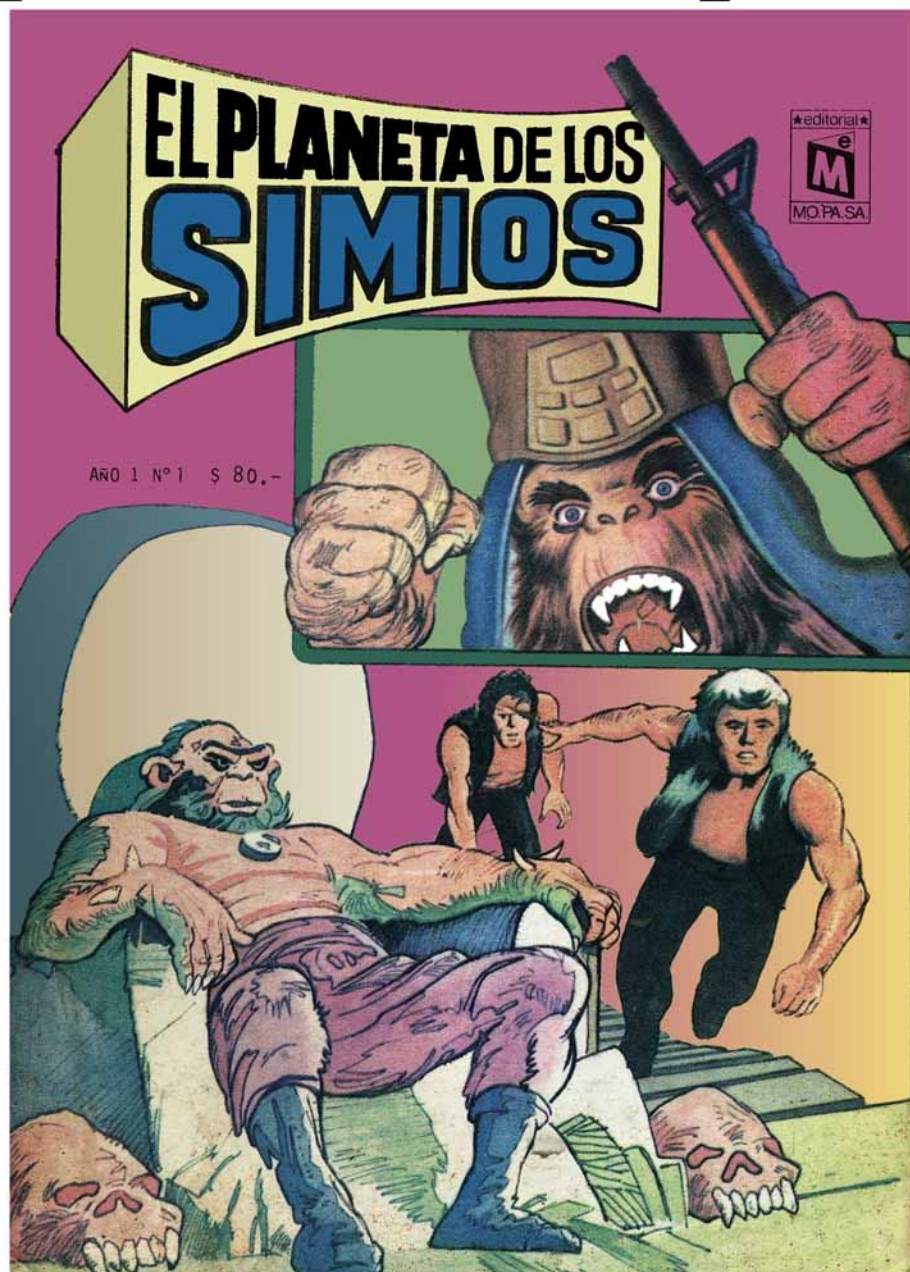


# PLANET <sup>OF</sup> THE APES



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#1

# PLANET OF THE APES



THE WANDERING JEW

CAN THEY RETURN? CAN THEY GET BACK TO THEIR FRIENDS,  
THEIR FAMILY, AND THEIR ERA? HOW CAN THE LOST ASTRONAUTS  
RETRACE THEIR STEPS THROUGH SPACE AND TIME?



HOW, IF HUMANITY HAS BEEN REDUCED TO  
SEMI-INTELLIGENT, SEMI-SENTIENT ANIMALS?



HOW, IF THE APES OF  
THE PLANET EARTH  
HAVE ACCELERATED  
THEIR DEVELOPMENT  
AND TAKEN OVER  
THAT PLACE THAT  
MANKIND LEFT  
VACANT?

HOW CAN THEY RETURN IF  
THEIR SHIP HAS TRAVELED  
TO AN UNKNOWN TIME - IF  
THAT WORLD TO WHICH THEY  
HAVE DESCENDED, THAT LAND  
OF THE FUTURE, HAS BEEN  
LEVELED BY THE MOST  
TERRIBLE OF WARS?



APES...



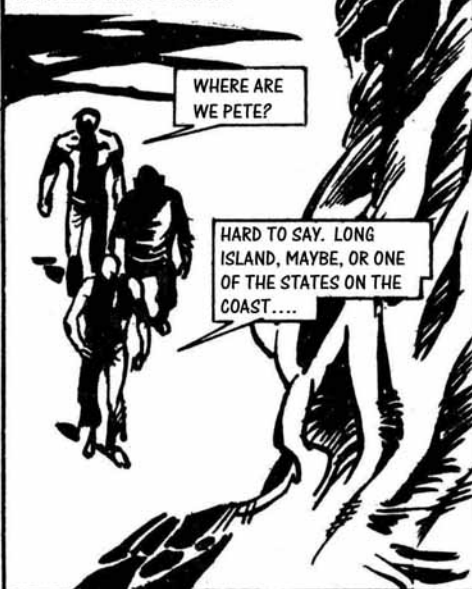
APES ARE THE NEW KINGS OF CREATION

IS IT PUNISHMENT FOR HUMAN PRIDE? A  
TEMPORARY REGRESSION, PERHAPS... OR A  
PERMANENT END TO ALL SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS?  
OR JUST AN OBSTACLE CAUSED BY DISASTER?



DO THEY TRY TO  
GO BACK HOME...  
OR TRY TO IMPROVE  
THIS WORLD OF THE FUTURE?

TOO MANY QUESTIONS. BETTER JUST TO KEEP  
SEARCHING, THOUGH THEY DON'T KNOW  
WHAT IT IS THEY'LL FIND....



WHERE ARE  
WE PETE?

HARD TO SAY. LONG  
ISLAND, MAYBE, OR ONE  
OF THE STATES ON THE  
COAST....

I DON'T UNDERSTAND...BUT KNOWING YOU TWO I DOUBT  
I'LL EVER GET AN ANSWER THAT MAKES ANY SENSE.



WE'RE JUST FIGURING OUT WHERE  
WE'D BE IN OUR WORLD, GALEN.



LISTEN!



THE WIND OFF THE SEA... BIRDS, PROBABLY GULLS... A WAVE BREAKS...



AND THE SOUND OF MUSIC!

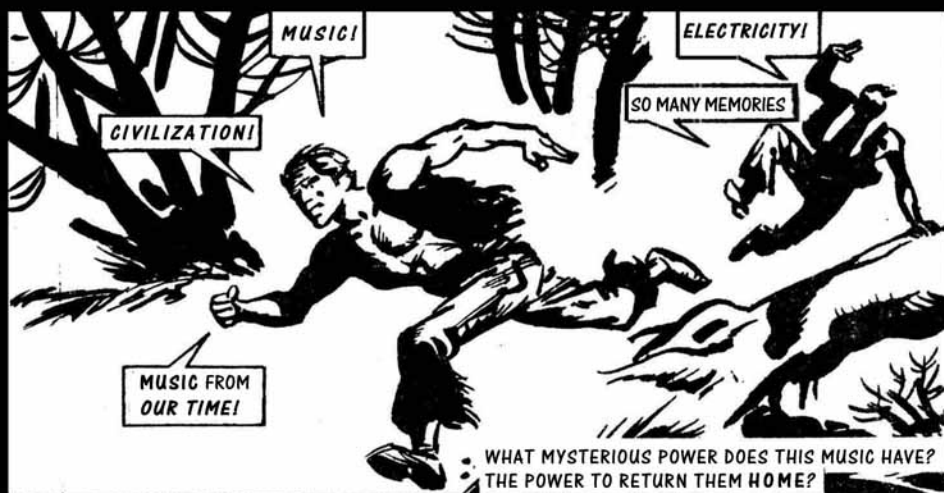
A SAXAPHONE, GLISSANDO...  
A TRUMPET.



AT THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF HEARING MUSIC FROM HIS TIME,  
BURKE DANCES LIGHT-HEARTEDLY ON THE BEACH.







SOON, THEY DISCOVER THE REMAINS OF AN ANCIENT  
TOURIST VILLA, ALMOST HIDDEN IN THE DUNES



BUT THE RECORDING... IS HERE.

THE MUSIC IS COMING FROM  
THAT SIDE OF THE VILLA...  
SEE... THAT TALL ONE!





HEY, YOU IN THE HOUSE!



WAIT, ALAN,  
HOLD ON! WHAT  
IF THEY'RE  
APES?

THE SOBERING THOUGHT OF APES DESTROYS ANY ILLUSIONS. HE LOWERS HIS ARMS

WE'LL SPLIT UP AND APPROACH  
FROM DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS



HOW? THAT SINGLE FOOT-  
PATH IS THE ONLY WAY UP  
THAT I CAN SEE

COVER ME THEN, PETE AND  
STICK CLOSE BY



YOU'VE GOT IT

CAREFUL!



FOR A MOMENT, IT SEEMS THAT BURKE IS GOING TO MAINTAIN HIS HOLD ON THE EDGE OF THE PIVOTING SLAB, BUT SOON IT FALLS INTO THE DARKNESS, ALONG WITH ALAN



NEARBY, GALEN OBSERVES THE FALL OF THE HUMANS.

WHAT! I'VE LOST THEM.. BUT NOT COMPLETELY. THE UNBEARABLE SCENT OF MAN IS EASY TO FOLLOW



BUT WHAT HAS GOTTEN THEM SO EXCITED?  
WHAT PRODUCED THOSE STRANGE SOUNDS?



UH-OH... HORSES!



TWO MOUNTED GORILLAS  
RIDE BY, BOTH SOLDIERS.  
GALEN HIDES IN THE  
THICKET

HOW DO YOU KNOW IT'S NOT  
JUST AN ANIMAL THAT FELL INTO  
THE TRAP



ONLY A HUMAN WOULD BE ATTRACTED TO  
THAT NOISE AND THEY ARE ANIMALS

INSIDE THE TRAP...

UNGH... PETE'S HURT. LOOKS  
LIKE A BROKEN ARM.



HEY, THEY'RE DANGEROUS!



THEY'RE SAVAGES! AND DIFFICULT TO DOMESTI-  
CATE! THAT'S WHAT DECREASES THEIR VALUE!

HAH! WHAT DID I TELL YOU? TWO  
MAGNIFICENT SPECIMENS! THE PREFECT  
WILL PAY US WELL FOR THEM!



APES! COME ON  
THEN! BUT YOU  
WON'T TAKE US  
WITHOUT A FIGHT!

WOULD YOU PREFER TO KILL THEM?

NO, BUT WE WILL NEED HELP. YOU GO  
GET SOMEONE AND I'LL REMAIN HERE TO  
WATCH THEM. YOU CAN NEVER BE TOO  
CAREFUL AROUND SAVAGE HUMANS!





THEY'VE BEEN CAPTURED! WHAT CAN I DO?  
I CAN'T CONFRONT ARMED GUARDS ALONE...!

THE MUSIC GOES ON AND ON, THE  
RECORDING REPEATING OVER AND  
OVER UNDER THE LIGHT OF THE  
MOON, PLAYING THE MUSIC OF A  
LONG-DEAD GLENN MILLER...  
SOMEHOW REVIVED IN THIS  
NIGHTMARISH PLACE!



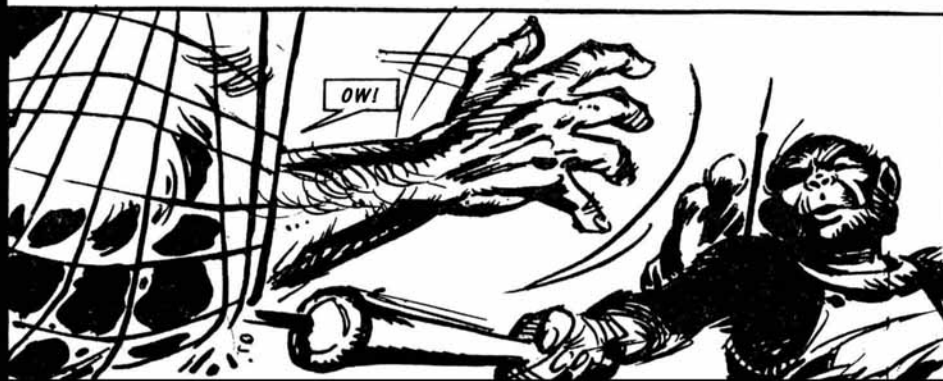
THAT SOUND! THE ONE THAT  
ATTRACTED THEM. SOMEHOW  
IT STILL AFFECTS THEM.

GLENN MILLER... GLENN MILLER... GLENN MILLER...

ENOUGH!







GALEN MANAGES TO REACH THE TOP OF  
THE TALL MOUND OF RUBBLE

THAT SOUND IS SO IRRITATING...  
HOW CAN VIRDON AND BURKE  
POSSIBLY FIND ANY  
ATTRACTION IN IT?



I DO NOT UNDERSTAND. WHO ARE  
YOU? WHO SENT YOU HERE? WAS  
IT THE PREFECT?

I DON'T KNOW WHO THE PREFECT IS.  
I AM NOT FROM THIS PLACE. I AM...  
A FRIEND OF TWO HUMANS WHO HAVE  
JUST BEEN CAPTURED IN A TRAP.



WHY ARE YOU HERE? I THOUGHT WE HAD AN AGREEMENT

HUH? YOU MEAN WITH THE APES?  
BUT WHAT KIND OF AGREEMENT COULD  
THERE BE BETWEEN AN APE AND A  
HUMAN?



TWO HUMANS? CAUGHT IN MY  
TRAP? WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?  
I AM AHASUERUS, A HERMIT.  
I HAVE NOT EVEN SEEN A  
HUMAN FOR MANY YEARS.

MY FRIENDS WERE  
ATTRACTED BY THAT...  
MUSIC. THEN THEY GOT  
CAUGHT IN THE TRAP AT  
THE FOOT OF THE HILL.



THEY WERE CAPTURED...  
BECAUSE OF MY MUSIC...?



THE VILLAGE PREFECT IS PLEASED BY THE SIGHT OF HIS LATEST CATCH AND EXCITED ABOUT THE POTENTIAL FIGHTING SKILLS OF BURKE AND VIRDON

WHERE ARE WE, BUDDY?

THE MUSIC WAS BAIT FOR A TRAP...AND WE FELL FOR IT. WE'RE NOW THE PREFECT'S PRISONERS.

PREFECT, THESE ARE THE HUMANS WE CAUGHT, ONE IS WOUNDED. PERHAPS WE SHOULD SACRIFICE HIM?

NO... WAIT

YOU STAND TALL AND PROUD. YOU STARE INSOLENTLY. I WONDER... YOU WOULDN'T, PERHAPS, BE THE HUMANS ZAIUS AND GENERAL URKO ARE LOOKING FOR?

WE MUST BE CAREFUL. PUT THEM IN A SECURE CAGE AND SEND FOR THE VETERINARIAN TO LOOK OVER THIS ANIMAL. AND SEND A MESSENGER... TO COUNCILOR ZAIUS.

AN ENORMOUS, QUIET ROOM. IT'S DARK. DIFFICULT TO SEE.

WHAT THE HELL IS  
THIS, ALAN?

IT LOOKS LIKE.. A THEATER. LIKE  
THE REMAINS OF A CINEMA  
HOUSE.

ARE YOU SURE YOU  
DON'T NEED A  
GUARD, DOCTOR?

SHHH! SOMEONE'S  
COMING!

IF I NEED YOU I'LL  
CALL, BUT I DON'T  
THINK I WILL.

WHICH OF YOU IS THE PATIENT? I AM  
DOCTOR KALIA, A VETERINARIAN.

A VET?! I NEED A  
DOCTOR, NOT  
SOMEONE WHO  
HEALS HORSES!

RELAX, PETE...  
MAYBE SHE  
SPECIALIZES IN  
HUMANS.

I THINK I'VE BROKEN MY ARM, DOC. IN THAT  
DAMN TRAP OF YOUR... ASSOCIATES...

I HEARD. LET ME  
TAKE A LOOK.

THE HAIRY, BUT DELICATE AND EXTREMELY AGILE FINGERS OF THE APE FEEL BURKE'S INJURY.

IT'S NOT BROKEN, ONLY FRACTURED.  
WITH A GOOD BANDAGE, IT'LL HEAL WELL.

WHY BOTHER TO CARE  
FOR US, DOC? SO YOU CAN  
USE US AS WORKERS?



NO... I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU ARE TO BE GIVEN OVER TO  
COUNCILOR ZAIUS, OR TO URKO, THE HEAD OF SECURITY.

DAMN! THAT WAS JUST  
WHAT WE NEEDED!

WE'VE GOT TO GET  
OUT OF HERE!



DON'T TRY IT. OUTSIDE ARE ARMED GUARDS WHO WILL  
KILL YOU WITHOUT REMORSE. TO THEM, YOU ARE  
NOTHING BUT FIERCE, NON-DOMESTICATED SAVAGES...

BUT NOT TO  
YOU DOC?

NO...



IF YOU WERE FIERCE, YOU WOULD USE ME TO  
ESCAPE; YOU WOULD TAKE ME AS HOSTAGE. BUT  
YOU RESPECT ME. AND FOR THAT REASON, THERE  
IS SOMETHING APE-LIKE IN YOU THAT ELEVATES  
YOU ABOVE THE HUMAN  
CONDITION.

KALIA, I...

THANKS





IT UPSETS ME THAT ZAIUS  
IS GOING TO DISSECT YOU.



UP ON THE CEMENT HILL...

WHAT IS THAT,  
AHASUERUS?



THEY ARE CALLED BINOCULARS. THEY LET YOU  
SEE UP CLOSE THINGS THAT ARE FAR AWAY.  
LOOK...

GASPI!

THEY'VE BEEN LOCKED UP IN  
THAT OLD RECTANGULAR  
BUILDING. IT APPEARS TO BE  
ABANDONED NOW. HAVE YOU  
ANY IDEA WHAT PURPOSE IT  
MIGHT ONCE HAVE SERVED?



IT'S AN OLD MOVIE THEATRE AND  
WELL - PRESERVED TOO... SOME  
EVEN HAD THEIR OWN GENERATORS.  
DO YOU THINK YOU COULD CLIMB UP  
TO THE ROOF? ABOVE ALL ELSE, YOU  
ARE AN APE.



YES... ABOVE ALL ELSE...

INSIDE THE THEATER...

KALIA MADE IT CLEAR WHAT SHE WANTS US TO DO, ALAN! SHE WANTS US TO TAKE HER HOSTAGE SO WE CAN ATTEMPT TO LEAVE THIS PLACE!



BUT WE DON'T KNOW HOW THE APES ARE GOING TO REACT TO OUR TAKING A HOSTAGE. WHAT IF THEY DECIDE TO JUST CAPTURE THE THREE OF US?

BUT WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE URKO ARRIVES! YOU KNOW HOW MUCH THAT DAMN APE HATES US!



I HAVE AN IDEA. THIS WAS ONCE A MOVIE THEATER... AND IT'S BEEN WELL TAKEN CARE OF. IT ONLY SEEMS TO BE MISSING A FEW SEATS.

HELP ME! CLIMB UP TO THE BALCONY! WE NEED TO GET INTO THE PROJECTION BOOTH!



KALIA REPORTS TO THE PREFECT

YOU SAY THAT THE HUMAN IS ALREADY CURED, KALIA?



HIS WOUND HAS BEEN TENDED TO, PREFECT. I WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THAT YOU...

LATER. LOOK WHO HAS ARRIVED...

URKO AND HIS SOLDIERS!

BY THE LAWGIVER -- I'VE  
GOT TO WARN THEM!



YOU ARE THE PREFECT OF  
THIS VILLAGE?

IN THE SHRUBS THAT SURROUND THE OLD  
THEATER...

I DON'T THINK OUR PLAN WILL WORK, GALEN -  
THESE WALLS ARE TOO SMOOTH.

BUT YOU SAID IT YOURSELF... I  
AM AN APE ABOVE ALL ELSE...

WITH SURPRISING AGILITY, GALEN ASCENDS THE  
WALL USING ALL THE NOOKS AND CRANNIES..

HE'S DOING IT!  
LUCKILY, THERE  
ARE NO GUARDS...  
THESE SHEER,  
NAKED WALLS  
DON'T NEED ANY.

KALIA ENTERS THE MOVIE THEATER.

ALAN! PETE! WHERE ARE YOU? THEY  
WILL BE COMING FOR YOU! URKO IS  
HERE!



UP IN THE PROJECTION BOOTH...

IT'S KALIA! SHE SAYS URKO  
HAS ALREADY ARRIVED!

ONE MORE MINUTE... THE GENERATOR IS  
STILL WORKING! IT EVEN HAS A LITTLE  
FUEL LEFT. JUST GIVE ME A MOMENT AND-



THERE IS A HUGE COMMOTION IN THE ENTRANCE, AS GLASS  
GIVES WAY BEFORE THE WEAPONS OF URKO'S APES.

FIND THOSE HUMANS AND KILL  
THEM! THEY ARE A DANGER TO  
APE SOCIETY



BUT... COUNCILOR ZAIUS WANTS TO EXAMINE THEM!  
YOU CAN'T KILL THEM! THEY'RE DIFFERENT!

WHO ARE YOU TO GIVE ORDERS TO URKO?  
BURKE! VIRDON! COME OUT! NOW!

LOOK - UP ABOVE -- THERE'S  
A DOOR IN THE CEILING!



THEY'VE LOCKED THEMSELVES IN!  
GET UP THERE AND KILL THEM!



THEY'RE COMING!



SUDDENLY... A TREMENDOUS EXPLOSION. LIGHTS, AND MUSIC. A ROAR OF MACHINE GUNS, MOTORCYCLES RACING, SHOUTS, ARISING FROM A HUNDRED PLACES IN THE SUDDENLY ILLUMINATED ROOM...





IT'S JAMES BOND!

AAAAAAAH!

DON'T BACK DOWN, STAND YOUR GROUND, YOU IMBECILES! IT'S ONLY HUMAN TECHNOLOGY, IT'S JUST A TRICK! **DESTROY THEM!**

YOU COWARDS! IT'S NOT MAGIC! NOTHING YOU SEE HERE IS REAL! IT'S JUST A FILTHY, HUMAN LIE! YOUR GENERAL ORDERS YOU, COME BACK NOW!

**DESTROY THEM!**

THE SOUND STARTS TO FADE... THE  
MOVEMENTS SLOW... THE LIGHTS  
BLINK...

THE GENERATOR FUEL -  
IT'S FINISHED!



THEN WE'RE FINISHED  
TOO!

IF THOSE COWARDS WON'T  
KILL THEM, THEN I'LL  
DO IT MYSELF!



THERE'S A DOOR THAT GOES TO THE BALCONY!  
MAYBE WE CAN GET OUT THROUGH THERE!



LET'S GO!

SLOWLY, THE PROJECTION GRINDS TO A HALT. AT THAT  
MOMENT, URKO CLIMBS ONTO THE STAGE.



NO!

I SEE THEM! - FROM HERE  
THEY'RE AN EASY TARGET!

NO!!!



NOOOO!!!



DR. KALIA SACRIFICIES HER LIFE... FOR THOSE OF HER "PATIENTS"...

OVER HERE! I HAVE A  
ROPE FROM THE BALCONY  
DOWN TO THE GROUND!

BUT WHO  
ARE YOU?

A FRIEND! NOW QUICKLY!  
DOWN TO THE HORSES!



IT'S THE HUMANS - THEY ARE TRYING TO ESCAPE!



BE CAREFUL! THEIR MAGIC IS POWERFUL!

STOP THEM! DON'T LET THEM GET AWAY!



IF YOU HADN'T HAVE BROUGHT THAT ROPE, WE COULD EASILY HAVE DIED BACK THERE, GALEN!

DON'T THANK ME... THANK AHASUERUS, IT WAS HIS IDEA.



AHASUERUS... WASN'T AHASUERUS THE NAME OF OF THE WANDERING JEW?



THE WANDERING WHAT? I CAN'T SAY  
AS I'VE EVER HEARD OF THAT ONE

AHASUERUS WAS THE MAN WHO  
REFUSED TO LET JESUS REST AT  
THE DOOR OF HIS HOUSE AS HE MADE  
HIS WAY TO THE CROSS. SO CHRIST  
CONDEMNED HIM TO LIVE FOREVER,  
WANDERING THE EARTH UNTIL HIS  
RETURN ON JUDGMENT DAY



OF COURSE MY FRIENDS...  
THAT IS JUST A LEGEND.

YOU WERE LISTENING...

ONE OF THE ILL-FATED VILLAS SERVES AS  
REFUGE FOR THE FUGITIVES WHILE NOT TOO  
FERVENTLY, UKRO'S PATROLS LOOK FOR THEM.



I FORGOT MY REAL NAME A LONG TIME AGO AND SO I CALLED  
MYSELF AHASUERUS. IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE  
TWENTIETH CENTURY MANKIND BEGAN TO EXPERIMENT  
IN WAYS TO PROLONG LIFE. I AM THE RESULT OF ONE  
SUCH EXPERIMENT... AS, I SUSPECT, ARE YOU, YES?





NO, OUR CASE IS QUITE DIFFERENT  
BUT... MAYBE YOU CAN HELP US.



JUST A MINUTE, ALAN! ISN'T THIS MAN A TRAITOR?  
CATCHING HUMANS IN HIS TRAP FOR THE APES?

I THINK I UNDERSTAND NOW... OVER THE YEARS  
THERE MUST HAVE BEEN MANY HUMANS WHO  
WERE ENSNARED BY MY MUSIC. LONG AGO THE APES  
AGREED TO LET ME LIVE ON THIS HILL, UNDIS-  
TURBED, PROVIDED OF COURSE, THAT I CONTINUED  
TO PLAY MY MUSIC. I WAS SO FOOLISH, I THOUGHT  
THAT MAYBE THE APES LIKED THE MUSIC, AND--



WHAT HAPPENED?

I DON'T KNOW. IT LOOKS LIKE HE  
PASSED OUT. I'LL LOOSEN HIS  
COLLAR...



OH MY GOD!

WHAT IS  
THAT?



HE'S... SOME KIND OF ROBOT! HIS CHEST IS MADE OF STEEL... BUT HIS HEAD IS FLESH!

A CYBERNETIC ORGANISM! HALF MACHINE, HALF MAN. A FUSION OF METAL AND FLESH CREATED BY SCIENCE!

BUT WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO MAKE SUCH A THING?

A MAN THAT ISN'T A MAN.. THAT LIVES FOR CENTURIES. PERHAPS ZAIUS IS RIGHT, PERHAPS HUMAN SCIENCE IS BEST LEFT FORGOTTEN

PERHAPS IT IS, GALEN. AT LEAST THIS PART OF IT ANYWAY

LOOK!

THE APES ARE COMING THIS WAY! THEY MUST HAVE SEEN US!

THE HORSES ARE IN THE BACK, AND THE APES AREN'T... AT LEAST NOT YET! LET'S GO!



FLEEING, RUNNING, HIDING FROM THE TRIUMPHANT NEW  
APE RULERS OF THE WORLD.



LOOKING FOR SIGNS OF HUMANITY IN BETWEEN...  
AND FINDING...

QUESTIONS...



HERE, IN THE EERIE QUIET  
OF A ONCE LUXURIOUS  
VILLA, A MAN STIRS.

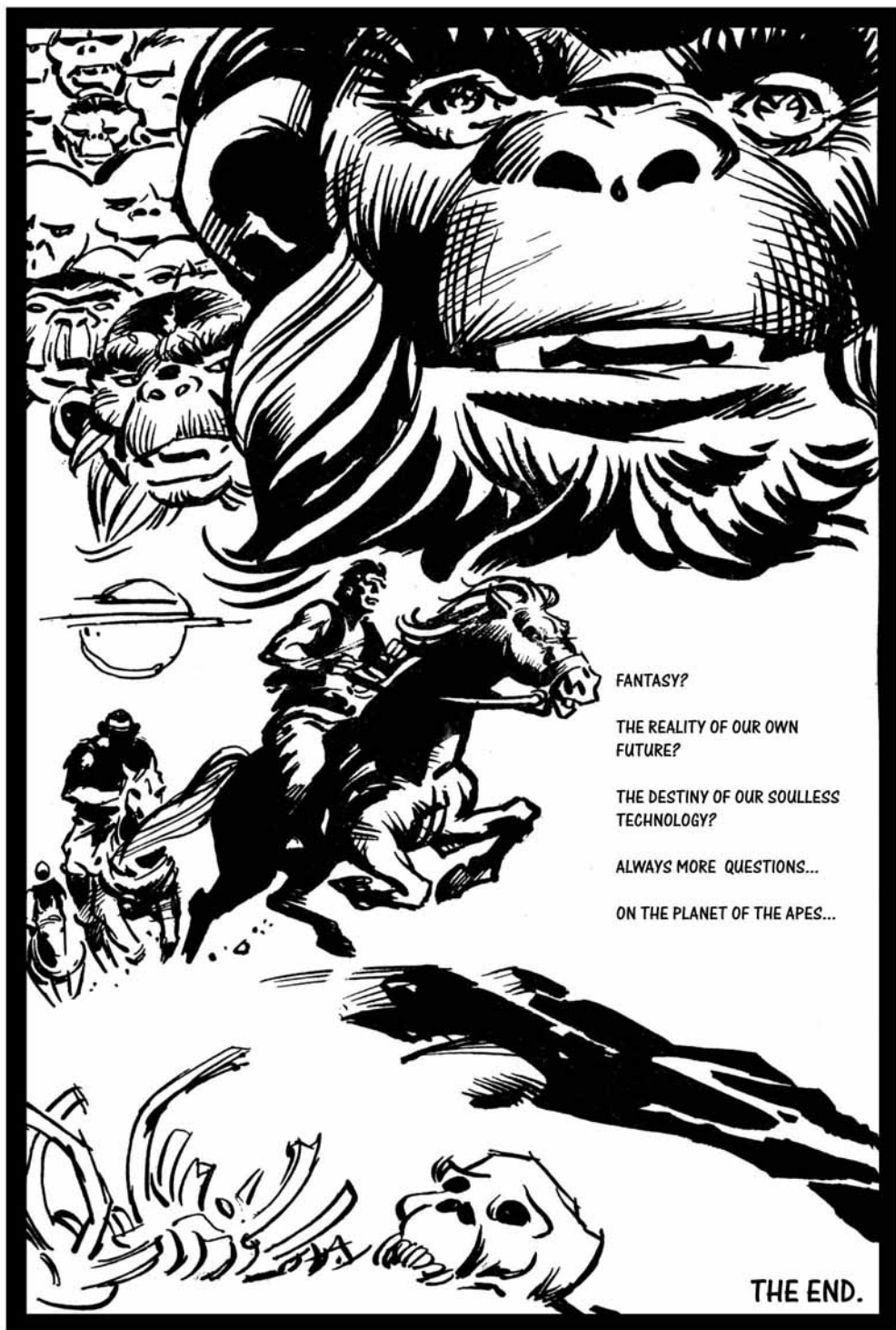


BUT... IS HE A MAN?

OR IS HE A MACHINE?

OR IS HE, PERHAPS... IN SOME STRANGE FASHION...  
**THE WANDERING JEW?** - CONDEMNED TO  
WALK THE EARTH UNTIL JUDGEMENT DAY





FANTASY?

THE REALITY OF OUR OWN  
FUTURE?

THE DESTINY OF OUR SOULLESS  
TECHNOLOGY?

ALWAYS MORE QUESTIONS...

ON THE PLANET OF THE APES...

THE END.

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