CAESAR, THE TALKING APE IS DISGUISED AS AN ORDINARY APE, STRAIGHT FROM THE JUNGLE AND THE CONDITIONING CENTRE...

...His former “owner” and friend, Armando, is being questioned by the authorities and Caesar himself is about to be...

...Bought and Sold!

I bid one thousand!
ELEVEN
HUNDRED.

ELEVEN-
FIFTY.

TWELVE
HUNDRED--/

GOING TO THE GENTLEMAN
AT TWELVE HUNDRED--
AND A VERY WISE CHOICE IF
I MAY SAY SO, SIR.

GOING...

...GOING...

BUY
HIM.

FIFTEEN
HUNDRED--!!
FIFTEEN HUNDRED BID BY MR. MACDONALD--

FIFTEEN HUNDRED AND--

-- FOR HIS EXCELLENCY... GOVERNOR BRECK...

GOING... GONE.

SOLD TO MR. MACDONALD FOR FIFTEEN HUNDRED--!

WOKK
GOOD...
VERY
GOOD.

NO. NO. NO. THAT’LL BE ALL. WE CAN GO OVER THIS REPORT LATER.

CLEAN IT UP--!

FEWSHSHS
IT SEEMS HE'S NOT SO BRIGHT AFTER ALL, MR. MACDONALD.

NO...

BUT THEN BRIGHTNESS HAS NEVER BEEN ENCOURAGED AMONG SLAVES.

STOP BEING SO TOUCHY, MR. MACDONALD - WE'VE ALL BEEN SLAVES AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER...

BUT THESE APES...

THEM THEY NEED IS A FIRM HAND... SOMEONE TO RUB THEIR 'NOSES IN THEIR MISTAKES.

AND RISK HAVING HIM DEVELOP A TASTE FOR SCOTCH...?

THAT MIGHT NOT BE A BAD IDEA UP TO A POINT. ALCOHOL HAS A TRANQUILISING EFFECT...

BUT NO... I IMAGINE THEIR TOLERANCE FOR WHISKY... LIKE THEIR TEMPER THRESHOLD... IS DANGEROUSLY LOW...

IF YOU FEEL THE APE'S UNSATISFACTORY, MR. GOVERNOR, WE CAN HAVE HIM SENT BACK FOR RECONDITIONING...

THAT ISN'T NECESSARY...!

INDEED IT ISN'T, MR. MACDONALD... BUT NOT BECAUSE OF YOUR SOFT-HEARTED REASONS...
MR. GOVERNOR, I DIDN'T MEAN TO--

"APE MANAGEMENT WOULD, BECOME IMPOSSIBLY OVERCROWDED!"

IF WE WERE TO SEND EVERY LOUSY APE WHO MUFFED AN ASSIGNMENT OR DISOBeyed AN ORDER BACK TO RECONDITIONING--

SIR, ALL I MEANT WAS IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT SEEMS TO HAVE AN EFFECT...

IT JUST MAKES THEM WORSE.

SOME OF THEM COULDN'T BE ANY WORSE, MR. MacDONALD?

I'VE BEEN HAVING A COMPREHENSIVE LIST COMPILED OF ALL...

WHAT WAS IT YOU WANTED ANYWAY? STANDING THERE LIKE A SCARECROW--?

I--I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU IT'S TIME FOR YOUR MEETING WITH THE DEFENCE COUNCIL...

SIR...

WE'LL TELL THEM I'LL BE ALONG IN A FEW MINUTES!
DEFENCE COUNCIL...?

I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT IT LATER, MR. MACDONALD.

HAS THIS ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE LIST YOU JUST MENTIONED?

IT HAS. BUT DON'T CONCERN YOURSELF WITH IT, MR. MACDONALD. I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU: YOU'LL BE GIVEN FULL DETAILS... IN DUE TIME.

BUT BACK TO THE ISSUE...

WE'RE GOING TO SET A GOOD EXAMPLE AND RECONDITION OURSELVES...

WE HAVEN'T NAMED HIM YET, HAVE WE...?

NO, MR. BRECK. WE HAVE NOT NAMED HIM.

WELL...

I THINK, MR. MACDONALD, THAT I SHOULD LIKE TO MAINTAIN A CHARMING TRADITION INAUGURATED IN HER LIFETIME BY MY WIFE...
IT SERVED QUITE WELL FOR OUR CHILDREN...

NOW WATCH, YOU STUPID APE...

WE SHALL LET HIM CHOOSE HIS OWN.

JUST OPEN THE BOOK AT RANDOM...

AND STAB YOUR HAIRY FINGER ONTO THE PAGE. WHATEVER NAME IT FALLS ON IS YOURS.
CAESAR... A KING...

YES...

THEY'RE WAITING FOR YOU IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER. OF COURSE THEY ARE...

BLZZZ

MR. MACDONALD, I WANT YOU TO KEEP YOUR EYE ON... CAESAR...

... AS YOU DETAIL HIM TO THE COMMAND POST.

YES, SIR. I WOULDN'T DO IT ANY OTHER WAY.
AH, SENOR ARMANDO--WE HAVE GOOD NEWS FOR YOU... PLEASE SIT DOWN.

THAT WILL BE ALL.

GOOD... NEWS...? YES, YOU ARE TO BE RELEASED.

INSPECTOR HOSKINS AND I HAVE BECOME CONVINCED THAT YOUR APE IS NOT THE CHILD OF THE TWO TALKING CHIMPANZEES FROM THE FUTURE.

YOU... YOU'VE FOUND HIM...? NO, BUT WE'RE SURE HE'LL TURN UP EVENTUALLY. I HOPE YOU'LL EXCUSE THE INCONVENIENCE WE'VE CAUSE YOU, BUT...

WELL, IT WAS UNAVOIDABLE.

THEN... I'M FREE TO GO...? AS SOON AS YOU SIGN THIS SWORN DECLARATION... WHAT DOES IT... SAY?

ONLY WHAT YOU'VE BEEN TELLING US ALL ALONG...

THAT YOUR CIRCUS APE IS INCAPABLE OF SPEECH-- AND THAT TO YOUR KNOWLEDGE HAS NEVER UTERED A SINGLE WORD.

EXCELLENT. NOW WE'LL JUST CHECK IT WITH THE AUTHENTICATOR AND YOU CAN BE ON YOUR WAY.
AUTHENTICATOR...?
MERELY A
FORMALITY.
SEÑOR
ARMANDO.
JUST SIT RIGHT
WHERE YOU
ARE...
IT WON'T
TAKE A
MOMENT.

KLITCH!

BUT... WHAT DOES... THE
AUTHENTICATOR... DO...?

KLITCH!

IT MERELY MAKES
PEOPLE TELL THE TRUTH.
SEÑOR ARMANDO, QUITE
PAINLESS, I ASSURE
YOU...

FOR
INSTANCE:
YOU SAID
YOU FIRST
HEARD THE
NAME
CORNELIUS
IN THIS
OFFICE:
IS THAT
TRUE?

NO, I MEAN--
Dear Stan,

I thought I might tell all devoted POTA lovers that a record was released a few months ago by a group called SHABAM, and it is called "On the Planet of the Apes". It's a catchy little number and I feel many of the ape-lovers will like it. It's on the PYE record label and the number is 7N 45422.

Ms Zira, Leeds, Yorks.

Well, if it isn't Zira, doing a stint on the information front. Know what you're in danger of doing, Zira? You're in distinct peril of winning yourself friends among the humans!

Dear Stan,

The first time I saw the "Planet of the Apes" mag was last Saturday, and as I'm another of the world's devoted fans I bought it. It's really fab. But after reading the letters printed in it, I've missed an awful lot of wonderful info and pictures about the TV series, which I adore even more than the films. Answering a letter, you said you don't have back copies, so I can't get hold of the missing issues from you. Please can any other fan who has the series, write anything about the TV series in contact me. I'll willingly buy them for more than the official price, if only someone will part with the precious things.

Also, luverly, luverly Stan, can you print some more articles on the series, as I'm sure there are many other fans who've missed issues and are in the same position as I'll of me.

Amanda Hiff, 71 Lees Hall Road, Norton Lees, Sheffield, Yorks.

Oh, Mandy! Oh what you've been missing! But all is not lost. Because it's our firm intention to re-publish some of the info and pics that have already appeared in Planet of the Apes. You see, others, as well as you, have been bewailing the fact that they weren't among those present in the early days. But don't worry, we'll be accepting no excuses.

Dear Gang,

I hope you will bear with me when you hear my sad tale. The TV company in my area, Scottish Television Ltd., did not show PLANET OF THE APES when it first came out over one year ago. So, I recently wrote to them to ask if they would ever show it. They replied . . . . the programme was much less popular than had been expected . . . . no likelihood of our showing it . . . .

Not being one to give up easily, I wrote back. I told them that there were comics, posters, games, books and sequels . . . . I mentioned the PeTA comic by Marvel and said that it was the top-selling Marvel weekly. They replied that they would take no further steps concerning the programme.

But you and I know the programme was very popular. So CALLING ALL PLANET OF THE APES FANS IN THE STV AREA!! Write to "David Johnston, Scottish Television Ltd., Cowcaddens, Glasgow" and tell him you want to see Planet of the Apes. If it worked for Spiderman it can work for us. So write NOW!!

Steven Winetrobe, Glasgow.

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We admire your tenacity, Steve, and it's the fervent hope of every one of us here in the Bullpen that such devoted persistence as yours will finally reap its just reward. And we'll be watching results—KEENLY!

Dear Stan and Co.,

At the moment I am reading your adaptation of Escape From the Planet of the Apes, and with the exception of a few lapses from the original story here and there, I am quite impressed. In my opinion, the comic has picked itself up a bit now, after being in a rut for quite some time. It started off well in October '74 with a first issue that promised us adventure, excitement and non-stop action all the way. Then came two back-up features in Kazar and Gullivar Jones, both of which were well-drawn and thought-out, and provided a lively blend of jungle action and space intrigue. Unfortunately, by issue 12, both of these fine features had disappeared, together with the excellent adaptation of the first film, "Planet of the Apes."

"Terror...?" Well, it wasn't at all bad, but a combination of sloppy inking and drawn-out story-lines made me feel rather glad when it ended. Of course, it was around this time that we had a string of really fine, informative articles on the films and TV series, all of which lifted the mag no end. Then came Apeslayer, and unfortunately this is where the mag dropped to its lowest low. On the verge of discontinuing my purchase of this once-great comic, I decided to persist, and, happily, I was right to do so. The standard improved and you gave us "Kingdom, "Beneath," and now, or course, "Escape."

But ever since number 2 there has been one major problem WHY CAN'T YOU GIVE THE APES MORE SPACE? I am not saying you should stop printing these science-fiction stories completely, but at least give the Apes more than 10 pages out of 36!!!

Mark Farrell, St. Albans, Herts.

First let us say that we're unreservedly delighted to know that, according to your scorecard, we're once again in the right groove. Apart, that is, from your eloquent plea for more Apes space. Output is the chief stumbling block, Mark. Filling, say, 10 pages per week is a formidable task for any artist, and to ask an artist for more would be inviting a breakdown, a walkout or worse. Okay, we could double-up on artists and have one story being prepared whilst another is being published. The theory's fine, but in our kind of industry it hardly ever works. There are always so many IMMEDIATE problems screaming for attention that beaver away on something for the future just never gets done.

Dear Whoever gets This Letter,

I am writing to you to say, I have all the Planet of the Apes books, all your magazines and one annual. And do you know why I bought them all? No? Well, I didn't buy them because I thought Planet of the Apes is coming out today and I can't wait to see what sticky position Warlock is in, or Captain Marvel is in. No—I buy them because I am fascinated about the theory that apes could rule the Earth. And I think it could possibly happen in the near future. And if you ever stop your weekly mag I would keep them until I died, because with such a nut-cracking theory man may take more notice of it if it did happen.

Iain Street, Sutton Coldfield, Warks.

Apes taking over in the NEAR future you think, hero? You should see the nail-biting that's going on in the Bullpen. Just how "near" is "near"?