

AND NOW: THE LONG-AWAITED MERGER OF MARVEL'S MIGHTIEST MAGS!



PLANET OF THE APES AND DRACULA LIVES


8p



FEATURING: THE PEERLESS
PRINCE OF **VAMPIRES!**

THE MACABRE **MAN-THING!**

THE BATTLING BEASTS
OF EARTH IN THE FUTURE

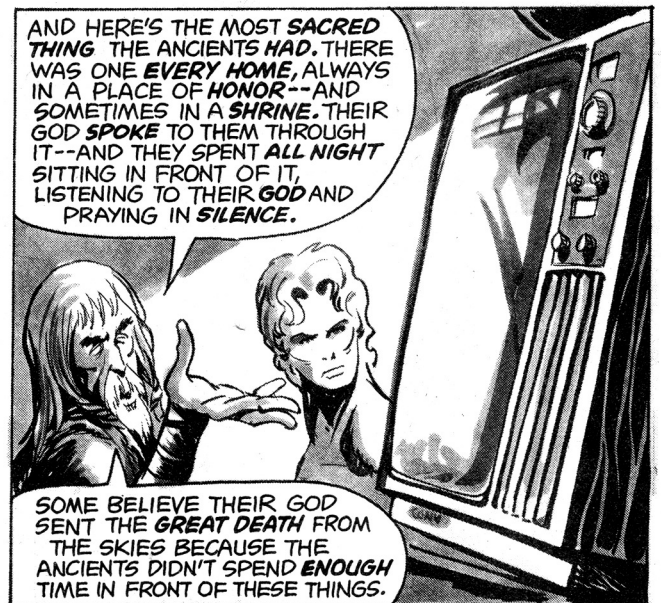
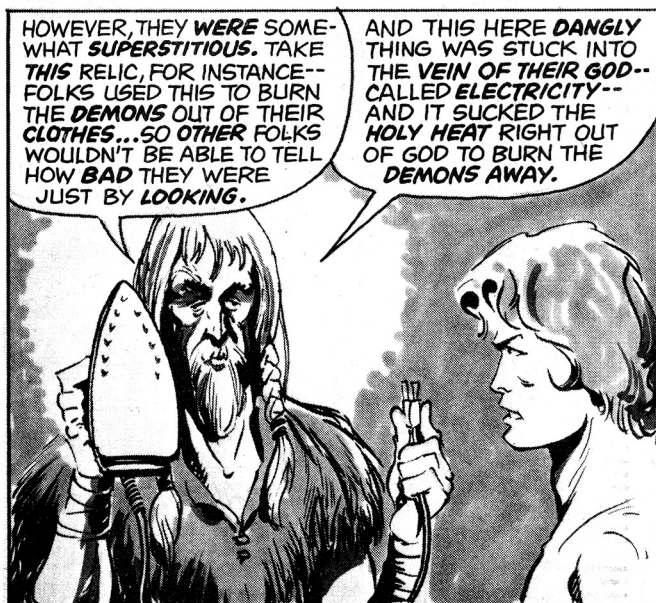


FROM THE
DARKEST REACHES OF
TRANSYLVANIA AND THE PLAUSIBILITY
OF A TERRIFYING FUTURE COMES THE
GREATEST ACTION AND SUSPENSE COMIC
FROM THE MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL...
PLANET OF THE APES AND DRACULA LIVES!
WE PROMISE SHOCK AFTER SHOCK,
EVERY ISSUE, EVERY WEEK, WITH SIMIAN
ADVENTURE, JUNGLE ACTION, SEETHING
SWAMP FEVER, AND REAL HORROR!
A FEAST OF FURY, CLEARLY
CONSOLIDATING THE MARVEL
AGE OF COMICS!

IMPETUOUS AND RASH, JASON HAS LEFT HIS FRIENDS TO GO ON AN ANGRY QUEST TO KILL BRUTUS, HIS PARENTS' **MURDERERS**. ON THE WAY HE MEETS **LIGHTSMITH**, ENLIGHTENED WAYFARER OF **KNOWLEDGE** AND **PROGRESS**, AND HIS APPRENTICE, GILBERT.

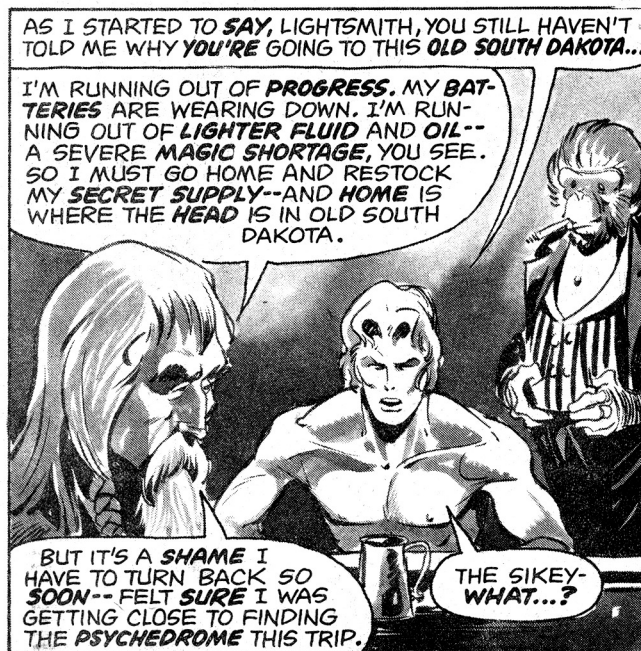
Stan Lee PRESENTS: **PLANET OF THE APES!**™













THE **PSYCHEDROME**. FINDING IT IS MY **LIFE'S AMBITION**. IT COULD BE THE SUPREME ACHIEVEMENT OF THE **DECADE**--RESTORING **CIVILIZATION** TO THIS POOR IGNORANT WORLD.

CIVILIZATION? YOU KNOW WHAT CIVILIZATION IS-- ALL THAT **RUBBLE** IN THE **FORBIDDEN ZONES**...

YOU MEAN YOU WANT TO BRING BACK THE **GREAT DEATH FROM THE SKIES**--?

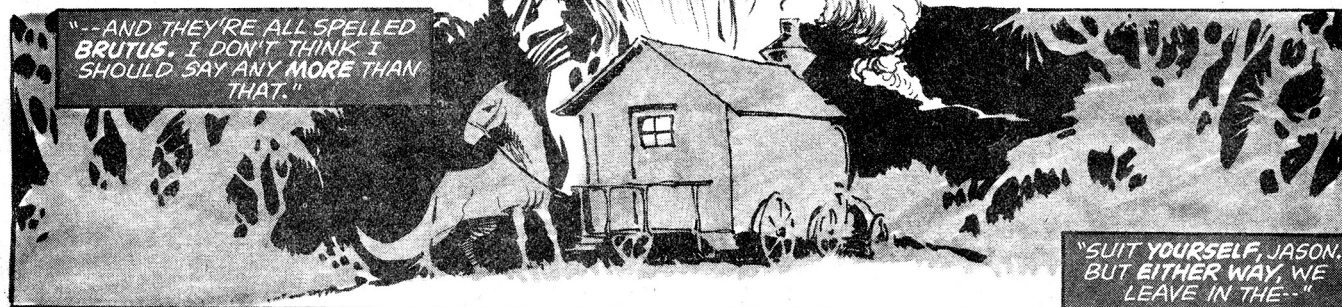
NO, NO, **NO**--THE GLORIOUS STUFF OF PROGRESS LYING **UNDER** THE GREAT DESTRUCTION--LIKE THE **ARTIFACTS** HERE IN THE **WONDER WAGON**. AND THE ONLY WAY TO BRING THESE THINGS **BACK** IS TO FIND THE **PSYCHEDROME**--



--THE LEGENDARY PLACE WHERE ALL THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE ANCIENTS IS STILL **STORED** AND WAITING TO BE **USED**. BUT IT JUST ISN'T MEANT TO BE **FOUND** THIS TIME, I GUESS...

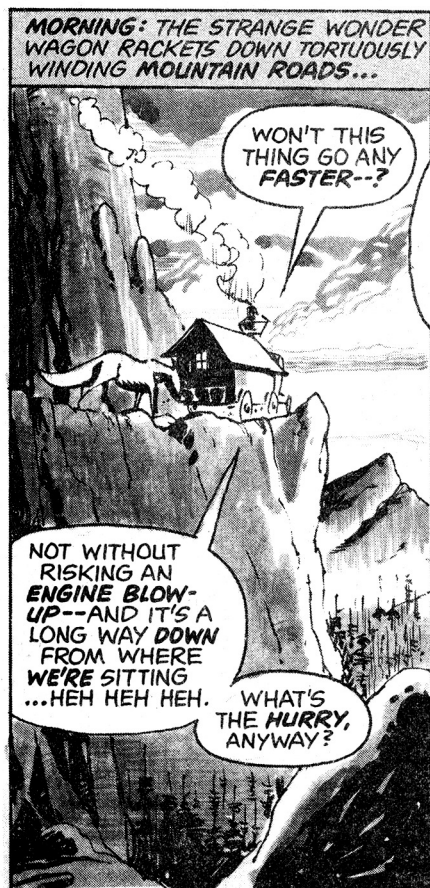
NOW WHY ARE **YOU** HEADED OUT TO OLD SOUTH DAKOTA?

I'VE GOT MY **REASONS**--



"--AND THEY'RE ALL SPELLED **BRUTUS**. I DON'T THINK I SHOULD SAY ANY MORE THAN THAT."

"**SUIT YOURSELF, JASON**. BUT EITHER WAY, WE LEAVE IN THE--"



MORNING: THE STRANGE WONDER WAGON RACKETS DOWN TORTUOUSLY WINDING MOUNTAIN ROADS...

WON'T THIS THING GO ANY **FASTER**--?

NOT WITHOUT RISKING AN **ENGINE BLOW-UP**--AND IT'S A LONG WAY DOWN FROM WHERE **WE'RE SITTING** ...HEH HEH HEH.

WHAT'S THE **HURRY**, ANYWAY?



I'M TRYING TO CATCH UP TO SOMEONE ON **HORSEBACK**--AND SINCE I SPENT SEVEN DAYS ON **FOOT**, ANYONE ON HORSEBACK WOULD BE WAY **AHEAD** OF ME BY NOW.

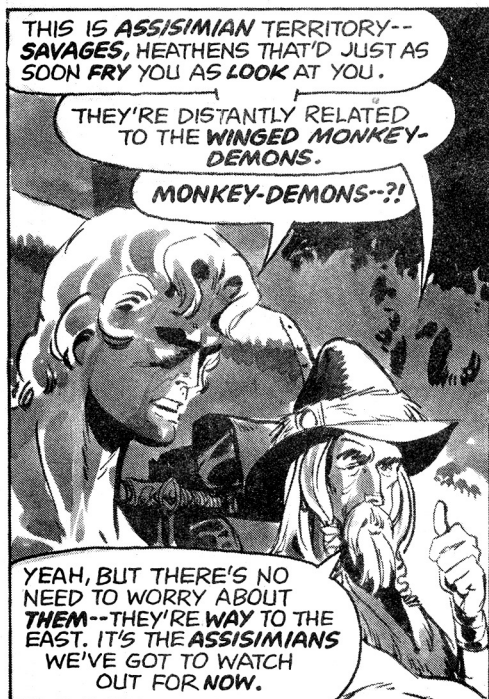
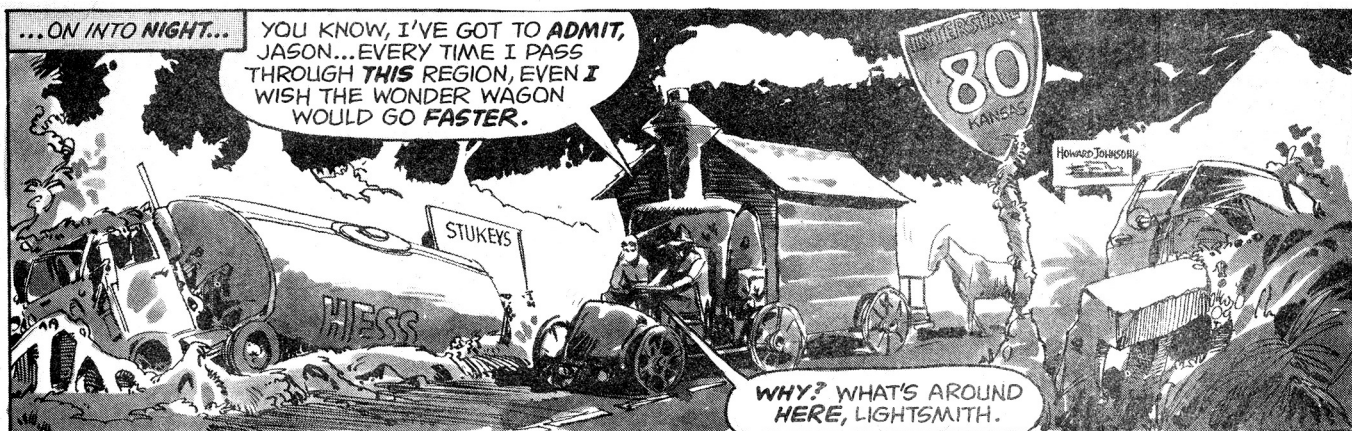
WELL, I'M **SORRY**, JASON-- BUT **HORSE-SPEED'S** ABOUT ALL THE **WONDER WAGON** CAN **MANAGE**...



BUT AT LEAST THE STEAM ENGINE DOESN'T GET **TIRED** AND HAVE TO STOP FOR **RESTS**. SO WHY DON'T YOU JUST **RELAX**--?

WE'VE GOT ANOTHER TWO DAYS' RIDE TO GO.

AND THE **WONDER WAGON** RUMBLES ON...



"THAT'S A WAR-DANCE IF I EVER SAW ONE. WONDER WHAT TOUCHED THEM OFF THIS TIME... PROBABLY SOMEONE TRESPASSING ON THEIR TERRITORY AGAIN..."



SEE THAT **BIG** ONE OVER THERE-- SITTING UP HIGHER THAN ANY OF THE OTHERS--?

YEAH...?

THAT'S **MAGUANUS**-- THE LEADER OF THE ASSISIIMANS...

...AND A **MEANER** SON-OF-A-CUSS YOU'LL NEVER FIND.



LOOK AT HIM--! WHAT'S HE STARTED YELLING ABOUT--?

"WHO KNOWS? PROBABLY ORDERING HIS WARRIORS TO BRING HIM A **BLANKET** OR SOMETHING... HEH HEH HEH..."





OOPS--I TAKE THAT BACK.
THEY'VE GOT PRISONERS...

...AND MAGUANUS IS
ORDERING THEM OVER
TO THE FIRE...!

POOR DEVILS...I WONDER WHO THEY ARE...?



"OH NO--! THAT'S
MALAGUENA--AND
ALEX!!"

"YOU MEAN YOU
KNOW THEM? THEN
THEY'RE THE ONES
YOU WERE TRYING
TO FIND--?"



NO... BUT MAYBE THEY
WERE TRYING TO
FIND ME...

THEN I GUESS WE'LL HAVE
TO GO DOWN THERE AND
RESCUE THEM RIGHT?



"I DIDN'T SAY THAT. I TOLD
THEM I NEVER WANTED TO
SEE THEM AGAIN..."

"OH, I SEE. WELL, ARE THEY
SO BAD THAT THEY DESERVE
TO HAVE THEIR SKIN
PEELED OFF--"

"--AND THE REST OF THEIR BODIES FRIED BEFORE
THEY'VE HAD A CHANCE TO DIE--?"



OF COURSE NOT--BUT
YOU DON'T HAVE TO
MAKE ME FEEL LIKE
A MONSTER ABOUT IT!?

I WOULD'VE
DECIDED TO
SAVE THEM
ON MY OWN...!

SURE, SURE,
JASON--BUT
HOLD ON
MINUTE!

NO NEED TO GO
RUSHING INTO
ANYTHING...



I'VE GOT A DISGUISE
I PICKED UP DOWN
SOUTH THAT JUST
MIGHT FOOL THE
HEATHEN FIENDS.



COME ON--
IT'S BACK IN
THE WONDER
WAGON--!

AND WHAT
AN ENTRANCE
THIS WILL
MAKE!

NEXT WEEK:
MASQUERADE!

APES FORUM

Dear Stan and Co.,

I was Marvelised when I received No. 1 of POTA, the artwork being fab, the cover even better. Having read it, I wanted more Marvel fantasy, so soon I got Spidey and the Superheroes. Here are my views.

POTA. Fab!! I found Ka-Zar complete rubbish, Warrior of Mars was reasonable, but not up to your usual standards, Captain Marvel spoilt the mag (I never did and probably never will, like him), but when Warlock arrived I went wild. He adds glamour, style and I hope he returns some day.

SMCW. Spidey, great! Fab! The return of the dreaded Doc Ock was great, but when Hammerhead showed up I was thrilled. Iron-Man is great. The Gladiator brought with him true Marvel adventure. Thor is not my style. The covers are fantastic. The Super Spiderman comics are the best out – Spidey is still good, Iron-Man is ever-improving. Thor, stories are rubbish. Thing and Cap ... Great! Doc Strange is good.

TITANS. Neal Adams' artwork was the best yet. The stories soon lacked Marvel's standards so I scrapped the mag and got ...

THE AVENGERS. Conan is good, but the script is getting lousy. The Avengers themselves are better than ever, art, script and the stories are at top level. I feel that Goliath and The Vision could do with a separate script of their own in the POTA mag, but altogether the group are ever mighty. Iron Fist is great in every way. The stories are wild, but good. Now here are some questions ...

1. How far ahead do you plan your mags?
2. Do you have any idea of how many Superheroes there are?
3. Will there ever be a POTA big special?
4. Could you put a pin-up (in SMCW) of Iron-Man fighting the Gladiator?

Dominic Murphy,
12 Shephard's Meadow, Beaford,
Nr. Winkleigh, N. Devon.

Thanks for that run-down from the West, Dominic. The reader reviews are now streaming in from all corners of the country and beyond! And to prove our gratitude we'll put answers to those questions you tagged on to the end of your letter. 1. How can anyone pin-point the exact moment when a mag can be said to be in the 'planning stage'? Is it when a script-writer first gets a story inspiration in, say, his morning tub? Or when an artist, doodling on the tablecloth starts to get an idea for a new character? See how difficult it is? What say we settle for this is an answer. Roughly four

weeks elapses between starting to prepare a mag for press and the date it actually goes to press. Then the purists among us might wish to add to that the six-week printing schedule that you may have known us mention now and then. And, just in case you're in doubt as to exactly what we mean by that, it's the length of time between the mag going to press and the day it appears in the shops. 2. No, we can't carry out a count, because very often it's a matter of personal opinion as to whether or not a particular character IS a super-hero. 3. If we have anything to do with it, there most certainly will! 4. Will do, Dominic. Will do.

Dear Marvel,

Thank you for mentioning my name and address in "Planet of The Apes". I have had quite a good response, but further letters are more than welcome!

Could you please ask all further applicants to enclose a stamped addressed envelope when writing as this saves much time and guarantees a reply.

Mike Burgess,
Secretary Simian Centre,
45 Wykeham Road, Hastings, Sussex.

Glad to know that it's all happening down in Happy Hastings, Mike. Stand by for a further deluge of mail!

Dear Marvel,

I'm writing to congratulate you on your latest POTA story. Mike Ploog is easily your best artist, and his drawings of the Inheritors and the Drones make Planet the best Marvel mag of the moment for art. I've got every issue except 64, and if anyone wants a copy of 58 I'm prepared to swap. I also buy The

Avengers, originally just for Conan, but I've got used to The Avengers, and even like The Vision. I agree with M.S. Kingscott – Britain needs Howard the Duck!

Christopher Jenkins,
13 Kenwood Road, Copthorne,
Shrewsbury, Salop.

In return for those graceful compliments we're all sitting cross-fingered in the Bullpen, hoping you strike lucky in your quest for ish 64.

Dear Stan,

In volume two of The Childrens' Britannica it tells you what 'Banshee' means. Quote: "The word 'Banshee' comes from an old Irish word meaning 'Woman of the Faires'. Irish people, and people in the other Celtic countries of Wales, the West Highlands of Scotland and Brittany, have a great many stories of fairies and strange supernatural beings that move about in the world and are sometimes seen or heard by human beings. One belief of this kind is that certain old families have guardian spirits who watch over them; these spirits are the Banshees. When any person in those families is about to die, the Banshee is supposed to utter a mournful 'keening' or screaming, in the night. The expression 'to howl like a Banshee' comes from this belief."

Darren Buckland,
Longford Road, Melksham, Wilts.

What are you trying to do, Darren? Get us hiding under the sheets at nights?

apes forum

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

ADVERTISERS ANNOUNCEMENT

PLANET OF THE APES FAN CLUB CODED MESSAGE

Use Code Letter E.

21.15.13.2. 13.14.1. 2.15.1.
18.20.14.2.15.4.13.2.1.23. 26.10. 24.13.17.1.23.
22.13.6.12.15.2.26.22. 13.22.4. 14.26.22.
15.13.14.3.1.14.?

Send your decoded message – and your answer to the fan club address. You must enclose your name, address and MEMBERSHIP NUMBER, otherwise your entry will not be valid.

A prize will be sent to the first correct answer opened – so hurry!

PLANET OF THE APES FAN CLUB
Dept. E., 140 PICCADILLY, LONDON W.1.