Where man stood supreme...now rule the APES!

PLANET OF THE APES

8p

MARVEL COMICS GROUP

No. 77
WEEK ENDING APRIL 10, 1976

LET THIS BATTLE CEASE...
SLAY THE HUMAN AND THE APE!

NOW!

WE HEAR--AND OBEY!

TRAPPED--IN A WORLD GONE MAD!
THE PLANET INHERITORS!
A vile stench fills the campsite of circled Gypsy wagons. It is the stench of seared flesh, a burning smell of charred ash which had once lived and breathed as the chimp called Grimally.

Driven by jealousy over the dark beauty of Malagueria, Grimally had tried to murder Jason, and was defeated and humiliated by Brutus. The act, however, was nothing but a favor of mercy.

You are a fool, human... as are all of your kind. I watched your knifeduel with the chimp. You should have taken his life when you had the chance... as I will see that your life is taken.

His name is Brutus, Malagueria. And he's... lousy vermin-ridden...

Easy, Jason. Remember he's the one holding that mutant steel weapon.

Jason-- wh—who is he...

Brutus, someday I'm going to make you choke on that filthy lying tonsue of yours.

You know damn well that you murdered your wife... in cold blood and without a second thought... because she learned that you, her beloved husband... the Honored Peace Officer of the City... was actually the secret leader of the Ape Terrorist Group...!

As an accomplice to the cowardly murder of my wife... as companion by the human scum otherwise known as Jason.

I suppose I should congratulate you for your perception, Alexander...

But instead, it is my duty as Peace Officer of the City to announce to you... as well as the human... are under arrest...

Story: DOUG MOENCH  Art: MIKE FLOOD
Let him go, Alexander. You see, there are two options retrieved to the city. There to be executed, or he may be slain here while resisting arrest. At this stage, I must confess a preference for the latter option.

The citizens won't stand for this. If you murder the lawgiver...

The citizens will never know. Besides, I said nothing about murder. You see, mutant. I'm guessing here has something intriguing in mind for the lawgiver...

Or more precisely, those primitives have something in mind.

I'd be a mighty sorry excuse for a lawgiver if I couldn't, Julius. Just make sure you wipe your gums. Soon's I commence to whoopin' an' killin'.
THE INHERITORS...?! THOSE BIG BRAINS WHO TELL THESE PUSH-FACES EVERY MOVE TO MAKE...?!

I'D RATHER DIE THAN LET YOU TURN THE LAWGIVER OVER TO THEM...!

AND I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU, HUMAN...

YOUR DEATH CAN EASILY BE ARRANGED.

WHY DON'T YOU PUT YOUR WEAPON DOWN AND SAY THAT...?!

WHY DON'T YOU FACE ME BY YOURSELF?!

JUST YOU AND ME, BRUTUS! FIST AGAINST FIST—HUMAN AGAINST APE...

MALASQUEÑA, YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S DONE—HOW HE'S MOURNED ME, AND EVEN HOW HE MURDERED MY PARENTS AND HELPED THE MUTANTS TO CAPTURE THE LAWGIVER!

HE'S SERIOUS. THE WAY HE KILLED GRIMALDI... HE'D JUST AS EASILY KILL YOU. WE'VE JUST MET, JASON... DO YOU WANT TO DIE BEFORE WE EVEN GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER...?

MALASQUEÑA, YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S DONE—HOW HE'S MOURNED ME, AND EVEN HOW HE MURDERED MY PARENTS AND HELPED THE MUTANTS TO CAPTURE THE LAWGIVER!

HE WANTS TO MURDER EVERY HUMAN ALIVE—INCLUDING YOU! I CAN'T JUST STAND ASIDE AND LET HIM DO IT...!

VERY TOUCHING... NOBILITY AND MUTUAL AFFECTION...

I HAD THOUGHT BOTH CHARACTERISTICS WERE BEYOND THE CAPABILITIES OF HUMANS...

STILL, NEITHER WILL DO YOU ANY GOOD. AS LONG AS I'M IN CONTROL OF THIS SITUATION, I ASSURE YOU THERE IS NO HOPE FOR--

YEEEEEE-HAAAAAHH!!
"- But that mush-face over there is pulling out his steely-weapon!"

"No one is more adept at their hand-ling than I, Saraband..."

"Have no fear, my friends, if it is weapons they choose..."

"Brutus—what should I do?"

"Your rifle, Waro! I use your—"

"Uhhnn!!"

"That's purty fancy—how Julian the bear couldn't hug a skunk no better!"

"How you doin', Jason?"

"I got this one all right—"

"Nowy, neighbor—just droppin' by, is all!!"

"—But he can't shock all those weird jokers by himself!!"

"Come on, Alex—Dan's got the spirit—"

"- No one is more adept at their hand-ling than I, Saraband... the most expert knife-thower in the old land as well as the new..."
REVENGE WON'T SOLVE A THING, JASON! IF THIS DANGEROUS AND GROWING NOTION OF ANY SUPREMACY GOES UNHALTED, THEN BRUTUS MUST BE TAKEN BACK TO THE CITY -- AND EXPOSED FOR THE NATE-MONGER HE IS!!!

AND WHO'LL BELIEVE IT-- HIS APE FOLLOWERS?!

BESIDES, LAW- SHERI, WOULD YOU PROTEST SO MUCH IF THE ROLES WERE REVERSED -- AND BRUTUS WAS A HUMAN, TRYING TO ANNihilate YOU?!

I'M HUMAN, JASON -- AND NO MERCY WAS EVER LOST PLEASE, JASON, NO MATTER WHO THE VICTIM IS, A MURDERER COULD NEVER RECEIVE MY LOVE...

NO, LAWSHERI -- TIME FOR MERCY. PREDICT WHEN BRUTUS WILL BE HANGED TO DEATH!!!!

BUT ONLY TO BE EXECUTED BY THE TRIBUNAL.

THAT'S THE BOY, JASON. LAWSHES SOMETIMES GIVE ME A BELLJACKEY ACHIEVE WITH THEIR ALL-FIRED FOOLISHNESS... BUT I'VE KNOWN ONE OR TWO O' EM'TH TAH MAKE SENSE.

BESIDES, I GOT ME A BETTER IDEA FOR TEACHIN' THIS BRUTUS A LESSON.

THAT'S RIGHT, MR. BRUTUS... I BEEN HEARIN' AN AWFUL DANGED LOT ABOUT YOU... AND IF ONLY HALF O' WHAT I BEEN HEARIN' IS TRUE--

THEN YOU'RE THE LOWEST SLIME-SLATHERIN' SON OF A SCARY SEA-SNAKE THAT EVER DIRTIED THE GROUND WITH ITS SNEAKY BELLY-CRAWLIN'....

LOVE, THE WORD, SPOKEN BY THIS GIRL, HE BARELY KNOWS, SEEMS TO HARDEN HIS HEART. IN HIS HAND... Assuaging the fever of hate AND THROUGH STYLISH SLOWINGS AND DISMANTLING.-- JASON REVIVES THE MURDERER OF HIS PARENTS...

ALL RIGHT, HE'LL LIVE...

HE RISES, FISTS CLINCHED AT SIDES...

I FIGGERED THAT'D GET YUH ON YORE FEET, CUZ Y'VE BEEN ITCHIN' TAH SEE IF A BULLY AS BIG AS YOU--

SPAKES SLANT FROM BRUTUS' SHADOWED EYES, THEN HEAD AND HARD INTO A FIERIBE GLARE...
A battle which will someday inspire some story tellers to claim that the very ground shook under its sprawling impact...

Better get out of the way, Jade...

...unless you want to get caught between those two...

...a fight in which no holds are barred and in which many strike shrieking cords of pain...

Thus it begins...

You are a fool, for taking the side of human scum... apes as traitorous as you deserve to die!!

Wal' come on, then, ya manly varmint! I ain't crouchin' here waitin' tuh be jawed t'death!

Gunpowder Julius is a brawny, lusty sort... fighting more for the sheer hell and fun of it than for any other goal... and the bigger and harder the fun, the better his unbridled joy.

Few blows have ever packed as much stunning power as the one which now rocks Brutus from his feet and carries him across the glade... and with good reason.
...AND A ROUSINGLY RAMBLINGIOUS CONTEST IN WHICH THE TREE OF BATTLE TURNS AS OFTEN AND AS WEILY AS THE ADVERSARIES THEMSELVES.

WHY, YOU ORNERY MOSS-LICKIN' CUSS, YOU!
STOMP A FELLER WHEN HE'S DOWN, WILL YUH?

IT'S TIME YOU LEARNED WHAT PROPER RIVER-FOLK DO 'TUH A DIRTY FIGHTER!
FIRST WE GIVE 'IM A GOOD BOOT RIGHT ABOUTS WHERE HE SITS...

AN' THEN WE GRAB 'IM BY HIS CRITTER-CRAWLIN' SCAL...

AN' BY THE TIME WE DRAW A BEAD ON HIS UGLY NOSE...

...HEH HEH... JULIUS SHORE DO GET A MULE'S KICK OUTTA TRAININ' KNUCKLES, DON'T HE? PROBABLY GOIN' EASY ON THE CRANKY CROCODILE JUST SO'S HE KIN DRAG OUT THE FUN A LITTLE LONGER...

I'D JOIN 'IM, TOO--IF HE WASN'T SUCH A BIG FER ACTION.

HUG-K-!!
AND AFTER A NIGHT OF FAST AND FURIOUS CELEBRATION, TO THE TUNE OF SWEET SONGS AND LAUGHTER... COMES THE DAWN...

CAMPA Filled with the exotic scent of a strange break of the wilderness, the early morning bustle...
YOU ARE A TRAITOR TO THE DIVINE CAUSE OF APE DOMINANCE.

"AS DESERVING OF DEATH AS A HUMAN!!"

MISTER, IF THAT'S THE BEST WALLOP YOU KIN MUSTER...

I'LL LET YUH TAKE THREE MORE AFORE I THROW MY NEXT.

YOU MOCK ME?

--AND... FOR THAT. I... WILL... KILL...

KINDA FIGGERED HE WER'N'T SUCH A BIG BULLY...

YUH WANTIN' A SWIG, STEELY DAN?

...YUH'VE EARNED EVERY LAST LIGHTNIN' DROP OF IT FER YOURSELF!

MATTER O'FACT I CAIN'T HARDLY REMEMBER WHEN I LAST SEEN A WHIPPIN' AS ENTERTAININ' AS THAT ONE WAS. REMINDS ME O' THE TIME I WENT UP AGAINST OLE PEGLEG PYTHAGORUS. THAT BRUNK-FACED PEG-SMOTHERIN' DUDE NEAR AS Tarnation PUNCHED HOLES IN MUH BELLY--!

NOT A CHANCE. GUNPOWER JULIUS...

GOOD FIGHT! GOOD FIGHT! EFORE NOT DO BETTER!
FAREWELL, MY FRIENDS,
REMEMBER TO ALWAYS
LOOK TO THE MOUNTAIN...

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT
THAT, NEIGHBOR--BUT
YOU JUST KEEP YORE
POWDER DRY, HEAR?

AN' IF YOUR WAGONS
SHOULD EVER HANKER
TUH TRINdle ON O.ToolStripButton
TUH STOP AN' JIT A
SPELL WIT US--

MOVE ALONS
THERE, BLUTUS, WHAT-
CHA DRAGGIN' YORE
FEET FER--?

BUT THE SULLEN GORILLA'S
ONLY REPLY IS SILENCE...

A SILENCE SUSTAINED THROUGHTHE
SHORT TREK FROM GYPSY CAMP TO
THROUGH BRILLIANTLY HUED FOLIAGE,
NOW EERILY GLOWING AS A RESULT OF
THE AGES-PAST RADIATION WAR...

ALL RIGHT, JULIUS,
IF EVERYONE'S
ABOARD...

GUESS IT'S
TIME TUH PUT OUR
SPINES INTO TH' POLES AND GET
THIS HERE--

WAIT!!

AND WAITING BELOW, THE PROPE AND
JOY OF PARTNERS-IN-WONDER GUN,
POWERハウス AND SPEEDY JOHN,
A RIVERBOAT NAMED SIMIAN.

I SHOULDN'T LIKE TO
ACCOMPANY YUH ON
YOUR JOURNEY,
MY FRIENDS.

NOW WHY DO YUH FIGGER
THAT YUH BE THE CASE,
SARABAND?

MY FRIEND, IF IT IS
ADVENTURE YUH
SEEK, THEN TRUELY
WE MUST FOLLOW
THE SAME PATH...

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK
Dear Stan,

Well, let’s start with something good, like congratulations on your POTA mag.

In the beginning (a quote from a well-known book) we had two great artists, George Tuska and Mike Esposito, drawing our simians, until ish 12, when we had a new man on the scene, a man named Mike Ploog. Not just a great artist, a fantastic one! Of course, these artists were kept away from the ‘one ish’ stories, like ‘Arenas’, ‘Dig Me No Grave’, ‘Good Lord’. These stories were badly drawn, and, on the whole, hopeless. I must admit, though, that there were some good ‘one ish’ stories in the early 20’s issues (that is, not year) like ‘Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde’ and ‘Dinosaur’.

In the teen issues we had some great articles about our friends, but alas, these are now few and far between.

From issues 23-34 your mag went to pot. Neal Adams indeed! You were scraping the barrel. No fault, though, I suppose it was whoever invented that monster Ape-slayer. It was only the back-up features like ‘Warlock’ that made me carry on buying the mag.

Then you came to our rescue with ‘Kingdom on an Island of the Apes’, followed by Marvel’s stunning adaptations of ‘Beneath and Escape’.

On the whole the first year of your POTA mag has been great.

Steven Hashell, Opperton, Stockport.

Say whatever you like, Steve, but you’ve still gotta say it’s been quite a year! Okay — so maybe it hasn’t all been perfect, but you tell us the year that ever was. And (although we’re not sure this has anything to do with it!) there was a great artist who once declared that a face without any kind of fault in the features could never be truly beautiful. Thought-provoking, huh?

Dear Stan,

I have a lot of information about the Apes that other fans may like to know about.

PLANET OF THE APE FILMS. The black and white silent films that L. H. Frost talked about in ish 45 are no longer available, these are the ones on the 50ft. spool but the following are. B/W silent version (200 ft. spool) for £3.75. B/W silent version (400 ft. spool) for £7.50. B/W sound version (200 ft. spool) for £5.50. B/W sound version (400 ft. spool) for £10.50. Colour/Silent (200 ft. spool) for £12.50. Colour/Silent (400 ft. spool) for £18.50. Colour/Sound versions (200 ft. spool) £10.50 and (400 ft. spool) £21.50.

The projector advertised with these films is only a silent projector, and will only show silent films, so I am afraid if you want sound films the cheapest projector you can get costs about £100. All the films are super 8mm and you must show them on a super 8mm projector.

Ape books are now on sale, and most of you know about these books (Planet, Beneath, Escape, Conquest, Battle, Escape from Tomorrow and Man the Fugitive). The nearly all ape fans seem to have missed a book called ‘Journey into Terror’. Here Virdon, Burke and Galen find a computer and Virdon takes part in a horse-ride under Urko’s very eyes.

There is also an Ape annual on sale, full of info and pictures, and costing only 95p.

A few weeks ago I bought myself an Ape game. It is very good and costs £2.87p. Ape Tee shirts are also on sale. They cost £1.50 and have a picture of an Ape on the front, and underneath the words “Battle for the Apes”. They come in all colours and sizes.

If you go to your toy shop you will find Ape models, all from the first film, and that’s about all the Ape things that are on sale at the moment.

Someone wrote in saying they had got Ape picture cards. I have looked all over and cannot find any. If anyone can tell me where I can get them I would be very pleased.

I would like to swap ish 1 of The Avengers (with picture of Superheroes inside) for POTA ish 1 or ish one of The Titans and ish 1 of Superheroes (ish 1 of Titans with poster, ish 1 of Superheroes without poster) for ish 1 of Planet of The Apes. (It must have poster inside.)

You may be interested to know I am making an Ape. I have already made its head, and when it is finished I will send you a picture of it.

John Sellars, Rotherham, S. Yorks.

You’ll pardon us, we feel sure, for only publishing about a third of your letter. But now that you’ve seen it in print you’ll have seen our problem! But you’ll notice we haven’t deprived Marveldom of even one tiny scrap of all that valuable information you provided. We can hear the “Thank-yous” from here.

Dear Bulpen,

For a long space of time I have sat back and said nothing about developments concerning Marvel’s most spectacular super-star, Adam Warlock. I was most thrilled to see his introduction to POTA No. 26, but dismayed to see him taken out in issue 40. Patiently I waited until his return in issue 47, but whilst reading Titans 2 I see you have no plans of placing him back in POTA. May I suggest, perhaps, that you place him either in Super-Heroes, on a rotisserie with The Cat or Giant-Man. As the present masterpieces by Mr. Starlin in strange tales and Warlock are on a bi-monthly basis, I would say that a rotisserie would be the best solution. Also, could you return Doc Savage to SH, also on a rotisserie, as I much enjoyed his first escapee presented in that mag. The Sci-Fi being combined with the Ape’s is an excellent idea, but please return the golden gladiator to a British mag.

A Warlock-Worshipper, Sudbury, Suffolk.

When we entered the British publishing market just three short years ago we had just one publication — The Mighty World of Marvel. Now we have six. What, can we hear you ask, is all this leading up to? Just this, O Warlock-Worshipper. With that kind of a publishing explosion on our hands (and remember, that explosion is still in progress!) we shall be calling upon every character we have to play a part in the jamboree — otherwise we’ll soon be publishing blank pages. Which means that such stars as Warlock and Doc Savage will HAVE to be called up. Conscripted, if necessary!

Dear Stan,

I have just finished reading issue 58 of POTA. Two people have written in asking if anyone has got any spare Planet of the Apes mags, I to S, and I have got spare mags 1 — 10.

Would anyone like to swap my mags for books or information about Planet of the Apes? Your mags are great, especially POTA. I have also got a spare No. 40 Planet of the Apes card if Janet Shann would like to swap.

Keith Dayer, 2 Wansbeck Road, Ashington, Northumberland.

Now here’s a heaven-sent opportunity for us to play fairy godmother. (Okay, the godfather). As they say in the legal columns, if you care to contact Amanda Hill of 71 Lees Hall Road, Norton Lees, Sheffield 5B3JL, you could well learn something to your advantage.

Hiya, Stan,

It’s me again. Yesterday I got ‘Planet of the Apes’ ish 58. In it was my letter, asking if anyone had ‘Planet of the Apes’ bubble gum cards 15 and 40. This morning I got them in the post from Eric Redford. Unfortunately Eric neglected to give me his address, so I couldn’t thank him. So if you’re out there, Eric, THANKS!

Janet Shann, QNS, RFO Sale, Cheshire.

That’s Marveldom for you! Now does anyone wonder why we feel PROUD!

MARVEL COMICS LTD Room 106 52 HIGH HOLBORN LONDON WC1V 6RZ