comments (incidentally that was Merry Mike at work on "Malaguena") and we're suitably awed by the fact that you've managed to lay hold of the first three numbers of the U.S. Savage Sword of Conan. You didn't mention what kind of a hole that little purchase made in your bank-roll, but it must have been considerable. (We recently heard of a S.S.O.C. ish 3 changing hands for a five-pound note.) But you can always console yourself with the thought that you're investing on a rising market!

Dear Stan,

I have just got some of your latest American mags and found such things as Spiderman web-shooters, Hear-a-Hero singles with a comic book, "Reflections" - a Spidey rock record, Marvel action figures, "Colour a Character", Marvel T-Shirts, even Spidey vitamin pills.

So if you can have them in America, why can't you have them in Britain?

And now for some congratulations.

TITANS. A great comic, in a great style.

AVENGERS AND CONAN. Brilliant.

APES FORUM

MARVEL. Hulk is best, but the FF are very good.

DRACULA LIVES. Excellent, but Man-Thing is great.

PLANET OF THE APES. Fantastic, I loved "Beneath ..."

SUPER SPIDERMAN AND SUPER-HEROES. Vunderbar! One of the best. But does this mean you are gradually going to vanish all your British mags?

Stephen Smyth,
25 Hitches Street, Littleport, Ely,
Cams.

Let's not delay a moment before putting your troubled mind at rest. No. The arrival of "New Super Spiderman and Superheroes" does NOT mean we're planning to "vanish" all our British mags. Obviously you haven't been convinced by our oft-repeated declaration that British Marvel mags are here to stay. So we'll say it again, right here and now. WE'RE STAYING! And now let's turn from a problem to a ... er ... problem. Those American offers. It's this way, Steve. For various (and numerous) reasons, it isn't possible for us to make all the offers advertised in the US mags available in Britain. But those that CAN be brought across we shall bring!

Dear Super-Stan,

Could you manage to put some of your fantastic Ape stickers in POTA. My friend and I both get Marvel and think it would be better if you put more posters in the mags.

I'm not just writing to ask for things, but to tell you something. I get Titans and I think it's brilliant. You made a good choice with the X-Men, the art's good. I don't like Cap Mar-vell much, though.

I think POTA is good. The art on the ape story at the moment, 'Death on a River Called Simian', is fantastic. I don't like Ka-zar much, but B.P. is great.



M.W.O.M. is the last and third Marvel mag I get. I like all the stories, especially The Hulk.

Christopher Hopkin,
3 The Grove, Cooper Road, Guildford,
Surrey.

Chris - it's our policy to put goodies into our mags whenever we can. But, as you'll appreciate, we face the perpetual problem of having to pay our way. But, believe us, we're on your side.

Dear Stan and Bullpen,

'Planet of The Apes' is definitely your best comic. The apes are brilliant, especially the film adaptations. But the 'apeslayer' story was rubbish.

When making your own stories (generally good) make the apes the heroes as well as the humans. Kindly take the Black Panther out and replace him with Doc Savage, then with the Silver Surfer. 'The Man Gods From Beyond' was no good, but 'Day of the Triffids' was excellent.

Are you going to do other adaptations of books? - '2001', 'The Invisible Man' or 'The Shrinking Man' for example. I have books of four of the films (among other 'ape' books) and would like to know if there is a book of the first film.

James Rooney, KOF,
80 Raynton Drive, Hayes, Middlesex.

Yep - the first Ape film WAS published as a book, and we've various books under consideration right now with a view to putting them into POTA in picture strip form.

Dear Stan and Co.,

I think POTA is Fab, and the stories are out of this world. I've noticed in Apes mail that a lot of people criticise the back-up features, well I think they're just great.

A few issues ago someone wrote and said that the Apes construction kits were available in Britain. Well, this is true. The price, where I buy, is £1.19p, and, believe me, they're just great. And, more thanks to your great weekly mag, I was able to purchase all five of the apes films, which were superbly put together.

If anyone wants any colour pics of the apes and information about them, just drop me a line, with a stamp, and I'll be willing to provide it.

Tony Ing,
7 Toland Square, Roehampton Lane,
London SW15.

And here's Tony Ing, proving yet again to the world that this is the age of Marvel goodwill to all men. (Well, anyway, goodwill to all fellow Marvelites!)

apes forum

MARVEL COMICS LTD Room 106
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