

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



**MARVEL**  
COMICS  
GROUP

No. 77

WEEK ENDING  
APRIL 10, 1976.

8p

# PLANET OF THE APES

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, EMANATING FROM A SPUTTERING HEAP OF CHARRED ASH WHICH HAD ONCE LIVED AND BREATHED AS THE CHIMP CALLED GRIMALDI.

DRIVEN BY JEALOUSY OVER THE DARK-EYED GIRL KNOWN AS MALAGUENA, GRIMALDI HAD TRIED TO MURDER JASON... AND WAS INSTEAD MURDERED BY BRUTUS. THE ACT, HOWEVER, WAS ANYTHING BUT A FAVOR OF MERCY...

YOU ARE A FOOL, HUMAN-- AS ARE ALL OF YOUR KIND. I WATCHED YOUR KNIFE-DUEL WITH THE CHIMP. YOU SHOULD HAVE TAKEN HIS LIFE WHEN YOU HAD THE CHANCE-- AS I WILL SEE THAT YOUR LIFE IS TAKEN.

JASON-- WH-WHO IS HE...?

HIS NAME IS BRUTUS, MALAGUENA...

...AND HE'S A LOUSY, VERMIN-RIDDEN--

EASY, JASE. REMEMBER HE'S THE ONE HOLDING THAT MUTANT SIZZLE-WEAPON.

# THE PLANET INHERITORS!

I SUPPOSE I SHOULD CONGRATULATE YOU FOR YOUR PERCEPTION, ALEXANDER...

BUT INSTEAD, IT IS MY DUTY AS PEACE OFFICER OF THE CITY TO ANNOUNCE THAT YOU-- AS WELL AS THE HUMAN-- ARE UNDER ARREST...

...AS AN ACCOMPLICE TO THE COWARDLY MURDER OF MY WIFE-- AS COMMITTED BY THE HUMAN SCUM OTHERWISE KNOWN AS JASON.

BRUTUS, SOMEDAY I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU CHoke ON THAT FILTHY LYING TONGUE 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..!











REVENGE WON'T SOLVE A THING, JASON! IF THIS DANGEROUS AND GROWING NOTION OF APE SUPREMACY IS TO BE HALTED, THEN BRUTUS MUST BE TAKEN BACK TO THE CITY --AND EXPOSED FOR THE HATE-MONGER HE IS--!

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

NO, LAWGIVER-- THE TIME FOR MERCY PASSED WHEN BRUTUS BURNED MY PARENTS TO DEATH!

BESIDES, LAW-GIVER, WOULD YOU PROTEST SO MUCH IF THE ROLES WERE REVERSED-- AND BRUTUS WAS A HUMAN, TRYING TO ANNIHILATE APE--?

I'M HUMAN, JASON-- AND I'M ASKING YOU TO RESTORE THE MERCY YOU SAY HAS BEEN LOST. PLEASE, JASON... NO MATTER WHO THE VICTIM IS, A MURDERER COULD NEVER RECEIVE MY LOVE...

LOVE. THE WORD, SPOKEN BY THIS GIRL HE BARELY KNOWS, SEEMS TO IMPRESS ITSELF IN HIS MIND... ASSUAGING THE FEVER OF HATE. AND THOUGH STILL SCOWLING AND DISGRUNTLED, JASON RELEASES THE MURDERER OF HIS PARENTS...

ALL RIGHT. HE'LL LIVE...

...BUT ONLY TO BE EXECUTED BY THE TRIBUNAL.

THAT'S THE BOY, JASON. LAWS SOMETIMES GIVE ME A BELLY-ACHE WITH THEIR ALL-FIRED FOOLISHNESS... BUT I'VE KNOWN ONE OR TWO OF 'EM TUH MAKE SENSE...

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

HE RISES, FISTS CLENCHED AT SIDES...

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

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-SLITHERIN' SON OF A SCARY SEA-SNAKE THAT EVER DIRTIED THE GROUND WITH ITS SNEAKY BELLY-CRAWLIN'...

SPARKS GLINT FROM BRUTUS' SHADOWED EYES, THEN MESH AND HARDEN INTO A FIERY GLARE...



--KIN TAKE A ROUNDHOUSE HEAD-BUSTER AS BIG AS THIS!!

FEW BLOWS HAVE EVER PACKED AS MUCH STUNNING POWER AS THE ONE WHICH NOW ROCKS BRUTUS FROM HIS FEET TO PROPEL HIM ACROSS THE FIRE-LIT GLADE... AND WITH GOOD REASON.

WHOPPI!

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.



YOU ARE A FOOL FOR TAKING THE SIDE OF HUMAN SCUM--!

APES AS TRAITOROUS AS YOU DESERVE TO DIE!!

WAL, COME ON, THEN, YA MANGY VARMINT-- I AIN'T CROUCHIN' HERE WAITIN' TUH BE JAWED T' DEATH!



THUS IT BEGINS...

...A SAVAGELY BIZARRE AND BRUTALLY EPIC STRUGGLE BETWEEN TWO TITANS AMONG APES...



...A BATTLE WHICH WILL SOMEDAY INSPIRE FIRE-LIT STORY-TELLERS TO CLAIM THAT THE VERY GROUND SHOOK UNDER ITS SPRAWLING IMPACT...

BETTER GET OUT OF THE WAY, JASE--

--UNLESS YOU WANT TO GET CAUGHT BETWEEN THOSE TWO--!



:RRRGHRRR:

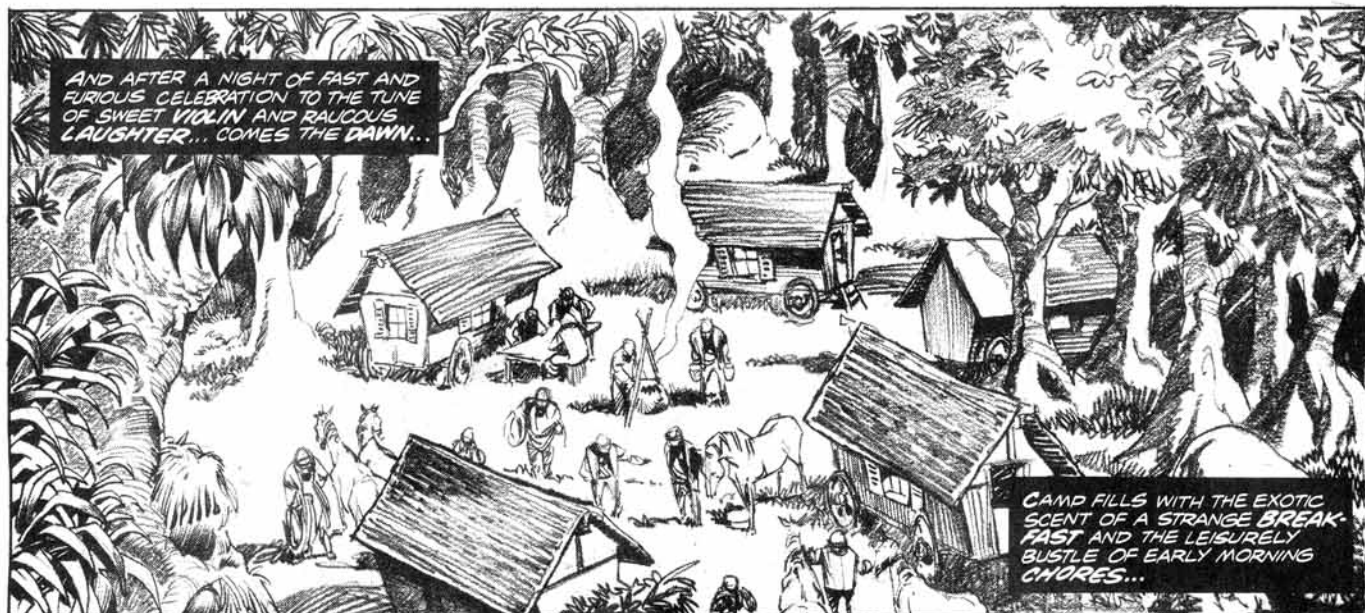
YIIIEEEEP!!

...A FIGHT IN WHICH NO HOLDS ARE BARRED AND IN WHICH MANY STRIKE SHRIEKING CORDS OF PAIN...









AND AFTER A NIGHT OF FAST AND FURIOUS CELEBRATION TO THE TUNE OF SWEET VIOLIN AND RAUCOUS LAUGHTER... COMES THE DAWN...

CAMP FILLS WITH THE EXOTIC SCENT OF A STRANGE BREAK-FAST AND THE LEISURELY BUSTLE OF EARLY MORNING CHORES...



...AS WELL AS WARM MEMORIES OF A SILVER MOON AND WHISPERED WORDS...

BUT IT'LL BE DANGEROUS, MALAGUENA. ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO COME ALONG?

I MEAN, AFTER WHAT HAPPENED TO GRIMALDI...?

GRIMALDI LOVED ME, JASON. BUT HIS JEALOUSY PREVENTED ME FROM RETURNING THAT LOVE.



AND WHILE IT'S TRUE THAT I WILL MISS THE REST OF MY PEOPLE, IT IS ALSO TRUE THAT I'VE TRAVELED WITH THEM SINCE I WAS BORN. PERHAPS I WILL TRAVEL WITH THEM AGAIN, IN THE FUTURE. BUT RIGHT NOW...

...I WOULD LIKE NOTHING BETTER THAN TO TRAVEL WITH YOU.



HOLD STILL, BRUTUS-- OR I'LL MAKE THESE KNOTS TIGHTER.

MAKE 'EM TIGHTER ANYWAY, ALEX. WE DON'T WANT MR. BRUTUS WRIGGLIN' LOOSE WHEN HE LEADS US TO THE CAVES THESE HERE MUTANT FELLERS CRAWLED OUTTA...

WEIRD LOOKIN' CRITTERS--LIKE THEIR FACES HALF-MELTED AN' THEN FROZE...

I WANT TUH THANK YUH FER THE VITTLES, MAMA LENA. THAT STEW O' YORES D' MAKE A BOULDER BELCH IN DEE-LIGHT. WHAT WAS IN IT, ANYHOW?

SERPENT FLESH... FROM DE SWAMP.

YEAH...WELL, IT WAS MIGHTY TASTY JUST THE SAME.

AN' I SPECIALLY WANNA THANK YUH FER AGREEIN' TUH KEEP THEM MEAN-EYED VARMINTS LOCKED UP FER US TILL WE COME BACK. WE 'PRECATE IT.





YOU ARE A  
TRAITOR TO THE  
DIVINE CAUSE OF  
APE DOMINANCE--

--AS DESERVING  
OF DEATH AS A  
HUMAN!!

KOP



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

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



YOU  
MOCK  
ME--

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



...YOU... ❄



KINDA FIGGERED  
HE WARN'T SUCH  
A BIG BULLY...

YUH WANTIN'  
A SWIG,  
STEELY DAN?

NOT A  
CHANCE,  
GUNPOWER  
JULIUS...



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

MATTER O' FACT, I CAIN'T  
HARDLY REMEMBER WHEN  
I LAST SEED A WHUPPIN' AS  
ENTERTAININ' AS THAT ONE WAS.  
REMINDS ME O' THE TIME I WENT UP  
AGAINST OLE PEGLEG PYTHAGORUS...  
THAT SKUNK-FACED PEG-STOMPIN'  
DUDE NEAR AS TARNATION PUNCHED  
HOLES IN MUH BELLY--!

GOOD FIGHT!  
GOOD FIGHT! EVEN  
TRIPPO NOT DO  
BETTER!







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 'Arena', '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 his 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 of 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. spools) 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 £9.50. Colour/silent (400 ft. spool) for £18.50. Colour/Sound versions (200 ft. spool) £10.95 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 £130.00. 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 nearly all ape fans seem to have missed is a book called "Journey into Terror." Here Virton, Burke and Galen find a computer and Virton takes part in a horse-race under Urko's very eyes.

# APES FORUM

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 Bullpen,

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. 28, 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 rota basis 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 rota would be the best solution. Also, could you return Doc Savage to SH, also on a rota basis, as I much enjoyed his first escapade presented in that mag. The Sci-Fi being combined with the Apes 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, we can 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, 1 to 5, 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 Dwyer,  
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 S89JL, you could well learn something to your advantage.*

Hi-ya, 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 ya! Now does anyone wonder why we feel PROUD!*

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