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FORBIDDEN  
ZONE  
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# THE PLANET OF THE APES: FORBIDDEN ZONE™



KEN HOOPER  
CYG





When I got the go ahead on this project, I went out and bought all the *Planet Of The Apes* videos and paperbacks, taped episodes of the TV series and got a copy of the soundtrack from the first film. I discovered a great many familiar names which have been associated with *Planet Of The Apes* in one way or another. Rod Serling was scripter on the first film, Jerry Goldsmith created the soundtrack and David Gerrold and John Jakes did novelizations. But the strangest connection came later.

While I was in the middle of writing *Forbidden Zone* I happened across a CD called *Flex...Plus*, a re-release of an old Lene Lovich album. Now, Lene Lovich is hardly a household name, but she has been a personal favorite of mine since I first heard her song "New Toy."

I immediately purchased the CD, then rushed home and listened to the music as if it were the first time (it might as well have been, since I had last heard the songs almost ten years ago). I was surprised and amused that one of the songs was entitled "Monkey Talk" and included the line "Monkey see, monkey do. Monkey want to talk to you." Talking apes, just what I was writing about. It seemed like just an interesting coincidence until I read in the CD booklet that Lene listed *Planet Of The Apes* as her inspiration for the song.

It's odd how things come together sometimes. The connections are there if we just look for them.



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EARTH, SOMETIME AFTER THE FINAL WAR. A WAR IN WHICH THE HUMAN RACE ATTEMPTED TO DESTROY ITS OWN HOMELAND.

THEY DID NOT SUCCEED. ACROSS THE GLOBE, ROCKETS OF LIFE SURVIVE.



Uhhh!  
Uhhhh!



HERE, THE REMAINING HUMANS HAVE RETURNED TO THE INNOCENCE OF NATURE. AN ALMOST IDYLIC EXISTENCE...

Hurr!



SAVE FOR THE FACT THEY ARE NOT ALONE.

PTWEEENG

HAWR?!



NO LONGER MASTER OF HIS WORLD, MAN IS NOW BUT PART OF A NEW ORDER. AND A SMALL PART, AT THAT.

THUNK!

RAWR!

AAARRHH!

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THAKK!

NO LONGER THE HUNTER, MAN IS NOW THE PREY.

IN THIS TINY ENCLAVE OF EXISTENCE, THE FORMER ORDER HAS BEEN UP-ENDED. APES RULE WHERE THEY WERE ONCE ENSLAVED. SO IT IS HERE, BUT ELSEWHERE...

ELSEWHERE, A FORBIDDEN CITY STANDS, ITS CRUMBLING, DESICCATED SKYLINE BEYOND THE SURFACE. DESPITE RADIATION AND FALLOUT, DESPITE MUTATION AND CHANGE, LIFE SURVIVES

GOT HIM!  
A GOOD, CLEAN  
KILL, ORKA!

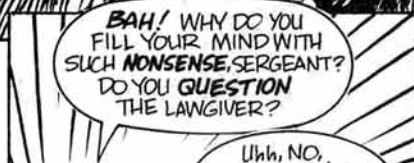
YES, YES!  
GOOD SHOT,  
COLONEL ARVO!  
GOOD KILL!

CLOP CLOP CLOP

FURTHER ON, BEYOND THE ARID EXPANSE'S SOUTHERN BORDER, LIES ANOTHER CULTURE. THE PRIMACY, WHERE PRIMATES OF ALL SPECIES LIVE AS EQUALS, IS THE SOLE SAFE HAVEN TO HUMAN LIFE. ALL ELSE IS A

**DANGER  
ZONE**







THE PRIMACY.

Uhhhh

DOCTOR, THE  
PATIENT *SEEMS* TO  
BE WAKING UP.

Ohhh...

WHA-!?

WHO--  
WHAT ARE  
YOU??

DOCTOR?

MAYBE  
HIS FEVER  
HAS  
BROKEN.

Uhhhh...

LET'S  
HAVE A  
CLOSER  
LOOK.

M-MONSTERS!!











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IN THE FORBIDDEN ZONE...

VRMMMMMM

HALT!



PERMISSION  
TO SPEAK, SIR?

GRANTED,  
CONRAD



THE MEN ARE **EX-  
HAUSTED** FROM THE HEAT,  
GENERAL JAEKEL. EVEN  
THESE **FREQUENT** STOPS  
AREN'T HELPING.

NO?



PERHAPS YOU'RE  
RIGHT, CONRAD. PREPARE  
YOURSELF. DESPERATE TIMES  
CALL FOR **DESPERATE  
MEASURES.**





MEN, WE'VE BEEN  
CHARGED BY KOLP  
HIMSELF WITH A  
HOLY MISSION.

BUT IF WE ARE  
TO SURVIVE TO FULFILL  
THAT MISSION, I MUST ASK YOU  
TO DO SOMETHING YOU MAY  
FIND ABHORRENT OR EVEN  
SACRELIGIOUS.



I ORDER  
EACH OF YOU  
TO REMOVE  
YOUR LIFE-  
MASK!



OUR  
MASKS?

REVEAL  
OUR TRUE  
SELVES...FOR  
EVERYONE  
TO SEE?



WE ARE SOLDIERS!  
WE DO WHAT WE MUST TO  
SURVIVE, AND TO  
CONQUER!



WOULD YOU RATHER  
HIDE FROM THE ENEMY,  
OR SHOW YOUR TRUE  
SELF IN BATTLE?!  
NOW, ALL OF YOU,  
FOLLOW MY EXAMPLE  
THIS INSTANT!



I WILL  
PERSONALLY  
SHOOT ANY-  
ONE WHO HES-  
ITATES!





IN APE CITY...







I BEG  
YOUR PARDON,  
COUNCILLORS, BRAK  
AND I HAVE AN UR-  
GENT MATTER  
TO DISCUSS.

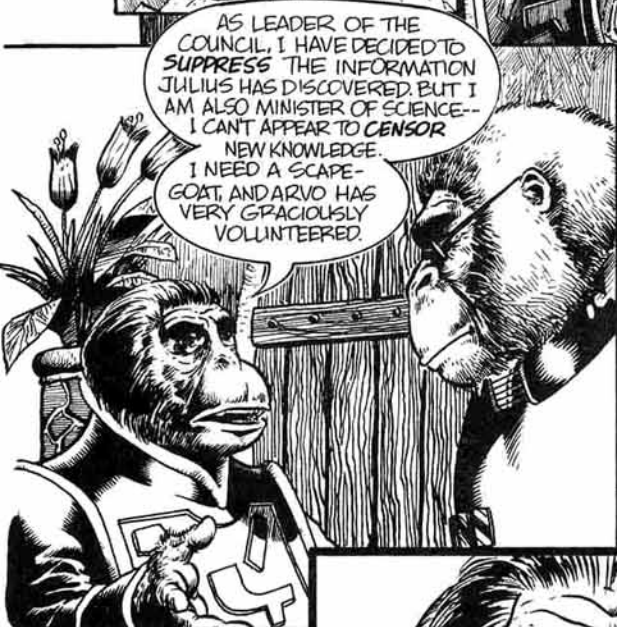


WE SHOULD  
HAVE SPOKEN ABOUT  
THIS EARLIER, GENERAL.  
BUT THERE WASN'T TIME.  
NERO WAS NOT PARTICULARLY  
DISCREET IN HIS RETURN  
TO APE CITY.



ARVO WAS RIGHT  
ABOUT THE CONTENTS  
OF THAT SCROLL. IT'S FULL  
OF HERESY AND  
SEDITION.

WHAT??



AS LEADER OF THE  
COUNCIL, I HAVE DECIDED TO  
SUPPRESS THE INFORMATION  
JULIUS HAS DISCOVERED. BUT I  
AM ALSO MINISTER OF SCIENCE--  
I CAN'T APPEAR TO CENSOR  
NEW KNOWLEDGE.  
I NEED A SCAPE-  
GOAT, AND ARVO HAS  
VERY GRACIOUSLY  
VOLUNTEERED.



I SEE. WHAT  
ABOUT NERO AND  
THE REST OF THE  
COUNCIL?

ARVO'S LITTLE TAN-  
TRUM WILL HELP CONVINCE  
THEM OF THE NEED TO  
KEEP THIS MATTER  
CONFIDENTIAL.

FOR YOUR PART,  
LET ARVO DESTROY  
JULIUS' FIND, THEN  
DEAL WITH THE COLONEL  
HOWEVER YOU WISH.



BUT REMEMBER, HIS  
SON JULIUS IS THE LEAD-  
ER OF THE EXPEDITION.  
WHATEVER THE OUTCOME,  
BE SURE HE DIES A  
HERO.



A SHORT  
TIME LATER...

BROTHER  
APES! FELLOW  
GORILLAS! WE FACE  
AN ASSAULT ON  
SIMIAN SUPRE-  
MACY!!



THE COUNCIL'S SO-  
CALLED "EXPLORATORY  
EXPEDITION" IS NOTHING  
BUT A **SHAM!** AN **EXCUSE**  
TO GLORIFY HUMANS! CAN  
WE STAND BY AND WATCH  
THIS HAPPEN??

No!

NEVER!



NO, WE CANNOT!  
I LEAVE TONIGHT TO  
DESTROY THIS **BLASPHEM-  
OUS** BAND OF **HERETICS!**  
WHO'LL RIDE WITH ME?  
ORKA? TAAK?

YES!

GLADLY!



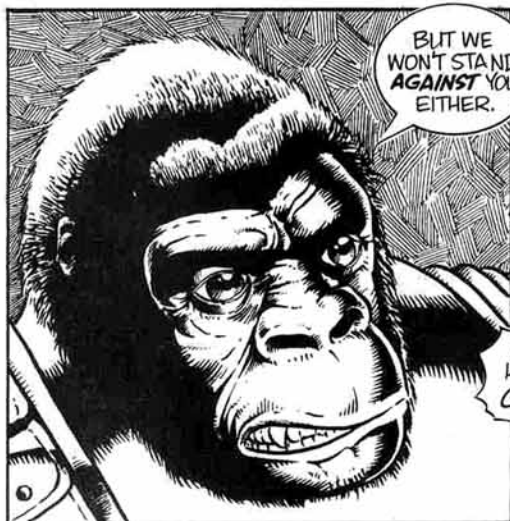
AND WHAT  
ABOUT YOU, DURGA?  
WHAT ABOUT BRAK'S  
RIGHT-HAND  
APE?

NO, MY  
TROOPS AND I  
WON'T RIDE  
WITH YOU.



BUT WE  
WON'T STAND  
AGAINST YOU,  
EITHER.

GOOD!  
HEH, HEH!  
GOOD!!



PRIMACY,  
ANOTHER DAY...





YOU'VE TOLD ME QUITE A BIT ABOUT YOUR CITY AND THE ARMY YOU SAY IS MARCHING AGAINST US, BUT AS COMMANDER OF PRIMACY SECURITY FORCES, I CAN'T TRUST THE WORD OF AN **OUTSIDER**.



IF WE'RE TO WORK **TOGETHER**, YOU HAVE TO WILLINGLY CAST ASIDE ANY TIES TO YOUR PEOPLE AND **JOIN** THE PRIMACY. YOU'LL HAVE TO FOLLOW OUR LAWS AND CUSTOMS. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?



IS SOMETHING WRONG?



N-NO! IT'S JUST THAT YOU'RE GIVING ME A **CHOICE**! NO ONE'S EVER **DONE** THAT BEFORE!



THE HOLY CITY CAST ME OUT--TRIED TO **KILL** ME! THEY DIDN'T WANT ME, AND I DON'T WANT **ANYTHING** TO DO WITH THEM!



I **DO** WANT TO JOIN PRIMACY! MORE THAN **ANYTHING**!

BEN, LAWGIVER... PRIMACY HAS JUST GAINED **ANOTHER** CITIZEN. NOW LET'S GET TO WORK!





NEAR THE EDGE  
OF THE FORBIDDEN  
ZONE...

I CAN'T UNDER-  
STAND IT, JULIUS.  
YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING  
AT THAT JUNK FOR  
HOURS!

IT'S NOT  
JUNK! EACH ITEM HERE  
IS A CLUE TO THE PAST.  
WHO KNOWS WHAT WE  
MIGHT LEARN?

IT'S WHAT  
WE'VE **ALREADY**  
DISCOVERED THAT'S  
WORRYING ME.

WHAT  
IS IT,  
ANTONY?

JULIUS!  
COME HERE!

I FOUND THIS BEHIND  
A VAULT LABELED "COLA."  
I THINK IT'S A MAP OF SOME  
SORT--IT'S ALMOST PERFECTLY  
PRESERVED!

MY WORD! LOOK  
AT THE **DETAIL!** WE  
DON'T HAVE **ANYTHING**  
TO COMPARE TO  
THIS!

THE **UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA!** THAT MUST  
HAVE BEEN A GROUP OF  
CITY-STATES!

WAIT! LOOK AT  
THIS, MARTIN! IT SAYS  
ONE **INCH** ON THE MAP  
EQUALS ONE HUNDRED  
**MILES!** THE AREA THIS  
MAP REPRESENTS--IT'S  
ALMOST **UNIMAGINABLE!**  
IT'S THE **WHOLE  
WORLD!!**

IT'S A **DEAD WORLD,**  
JULIUS. WHAT GOOD IS THAT  
MAP GOING TO DO WHEN ALL  
THE CITIES HAVE BEEN  
**WIPED OFF** THE FACE  
OF THE EARTH?



SEVERAL  
MILES LATER...



NEXT  
ISSUE:  
**BATTLE  
ZONE**