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**MARVEL**  
COMICS  
GROUP

# PLANET OF THE APES AND DRACULA LIVES™

9P

NO. 104  
WEEK ENDING  
OCT. 13, 1976

FROM  
THE DISMAL  
DEPTHS  
OF HUMAN  
DEFEAT, COMES...  
**THE  
ESCAPE!**

AT LAST--  
WE'RE FREE!  
**FREE!**

ARRGHH!





HAVING ACCEPTED ALDO'S CHALLENGE FOR A QUEST INTO THE **HUMAN CITY OF THE DEAD**, A STARTLED **CAESAR** VIEWS THE **CARNAGE** WROUGHT BY MAN'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS! AND IN THAT MOMENT, HE REALIZES ONLY **HE** CAN BRING ABOUT--

# VICTORY ON THE PLANET OF THE APES!

HIS GOAL IS TO RETURN TO HIS PEOPLE **KNOWLEDGE** OF THE DEVASTATION WHICH NOW STRETCHES BEFORE HIM--A BURNING VISION OF HELL!

AND HE KNOWS THAT VISION WILL BRING **KNOWLEDGE** OF WHAT STRIFE HAS CAUSED--AND WHAT PEACE CAN AVOID!

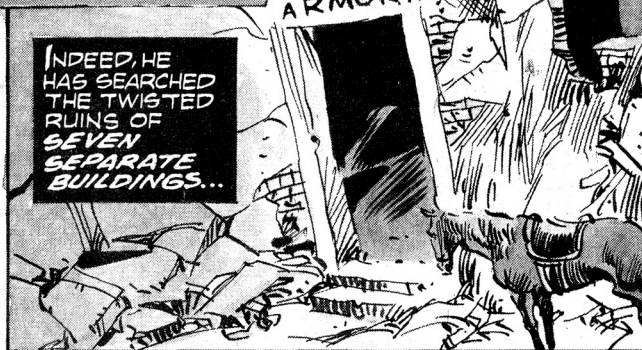
STORY BY  
DOUG MOENCH  
ART BY  
RICO RIVAL



BUT WHILE CAESAR SEES THE CITY AS A WHOLE... GRASPS THE NIGHTMARE VISION AT ITS VERY HEART... ALDO HAS SEEN FIT TO PROBE THE COMPONENTS OF THIS DEAD HELL...

ARMORY

INDEED, HE HAS SEARCHED THE TWISTED RUINS OF SEVEN SEPARATE BUILDINGS...



--ALDO FINDS THE OBJECT OF HIS QUEST.

AT FIRST IT SHOCKS AND FRIGHTENS HIM, WITH ITS UNEXPECTED AND VIOLENT REACTION TO THE MEREST TOUCH OF A FINGER...



...AND NOW, IN THE GUTTED BOWELS OF THE EIGHTH BUILDING --



...BUT THEN, WHEN HE REALIZES THE FULL IMPLICATIONS OF HIS DISCOVERY-- THE POSSIBILITIES TO WHICH IT MAY BE APPLIED...



...IT SIMPLY DELIGHTS HIM... AND FILLS HIM WITH SLY GLEE...

HERE IS THE PRIZE WHICH WILL MAKE HIM THE NEW RULER OF THE APES-- INDEED, HERE IS THE MEANS WHICH WILL ENABLE HIM TO CRUSH ALL OPPOSITION-- AND WHICH WILL EVEN ENABLE HIM TO--



ALDO--! COME ON OUT, ALDO--!



--KILL CAESAR.

COME ON, ALDO--!









AND WHEN ALDO AGAIN **RESUMES** PURSUIT, AND ROUNDS THE **CORNER** OF THE BOMB-SHATTERED BUILDING...

WHERE...  
WHERE  
CAESAR...  
GO...?

...HE FINDS THAT  
HIS QUARRY HAS  
IMPOSSIBLY...  
**VANISHED.**

PERHAPS IF  
CAESAR  
**JUMPED** NOW,  
HE MIGHT **LAND**  
ON ALDO AND  
SUCCEED IN  
WRESTING THE  
WEAPON OUT OF  
THE GORILLA'S  
STRONG  
**HANDS...**

THEN AGAIN, PERHAPS HE MIGHT  
**FAIL.**

AFTER ALL, A GORILLA'S  
HANDS ARE **EXTREMELY**  
STRONG...

...AND NOT TO BE LIGHTLY **WRESTLED**  
**WITH.**

**CAESAR--!**  
HOW CAESAR GET  
MY HORSE--?!

**BLAM!**

BESIDES, CAESAR NOW HAS MORE THAN  
**ONE** VISION TO CARRY BACK WITH HIM.  
THERE IS NOW A **SECOND** VISION-- THE  
VISION OF **INNOCENCE** CORRUPTED BY  
THE DEVICES OF **POWER...**

...A VISION CHILLINGLY **ETCHED** IN THE HATE-FILLED  
LINES OF **ALDO'S** FACE.

NOT WORK  
ANYMORE--!

CAESAR GET  
AWAY--!

BUT ALDO NOT  
**CARE--OTHERS**  
WILL WORK!

AND GETTING OTHERS  
MORE **IMPORTANT** THAN  
**STOPPING CAESAR!**

ARMORY



DURING THE NEXT HALF-HOUR, IN WHICH HE FINDS AND HITCHES A **SMALL CART** TO CAESAR'S HORSE, ALDO IS **STRANGELY SILENT** AND VERY **BUSY...** AND THEN, FOR SOME REASON--



GETTING OTHERS MORE **IMPORTANT...** THAN **STOPPING CAESAR!**

--HE REPEATS HIMSELF.

NIGHT HAS FALLEN **SILENTLY** OVER THE TREEHOUSE CITY...



...AND AT THE **HUMAN** QUARTER OF THE CITY, AN AREA WHICH MORE CLOSELY RESEMBLES A **STOCKADE...**



YES, BRECK...



...QUICKLY!

UR-K-K-K



...THE SOLE **GORILLA** SENTRY SUCCEDES TO THE **NATURAL IMPULSE** OF NIGHT, AND GROWS **DROWSY...**

NOW, MENDEZ-- QUICKLY!



HURRY--BEFORE ONE OF THE STINKING MONKEYS SEES US-- GO ON, ALMA-- HURRY!

BRECK--! WHAT ARE YOU DOING--?!



MY GOD, BRECK-- YOU...YOU'VE KILLED HIM!! BUT--BUT YOU CAN'T DO THIS! IT'S MURDER--!!

I SHOULD'VE KNOWN, MACDONALD...



I SHOULD'VE KNOWN THAT YOUR KIND WOULD SIDE WITH FILTHY APES!



**HURRY, MENDEZ--DRAG THAT HAIRY CARCASS OFF INTO THE BRUSH! WE DON'T WANT THEM TO KNOW WE'VE ESCAPED UNTIL WE'RE READY!**

**BUT HOW ARE WE GOING TO BE READY, BRECK--?**

**WE'LL FIND A WAY, MENDEZ-- PROVIDENCE ALWAYS FAVORS MAN OVER THE BEAST!**

**ALDO'S LAST HASTILY FIRED BULLET HAD GRAZED CAESAR'S MOUNT, AND AFTER BLEEDING THROUGHOUT THE LONG NIGHT, THE HORSE HAS FINALLY FALLEN...**

**THUS, IT IS JUST AFTER DAWN WHEN CAESAR STRIDES INTO THE SQUARE...**

**HEAR ME, FELLOW APES-- I HAVE RETURNED FROM THE QUEST!**

**GATHER ROUND THAT I MAY TELL YOU OF THAT WHICH I HAVE BROUGHT TO YOU FROM THE CITY--!**

**...AND AT THE SAME TIME CAESAR BEGINS TO ADDRESS THE CONGREGATING APES, ALDO PASSES THE STILL-WARM CARCASS OF HIS FORMER MOUNT.**

**--AND SO I HAVE BROUGHT NOTHING BACK FROM ALDO'S PROPOSED QUEST--NOTHING BUT KNOWLEDGE!**

**THE PRECIOUS KNOWLEDGE THAT THE OLD CITY OF THE HUMANS IS NOW A PLACE OF DEATH--A PLACE TO WHICH NO APE SHALL EVER AGAIN VENTURE!**

**IT IS A PLACE TO BE SHUNNED AND FORBIDDEN--AN AREA OF DREAD DEATH AND RUINS--A FORBIDDEN ZONE OF HORROR!**

**ALDO BRING SOMETHING BETTER THAN LESSON!!**

**AND WE MUST LEARN FROM THIS KNOWLEDGE --WE MUST LEARN THAT THIS FORBIDDEN ZONE OF HORROR IS THE DIRECT RESULT OF ALDO'S WAY OF THINKING! THUS, I HAVE BROUGHT BACK TO YOU A LESSON WHICH--**

**[IF ONLY HIS MOUNT HAD NOT DIED--IF ONLY CAESAR HAD GOTTEN TO THE CITY SOONER--HE MIGHT HAVE HAD TIME TO CONVINCE THEM...BUT NOW, SADLY, ALL EYES EAGERLY TURN TO THE TRIUMPHANT ALDO...**









AND IN THE  
SECOND PART  
OF THIS ISSUE: **THE SHOCKING AND SEARING CONCLUSION TO**  
**QUEST** FOR THE **PLANET** OF THE **APES!**





Dear Marvel,

I am greatly pleased with what I consider to be the very best Marvel mag in print — POTA, of course. As others have said in previous letters to you, I think you skilful adaptation of each of the Apes films was just too good for words, especially the ones of "Beneath . . ." and "Conquest . . ." By the way, any hints as to when you will be doing "Battle . . . "?

Again, on the subject of the number of pages that the Apes should be allotted. "Oh, no!" I can hear you groaning from here. "Not again!" No, I am not saying that the Apes should have all the mag, but, after all, it is the Apes mag so I think they should at least get half of the mag, say 15 or 16 pages.

The merger with "Dracula", although not long-awaited, was indeed not a bad idea on your part. In fact, I quite like it. Well, once again, many congratulations.

Kevin Green,  
3 Hilltop Road, Earley, Reading, Berks.

*Any time we can allow the Apes more space, we shall give it 'em. Kevin. But that statement also goes for each and every one of our characters. See the problem?*

Dear Stan,

This is a letter of congratulation and complaints. First the congratulations.

I think Planet of the Apes is the best comic in Britain. It has variety, good art and good plots. Your American comics are fantastic and, dare I say it, better than Planet. My favourite is Werewolf by Night, because it has fabulous art and a good story.

Although POTA is fab, get rid of Ka-Zar and Man-Thing and bring back Black Panther, he's great. There aren't enough posters in POTA. Could you put a full-page pin-up in POTA each week. Well, these are all the gripes. Not many are there? Car 't be bad, eh?

Stephen Norrington,  
18 Arundel Drive, South Harrow, Middlesex.

*Can't be bad? No. Steve. We're happy, if you are!*

Dear Stan,

"Planet of The Apes" and "Dracula Lives". Wow! What a fantastic mag! First the Apes section. Your film adaptation of "Planet . . ." was too good for words, and the same goes for

"Beneath . . . ", "Escape . . . ", and "Conquest . . . ", except that "Conquest . . ." was too short.

I am a keen Apes fan and I have tons of Ape stuff, and I can't wait for the adaptation of "Battle . . . "

Your own stories of the Apes are marvelous, especially Derek Zane and Jason. "Apeslayer" was a bit far-fetched. Your latest story, with Lightsmith, looks like its going to be a smash hit. Why can't you put some apes info with pics. in the mag?

Now onto the Dracula Lives part of the mag.

What's the matter with old Doc — why isn't he biting people's necks these days? Apart from that the story is just as good as ever it was. The Man-Thing is all right I suppose, but why not take him out and put the Frankenstein Monster in?

Mark Whitear,  
159 Sixth Avenue, Manor Park, London E12.

*Whenever we have worthwhile Apes info or pictures we promise to feature it in the mag, Mark. And Frankenstein's Monster hasn't retired. He's been around for a long, long time, and there's a lot of life left in him yet. Professor Frankenstein saw to that!*

Dear People,

POTA was a masterpiece. Yes, a masterpiece, which is more than I can say for past POTA mags leading up to issue 91.

The story was well-plotted, and I loved the use of language. Well done, Mr. Moench, but I didn't like the bit in which Alex and Jason were drunk. It was the one let-down in the book. Another professional touch was the note from Lightsmith's servant, Gilbert, saying, "Trouble, boss. Better come quick, before they set my pyjamas on fire!" The art was fabulous and Mr. Ploog's drawings of the apes are incredible.

Now onto the other features. The Night Staker was the best Dracula story I have ever read, though I didn't like the art much. The Man-Thing was very good. It combined

sadness and tension. The art was very good, too. Well done. Ka-Zar was rubbish, but in issue 91 it started to improve, almost coming up to the standard of American Ka-Zat ish 16.

Stephen Norrington,  
18 Arundel Drive, South Harrow, Middlesex.

*Er — would we be correct in assuming that you approve the POTA/DL merger? Yep — we thought so.*

Dear Stan,

We have been getting Planet of The Apes and Dracula Lives ever since it came out, and we thought it time we wrote you a letter. We have been more than pleased with your mags, especially the pin-ups, and we are over the moon now that the two mags have joined up.

We thought some fanatical Marvel collectors might be interested in the following information. We have all the copies so far of both POTA and DL, so if anybody out there wants back copies just send a stamped addressed envelope and state issue wanted and the price you are prepared to pay.

For Planet of The Apes, write to: Dean Hastell, 1 Brackenwoods, Chantry Lane, Necton, Nr. Swaffham, Norfolk, PE37 8EU.

For Dracula Lives write to: James McCowan, 3 The First, Hale Road, Necton, Nr. Swaffham, Norfolk, PE37 8EU.

Jamie and Dean.

*We sure hope you've plenty of supplies, boys, because the demand could well be staggering . . .*

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

# CHAOS IN THE COURTROOM!



LISTEN TO ME, YOU FILTHY APES! IF YOU WANT TO CONDEMN ME FOR HAVING INTELLIGENCE, GO AHEAD AND DO IT-- BUT I'M NOT DYING EASY!

IF YOU THREATEN ZIRA AND CORNELIUS, THE ONLY DECENT INHABITANTS OF THIS WHOLE STINKING APE PLANET, FOR TAKING MY CASE--

--THEN I'LL DEFEND MYSELF!

DOUG MOENCH \*  
WRITER

GEORGE TUSKA \*  
PENCILLER

ESPOSITO & HUNT  
INKERS











