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

PLANT
OF THE APES

OUT OF THERE, HUMAN--NOW!

MARVEL COMICS GROUP

NO. 37
WEEK ENDING JULY 5, 1975

8P
36 GREAT PAGES

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OUT OF THERE, HUMAN--NOW!

YEAH, I'M COMIN'--BUT NOT EMPTY-HANDED!

THERE'S NO HIDING PLACE--BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES!
STILL UNABLE TO ACCEPT THE REALITY OF A WORLD IN WHICH BEASTS RULE OVER MAN, THE ASTRONAUT BRENT HAS PLACED HIMSELF UNDER THE DUBIOUS LEADERSHIP OF A PRIMITIVE FEMALE...

FOR SOME REASON, SHE HAS LED HIM TO THIS ADOBE-MOUND VILLAGE... AND NOW, ALTHOUGH SHE IS INCAPABLE OF SPEECH, SHE PROVES FULLY AWARE OF BRENT'S CAPABILITIES...

--BY URGENTLY, attempting TO STIRLE HIS voice... FOR SHE HAS LEARNED THAT ON A PLANET OF APES--

--THE SLIGHTEST SOUND FROM A HUMAN--

--MEANS INSTANT DEATH.

HALT-- OR I'LL SHOOT TO KILL!!

KRATCH
A BIRD!

I'M GETTING TOO JUMPY FOR THIS KIND OF WORK PRETTY SOON WE'LL ALL LIGHT A BED ENGIN'S AROUND EVERY CORNER IF WE KEEP LISTENING TO--

--GENERAL URSUS, AND THAT IS WHY I CAN ONLY PRAY YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING.

HOW CAN YOU DOUBT IT, DR. ZAUS? YOU--AS THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE--HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO FATHOM THE REPORTS OF STRANGE MANIFESTATIONS WITHIN THE FORBIDDEN ZONE.
AND MY FAILURE TO THEORISE AUTOMATICALLY RENDERS YOUR THEORIES CORRECT.

OH, COME, COME, DR. ZAUS, TWELVE OF MY VERY BEST SCOUTS HAVE VANISHED INTO THIN AIR...

ELEVEN.

ELEVEN, THEN, AND THE TWELFTH CAME BACK WITH INCREDIBLE REPORTS OF WALLS OF FIRE AND STRANGE EARTHQUAKES... HIS MIND COMPLETELY SHATTERED...

UNDoubtedly BY SOME NON-SIMIAN TORTURE.

INFLECTED BY WHOM?

WHO KNOWS? BUT THEY LIVE... AND THEREFORE THEY EAT.

NO, DECISIVE--!

I STILL THINK YOU ARE BEING HASTY.

DECISIONS ARE DERIVED FROM WEIGHING EVIDENCE. IT IS THROUGH EVIDENCE THAT A SCIENTIST ARRIVES AT THE TRUTH.

AND A POLITICIAN? AT EXPEDIENCY.

THEN LET US DISCUSS WHAT IS EVIDENT AND WHAT IS EXPEDIENT WHAT IS EVIDENT IS THAT IN THE MIDST OF OUR PRESENT OVERPOPULATION WE FACE FAMINE. WHAT IS EXPEDIENT IS...

... THAT WE CONTROL THE POPULATION.

AND BE OUTNUMBERED BY OUR ENEMIES? I LOOK TO THE DAY WHEN MILLIONS WILL MARCH UNDER THE APE BANNER.

THEN SHOULD WE NOT WAIT UNTIL THAT DAY... IF WE MUST INVADE? AND LET OUR ENEMIES INVADE US FIRST? I WOULD RATHER ATTACK AT MY CONVENIENCE THAN BE FORCED TO DEFEND AT THEIRS.

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AND AS DANGEROUS AS THAT?
WHAT IS MORE DANGEROUS THAN FAMINE?

THE UNKNOWN.
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ANYMORE.
APES THAT TALK AND FIRE GUNS.
HUMAN CAN'T TALK AND ACT LIKE APES--

WHAT ARE YOU POINTING AT NOW?

THAT ADOBE DWELLING.
I SUPPOSE YOU KNOW THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE?
OR... GOD HELP ME--

THE APES WHO LIVE THERE.

IF I HAD ANY PROPER SENSE OF SCIENTIFIC PURPOSE, CORNELIUS, I SHOULDN'T BE CUTTING UP THE HEALTHY HEADS OF HUMANS. I SHOULD BE DISSECTING THE DISEASED BRAINS OF SORILLAS TO FIND OUT WHAT WENT WRONG.

AND HOW WOULD YOU PUT IT RIGHT, DEAR ZIRA?

WET-NURSE THEIR BABIES ON THE MILK OF CHIMPANZEE--
THE MILK OF KINDNESS.

AT LEAST WHEN OUR BABY IS BORN, IT WON'T BE BREAST-FED ON GILE.

THE TROUBLE WITH US NEWLY-WED INTELLECTUALS, MY DEAR, IS THAT WE HAVE RESPONSIBILITY--

BUT NO POWER.
NO... THE POWER SAD TO SAY, IS RESERVED FOR THE MILITARY... AND THE MILITARY IS THE PROVINCE OF THE GORILLAS. ALL CHIMPANZEEZ ES KEEP OUT.

I THINK I'LL MAKE CHOCOLATE ICING, CORNELIUS. DO YOU LIKE CHOCOLATE? NO-- YOU DON'T, DO YOU? WELL, I LIKE IT...

AND EVEN IF WE DID TAKE POWER INTO OUR HANDS WE'D BE AS BAD OR WORSE-- THAN THEM...

RIDICULOUS! WE COULD NEVER BE AS BAD AS THE GORILLAS! THEY'RE A GENETIC ACCIDENT-- A MISTAKE OF NATURE! THEY'RE CRUEL BECAUSE THEY'RE STUPID-- ALL BONE AND LITTLE BRAIN.

SH-H-H! ZIRA-- DON'T TALK LIKE THAT!
YOU NEVER KNOW WHO COULD BE LISTENING...

NOVA-- WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

TAYLOR...

MY NAME ISN'T TAYLOR.

IT'S BRENT. YOU TALKED--! IMPOSSIBLE.

IN AN ENTIRE LIFETIME DEVOTED TO THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF HUMANS, I'VE FOUND ONLY ONE OTHER LIKE YOU WHO COULD SPEAK.

TAYLOR-- AN ASTRONAUT LIKE MYSELF.

HAVE YOU SEEN HIM? IS HE ALIVE--?

I DON'T KNOW. I'M TRYING TO FIND HIM-- AND THE LONGER I'M HERE THE LESS I'M BEGINNING TO CARE.
WE LOVED TAYLOR. HE WAS A FINE, UNIQUE SPECIMEN -- AND IF IT HAD NOT BEEN FOR ZIRA HE'D STILL BE HERE...

STUFFED -- WITH GLASS EYES... IN THE GREAT HALL OF THE ZANUS MUSEUM, LIKE HIS TWO FRIENDS.

WELL, I DON'T PLAN TO STAY AS LONG AS HIS TWO FRIENDS. THEN, LOOK, CAN YOU GIVE ME SOME FOOD, WATER, AND A MAP... SO I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING...?

AND YOUR SHOULDER -- IT NEEDS ATTENTION.

HERE'S THE MAP. I'LL SHOW YOU WHERE OUR CITY IS -- AND WHERE ZIRA AND I LAST SAW TAYLOR.

WELL, IT'S A START AT LEAST.

NOW, YOU SEE THIS RIVER WHICH FLOWS TO THE NORTH? IT ROUGHLY PARALLELS THE ROUTE WE TOOK WITH TAYLOR...

HOLD STILL NOW... WHILE I DRESS THIS WOUND...

OUCH! WHAT IS THAT DAMN STUFF YOU'RE USING? STINGS LIKE HELL.

YOU WOULDN'T KNOW IF I TOLD YOU TO JUST RELAX AND TRUST ME -- AMONG OTHER THINGS, I'M A TRAINED VET.

THANKS, I'LL TRY NOT TO CLAW YOU.

AS I WAS SAYING: WE LAST SAW TAYLOR WITH NOVA GOING THROUGH THE GAP BETWEEN THE EYE AND THE SEA.

YES, YES -- I KNOW THE FORBIDDEN ZONE.

WHO TOLD YOU THAT?

YOUR GLORIOUS LEADER -- THE BIG BRUISER WITH ALL THE HAIR ON HIS FACE. HE LIKES MAKING SPEECHES.

THEY WERE HEADING DEEP INTO THE TERRITORY WE CALL--
YOU MEAN TO SAY YOU MANAGED TO EAVESDROP ON--

BAK BAK BAK

NOW JUST STAY IN THERE AND KEEP SILENT.

QUICK!

OPEN THE DOOR, CORNELIUS.

BUT--

OPEN IT.
DR. ZAIUS--! WE WERE JUST GOING TO EAT--

NOT BEFORE I'VE TALKED SOME SENSE INTO THAT HEADSTRONG WIFE OF YOURS.

WHERE IS SHE?

WHY... Uh... WELL, SHE'S--

GOOD DAY, DR. ZAIUS.

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FACE? HAS THERE BEEN AN ACCIDENT?

FOR MY BAD BEHAVIOUR AT THE MEETING.

I DON'T BLAME HIM.

YOUR CONDUCT WAS DISGRACEFUL.

I DON'T REGRET IT.

BUT HIS NAILS NEED CLIPPING.

ENOUGH OF THIS NONSENSE! ARE YOU SO BLIND-- YOU TWO PSYCHOLOGISTS-- THAT YOU CAN'T SEE WE'RE ON THE BRINK OF A GRAVE CRISIS? YOU HEARD URSUS' SPEECH...

MILITARISTIC TRIBE.

ZIRA! PLEASE...!

PERHAPS, BUT ELEVEN OF HIS GORILLA SCOUTS VANISHED ON RECONNAISSANCE IN THE FORBIDDEN ZONE.

SERVES HIM RIGHT.

... AND URSUS IS DETERMINED TO HAVE HIS REVENGE -- ALL-OUT WAR IF NEED BE...
URSUS NOW HAS THE "INCIDENT" HE NEEDS TO EMBARK ON A RAMPAGE OF CONQUEST.

BUT THAT'S APPALLING! WHEN ZIRA AND I FIRST UNLOCKED THE SECRETS OF THE FORBIDDEN ZONE, YOU INTERVENED AT OUR TRIAL FOR HERESY.

I KNOW. THE PRICE WE PAID FOR OUR FREEDOM WAS OUR VOW--TO YOU--NEVER TO DISCLOSE OUR DISCOVERY THAT--

--MAN EVOLVED FROM THE APES INSTEAD OF THE REVERSE.

BUT TO REMAIN SILENT WHILE THIS BULLY URSUS DESTROYS EVERYTHING IN HIS PATH IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE.

Would you rather stand trial for heresy again?

No, my children, this time I may not be here to plead for clemency.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

INTO THE FORBIDDEN ZONE WITH URSUS.

ANOTHER MAN-HUNT, DOCTOR?

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THOSE SCOUTS IS MORE THAN THE WORK OF A MERE MAN. SOMEONE--OR SOMETHING--HAS OUTWITTED THE INTELLIGENCE OF THE GORILLAS.

THAT SHOULDN'T BE DIFFICULT.

ZIRA, FOR SANITY'S SAKE--!

AS MINISTER OF SCIENCE, IT IS MY DUTY TO FIND OUT WHETHER SOME OTHER FORM OF LIFE EXISTS... SOME NEW THREAT TO OUR APE CIVILIZATION... BEFORE URSUS BARGES IN AND DESTROYS THE EVIDENCE.
But if these creatures—or whatever they are—have proven themselves to be intelligent, why shouldn't they be able to live with us in peace and harmony?

For the same reason, man could not live in harmony, even with his own kind, he abused his own intelligence and destroyed his own world.

We apes have learned to live in innocence. Let no one be made or some other creature attempt to corrupt that innocence.

Why are you frowning? Is innocence so evil?

Ignorance is there is a time for truth.

And the time is always now.

Bah! Are you asking me to surrender my principles?

I am asking you to be the guardians of the higher principles of science in my absence.

I am asking for a truce with your personal convictions in an hour of public danger.

And you shall have it, Dr. Zaius. I assure you, or I... I shall hit her again.

Thank you, Cornelius. But let's have no violence, shall we...

Now I'm relying on you both...

And we're relying on you, too, doctor.

If I should fail to return from the unknown, the whole future of our civilization will be yours to preserve... or destroy.

So think before you act.

Good-bye, doctor... and good luck.

Continued next week!
Dear Stan and Co.,

So far, your stories are pretty good, especially "Terror on the Planet of The Apes", which I think was brilliant. I'd like to congratulate Doug Moench for such a brilliant plot, in which we had the Apes as both heroes (Alex, The Lawgiver, and Gunpowder Julius) and villains (Brutus and his mob). It also showed that the apes were every bit as "Human" as the humans themselves. Wisely enough the amount of featuring of humans, besides the Mutants, was kept down to a minimum (Jason and Steely Dan). In your other stories, the humans feature more prominently than the Apes. This is wrong. The mag is called "Planet of the Apes", so let's stick to the Apes, huh? Anyway, the gradual development of all the characters in "Terror" was equally brilliant. From the spineless Xavier to Brutus, Alex, Jason and the Lawgiver, they were all real life individuals with personalities and attractions of their own. Even to the final page of the saga's conclusion, they still retained this vital quality. As for Mike Ploog and Frank Chiaramonte's artwork, they really did credit a fine story. Altogether, as a team they are the finest trio that have ever worked on the Apes. They really have a gift of bringing characters and plot alive. Also depicted, was something I am most interested in, the Apes' culture. I am more interested in their culture than their technology. So let's cut out the idea of the Apes being a super-technological race who live in mighty modern New York metropolises. It just doesn't suit the Apes. Anyway, I can't thank you enough for bringing out those articles about the Apes films. Being an Apo-ophile I snap them up. I don't like the idea about having the mag in colour. It would just eliminate the high-standard shading, and then you'd have to raise the price.

Mark Powell, Carshalton, Surrey.

Dear Stan,

I think your magazine "Planet of the Apes" is great, but some of the stories you put with it are not very good, especially 'Enter; The Machine Age'. I thought the drawing was very bad. The posters are great, and the features you have about the Planet of The Apes films and TV series are good, I enjoy reading them.

Now I come to the main point of my letter. I have decided to collect all of the "Planet of The Apes" magazines, but I only came across it by accident. The one I found was number 13, and I have been collecting them from that number. I would like to know if the copies of numbers 1 to 12 are available, and, if so, will please let me know the price.

Mark Warren, Lowestoft, Suffolk.

Hoo Boy! As long as we've got fans like you, Mark, there's never gonna be any danger of us sitting back and becoming fat and complacent! You really know how to apply the spur. Not that we're complaining - 'cos that's the way we like it to be. In giving us honest criticism we reckon you're doing us a service. We only wish we could return the favour and do you the service of supplying you with those back issues you're seeking. But back issues disappear faster than the cakes that Mother used to make.

Dear Stan,

I think "Planet of The Apes" is one of the best comics you can buy. I also think that the Apes interviews are great. But that's not really what I'm writing about. I would like to know if you could bring out a book on how to draw Apes, because I'm keen to learn and have been drawing them for ages. (That is, ever since Planet of The Apes came out.)

Ian Sheppard, Barking, Essex.

We can only give you the advice we give to every Marvelite burning with the ambition to follow in the footsteps of Jack Kirby, Gene Colan et al. Decide upon the kind of artwork you most admire and keep copying it. Believe us, it's the best way to begin.
THE APES ON T.V.

We have no more information on the Apes T.V. re-runs, but meanwhile we are re-running some of the scenes from the T.V. series.

URKO SEARCHING FOR ASTRONAUTS VIRDON AND BURKE.

GALEN BURKE AND VIRDON IN APE CITY.