WHERE MAN ONCE STOOD SUPREME—NOW RULE THE APES!

PLANET OF THE APES

MARVEL COMICS GROUP

No 45

WEEK ENDING
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RUN, YOU FOOLS, RUN—
IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD!

IS THIS THE DEATH OF THE PLANET OF THE APES?
BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES    PART-SIX

THE AWESOME APE ARMY ON THE MARCH. A BIZARRE CARAVAN OF MOUNTED AND INFANTRY GORILLAS...RELENTLESSLY THREADING ITS WAY OVER THE RADIATION-MISTED TERRAIN OF THE FORBIDDEN ZONE...

...AN ARMY SEEKING ALL-OUT WAR...WITH AN ENEMY WHICH REMAINS MYSTERIOUSLY UNKNOWN...

THE HELL OF HOLOCAUST
...AND A VAST AND SPRAWLING LEGION OF MARAUDERS LED BY--

GENERAL URSUS--!!

...AND ONE OTHER, DR. ZAIUS, THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE...

LOOK HERE--IN THE GROUND--!!

SOME SORT OF MULE, URSUS--!!
THERE ARE WAYS DOWN THERE--WAYS TO REACH YOUR ENEMIES.

...A VAST ARMY LED BY TWO OF ITS SOCIETY'S MOST CAPABLE PERSONAGES...

YOU KNOW THE RANGE OF THEIR CITY--?!

...AND A VAST ARMY WHICH IS EVEN NOW TELEPATHICALLY OBSERVED BY THE RANKING HIERARCHY OF ITS STILL UNKNOWN ENEMY--

YES, MENDEZ. I KNOW THE RANGE.

...THE MUTANT INQUISITORS.

THEN PROGRAMME IT INTO THE MECHANISM AND STAND BY THE PRIME THE BOMB.
ALBINA, I WANT A PUBLIC THOUGHT PROJECTION CHANNEL AT BOTH ADULT AND INFANT LEVEL. YOU WILL PROJECT THE FOLLOWING ORDER: "CLEAR THE STREETS, STAY INDOORS..."

WHAT WILL YOU DO, HOLINESS?

YES, HOLINESS.

EVERYTHING NECESSARY.

I... SEE...

SIX VENTS IN ALL...

...DON'T WHICH THE APE ARMY DISAPPEARS...

...REDUCING A HORDE TO NO MORE THAN FOUR SENTRIES... AND AN ARMY OF RIDER-LESS MOUNTS.
MEANWHILE, STILL CONFINED TO A CELL DEEP WITHIN THE SUBTERRANEAN CITY’S LABYRINTHINE COMPLEX, ASTRONAUTS BRENT AND TAYLOR, AND THE INDIGENOUS HUMAN PRIMITIVE NOVA DETECT THE APPROACH OF...

FOOTSTEPS --- COMING CLOSER...

FLATTEN AGAINST THE WALL AND KEEP QUIET...
BRAK
AK-AK
AK
AK
AK

AK

AK

AK

AK

HASN'T YOU WASTED
ENOUGH AMMUNITION
XERXES--? WHAT ARE
YOU DOING NOW?

JUST
MAKING SURE
BROTHER... JUST
MAKING --
--SURE.

ONE CAN NEVER BE TOO CAREFUL. BROTHER TALLUS... AT LEAST NOT WHERE THE ENEMY IS CONCERNED.

THUS, EVEN IF THERE WERE ANYONE IN THAT ROOM...

"--THEY CERTAINLY WON'T BE ABLE TO BOAST ABOUT IT NOW."

BWHOOOOOM!

TAYLOR...?

Yeah, I'll live, you...?
Yeah, just a little shaken, nothing that won't... Brent--I look--over there--!!

We're free, Brent! That grenade blasted a hole clean through the wall??

Then what are we waiting for??

Let's go--!

I'm with you, Star-Hopper...

And now--that we're free, are you still with me--on what we have to do next??

You've got the same crazy idea I have, don't you?

Except it's not crazy. If these...people...think they're to fall to the Apes, they'll detonate the Doomsday Bomb, which is the end of the Apes--but also the end of everything else. The end of life--the end of the world. You told me so yourself.

Yeah...but I should try it alone...

Not when we can double our chances. Besides, you've lost a lot of blood from that knife-slash I gave you. You're gonna need help...

All right...agreed, but only if...
That was a gorilla in pain...

Yeah, and I can hear their footsteps at a run--coming this way!

Come on--back in the cell--!

We're doomed!!

Not even the lawyer can save us from the horror in this place!!

We must flee!!

Now!
SWUD! WUMP!

TAY...LOR...

NOVA--!!

T...TAY--

I SHOULD LET THEM ALL DIE...

TO BE CONTINUED!
GALEN, THE T.V. APE
Dear Stan.

I was very excited to hear in Ish 31 that Planet of the Apes is having a re-run in the summer. My sister, brother and myself like looking at the features in the middle about the TV series.

At school there are many female fans of the TV series. When we saw that Planet of The Apes was going to be taken off our screens we all had the blues for weeks on end.

I am thinking of joining the James Naughton and Ron Harper fan clubs very soon as I am a great fan of theirs. Pity there isn’t a fan-club for Roddy McDowall, as he is so cute when he acts Galen.

I love all three of the Planet of the Apes team and can’t seem to get tired of looking at them or reading about them.

Please put more pictures in your mag about the TV series.

Anna Brook, Worcester Park, Surrey.

Check back on your past issues of “Planet of The Apes” and you’ll find that in addition to a James Naughton and a Ron Harper fan-club there is a Roddy McDowall fan-club. And all three clubs are organised by enterprising Marvelites who happen to be, like you, ardent admirers of the three stars of the “Planet of The Apes” series.

Dear Marvel,

If any “Planet of the Apes” fans are interested, all five ape films can be obtained on 8mm movie film. Each film lasts approximately 15 minutes and is an expertly edited version of each movie. They are available in two versions, Black and White silent or colour sound. I have all the Black and White Silent versions, and I recommend them to any ape fan who has an 8mm projector.

L.H. Frost, Southend-on-Sea, Essex.

And here’s further proof of how right we were to label this page “Apes Forum”. The distilled wisdom is pouring in from all points of the compass! Take full advantage of it, life wasn’t always this good!

To all.

This letter concerns the comic magazine, Planet of The Apes. Going back to October, the first issue was magnificent. The artwork and tints were without fault; the layout of the magazine was well thought out, and from this one magazine the possibility of a fascinating specialty magazine developing was uppermost in one’s mind.

The second issue was, for me, a slight disappointment. The stories themselves were excellent, but this was let down by a shoddily-drawn cover.

All was well with the world until issue 11. In this issue Ka-Zar made his final appearance, “in order to devote more space to behind-the-scenes articles and photos of the apes movies and television show” we were informed. I regard this action as a mistake on your part. After establishing a character in the British Marvel scene, and a character so undeniably different, being Marvel’s only pre-historic English lad living in tropical Antarctica! He should be allowed to continue with the publication of his stories, the artwork of some being the best Barry Smith ever produced.

The second mistake came with the discontinuation of a continuing back-up story. The culmination of this came with issue 18, when Planet of The Apes took up nine pages, and a one-off science fiction story took up 20!

The “Apes” story from issues 20-22 was atrocious. The sloppy artwork did nothing to improve the boring, almost non-Marvel, story.

The ultimate atrocity came with issue 23. Planet of the Apes has become a name only. The latest stories were re-drawn, re-written, re-prints of the WAR OF THE WORLDS, featuring KILLRAVEN, and not Planet of the Apes featuring Apeslayer! Planet of the Apes is now a shadow of what it was before. A dream has been shattered.

Please bring back Ka-Zar. Print Ape stories from the American versions, not re-written War of the Worlds stories. Do this and return Planet of The Apes to its former glory for the sake of the dedicated reader and collector.

Ray Pinder, Watford, Herts.

You’ve criticised us in no uncertain terms, Ray, and we don’t blame you. Not one little bit. Because we uphold the right of every Marvelite to make his voice heard loud and clear whenever, he thinks that Marvel is straying from the proper path. What you’re saying is that the translation of a Killraven/War of the World saga into a Planet of The Apes adventure didn’t come off. And since you’re not the only Marvelite to express that opinion we’re certainly not gonna fight you over it. But we WILL do is put Planet of The Apes into the kind of shape that’ll please the majority of Marvelites. Okay?

Dear Stan and Co.,

Planet of The Apes No. 11 ended rather unusually, with Taylor facing the Statue of Liberty and the buried skyscrapers of a devastated New York. Let’s hope next issue’s Planet of The Apes is of the same quality.

Paul Donnachie, Ross-shire, Scotland.

Well, you’ll have seen that issue No. 12 by this time, Paul, and many a succeeding issue, too.