Terror on the Planet of the Apes, Chapter Three

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Terror on the Planet of the Apes

Hate.
Brutus knows it well. Ape hates human, human hates Ape; Ape destroys human. To him, the only good human is a dead human, and any Ape who stands against his own kind deserves to die the same way.

Hate.
Jason knows it well. He has known it ever since the night Brutus' night-riding gorillas murdered his mother and father, ever since the night Brutus killed his own wife and framed Jason for the crime, ever since the night Jason and his chimp friend, Alexander, fled the City of the Apes as wanted felons, hunted like animals as they ran for the Forbidden Zone in a last, desperate attempt to find the Law-Giver and prove Jason's innocence.

Hate.
Brutus hates Jason. Jason hates Brutus.
Ape hates man, man hates Ape.
This deep a hate could destroy the world.
SPAWN OF THE MUTANT PITS

Two innocents trapped on a stark landscape of horror: Jason, the human youth who witnessed the brutal slaying of his parents at the hands of terrorist apes... and Alexander, the young chimp whose emblazoned conscience has shattered all racial barriers and enmity.

Together, they have penetrated the purple mists of the dread forbidden zone, tracing the path of a mysterious pilgrimage... seeking the revered Lawgiver, in whose absence they have been falsely accused of murder... and whose wisdom and strength might repair the bloody gulf between the species of man and the ape.

The mutants are almost on top of us, Jason... Yeah... and the gorillas are no slothches themselves...

IN THE NAME OF BRUTUS AND THE DIVINE ORDER OF APE DOMINANCE--

-SLAY THEM!!

I don't know which is worse-- the scorch-weapons of the mutants or the crossbows of the gorillas--!

What's the difference? With our luck, we'll get hit by both at the same time.

But instead of the Lawgiver, they have found nothing but the corrupt legacies of their respective species-- radiation-mutated humans, and hate-maddened apes.

Maybe not, Jason... both factions are so eager for our blood...

--and let them collide with each other. ALEXANDER, THIS IS ONE BRIGHT IDEA THAT HAD BETTER WORK--

--OR I MAY NEVER SPEAK TO YOU AGAIN.

Story: DOUG MOENCH Art: MIKE PLOOG and FRANK CHIARAMONTE
APES—!!

INVADING
THE SACRED
DOMAIN OF THE
INHERITORS!!

WHAT
IN
THE-??

VAPORIZE
THEM!!

SPUKSH!

SPREEZ

SWOK!

THUS, TWO FORGOTTEN ACCOMPlices
IN INNOCENCE SHRIKE FROM THE
BLISTERING CARNAGE OF PERHAPS THE
MOST BIZARRE BATTLE IN THE ENTIRE
HISTORY OF THE BATTLE-TORN WORLD.

YOU WERE RIGHT,
ALEX... THEY'RE SO
INTENT ON SLAUGHTERING
THEMSELVES THAT
THEY'VE COMPLETELY
FORGOTTEN ABOUT US!

COMING, JASON—WE'VE
GOT TO MOVE!!

NOT WITHOUT
ONE OF THESE
SCORCH WEAPONS—!

WE'VE SEEN
WHAT THEY CAN
DO, AND MUCH AS
I HATE TO ADMIT IT...

WE COULD USE
ONE.

WELL,
LET'S GET OUT OF
HERE BEFORE SOMETHING
JOGS THEIR MEMORY!!
REALJ, JASON... SOMETIMES I THINK THEY STARTED TODAY JUST SO YOU'D HAVE FOOD FOR TOMORROW.

RELAX, WILL YOU? THEY'RE STILL TOO BUSY TO EVEN NOTICE US.
WE'RE AS GOOD AS SAFE--!

UH... JASE...?
THE MIST-UP AHEAD...?

Yeah, I see it...

IT'S MOVING... IN THE SHAPE OF...

"REINFORCEMENTS."

AND--

SHRAK!

SO MUCH FOR SAFETY. HOW ABOUT THAT WEAPON YOU BORROWED--?
AGAINST ALL THOSE CHARACTERS? NO WAY!

OUR ONLY CHANCE IS TO MAKE A BREAK FOR IT--

--AND RETREAT BACK INTO THE TUNNEL!

I WAS AFRAID YOU'D SAY THAT.

IF YOU'VE GOT ANY BRIGHTER IDEAS, MY EARS ARE WAITING. ON THE OTHER HAND, I DON'T WANT TO WASTE YOUR BREATH--

BECAUSE I'M GOING TO BE INSIDE THAT TUNNEL BEFORE YOU CAN RECITE THE FIRST THREE WORDS OF THE LAWGIVER'S CREED!

THEY LUMBER FORWARD--SQUAT UGLY CREATURES STRIDING FORTH FROM A MIST-VEILED HELL OF TWISTED RUINS. THE LEADER HALTS, BARKS A SHORT, RASPING COMMAND...
AND WHILE THE SLAUGHTER STILL RAGES BEYOND THE ENTRANCE TO THE CAVE...

IT TAKES A LOT OF NERVE TO CLAIM WE'RE SAFE -- STUCK HERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MUTANTS' LIVING ROOM.

AND WE'RE NOT GETTING ANY CLOSER TO FINDING THE LAWSIZER, YOU KNOW...

...LIKE THE MACHINE-PIT.

I DON'T SEE ANYONE BEIDES THOSE SHAGGY SLAVES THE MUTANTS KEEP...

...BUT THERE'S NO SENSE IN TAKING CHANCES. I'M WEAK, WE TRY TO BYPASS THE PIT BY TAKING THAT SIDE-TUNNEL...

WHERE HAVE I HEARD THAT BEFORE? OR IS THERE JUST AN ECHO IN THIS CAVE?

SAVE IT, ALEX -- SARCASM ISN'T YOUR BEST FEATURE, AND RIGHT NOW, WE'VE GOT OTHER THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT...

THE REINFORCEMENTS HAVE BEEN SWEEPED UP IN THE BATTLE WITH THE GORILLAS, ALEX, WE SHOULD BE SAFE NOW...

THE MOTION IS SECONDED.

WHERE HAVE I HEARD THAT BEFORE? OR IS THERE JUST AN ECHO IN THIS CAVE?

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WHERE HAVE I HEARD THAT BEFORE? OR IS THERE JUST AN ECHO IN THIS CAVE?

SAVE IT, ALEX -- SARCASM ISN'T YOUR BEST FEATURE, AND RIGHT NOW, WE'VE GOT OTHER THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT...
PROFUNDITY, JASON, ISN'T YOUR BEST.

SHHH! CAN'T YOU HEAR THOSE FOOTSTEPS?

THE DISTURBANCE WAS REPORTED AS BEING OUTSIDE THE SECTOR THREE WAR-MACHINE.

TURN RIGHT-- THIS CORRIDOR.

INTRUDERS...!!

"TURN RIGHT."

WHY COULDN'T THEY HAVE TURNED LEFT FOR ONCE I COULDN'T USED THE CHANGE OF PACE...

INITIATE ERADICATION PROCEDURE IMMEDIATELY.

SKRAK!

JASON-!!

THE WEAPON YOU STOLE-!!

AN OPPORTUNITY, ALEX.

SKREEZ

AN OPPORTUNITY.

AND IT JUST KNOCKED.

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR??!
RUN, JASON! I'LL HOLD THIS ONE AS LONG AS I CAN!

DON'T BE A FOOL, ALEX! DO YOU REALLY THINK I'D LEAVE YOU HERE...

JUST SO I COULD...

AH-K-K!

SPREEZ

FYAK RAK

SAVE MYSELF?

ALEX, BE CAREFUL. HE'S REACHING FOR HIS WEAPON!

HE'S STILL ALIVE--!

I'VE STILL GOT EYES, JASE. I CAN SEE THAT HE'S STILL--

K-KRAK!
ALEX--LOOK OUT! HE'S GOING TO SWING HIS OTHER ARM--!
--ALIVE?

OH YEAH?!

CHWOT!

NOT AFTER PUNCH HIM IN THE MOUTH WITH HIS OWN METAL FIST!!

HE WAS A MACHINE, JASE.... BUT HE WAS ALIVE--I HEARD HIM BREATHING DURING THE STRUGGLE!

I KNOW, LIVING MACHINES. ANOTHER RIDDLE FOR THE LAWGIVER...

IF HIS FATE ISN'T ALREADY A RIDDLE IN ITSELF.

KRSZSZS

YOU DID WELL, ALEX. I'VE NEVER SEEN A CHIMP HANDLE HIMSELF LIKE THAT BEFORE.

IS THAT A FRIEND'S COMPLIMENT, JASON--OR A HUMAN'S PATRONIZING--?

...AND MAYBE IT'S THE SAME KIND OF ATTITUDE THAT LED TO THE FORMATION OF BRUTUS' SQUADRON OF RENEGADE GORILLAS. IT'S A DANGEROUS ATTITUDE TO--

YOU KNOW WHAT I MEANT.

YEAH MAYBE I DO.

HEY, WHAT'S THIS...?
Another tunnel... with some sort of strange tracks leading down it...

Probably the droppings of a giant mutated worm. I mean we've fought everything else in creation on this trip!

Wait a minute— that rushing sound...

It's getting louder... Can't be just the wind...

Something's coming...

Well, what are you standing there for? Do you want to wave at the thing as it goes by?

Don't lose any hair over it, Alex. I'm coming...

...and by the way, the tone of your voice is beginning to annoy me.

The tone of my voice is--

Shhhhh...

Uh oh.

It's stopping... Here.
I still don't see why the slave-keepers can't handle this "disturbance"... whatever it is.

Oh, you know what the slave-keepers are like. The only qualification for conscription to slave management is complete incompetence in every other field.

Guess you're right...

Incidentally, have you made any progress with the new prisoner's case?

It's a nuisance to be distracted from important work just to assume the petty responsibilities of another caste.

Very negligible. His disposition is still uncertain, but it's possible he might be employed as a hostage in the forthcoming war...

In the meantime, he's being held in the detention chamber adjacent to north quadrant sector nine.

Yes, they would keep him there, best place for him, too.

Jase, did you hear them talking about a new "prisoner"...?

Yeah... and we'll be meeting him shortly if we don't get out of here. Those two are bound to stumble over the bodies of the guys we left back in that corridor...

So I suggest we climb into this thing and see if it'll take us to an exit.

Well, we certainly haven't much to lose...
DO YOU THINK IT'LL MOVE IF I YANK ON THIS STICK?...

AND FIND OUT THEY DO...

--AS THE WEIRD RAILCAR SPURTS FORWARD WITH AN EXPLOSION OF TERRIBLE VELOCITY.

VRAOW

THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE, JASON! NOTHING CAN MOVE THIS FAST...

INCLUDING MY STOMACH, ALEX. I THINK I'LL TRY TO SLOW IT DOWN...

NO--!!

THERE'S ANOTHER MUTANT ON THAT PLATFORM UP AHEAD! KEEP GOING AS FAST AS YOU CAN!!

HEY!!!

STOP!!

YOU CAN'T BYPASS A TERMINAL!!

GUESS HE WANTED A RIDE, JASE.

AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, HE COULD HAVE IT--IF ANYTHING LESS THAN MY LIFE DEPENDED ON THIS TORTURE-MACHINE.
PROLOGUE:

RESORTING BERSEK RAPID TRANSIT CAR IN TUNNEL EIGHT.

APPREHEND AT SECTOR FIVE PLATFORM-D!!

MORE OF THEM UP AHEAD!! I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH MORE OF THIS I CAN TAKE, ALEX...

LOOK—JUST GET IT THROUGH YOUR STOMACH THAT WE CAN'T STOP FOR ANYTHING!

STOP!!

STOP BEFORE WE CRASH INTO THAT METAL WALL!!

I SEE IT. I SEE IT!

EMERGE FROM THE VEHICLE—SUBMISSIVELY.

YOU ARE NOW PRISONERS OF THE INHERITORS...

...AND YOU WILL NOW BE CONDUCTED TO GESTALT HEADQUARTERS FOR FACILITATION OF...

...EXECUTION!

END CHAPTER ONE

CONTINUED NEXT WEEK!
CHAPTER TWO: THE ABOMINATION ARENA!

THE CITY: A SPRAWLING COMPLEX
OF ADobe-HOnd STRUCTURES, A
PLACE WHERE DUN-COLoRED DOmes
AND ARCHWAYS BASK IN THE GLARING
NOONDAY SUN... AND WHERE Bare
EARTHEN STREETS YIELD TO THE
TRAFFIC OF BOTH HUMAN AND
APE PASSAGE...

IT IS ALSO A PLACE
WHERE THE HARMONY
OF SPECIES INTEGRATION
IS SEVERELY THREATENED... BY THE ABSENCE
OF THE LAWGIVER, HE
WHO HAD WISELY RULED
THE CITY ENCLAVE.

THE THREAT IS INTENSIFIED BY THE
PRESENCE OF BRUTUS, THE BLACK TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
DEPENDED ON HUMAN SUBMISSION AND
ENSLAVEMENT UNDER THE HEEL OF APE
DOMINATION. HIS DEVOTION TO THIS
PERPETRATED IDEAL IS SO FANATICAL THAT
IT HAS ALLOWED HIM TO REMORSELESSLY
MURDER HIS OWN WIFE WHEN Faced
WITH THE PROSPECT OF DISCOVERY... IRONIC, THEN, THAT HE
PUBLICLY SERVES AS THE
CITY'S PEACE OFFICER...

A VERY INFLUENTIAL PERSONAGE INDEED...

I WISH TO SEE XAVIER.

IMMEDIATELY, OFFICER BRUTUS.

XAVIER—THE SURROGATE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE
CITY'S AFFAIRS, APPOINTED TO LEGISLATE ALL OFFICIAL
MATTERS DURING THE LAWGIVER'S ABSENCE...

BROTHER XAVIER,
PEACE OFFICER BRUTUS
REQUESTS AN
AUDIENCE.

WHY I... ER... WELL,
Uh... Show Him
In...

AS AN ADMINISTRATOR,
XAVIER IS LITTLE
MORE THAN... WEAK.
I have received reliable reports that the chimp known as Alexander and the human murderer Jason have entered the Forbidden Zone.

I want you to authorize my immediate entry into the Forbidden Zone--accompanied by a full complement of law officers--for the express purpose of apprehending these two dangerous fugitives.

Well, I don't know...

After all, that's a very serious request, you know. And, uh... since the victim of the murder was your wife... well, perhaps you're too, uh, close to the situation... if you see what I mean...

The only thing I'm close to is the arrest of a filthy murderer and his accomplice.

Yes, officer Brutus... but there is the matter of these, uh, recent charges... accusing you or Brack, the leader of a band of, um... renegade gorillas...

Absurd charges levied by a human criminal! Whose word are you going to believe--his or mine--?

Or must I remind you that the lawyer personally appointed me as peace officer of this city?!

...and that he has requested full reports on anyone who interferes with the facilitation of law enforcement procedures.

Why, uh... you didn't... that I consider the charges against you to be entirely, uh... groundless... and that, er, I'm certain the lawyer would feel the same...

Step lively, you two.

Permission granted, officer Brutus. Enter the Forbidden Zone and place the two fugitives under... "uh... arrest."

Excellent work, fellow inheritors. The gestalt commanders await the delivery of your prisoners.
THE GUARD STEPS ASIDE, OPENING THE MASSIVE METAL DOORS, AND JASON AND ALEXANDER ARE URGED FORWARD... INTO MADNESS.

A MASSIVE CAVERN OF DERANGED WONDER, FURNISHED IN AN INCONGRUOUS BLEND OF RAW NATURE AND SOPHISTICATED TECHNOLOGY... WHERE STALACTITE MEETS STALAGMITE IN A PILLARED CHAMBER OF ELECTRONIC VIBRATION... AND WHERE MACHINE MEETS GLEAMING MACHINE TO LURK IN THE SHADOWS OF MESHED ROCK...

MUTANT-DRONE ZEE--BRING THEM FORWARD FOR INTERROGATION.

AT ONCE, CESALT COMMANDER BE ONE.

ALEX--THAT... THAT LUMPY GRAY THING... IT SPOKE--!

THE LAWGIVER HELP US, JASE--BUT I WISH I'D PAID AS LITTLE ATTENTION TO OUR LESSONS AS YOU DID... BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO RECOGNIZE THAT 'LUMPY GRAY THING' FOR WHAT IT IS...

...A BRAIN.

WE ARE WISE AND WE ARE BRAINS; AFTER YOUR DEMISE YOU'LL MISS YOUR PAINS.

FORWARD, YOU TWO--AND REMAIN SILENT!
MUTANT-DRONE ARR. ASSIST DRONE ZEE IN ESCORTING THE PRISONERS TO THE ARENA. INDULGENCE IN VICARIOUS TITILLATION WILL BE PERMITTED.

ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO—MOVE ALONG! YOU HEARD THE SUPREME BE ONE...

I HEARD A LOT OF STINKING BIG WORDS FROM A JIGGLING BLOB OF LUMPY GRAY GOOK— THAT'S WHAT YOU MEAN...

--AND MY EARS HAVE ALREADY BEEN STUFFED WITH THAT KIND OF GARBAGE, SO YOU CAN JUST TAKE YOUR SLIMY BIG WORDS AND STUFF THEM RIGHT UP YOUR LUMPY GRAY...

SILENCE!!

MOVE!

I TINK WE OUGHTTA JUST VENTILATE DAT SASSY LITTLE PUNK-- AND SAVE IN ARENA FOR SOMEBODY WHO'S WORTH DAT KIND OF STYLE...

SHOUTING AT THEM WONT DO ANY GOOD, JASON.

HOW DO YOU KNOW, ALEX? YOU'VE NEVER EVEN TRIED IT! YOU HAVEN'T EVEN THE GUTS TO SHOUT!

MAYBE I HAVEN'T GOT ENOUGH GUTS JASE...

BUT AT LEAST I'VE GOT ENOUGH SENSE TO REALIZE WE'RE PRISONERS-- WHETHER WE WASTE OUR BREATH ON SHOUTING OR NOT.

SO WE'RE PRISONERS. SO WHAT?

IT'S NOT THE END OF THE WORLD, ALEX...

AND IT'S NO REASON TO JUST SIT THERE GATHERING MOSS.

WE'VE GOT TO FIND A WAY--

THE DOORS... THEY JUST OPENED BY THEMSELVES, ALEX...

--OUT OF HERE?

IT'S PRETTY DARK OUT THERE...
Krank!

What the--?!

The wall, Jase-- it's the wall!!

In fact, it looks suspiciously like a trap.

Yeah... and they're crazy if they think we're dumb enough to just walk right into it--!

So tell me something I don't know--!

How about this: it's going to crush us if we don't get out of here!

Yeah... I guess there's a time and a place for being dumb enough to walk right into a trap-- just like everything else...

But it sure is spooky, Jase.

Spooky-- this tunnel's like a nightmare I had... dreamed I was swallowed by a giant snake--!

So let's get out then.

Wonder what it leads to...
LIGHTS! BRILLIANTLY BLINDING LIGHTS BURSTING AND FLAPING INTO AGONY BEFORE THEIR DARKNESS-PREAPENED EYES...

AND ABOVE -- A GALLERY OF THE CURIOUS AND THE SANGUINARY... MUTANT DRONES SHIELDED FROM THE INTENSE LIGHT BY A MAKESHIFT CANOPY OR DROPPED CANVAS...

PREPARE YOURSELVES FOR MORTAL COMBAT!

YOU WILL FIND WEAPONS TO YOUR RIGHT.

PRETTY WEIRD WEAPONS, HOW'S YOUR VISION, JASE?

GETTING BETTER, ALEX... AND ALREADY GOOD ENOUGH TO SEE WHO OUR OPPONENT IS...

ONE OF BRUTUS' MANGY GORILLAS--

WEAPONS--? I'M LUCKY IF I CAN SEE MY OWN NOSE...

I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, JASE... BUT OUR EYES SHOULD ADJUST SOON...
JASON--HOLD IT! HE'S NOT THE ONE WE'RE SUPPOSED TO FIGHT--

THE MUTANTS CAPTURED US TOGETHER--THOUGHT WE WERE TOGETHER...AND THEY'VE STOCKED THAT PIT IN THE CENTER OF THE ARENA--

--WITH SOMETHING BIG ENOUGH FOR ALL THREE OF US TO TAKE ON!!

RAWURR!

AND HE'S MAP, JASE--BOY IS HE MAD!!

I JUST HOPE THIS SHIELD WILL--

KRENCH!!
THEN, SCARCELY AFTER THE ECHOING DEATH-ROAR HAS FADED...

NOW WHAT?! LOOKS LIKE YOUR NIGHTMARE IS COMING TRUE, JASE. IT'S ANOTHER BEAST—MUTATED BY THE HOLOCAUST—!

I SEE IT—! AND UNLESS WE WANT TO BE GORED TO DEATH, WE'LL BETTER FORGET OUR OWN DIFFERENCES AND COOPERATE TO—

...WHILE THE SECOND MUTATION MERELY SNORTS, AND THUNDERS FORWARD IN A MORE DIRECT ATTACK...

Indeed...and the first one rasps a sibilant hiss laced with sinister menace...
ALEX, however, bolts toward a scene of more immediate urgency...

HELP!!

...for the malevolent Leviathan has already found a subject for the slime-slick embrace of its coils...

THANK YOU, BROTHER SIMIAN...

SHWIK!

WHAT'S GOING WRONG? THEY'VE ALREADY MANAGED TO DISPATCH TWO OF THE INHERITOR'S PETS--!

WHAT'S THIS? HOPE THIS IS HELP ENOUGH-- CAUSE IT'S THE BEST I CAN MANAGE.

That's all right, Alex... don't bother rushing to my aid...

AFTER ALL, I'M YOUR FRIEND--

CHOOK?

AND I CAN ALWAYS TAKE CARE OF MYSELF.

KRAK!

AND NOW THE HUMAN HAS TURNED ASIDE THE THIRD ONE!

GRUNK...?

DON'T WORRY, THEIR LUCK WON'T SUSTAIN THEM FOREVER.

HURRY-- WHERE'S THAT SPIKED ROPE?

ROPE? OH-- YOU MEAN THE WIRE--

IT'S OVER HERE.
JASON-- WHAT ARE YOU DOING?? THE BEAST IS CHARGING AGAIN!!

JUST KEEP IT BUSY UNTIL I GET THESE TWO THINGS TIED TOGETHER.

THAT'S EASY FOR YOU TO SAY!!

JUST TEASE IT SLOWLY AND DODGE IT FAST!! I'VE ALREADY GOT THE WIRE TIED...

SO IT'LL JUST TAKE ANOTHER SECOND TO...

--BRING THE ROOF DOWN...

STOP!!

THAT WEAPON IS DESIGNED FOR THE USE OF DEFENSE ONLY!!

KRATCH!

LOOK OUT!!

MMPHL!!

...AND ANCHOR A LADDER OUT OF HERE!!

ALEX-- I COME ON-- HAUL YOURSELF UP HERE BEFORE THESE MUSH-FACED MUTANTS FIND THEIR WAY OUT OF THE SHEETS!!

WELL, I'LL BE...
YOU SURE WILL— IF YOU DON'T MOVE!

I CAN'T SEE— I CAN'T SEE!

I WANT YOU TO NOTICE THAT YOUR FRIEND THE GORILLA HERE HAS SELFISHLY DECIDED TO GO FIRST—!

LET HIM GO— LET HIM GO...

BUT WHATEVER YOU DO— MAKE HIM HURRY—!

THAT WAS QUICK THINKING, JASE— AND IF WE HAD THE TIME TO THANK YOU...

BUT SINCE THE MUTANT DRONES ARE ALREADY STARTING TO SHOVE THEIR WAY OUT OF YOUR HOMEMADE TENT, OUR TIME SEEMS TO BE GETTING SCARCE!

...BECAUSE HERE I COME!

YEAH? WELL I'D STILL LIKE TO TAKE THE TIME TO MAKE THIS STINKING GORILLA EAT HIS FUR!

WILL YOU KNOCK IT OFF— JUST FOR ONCE, JASE—?!

WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER NOW, SO JUST RUN— WE CAN ALWAYS KILL EACH OTHER LATER!
But their frantic run is soon halted...

Hey, Alex-- isn't this where they said the "prisoner" was being kept...?

North Quadrant - Sector Nine -

Yeah, wait here...

Mutant-drone: Zee, I have a message for you...

Huh? I'm not zee-- I'm Em.

Glad to meet you!

The Lawgiver--!!

Please, if you would be so kind, the keys...?

Of course, sir...?

Lawgiver, sir, my name is Alex, and I must inform you that our city is in a most distressing state of...

I'm certain it is young Alex, but I'm afraid this is neither the time nor the place to discuss it.

He's right, Alex...

Here they come.

Hurry up-- I'll use the mutant's weapon to delay them--?

Spreeze

Follow me-- the airstrip is down this corridor.

Airstrip--?
YES, IT'S RIGHT ON THE SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN WHICH HOUSES THE MUTANT'S CAVERN-COMPLEX-- AND IT'S USED TO STORE THEIR SKY-SLEDS...

SO THAT'S WHAT THAT THING IS. WHAT DOES IT DO?

IT FLIES. YOUNG ALEX, I WAS CAPTURED AND BROUGHT HERE IN THIS VEHICLE.

WELL, SEE WE CAN USE IT TO ESCAPE.

I CAN'T HOLD OFF THESE MUSH-FACES MUCH LONGER--!

JUMP IN, JASE.

IF IT'S ANYTHING LIKE THAT RAILCAR, IT SHOULDN'T BE TOO HARD TO OPERATE...

I ALREADY HAVE.

WELL, HERE GOES THEN...

SPLIZZZZ!

IT WORKED! WE'RE SAFE!!

NOT QUITE, ALEX. YOUR FRIEND THE GORILLA JUST PULLED A WEAPON ON THE LAWSIVER.

SILENCE! YOU ARE ALL UNDER MY COMMAND...

AND YOU WILL NOW DIRECT THIS VESSEL OUT OF THE FORBIDDEN ZONE AND STRAIGHT TO BRUTUS' ENCAMPMENT!

FSHSHSHSH!

STOP THEM!!

NEXT ISSUE: A RIVERBOAT NAMED SIMIAN

Plus:

"The Trial of Astronaut Taylor"
Chapter four in our continuing adaptation of the original, never-before-seen in comics form, "Apes" movie!
Not to mention the photos, features, and far-out fantasy you have come to expect from Marvel Magazines!

PLANET OF THE APES

Issue #4—ON SALE NOVEMBER 19, 1974!

(Which, if you stop to think about it, means that this magazine has just gone monthly! That's right! Because you've demanded it, PLANET OF THE APES is going to be published twelve times a year. So be here—thirty days from now—when the excitement continues to grow!)