THE RAMPAGING GREEN GOLIATH!

YOUR MIGHTY MARVEL FAVOURITES TOGETHER FOR THE FIRST TIME!

THE COSMIC CAPTAIN MARVEL!

THE DYNAMIC DAREDEVIL!

WHERE MAN ONCE STOOD SUPREME - NOW RULE THE APES!
THE BATTLE, CONCEIVED IN INSANITY, WAGED IN BRUTALITY AND MEASURED IN BLOOD HAS BEGUN. THE CORPSES OF GENERAL ALDO'S GORILLA SENTRIES LIE SCATTERED OVER THE RIDGE, BLEEDING INTO THE EARTH, BAKING UNDER THE SUN.

THE INVADERS FROM THE FORBIDDEN ZONE -- MUTATED MADMEN ARMED WITH WEAPONS OF THE FIRST WAR WHICH CREATED THEM -- WAIT ON THE HILLSIDE, SURVEYING THE CITY OF THE APESS BELOW THEM...

THEIR LEADER -- THE FORMER GOVERNOR BRECK -- SNARLS AN ORDER...

NOW!!

BWOOM

CONQUEST OF BLOOD!
WHINING LIKE A BANSHEE OF DOOM, THE 120 MILLIMETER SHELL STRENGTHENS UPWARD IN A BLURING ARC...

THEN PASSES ITS APEX, AND BEGIN THE SCREAMING DOWNWARD PLUMMET TO ITS TARGETS...

DOWN, VIRGIL--!

VLAQUM!

PROBABLY TOO SHORT-- WE'LL HAVE TO MOVE IN!

DO YOU UNDERSTAND? I WANT IT TO LOOK LIKE...

...THE CITY WE CAME FROM!

NOW COME ON--!

MOVE 'EM OUT-- AND SLAUGHTER THE STUPID MONKEYS!

AND WHEN WE LEAVE-- I WANT NO TEETH STANDING, NO TWO PIECES OF WOOD STILL NAILED TOGETHER-- AND NOTHING LEFT ALIVE!
CAESAR AND VIRGIL ARE NOWHERE TO BE SEEN IN THEIR PLACES. LIES A HEAP OF DEBRIS FROM THE PARTIALLY DEMOLISHED BARRICADE,

AND THEN...

--CAESAR RISES FROM THE SHATTERED WRECKAGE, CROAKING A SINGLE WORD IN PAIN... THINKING NOT OF HIMSELF, BUT ONLY OF HIS FRIEND...

...I'M ALL RIGHT, CAESAR

...BUT THAT SURE WAS CLOSE...

--AND HERE THEY COME... FOR ANOTHER TRY...

...YES, VIRGIL... AND ANOTHER AFTER THAT...
VWHO00MM!!

WHUMP

CAESAR...

THEY... THEY GOT CAESAR...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING…?! DON'T JUST STAND THERE…!

WE'VE GOT TO RIGH... BACKWE CAN'T JUST...

KROOOM!!

DON'T RUN, GET HOME OR YOURSELVES...

WE'VE GOT TO RIGH... OR OUR CITY IS LOST!

BUT CAESAR... ISN'T HE DEAD?

THEY'RE RUNNING... THE BEASTS ARE RUNNING! THERE ARE ONLY A FEW LEFT STANDING THEIR GROUND...

FIRE THE CANNON AGAIN—!

I… I DON'T KNOW… NEVER THOUGHT THAT HE COULD...

COME ON, VIRGIL... IT'S NO USE...!

WE CAN'T HELP HIM NOW...!

WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE...!
In this single instant, the full force of the brutal, bloody nightmare of life crushes upon Virgil's mind, his thoughts freeze, filled with a wash of blood and fear...

His world is being torn apart around him, with the death of his friends on every side...mocking him...demonstrating the frailty of his own life, vividly etched scenes of horror...

Virgil flees.

But don't condemn him...for he is not a coward. He is merely...alone.

Elsewhere, in a region of the city thus far untouched by the dark and raging battle, a piercing shriek of anguish and remorse echoes from one many arboreal dwellings...

Noooo!!

This particular dwelling is the home of Caesar...

...and of his wife, Lisa...for whom the world has just turned filthy and grey...

Whyyyy!!

Young Cornelius too. Once lived here...

...but that was before. Aldo sent him crashing through the trees, and sneered at his small body, lying crumpled on the ground...

Easy, Lisa...there is nothing...nothing we can do...

That was before...Cornelius's dad.
Earlier in this dreadful day of battle, General Alpo had escaped the Mutant's first assault on the ridge...

He had fled, even as the last of his gorilla sentries had been cut down by the first implacable salvo of ancient war-weapons.

But in the interval, as Cornelius was dying, and his father was being flung from the barricade by the explosion of a 170-millimeter shell...

...Alpo has rallied a second force of his gorilla soldiers...

...and now, as the reinforcements cluster at his side, grunting and snarling, Alpo makes the blood thick and hot in his throat.

Now...!!

Now we kill!!

They thunder down the ridge, rifles blaring the corrections for their own. Who perhaps find their own intelligence too foreign, too complex...and who therefore reject it.

Or perhaps...in a subliminal, gut-level manner...they simply embrace the human-like intelligence too rapidly, adopting the behavior patterns of "intelligence"... while lacking the human subtlety of application...

Krak, Blam

In any case, they overpower the Mutant caravan in half.

Krak, K-chow

Reverting to the primal savagery, they are known for millennia...
Aldo was the first to cast aside his rifle and draw his sword. He prefers this close hand-to-hand combat. Where he can feel the death of his enemy shimmering up his arm, as his blade slices flesh and shatters bone.

All the gorillas prefer it this way and many continue slashing and hacking long after their opponents' screams have died.

Breck—the go-get-em back there—us dying!

Let the fools die! I'm their leader.

If they can't follow me they deserve to die!

For some five minutes Caesar has lain with his face in the dirt...

His body unmoving, lifeless.

You can stop counting now.

Wh-what...

Vigil...

Lisa... is Cornelius better now?

You...

Next: Future Executioner!