TMT GOES BANANAS!

SINISTER SIMIANS!

KILLER GORILLAS!

ENTERTAINING ALL APE ISSUE!

COMPLETE SAGA OF THE PLANET OF THE APES!

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HISTORY OF CELLULOID SIMIANS!

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In 1968, 20th Century Fox released PLANET OF THE APES, a major sci-fi production based on the novel by macabre master Pierre Boule. While the moguls at Fox were obviously anticipating an enthusiastic reception for a film stocked with name stars like Charlton Heston and lavished with a sizable budget, no one could have predicted the fanatical frenzy with which the apes opus was greeted. Not since KING KONG climbed up the Empire State Building with Fay Wray in hirsute hand had apes made such a spectacular splash. Within five years, Fox produced as many APES movies, piling sequel on top of sequel, detailing the history of the apes' uprising that transformed Earth from a human-dominated world to a planet of the apes, by the apes, for the apes. Following the first film, similarly starved viewers were treated to BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES, ESCAPE FROM THE PLANET OF THE APES, CONQUEST OF THE PLANET OF THE APES, and BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES. Here to recount the entire bizarre tale is TMT scare scholar, Jason Thomas.

PART I: THE PLANET OF THE APES

A starship from Earth sailed silently through the infinite reaches of space carrying four American astronauts: three males and one female. Since their trip was destined to last for many years, the quartet was in a state of suspended animation. Under these conditions, their life processes were slowed to a minimum; they would age at a rate much slower than normal.

After an unspecified amount of time had passed, the spacecraft entered the atmosphere of an unidentified planet and suddenly dipped, dived, and crashed into a large body of water. It bobbed on the liquid's surface, preparing to sink beneath the waves... and drag the sleeping space crew down with it.

Captain Taylor was the first to awaken. He helped his fellow-travelers Dodge and Landon out of the hibernation capsules, then went to the aid of the only woman on board. To his horror, he discovered that she was dead. She had expired in her sleep because of a crack in the glass of her hemispherum. Her humiliated appearance signified that she had been dead for hundreds of years.

But then: that their vessel was about to submerge, the men quickly grabbed the liferaft and somehow batted back. Fortunately, this world they had landed on offered a breathable atmosphere. While Dodge and Landon inflated the liferaft, Taylor checked the radio. It was dead. The chronometer readings were frozen, but they revealed that the ship had indeed been traveling for hundreds of years—in fact, for nearly 20 centuries!

Even before the three men reached the nearby shore, their ship disappeared beneath the bubbling water. Now, regardless of where they were, they were going to be their new home. They were stuck here for the rest of their lives.

After traveling for days across a barren desert, they finally reached a forest. They found a lake complete with a waterfall and decided to take a swim. All three removed their suits and packed and dove into the cool, clear water. While they swam, someone—or something—saw their belongings.

As the naked astronauts chased the thieves, they found their equipment and clothing strewn along the trail. Almost everything was either torn or smashed. The men managed to save some bare essentials which they donned as they continued the pursuit.

The trail ended at a clearing. There, the three astonished men saw a large colony of wild humans who were clad only in rags of bark. There were men, women, and children eating vegetables in a field of man-sized plants. One of the Earthlings commented that, if this was the best that the planet had to offer, they would be in charge of everything within a week.

Suddenly, a loud horn sounded, followed by a terrifying roar. The crowd fled, but as-yet-unknown creatures started herding them toward a specific area. Then, they appeared—man-sized apes, wearing leather uniforms, riding on horseback! They were armed with rifles, which they did not hesitate to use on the frightened humans. During the ensuing frenzy, Dodge was killed, Landon was knocked out and thrown off a low cliff. Taylor was shot in the neck and hurled into a crowded prison wagon just before he passed out.

APE CITY WELCOME

Taylor awoke as the convoy of wagons and mounted gorillas reached Ape City. The buildings resembled a maze of distorted shapes, being neither square, rectangular, nor round. As its senses began to return, he realized that the apes were capable of speech, yet the humans were not. And not only could the simians speak, but they spoke English! The wounded astronaut wondered what mad world he had been thrust upon.

Topflight U.S. astronaut finds himself in rags and tears and surrounded by mute, mindless humans on a planet ruled by totalitarian apes, a possibility that was never covered in his NASA training manual.
The ape population consisted of oversized orangutans, chimpanzees, and gorillas. The first group was more or less in charge. They were the slatesigners and toy scientists. The second group was composed of secondary scientists and technicians. They were to some extent oppressed by the other two species. The gorillas were the—ah...—worse words: they hated humans more than the other simians did. The ax-monger did not differ much from our own, except that their technology was very limited.

After Taylor's wound was treated by a veterinarian, he was thrown into a cage inside a prison building, where he was soon awarded a new and beautiful young woman, whom he later named Nova. His unhealed threat prevented him from speaking and explaining that he, unlike the local humans, was an intelligent, articulate being. Eventually, though, he was able to make two chimps, Cornelius and Zira, realize the incredible truth. He communicated with them by writing and shaking his head in answer to their many questions.

Unfortunately, Dr. Zaius, the ape's devious head of the Ministry of Science, learned this and ordered Taylor operated upon. He also threatened the "illogical" chimps with charges of heresy if they attempted to interfere.

The ape's decision to destroy complex, superior civilization through terrible warfare. Now apes killed intelligent humans in order to prevent the repetition of such destructive behavior. Apes did not kill apes, but humans have always killed humans.

After Zaius agreed not to prosecute the chimps, Taylor and Nova rode off on a single horse. Hopefully, they would find the civilization that might exist in the "Forbidden Zone."

The orangutans ordered the gorillas to blow up the races. In order to maintain harmony among members of his race, he had to keep the truth from the others, and when they learned of the plot, he told the chimpanzees that they must remain silent or die.

Eventually, Taylor saw a gigantic remnant of the last war. He screamed and cried aloud for all mankind he suddenly realized just where he was.

never far away from him, half-buried in the sand, was the Statue of Liberty! In the distance was a destroyed city, which had once housed hundreds of millions people.

This was Earth's unavoidable future!

PART II: BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES

Taylor and Nova rode on through the Forbidden Zone. The "2,000-year-old" astronaut was now more determined than ever to find out if any part of civilization had survived the Great War. Silently, he prayed that he was not the last intelligent human left on Earth.

The horse brought them closer to the demolished city, but when they reached a certain point, something unbelievable happened. A lowering wall of flames shot up all around the pair, and the animal bolted. Neither Taylor nor the mute woman knew what to do. They were trapped.

Suddenly, the flames disappeared. Then the earth cracked and threatened to swallow them up! A moment later, though, everything was back to the way it was before the fiery wall materialized. The couple looked around in amazement. Taylor dismounted and walked over to a mountain that had not been there before. He pushed against it, and tall right through Nova, terrific, rode away as fast as she could.

Coyne, an American astronaut named Brent was burying another astronaut. The two of them had been sent to find out what had happened to Taylor and his crew. They had followed the trajectory of the first rocket and ended up on the radiation-scarred Earth of the future. The dead man had been injured in the subsequent landing; Brent was now alone on the Planet of the Apes.

Coyne chased the newcomer. Since she was unable to speak, she could not tell Brent about the fate of Taylor. However, because she was wearing one of the man'soggins, Brent knew that they had been together. He mounted his horse and told the woman to take him to where the other man was.

MEANWHILE, BACK AT APE CITY...

Instead, she brought him to Ape City. From a vantage point in the surrounding forest, they watched the strange inhabitants. Moving closer, they saw General Ursus, the gorilla army commander, persuade the council members to approve a holy war against the humans. Naturally, the gentle chimpanzees opposed the plan, but they lacked sufficient power in the simian society to do anything about it.

Not long after, a gorilla guard heard something stirring in the bushes and abruptly fired into them. Brent was hit in the arm, but a frightened bird flew off, convincing the soldier that it—no, the wounded human—had made the noise. Brent's wound wasn't serious, but he needed help, and he needed it fast.

Nova led the injured man to the home of Cornelius and Zira. There, the sympathetic chimpanzees treated him and elicted him in the crude attire of the wild humans, before the humans left to

When the human gets captured by the ape, ape leader Dr. Zaius drops his arrogant attitude and finally "leaves up that Taylor's been on Earth all along, on Earth that has undergone a process of reverse evolution that saw man occupied by ape. Taylor and Nova are out to hopefully find oases of civilization in the vast wasteland of Earth 3967 A.C.

The human, meanwhile, is treated to a display of the ape's superior technology and culture.
continue their search for Taylor. With Brest went the knowledge that an army of apes was preparing to invade the Forbidden Zone.

Not far from the city, the pair was captured by a patrol of soldiers, tossed in with a group of other unskilled humans and designated for target practice. Thanks to Lina's quick thinking, they managed to escape and headed into the Forbidden Zone. With armed gorillas scaring them, the humans entered a cave that led deep underground, and ended at the entrance to a wrecked subway tunnel. Brest was shocked to learn that he was under what had long ago been known as New York City!

APE ARMY CLOSES IN

At practically the same moment, General Ursus and Doctor Zains were leading their gorilla army out of the city, but a procession of pacifist chimpanzees, carrying anti-war signs, blocked the way. Just as the military officer was about to order his gorillas to fire at the demonstration, Zains intervened. He strongly advised that the signators be removed peacefully, and they were. As soon as the route was clear, the armed force moved on. Outside the city, they were met by units from other areas. When all of the gorillas were together, they began the long, meaning march to the Forbidden Zone.

Brest (James Franciscus)—another lost astronaut destined to find Taylor, the previously lost explorer—and Nova (Linda Harrison) attempt to elude the attention of the army of apes, knowing that somewhere in the world continues to flourish in the corrupt of states. But maybe there's still a chance to work things out, to effect a fuller understanding between apes and humans and mental mutants...
Unusually alert TMT photographer snapped this scene of the first action in the epic CONQUEST OF THE PLANET OF THE APES on television. He told them that the apes, having heard the record, would be thoroughly confused. The result was a spectacular battle of wits against odds seemingly beyond computation.

The apes, under the command of a skilled leader, successfully held off the humans for several hours. Meanwhile, the Orchestra, an armed group of apes, advanced on the human positions, determined to destroy the invaders. The battle raged on, with both sides suffering heavy losses. In the end, the apes emerged victorious, capturing several human soldiers and destroying the invaders' equipment.

The apes returned to their homes, where they were greeted as heroes. The news spread quickly, and the apes' victory became a symbol of hope and progress. They continued to expand their territory, battling the remaining humans and further solidifying their position as the dominant species on Earth. Their journey was one of survival, adaptation, and growth, as they learned to thrive in a world dominated by them.

Meanwhile, the Orchestra continued to explore the newly conquered lands, as the apes sought to build a new future. They worked together, forming alliances and forming a stronger bond among their ranks. The apes' victory was a testament to their strength, resilience, and determination to control their destiny.

The apes celebrated their victory, holding a grand ceremony to honor their leaders and mark the beginning of a new era. The orchestra played their instruments, the apes danced and sang, and the atmosphere was one of joy and unity. The apes and Orchestra were now one, a united force against the remaining humans, determined to maintain their newfound freedom.

As the apes continued to expand their territory, they faced new challenges and threats. But they were prepared, ready to face whatever came their way. They knew that they had overcome incredible odds, and they were confident in their ability to endure and triumph.

The apes' victory was just the beginning of a new chapter in their history. They had proved that they were capable of controlling their destiny, and they were determined to continue their journey, building a better future for all apes. The Oracle, now a symbol of hope and progress, was a beacon of light in a dark world, guiding the apes towards a brighter tomorrow.
PART II: CONQUEST OF THE PLANET OF THE APES

Less than ten years after Cornelius and Zira were killed, a space expedition contracted an unknown virus and brought it back to Earth. This strange disease killed almost every animal on the planet, including dogs and cats. However, it had an even greater effect on chimpanzees, orangutans and gorillas: their size and intelligence were considerably increased! Humans, who remained unaffected by the plague, were now without pets, which was something that many people considered intolerable. Despite their knowledge of the future, folks began purchasing apes and training them to replace their lost household companions. After a short time, though, it was discovered that the man-sized creatures made even better servants, and the apes were taught how to serve man. In less than 30 years, the animals changed from beasts to pets to menial laborers to slaves.

Within a few years after this began, a great number of human owned apes. The animals were incapable of speech, but they understood simple commands. The word "no" became synonymous with pain, because they received electric shocks whenever this word was shouted during training; the oppressed creatures were conditioned to obey this terrible word above all others. By the year 1996, the ape business proved to be a highly profitable one. The creatures were bred, imported, trained and auctioned off at high prices. Often, their masters mistreated and abused them. While Man's technological advances had made life easier, it had also shortened his patience. But the apes were only dumb animals. Who cared what happened to them?

APE AGAPE AT CRUEL APES

Milu, the son of Cornelius and Zira, carbonized by the Nazis—now the owner of the circus—brought him to a city for the first time in his life, the chimpanzee was appalled by what he saw. His eyes were bugged, squeezed at, and shocked by civilians and black uniformed policemen. Some of the animals were close to exhaustion. The super-ape watched as much of this as he could, and then cursed at the10,000 humans aloud.

The officers heard the shout and charged Armando and his "pet." The animal trainer insisted that it was he, and not Milu, who had cried out. Furthermore, he claimed that the criticism had been directed at a disorderly ape, not at the police. The cop didn't quite buy his story and decided to take both in for interrogation. When another chimpanzee disappeared, however, Armando told him an companion escaped. Later on, Armando decided to surrender himself to the authorities to try to convince them that the chimpanzee had not spoken.

When his friend failed to return that night, Milu shed his clothes and entered a cage full ofIncoming orangutans. He was then taken to Ape Management, where he pretended to be a normal chimpanzee. There, he was clothed (chimpanzees were green, orangutans were yellow, and gorillas were red) and trained to serve and fear humans. Discipline was enforced through the use of whips, flame throwers, and electric rods. The treatment that the animals received was very brutal, and Milu's hair grew stronger while his nose amusingly increased inlength. He was eventually executed in his training. He was often rewarded for his obedience and good work, and he never secretly bit. His obvious superiority convinced Governor Brew, the city's highest-ranking official, to purchase him for his own household. With the use of a book of names and their meanings, the ape was given the opportunity to pick a name for himself at random. Picking it up, he "shooed" to choose "Cesar," which means "king." Cesar quickly raised his chances for working in Brew's home so that he could be reassigned to perform duties at the Command Post. This was the city's military headquarters and communication center, and that was exactly what Caesar wanted to do. From here, Breck and his men kept careful watch over the apes in their vicinity. The ruthless governor feared that Milu still lived, and he took no chances with rebellious chimpanzees.

During all this time, Armando was still being detained for questioning. Under the supervision of Klop, Breck's brutal police chief, the circus owner was treated to a truthful threat. Before he could reveal that Milu was indeed alive, he tried to escape. In his frenzied break, Armando hit a window and plunged to a bloody death.

SIMIAN STRIKE BACK

When Caesar learned of his friend's death, he decided to begin a reign of terror against the city's human inhabitants. Quickly organizing a small army of apes, through mental telepathy, he instructed them in the subversive arts of espionage and sabotage. While some apes "accidentally" started fires and harassed their masters, others stole knives, firearms, and ammunition. A secret base of operations was set up in an abandoned building located right in the heart of the metropolis. The rise of the apes had begun!

Eventually, Brew learned the truth about Caesar. The shipment he had allegedly arrived in had been from Borses, and there were no chimpanzees in Borses. The governor realized that only an intelligent ape could have accomplished what Caesar had, and the order for the ape's immediate capture went out to all units. Macdonald, Brock's personal aide, helped Caesar escape from his pursuers. The black aide sympathized with the oppressed apes, but he urged the chimpanzees against further violence.

In spite of Macdonald's help, Caesar was caught soon enough. Brock, certain that the captive was the son of the future apes, ordered that he be subjected to electric shock torture. Caesar withstood as much of this agonizing pain as he could, but in the end he died out of mercy. Brock, overjoyed by his sadistic success, told Klop to turn up the voltage and kill the apes. Not knowing the command was carried out, Macdonald secretly cut the power. Caesar pretended to die, but afterward he killed a guard and freedom.

At Ape Headquarters, Caesar instructed his followers to arm themselves and spread the word that the rebellion was at hand. This was done, and the rebels assembled for battle. The brutal Brock Administration was about to get its first terrifying taste of ape justice.

A surprise attack was launched against Ape Management. The astonished guards were quickly overwhelmed, and the attackers picked up their fallen weapons. The imprisoned chimpanzees emerged, and the entire army quickly moved on to other strategic areas. Although heavily-armed police units moved in to stop the uprising, the bloody skirmishes usually ended with the antipodians emerging victorious. Many apes were killed, but many more survived. The biggest battle of all was fought at the entrance to the giant shopping mall. After the primary defense forces were defeated,...
PART V: BATTLE FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES

After the atomic war ravaged the planet of the people, Caesar led human and anthropoid survivors out of the radioactive city to live elsewhere. Thrice chose a wooded spot, miles away from the devastated metropolis, on which to establish Ape Village. By then, all apes had acquired the power of speech. They had risen far above their animal state and formed their own tightly knit society.

Caesar, the telepathic leader of the anthropoids, was, of course, their leader. His advisor was Virgil, the smartest of all the ape philosophers. MacDonald represented the humans and acted as advisor and confidant to Caesar. Times were hard, and internal dissension made things worse. Many apes resented the fact that humans were with them. The small band of Homo sapiens served as menials, holding positions as teachers and the like. They, too, were dispensed with the situation. However, most humans and apes realized that they had little choice in the matter—they had to help each other in order to survive.

One day, Caesar voiced a desire to see his people. MacDonald told him that audio-visual tapes of the chimpanzees from the future might still exist, stored in some underground archives in the center of the city. The super-smart decided to find out more, and he and MacDonald and Virgil made preparations to travel across the desert to the "Forbidden City." According to Caesar, the tribe of the future was composed of one ape: Kolt, the new leader of the humans. Kolt and his followers had left the ape village on a mission of revenge against their enemies. Caesar then showed them the tapes of his people and the humans.

Gorillas trained for battle and patrolled the area. Aldo and his men did their job well, but complained that they had not been taught how to react. They would not accept the gorillas' weight and would attack the chimpanzees. Caesar was angry, but he agreed to let the chimps have their way. Aldo attacked with his sword. Later, the chimps broke and Caesar called for them to attack the apes. Aldo fought back, and Caesar ordered his men to join in. Aldo then led a charge against the apes, and Caesar called for help from the chimpanzees who attacked the humans. Caesar then ordered his men to charge, and Aldo joined in. At the same time, the chimpanzees attacked the humans, and the gorillas fought back. The battle raged on for hours, but the chimpanzees finally defeated the humans.

GORILLA WARFARE

As the army approached the community, two gorilla scouts saw it and reported it to Caesar. The scouts were killed, but Caesar and his men fought back and drove the army away. The chimpanzees then attacked the apes, and both sides fought fiercely. In the end, the chimps were victorious.

Apa and humans prepare to defend their camp against imminent attack by Kolt's ramped mutant army. Here wise old ape Mendumus (Lew Ayres) makes machine gun, while Virgil Paul Williams) and helpful human MacDonald (Austin Stoker) take up arms for the needy defenders.

Before departing, they obtained rifles from Old Mendumus, a wise orangutan whose job it was to keep the army's secrets. Except on special occasions, no one carried a weapon. There was a sacred law: "Ape will not kill ape." It was believed that this was essential for the survival of the simian-controlled society.

When the terrain reached the ravaged city, they used a Geiger counter to avoid densely radioactive areas. As soon as they entered, they found that the underground complex and entered R. Unkho. Known to them, hidden closed-circuit televisions showed the situation observed by every move from the moment they entered the complex.

MADE MUTANTS MAKE MOVE

Their unseen trackers were members of an electronically-created race of scarred mutants. A large number of people had remained in the city, and the radiation was distorting their minds as well as their bodies. These semi-humans—easily of whom were very ill—were armed and highly irrational. Their leader was Kolt, the former chief of police, and his followers hated the apes and blamed them for their misfortune. When he saw Caesar and his companions, the madman ordered his private police force to kill them at once.

Just before the attack began, the three survivors took the tape they were searching for. From, then, from all corners of the earth the apes in underground building charged the mutants, their automatic weapons charging busily. Caesar and his men managed to avoid death by firing back and fleeing to the projection room. There, they played the tape before fighting their way out and eventually making it back to Ape Village.

An Extraordinary Session was immediately called, and Caesar explained his actions to a gathering of humans and apes. He told them of the predictions his parents had made, but he, MacDonald and Virgil stated that the future could be changed. Alos, the general insisted that the mutants must be destroyed before they were able to attack Ape Village. Caesar disagreed, pointing out that the radiation would harm them, and the gorillas stormed out of the conference in anger.

Since it was possible that the mutants might find and attack the community, chimpanzees, orangutans and humans began setting up defenses. At the same time, the palace was set on fire by a gorilla. The apes fled, and the chimpanzees fought back. The apes were victorious.

Aldo, leader of the dissident gorilla faction, plunges into his death after going on a limb to challenge Caesar. The fall is actually taken by Claude Akins, who played Aldo, but stuntman Grant Harvey, who survived the 35 feet plunge to go on to engage in other, equally dangerous feats... not in any more PLANET OF THE APES sequels because there won't be any more sequels. That's all, friends.