PIANET OF THE APES

"THE CURE"

Written By
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CAST LIST

STAN KOVAK
ALAN VIRDON
GALEN (CHIMP)
URSUS (GORILLA LEADER)
ZAIUS (ORANGUTAN)

ZORAN (CHIMP DOCTOR)
AMY (MINOR, HUMAN)
TALBERT (HUMAN)
ORANGUTAN (COUNCIL MEMBER)
MASON (HUMAN)
INTA (CHIMP)
NEESA (GORILLA, STUNT)
KAVA (GORILLA SOLDIER)
DYING MAN (HUMAN)
GORILLA GUARD
SET LIST

INTERIORS:

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
COMMAND TENT
TALBERT'S HUT
HOSPITAL HUT

EXTERIORS:

TALBERT'S HUT AND OTHER HUT
HOSPITAL HUT
TRION
STAGNANT POOL AREA
SECOND VILLAGE AND STREAM
EDGE OF WOODED AREA
CINCHONA TREE GROVE
WILDERNESS AREA
HILL AREA

INT./EXT. WINDOW P.O.V. (HOSPITAL HUT)
"THE CURE"

ACT ONE

FADE IN

EXT. TRION - ESTABLISHING SHOT - DAY

Trion is a small village in the rural zone, set near a heavily vegetated marsh and forest area. There are about fifteen huts, constructed of mud brick, thatched roofs, etc. Torches flank the main road which leads to sort of a central gathering place around which the huts are located. Fields of crops are irrigated by a crude water ditch system. Men, women and children live in this pleasant place. The men can be seen working the fields, the women and children tend to domestic chores around the huts. There are a couple storage sheds set away from the main part of town. CAMERA ESTABLISHES, then PANS up a slight hill to see a more sophisticated "barracks" where four gorillas live. One of them can be seen walking along the edge of the fields, carrying a rifle, sort of overseeing the humans as they work. Another walks the perimeter on the other side of town. Two gorillas can be seen outside the barracks, tending to their arsenal of weapons and foodstuffs, etc.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND AMY

VIRDON and AMY, a pretty, bright, imaginative girl of fourteen, walk back toward the village from the edge of the forest-marsh area. Amy pauses by CAMERA, studies the village, her pretty face etched with sadness. Then she faces Virdon, reflects:

AMY
I almost wish you hadn't come here...

VIRDON
(gently)
I'm sorry we have to go, Amy.

AMY
Why did you tell me who you are?
Why me and no one else?

VIRDON
I don't know. Maybe because you're special -- because I look at you and I see how it was when I was young -- and I wanted you to know -- life wasn't always like this.

Cont.
AMY
But if I'd never known --
thен I...
(petulant)
You shouldn't have told me.

VIRDON
(gently)
Amy -- knowledge -- is a lot
like love. You get some pleasure --
you get some pain -- like taking
a trip to an unknown place. Once
you arrive -- it's too late to wish
you'd never started.

She manages a smile. They continue on, CAMERA PANNING.

ANGLE ON TALBERT HUT

GALEN and KOVAK finish putting on their backpacks with help
from Amy's father, TALBERT, a big, gentle, work-weary man
in his forties. Virdon reaches them, picks up his backpack,
puts it on while Amy stands a few yards away.

KOVAK
Thanks for putting us up...

TALBERT
Why don't you stay, make your
home here?

KOVAK
Good question. I guess the answer
is --
(of Virdon)
-- he's got an itch in his feet,
and I've got rocks in my head.

Puzzlement from Talbert.

KOVAK
We're taking a survey of the far
side of every hill on the horizon.

Said wryly, ruefully, but with good humored resignation.
Talbert doesn't understand but accepts Kovak's smile in
lieu of clarity. Kovak and Galen shake Talbert's hand.

GALEN
(to Talbert)
I'd try to give you a better answer
but I don't know it myself. Thank
you for everything.
KOVAK
(to Virdon)
Ready?

Virdon nods, shakes Talbert's hand, nods to Amy.

VIRDON
She's very special. Take care of her...

Talbert nods. Galen, Kovak and Virdon, backpacks secure, move off toward Amy.

ANGLE ON AMY

She glances at her father, then speaks in a low voice as they pause by her.

AMY
Will you ever pass this way again?

VIRDON
(gently)
Anything's possible.

AMY
I'll keep your secret -- even from my father.

KOVAK
(overhearing)
I may come back just to witness that miracle.

AMY
Miracle?

KOVAK
A woman keeping a secret.

She manages a smile finally. Virdon kisses her forehead.

VIRDON
Good-bye, Amy...

She can only nod. They move off. She stands watching them, fighting back tears.
ANGLE ON TALBERT

watching them go. Then, he feels a little faint, uncertain. He wipes his face, blinks, then tries to brush away the feeling, as he waves to --

P.O.V. SHOT

-- the departing Galen, Kovak and Virdon.

ANGLE ON EDGE OF TRION

NEESA, a big gorilla perimeter guard, pauses to watch Galen, Kovak and Virdon approaching. Seeing him, they stop, uncertain. Neesa raises his rifle.

GALEN

(stepping forward)
I am transferring these two to the work force in the next village.

Neesa studies Kovak and Virdon, then reluctantly lowers his rifle. Galen smiles, nods. Kovak and Virdon follow Galen past the scowling Neesa, CAMERA PANNING them away.

EXT. SERIES OF LONG SHOTS - DAY

Galen, Kovak and Virdon move through wilderness areas.

INT. TALBERT HUT - DAY

Talbert is lying on his cot, fear has invaded his eyes. His body convulses slightly. His face is streaked with sweat. CAMERA PANS to the door. Amy enters carrying a basket of fresh vegetables. She stops short, moves to him, studies him, puzzled.

AMY
Daddy -- what's wrong?

Talbert forces a smile to disarm her.

TALBERT
It's nothing -- I'm just a little tired. Little tired...

AMY
(uncertain)
I'll get you some water...

She moves to do so.
Near a stream.

ANGLE ON GALEN, VIRDON AND KOVÁK

as they reach this area. Kovak puts his backpack aside, kneels by the stream, douses the sweat from his face.

Galen stays slightly apart, deliberately excluding himself.

KOVÁK
When we were in training a mere two thousand years ago, I used to hate most the hours running on that treadmill. Upward and onward to nowhere! Nothing's changed.

VIRDON
Except the world.

KOVÁK
It was the nicest world I knew. Still is, was, whatever...

VIRDON
I wish you could have seen the way it was, Galen...

GALEN
Obviously I can't.

VIRDON
Maybe you'll get a chance. I still hope somewhere, somehow, we'll find a way back.

KOVÁK
(of Virdon)
I'd be ready to certify the guy's bananas but I'm going along with him so what does that make me?

VIRDON
(grinning)
An optimist. What're you complaining about? When you were a kid, didn't you dream of camping out, roughing it? This is your chance.

He's preparing to make camp for the night.

Cont.
KOVAK
(to nobody)
He's okay; everybody else
is crazy.

He assists in campsite preparation.

Galen has moved to the periphery of the clearing and is
listening intently. Virdon notices and shows instant concern.

VIRDON
Do you hear something?

GALEN
Not yet.

Kovak reacts to the strange reply and moves to join Virdon
and Galen.

KOVAK
What are you expecting?

GALEN
Trouble.

KOVAK
What's this, crystal ball time?

VIRDON
(to Galen)
What's bothering you, Galen?

GALEN
You.

VIRDON
Say it...

GALEN
When I joined you two, I knew
I'd be facing the same danger
you face. In fact, Ursus may
even have told his gorillas that
I'm the first priority on his
death list. I'm a renegade to
my people. I accept that. But I
did think we'd try to protect each
other.

Cont.
KOVAK
Who isn't protecting what or did I miss something?

VIRDON
Hold it, Stan. I've done something you object to, Galen. I don't know what it is. If you tell me, I'll apologize or try to correct it...

GALEN
You can't pour water back into a broken bottle. You've said, so many times, how careful we must be, how we must never tell anyone about ourselves.

VIRDON
Amy...

GALEN
A child. You trust her not only with your life but with mine.

VIRDON
I'm sure she would never talk...

GALEN
As sure as if you had not told her?

KOVAK
Knock it off. Maybe the bottle's broken but arguing won't paste it together. Anyway, nobody's come after us, yet...

Virdon gestures Kovak to silence.

VIRDON
(to Galen)
You're right. I'm wrong. I should not have told her. She -- well, I have a couple children of my own. My daughter was...is about Amy's age. That's not an excuse, it's only an explanation. I'm sorry, Galen.

Galen is moved by Virdon's emotion and candor.

Cont.
GALEN
(puzzled)
I didn't think you meant any harm but why did you take the risk?

VIRDON
A need to talk, to confide, to relate to someone who brought back the past. I can't really tell you why. Chalk it up to the fact that I'm only a human.

GALEN
(genuine sympathy)
Yes, I forget now and then that you can't help some of the weaknesses you have...

KOVAK
Oh, brother!
He turns away, shaking his head.

EXT. TALBERT HUT - MED. SHOT - DAY
Amy moves to the door of the hut carrying some water pails, then stops short, hurries inside.

INT. TALBERT HUT
Talbert is semiconscious. His body is convulsing, his face is bathed with sweat. He is gasping for breath. Amy, terrified, kneels by him.

AMY
Daddy.
No response.

AMY
Daddy!
Amy hurries out of the hut.

EXT. HUT
Amy stumbles toward a nearby hut.

AMY
Help me -- please! My father!
ANGLE ON ANOTHER HUT

Amy runs around the corner of this hut, then stops short, stunned. CAMERA PANS DOWN to REVEAL an elderly COUPLE -- lying on the ground, their faces pallid and sweating.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Amy shrinks back, then uncertain, runs back to her hut.

INT. TALBERT HUT

Amy enters, stops, looks at her father, then moves slowly to him. She kneels by him, speaks softly.

AMY

Daddy...

No response.

AMY

Oh, please...

ESTABLISHING SHOT - CAPITOL CITY - DAY (STOCK) A-17

The Ape Capitol is the scene of normal activity.

INT. COUNCIL CHAMBERS - DAY

CLOSE ON A GAVEL SLAMMING ON THE TABLE. It brings a sudden halt to the mutter of angry voices. CAMERA WIDENS to REVEAL ZAIUS wielding the gavel. URSUS and the council members are in session.

ZAIUS

Please -- order, please. You babble on like frightened humans.

AN ORANGUTAN

(agitated)

There is much at stake here, Zaius. Our historians have brought this to my attention.

(reads from a crude book)

'In the early part of the Orman period several hundred humans were found in a section of the rural zone -- dead from a fever of this description. The entire sector became barren for years afterward...'

Cont.
ZAIUS

I am aware of the potential loss of goods and labor. That is why I have ordered Trion quarantined -- pending investigation.

URSUS

Quarantined? Burn it!

ZAIUS

Before we consider such measures, Ursus -- our Chief Medical Officer, Zoran, has a few words.

Zaius defers to a large chimp, ZORAN, intelligent, very self-assured, seated with his assistant, a retiring chimp, named INTA. Zoran rises, paces.

ZORAN

I have done considerable research with diseases of the lower species -- and I have developed certain -- theories of treatment -- including afflictions of the fever...

URSUS

Theories? An excuse for you to waste time and resources on intellectual games and guesses.

ZORAN

I intend to test my theories in Trion.

This sets them all to murmuring again.

URSUS

(annoyed)
The entire labor force of a sector is threatened -- and he wants to test theories?!

ZAIUS

Trion is quite isolated. And with the quarantine -- the risk is reduced greatly.

ZORAN

.quickly)
If I can save Trion -- we need never fear the fever again -- ever! Zero loss of labor -- or goods in the future...
ZAIUS
Vote. Those for allowing Zoran to proceed to Trion...

The council exchanges a few words. Then each nods -- except Ursus.

ZAIUS
So be it...

Ursus pulls to his feet, starts out, pausing by Zoran to offer:

URSUS
I'll be there at Trion to enforce the quarantine, Zoran. And if you fail...

The threat remains unspoken. Ursus walks out leaving Zoran to contemplate his words. Then Zoran turns to the council, confidently assures:

ZORAN
You will not regret your faith in me.

Zoran turns and exits. Inta follows.

EXT. CLEARING - MORNING

Virdon and Kovak are putting on backpacks; Galen is lifting water in his cupped hand, from the stream to his mouth. MASON, an itinerant human with a cart full of rough utensils pulls into SCENE, barely heeds Virdon and Kovak and is not immediately aware of Galen behind them. Mason is clearly frightened of something. He's been hurrying, he's panting, his face is sweaty. He brushes past Virdon, about to wash his face in the stream when he sees Galen and defers.

MASON
Your permission -- ?

Galen nods.

MASON
Thank you.

He slops water on his face. Galen steps out of the stream.

GALEN
(to Virdon)
Ready?

Cont.
MASON
You're not going to Trion?!

VIRDON
No. Shouldn't we?

MASON
It's quarantined. A plague. I was told many are dead and more will die. Many more.

KOVAK
Were you there?

MASON
Not in the village, thank the Spirits. Guards let no one in -- and no one out. A man was shot trying to run...

VIRDON
Do you know any more? The names of any who died?

MASON
(head shake)
Nothing, nothing. I was spared. Even a name might carry the fever. Who knows?
(to Galen)
Your permission -- ?

Galen nods and Mason hurriedly pulls his cart away.

KOVAK
(to Virdon)
A guy doesn't have to be a mind reader to know what you're thinking.

VIRDON
Maybe we can help...

KOVAK
(to Galen)
Will you tell this guy it makes zero sense to try to bust into a plague village?

GALEN
If we could get in, what good would it do?

Cont.
VIRDON
I don't know. What if we were the ones who started it, carrying some virus harmless to us; murderous to them?

GALEN
Isn't it just as possible you'd catch the fever if you went back.

KOVAK
Of course it is -- that is, if somebody doesn't shoot us for trying to get in. Of all the goofed-up ideas, this one takes the fur-lined cake slicer.

VIRDON
Stan, don't you think we should at least try to help?

KOVAK
Did I say I didn't think that? Come on.

He takes a step.

GALEN
Just a minute.

Kovak stops.

GALEN
Were you planning to include me in this trip back to Trion?

Kovak looks to Virdon, avoiding any reply.

VIRDON
I assumed we'd stay together.

GALEN
We went through this only last night. Just because the girl reminds you of your daughter is no reason I should run the risk of going back.

VIRDON
No. No reason.
GALEN
Or, for you two to go...

VIRDON
No.

GALEN
But, you stubbornly insist upon returning.

Virdon and Kovak take a beat, then nod.

GALEN
(to the heavens)
I'm getting to be no better than a human! All right, let's go.

Virdon and Kovak grin at each other. The three start off.

EXT. TRION - LONG SHOT - DAY

Ursus and his armed gorillas have surrounded the village in full force. Ursus rides along the perimeter giving orders. He has set up crude headquarters well away from the town -- a crude "tent command post."

EXT. VILLAGE - ANGLE ON MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN

huddled near their huts, terrified.

ANGLE ON AMY

tending to a dying old woman, putting wet cloths on her face and arms. Quiet hysteria has touched her.

EXT. EDGE OF TRION

Neesa, looking very tired, agitated, stands guard, reacts to the approach of Galen, Virdon and Kovak, who step before him.

NEESA
What are you doing back here?! Haven't you heard -- there's fever.

GALEN
We are somewhat familiar with the problem. We would like to go in and help.

NEESA
The council has sent the Chief Physician -- so turn around and go back where you came from.
VIRDON
Look -- we just want to --

NEESA
(lifts rifle)
I have orders to kill anyone
who tries to cross the quarantine
line.

Galen, Virdon and Kovak have no choice but to retreat.

ANOTHER ANGLE

They move through an area of marshy vegetation. Then Kovak
stops, looks back.

P.O.V. SHOT

Neesa has turned, is continuing on his rounds.

BACK TO SCENE

Kovak moves off toward the village through this marshy area.
Galen and Virdon follow.

ANOTHER ANGLE

They come upon a series of stagnant pools rife with
mosquitoes. Kovak stops, studies the area, suddenly slaps at
mosquitoes buzzing nearby, then turns to Virdon, pulling him
and Galen back.

KOVAK
Stagnant water and mosquitoes --
what does that make you think of?

They move quickly away. Galen follows, throwing a puzzled
glance back over his shoulder.

EXT. VILLAGE - ANGLE ON GALEN, VIRDON AND KOVAK

as they reach the hut area, stop short, stunned.

PANNING P.O.V. SHOT

of the area, the frightened, the weak and the ill.

BACK TO SCENE

They walk forward, CAMERA TRUCKING, into the center of the
village.
NEW ANGLE

A sick MAN sees them, reaches out toward them with a pained cry, his arms in an attitude of desperate supplication. They stop, kneel by the Man, examine him.

MAN
Help -- me...

Virdon looks up from examining the Man.

VIRDON
(to Kovak)
You read it like I do?

KOVAK
Malaria...

VIRDON
(looking around)
God -- God, what do we do?

ANGLE ON AMY

exiting a hut. Now Amy reacts o.s., pulls up.

AMY
Virdon!

ANGLE ON GALEN, VIRDON AND KOVAK

They turn as Amy stumbles toward them, then stops, exhausted. Virdon moves quickly to her, holds her shoulders, studies her face.

AMY
My father -- my father is dead...

VIRDON
(gently)
Amy, I'm so sorry.

KOVAK
Amy -- how do you feel?

AMY
I'm -- tired -- but I'm not sick...

ANGLE ON VIRDON

He moves to the center of the village.

VIRDON
Listen to me -- all of you. Come here and listen.
ANOTHER ANGLE
A cluster of frightened people stare at him, uncertain.

ANOTHER ANGLE
Another group hangs back by their hut.

ANGLE ON VIRDON

VIRDON
Please -- time is against us --
we've got to move quickly.

ANGLE ON SOME OF THEM
moving toward Virdon.

ANGLE ON MORE OF THEM
moving toward Virdon.

WIDER ANGLE
as they gather around Virdon.

VIRDON
We must bury the dead --
immediately. If we don't
we'll be fighting fever -- and
dysentery -- and worse.

The SOUND OF HOOFBEATS IS HEARD APPROACHING.

VIRDON
A treatment center must be
set up.

ANGLE ON ZORAN AND INTA
as they ride into the area, stop, dismount, then move toward
Virdon and the others, CAMERA PANNING.

VIRDON
Work teams must be organized...

ZORAN
Silence!

Virdon stops. All eyes shift to Zoran and Inta as they step
to Virdon, study him.

Cont.
ZORAN

Who are you?

VIRDON

Just a -- man trying to help
his fellow man.

ZORAN

I am Zoran -- Chief Medical Officer
of the Supreme Council -- this is
my assistant, Inta. I will assume
full authority here now.

Kovak, Amy and Galen move forward, uneasy. Zoran moves to
study one of the sick men in the street, CAMER TRUCKING with
him. Virdon follows Zoran, playing the passive role for the
moment.

VIRDON

We're very glad to see you.
Perhaps we can work together.

Zoran gives Virdon a dubious look, then studies the sick man,
nods confidently.

ZORAN

A pit will be dug at once. It
will be filled with water. I
will add certain medications --
you will all disrobe and immerse
yourselves. Then each of you will
be bled -- the amount depending
on your size and age. There will
be no sexual contact until I have
the disease under control.
(to Virdon)
You seem to have a talent for
organizing. You will supervise
digging of the pit.

Virdon is momentarily speechless with disbelief. Kovak steps
forward, angering.

KOVAK

Look, Doc -- you're whistling
Dixie!

Zoran looks at Kovak in stunned disbelief.

Cont.
ZORAN
(bewildered,
then annoyed)
I'm whistling? -- I -- will --
speak -- clearly. Do you still
hear whistling? Is there something
wrong with your ears?

Galen, sensing trouble, steps forward to assuage Zoran.

GALEN
What he is -- suggesting -- sir --
is that this -- particular disease
-- with which he is familiar, demands
special treatment...

ZORAN
Who are you? Why are you here
in this village?

GALEN
I was taking these two humans to
another farm. Listen to them.
They are more intelligent than
most.

Zoran studies Galen with some puzzlement, then turns to Kovak,
assumes a condescending attitude of contempt.

ZORAN
So -- you -- are familiar with
this disease...

KOVAK
It's malaria...

ZORAN
(to Inta)
How clever. He's even given it
a name. Call the guards, Inta.
I haven't time for this fool.

Inta nods, mounts, rides off.

GALEN
(alarmed)
Sir -- the guards won't be
necessary.
VIRDON
Malaria means 'foul air' -- like the kind you find around stagnant pools -- such as those we saw on our way in here. You see -- sir -- the mosquitoes around this stagnant water -- carry the disease -- and it's communicated by their sting.

ZORAN
(exploding)
That is enough!! I don't know whether to have you shot for stupidity or hanged for insolence. Germs flying through the air on the back of insects!! Diseases of the lower species are communicated by bodily contact!

KOVAK
This one isn't.

ZORAN
(furious)
You are challenging my word!

Galen jumps in.

GALEN
Believe me, sir, he does not mean to be insolent. Like with all humans, fear puts foolish words in his mouth.

The SOUND of hoofbeats returning.

ZORAN
I have a cure for that disease.

GALEN
He does know something of medicine.

ZORAN
Impossible.

Neesa rides in, roughly knocking several people aside with his horse. With him is Inta and another gorilla guard, KAVA.

CLOSE ON NEESAA
He is sweating profusely -- exhaustion hangs on his body.
BACK TO SCENE

Zoran points to Virdon and Kovak.

ZORAN
(to Neesa)
 Arrest these two!

CLOSE ON NEESA

He fights off dizziness as he tries to control his horse.

NEESA
Arrest them?! I'll shoot them. They've crossed the quarantine line against my orders.

CLOSE ON ZORAN

He considers this, then shrugs.

ZORAN
As you please...

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND KOVAK

helpless. Galen steps in front of them.

GALEN
Sir -- I must protest...

ANGLE ON NEESA

As he brings the rifle up, his strength fails. He drops his rifle, falls from his horse. Startled, Kava grabs the reins of Neesa's horse, works to control the animal.

BACK TO SCENE

Zoran turns to study Neesa as his body begins convulsing. Virdon and Kovak kneel, examine Neesa. Then Kovak rises, addresses Zoran.

KOVAK
Shove this up your theory. Has he had 'bodily contact' with the lower species? -- He has malaria!

Cont.
CLOSE ON KAVA

Fear touches him. He explodes with indignant rage, turns to Zoran.

KAVA
What is he saying!! How could this be? Explain!

CLOSE ON ZORAN

studying the writhing, dying Neesa. He shakes his head in disbelief, all logic crumbling around him.

ZORAN
I -- I can't explain...

WIDER ANGLE

Kava glares at Zoran who is beside himself with fear.

KAVA
Will you dare tell that to Ursus?

Zoran has no answer.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE
ACT TWO

EXT. COMMAND TENT - LONG SHOT - DAY

Several horses tethered outside the tent. The SOUND of angry voices from within.

INT. COMMAND TENT - ANGLE ON URSUS - DAY

URSUS

Fire! Purification by fire!
It is the only course left to pursue!

CLOSE ON ORANGUTAN

ORANGUTAN

The situation is different now, Zaius. Apes are being threatened!

CLOSE ON ZAIUS

ZAIUS

Please. We must calm ourselves and think rationally.

CLOSE ON ORANGUTAN

ORANGUTAN

But an ape has died, Zaius. An ape! It's no longer a minor problem.

BACK TO SCENE

The council is gathered here in Ursus' command tent. Zcran sits there also, still shaken.

URSUS

(turns to Zoran)
You and your -- 'theories.'
(to the council)
He should be burned with the others!

ZAIUS

Ursus -- you are out of order!!
(to council)
I suggest we hear Zoran's appraisal of the situation.

Cont.
ORANGUTAN

I agree.
(a challenge)
He promises us success.

All eyes shift to Zoran. He rises, his mind racing. All go silent.

ZORAN

Upon -- my arrival in Trion --
I discovered that the fever --
was of a different nature than I
had assumed. It is of a -- rare
variety -- called -- Malaria --
obviously fatal to apes as well
as humans. It is -- obviously --
not transmitted by bodily contact...

ZAIUS

Then how, Zoran?

ZORAN

I have reason to believe -- the
disease grows in -- stagnant pools
of water -- and is carried into
the bloodstream by the sting of
-- of -- mosquitoes...

They stare at him in amazement.

ORANGUTAN

You can't be serious.

URSUS

He's got the fever himself.

Much muttering from the council. Zaius raps his gavel for order.

ZAIUS

Zoran -- you are aware of what
you are asking us to believe?

ZORAN

There are such stagnant pools --
in Trion. Both the humans --
(to Ursus)
-- and your soldiers have been
exposed to this area.

ZAIUS

And what action do you propose
we take now?
ZORAN
I will need a few hours to --
further appraise the situation.

URSUS
I'll be damned if I'll back
down to a mosquito!

ZORAN
Ursus -- since the disease is
fatal to our people -- we should
use this -- this situation to
develop a cure...

ZAIUS
Yes -- perhaps there's a positive
side to this. We can experiment
with the humans. Even if we lost
the entire village -- if an ape
cure was developed -- it would be
worth it. Historically, medicine
has progressed because of such
experimentation. Yes -- I believe
we should seize this opportunity.

One by one the council nods agreement.

ZAIUS
So be it...
(to Zoran)
You'll report to us...

ZORAN
Yes, sir.

Ursus pushes past him, goes outside.

EXT. COMMAND TENT - MED. SHOT - DAY

Ursus mounts and rides angrily away. Zoran comes out of the
tent, shaken, feeling trapped.

EXT. TRION - LONG SHOT - DAY

Work groups have been organized. Men are burying the dead.
The sick are being carried into one of the largest huts.
Water is being carried from the village well into this hut.

ANOTHER ANGLE

The women and children are working to fashion crude gloves,
cloth headpieces with narrow eyeslits. Virdon comes in,
kneels to inspect their work.

VIRDON

Very good...
INT. LARGEST HUT

Kovak directs the placement of the sick on cots placed in rows. Amy and Galen are bathing the fevered with the well water being carried in. At the SOUND of hoofbeats, Kovak looks out the hut window, then goes outside.

ANGLE ON VIRDON

He pauses and Kovak joins him from the hut as Zoran rides in, dismounts, studies the activity, the gloves and masks the women are making.

ZORAN
What are they doing?

KOVAK
Protective masks and gloves.
We've got to send a work crew --
to drain off the stagnant water.

ZORAN
(nods, reflects)
I am in a most -- difficult
position with the council. I have
related your -- mosquito theory.
(beat)
Of course -- in order to save you
from punishment -- should we fail
-- I told them it was my own...

Virdon and Kovak exchange a wondering glance.

VIRDON
You're very generous...

CLOSE ON ZORAN

He studies them wonderingly, baiting them.

ZORAN
Not entirely.
(beat)
If I'd told them I heard it from you,
they would have asked questions: Who
you were -- how you came by this
information. Ursus, particularly,
would have been curious about
humans who know more than they
should. I hope you do know
about this disease.

Cont.
Virdon and Kovak exchange glances upon hearing of Ursus' presence. Clearly, Zoran grows more suspicious. Galen comes out of the hut to join them.

**KOVAK**

Have we been wrong up to now?

**ZORAN**

You've provided a theory, a name for the disease, a diagnosis. Right or wrong, it adds up to very little. What about treatment?

**VIRDON**

There's one known treatment for malaria -- quinine. It's extracted from the bark of a semi-tropical tree called the Cinchona.

**ZORAN**

I've never heard of such a tree.

**KOVAK**

Just beyond the marsh there's a heavily wooded area -- fairly tropical growth. -- If we're lucky -- you'll get to see one.

Virdon picks up a mask, pair of gloves, offers them to Zoran. Zoran nods, takes them. Virdon, Kovak and Galen exchange wondering looks.

**EXT. STAGNANT POOL AREA - MED. SHOT - DAY**

Virdon and Kovak lead Galen, Zoran and several men from Trion to the edge of the pool. All of them wear the crude gloves and headpieces. Some of the men carry crude shovels, digging tools, etc.

**VIRDON**

Remember -- no part of your body exposed.

(to Galen)

Good luck, my friend.

Galen nods. Kovak, Virdon and Zoran move off, followed by half of the men. Galen and his men begin digging.

**ANGLE ON VIRDON, KOVAK, ZORAN AND OTHERS**

as they move toward the edge of the heavily wooded area. They have all pulled up their headpieces so they can see better. At the SOUND of hoofbeats, they pause, see:
P.O.V. SHOT

Ursus and several of his armed soldiers riding toward them.

ANGLE ON KOVAK AND VIRDON

Alarmed, they lower their headpieces to cover their faces.

BACK TO SCENE

Ursus and his soldiers pull to a halt -- blocking their path.

OURS

(to Zoran)

Running away, doctor?

ZORAN

The cure is in the bark of a certain tree -- we believe such a tree can be found in the woods.

OURS

We believe? What do you mean -- we? I was under the impression you had sole authority here...

ZORAN

(steady)

I have sole authority. But I have described the tree and we --
(nods to Virdon, Kovak and the others)
-- they believe such a tree might be found --
(nods to wooded area)
-- in there.

Ursus prods his horse closer, studies Virdon, Kovak and their headpieces conspicuously still on.

OURS

What are you two afraid of?

KOVAK

(sotto voce)

Mosquitoes...

Ursus balks, glances worriedly around, then wheels his horse, rides off -- his soldiers fast behind him, CAMERA PANNING.

CLOSE ON ZORAN

He turns from Ursus' exit, suspiciously studies:
HIS P.O.V. - VIRDON AND KOVAK

The only ones with headpieces on.

WIDER ANGLE

Zoran is very suspicious.

ZORAN

There are no mosquitoes here.

Kovak claps his hands at an imaginary mosquito, holding his palms closely pressed together. Zoran watches closely as Kovak slowly opens a gap between his palms so he can check on his quarry.

KOVAK
Missed!
(to Zoran)
It was an albino mosquito.
All white. Very hard to see.

Zoran does not know whether to believe Kovak, but the latter's disingenuous expression carries the day. A small residue of suspicion remains but Kovak ignores it as he and Virdon move on. Zoran and the others follow.

INT. "HOSPITAL" HUT - MED. SHOT - NIGHT

Amy carries fresh water, bathes a fever patient. As she kneels, she becomes suddenly faint. She recovers, puts the gnawing fear out of her mind, continues to wipe down the fevered patient, while, in the b.g., Inta is working.

SERIES OF SHOTS - DAY

Virdon, Kovak, Zoran and the others search the heavily vegetated, wooden area.

EXT. CINCHONA TREE GROVE - MED. SHOT - DAY

They move TOWARD CAMERA. Virdon reacts to the trees, stops, studies them, then moves forward to examine one. He pulls off a piece of bark, chews it, finds it bitter.

KOVAK
(to Virdon)
Yes --?

VIRDON
Looks like it could be, and it tastes bitter enough!

KOVAK
I'd feel a lot better if you were sure!
VIRDON

So would I.

ZORAN

(tasting bark)
Ugh! Terrible.

KOVAK

All good medicine tastes awful.
I learned that when I was a kid.

ZORAN

But it will cure the fever -- ?

VIRDON

Not if we just stand here.

He begins pulling off bark. The others join him.

EXT. WOODED AREA - LONG SHOT - DAY

Virdon, Kovak, Zoran and the men, each carrying a roped bundle of bark, move quickly back toward the village.

EXT. TRION - LONG SHOT - DAY

Most of the dead have been buried now. Water is still being carried from the well into the hospital. Some women are preparing food, distributing it. They pause to watch Kovak, Virdon, Zoran and the others as they walk wearily back into the village.

CLOSER ANGLE

They drop the bark on the ground. Inta comes out of the hospital hut. As the villagers gather around, Virdon tells them:

VIRDON

We've got to work quickly. Get stones -- flat stones -- grind the bark into powder...

As the villagers begin this, Virdon turns to Inta.

VIRDON

Any more deaths?

INTA

One -- and two more sick.

Virdon, Kovak and Zoran hurry into the hospital hut.
INT. HOSPITAL HUT

They stop, reacting to:

THEIR P.O.V. - AMY

on a cot now, convulsing with fever.

ANGLE ON KOVAK

stunned, as he moves to Amy, kneels by her, takes her hand. She turns, studies him through her delirium.

    AMY
    I'm sorry...

    KOVAK
    (torn)
    What the hell for?

Virdon moves in.

    AMY
    I wanted to help.

    VIRDON
    We got what we went for. So you hang in -- you just hang in...

She nods. He moves off to be joined by Kovak. Dialogue in private tones.

    KOVAK
    Sorry, Alan...

    VIRDON
    About what?

    KOVAK
    A few things I've said and more I've just thought.

        (of Amy)
    This is rough on you.

    VIRDON
    Not easy on anybody.

    KOVAK
    When I look at her, I don't see a little girl who used to call me, 'Daddy.' I guess I'm lucky -- no one back there to remember, really.
VIRDON
(smiling)
Is that lucky?

KOVAK
Absolutely -- I think. But, if we ever could make it back, I'd maybe start looking hard for someone soft, and permanent.

VIRDON
In that case, if I find a way back, I'll take you along.

They move o.s.

EXT. HOSPITAL HUT - SERIES OF SHOTS - DAY

Quickly, the bark is ground into fine powder, mixed with small cups of water, carried into the hospital hut.

INT. HOSPITAL HUT - SERIES OF SHOTS - DAY

Virdon, Zoran and Inta administer the cups of medication to the patients.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Kovak tends to Amy, who is delirious with fever now.

EXT. VILLAGE - LONG SHOT - DAY

Galen and his work force walk back into the area covered with mud and exhausted.

ANGLE ON URSUS

astride his horse on a nearby hill, studies the village.

HIS P.O.V. - LONG SHOT - GALEN AND THE MEN

returning to the village. From this distance, Galen's identity cannot be determined.

CLOSE ON URSUS

impatient, and inwardly filled with growing fear.

ANGLE ON CENTER OF VILLAGE

Virdon and Kovak come out of the hospital hut to greet Galen, who is very tired.

Cont.
VIRDON
Are you all right?

GALEN
(nods)
It's done.
(sotto voce)
Ursus is here.

Virdon nods grimly.

INT. HOSPITAL HUT - ANGLE ON AMY

She cries out in her delirium -- getting Zoran's attention, who turns from the patient beside her.

AMY
Don't leave me -- tell me --
other place -- the other place...

CAMERA TIGHTENS as Zoran moves closer to her.

AMY
Tell me again...
(a smile)
How it was -- before...

ZORAN
(baiting her)
Before what?

AMY
This -- all this...

Before Zoran can continue the interrogation, he reacts to distant SHOUTING, pulls up, starts out of the hut.

EXT. HOSPITAL HUT - MED. SHOT - DAY

Galen, Kovak, Virdon and the others move off to look toward a nearby hill.

LONG P.O.V. SHOT

Several Gorilla Guards are running away from something. Though we can't hear what they are saying, there is terror in their voices. Virdon, Galen and Kovak start toward the disturbance.

ANGLE ON ZORAN

as he comes out of the hut, looks toward the disturbance. Now Ursus can be seen riding toward the frightened, scattering Gorilla soldiers.
ANGLE ON ZORAN

as he moves to his horse, quickly mounts, rides o.s.

ANGLE ON VIRDON, KOVAK AND GALEN

Kovak starts forward again. Galen grabs his arm, nods o.s.

GALEN

Ursus...

THEIR P. O. V. - URSUS

riding toward the area of disturbance. He rides in a direction which will intersect Zoran's approach.

BACK TO SCENE

Virdon, Kovak and Galen must wait there lest Ursus see them.

ANGLE ON HILL

Several terrified Gorillas run past Zoran as he prods his horse forward.

ANGLE ON URSUS

as he rides into the area with a couple of Gorilla Troopers, pulls up, sees:

HIS P. O. V. - KAVA

prostrate on the ground, his body convulsing -- his breath coming in pained gasps.

ANGLE ON ZORAN

as he rides up, halts, sees Kava.

CLOSE ON URSUS

He turns to Zoran, rage spilling out of him.

URSUS

Now we'll see -- doctor! Now we'll see if the council still believes in you. The village will burn -- and everyone in it. Everyone!

OUT

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO
ACT THREE

FADE IN

EXT. HILL AGAIN - ANGLE ON KAVA - DAY 101
No time lapse. Kava is moaning, writhing in delirium.

ZORAN'S VOICE
(o.s.)
Ursus, I promise you --

WIDER ANGLE 102

Ursus and his men looking down at Kava and at Zoran who is
dismounting to examine Kava and speaking as he dismounts.
He's still very concerned over Kava's illness and Ursus' rage

ZORAN
-- that I will give him every care --

URSUS
(rage, overriding)
You make empty promises while
my soldiers die!

Zoran takes a small canteen and moves back to Kava.

ZORAN
Believe me. I have the means
to cure him.
(holding up canteen)
This is a new medication. It is made
from the bark of a tree I looked for
and luckily, found in time...

He opens the canteen, about to give Kava a drink. Ursus
spurs forward, kicks the canteen from Zoran's hand and Ursus'
horse brushes against Zoran, knocking him down.

URSUS
You will not experiment with my men!

CUT TO:

INT. COMMAND TENT - DAY 103

The full Council assembled, Zoran present, Ursus stalking
back and forth in awesome fury as he addresses the group.

URSUS
Burn the village! Now -- before
we are all destroyed.

ZORAN
No. We are making progress!

ZAIUS
This medication, Zoran. Is
it effective?

Cont.
ZORAN
(uncertain)
Yes -- yes it will be -- soon --
it takes time -- a few hours.

URSUS
There is no more time!
(to council)
How many must die before you
do what must be done?!
(to Zaius)
I demand a vote!

ZAIUS
(calmly)
You will have your vote, Ursus.

URSUS
Now! No more talk!

ZAIUS
(wearily)
I wonder what you fear most, Ursus
-- death or a few words of reason.

URSUS
I fear you -- all of you --
listening to a fool!

ZAIUS
(to council)
Zoran has found a medication.
Perhaps it will cure -- perhaps
not. What Ursus says is true.
With delay -- there is risk...

The council seems uncertain.

ZORAN
We've come this far -- the
answer -- right or wrong -- is
only a few hours away.

Zaius turns to the council.

ZAIUS
Those for letting Zoran continue...

Three council members raise their hands.

ZAIUS
Those against?
Ursus and two others raise their hands. A tie.

ZAIUS

Very well -- the decision is mine...

Zaius studies Zoran, then nods.

ZAIUS

You have till noon tomorrow.

Ursus turns to the three members who voted against him.

URSUS

Fools. In a few hours when you are dying in your own sweat -- like him -- remember what I told you.

Uneasy, the council members wheel their mounts, ride o.s. Zaius turns his mount, tells Zoran:

ZAIUS

Noon, tomorrow...

Zoran nods. Zaius rides off. Ursus prods his horse closer to Zoran, nods to Kava.

URSUS

Stay away from him. If you touch him again, I'll kill you.

Zoran gets on to his own horse, rides o.s., CAMERA PANNING.

EXT. VILLAGE - ESTABLISHING SHOT - NIGHT

The street torches are lit. Some of the huts show light also. The hospital hut is well lit.

INT. HOSPITAL HUT - TRUCKING SHOT - VIRDON - NIGHT

as he walks among the beds, studying the patients, hoping for a sign. He reaches Zoran as he finishes administering to a patient.

VIRDON

(worriedly)

Noon, tomorrow...

(beat)

I don't know...

ZORAN

(defensively)

You said the medication worked quickly...
VIRDON
Yes -- but there could be --
extenuating factors -- a mutation
-- a different variety of Malaria
-- so many intangibles -- so
many unknowns...

Virdon's words make Zoran more suspicious.

ZORAN
I was not in a position to --
bargain with the council.

VIRDON
(gently)
I know -- I understand.
(beat)
We'll medicate again in the
morning.
(beat)
All we can do for the moment
is -- wait...

ZORAN
You'd better sleep.

Virdon nods, moves to an empty cot, lies down. Kovak is
asleep on a nearby cot also. Zoran moves to Amy's cot,
camera panning.

ANGLE BY AMY
106

Zoran moves in, kneels by Amy, wipes her fevered face with
a wet cloth. She half-wakens.

ZORAN
Amy...

There is no response.

Amy?

AMY
Yes...

ZORAN
Your friend -- from the --
'other place...'

AMY
Yes...

Cont.
ZORAN

Where is that 'other place?'
Where did he come from?

AMY

Here...

ZORAN

(puzzled)

Here?

AMY

From -- before.

ZORAN

Another time...

AMY

Yes...

ZORAN

A long time ago?

There is no response.

ZORAN

A long time ago, Amy?

AMY

Yes...

ZORAN

An 'astronaut' -- is he an 'astronaut?'

Amy drifts off again.

ZORAN

Amy -- listen to me.

Zoran tries to bring her back, without success. Frustrated, he turns, stops short, reacting to --

HIS P.O.V. - GALEN

standing a few feet behind him, studying him.

CLOSE ON ZORAN

He pulls up, defensive, uncertain.

ZORAN

Why are you sneaking up behind me?
Galen, keeping casual, steps forward, nods to Amy.

GALEN
I was just coming to look at the girl. Is she -- talking strangely again?

ZORAN
Strangely...

Galen kneels beside her, wipes her face.

GALEN
Yes. The fever -- it makes her say -- impossible things. She has a very good imagination.

ZORAN
Yes. I could make no sense of it.

Zoran turns, walks away.

CLOSE ON GALEN
worried.

EXT. VILLAGE - ESTABLISHING SHOT - NIGHT
an hour before dawn.

EXT. HOSPITAL HUT - NIGHT
Virdon comes out, studies the nearby hill. (Inta is seated by the door.)

LONG P.O.V. SHOT
A single torch burns on the hill.

CLOSE ON VIRDON
-- considering this. Reaching a decision, he goes back into the hospital hut, comes out with a small canteen. He straps it on, moves o.s. into the darkness.

EXT. HILL AREA - MED. SHOT - NIGHT
A single torch has been put here -- beside Kava, who lies, unattended, slowly dying. Near him, an armed Gorilla Guard stands sentry.

ANGLE ON VIRDON
as he cautiously approaches the area, stops, studies --
P.O.V. SHOT

-- the Armed Gorilla Guard near Kava.

ANGLE ON VIRDON

He picks up a large stone, shoves it down a shale-dirt incline. It sets up a rather ominous SOUND.

ANGLE ON THE GUARD

Alarmed, he brings his rifle up.

GORILLA GUARD

Who's there?

The Gorilla moves o.s. toward the sound.

GORILLA GUARD

Who's there?!

ANGLE ON VIRDON

as he sneaks over to Kava.

ANGLE BY KAVA

Virdon moves in, quickly gives Kava a drink from the canteen. Kava is half conscious, too weak to object.

ANGLE ON GORILLA GUARD

He turns back, reacts to --

P.O.V. SHOT - THROUGH UNDERBRUSH

Virdon leaning over Kava. From this angle Virdon is only a shadow.

ANGLE ON GORILLA GUARD

He stumbles forward.

GORILLA GUARD

Who goes there?

ANGLE ON VIRDON

He is forced to drop the canteen and run, spilling some of the liquid on Kava's face.

ANGLE ON GORILLA GUARD

as he fires.
ANGLE ON VIRDON running.

ANGLE ON GORILLA GUARD firing blindly into the darkness.

ANGLE ON VIRDON running back toward the village under cover of darkness.

ANGLE ON GORILLA GUARD firing again. Then, at the SOUND of hoofbeats, he turns.

ANGLE - THE SCENE

Ursus rides up, quickly dismounts.

    URSUS
    What is it?

    GORILLA GUARD
    I heard a sound -- I went to see
    -- when I came back -- there was
    someone with Kava.

    URSUS
    Who?

    GORILLA GUARD
    I -- I couldn't see.

ANGLE ON KAVA

Ursus kneels by Kava, sees the abandoned canteen. Suddenly alarmed, Ursus demands of Kava:

    URSUS
    Who was here?

There is no response.

    URSUS
    Who was it? Zoran?
    (shakes canteen)
    Did you drink this?

Kava can finally give Ursus an affirmative nod.

    KAVA
    Yes.

Ursus roughly lets Kava fall back to a lying position. CAMERA TIGHTENS on Kava's face. Frustration and rage.
Ursus pulls up, knocks the Gorilla Guard down with a vicious blow.

**URSUS**
If Kava dies, if they've poisoned him with this 'medicine,' I'll have you shot!

Ursus gets on his horse, rides o.s., leaving the Gorilla Guard stunned, bewildered.

**EXT. VILLAGE - MED. SHOT - NIGHT**

Galen, Kovak and Zoran stumble out of the hospital. They stop, seeing --

**P.O.V. SHOT**

-- Virdon, running toward them.

**ANGLE - THE SCENE**

Virdon reaches them, stops, exhausted.

**GALEN**
We heard shots -- what happened -- where have you been?

**VIRDON**
(smiling)
A small mission of mercy.

**ZORAN**
(guessing)
You treated Kava?

**VIRDON**
Yes --

**ZORAN**
You risked your life -- for an Ape? --

**VIRDON**
I'm sure his pain hurts as much as those in there.
(nods to hut)
Unfortunately -- I left the evidence behind when I ran.

**KOVAK**
Could anyone identify you?

Cont.
VIRDON

It was dark -- I -- I can't be sure.

Galen and Kovak exchange a worried glance. This does not go unnoticed by Zoran. Then he looks o.s., reflects:

ZORAN

I wonder if it really matters...

VIRDON

What do you mean?

ZORAN

(nods o.s.) Whether Ursus thinks it was him -- or me -- the result is the same.

Virdon, Kovak and Galen turn, look.

THEIR P.O.V. - COMMAND TENT AREA - NIGHT

Considerable activity. Campfires burning, gorilla troopers making torches, attending to their horses, a few torches stuck in the ground to provide light and give promise of the fire tomorrow.

BACK TO SCENE

GALEN

If Zoran loses, Ursus wins -- more authority, more freedom to run things the way he wants. Ursus wants power -- to do things his way, and it's not a very nice way.

KOVAK

(quietly) We'd better come up with some results -- or this village will be ashes.

They look off toward command tent...

THEIR P.O.V. - COMMAND TENT

as all activity is increasing, torches being lit, horses being saddled, etc.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE
ACT FOUR

FADE IN

EXT. VILLAGE - ESTABLISHING SHOT - DAWN

The sun is just coming up.

LONG SHOT - OUTSKIRTS OF VILLAGE

Ursus, astride his horse, gathers his torch-bearing Gorillas, shouts orders.

INT. HOSPITAL HUT - ANGLE ON AMY - DAY

Kovak is by Amy, who is still asleep, resting more quietly now. Kovak bathes her face with a wet cloth as Virdon and Zoran move in, worried, uncertain.

VIRDON
What do you think?

KOVAK
She's resting. Fever seems to be down some.

VIRDON
(hopefully)
The others, too?

KOVAK
When they wake up -- we'll give them the second medication...

(breat)
We need time...

ZORAN
Zaius gave us till noon. If he can keep control of the situation...

Even as Zoran says this, the SOUND of SHOUTING FROM OUTSIDE. They move outside.

EXT. HOSPITAL HUT - MED. SHOT - DAY

Galen is in front, supervising the work on the bark with Inta. Virdon, Kovak and Zoran come out, stop -- see --

VERY LONG P.O.V. SHOT

-- Ursus, astride his horse, leading his torch-bearing Gorillas toward the village.
BACK TO SCENE

KOVAK
(calmly)
Seems the 'situation' is out of hand.

ZORAN
Ursus cannot do this! He acts independently of the council!
(to Inta)
Get my horse!

Inta moves o.s. to do so.

ZORAN
(hard)
I came here for a victory of my own. Ursus will not take it away from me -- not when I am this close...

VIRDON
Maybe the council changed its mind.

ZORAN
I think not.
(beat)
This is between Ursus and myself.

Inta leads Zoran's horse to him. Zoran mounts, prods his horse into a gallop, riding out of the village, CAMERA PANNING.

ANGLE ON VIRDON, KOVAK AND GALEN
-- watching him go.

GALEN
What now, my friends? Do we take Amy and try to get away?

Virdon nods o.s., reflects:

VIRDON
I'm afraid it's too late for that...

P.O.V. SHOT
-- showing Ursus' men as they completely encircle the village.

BACK TO SCENE

Virdon, Galen and Kovak consider this.

Cont.
VIRDON

(quietly)
It seems our future is in the
hands of the -- Chief Medical Officer...

KOVAK
Watch closely and you may see the
future come to a very quick stop!

GALEN
We're helpless. We can't run
and -- we have no weapons...

VIRDON

We have one.

Virdon turns, strides into the hospital hut. Puzzled, Galen
and Kovak follow.

TRUCKING SHOT

Ursus and his Gorillas move down toward the village.

ANGLE ON KAVA

still lying where we saw him last night. He is calmer, but
still fevered, weak. He rolls over, studies --

HIS P.O.V.

-- Ursus, riding down toward the village.

CLOSE ON KAVA

Confusion touches him -- and regret. He tries to get up,
fails, lies back.

ANGLE ON ZORAN

as he rides to a halt in front of Ursus. Ursus pulls up.
Those Gorillas with him also halt.

URSUS

Stand aside.

ZORAN

It is several hours yet till
noon, Ursus...

URSUS

Stand aside or you will die
with those in the village.

Cont.
ZORAN
The council voted.

URSUS
The council be damned!

ZAIUS
(o.s.)
That is treason, Ursus.

They turn, see --

P.O.V. SHOT

-- Zaius, followed by the council as they prod their horses forward.

ANGLE - THE SCENE

URSUS
Better treason than madness!

ZAIUS
I command you to withdraw,
Ursus!

URSUS
You command?
(nods to his Gorillas)
You have words -- I have weapons.

ORANGUTAN
(wearily)
Perhaps another vote...

OTHERS
Yes -- another vote!

ZAIUS
The vote was taken -- the decision stands!

URSUS
(lifts his weapon)
Remove yourself, old man!

ZAIUS
(quietly)
Would you kill me, Ursus?

URSUS
Before you allow him --
(nods to Zoran)
to kill my men. Yes!
A mutter of approval from the Gorillas, who level their weapons at Zaius and the council. Zoran turns to the Gorillas, addresses them:

**ZORAN**

Listen to me! Ursus doesn't care for you! He thinks first of himself! He would not let me help Kava. He would let Kava die to discredit me.

**URSUS**

(to the Gorillas)

No -- Zoran is the one who thinks only of himself! He could not help Kava -- he could help no one!

**ZAIUS**

(looking o.s.)

It would appear you are misinformed, Ursus.

All eyes turn, look toward the village.

**LONG P.O.V. SHOT**

The sick are walking out of the hospital hut, weak, but improved.

**SLOW PANNING SHOT - ZORAN, URSUS, THE COUNCIL, AND THE GORILLAS**

watching.

**BACK TO LONG P.O.V. SHOT**

The sick start toward them, followed by the healthy of the village.

**CLOSE TRUCKING SHOT**

Amy leads the weak, but definitely improved men, women and children. Inta walks alongside, relieved, smiling.

**INT. HOSPITAL HUT**

Virdon and Kovak stand by a window, watch --

**THEIR P.O.V.**

-- Amy leading the group toward Zoran and the others.
ANGLE ON URSUS AND OTHERS

suddenly off-guard, uncertain.

    URSUS
    It's a trick! A lie!

    KAVA
    (o.s.)
    No!

All eyes shift.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Kava, weak still, fevered, but very much improved, stumbles forward, addresses himself to Zaius.

    KAVA
    Last night -- someone from the village -- came to me -- I was dying.

    URSUS
    Silence! That is an order!

Kava meets Ursus' demand, continues.

    KAVA
    They gave me something to drink -- bitter medicine. Ursus -- you are wrong. The -- medicine made me better. It saved my life.

The Gorillas study Kava, then slowly turn wondering looks on Ursus.

CLOSE ON URSUS

Now he feels his authority -- his power being taken away.

CLOSE ON ZAIUS

He nods, understanding, realizing he has won.

    ZAIUS
    I tell you again, Ursus. Take your troops -- and withdraw -- while you still have them to command.

ANGLE - THE SCENE

Ursus studies the Gorillas, studying him with growing inso- lence. Ursus says nothing, wheels his horse, rides o.s. The Gorillas hesitate, then shoulder their weapons and follow, CAMERA PANING.
Kava turns to Zoran.

KAVA
Would you treat me -- in the
village -- with the others --
till I am better?

Zoran smiles, helps Kava up onto his horse. Then they ride back toward the village. Zaius turns his horse, studies the council members, who are looking a little embarrassed, subdued.

ZAIUS
(with disgust)
How quickly compromise became attractive...

Zaius mounts, rides o.s. Subdued, the council members follow.

EXT. TRION - ESTABLISHING SHOT - DAY

Things are getting back to normal. Men working the fields, women and children in the street.

INT. HOSPITAL HUT

CAMERA TRUCKS with Zoran as he moves down the center aisle, checking the patients, who are much improved. They are eating, smiling, relaxed. Inta is tending a child's needs. Zoran is intrigued -- and pleased. He stops, studies --

P.O.V. SHOT

-- Kovak, Virdon and Galen talking, laughing with Amy at the other end of the room.

CLOSE ON ZORAN

He becomes uneasy, disturbed. He moves toward them.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Amy, Kovak, Virdon and Galen are laughing as Zoran moves in, asks:

ZORAN
I would like to speak to you two a moment...

Zoran turns, exits. Puzzled by Zoran's sober tone, Virdon, Kovak and Galen exchange a wondering glance. Then Virdon and Kovak follow Zoran out, CAMERA PANNING.
ANGEL ON AMY AND GALEN

AMY
Is something wrong?

GALEN
I don't know...

Galen follows them out.

EXT. HOSPITAL HUT - MED. SHOT - DAY

Zoran comes out, followed by Kovak and Virdon.

ZORAN
I -- suppose you'll want to
be leaving soon...

VIRDON
(nods)
Today...

ZORAN
(uneasy)
I'm afraid -- that won't be
possible.

KOVAK
(puzzled)
Why not?

ZORAN
Well -- I can't let you go...

VIRDON
But everything's under control.
You can handle it without us.

ZORAN
No -- you don't understand. I
mean -- I must tell Zaius -- and
the others about you.

Galen comes out in time to overhear this while Virdon and
Kovak exchange worried looks.

ZORAN
You see -- I know who you are...

KOVAK
I don't know what you're talking
about.

Cont.
ZORAN
Please -- . This is difficult
enough. Your knowledge of medicine
-- things the girl said in her
fever. I know you are the two
'astronauts' -- and Galen is
with you...

Kovak and Virdon exchange a look. No point in arguing.

ZORAN
Understand -- I deeply appreciate
-- what you've done here -- what
I have learned from you...

KOVAK
Then how the hell can you turn
us in?

ZORAN
(doggedly)
Because you are fugitives. Zaius
wants you -- and I am loyal to
Zaius.

VIRDON
I thought what we did here --
what we shared here -- meant
something.

ZORAN
(turns)
It does -- it does. But...

KOVAK
But we're a lower species...

Yes...

KOVAK
(dryly)
How come, if we're lower --
we're smarter?

ZORAN
I -- I can't explain that...

GALEN
How will you explain that your
'victory' here -- was really
theirs?

This stops Zoran. Galen steps forward.
GALEN
Or do you intend to take full
credit for yourself?

ZORAN
Well -- I -- have no choice. I
have my -- my position to uphold.

KOVAK
You turn us in -- you think we
won't tell Zaius?

ZORAN
He wouldn't believe you!

GALEN
(calmly)
He'd believe me...

ZORAN
Very well -- I won't turn you
in -- you may leave...

GALEN
Where they go -- I go.

ZORAN
You can't be serious.

Try me...

ZORAN
But -- they are...

GALEN
Yes. I know -- lower species...

Zoran sits down, shaken.

VIRDON
You've got a decision -- your
loyalty -- or your ego.

ZORAN
Ego? I am not familiar with
that word.

KOVAK
How will you feel, Doctor, when
Zaius learns that you were advised
by humans...every move you made...
every word you said.
Zoran considers this, then nods.

ZORAN
I would suggest you leave under
cover of darkness.

Galen, Virdon and Kovak exchange relieved looks.

EXT. VILLAGE - ESTABLISHING SHOT - NIGHT

Things are as usual. Lights are showing from the huts.

EXT. HOSPITAL HUT - MED. SHOT - NIGHT

Galen and Virdon are preparing their backpacks for departure.

INT. HOSPITAL HUT - NIGHT

Virdon moves to Amy's cot, sits down. She studies him, smiles.

AMY
You know -- it's just as bad
the second time -- saying
good-bye, I mean...

VIRDON
You're going to be all right.

AMY
Sure.

An empty, pained moment, then:

VIRDON
Maybe we'll find a way to get
back -- someday, back where we
came from. Maybe -- somehow --
you could come with us...

She studies him, nods, smiles, not really believing.

AMY
Sure -- maybe...
(beat)
Meanwhile -- some of the things
you've told me -- maybe I can
use them -- to make things better
here. That's something --
isn't it?

There is a quiet hope in her voice.
VIRDON
(torn)
Yes, that's something.

He leans over, kisses her forehead.

VIRDON
Good-bye, Amy...

AMY
Good-bye...

Virdon turns and walks quickly away.

EXT. HOSPITAL HUT - LONG SHOT - NIGHT

Virdon joins Galen and Kovak. They put on their backpacks and head o.s.

ANGLE NEAR HOSPITAL HUT

Inta and Zoran watch them go. Zoran finally waves slightly, a small gesture of friendship.

HIS P.O.V.

Kovak, Virdon and Galen do not see -- they are disappearing in shadows.

CLOSE ON ZORAN

Sadly, he lowers his hand, as we:

FADE OUT

THE END