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PLANET
OF THE APES
DEC. Nº 27

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WHERE MAN ONCE STOOD SUPREME—NOW RULE THE APES

PLANET OF THE APES™

**TRAPPED
IN THE
FLAMES
OF
BATTLE!**

**ALL
NEW!**

"CONQUEST OF BLOOD!"



STAN LEE presents

PLANET OF THE APESTM

Vol. 1/No. 27

Dec. 1976

ARCHIE GOODWIN
Editor-in-Chief

JOHN WARNER
Editor

RALPH MACCHIO
Assistant Editor

NORA MACLIN
Design

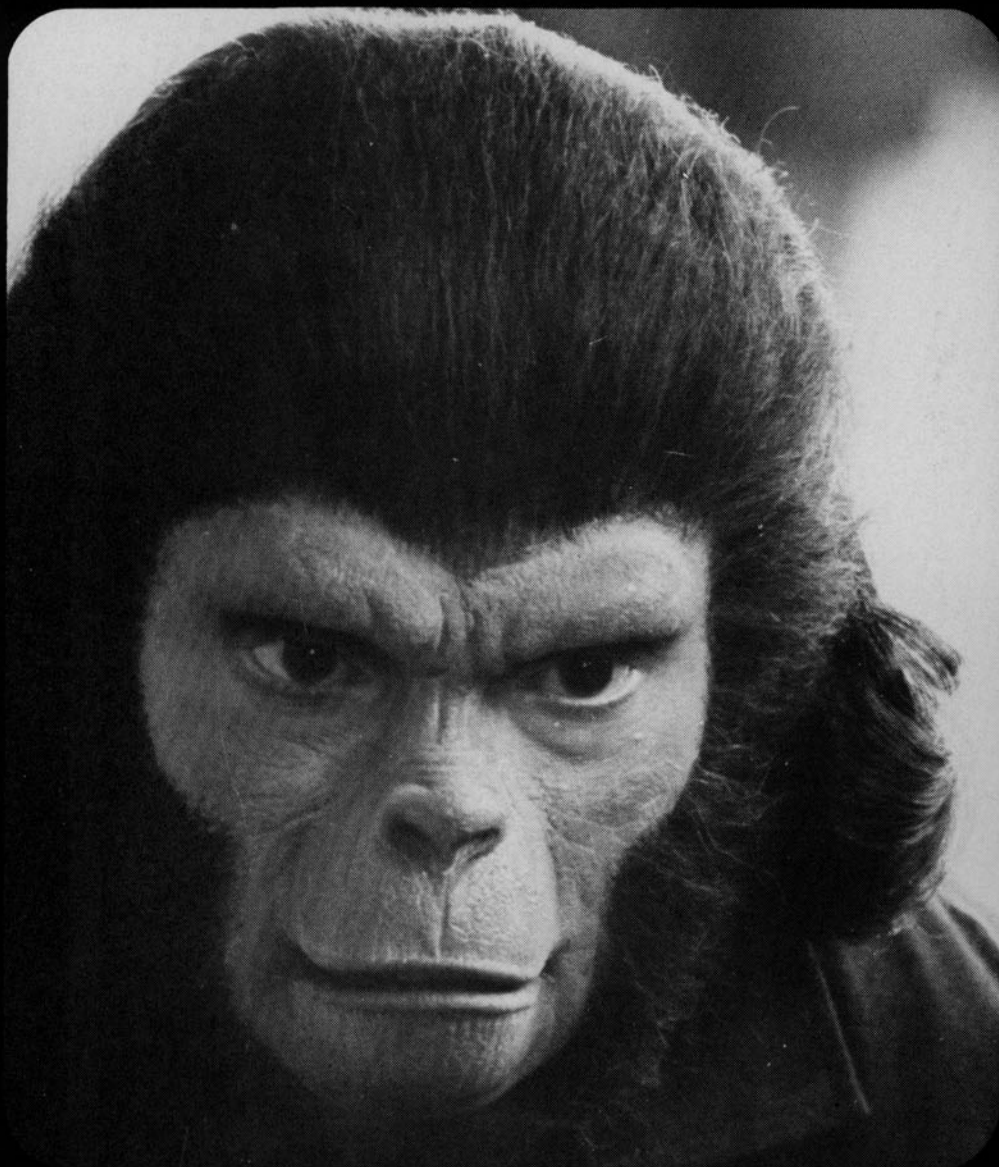
DAN ADKINS
Art Consultant

LEN GROW
Production

DAVIDA LICHTER DALE
HOWARD BENDER
Staff & Such

ROY THOMAS
Editor Emeritus

MALCOLM McN
Cover



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TERROR ON THE PLANET OF THE APES! TM

APES OF IRON!

CRUEL FACES MOVING THROUGH A PEACEFUL FOREST: THE GORILLA *BRUTUS* AND HIS MUTANT-DRONE ALLIES ARE ON THE MARCH.

BUT AS CRUEL AS THEY ARE, THERE ARE FAR MORE MENACING FORMS IN THESE SERENE WOODS, LURKING IN THE SHADOWS ABOVE, WATCHING... AND WAITING...

I TELL YOU IT'S ALL *JASON'S* FAULT, WARKO-- THAT HUMAN WHELP HAS INTERFERED WITH MY PLANS TIME AND AGAIN.

BUT HE WON'T STOP ME AGAIN, WARKO! DO YOU HEAR--?

YES, COMMANDER *BRUTUS*--I FULLY AGREE.

YOU FULLY AGREE--?! IS THAT ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY?! DO YOU REALIZE WHAT THAT DISEASE-RIDDEN HUMAN HAS DONE?! HE HAS COMPLETELY THWARTED MY ULTIMATE GOAL!

HE DESTROYED THE STUFF OF MY DREAMS, WARKO! THE METAL THINGS IN THAT CAVERN COULD HAVE SLAUGHTERED EVERY PIECE OF HUMAN SCUM ON THE FACE OF THIS WORLD!

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?! JASON DESTROYED MY... MY METAL THINGS-- OR WHATEVER THEY WERE!

WHAT DID YOU CALL THOSE THINGS AGAIN, DRONE ZEE?

THEY WERE NUCLEAR MISSILES, BRUTUS.

NOW.

FROM THE SHADOWS, ONE OF THE MENACING FORMS HAS SPOKEN, ANNOUNCING THAT THE TIME OF WATCHING AND WAITING HAS PASSED...

AND SO THEY STRIKE--DROPPING AND LURCHING FROM THE SHADOWS WITHOUT WARNING, SMASHING EVERYTHING IN THE PATH OF THEIR SINGLE-MINDED GOAL.

THE AMBUSH BEGINS WITH INSTANT VIOLENCE. BRUTUS' MOUNT IS SLAIN BY A SINGLE PUNCH...

TAKE ALL APES! KILL ALL OTHERS!

WHAT IN THE--? WH-WHAT ARE THEY--?

THEY ARE GORILLAS, AND THEY ARE ANDROIDS. BUT MOST OF ALL, THEY ARE BIZARRE.

A METAL FINGER IS RAISED AND POINTED--A SIZZLING BURST OF LASER ENERGY SPURTS FROM ITS TIP--AND MUTANT-DRONE ZEE'S HEART IS CHARRED TO WET ASH.

AND NOW THE CHAOS EXPLODES IN **FULL FORCE**, AMIDST SCREAMING, SHOUTING, AND ALL THE OTHER SOUNDS OF VIOLENT ASSAULT AND **DEATH**--AS HORRIFIC **BERSERKERS** OF SYNTHESIZED METAL AND FLESH **SWARM** OVER BRUTUS' PARTY WITH **INCREDIBLE** SPEED AND FURY.

EACH **BERSERKER** POSSESSES THE STRENGTH OF **TWENTY NORMAL GORILLAS**--AND EACH **EXPLOITS** THAT STRENGTH TO **FULL** AND **AWESOME** EFFECT.

BRUTUS' GORILLAS ARE INSTANTLY **SUBDUED**--



--AND THE **MUTANT-DRONES** ARE MURDERED WITH **SAVAGE CALLOUSNESS**...

...WITH THE EXCEPTION OF **ONE**--**DRONE KYEW**--WHO MANAGES TO CRAWL INTO THE SURROUNDING **BRUSH**. HE ACTIVATES HIS **CHEST-TRANSMITTER**, AND--

CALLING **CAVERN CONTROL**--**DRONE KYEW** CALLING **CAVERN CONTROL**...

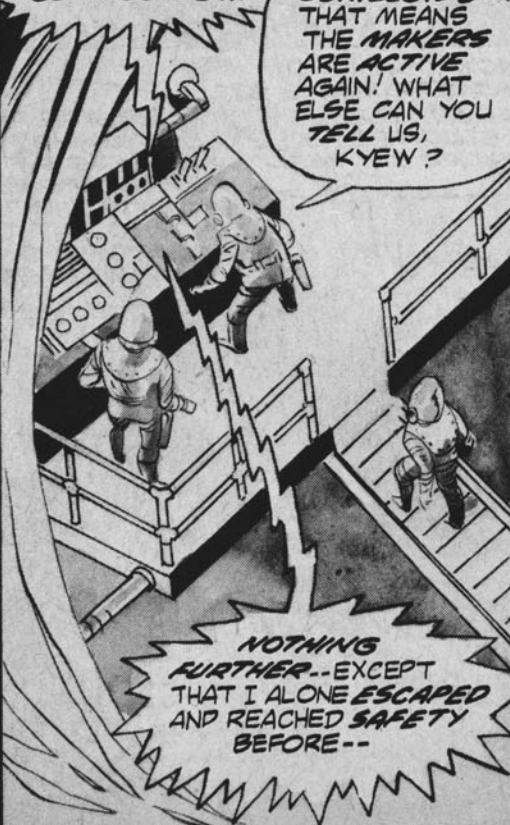
LIFE FUNCTIONS OF ALL **DRONES** IN SERVICE OF THE **GORILLA BRUTUS** ARE PRESENTLY BEING **TERMINATED**...BY **GORILLOIDS**...



FAR AWAY, IN THE **CAVERNS** OF THE **INHERITORS** DEEP WITHIN THE **FORBIDDEN ZONE** THE URGENT TRANSMISSION IS **MONITORED**...

REPEAT: **GORILLOIDS**...

GORILLOIDS...?! THAT MEANS THE **MAKERS** ARE **ACTIVE** AGAIN! WHAT ELSE CAN YOU TELL US, **KYEW**?



NOTHING FURTHER--EXCEPT THAT I ALONE **ESCAPED** AND REACHED **SAFETY** BEFORE--

TAKE ALL **APES**! KILL ALL **OTHERS**!



MUTANT-DRONE KYEW IS AN "**OTHER**"--BITS OF HIS **BLOODY SKULL** MINGLE WITH THE **FLYING FRAGMENTS** OF HIS **STEEL HELMET**.



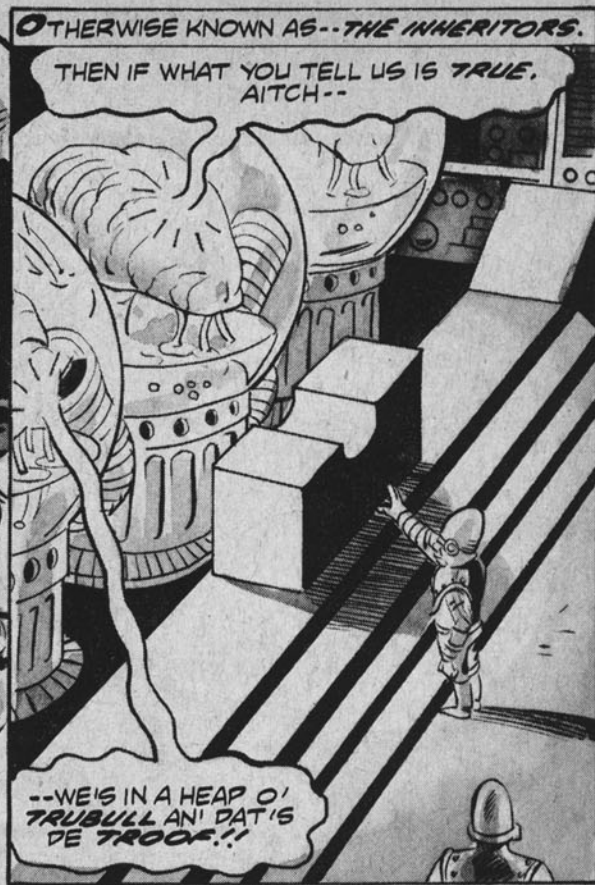
THE FINAL
LIFE-SUPPORT
MONITOR HAS GONE
BLANK.

THEN
KYEW HAS
ALSO BEEN
TERMINATED!

WE'VE LOST
EVERY ONE OF
THE DRONES
ASSIGNED TO
BRUTUS!

PRECISELY,
DRONE AITCH-- AND THEY
HAVE ALL BEEN TERMINATED
BY THE **MAKERS'**
CREATIONS...

...WHICH IS WHY
YOU MUST MAKE AN
IMMEDIATE REPORT TO
THE **SUPREME**
GESTALT
COMMANDERS.

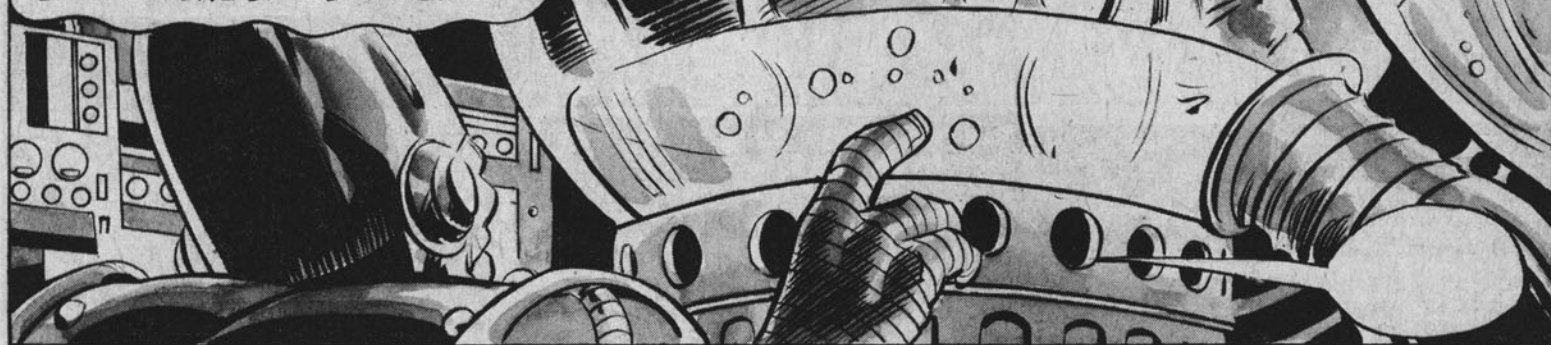


OTHERWISE KNOWN AS-- **THE INHERITORS.**

THEN IF WHAT YOU TELL US IS **TRUE,**
AITCH--

--WE'VE IN A HEAP O'
TRUBULL AN' DAT'S
DE **TROOF!!**

BE-FOUR'S LINGUISTIC LAPSE *ASIDE,*
I FULLY **CONCUR.** THE SITUATION IS
EXCEEDINGLY **GRAVE,** AND PRECAU-
TIONARY MEASURES MUST BE
INSTIGATED. ALTHOUGH IT DOES NOT
SEEM LIKELY AFTER ALL THESE YEARS,
WE MUST GUARD AGAINST ANY FORM
OF **REPRISAL** BY THE **MAKERS.**



PLACE ALL
AVAILABLE DRONES
ON IMMEDIATE
ALERT.

ELSEWHERE... A
CLEAR, INTELLIGENT
VOICE TOO LONG
DULLED BY THE
EFFECTS OF
BRAINWASH
SOUNDS FROM THE
PROW OF A
NORTHLANDS
SHIP...

WELL, NOW THAT I KNOW
THE **PSYCHEDROME** IS NOT
THE **ANSWER,** I GUESS I'D
BETTER START: **RETHINKING**
MY **LIFE'S PRIORITIES...**

BUT AT LEAST I'M SURE
OF ONE THING NOW-- THE
KEEPERS OF THE
PSYCHEDROME WERE THE
ANCIENTS, AND IT WAS **THEY**
WHO BROUGHT THE **GREAT**
DESTRUCTION OF
PROGRESS.



BUT I THOUGHT OUR
FATHERS' FATHERS
WERE THE **ANCIENTS,** AND
BROUGHT THE **GREAT**
DESTRUCTION DOWN
UPON **THEMSELVES.**

SO DID I, JASON, BUT IT'S NOW
CLEAR TO ME THAT THE **REAL** **ANCIENTS**
CAME DOWN FROM THE **FAR STARS** AND
GRANTED OUR ANCESTORS THE **GLORIOUS**
WONDERS OF PROGRESS AND **ILLUMINATION--**



--AND THEN FOR SOME REASON **DESTROYED** OUR ANCESTORS, ALONG WITH ALL THE PROGRESS THEY HAD GRANTED THEM... PERHAPS BECAUSE OUR ANCESTORS **MISUSED** THE GIFT OF PROGRESS.

AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, THE ONLY THING THAT MATTERS IS THAT **BRUTUS** IS FINALLY DEAD-- KILLED IN THAT EXPLOSION WHICH DESTROYED THE **PSYCHE-PROME**.

I CAN'T MAKE ANY SENSE OUT OF A **SINGLE WORD** YOU JUST SAID, LIGHTSMITH, AND I COULDN'T CARE LESS.

I JUST WISH I COULD'VE TORN THE FILTHY APE APART WITH MY OWN HANDS.

AT THE RAIL, MALAGUENA SIGHS...

JASON WORRIES ME, ALEX. HE'S SO... **OBSESSED**.

EVEN AFTER **BRUTUS'** DEATH HE'S STILL FILLED WITH **HATRED**. IF HE DOESN'T OVERCOME IT-- **SOON**-- I'M AFRAID IT'S GOING TO ... **BREAK HIM**.

...AND ALEX GRAVELY **NODS**.

THE SPEAKER IS **LIGHTSMITH**, A WORSHIPPER OF **KNOWLEDGE**, HIS PONTIFICATIONS ARE **WRONG**, OF COURSE, BUT WHAT HE **DOESN'T** KNOW WON'T HURT HIM.

AS FOR **GILBERT** THE MUTE **GIBBON**, HE SIMPLY JUMPS UP AND DOWN, POINTING AND WAVING LIKE A **PANICKED WINDMILL**.



WHAT IS IT, GILBERT? WHAT DO YOU SEE--?

GILBERT'S NOT SAYING-- BUT IF NOT FOR THE **ABSENCE OF SOUND**, HE'D BE SCREAMING HIS FOOL HEAD OFF.

AND THE OBJECT OF HIS EXCITEMENT? JUST A **RIVERBOAT NAMED SIMIAN**.

THET WEIRDFANGLED BOAT IS **FOLLERIN'** US, JULIUS, JEST LIKE YUH **FIGGERED**...

YEP, DAN-- AN' IT'S TIME FOR US TUH GIVE 'EM A CHASE FASTER'N **RIVER LIGHTNIN'** ON A --



JULIUS -- DAN--! IS THAT YOU--?

WHOOOPS-- RECKON WE'D BETTER **SHORE UP**, DAN, CUZ LESS'N MUH EARS'RE FILLED WITH **RIVERSLUG-SLIME**, THET THAR'S YOUNG **JASON'S** VOICE!



GUNPOWDER JULIUS AND STEELY DAN!! HOW ARE YOU? HOW HAVE YOU BEEN--?

OH, PURTY GOOD, JASON-LAD-- LIKE TWO GRINNIN' POLECATS IN A FIELD O' CRIPPLED LAMBS. JEST A'REAPIN' OUR SHARE O' THE GOOD LIFE.

HOWDY, ALEX-- SEE YUH STILL GOT THET DARK-EYED GYPSY GAL WITH YUH-- BUT CAIN'T SAY AS I RECKONIZE YORE OTHER TWO FRENS...



LIGHTSMITH AND GILBERT THE GIBBON, MEET GUNPOWDER JULIUS STEELY DAN.

BUT WHAT'RE YOU TWO DOING AROUND HERE, JULIUS--?

WELP, SEEMS THE ASSISIMIANs ARE ON THE WARPATH IN THESE HERE PARTS, JASON, SO ME 'N DAN ARE USIN' THE RIVERBOAT SIMIAN TUH TRANSPORT SUPPLIES AN' WEAPONS TUH TH' STOCKADE DOWNRIVER--AN' I RECKON YOU-ALL'D BETTER COME WITH US. GETTIN' PURTY DARK.



SURE, IF YOU SAY SO, JULIUS-- BESIDES, IT'LL GIVE US A CHANCE TO TELL EACH OTHER WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING.

YEP AN' IF'N IT WARN'T FER THEM CONSERVED COWFLOP-EATIN' ASSISIMIANs, WE CUD HAVE US A REAL WHOOP-DE-DOO!



WHAT MADE THESE ASSISIMIANs SO MAD, JULIUS? IS IT BECAUSE THEIR LEADER WAS KILLED IN THE PSYCHEDROME EXPLOSION?

IT'S CUZ O' MAGUANUS, ALL RIGHT, BUT HE WARN'T KILLED BY NO 'SPLOSION--T'WAS A LONE GORILLA IN LEATHER GEAR WHUT CROACKED 'IM, AN' I HEAR TELL HE WAS A MEAN OLE CUSS, SORTA LIKE --



BRUTUS--!!

IT HAD TO BE BRUTUS! THEN HE'S ALIVE-- BRUTUS IS STILL ALIVE!!

INDEED.



FAR AWAY, IN THE CITY WHERE JASON AND ALEX GREW UP (AND WHERE BRUTUS WAS ONCE THE PEACE OFFICER, BEFORE HIS HOODED TERRORISTS MURDERED JASON'S MOTHER AND FATHER)...

HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS, ZILENUS?

WHAT NEWS? ABOUT THE LAWGIVER'S CONDITION?

NO, BUT I'M ON MY WAY TO **INQUIRE** ABOUT THE LAW-GIVER RIGHT NOW, AND YOU'RE WELCOME TO **ACCOMPANY** ME IF YOU WISH...

THE NEWS TO WHICH I WAS **REFERRING** CONCERNS THE SELECTION OF A NEW **PEACE OFFICER** FOR THE CITY.

AND IT'S ABOUT TIME.. WE'VE BEEN WITHOUT A PEACE OFFICER SINCE **BRUTUS** WAS BANISHED. AND WITH THE **LAW-GIVER** TOO ILL TO RISE FROM HIS **PALLET**, THERE'S BEEN **NO ONE** TO KEEP MATTERS UNDER CONTROL.

YES, I BELIEVE I **DID** HEAR SOMETHING ABOUT THE NEW CANDIDATE--HIS NAME IS **MORAVIUS**, ISN'T IT?

YES--ANOTHER **GORILLA**, OF COURSE. HE'LL BE INSTALLED IN OFFICE **TOMORROW**.

WELL, HERE'S THE **LAWGIVER'S LODGE**--LET'S SEE IF THE **PHYSICIANS** HAVE ANY **MORE** NEWS.

HAS THERE BEEN ANY **CHANGE**, PHYSICIAN?

NONE, ZILENUS. AND IF SOMETHING IS NOT DONE TO **ARREST** THE **LAWGIVER'S** CONDITION, WE CAN ONLY EXPECT... THE **WORST**.

THADDEUS! BRING THE TRAY OF **MENDICANTS!**

THADDEUS--?

OH, WHERE IS THAT YOUTH **ANYWAY**? HE KNOWS HOW GRAVE THE **LAWGIVER'S** SITUATION IS-- WHY IS HE NOT AROUND TO HELP WHEN I **NEED** HIM?

BECAUSE YOUNG THADDEUS, THIRTEEN YEARS OLD AND FILLED WITH TERRIBLE **FEAR** FOR THE **LAWGIVER'S** LIFE, HAS ENTERED THE DREAD **FORBIDDEN ZONE**...

...BECAUSE YOUNG THADDEUS **WORSHIPS** THE **LAWGIVER**, AND INDEED **DOES** REALIZE HOW SERIOUSLY THE **BELOVED PATRIARCH'S** LIFE IS IMPERILLED...

...AND BECAUSE YOUNG THADDEUS IS **CONVINCED** THAT THE **FORBIDDEN ZONE** CONTAINS THE ONLY KNOWLEDGE WHICH MIGHT POSSIBLY **SAVE** THE **LAWGIVER'S** LIFE...

THIS, THEN-- THIS VILE, PURPLE MIST-SHROUDED PLACE OF RUINS-- THIS DESPERATE MISSION INTO THE HAUNTED REGION OF DANGER-- THIS IS WHY YOUNG THAPPEUS HAS ABANDONED HIS NORMAL DUTIES...

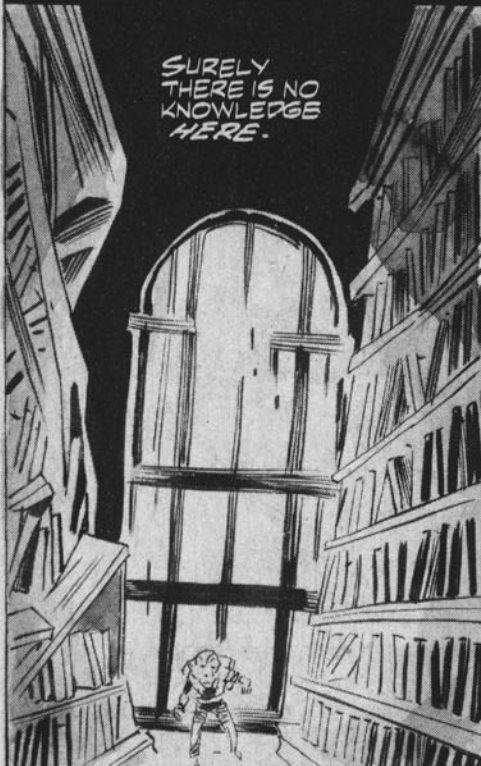


HE SELECTS THE CRUMBLING BUILDING WITH THE STRANGE STATUE IN FRONT-- IT IMPRESSES HIM FOR SOME REASON.



PERHAPS HERE HE WILL FIND THE NECESSARY KNOWLEDGE...

BUT ONCE INSIDE, HE FEELS OVERWHELMING DISAPPOINTMENT. FOR THE PLACE IS FILLED WITH NOTHING BUT DUST AND MANY STIFF-COVERED THINGS WITH SHEAFs OF PARCHMENT INSIDE..



SURELY THERE IS NO KNOWLEDGE HERE.

--WHEN HE HEARS STRANGE SOUNDS, FROM BELOW...



WHIRRING... AND HUMMING.

AND SO, HE IS JUST ABOUT TO LEAVE THIS WORTHLESS PLACE--

HE DECIDES TO FOLLOW THE SOUNDS...

...TO A DOOR, SET INTO THE VERY FOUNDATION OF THE RUINS.



HE LIFTS IT, AND THE SOUNDS BECOME LOUDER, MORE INTRIGUING. AS A SERIES OF STEPS IS REVEALED, HE KNOWS HE WILL DESCEND THESE STEPS...

...BUT HE HAS HAD NO IDEA OF WHAT AWAITS HIM AT THEIR BOTTOM.



THUS, HE IS SHOCKED BY HIS FIRST SIGHT OF THESE BEINGS WHOSE EXISTENCE HE HAS NEVER EVEN SUSPECTED.



THE MAKERS-- GROTESQUE HUMAN MUTANTS, PERANGED PRE-HOLOCAUST RESEARCHERS IN BIONICS AND CYBERNETICS WHO HAVE NOW TURNED TO SOMEWHAT BIZARRE PURSUITS...

...AS EXEMPLIFIED BY THEIR CURRENT PRODUCT: THE GORILLOIDS.

THADDEUS WOULD PROBABLY **GASP**, WERE HE NOT **SPEECH-LESS**.

THIS IS THE LAST BATCH OF **HAIRY-HAIRY ONES**. WHAT ARE WE GONNA **DO** ONCE WE PUT THIS FINAL **ARM-ARM** ON?

RIGHT-RIGHT-- US MAKERS'LL HAVE NOTHING TO **MAKE-MAKE**. BUT THERE'S A PARTY OF **CATCHERS** OUT RIGHT NOW-NOW.

THEY SHOULD BRING BACK MORE **HAIRY-HAIRY SPECIMENS SOON**. FACT, SHOULD'VE BEEN BACK **LONG AGO**.

WHERE OH **WHERE** CAN THEY **BE-BE**?

WITH **BRUTUS** OF COURSE.

ALL RIGHT -- WHAT'S **GOING** ON HERE?

YOU KILLED EVERY ONE OF THE **MUTANT-DRONES**-- BUT YOU HAVEN'T HURT ANY OF **US**...

NOT **ONE** GORILLA HAS SUFFERED A **SERIOUS INJURY**.

JUST **WHO ARE YOU**-- AND WHAT DO YOU **WANT**??

WE **GORILLOIDS**. WANT **YOU**. WANT **ALL APES**. NEED MORE OF **US**.

MAKERS SAY GOTTA TAKE YOU **BACK** SO MAKERS CAN MAKE **MORE** OF **US**.

MAKERS MAKE **YOU** LIKE MAKERS MAKE **US**.

BUT WHY DO YOU
SERVE THESE "MAKERS"...?
WHO ARE THEY? DO YOU
LIKE THEM -- ?

WE GORILLOIDS!
GORILLOIDS HATE
MAKERS! MAKERS HURT
US! MAKERS RIP OFF ARMS
-- PARTS OF HEADS --
OTHER THINGS WE NEED!
STICK METAL IN US
INSTEAD!

MUCH PAIN! BUT MAKERS
MAKE US -- WE OBEY
MAKERS.

THERE IS ALREADY A MAD GLINT IN
BRUTUS' EYE. HE SEES HIS
OPENING, AND PLUNGES THROUGH.

THEN MAYBE MY DREAM OF
SLAUGHTERING HUMANS IS
NOT DESTROYED. IF YOU
GORILLOIDS WOULD JOIN
ME...

OF COURSE --
THAT'S IT!
YOU'VE GOT
TO JOIN ME!

AS FELLOW APES -- FELLOW
GORILLAS -- YOU'VE GOT TO
JOIN ME! START THINKING FOR
YOURSELVES! DON'T YOU WANT
TO GET REVENGE ON YOUR
HATED HUMAN MAKERS...?!

JUST THINK
OF IT --! WITH
YOUR STRENGTH AND
MY WAR MACHINES...

hmmm...

THE DUMB GORILLOIDS, IT SEEMS,
ARE BEGINNING TO TAKE BRUTUS'
BLUFF PROPOSAL SERIOUSLY...

...AS THE NORTH-
LANDS SHIP AND
A RIVERBOAT NAMED
SIMIAN REACH A
FRONTIER STOCKADE
AT TWILIGHT...

HALLO...! IT'S
GUNPOWDER JULIUS --
THE MEANEST, BAR-WRASSLIN',
POLECAT-GRINNIN', IRON-
BACKBONED, TWICE-CUSSED
RIVERBOAT ROLLER IN
ALL THESE HERE PARTS
AND BACK AGIN'!

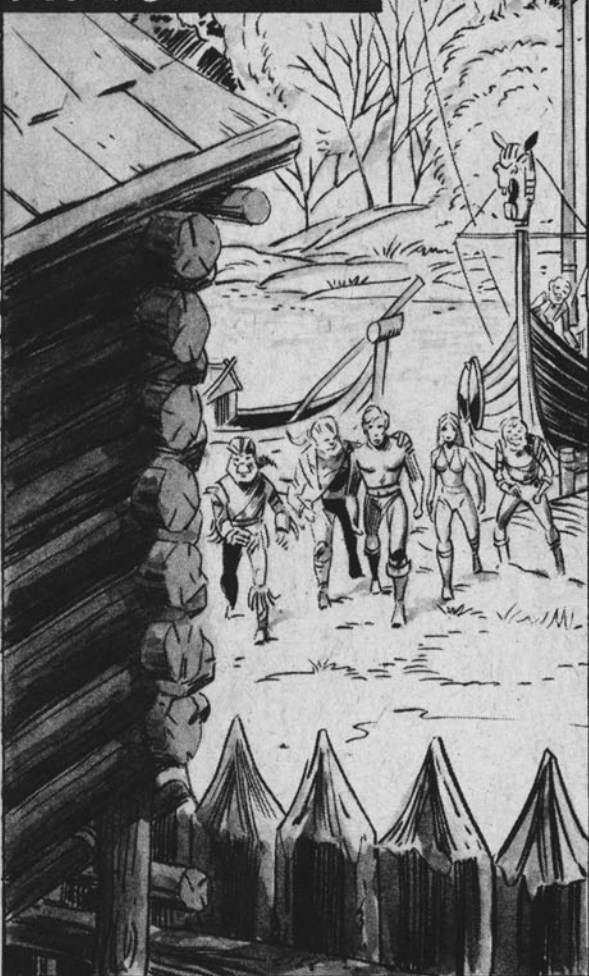
WE COME TUH
PERTECK
YUH.

YOU TELL
'EM, JULIUS -- I'M
ALL OUTTA BREATH
FROM POLIN'.

WELL, GILBERT, IT
CERTAINLY IS A GOOD
FEELING TO HAVE MY OLD
CLEAR-HEADED
ENLIGHTENED MIND
BACK AGAIN.

IT'S A WONPROUS
JOY JUST TO THINK
AND PONDER AGAIN
IF YOU KNOW WHAT
I MEAN.

TWENTY MINUTES LATER, AFTER THE SUPPLIES AND WEAPONS HAVE BEEN CARRIED INTO THE STOCKADE COMPOUND...



--A HAIL OF BRIGHTLY FEATHERED ARROWS CROSSES THE RIVER IN HUMS...

REMINDS ME OF THE FLYIN' WOODCHIPS WHEN JULIUS SETS TUH CHOPPIN' DOWN A TREE.

HEAD FER THE STOCKADE--!

OWN! THAT ONE SCRATCHED ME!!

NO TIME TUH WORRY 'BOUT SCRATCHES, JASE-BOY--!

YUH KIN START HOLLERIN' WHEN YUH BIN SKEWERED! IN THE MEANTIME, JEST BE THANKFUL WE MANAGED TUH GIT TH' POWDER AN BALLS INTO TH' STOCKADE ALREADY!

AWRIGHT, YOU POINTED-POLE DWELLERS --YUH BIN HIDIN' IN THIS HERE PORT LONG ENOUGH! NOW IT'S TIME TUH FIGHT BACK!!

IT'S THE CONSERVED ASSISIMIAN'S, ALL RIGHT, AN' THEM CANOES ARE POINTED THIS AWAY-- NOT TUH MENTION TH' FACK THAT THEY'IS HOWLIN' FER OUR RED JUICES!

HOLD STILL, JASON-- OR I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO STOP THE BLEEDING.

WHY BOTHER, MALAGUENA--? THEY'RE ONLY GOING TO MAKE US ALL BLEED IN A FEW MORE MOMENTS...



INDEED, JASON'S DEFEATIST COMMENT SEEMS HIGHLY PROPHETIC...

MAGUANUS DEAD! NOW ALL YOU DIE!!



...FOR THE ASSISIMIANS ARE MAD.. AND THEY'VE GOT LADDERS.

BUT THEN, THEY HAVE YET TO RECKON WITH THE WILY FRONTIER SPIRIT OF THE STOCKADE DEFENDERS, SPEARHEADED BY THE INIMITABLY GRITTY GUNPOWDER JULIUS...

WAIT TILL THE TOP ONE REACHES YER KNEE-JOINT.. THEN KICK!

THAT WAY, YUH TAKE OUT THREE OR FOUR OF 'EM-- 'STEAD O' JEST ONE!



ATTA GAL, GYPSY-EYES!

GIVE 'EM WHUT FER AN' SHOW JASON HOW TUH DO IT!



MALAGUEÑA.. BEHIND YOU!!

NICE AIM, JASE-BOY-- PARTED HIS HAIR RIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE!

IF'N HE DON'T LEARN A LESSON FROM THAT, HE'S HOPELESS!



AND THUS ARE THE RAMPARTS DEFENDED...

...UNTIL THE SAVAGE ASSISIMIANS TAKE THE HINT AND FALL BACK FOR A GENERAL REGROUPING.

THE SECOND WAVE OF ATTACK WILL NOT BE LONG IN COMING, HOWEVER.



THIS IS AN UNENLIGHTENED SHAME. THOSE SAVAGES DON'T KNOW ANY BETTER-- BUT IT'S NOT THEIR FAULT, REALLY.

YEAH--IT'S STINKING BRUTUS WHO CAUSED ALL THIS...



HUP--
I THINK YOU TWO FELLERS HAVE JUST GIVEN ME A LIGHTNIN'- CRAZED SCHEME.

HEY, YOU SAVAGES OUT THERE--THIS IS GUNPOWDER JULIUS HOLLERIN' TUH AVOID BLOODSHED! HOW BOUT OUR BEST TWO AGIN YOURS--? IF'N WE LOSE, YUH KIN BURN DOWN TH' FORT-- BUT IF'N WE WIN, YUH GOTTA LET US BE IN PEACE--

--'AN WE'LL HELP YUH FIND TH' MURDERER O' MAGUANUS!!



NOW TUH SEE IF'N THEY TAKE THE DADBLASTED BAIT, DAN...



I'M RIGHT BEHIND YUH, JULIUS.

NO, YOU'RE NOT, DAN.

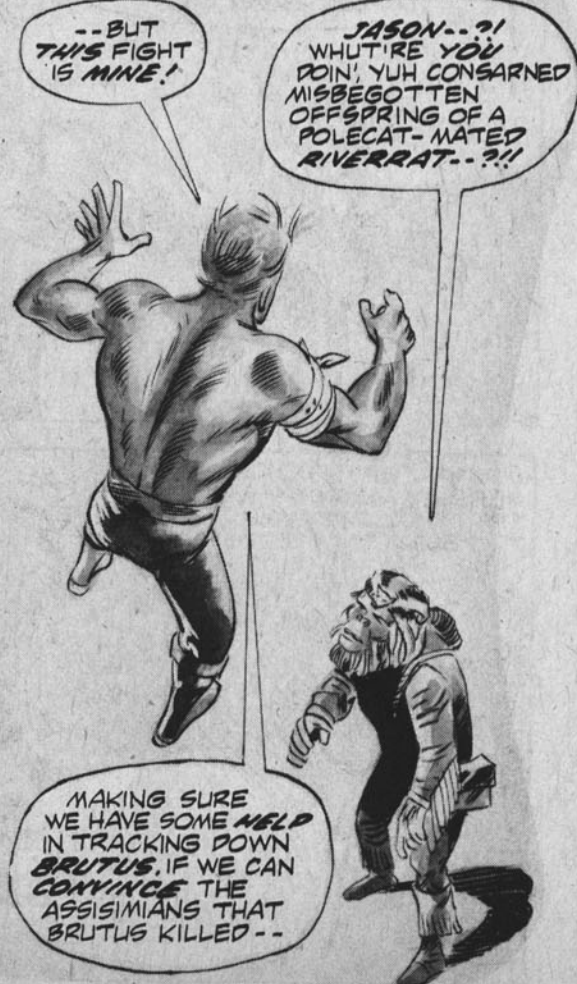


WOK

UHN--!!

SORRY I HAVE TO DO THIS TO YOU--

--BUT THIS FIGHT IS MINE!



JASON--?! WHUT'RE YOU DOIN', YUH CONARNED MISBEGOTTEN OFFSPRING OF A POLECAT- MATED RIVERRAT--?!!

MAKING SURE WE HAVE SOME HELP IN TRACKING DOWN BRUTUS. IF WE CAN CONVINCE THE ASSISIMIANS THAT BRUTUS KILLED--



THE BAIT HAS BEEN SWALLOWED AND THE FIGHT IS ON!

WHOA NOW--! YOU DADGLUMMED SAVAGES DON'T GIVE A FELLER MUCH WARNIN', DO YUH--?

TAKEN BY SURPRISE, JASON NEVERTHELESS BOUNCES BACK--

-- LUNGING INTO THE FRAY WITH A STUNNING RIGHT CROSS...

FWOOSH

...WHICH MAKES A LOT OF NOISE BUT HAS ABSOLUTELY NO EFFECT.

AND SO, HARDHEADED JULIUS TAKES HIS TURN--A FLYING BUTT TO THE GUT...

CAREFUL, JULIUS--THEY'RE MIGHTY BIG, AND TOO STUPID TO FEEL PAIN!

SKUNK

MAGUANUS DEAD!!

...A FLYING BUTT WHICH PRODUCES A DIFFERENT SOUND BUT THE SAME EFFECT.

NONE.

WHOO...THEY SHORE WEREN'T JOSHIN' WHEN THEY PICKED THEIR TWO BEST SCRAPPERS...

LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GONNA HAFTUH USE TEAMWORK TUH WHUP THESE TWO BIG 'UNS, JASE-BOY.

HOW YOU DIE!!

WE'LL COME ON, JULIUS! WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE ME SOME OF THAT TEAMWORK YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT--?!!

NOW!!

CHUD

SWUMP

IT'S ABOUT TIME, JULIUS--AFTER ALL, HE WAS ONLY POUNDING MY FACE INTO *MUSH*! WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF I LOOK LIKE ONE OF THE *MUTANT-DRONES*.

AND IT'S NOT.

THAT'S IT, JASE! GOOD MOVE!!

H-HUH...? WHU... HIT... ME...?

WAL, YUH WOK, JASE-BOY...

WHATCHA AIM TUH DO NOW--KEEP ON *HATIN'* 'EM JEST CUZ YUH HATE *BRUTUS*?

I...

...I... NO, NO, JULIUS--I'M NOT GONNA HATE THEM.

WITH THE FAILURE OF HIS COLLEAGUE, THE REMAINING ASSISIMIAN *SNARLS* IN REDOUBLED RAGE AND DETERMINATION...

MAGUANUS DEAD! SHIMCHOT DOWN! NOW YOU REALLY DIE!!

KEEP A *COOL HAID* NOW, JASE-BOY--YOU HIT 'IM LOW FROM THE *FRONT*...

...WHILE I *CIRCLE* TO HIS *BACK*.

CONFUSIN' TH' DUMB CUSS SHOULDN'T BE *HARD*.

AN' *STAY* DOWN, YOU BIG *GALOOT*!

FWAK

ASSISIMIANS--! LET THERE BE *PEACE* BETWEEN US NOW!

COME ON! JOIN US INSIDE THE *STOCKADE* FOR--

"--A FEAST OF
FRIENDSHIP!"

IT IS A FEAST WHICH LASTS
LONG INTO THE NIGHT,
UNTIL ONE OF THE
STOCKADE-DWELLERS
CASUALLY ASKS JASON--

SO WHERE ARE
YOU FOLKS HEADED
FROM HERE?

BACK TO THE
CITY.

THE CITY DOWN-RIVER? THAT'S FUNNY...
I JUST RAN INTO ANOTHER CITIZEN FROM
THAT CITY THE OTHER DAY. HEAR TELL
THE LAWGIVER'S DYING, EH?

WHAAAT?!!

AND SO, THE FEAST ENDS RATHER ABRUPTLY--
AT LEAST FOR A CERTAIN FIVE ERTSWHILE
PARTICIPANTS...

COME ON--
THERE'S NO
TIME TO LOSE!
MAYBE YOU CAN
SAVE THE
LAWGIVER WITH
YOUR ADVANCED
KNOWLEDGE,
LIGHTSMITH!

YEAH, BUT I SURE WISH
I STILL HAD MY WONDER
WAGON--NO TELLIN'
WHAT'S IN THERE THAT
MIGHT COME IN HANDY.

GUNPOWDER JULIUS AND
STEELY DAN HAVE AGREED TO FOLLOW WITH
THE ASSISIMIANS LATER, WHEREUPON ALL WILL
JOIN TO HUNT DOWN BRUTUS...

...BUT RIGHT NOW, JASON, ALEX, MALAGUEÑA,
LIGHTSMITH AND GILBERT FRANTICALLY PILE INTO
THE NORTHLANDS
SHIP--

--AND PLY THE EARLY MORNING RIVER MISTS TOWARD
THE CITY. AFTER ALL, THE LAWGIVER'S LIFE IS AT
STAKE...



...AND NO ONE IS MORE **AWARE** OF THAT FACT THAT THE YOUNG ORANGUTAN NAMED **THADDEUS**.

WHAT'S TAKING THE CATCHERS SO **LONG-LONG**?

YEAH, WE NEED MORE **HAIRY-HAIRY SPECIMENS**--CUZ WE GOTTA STRIKE AT THE **INHERITORS** SOON-SOON.

THOSE BIG BRAIN-BRAINS GOTTA **PAY** FOR WHAT HAPPENED THE **LAST** TIME!



AND AFTER THE **INHERITORS**, WE GOTTA TAKE THE CITY OF **APES AND NON-MUTATED HUMAN-HUMANS!**

THE CITY OF **APES AND HUMANS?!** **THADDEUS'** CITY!!



THE NEWS IS **TOO MUCH** FOR THADDEUS. HE **GASPS--**AND **SLIPS** ON THE STONE STAIRWELL.

HUH-HUH? WHO'S **THAT-THAT?**!



YES, WHO **ARE** YOU-YOU? MAYBE THE ONE WHO **PERVERT-ED** THE MINDS OF OUR **CATCHERS** AND TURNED 'EM **AGAINST** US--US--? MAYBE THE ONE WHO MUST **PAY-PAY?**

N-NO-- I... I **SWEAR--!**

YOUNG THADDEUS IS **TERRIFIED**.



MEANWHILE, THE ONE WHO ACTUALLY **IS** RESPONSIBLE FOR "PERVERTING THE MINDS" OF THE **GORILLOIDS** NOW **GLOATS** WITH THE LUSTY CONFIDENCE OF AN **IRON-FISTED CONQUEROR...**

YOU **SEE**, WARKO? I **TOLD** YOU I COULD DO IT. AND NOW THAT OUR FRIENDS THE **GORILLOIDS** SEE THINGS **MY** WAY--

--**NOTHING** CAN STOP US FROM **SMASHING** THE CITY!

YES, COMMANDER **BRUTUS**, AND IT'S ONLY A SHORT MARCH UNTIL WE ACTUALLY **REACH--**

"-- THE CITY."



DAWN: AND THE GREAT SQUARE BEGINS TO FILL WITH THRONGS OF CURIOUS CITIZENS. THE CEREMONIAL INSTALLATION OF A NEW PEACE OFFICER IS ABOUT TO COMMENCE...

...AND GOSSIP RIPPLES THROUGH THE CROWD.

I GUESS BRUTUS REALLY HAS BEEN BANISHED FOREVER, AS THE LAWGIVER CLAIMED.

LAWGIVER? HAVEN'T YOU HEARD-- THERE'S A RUMOR THAT HE'S DYING-- BUT I'LL WAGER HE'S ALREADY DEAD.

WHY ELSE THE RUSH TO INSTALL MORAVIUS-- AFTER ALL THIS TIME?



THE RIVERBANK ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY...



COME ON-- HURRY!!

MADLY, THEY RACE TOWARD THE JUMBLED COMPLEX OF ADOBE-SCULPTED STRUCTURES...

...ARRIVING AT THE GREAT SQUARE IN THE MIDST OF THE SOLEMN CEREMONY.

OH NO! ARE WE TOO LATE--? ARE THEY SAYING THE LAWGIVER'S DEATH-RITES--?!



NO, YOU FOOL-- THEY'RE INSTALLING THE NEW PEACE OFFICER INTO SERVICE.

NOW BE QUIET!

--DO SO SOLEMNLY SWEAR,
TO THE BEST OF MY SOUND
JUDGEMENT AND CAPABLE
ABILITY.

AND DO YOU, MORAVIUS, ALSO
SOLEMNLY SWEAR TO UPHOLD
ALL MORAL, ETHICAL, AND CIVIL
RIGHTS OF BOTH APES AND
HUMANS, AS DECREED BY OUR
REVERED PATRIARCH, HE
WHO IS THE GREAT
LAWGIVER -- ?

IT FIGURES --
ANOTHER GORILLA!
JUST ONCE I'D LIKE TO
SEE A HUMAN GET
APPOINTED TO AN
IMPORTANT
OFFICE!

I DO SO SOLEMNLY SWEAR,
TO THE BEST OF MY SOUND
JUDGEMENT AND --

NO TIME FOR GRUMBLING
NOW, JASE.

GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, ALEX--
THE FASTER WE REACH THE
LAWGIVER, THE BETTER.

BUT THAT
CROWD DOESN'T SEEM
TO MUCH CARE WHETHER
THE LAWGIVER LIVES
OR --

SKRUMP

WHAT
IN THE...?!!

UP THERE-- ON THE
CLIFFS!! IT'S
BRUTUS--!!

KROOM

BUT HE'S GONE CRAZY--
HE MUST HAVE! EVEN WITH ALL
THOSE WAR MACHINES, HE
CAN'T POSSIBLY SUCCEED IN
TAKING THE ENTIRE CITY!!

UP ON THE CLIFFS, CRUEL-FACED **BRUTUS** OF COURSE, HAS A **DIFFERENT** VIEW OF THE SITUATION...

WITH ALL THESE **GORILLOIDS**, WARKO, WE CAN'T POSSIBLY **FAIL** TO TAKE THAT **PITIFUL CITY!**

AND ONCE WE **DO** TAKE THE CITY--AND **KILL** THE CURSED **LAWGIVER** WE'LL HAVE A BASE TO **OPERATE** FROM. THEN WE CAN ENTER THE **FORBIDDEN ZONE** AND TAKE CARE OF THE **GORILLOIDS' HUMAN "MAKERS"...**

...AS WELL AS SETTLE AN OLD DEBT WITH THE **INHERITORS.**

BUT RIGHT NOW...
FIRE AGAIN !!

CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE!-- IN AN INCREDIBLE SAGA OF **BERSERK APES** AND **BLAZING ACTION** WHEN **JASON** AND **ALEX** ARE PLUNGED INTO THE MIST OF THE --

REVELT OF THE GORILLOIDS!

MONKEY BUSINESS IN THE EDITORIAL OFFICES

Hello. It has now been a little over a year since this page last appeared in this magazine. I think that's a mistake. That does not mean I think an editorial page should be included in every issue—I don't always have that much to say that couldn't be incorporated into the letters pages via armadillo, and I'd rather see extra space devoted to photos and features. However, I think that a magazine needs an editorial page from time to time. For one thing, it gives the magazine just a bit more personality. For another thing, it allows a much more direct line of communication between reader and editorial staff than in letter columns (although, it should be pointed out, that, once a month, I sit down and read through most of the letters for all the black-and-whites).

Although we are nearing the end (next issue featuring the conclusion), I'd like to say a few words on our adaptation of *BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES*. Obviously, this was something of a departure and, as such, was the most controversial of our simian serializations of the Fox films. And, while it would be misleading to say we've gotten no objections from Apes fans who would prefer a more purist approach, most of the reactions to the adaptation have been favorable.

Well, just for the record, I'd like to say that I agree with Doug's approach to the *BATTLE* adaptation. However, I would like to reiterate exactly how this adaptation (and, for that matter, *all* the Apes adaptations) were done.

All of the Apes adaptations done for this magazine were done from the *shooting scripts*. For those of you who might be unfamiliar with the term, it refers to the script as it stands at the time principal photography is begun on a film. In most cases, changes are made by the time the film is complete, both by the director or actors

while the film is being "shot" and in the editing room where the film is put together. But, under most circumstances, these changes are minimal, which accounts for the slight variations in our first four adaptations.

But then we come to *BATTLE*, in which the difference between our adaptation and the 20th Century Fox film are something more than "minimal". Well, friends, the first thing you should know is that neither Doug Moench nor anyone at Marvel Comics made those changes. Doug added nothing of his own to the script. What you have been reading is a nearly verbatim adaptation of the *shooting script* provided by Fox. Why the final film was so completely altered, I don't know. But it was. It would have proved very hard to adapt the film as it appeared without a matching script, which could not be provided.

In other words Breck was in the original shooting script and Kolp was just a flunky. At the end of the *CONQUEST* shooting script, Breck was indeed killed by Caesar. However, in the actual film, as released, he was *not* (MacDonald stopped Caesar) (this was, incidentally, where we used the film rather than the shooting script in our adaptation. We had to keep Breck alive, like the film, for *BATTLE*). Why Breck was then cut from the final film remains a mystery.

Also in the *BATTLE* shooting script, MacDonald is the *same* MacDonald that was in *CONQUEST*, and many of the lines that were spoken by him in the script were given to Virgil in the final film. Virgil had a very minor part in the script, lacking both the lines and the flair which Paul Williams seemed to give the part in the final film.

And now, before we run out of room entirely, I'd like to take a moment to discuss the future of this magazine, which should answer a few other inquiries from readers.

First, what are we going to do

when we finish up *BATTLE*? We are *not* going to adapt the T.V. series, nor the animated series. The reason for this is fairly simple—we don't have the rights nor the source material we would need. We are not authorized to do them. Therefore we will be creating a third new series, which we don't have a title for yet. It will feature Derek Zane (from our *KINGDOM* and *BEAST* original stories), but the story-line will be completely different from what he's been involved with before. We don't want to give too much away, but he will return to his original quest for Taylor & Brent and... awww, that would be telling. We'll also take a look back at the Earth he left behind to find out what happened when NASA discovered Zane's time machine actually worked! But even before that gets started, in our titantic 30th issue, we will be featuring a novel-length, double-size *TERROR* novel complete in that issue. This is going to be a turning point in the series, which will redefine the direction of the series. I think you'll be both pleased and impressed with what Doug has in store!

And, now, one last final note. We've gotten a large number of requests for Apes photos we haven't used, especially of Taylor. Frankly, we'd love to comply, but we can't. It is really impossible to explain in such limited space, but we are not allowed to publish any photo materials from the Apes films that have humans in them (with the exception of Jim Naughton and Ron Harper)—including Apes actors with their make-up off. Needless to say, this limits our photo material somewhat. Still, we do have a good number of photos and we try to avoid reruns.

All in all, I'm pretty pleased with what we're producing here. Naturally, I hope you are too. I hope you'll write and let me know.

—JOHN WARNER, EDITOR.

WE HEARD IT THROUGH THE TELEVISION

Dear Marvel,
Truly interesting and near-perfect. That's what I have to say about *POTA #24*. The highlight was your *Future History Chronicles IV*, "The Shadows of Haunted Cathedral-ruals." It was well written and executed. The plot was good, the best that Doug Moench has dreamed up yet for this new series. I'm glad you've decided to end the stories in this sort of a cliffhanger, the way you do in your *Terror* ship. Some scenes of Tom Sutton's artwork were bit hard to make out (i.e. the indoor garden, p. 49), but I have to say it was my best achievement in some time.

The *Doomsday* drawing was carried out differently from the film, which I like. Doug and Alfredo Alcalá did a fine job in the adaptation, making it a lot better than the finished movie. Too bad you didn't have done it for the other adaptations.

One thing that I've had on my mind... your plot stated that everyone liked BENEATH better than BATTLE, but even BENEATH was one of the top times for Apes fans, hardly concerned apex except at the end. If mean, apex and Paul Diney had a good idea for a good science fiction, not one to be woven in as a sequel to the PLANET OF THE APES. The idea of radiation caused mutants was a good idea, but even BENEATH would make a neat movie, but, in the first sequel, how else would the world have been blown to smithereens? If gorillas just fought the bomb, they might not be able to destroy it. So, the plot makes sense, good, it made a more than picture in the Apes scheme of things, but it would have made a good movie without apex in it too.

When does your first volume of issues end, and the second volume begin? You've had 24 issues now, and the first volume hasn't ended yet!

Good! You got the NEXT ISSUE page back! I hope permanently. I hope you were serious about bringing the two-page back!

I like the new format. After ten issues, it has to grow on you, right?

Now, don't get discouraged! Even though you get bad criticism, get criticism still by POTA.

Jeff Heine
5616 Grandview Blvd.
Mound, MN 55364

Bad or good, we've never objected to criticism, Jeff, and never will. All we ask here at the *Apes Vine* is that you give us an excuse before throwing in the towel. There are always a great number of opinions to be shared, though by any changes are made, but you can be sure each and every one is given equal weight.

Glad to hear you enjoyed the most recent *Future History* series. Bill, but please don't use as a criteria for reaction to a chapter ending for that serial, and we're a happy reporter about my little fellow

Apophelias gave it the affirmative nod.

We hope to squeeze the next issue page in as often as possible, so so many of you have been requesting. Unfortunately, in a case of there being just too much to fit in the limited amount of pages we have and so something has to go. Rather than cut our comics or article features, we feel the next issue can be more easily sacrificed on those occasions.

Dear Apes, Humans, and assorted Mutants:
I'm still intimidated by the meaning of Brutus's statement in the letter col of issue 24. The term "or else" could mean anything from mutant mindbombs to armed gorilla troops coming to take away my latest issue of P.O.T.A.I!

I liked issue 24. My letters to you are few and far between, but I wanted to write to see your letters printed anyway, but I wanted to write and tell you my opinions on your present format. Like it as it is. You should keep the articles and the comics as they are. With an average of ten pages for articles and 48 pages of comics, it seems balanced to me having a good article(s) in between two good stories. If a lot of Apes fans want more articles, however, you could come out with *Apes Specials*, but with the fixed subscription price, it wouldn't be a very good idea.

BATTLE part I was pretty good on art and plot. I also liked *Future History* Chronicle part IV. It had a nice plot, but I think the artwork was a bit below standard. Tom Sutton's art should be a little better than it has been, though... I still don't think he draws his apes that well. The article *Man and Ape: Reflections in an Imperfect Mirror* part two was good. I liked the good symbolic view in the Apes scheme of things, but it would have made a good movie without apex in it too.

I hear that you have a third series coming up. How do you do it? I wish you could do articles from the five action TV series. I'd love to see them. You should also try to do adaptations from the *Return to the Planet of the Apes*. Ballantine Books had will William Arado the book adaptations. And despite the fact that I was a little disappointed in the cartoon series, the *Return* books are very well written. Arrow has paid attention to plot development and adding extra details in the background area of the show. If anyone there was disappointed by the cartoon series, you'd at least like the TV. I recommend them! I think I'll knock off pounding away at this typewriter. There's been suspicious gorilla patrol activity centered around where I live. I must be looked at that I have the latest PLANET OF THE APES. As they're now pounding away at my door, I must bid a farewell.....!

Yours in SF,
Bill Bryan
1171 South Street
Lexington, MO 64067

Thanks for sending along such good needed opinions. Bill, but please don't use as a criteria for writing what you might consider the distant possibility of seeing your letter in print. We have the

same chance as the next guy for making it into the show, so let's hear from you a bit more often, okay?

In answer to the many of you who've wondered about the lack of any plans for the near future to start adapting scripts from either the television series or the animated version of *Planet of the Apes*. But we don't think you'll be missing them for long when you get an eye-ful of our fanzine books in your all-new series that'll be switching your way in just a few short issues. That's for it.

Dear Marvel,
This month's issue of PLANET OF THE APES was okay. The cover stood out—far too far. Before, you always used the "neon color effect," this ish you used a background all one color: yellow. It catches the eye but it doesn't keep it there; too long. I almost completely overlooked it. The picture was alright but the gorilla looked like he was taking a swig of moonshine.

The *Doomsday* *Space* wasn't quite up to par. Like on page 3 it shows a gorilla eating a banana. According to *24* in *ESCAPE*, apes "bath and eat" bananas. Throughout the whole adaptation the *best* art as on page 6. Caesar looked just like he did in the movie. The worst art though is in the mutants. The way *Alcalá* drew them this issue is the way they should have been drawn in *Planet of the Apes*. *Alcalá* drew them like *Conquest*. So it should be *Alcalá* who has been killed in *CONQUEST*. So it should be *Alcalá* who is in command. Also many lines were deleted, mainly *Virgil*; either that or exchanged lines.

Reflections in an Imperfect Mirror was boring. It read like one of my school textbooks. Maybe part two will be better.

The *Shadows of Haunted Cathedral* was fast-paced and exciting. It could easily be my favorite. *Chronicle*. At the end, though, I became confused. The mutant-monster says that *Alcalá*, *Reine*, *Graymalkin*, and *Stokar* are all being changed into mutants; but if they don't get off the ship soon then's no way. So how come the apes *Graymalkin* found and the human that *Alcalá* found are mutants? Maybe they lived on a different part of the ship where there wasn't enough radiation. But, if that's true then all our heroes have to do is move to another part of the ship. Wierd huh?

Now for the lettercol:
You can't put more articles in, then at least keep the same amount. If you take them out, then the mail will get a little boring. Besides, except for *Reflections*, they're all being interesting.

Now to help you brighten up your articles section why don't you use some of the special effects scenes like Taylor's speech in the lake, or *Comelius* and Taylor on opposite sides of the *ESCAPE*, from *PLANET*. Or you could use some of the action shots like *Comelius* falling off the ship, from *ESCAPE*, or *Alcalá* falling out of the tree, from *BATTLE*. Now I'd like to comment on a certain George that writes to the *POTA* lettercol most often. It seems that he says there are 13 talking & thinking gorillas and that he is one of them. Yet he fails to let us that there are 8 talking & thinking chimps and 2 talking &

thinking orangutans, of which am I of the former. He says that *POTA* magazine is anti-gorilla, and that all apes should be treated equal, yet when he says this he says it in such a manner that he himself is being anti-chimpanzee and anti-orangutan. I hope that in future letters he changes this.

Felicitas!
Harry
2107 Carolan Dr.
Duncan, Okla. 73833

Issue #24's cover seemed to have elicited a great number of comments, with many saying they liked the overall effect, but that individual things about it (such as the horn appearing to be a drinking device) didn't gel with their aesthetic tastes. The creation of an appealing cover is one of the most difficult and uncertain aspects of any magazine's production.

Most readers seem pretty satisfied with the run of covers we've had up till now, but if you could describe something, we've got several coming up that are truly different in nature (like this issue's) and we'll definitely catch the unwary eyes of any casual subscriber browser.

Innovation has been the Marvel hallmark for some fifteen years, and we don't intend to slack off now, though we need your participation in the quest for new ideas as much now as ever. Don't let us down, hear?

Dear Marvel,
After 24 issues of pure excellence in magazine achievement, I have decided to finally write you men of Marvel, the cover stood out New York way.

On issue 24:
The cover art was superb, as always. Mr. Larkin is by far the best *POTA* cover artist on your staff. However, I feel it was a bit out of place for the content of #24. It would have been better off on the cover of one of the issues featuring the original adaptation of PLANET OF THE APES.

Your adaptations have been following a fine line of quality, but in my opinion that line was cut when you started doing BATTLE #24 hoping to find somewhat of an improvement on your first adaptation of BATTLE. There was none. Perhaps I'm basing the latter opinion on a lot of the movie. The way he was all about, but one of Mr. Alcalá's poorer efforts. The only thing I really didn't like of *Alcalá*'s graphics was in the way he portrayed the mutants (Breck, Alma, and Mendez)—it was absolutely sick. They should have looked just a little less distorted, as portrayed in the movie.

The article was not all that interesting, but the stunts from the series were fantastic. I really lost hope for the articles since you changed the format of the magazine a few years ago.

I do not like your *Future History* *Chronicles* at all. They are hard to follow, and the continuity does not seem to fit with the fact that was already been established. Still, I think Tom Sutton is the most talented artist on your creative staff.

I enjoy your magazine immensely. Please keep up the good work and take my comments seriously and into consideration.

Thanks,
Cord Adam
2317 W. 114 St.
Chicago, IL 60643

That we will, Carl, just as we take all our letter-bombers' cogent comments seriously. It's a little difficult reconciling your opinion on *Future History* *Chronicles* as being hard to follow with your assessment of Tom Sutton as the most talented artist we've got. It seems to me that such mixed-up charm of that decidedly offbeat series arises from the astounding visual effects Titantic Tom creates. Although his artwork is not in the traditional superb style of the other artists, it is an interesting mixture of mood and texture. We consider him a major asset to this magazine. And if his art is

approached in a receptive frame of mind, you'll find he's a natural storyteller of the highest caliber.

Dear Marvel-Adios,

Despite the "more art or more apes!" controversy, your new format is still appealing (pun intended). Personally, I'd like to see more apes, as well as more pictures. Contrary to what some might think, gorilla articles are well-written, and provide interesting behind-the-scenes insight to the Apes phenomenon. They are also quite necessary to your format for this reason: The PLANET OF THE APES is a magazine, not a comic book, and the more we have, the more we can put, having both art and articles, makes *POTA* a "comic magazine."

If reader opinion turns out to be evenly divided on the issue as to why it is, then how about a compromise. How about a new, dollar-size PLANET OF THE APES ANNUAL, devoted entirely to articles, while leaving the *75c* magazine to its regular format (What the hell—About the issue of *POTA* content, art, anyway). This should satisfy both sides of the issue.

Terror on the Planet of the Apes will take a turn for the better now that you have a new, permanent artist to the series. The *Shadows of Haunted Cathedral* was one of my favorites, and he will provide a fresh new look to a series that was beginning to get stale. His rendition of *Battle for the Conquest* of the Apes was impressive; it gives this "Apes" fan something to look forward to.

I've noticed you'll be starting your original series after BATTLE, but I was hoping you'd adapt the TV shows first. If you ever decide to do the TV shows, could you (Doug) write an ending scene for the series? I'd like to have an interview with the producers and/or the story editors of both live-action and animated shows, to find out how each series—if given the chance—would have evolved.

Here's wishing all of you the best of luck on whatever you decide, and hoping that PLANET OF THE APES magazine, unlike the TV shows, will never be cancelled.

Yours truly,
Bob Miller
1986 Brent Lane
Fayetteville, AR 72701

And so "Battle for the Articles on the Apes" continues unabated, threatening to turn the *Apes* offices here on Madison Avenue into a virtual *Fortress Zoro*. As of the present moment, we have not taken any action to separate the two, but I place them here. There are several article features lined up in near future issues, if and when space allows. But our comics features including original artwork and the *Future History* series are always, I'm not easy striking a balance between articles and comics, but as long as we do interesting and informative as possible, still, we doubt whether this little paragraph is going to quell the legion of critics on both sides who've joined this growing controversy. And we wouldn't have it any other way. It seems to me that we're creating a good controversy makes getting there all the fun.

Dear Sirs,
PLANET OF THE APES #24 had several appealing aspects. I would allow myself to comment on a few.

Although I now find Mr. Larkin's cover appealing, this issue's brightness somewhat startlingly different, I didn't notice it's place on my local magazine rack until after perusing the other series which were located below it.

Doug Moench has handled the world of the Apes films in the best manner possible... increased captions. Besides the obvious, these extra bits lend a look into the characters' totally lacking sense of humor, the grating, Kudos, Mr. Moench. I have often harshly criticized this man's talent but I must now revoke any previous statements. The *Doomsday* *Space* was a piece of it. I like Alfredo Alcalá's art. Despite what P.O.T.A. readers have commented ("undramatic" and "tackling," I

thought he's ability is undeniably superior. However, he persists in adding bangs to many of the apes. Only orangutans possess those hanging hairs over the eye of brow. Zia looked ridiculous on the drawings of the videotaped part of her during her interview by the despicable Dr. Hasslein and the Commission. Note: Virgil, McDonald & Caesar entered the city by foot and not by horse and the underground tunnels. I hope only the gorilla horribles mutation, Mr. Alcalá had them but they were in BENEATH the PLANET OF THE APES. Tch.

I heartily disagree with M. Biegl. Articles are definitely an integral part of this magazine, as is the case with any *Apes* publication. If I wanted straight comics then I would purchase a four-colored comic. I understand an issue or two without articles (as is the case with extra-long illustrated features), but not the total withdrawal.

I do like the articles, as a whole. Still, recently their content has been repetitive, boring, monotonous. Sam Marone's article only echoed what has been said so many times before in this magazine. I could help but be reminded of the *Escape From the Battle for the Conquest* Beneath the Planet of the Apes article which appeared in issue #1. Whatever happened to interviews and the like? The *Shadows of Haunted Cathedral* P.O.T. VI was tolerable in itself. I have never been ecstatic about them and I can say the quality of the quality (or lack of it) in Tom Sutton's artwork.

You had said that there would be an increase in the letters page from 1 to 2 pages. But I see only an advertisement for the forthcoming issue and a plea for subscriptions.

As you've GAVE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES is going to be over shortly and you have "a third short series in the works." I don't think that it will be capable of replacing those adaptations that have been running 2 1/2 years. Wouldn't it be possible to produce a series of Apes short-lived tv. series? Even the cartoon, heaven forbid?

You've managed both. And a helluva lot better than I thought possible a couple of Junes back.

Rory Kough Gibbons
288 Apian Way
Union City, CA 94587

Well, we've managed to swing down to the bottom of yet another series of letters to *Apes*. All of your letters on #24 were passed along to Brutus in the *Psychomedia* (before it exploded) who said he was demanding a stand-in for the action series and 20% of the gross price per issue. I don't want any more words of wisdom on us. So, we sought out the only other apes whose subtle persuasiveness could gently entice you indolent apex fanatics to put pen to paper. *Alcalá* takes it away: "Uhh, no more *kill*, if you no WRITE!" Like we said, gentle but effective. Send all scribbles and scratches to:

PLANET OF THE APES
Marvel Magazine Group
575 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10022



**I SAY
IF IT
LOOKS
LIKE
AN APE,
TALKS
LIKE
AN APE,
AND
WALKS
LIKE
AN
APE...
IT IS
AN APE!**



a photo primer, written by JIM WHITMORE
(suggested and modeled by William Blake and Paula Crist)
photos by Freff

In the spring of 1974 I got to see, for the first time, Bill Blake and Paula Crist in performance as Zira and Cornelius. The events of that day were amply recounted in POTA 13 and 14. But one thing struck me then that I felt was worth pursuing. You see, they had the *motions* right. Obviously they'd spent a great deal of time studying not only the films, but also the movements of real chimpanzees, gorillas, etc.

Now, it's an easy thing to hunker over and chitter, if that's the extent of your idea of what apes do ... but to know the postures, the walks, the way the hands and arms are articulated, and to use these to create a wholly convincing illustration, *that's* impressive!

When asked, Bill and Paula were more than willing to present a few of the basics. These are printed here with notes by yours truly, who is feeling more round-shouldered already.





figure 1

figure 2

SECTION ONE: STANCE

Male: Figures 1 and 2 show Bill in human normal stance, as he was in the photo at the bottom of page one. It ruined the effect of the costume, of course, and is what will happen to you if you try and walk through the part of an ape instead of becoming one. In figures 3 and 4 Bill has assumed basic posture: feet angled outwards, knees bent a bit, bottom back and back curved. *This curve includes the head and neck.* The shoulders are rounded down and forward, and hands become more limply curved while elbows are drawn outward. This stance was that used in the movies, and you can see in Figures 5 and 6 how effectively it adds to the costume design. There was also the stance used in the TV show, when apes were less evolved — Bill shows the posture in Figures 7 and 8. Arms curve more and hands are pulled closer to the stomach. Back is bent even lower to the ground. Your weight should be as much on the balls of your feet as possible, which will be tiring at first. Figure 9 demonstrates how the legs also bend more, to bring the whole body lower.



figure 3

figure 4



figure 5

figure 6

figure 7

figure 8



figure 9

Female: As Paula shows in her human to ape to ape-in-costume photos (Figures 11 through 16) the female transition is much the same as the male. The back need not be bent quite as much as the male, and the legs turn out a touch more. Note, in the costume, the way the dress angles off the back of the hips to increase the illusion of an ape spine.



figure 11

figure 12

figure 13

figure 14

figure 15

figure 16



figure 17

THE WALK

Male: The actual walk has to be convincing or everything is ruined. Figures 17-19 show the movie walk as it looks beneath the costume. Figure 17 shows that, while walking, you also have to maintain the basic back form. All of your motions roll around that curved spine. Figure 18 shows the first step. The right leg lifts up on the toe, knee bending outward, the other leg straightening some but not completely. The right arm is lifted up and a little back, the head tilts away from the lifting leg, and the left arm straightens and drops *forward* slightly. When walking forward your body weight should be pulling you ahead a bit. In Figure 19 we see the next step, which shows just the opposite. Thus, the walk should be a loose-jointed swinging around the spine, as said before. Back and forth, but controlled. Figures 20 and 21 show the effect in costume. The TV walk, as demonstrated in Figures 22-25, is only a more exaggerated version. The steps are wider apart and there is more leaning involved.



figure 18



figure 19

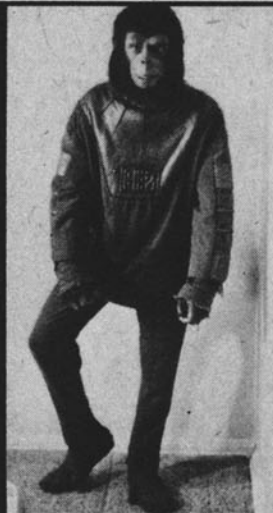


figure 20



figure 21



figure 22



figure 23



figure 24



figure 25

Female: The female walk is vastly different, as Figures 26-28 demonstrate. The hands themselves do less moving. It is the entire arm, leading with the elbow, that rocks slightly from side to side. Because of the hobbling nature of the skirt, steps are taken from the knee instead of hip — or, at least, mostly from the knee. This causes a sway from side to side that you might want to accentuate by leaning into it a bit, but keeping your head close to level.



figure 26



figure 27



figure 28

HAND AND ARM ARTICULATIONS

It's the small details of motion as well as the large patterns that will make your ape imitation a roaring success — or a crashing failure, if they aren't there. The hands and arms become particularly important because apes have very distinct methods of using their hands, and they use them a lot. So will you.

In figures 29 and 30 Bill demonstrates the way the wrist swings, and about how far. Usually it is kept bent inward.



figure 29

figure 30

Now Paula demonstrates how real apes will hold their hands and shift their fingers in common situations. The wrist is limp by human standards, because the entire hand is more flexible. Note in Figure 31, especially: the fingers do not completely straighten. Ape hands are designed to *grasp*, and that effects the way you must hold them. Always be ready to grasp.



figure 31



figure 32



figure 33

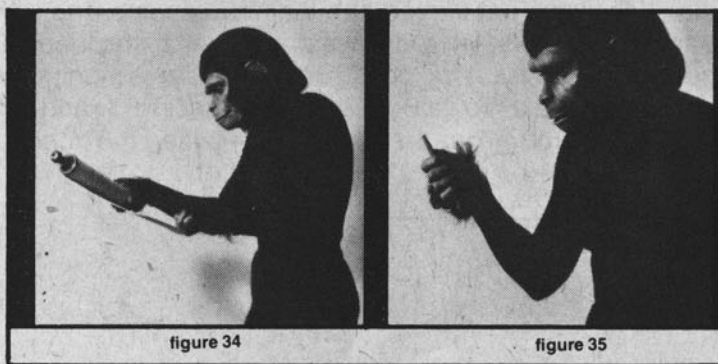


figure 34

figure 35

And when you do grasp, grasp right — *overhand*: Note that Paula holds both parts of the scroll the same way, as an ape would, in Figure 34. Figure 35 shows the simple act of holding a pen, and the fingers are all wrapped tightly around it, doing most of the holding instead of the thumb. All ape hand movements make more use of the fingers, and less of the opposable thumb, than we do. Figures 36 and 37 show two different ways that an ape would rest his or her hands on a surface — either with the weight on the flat part of the fingers beneath the second knuckle, or more languidly, on the back of the hands.

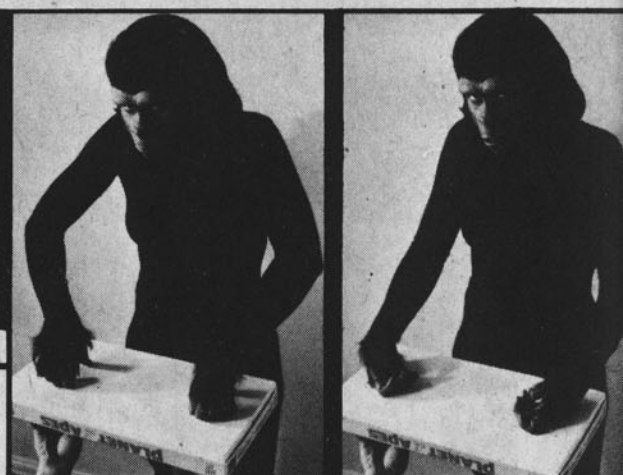


figure 36

figure 37

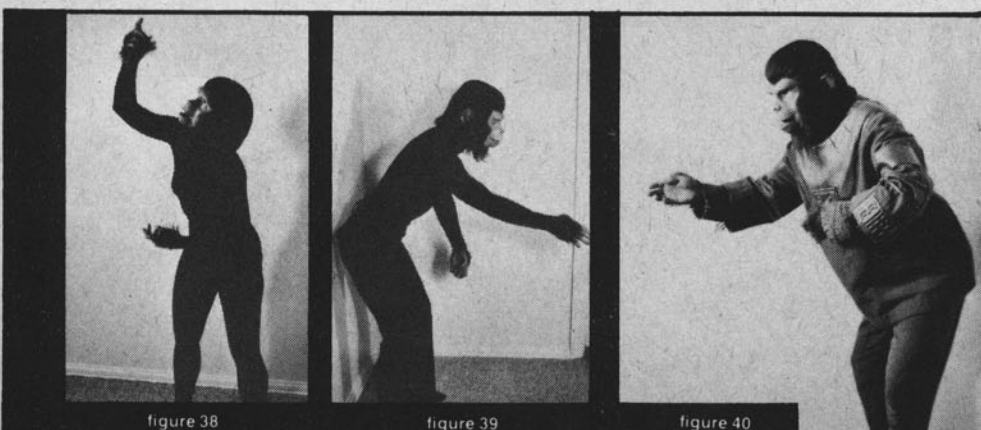


figure 38

figure 39

figure 40

The relationship of the arm to the body is shown here in three lifting poses. In figure 38 we see that the arm *can* go fairly high, but it means bending the head and body too, or at least the body. The actual angle at the shoulder is not very high. See how the fingers remain curled? 39 and 40 show Bill in and out of costume, reaching for something. Note limpness of thumb, slight curvature of arms, and that much of the reach is done by pushing the shoulder forward. Arm does not lift much higher at the shoulder than Paula's did in Figure 38.

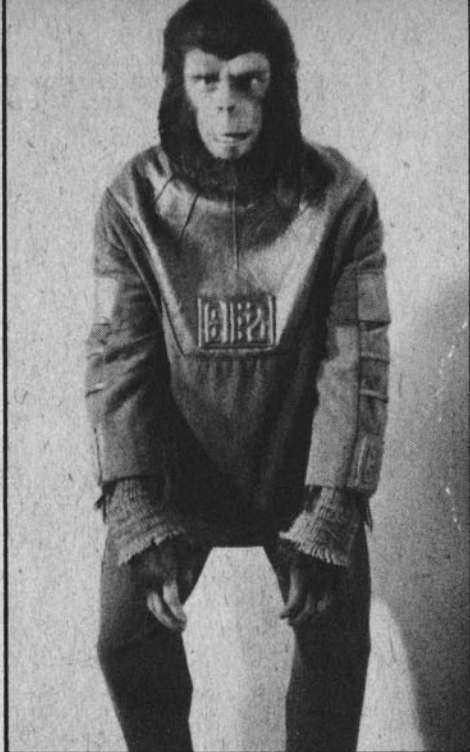


figure 41

The last thing to note in dealing with arms is that the shoulders are extremely rounded, the arms as far down in the socket as possible. Combined with the costume's tailoring, as in Figure 41, the effect is very convincing. Also take a good look at the hands, and how the line of the hand from wrist to second knuckle is straighter than a human's. This is managed by holding the slightly-curved fingers back, all at the same time, to create that line. Keep it in mind when reaching for things.

DIFFERENT CHARACTERIZATIONS:

Curiosity is simple enough. Bring the hands together, as Bill does in Figure 42, at the knuckles, bend a bit more forward ... but keep one shoulder up and the head tilted even more upwards. Lifted eyebrows helps too, and perhaps a sniffing of the air.

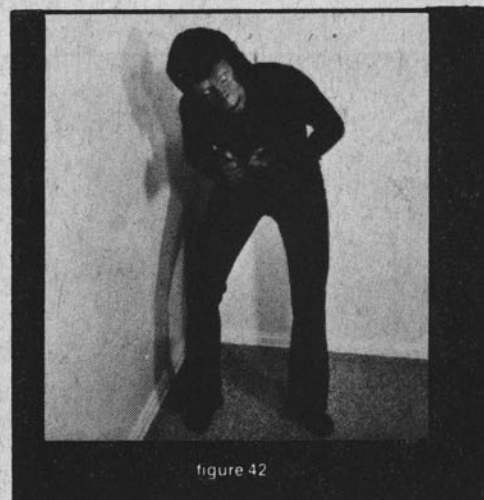


figure 42



figure 43

Anger and hostility are harder, and can involve a sequence of events. Figure 43 shows an ape poised to respond. The knees are off the ground; all weight is supported on the balls of the feet and the thumb/second knuckle combination. Arms curve a bit, but less than usual because an angry ape is tensing. Figure 44 extends that; the ape is attacking, or at least making an attack display. That curved arm that mad apes swing with (nails at the end ready to gouge) is lifting, and weight shifting to the leap up. Figure 45 shows the attack display at full peak. Both arms are swinging now, up and down, and if this were a movie Bill would be bouncing up and down on the springy bow his legs form. Head is crouched between the hunched shoulders.



figure 44



figure 45

AND, IN CLOSING ...

Some models just aren't capable of lasting out a session. But for those who want to know how an intelligent ape would curl up to sleep ... here it is!

Other models have more stamina. In a pose characteristic of Zira from the movie version of *PLANET*, Paula gives up on waking Bill, and another *Mighty Marvel* pictorial comes to a close!



BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES!

THE BATTLE, CONCEIVED IN INSANITY, WAGED WITH BRUTALITY, AND MEASURED IN BLOOD, HAS *BEGUN*. THE CORPSES OF GENERAL ALDO'S GORILLA SENTRY'S LIE SCATTERED OVER THE RIDGE, BLEEDING INTO THE EARTH, BAKING UNDER THE SUN.

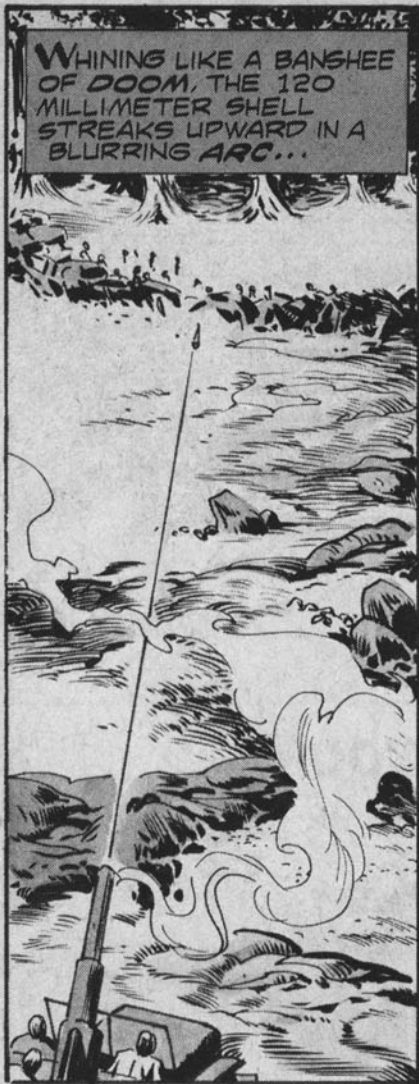
THE INVADERS FROM THE FORBIDDEN ZONE -- MUTATED MADMEN, ARMED WITH WEAPONS OF THE PAST WAR WHICH *CREATED* THEM -- WAIT ON THE HILLSIDE, SURVEYING THE CITY OF THE APES BELOW THEM...

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



CONQUEST of BLOOD!





WHINING LIKE A BANSHEE OF DOOM, THE 120 MILLIMETER SHELL STREAKS UPWARD IN A BLURRING ARC...



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

DOWN, VIRGIL--!



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

AND WHEN WE LEAVE, I WANT NO TREE STANDING, NO TWO PIECES OF WOOD STILL NAILED TOGETHER-- AND NOTHING LEFT ALIVE!



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!

THE EXPLOSION'S ECHO STILL SEEMS TO LINGER, IF NOT IN THE SMOKE-HAZED AIR, THEN AT LEAST IN THE MINDS OF CHIMPS AND ORANGUTANS Huddled for safety behind the BARRICADE...

CAESAR AND VIRGIL ARE NOWHERE TO BE SEEN. IN THEIR PLACES... LIES A HEAP OF DEBRIS FROM THE PARTIALLY DEMOLISHED BARRIER...



AND THEN--

VIRGIL...?



VIRGIL--!!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT--?! ANSWER ME, VIRGIL! ARE YOU--



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



YEAH...

...I'M ALL RIGHT, CAESAR!



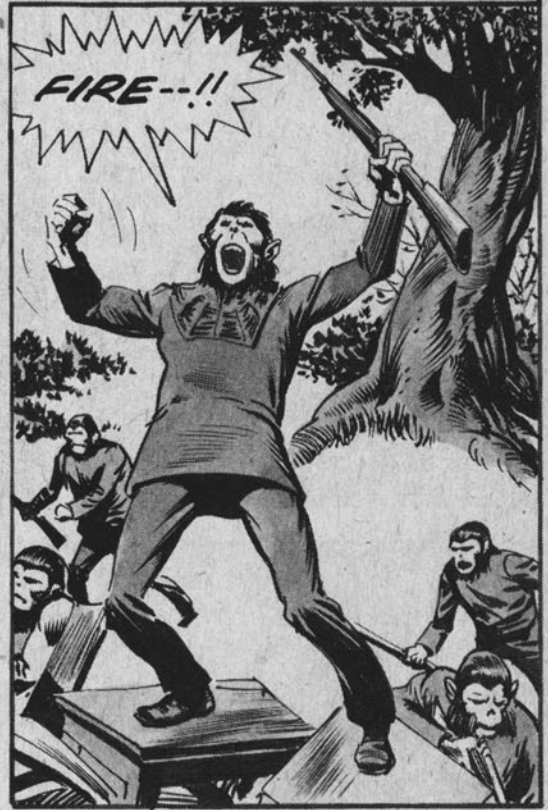
BUT THAT SURE WAS CLOSE...



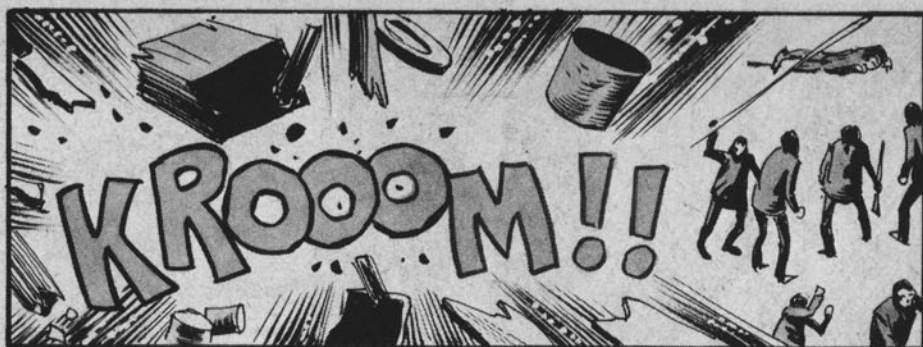
...AND HERE THEY COME...

...FOR ANOTHER TRY...

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











IN THIS SINGLE INSTANT, THE FULL FORCE OF THE BRUTAL BLOODY NIGHTMARE OF LIFE AND DEATH 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 IN 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 CARNAGE OF RAGING BATTLE, A PIERCING SHRIEK OF ANGUISH AND REMORSE ISSUES FROM ONE MANY ARBOREAL DWELLINGS...

NOOOOOO!!



THIS PARTICULAR DWELLING IS THE HOME OF CAESAR...

...AND OF HIS WIFE, LISA...FOR WHOM THE WORLD HAS JUST TURNED FILTHY AND GRAY...

WHY...?!

WHYYY!!



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 DIED.



EARLIER IN THIS DREAD DAY OF BLOOD, GENERAL ALDO HAD ESCAPED THE MUTANT'S FIRST ASSAULT ON THE RIDGE...

HE HAD FLED, EVEN AS THE LAST OF HIS GORILLA SENTRYES HAD BEEN CUT DOWN BY THE FIRST IMPLACABLE SALVO OF ANCIENT WAR-WEAPONS.

BUT IN THE INTERVAL, EVEN AS CORNELIUS WAS DYING--AND HIS FATHER WAS BEING FLUNG FROM THE BARRICADE BY THE EXPLOSION OF A 320 MILLIMETER SHELL--

--ALDO HAS RALLIED A SECOND FORCE OF HIS GORILLA SOLDIERS...

...AND NOW, AS THE REINFORCEMENTS CLUSTER AT HIS SIDE, GRUNTING AND SNARLING, ALDO IMAGINES THE TASTE OF BLOOD THICK AND HOT IN HIS THROAT.

NOW...

NOW--!!
NOW WE
KILL!!

THEY THUNDER DOWN THE RIDGE, RIFLES GUTTING THE CRISP AIR, THESE GORILLAS WHO PERHAPS FIND THEIR DAWNING INTELLIGENCE TOO FOREIGN--TOO COMPLEX--AND WHO THEREFORE REJECT IT.

OR PERHAPS--IN A SUBLIMINAL, GUT-LEVEL MANNER--THEY SIMPLY EMBRACE THEIR HUMAN-LIKE INTELLIGENCE TOO RAPIDLY, ADOPTING THE BEHAVIOR PATTERNS OF "INTELLIGENCE"... WHILE LACKING THE HUMAN SUBTLETY OF APPLICATION...

IN ANY CASE, THEY CUT THE MUTANT CARAVAN IN HALF.

...REVERTING TO THE PRIMAL SAVAGERY THEY HAVE KNOWN FOR MILENNIA...

SURPRISED, THE MUTANTS WILL HAVE MORE OF A CHANCE IN **HELL...** THAN IN FACING THE RUTHLESS ONSLAUGHT OF **ALDO'S** FORCES...

INDEED, THE MUTANTS SCARCELY HAVE A CHANCE TO EMPLOY THEIR **WEAPONS--**



-- BEFORE THE TWO BIZARRE FACTIONS **CLASH...** APES BESTOWED WITH GROWING **INTELLIGENCE**, ON THE **RISE...**

...AND HUMANS RAVAGED BY RADIATION-SPAWNED **INSANITY**, DEFINITELY ON THE DECLINING ROAD TO **EXTINCTION...**



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 SHUDDERING 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-- THEY GOT US 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...?

VIRGIL...? LISA...? IS CORNELIUS... BETTER... NOW...?



YOU.....!





THE HARSH CLANGOR OF DISTANT BATTLE IS DROWNED OUT NOW, WASHED AWAY BY BRECK'S EVENLY CALM, TERRIBLY TAUNTING VOICE...

THAT'S RIGHT, CAESAR-- CRAWL-- CRAWL THROUGH THE STREETS OF "YOUR CITY"...

CRAWL IN FEAR, CAESAR... CRAWL IN TERROR... WITH YOUR YELLOW BELLY DRAGGING IN THE DIRT...

WHOOF

CRAWL ON ALL FOURS... JUST LIKE THE PITIFUL MONKEY-BEAST YOU ARE AND ALWAYS WERE...

CRAWL, CAESAR-WORM... AND LISTEN TO ME THROUGH YOUR FEAR...

WHOOSH

I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU CRAWL FROM ONE END OF THIS BURNING CITY TO THE OTHER...

WHOOF

...SO ALL YOUR "PEOPLE" CAN SEE YOU THE WAY YOU REALLY ARE, CAESAR...

...BEFORE I KILL THEM, THAT IS...

AND THEN, CAESAR-- AND THEN, MONKEY-- AT THE EAR END OF YOUR TINKERTOY TREE-HOUSE VILLAGE...

WHOOOF

...I'M GOING TO BURN EVERY FILTHY, LICE-RIDDEN HAIR OFF YOUR SKINNY MONKEY BODY!

WON'T THAT BE FUN, CAESAR...?

WHOOSH



MY GOD...
OH MY GOD,
LISA...



AND AFTER
THAT, CAESAR,
I'M GOING TO SIT
DOWN TO A
SUMPTUOUS
FEAST OF
ROAST
CHIMPANZEE...



WH-WHAT...
IS...IT...?

LISA...
MAYBE
YOU'D
BETTER NOT
...LOOK...



...AND THE FEAST
WILL BE REAL FRESH,
CAESAR-- ONLY THE
FRESHEST OF MEAT
FOR GOVERNOR
BRECK...



CAESAR...
OH, CAESAR...

NO, CAESAR...
DON'T LET IT...
HAPPEN... TO
YOU...

GOVERNOR BRECK,
FORMERLY OF
CALIFORNIA--BEFORE
POLITICS TURNED IT INTO
A RADIATION-SMOTHERED
FORBIDDEN ZONE-- IS
MAD.

AND DO YOU KNOW
WHY THIS FEAST IS
GOING TO BE SO
FRESH, CAESAR--?

WELL, I'LL TELL
YOU, BECAUSE THE
CHIMPANZEE IS
GOING TO BE
ROASTED ALIVE!

QUITE MAD.



AS IF YOU
DIDN'T KNOW.

YOU'RE LEARNING,
AREN'T YOU, CAESAR?
CLEVER APE-- YOU ALWAYS
WERE CLEVER! I REMEMBER
THE DAY YOU CHOSE YOUR
NAME... BUT THEN EVERY
CAESAR HAS HIS
BRUTUS...

STILL, BRECK DOESN'T KNOW HE'S MAD. BUT
IT DOESN'T EXCUSE HIM ONE... DAMN... BIT.



NO, IT'S NO USE...
THEY TOLD ME YOU
WERE INTELLIGENT,
BUT YOU'RE NOT!
YOU'RE NOT
INTELLIGENT,
CAESAR...

YOU'LL
NEVER LEARN--
YOU'RE TOO
STUPID--
YOU'RE JUST A
BEAST...



IT'S BEEN BUILDING--THE PAIN
AND HUMILIATION, THE SHAME
AND DEGRADATION, THE
PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL
ABUSE...

JUST AN
IGNORANT,
STUPID,
SAVAGE
BEAST!

THAT'S ALL
YOU ARE,
MONKEY-- AND
THAT'S ALL YOU
EVER WERE!

IT'S BEEN BUILDING TOO LONG--
TOO MUCH TOO FAST--REACHING
ITS PEAK...AND THAT PEAK IS
UNENDURABLE...



EVEN AS IT HAS BEEN BURNED AND
BEATEN OUT OF HIM, CAESAR HAS
BEEN GATHERING HIS STRENGTH--
THE INDOMITABLE STRENGTH
WHICH HAS MADE OF HIM A
LEADER...

THAT'S WHY YOU'LL
HAVE TO BE DESTROYED,
CAESAR--BURNED INTO
A ROTTING PILE OF
BLACKENED ASH....!

AND NOW, WITH HIS DEATH
PRESSING CLOSE UPON HIM--
BREATHING HOTLY DOWN HIS
NECK...



NO, BRECK--
NOOOO!!

--AND CAESAR
LUNGES
FORWARD--

HUH--?!!

...LISA SHRIEKS--



--GRAMMING ALL THE PAIN
AND HUMILIATION AND ABUSE
RIGHT DOWN BRECK'S
STINKING THROAT.

FWOOOSH

SWOKK







AND NOW, WITH EVEN *DEFENSE* DENIED THEM, SOME MUTANTS ATTEMPT TO *FLEE*...



BUT--



IT SEEMS ALDO CAN DO NO WRONG.



CAESAR IS SICKENED--DISGUSTED WITH HIMSELF FOR THE *DEATH* SPURTING FROM THE DEVICE IN HIS HANDS, THE *BODIES* FALLING LIKE WHEAT BEFORE HIS *EYES*...



THERE IS NOTHING BUT
SOUND AND *FURY*...
KILLING AND *DEATH*...

CAESAR IS AT THE *CENTER* OF IT, STRANGELY CALM IN
THE MIDST OF SUCH CHAOS, LIKE THE EYE OF A BRUTAL
HURRICANE... AND YET *CONTROLLING* THE AWESOME
STORM, *INSTIGATING* IT... AND HOLDING IT *TOGETHER*.

HE KILLS, PERHAPS, MORE
THAN *ANYONE*. HE *DIES*,
MOST CERTAINLY, A
THOUSAND TIMES...



THEY'RE
RUNNING,
CAESAR--!!

THEY'RE
RUNNING--WE
BEAT THEM!!



YES...

WE BEAT
THEM...





NEXT: THE SENSE-SHATTERING CONCLUSION! **TREMOR OF DOOM!**

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FOR
THE
SUPER

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**INSTANTLY -
YOUR MUSCLES
WILL BEGIN
TO GROW!**

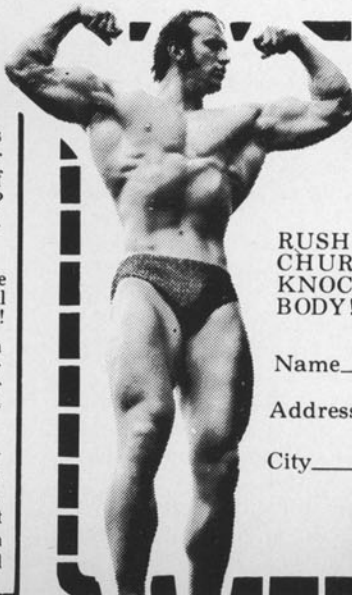
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- ☐ **LEGS** — Put some muscle on those spindly legs! Muscular legs will give you extra power like you've never dreamed possible!
- ☐ **ABDOMEN** — Trim and hard — that's the way your abs should look. Get rid of your pot-belly, improve your digestion, and get that washboard waist—all when you develop those abdominal muscles!



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a more
rewarding
future!

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