

PLANET OF THE APES

"ESCAPE FROM TOMORROW"

By

Art Wallace

FINAL
June 25, 1974

CAST LIST

ALAN VIRDON

ED ROWAK

GALEN (CHIMP)

URKO (GORILLA)

ZAIUS (ORANGUTAN)

FARROW

VESKA (CHIMP)

ARNO (CHIMP)

ULLMAN

PROTO (ORANGUTAN)

GRUNDIG (CHIMP)

GORILLA #1

GORILLA #2

DOG

SET LIST

INTERIORS:

SPACESHIP
POLICE GARRISON
BOMB SHELTER
ZAIUS' HOUSE
COUNCIL CHAMBER
PRISON CORRIDOR
CELL
SECOND PRISON CELL
URKO'S OFFICE

EXTERIORS:

WOODED AREA
SANDPIT AREA
SPACESHIP
GARRISON BUILDING
BOMB SHELTER
ROAD
CAPITAL CITY (STOCK)
CAMPFIRE SITE
SECOND CAMPING AREA
CENTRAL CITY STREET
ALLEY

"ESCAPE FROM TOMORROW"

ACT ONE

FADE IN

EXT. WOODED AREA - DAY

1

An apparently deserted wooded area...trees, shrubs, the sound of crickets and tree frogs. In the distance, the yelping of a dog, sounding like the cry of a hunting dog on a trail. (The SOUND of the dog yelping will come closer and closer.) CAMERA PANS along through the woods until we reach the figure of a man fast asleep, leaning his back against a tree. His name is FARROW, he is in his late sixties, has an unkempt beard, wears the typical tattered homespun shirt and pants of the area. Farrow is thin, but far from feeble. In fact, he is in quite good physical condition for a man his age. Beside him, a crude pail, partly filled with the berries he had been gathering. CAMERA HOLDS on him as the YELPING of the dog continues to come closer. Gradually, the sound penetrates and he opens his eyes, lies there listening, unmoving. The YELPING is closer and closer. Farrow gradually sits up, to listen more carefully. We can sense a growing tension. The YELPING is quite close now, and now we also hear the sound of a boy's voice.

ARNO'S VOICE

(o.s.)
Get him, dog! Go get him!

Farrow scrambles quickly to his feet, looks around him for safety, his lethargy supplanted with terror. The YELPING is almost upon him now. No time. Suddenly, he rushes for a tree, starts to scramble up it.

ANOTHER ANGLE - FEATURING DOG

2

As a dog rushes out of the woods, YELPING loudly, rushing directly for Farrow.

ARNO'S VOICE

(o.s.)
Get him! Go get him!

The dog charges the tree, but Farrow is safely up in its branches. The dog yelps and barks at the treed old man.

ANGLE SHOOTING UP AT FARROW

3

In the tree, terrified, crouched on a branch, holding onto another branch, looking not much different than a monkey in a tree. He glances off to one side.

FARROW'S P.O.V. - SHOOTING DOWN

as another figure rushes out of the woods towards the barking dog. This is ARNO, a young chimpanzee, probably about ten or eleven years old.

ARNO

What did you find, dog?! What is it?!

ANOTHER ANGLE - ARNO

As he reaches the tree, looks up.

ARNO

(excitedly)

Did you get a...

He breaks off, dismayed, at what he sees.

ARNO'S P.O.V. - FARROW

crouched on the branch, looking down fearfully towards Arno.

ANGLE ON ARNO

Looking up with disappointment towards Farrow.

ARNO

All right, dog. That's enough.

The dog still barks.

ARNO

That's enough, I said!!

The dog stops barking.

ARNO

It's only a human.

(sighs deeply)

Well, we might as well...

He breaks off, startled, at the approach of a ROARING SOUND. He looks up, wonderingly and fearfully, as the sound comes closer. CAMERA HOLDS on him, looking up, startled, and we see the reflection of a flash of light on his face as it passes overhead, lighting the wooded area with its glow. Almost immediately afterwards, there is the sound of a CRASH, a glow lights the area momentarily, and then all is still. Arno is immobilized for an instant, and then reacts. He charges off in the direction of the crash, the dog at his heels.

3

ANGLE ON FARROW 8

He hesitates a moment, and then starts to scramble down the tree.

EXT. ANOTHER SECTION OF WOODS - DAY 9

Arno and his dog charging through the woods towards the crash.

EXT. EDGE OF WOODS NEAR SANDPIT - DAY 10

Arno and the dog rushing up to the edge of the woods. Arno looks out at the sandpit, fascinated and a little frightened.

REVERSE ANGLE - SANDPIT 11

A spaceship is half buried in the sandpit, the vapor still rising around it from the heat of its descent.

ANGLE ON ARNO 12

Staring at the spaceship, he makes a decision.

ARNO

Come on, dog.

He turns and runs back into the woods. CAMERA HOLDS for a beat on the area where he had been standing, then PANS along the edge of the woods to another area, and HOLDS for a beat. Then a head cautiously pokes out of the woods. Farrow.

HIS P.O.V. - THE SPACESHIP 13

The vapor is almost dissipated from around it.

ANGLE ON FARROW 14

Overcome by curiosity, he moves cautiously from the protection of the woods and approaches the spaceship. He moves close to it very warily, reaches out a hand to touch its hull, but fearfully pulls the hand back at the last instant. He gathers his courage again, and once again reaches out, and this time does touch it. No heat. Smiling with excitement now, he moves along the hull, running his hand along it, passing over a small hinged compartment on the hull. He glances back at it, returns to it, examines it, and then lifts the hinged area, revealing a small lever in the recess. Farrow looks at the lever for a long moment, then pulls it. He immediately hears a CRACKLING SOUND. Terrified, he turns and runs.

ANOTHER ANGLE

15

as Farrow runs from the spaceship. He only runs a short distance, when his curiosity overcomes his fear, and he stops, glances back at the ship.

HIS P.O.V. - THE SPACESHIP

16

The CRACKLING SOUND continues, and gradually a hinged section of the hull slowly comes down, a doorway to the inside of the ship, the hinged section forming a runway into the ship.

ANGLE ON FARROW

17

Overwhelmed with curiosity now, he moves slowly towards the ramp, climbs it, and with great caution, starts into the ship.

INT. SPACESHIP - DAY

18

As Farrow appears in the doorway, stops for an instant, looking around, awed and fascinated.

HIS P.O.V.

19

The mass of dials and instruments that form the controls. The power has not totally dissipated, and some indicator lights are occasionally blinking on and off...red and green... giving an eerie aura to the atmosphere. There are three control contour seats, heavily padded and an astronaut is strapped into each of them with webbing...JONES, VIRDON, ROWAK. Virdon and Rowak are slumped in their webbing, unconscious. Jones lies in his webbing, his head at an odd angle, his eyes wide open in death.

ANGLE ON FARROW

20

He moves slowly and cautiously into the ship, eyeing the astronauts and the blinking panel lights. He moves closer to one of the panels, studies it. With a monkey's curiosity, he reaches out, moves one of the levers. A spark flies with a crackling sound, and Farrow jumps back in fear. Then he approaches Jones, examines him, tries to listen to a heartbeat. There is no doubt but that Jones is dead. He looks at Jones sadly, then crosses to Virdon, listens to his heartbeat. Farrow smiles.

EXT. GARRISON BUILDING - DAY

21

This is the building housing the Gorilla garrison of the village of Chalo. A group of villagers, all human...men, women, children...are gathered outside the building murmuring to each other, occasionally glancing fearfully at the sky. A GORILLA stands before the building, rifle in hand, keeping the crowd from moving forward.

INT. GARRISON BUILDING - DAY

22

VESKA, a chimpanzee, Prefect of the village, is talking to Arno, who is still excited. Also standing with Veska is TURVO, a Gorilla, Lieutenant of the Garrison. In the b.g. can be seen a number of Gorillas, part of the garrison... polishing their boots, doing housekeeping chores, cleaning rifles, etc.

VESKA

We saw it, too. You sure you know where it landed?

ARNO

Yes, father. I can take you there.

VESKA

(to Turvo)

Bring two of your soldiers.

INT. SPACESHIP - DAY

23

Jones is still inert in his webbing. Rowak is no longer in sight, the webbing around his body lying loose where it had been untied. Farrow is just finishing untying the last bit of webbing from Virdon, who is still unconscious. Struggling mightily, he manages to get Virdon over his shoulder. Staggering under the weight, Farrow crosses to the open doorway.

EXT. SPACESHIP - DAY

24

As Farrow emerges from the ship and comes down from the ramp with Virdon over his shoulder. He reaches the ground when we hear, from some distance away, the SOUND of GALLOPING HORSES. They will come closer and closer. Farrow doesn't hear it at first. Then he does, reacts in fear, and rushes with his burden towards the shelter of the woods, as the GALLOPING comes ever closer.

ANGLE ON FARROW

25

In the woods, stumbling, falling to the ground, with Virdon's body falling to the ground beside him. We can see Rowak's unconscious body nearby. Farrow scrabbles around so he can see towards the direction of the spaceship.

HIS P.O.V. - AREA OF SPACESHIP

26

Four horses ride into the area, and pull to a halt not far from the spaceship. Vesko is on one of the horses, Arno also up on the horse, holding the Prefect around the waist. Turvo is on one of the other horses, a Gorilla soldier on each of the others. Each Gorilla is armed with a rifle. They pull to a halt, stare fearfully at the spaceship.

Cont.

TURVO
 (with awe)
 What is it?

VESKA
 I don't know...

TURVO
 (to the other
 Gorillas)
 Keep your guns ready.

He starts to dismount, as does Veska.

ANGLE ON FARROW

27

Watching fearfully. Quickly he turns now, hurries to Rowak, grabs his body under the arms and starts tugging it away from the area.

ANGLE ON AREA OF SPACESHIP

28

They have all dismounted. The two Gorillas are standing with their guns ready. Veska and Turvo still eying the ship with concern.

VESKA
 (not too happy
 about this)
 I suppose we'll have to go in.

ARNO
 Can I go, too?

VESKA
 No.

ARNO
 But I found it, didn't I?!

VESKA
 I said no!
 (to Turvo)
 Come on.

He moves towards the entrance, followed by Turvo. The other two Gorillas hold their weapons ready, while Arno stands by, sulking. Veska and Turvo EXIT up the ramp and into the spaceship.

ANGLE ON VIRDON

29

Lying in the underbrush alone, still unconscious. After a beat, Farrow scuttles up to him, breathing heavily, grabs Virdon under the arms, starts to tug him away.

INT. SPACESHIP - DAY

30

Turvo is looking around with fascination and awe at the interior of the spaceship, as Veska studies the body of Jones, still in his webbing. Turvo reaches out, touches a piece of equipment with interest.

VESKA

He's dead.

ARNO'S VOICE

(o.s.)
It's a human!

ANOTHER ANGLE

31

as Veska and Turvo turn towards the entrance, where Arno is standing excitedly.

VESKA

I thought I told you to stay outside.

Arno ignores that, crosses excitedly to the other two contour seats.

ARNO

And look. There were two more of them. Where do you think they are?

TURVO

We'll find them.

VESKA

You're not to say a word about this.

ARNO

Why not, father? It's so exciting. It's so...

VESKA

(overriding sharply)
It's dangerous. Humans know their place, and that mustn't change! If they ever learn that other humans were able to build and fly a machine like this, they'll begin to think they're as good as we are.

ARNO

But, father...look...These humans
must be better than we are.

Veska slaps him hard across the face.

VESKA

Don't you ever say that again!
Don't you ever think it!

(to Turvo)

I want this body buried at once.

EXT. BOMB SHELTER - DAY

32

This is a wooded area, overgrown with shrubbery. Lying on the ground, unconscious, near a particularly overgrown spot, is Virdon. After a beat, the shrubbery stirs, then is parted by Farrow, who emerges, grabs Virdon, starts to drag him towards the shrubbery. Farrow pulls the shrubbery aside, revealing a rotting but still serviceable door, which is ajar. He drags Virdon towards the door.

INT. BOMB SHELTER - DAY

33

as Farrow ENTERS, dragging Virdon. On the floor, stretched out, is Rowak. The bomb shelter is very old, a survival of many hundreds of years ago...the concrete walls cracked, patched here and there with rocks and bricks. A straw mat on the floor, a container with water, and a few pieces of fruit. A couple of candles supplement the natural light. Farrow places Virdon's body gently beside that of Rowak. Then he goes to the water container, picks up a piece of cloth, dips it into the water, returns to the Astronauts, starts gently to cool their faces with the wet cloth. There is a great sense of concern and gentleness about Farrow as he does this.

EXT. AREA NEAR SPACESHIP - DAY

34

Turvo is mounted on his horse. Veska is just handing him a note. The other two Gorillas, as well as Arno, stand nearby.

VESKA

If you ride fast, you should reach
Central City by tomorrow morning.
Give this message to Chief Councillor
Zaius. Hurry.

Turvo wheels his horse around, gallops off.

VESKA

(watching him go)

I want a thorough search for the
other two humans.

INT. BOMB SHELTER - DAY

35

Rowak and Virdon lying as before. Farrow is sitting against the opposite wall, watching them always. Virdon stirs and moans. Farrow rises immediately, crosses quickly to him, bends down beside him to listen.

VIRDON

(moaning, eyes
still closed)

Quickly...Emergency Homing...

quickly...Watch out...

(sits up suddenly,
eyes wide open but
unseeing, almost a
scream)

Watch out!!!

(subsiding back
down, eyes closing
again)

...watch...out...

He lies quietly. Farrow watches him.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

36

Turvo on his horse, galloping along the deserted road on his way to Central City.

EXT. WOODED AREA - DAY

37

The Two Gorillas moving through the woods, looking for the Astronauts. CAMERA PANS with them as they pass a thicket in the f.g., HOLDS on the thicket as they move o.s. The thicket moves slightly and now we see Farrow, cradling some strange looking fruits in his arms, as he emerges cautiously from the thicket, watches the Gorillas move off, then quickly scurries away in the opposite direction.

INT. BOMB SHELTER - CLOSE SHOT - ROWAK - DAY

38

Rowak is lying where he had been, eyes closed. His eyes flicker, then open slowly, unfocused.

ROWAK'S P.O.V. - VIRDON

39

Virdon is kneeling down beside Rowak, smiling at him, although this SHOT is blurred, out of focus, indistinguishable.

ANGLE ON ROWAK

40

His vision clears.

P.O.V. SHOT - VIRDON

The image clears, and now we see that it is Virdon, smiling down at Rowak.

VIRDON

No bones broken. I checked.

ANOTHER ANGLE

as Rowak tries to sit up, puts his hand to his head and moans in sudden pain.

VIRDON

You have to take it slowly.

ROWAK

(sinking back
down again)

Oh, do I.

(glances around
blearily)

How did we get here? What is
this place?

VIRDON

I don't know yet. I just got
on my feet.

ROWAK

Where's Jonesy?

VIRDON

Don't know that either.

(puts an arm behind
Rowak's shoulder)

Okay, let's try it again.

Slowly and painfully, aided by Virdon, Rowak sits up.

ROWAK

(wincing with the
pain)

Like a hangover without the pleasure
of the booze. -- You know I can't
even remember what happened.

VIRDON

We were approaching Alpha Centauri.
Radioactive turbulence. We lost
control. I told Jonesy to activate
the Automatic Homing Device.

Cont.

ROWAK

Did he do it?

VIRDON

We landed somewhere. It could
be Earth.

ROWAK

Or any one of a thousand other
planets in the...

VIRDON

(hears something
outside, interrupts)

Hold it.

(listens for a beat)

Something's coming. Stay put.

Virдон glances around, finds a piece of broken masonry, picks it up to use as a weapon, then moves quickly to the entrance, stations himself against the wall alongside the door and waits. Rowak stays where he is, watching tensely. The door starts to open. Virдон raises the piece of masonry, ready to strike, then lowers it in amazement as Farrow ENTERS, carrying the fruit he had gathered. He glances from Rowak to Virдон.

FARROW

I brought you something to eat.

Rowak and Virдон glance at each other, startled.

FARROW

(trying to reassure
them)

Food. Food.

VIRDON

Who are you?

FARROW

Farrow. This is for eating.

Virдон hurries to him now, the words tumbling out in rapid excitement.

VIRDON

Where are we? How did we get
here? We're on Earth, aren't we?

ROWAK

Take it slow, Alan. Give him
a chance.

VIRDON
This is Earth, isn't it?

FARROW
(puzzled)
Earth? What is Earth?

VIRDON
What's the name of this planet?

FARROW
(puzzled)
This is my secret cave. It
has no name.

ROWAK
There was another man with us.
What happened to him?

FARROW
He was dead.

VIRDON
Are you sure?

FARROW
(nods)
I know when a man is dead.

Viridon glances at Rowak, shakes his head sadly.

VIRDON
Poor Jonesy. He had a wife
and kid.

ROWAK
So do you. And you're just
about as far from them as he is.

Rowak takes a piece of fruit.

VIRDON
Maybe not.

ROWAK
Come on, Alan. Look at this fruit.
Ever see anything like this? And
this place. Know what it looks
like? A bomb shelter. Maybe a
couple hundred years old. Well,
they didn't have bomb shelters
on Earth a couple of hundred years
ago.

Cont.

VIRDON

I know, but...

He falters. There isn't much he can say. Farrow has been watching this discussion, looking from one to the other.

VIRDON

(to Farrow)

Is our ship far from here?

FARROW

No.

VIRDON

Can you take us there?

FARROW

It wouldn't be safe, dressed like that.

(grins suddenly)

But we'll fool them. I'll go to Chalo and get you some different clothes.

He rises and starts towards the door.

ROWAK

What's Chalo?

FARROW

(looking at him as though Rowak ought to know)

Chalo. The village where humans are supposed to live.

Viridon and Rowak glance at each other, really puzzled now.

FARROW

But I don't like the new Prefect, so I stay here most of the time.

(with a touch of pride)

I found this cave two years ago. I never told anyone. You'll be safe here.

He opens the door.

ROWAK

(frustrated now)

Safe? From what?

Cont.

FARROW

The apes, of course. I'll be
back as soon as I can.

He EXITS quickly. Rowak and Virdon glance at each other,
totally confused now.

VIRDON

Apes...????

ROWAK

(flatly)
That's what the man said.

OUT 43

EXT. GARRISON BUILDING - DAY

44

Veska is in front of the building, addressing a group of
humans gathered below.

VESKA

These two humans are strangers
and they are insane.

ANOTHER ANGLE - FEATURING FARROW

45

Farrow is in the crowd of humans, carrying a bundle of
clothing under his arm.

VESKA

They will try to confuse you with
their foolish stories, so tell us
if you see them. They are very
dangerous.

INT. BOMB SHELTER - DAY

46

Virdon and Rowak, both seated on the floor, backs against
a wall, each lost in his own thoughts.

ROWAK

(after a beat,
bitterly)
Stars...

VIRDON

Hm?

Cont.

ROWAK

I was thinking. When I was a kid in Jersey City, I could never ever see the stars. They seemed so far away. But I used to dream of being up there with them.

(ruefully)

I sure got my dream, didn't I? Ed Rowak, marooned in an ancient bomb shelter.

(sudden grin)

Well, I can think of a few gals who'll miss me, anyhow.

VIRDON

We'll get home. Somehow.

ROWAK

Come off it, Alan. This is home from now on, and you know it.

(gets to his feet)

And I think I want to see what it looks like.

He crosses towards the door.

VIRDON

(scrambling to his feet)

Ed. You heard the old man.

ROWAK

(grins at him)

Sure. Apes.

He opens the door and EXITS. Viridon has no choice but to follow.

EXT. BOMB SHELTER - DAY

47

as Rowak emerges from the bushes hiding the entrance to the shelter. Viridon follows. They both look around, fascinated.

ROWAK

Amazing, isn't it?

VIRDON

(nods)

Just like Earth.

Rowak walks off. Viridon follows.

EXT. WOODED AREA - DAY

as Rowak pushes through the wooded area, looking around. There is a bird sound. He stops and listens as Virdon comes up beside him.

ROWAK

Listen. A wood thrush.

(listens for a beat)

We could've landed on a worse place, I'll tell you that.

Suddenly a SHOT rings out, and a bullet hits into a tree near them. Startled, they turn towards the sound.

THEIR P.O.V.

Some distance away, a couple of GORILLAS, armed with rifles. One of them has just fired.

ANGLE ON ROWAK AND VIRDON

Startled, they turn and run, as the Gorillas fire again.

GORILLAS' VOICES

(o.s.)
Stop! Stop!

THE CHASE

Rowak and Virdon running, running...the Gorillas in pursuit. Depending upon terrain, they dodge in and out of trees, up and down gullies, constantly widening the distance between them and the Gorillas.

ANGLE ON ROWAK AND VIRDON

As in desperation they dive into a thicket, hug the ground, lying still.

ANGLE ON THE GORILLAS

Rifles in hand, moving towards them.

ANGLE ON ROWAK AND VIRDON

Hugging the ground, almost holding their breath, as we see the legs of the Gorillas walking by, pausing nearby.

GORILLA'S VOICE

(o.s.)
They won't get far.

We see the Gorillas' legs as they move off. CAMERA HOLDS on Virdon and Rowak. They wait until the Gorillas are gone, then they move cautiously out of the thicket...then run.

INT. BOMB SHELTER - DAY

As the door is opened and Virdon and Rowak rush in, out of breath, close the door quickly behind them.

ROWAK
(breathing heavily)
They were apes, weren't they?

VIRDON
(nods)
Gorillas.

ROWAK
What kind of planet is this?

They stare at each other.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

EXT. CENTRAL CITY - DAY (STOCK) 56

Apes of all kinds moving through the streets busily. There are occasional humans, who are obviously laborers or servants.

OUT 57

INT. ZAIUS' ENTRANCE HALL - DAY 58

Turvo standing and waiting. ULLMAN has the message in his hand.

ULLMAN

I'll see if my master has an answer for you.

Ullman crosses to the closed door to Zaius' study, knocks, opens the door.

INT. ZAIUS' STUDY - DAY 59

as Ullman ENTERS, carrying the message. It's a rather austere room, desk, several chairs, a glass-fronted cabinet in which are some interesting appearing objects, some of which might be artifacts of various kinds, including a small metal box. Present in the room are ZAIUS, an orangutan in his mid-fifties, and a chimpanzee in his mid-twenties, GALEN. Zaius is in the midst of a conversation when Ullman ENTERS, and...at first...pays no attention to Ullman as he continues his line of thought.

ZAIUS

You are bright and amusing, Galen, but is that reason enough for me to accept you as my assistant?

GALEN

I have one other qualification, Councillor Zaius.

Zaius glances at him questioningly.

GALEN

My father's an old friend of yours. And you owe him a favor.

Zaius stares at Galen for a moment, then bursts into appreciative laughter.

Cont.

ZAIUS

Are you always so direct?

GALEN

Only with those I respect.

Zaius grunts, then glances at Ullman, acknowledging his presence for the first time.

ZAIUS

Yes?

ULLMAN

A message, sir, from the Prefect of Chalo.

ZAIUS

(puzzled)
...Chalo...?

GALEN

A small human settlement, about thirty hours south of here.

Zaius glances at him quizzically; Galen smiles ingratiatingly.

GALEN

The Prefect is a second cousin on my mother's side.

ZAIUS

I see.

Still glancing at Galen quizzically, Zaius holds out his hand for the message. Ullman hands it to him, EXITS.

ZAIUS

(as he opens the message)
Do you have friends everywhere?

GALEN

I try, sir.

ZAIUS

(smiling, glancing at message)
You're not only amusing. You're...

He breaks off, the smile fading from his face as he reads the message.

Cont.

ZAIUS
(stunned)
It's not possible...

GALEN
(watching him)
What, sir?

Zaius silently hands him the message, turns and stares at the contents of the glass-fronted cabinet, as Galen reads the message.

ZAIUS
(staring at
cabinet)
Did you ever have a recurring
nightmare? No matter how
swiftly you try to escape
destruction, it always reappears
directly in front of you?

GALEN
(puzzled)
I don't understand. Humans are
servants, laborers. Not technicians.
This message is fantasy.

ZAIUS
(bursting out
angrily)
Destruction is not fantasy, Galen.

Galen stares at him, startled at the outburst. Zaius crosses to him, snatches the message from his hand.

ZAIUS
Come with me. You have a great
deal to learn.

Zaius strides out of the room. Galen stares after him for a beat, then follows.

INT. BOMB SHELTER - DAY

60

Farrow is watching, the Astronaut suits on the floor near him. Viridon and Rowak are just finishing changing into clothes similar to those worn by the human villagers.

ROWAK
Are the apes in control all
over the planet?

Cont.

FARROW
I don't understand.

VIRDON
What he wants to know is who
runs the government.

FARROW
The Prefect.

VIRDON
Not just in the village. The
main government.

FARROW
Oh. You mean the High Council.
But they're very important -- A
messenger was sent to the High Council
about you. I heard about it.

ROWAK
Are there any humans on the
High Council?

FARROW
(looking at him like
he's an idiot)
How could humans be on the
High Council? Humans are nothing.
They've always been nothing.
(with a sly grin)
Except in story books.

ROWAK
Always?

FARROW
What other way is there? The
apes are so much smarter than we are.
Except for you, I guess. You're
different. That's why they're
looking for you.

VIRDON
What will they do if they find us?

FARROW
(shrugs)
Kill you. They kill humans
all the time.

Cont.

ROWAK
 (flatly, to Virdon)
 We sure landed on a great little
 world.

FARROW
 They'd kill me, if they knew I
 had the story book.

VIRDON
 What story book?

Farrow glances from one to the other, then turns to the wall, starts to pull away some loose bricks, revealing a hiding place.

FARROW
 I found it in this cave. I found
 a lot of books. But I couldn't
 read what they say, so I used
 them for fire. But I kept this
 one because it has pictures, and
 I like to look at them.
 (reaches in, and
 pulls out a
 tattered book)
 Even if they are only stories.

Rowak reaches for it.

FARROW
 Careful. It's very old.

ROWAK
 (taking the book)
 Don't worry. I'll be...
 (breaks off as he
 looks at a picture)
 My God! Alan, my God!

Virдон stares at him. Speechless now, Rowak holds out the book. Virдон takes it, looks at the picture, stares at Rowak. Then he stares once again, stunned, at the book.

INSERT - BOOK

61

We are CLOSE on what is undeniably a photograph of the New York City skyline. CAMERA MOVES IN CLOSER AND CLOSER to the legend beneath the picture, and HOLDS. It reads:
 NEW YORK CITY.

ANGLE ON ROWAK AND VIRDON

Virdon staring at the book, Rowak looking helplessly at Virdon.

ROWAK

We can't go home, Alan.

Virdon glances at him.

ROWAK

We're on Earth. We're there already.

INT. URKO'S OFFICE - ANGLE ON URKO - DAY

URKO, a Gorilla, is Chief of Security. He is reading the message, and is incredulous as he does so.

URKO

Another ship, Zaius?! It's hard to believe.

ANGLE WIDENS to include Zaius and Galen, who is standing to one side.

ZAIUS

Can the Chief of Security afford not to believe it?

URKO

How reliable is this Prefect? Do you know him?

ZAIUS

Galen does.

GALEN

I don't believe any of it. I mean, how could humans build or run such a machine? Why, we can't even do it.

URKO

Who is this fool, Zaius?

ZAIUS

Galen's going to be my assistant.
(glancing at Galen)
Maybe.

(to Urko)

There were three humans, Urko. One is dead. The other two are still at large. They must be found...and quickly.

Cont.

URKO

Yes. And killed.

ZAIUS

No! Brought back! Questioned
by the High Council!

URKO

This is an infection, Zaius!
One doesn't question it! One
wipes it out, as we did before!

ZAIUS

Not until we question its source!
(to Galen)
More than ten years ago, another
such ship landed. Humans. They
said they were from Earth...but
from another time period...long ago.

GALEN

I...heard stories like that, but
I always thought they were stories.
I never dreamed it really happened.

ZAIUS

That's what we wanted everyone
to think. There were such humans,
Galen, and they called themselves...
what was the word, Urko?

URKO

(like an epithet)
As-tro-nauts.

ZAIUS

(repeating the
unfamiliar word)
As-tro-nauts.

GALEN

(trying it out)
As-tro-nauts. -- What were
they like, Zaius?

ZAIUS

They had greater knowledge and
capabilities than our humans.
(a beat for emphasis)
And they had feelings of independence
and freedom.

Cont.

GALEN

Humans?? That's fascinating.

ZAIUS

Not fascinating, Galen! Unlawful!
And they would have encouraged our
humans to be equally unlawful.

URKO

But the danger was eliminated.
They were killed.

ZAIUS

(directly to Urko,
an accusation)
Before they could be questioned.

URKO

My job is protection, not the
gathering of useless information.

ZAIUS

No information is useless. We have
to learn how they think, Urko...what
makes them different from the humans
we know. Once we learn how to deal
with them, and any others that may
be coming...then they can be killed.

EXT. CENTRAL CITY STREET - DAY

64

Zaius and Galen, walking, talking as they go.

ZAIUS

I want you to go along with Urko
as my representative.

GALEN

Me, sir?

ZAIUS

(faint smile)
You might even have a chance to
visit your second cousin on your
mother's side.

GALEN

To tell you the truth, sir, I
never really liked him much.

Cont.

ZAIUS

(smile gone, all
business now)

You will go with Urko, and you will see that nothing 'unexpected' happens to these as-tro-nauts. I want them alive for now.

GALEN

It's a shame they have to be killed at all. They sound so interesting.

OUT 65-
68

EXT. ROAD - DAY 69

Urko's party en route. Urko, Galen beside him, five additional GORILLAS, all on horseback, riding along.

CLOSER ANGLE - URKO AND GALEN 70

Urko glances at Galen with ill-concealed dislike. Galen forces an amicable smile. Urko doesn't respond, turns and stares straight ahead. Galen watches him worriedly.

FULL SHOT 71

as the party moves along.

EXT. BOMB SHELTER - NIGHT 72

It is a quiet moonlit night. Somewhere, an owl hoots.

INT. BOMB SHELTER - ANGLE ON FARROW - NIGHT 73

Farrow is fast asleep on the floor, his book clutched in his arms. CAMERA PANS across to Rowak, on the floor, eyes closed. Nearby is Virdon, on the floor, eyes open, staring up at the ceiling.

VIRDON

Ed...you awake?

ROWAK

Yeah.

VIRDON

We must've gone through a time warp.

Cont.

ROWAK

Yeah...

VIRDON

We could be five hundred years
in the future. Five thousand.

Rowak grunts.

VIRDON

Everyone's dead. My wife...
my son...everyone.

Rowak opens his eyes, glances at him.

ROWAK

Alan, there's nothing you can
do about it. He said he'd take us
to the ship in the morning. If
the chronometer's still working,
we'll know what year it is.

VIRDON

What happened to humanity?

ROWAK

Go to sleep, Alan.

Rowak turns back, closes his eyes again. Virdon lies
quietly in silent torment. CAMERA MOVES IN FOR TIGHT
CLOSE SHOT of Virdon. We see there are tears in his eyes.

VIRDON

(low, anguished)
What did we do to ourselves?

CAMERA HOLDS on him for a beat.

MATCH DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CAMFIRE SITE - CLOSE SHOT - GALEN - NIGHT 74

Galen is sitting on the ground, his back against a tree,
his features lit by the embers of a dying campfire, lost
in thought. CAMERA HOLDS for a beat.

URKO'S VOICE

(o.s.)
The errand boy is worried.

Galen glances up over his shoulder.

ANOTHER ANGLE

75

Urko is standing behind him, a contemptuous smile on his lips.

URKO

Aren't you?

Galen turns to stare at the embers again.

GALEN

(shakes head)

No. Confused. I always thought humans were unimportant animals.

URKO

And they are. Get some sleep. I want to get an early start in the morning.

He turns abruptly and strides o.s., leaving Galen alone with his thoughts.

EXT. BOMB SHELTER - DAY

76

Rowak, Virdon and Farrow emerge from the bomb shelter, Farrow carrying his book.

FARROW

This way.

He starts off. They follow.

EXT. WOODED AREA - DAY

77

as Farrow leads Virdon and Rowak through the woods.

FARROW

It's not far.

VIRDON

Why the book?

FARROW

You don't expect me to leave it behind, do you?

ROWAK

Wait a minute! The apes aren't looking for you. You don't have to go with us.

Cont.

FARROW
 (simply)
 We're friends, aren't we?
 -- Come.

He starts off again. Virdon and Rowak glance at each other, shrug, follow.

EXT. AREA NEAR SPACESHIP - DAY 78

The edge of the wooded area near the sandpit where the spaceship fell. Farrow moves through cautiously to the edge of the wooded area, motioning for Virdon and Kovak to be quiet and careful. They join him at the edge, look out towards the spaceship.

THEIR P.O.V. - THE SPACESHIP 79

An armed GORILLA on guard near the open door of the ship.

ANGLE ON VIRDON, ROWAK AND FARROW 80

Watching. Farrow puts the book in a sack he carries over his shoulder.

FARROW
 I'll get rid of him.

And before they can protest, he rises, and rushes out towards the Gorilla.

THEIR P.O.V. - GORILLA AND FARROW 81

as the Gorilla raises his rifle, points it at Farrow.

GORILLA
 Halt!

FARROW
 The two humans! I just saw them!
 Running off that way!
 (pointing off to
 one side)
 Come on! Quick! I'll show you!

Farrow starts to rush off to one side. The Gorilla stands there, not knowing what to do.

FARROW
 Come on! The two humans! You
 can catch them!

Farrow charges off. The Gorilla hesitates, then follows, both disappearing into the woods off to one side.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND ROWAK

As soon as the Gorilla and Farrow are out of sight, Virdon and Rowak rise and race across towards the spaceship, charge up the ramp.

INT. SPACESHIP - DAY

as Virdon and Rowak ENTER, slow down, look around in dismay at a scene of utter destruction. Everything that could be ripped from the walls is gone. What hasn't been removed has been shattered and tossed in a jumble on the floor.

Rowak hurries to the chronometer, clears some debris from it.

ROWAK

The year three thousand eighty-five.
More than a thousand years in the
future.

VIRDON

(flatly)
Marvelous.

Virdon looks through the scattered stuff on the floor, trying to find something useful.

ROWAK

(examining chronometer)
Maybe further. That's when it
stopped working.

VIRDON

We'll find a way to...

He breaks off as he sees something in the debris on the floor, bends down and picks up a photograph, looks at it longingly.

INSERT - PHOTOGRAPH

It is a photo of Virdon, his wife and son. (Later to be used in "THE LEGACY").

BACK TO SCENE

At that instant, the SOUND of a shot outside, some distance away. They both react.

VIRDON

Come on!

He puts the photo in his pocket and races for the door, followed by Rowak.

31

EXT. SPACESHIP - DAY 86

as Virdon and Rowak come racing out.

ANOTHER ANGLE 87

Farrow comes stumbling out of the woods into the clearing, obviously shot, blood on his chest. He collapses on the ground, his book falling part way out of the sack. They rush to him.

CLOSE ANGLE - FARROW 88

as Virdon and Rowak bend down beside him. Farrow is still conscious, but quite weak.

VIRDON

Farrow...

FARROW

Run...hurry...

Virdon and Rowak hear a sound behind them, like the click of a rifle bolt being drawn back. They whirl, startled at what they see.

THEIR P.O.V. 89

A line of rifles pointed in their direction, held in the hands of Urko's gorillas. Urko and Galen, still on horseback, watching.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND ROWAK 90

They glance at each other, know they are trapped.

ANGLE ON GALEN 91

studying them with interest.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN

EXT. AREA OF SPACESHIP - ANGLE ON FARROW - DAY 92

Farrow lying on the ground, barely conscious, the book still part way out of the sack. ANGLE UP with Farrow in the f.g. Two Gorillas are putting the finishing touches on tying Virдон and Rowak, each to a separate horse. Galen is standing by watching as Urko crosses towards the two Gorillas who are tying Virдон and Rowak.

CLOSER ANGLE - VIRDON AND ROWAK 93

as Urko approaches. Rowak twists to glance towards Farrow.

ROWAK

You going to leave the old man here like that?

URKO

(ignoring him, to one of the Gorillas)
Finish quickly. We have a long way to go.

ROWAK

Didn't you hear me? He'll die!
You can't...

Urko whirls and hits Rowak hard, almost knocking him unconscious.

URKO

I can do what I want, human!

ANGLE ON GALEN 94

watching this exchange, fascinated by the independent attitude of the Astronauts.

ANOTHER ANGLE A-94

ROWAK

The old man tried to save our lives. You can't let him just...

URKO

(overriding, hard)
I'm tired of listening to you, human!

He pulls out his gun, points it at Rowak.

Cont.

GALEN

Urko! No!

Urko glares at Rowak, then at Galen, then puts his gun away.

URKO

Let's get ready to move out.

He crosses towards his horse.

VIRDON

(to Galen)

Will you see about our friend?

Galen studies Virdon for a moment, glances at Rowak, then turns and crosses to Farrow, bends down beside him, glances up at Virdon.

GALEN

He's dead.

URKO

All right! Let's go!

Urko mounts his horse, moves forward. The others follow as Galen stands there by Farrow's body, watching Virdon and Rowak with interest. He is then about to cross to his horse, when something on the ground catches his eye. Farrow's book. He picks it up, glances at it with interest, keeps it as he mounts his horse.

FULL SHOT

B-94

as the entire group moves off.

EXT. CAMPING AREA - CLOSE SHOT - PHOTOGRAPH -
NIGHT

95

It is a photograph of Paris in Farrow's book. CAMERA PULLS BACK slightly to reveal that Galen is seated on a rock, looking at the book with great interest. The entourage has broken their journey for the night, and camp has been set up. Galen turns the pages until he comes to another photograph. The book is obviously a schoolbook for Grammar School. He reacts with great interest to this photograph.

INSERT - PHOTOGRAPH

96

It is a photograph of a man in the cockpit of an airplane, smiling and waving gaily at the camera. The page turns to another photograph, this one of a factory assembly line with many men working on the intricate manufacturing process.

ANGLE ON GALEN

97

looking with interest at the photograph, then off to one side.

GALEN'S P.O.V. - VIRDON AND ROWAK

98

Viridon and Rowak are some distance away, on the ground, their feet bound, their hands bound behind their backs, guarded by a Gorilla.

ANGLE ON GALEN

99

looking at them, then at the book again. He flips past a few more photographs, and then one really startles him.

INSERT - PHOTOGRAPH

100

It is a photograph of a zoo, featuring a Gorilla behind the bars of a cage.

ANGLE ON GALEN

101

really troubled as he looks at the photograph, then glances up in a direction away from Viridon and Rowak.

GALEN'S P.O.V. - URKO

102

as Urko comes out of the darkness of the woods, crosses towards some soldiers, confers with them.

ANGLE ON GALEN

103

He glances from Urko to the picture in the book, and then to Urko again. Galen is obviously very troubled. He glances towards Viridon and Rowak, back to the book again, makes a decision; closes the book, and starts to put it into his pack.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND ROWAK

104

seated on the ground, side by side, the Gorilla Guard a few feet away to one side. Viridon seems to be concentrating on something he is doing with his hands behind his back.

ROWAK

(softly)
How's it going?

VIRDON

A few seconds.

CLOSE SHOT - VIRDON'S HANDS

105

his hands tied behind his back. He is rubbing them against the sharp edge of a rock. The rope is frayed...almost cut through.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND ROWAK 106

as Virdon continues to work on his tied hands. Rowak glances around warily, watching the Gorilla Guard.

ANGLE ON VIRDON'S HANDS 107

as Virdon breaks through the rope. His hands are free.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND ROWAK 108

VIRDON

Move around.

ROWAK

(looking off)

Uh-uh. Trouble.

Virdon glances off in that direction.

ANOTHER ANGLE 109

Galen is approaching, gets near them, crouches down, glancing from one to the other, studying them both. Virdon and Rowak, of course, are anxious for him to leave. Galen says nothing.

ROWAK

(finally)

Hi.

GALEN

You could have been killed, you know, worrying about that old human.

ROWAK

He was a friend.

GALEN

Is a friend that important to you?

VIRDON

Yes.

GALEN

You're very unusual...for humans.

VIRDON

We're also tired. We'd like to get some sleep.

ROWAK

(yawning)

Yeah. Real tired.

Cont.

Galen glances from one to the other, rises to leave. Rowak and Virdon steal a glance of relief. But then Galen turns back to them again.

GALEN

Is it true you're from this world,
but from another time?

VIRDON

(impatient and
frustrated)

Yes.

GALEN

How is that possible?

VIRDON

It happened. That's all we know. --
Look, could we talk some other time.
Tomorrow, maybe.

GALEN

I found a book near your ship,
there were pictures...humans
building things and running
strange machines...

VIRDON

They did.

GALEN

That book is not true.

ROWAK

It is. Humans built great cities...
built machines that swam under the
sea, through the air...

GALEN

And you kept apes in cages??
Why?

VIRDON

Apes were wild animals in those
days. They weren't as intelligent
as you.

GALEN

None of that is true.

ROWAK

Sorry, buster. It is.

Cont.

GALEN

I say it is not! It is all a lie! Apes have always ruled the world! Always!

He rises, very tense, turns to walk away, then turns back again, speaks sharply to the Gorilla Guard:

GALEN

Check their ropes. Make sure they can't escape.

He turns and walks away, leaving Viridon and Rowak dismayed as the Guard bends over them.

INT. ZAIUS' STUDY - ANGLE ON GLASS-FRONTED CABINET - DAY 110

A key is being fitted into the lock on the cabinet door. ANGLE WIDENS to reveal Ullman unlocking the cabinet door, Urko standing by.

ULLMAN

My master will be angry at me for letting you have this.

URKO

(menacingly)
I will be angrier if you don't.

As soon as the door is opened, Urko reaches in and extracts a small metal box, opens it.

INSERT - BOX 111

In the box, nestled in protective padding, are two round objects, exactly alike, both the approximate size of golf balls, studded with controls, protrusions, and settings. They are small grenades. The box had obviously originally held three of them.

ANGLE ON URKO 112

He removes one of the small bombs from the box, closes the box, returns the box to the cabinet.

INT. COUNCIL ROOM - ANGLE ON VIRDON AND ROWAK - DAY A-112

Hands bound behind their backs, the Astronauts stand in the Council Room.

URKO'S VOICE

(o.s.)
Enemies of the State must be put to death!

ANOTHER ANGLE

B-112

revealing the Council in session. Zaius, Urko and Galen standing behind Zaius' chair, watching with intense interest, PROTO (an orangutan), GRUNDIG (a chimpanzee), and one additional orangutan and chimpanzee.

URKO

I remind the High Council that is our law, and the law must be obeyed.

VIRDON

What makes us enemies? We haven't done anything.

URKO

Your ambitions are enemies! Your thoughts are enemies!

ROWAK

What's your name, pal? Hitler? Stalin? Mussolini?

ZAIUS

(overriding)
Silence!

GRUNDIG

Do you believe humans and apes are equal?

VIRDON

In this world or ours?

PROTO

In any world.

VIRDON

I don't know about any world, but I believe all creatures of equal intelligence should learn to live and work with each other as equals.

A general uproar, punctuated by SHOUTS.

PROTO

Sacrilege!

GRUNDIG

Heresy!

ANGLE ON GALEN

C-112

He doesn't join in the outcry, simply watches the Astronauts.

ANGLE ON ZAIUS

D-112

trying to quiet them down.

ZAIUS

Silence! Silence!

URKO

They've convicted themselves,
Zaius! Do you want them to
spread this sacrilege and heresy
to other humans?

ZAIUS

Certainly not, Urko. And by
questioning them, we will learn
how to avoid it.

URKO

Will we learn to avoid destruction?

VIRDON

Destruction?! We don't intend
any destruction.

URKO

You're human, aren't you!!

He reaches down, brings up the grenade, holds it for the
Council to see.

URKO

Do you think any ape would create
an instrument such as this?

ZAIUS

(startled)

Urko, you had no right to...

But before he can finish, Urko turns a setting on the
grenade, throws it at the closed door to the Council Room.

ANGLE ON THE DOOR

E-112

as the grenade hits it. A flash, an explosion, and then the
door is gone...nothing but a jagged hole where the door had
been.

ANGLE ON THE COUNCIL

F-112

in a general uproar, with Urko shouting over the tumult:

URKO

That is the real danger! That is
the threat! The mind of humans
bringing such destruction to the world!
(directly to Zaius,
with great intensity)
We must not allow it to happen.

ZAIUS

(applauds mockingly)
Well done, Urko. The object you
stole from my cabinet has provided
a most dramatic display...

(to the others,
forcefully now)

...proving only the importance of
keeping these two humans alive
until we probe their minds and
learn what causes them to create
such destruction. Only then can
we recognize this danger in our
own humans. Only then can we
eliminate it when the first sign
appears. Do you not agree?

PROTO

Yes. I agree.

GRUNDIG

It's true.

AD-LIBS FROM OTHERS

Yes!
Question them!
We agree!

ZAIUS

(to Urko)
I'm sure even the great Urko cannot
quarrel with this decision.

URKO

(glaring at him)
I'll quarrel with anything that
keeps these two humans alive.

INT. PRISON CORRIDOR - DAY

113

A rough-hewn prison corridor, probably constructed of rock. About three cells off this corridor, each with a solid door broken only by a small barred opening allowing the guard to look into the cell. One of the cell doors is open. Virдон and Rowak are ushered rudely along the corridor by two Gorilla GUARDS, a Gorilla LIEUTENANT, and Urko. When they reach the open door of the cell, the Guards shove them into the cell.

INT. CELL - DAY

114

A crude cell, a small barred window too high up to be useful, straw on the floor. Virдон and Rowak stumble into the cell as they are pushed. They manage to keep from falling as the cell door is slammed closed.

INT. PRISON CORRIDOR - DAY

115

as the Lieutenant locks the cell, turns back to Urko.

URKO

You know what I expect you to do?

Lieutenant nods.

URKO

After dark.

Urko walks off, followed by the two Guards. The Lieutenant remains outside the cell.

INT. ZAIUS' STUDY - ANGLE ON ZAIUS AND GALEN -
DAY

116

Zaius is at the open cabinet, holding the opened box, looking at the one remaining grenade. Galen watching him, troubled, something bothering him. Zaius closes the box and puts it in the cabinet.

GALEN

(hesitantly)

...Zaius...

ZAIUS

(closing the door)

...Yes...?

GALEN

Was there ever a time when humans controlled the world, and apes were kept behind bars?

Zaius tenses just briefly, manages to control it, and forces his calm as he locks the door of the cabinet, then turns back to Galen.

ZAIUS

(trying to play
it lightly)

I said you had much to learn,
but that didn't include heresy.

GALEN

Maybe they were right, Zaius.
Maybe the world would be better
if no creature controlled another,
if all worked together as equals.

ZAIUS

I could have you imprisoned for that.

Cont.

GALEN
You haven't answered my question.

ZAIUS
(stiffly)
I never heard the question.

He turns his back deliberately on Galen, obviously dismissing him. Galen looks at him for a beat, then turns and EXITS. Only then does Zaius turn back, glancing with concern in the direction Galen had gone.

INT. ZAIUS' ENTRANCE HALL - DAY

117

as Galen crosses towards the front door. Ullman is there, dusting. He crosses quickly to the front door, opens it for Galen. Galen is about to exit, glances at Ullman.

GALEN
Ullman...

ULLMAN
Yes, sir?

GALEN
What's it like, being a human?

ULLMAN
(totally puzzled)
What's it like, sir?

GALEN
Never mind.

ULLMAN
Yes, sir.

Galen EXITS. Ullman shrugs, closes the door.

INT. PRISON CELL - ANGLE ON GALEN - DAY

118

Galen is troubled.

GALEN
Everything I saw in that book was
true, wasn't it?

ANGLE WIDENS to include Virdon and Rowak.

ROWAK
We told you it was.

Cont.

GALEN
(anguished)
It's so hard to believe!

ROWAK
(dryly)
You can say that again.

GALEN
I was always taught...I mean,
it's so...Where you came from,
were all humans as intelligent
as you?

ROWAK
Right now, I think they were all
twice as smart.

VIRDON
Aren't there any humans in this
world that build things? Machines?
Anything?

GALEN
No.

VIRDON
What about the grenade?
(in response to his
puzzled glance)
The thing Urko exploded. Do you
know where it came from?

GALEN
No.

VIRDON
Are you sure? We know it wasn't
from our time but he said it was
made by a human.

ROWAK
(shrugs)
Probably dug into a hill and
found an old armory.

VIRDON
Maybe. Maybe not.
(to Galen)
Who would know where it came from?

Cont.

GALEN

Zaius, I suppose. Why?

ROWAK

Good question, Alan. What difference does it make?

VIRDON

I've been thinking. The input record of our flight is still on the spaceship. Everything that happened from the time we left home until we landed back here on Earth was recorded on that small magnetic disc. All we have to do is run it through a computer, analyze what went wrong, reverse the process, and maybe we can get back home again.

ROWAK

(staring at him)
You're out of your mind.

GALEN

What's a computer?

VIRDON

(ignoring him;
to Rowak)
Maybe...just maybe...the humans who built that grenade are still on Earth, and they have the knowledge to...

ROWAK

(incredulously,
overriding)
To do what? Build a spaceship?
And a computer?

VIRDON

Maybe.

GALEN

(puzzled and fascinated
by this conversation)
What's a computer?

ROWAK

(dryly)
Answer his question, Alan, while I get myself moved to another cell.

Cont.

Rowak turns away. Virdon grabs his arm, swings him back.

VIRDON

Look, I know it's wild. But it's a hope, isn't it?

ROWAK

Sure, Alan. Sure it is.

VIRDON

You want to get home, don't you?

ROWAK

Home?! All I'm worried about is staying alive!

VIRDON

(to Galen, anxious to grab at anything)
Look, you'd like to visit our time period, wouldn't you?

GALEN

(startled by that)
Well, I...don't know. It... sounds interesting, but...

VIRDON

Help us get out of here.

GALEN

(outraged by the suggestion)
Certainly not! The fact that I am interested in talking to you does not mean that I would also commit treason!

VIRDON

(resigned)
All right...all right...

GALEN

(softening, with a sense of compassion)
I'm sorry.

Virdon shrugs. Galen glances at him, crosses towards the door, glances back.

GALEN

I'd like to talk to you again about the book. I'll try to come back tonight.

ROWAK
Be our guest.

GALEN
(through barred window
in door)
Open the door.

The Guard unlocks the door, opens it. Galen hesitates, glances once more at Viridon.

GALEN
I'm sorry.

He EXITS. The Guard closes and locks the door. Rowak glances at Viridon.

ROWAK
Nice try.

VIRDON
(low, disconsolate)
Yeah. Nice try.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. PRISON CELL - ANGLE ON WINDOW - NIGHT 119

We are CLOSE on the barred window high in the cell. A dark night. CAMERA PANS DOWN to reveal Viridon and Rowak both seated on the floor, their backs against the wall, both feeling lost and forlorn. We HEAR the SOUND of the door being unlocked. They barely glance up as the door is opened by the Lieutenant, holding a bowl with their dinner, his rifle in his other hand.

ROWAK
It's about time.

But he doesn't move. The Lieutenant puts the bowl down just inside the door, starts to close the door.

INT. PRISON CORRIDOR - NIGHT 120

as the Lieutenant closes the door, being careful to leave it just slightly ajar. Then, carrying his rifle, he moves quickly down the corridor towards the door leading to the outside. He starts to open that door.

EXT. PRISON - ANGLE ON GALEN - NIGHT 121

Galen is crossing towards the prison for his visit, carrying the book with him this time. He hesitates when he sees something.

GALEN'S P.O.V. - PRISON DOOR 122

The Lieutenant emerges, closes the door behind him, takes up a position near the door, but in the shadows.

ANGLE ON GALEN 123

watching, worriedly.

ANGLE ON LIEUTENANT 124

Holding his gun ready, he settles down to wait.

ANGLE ON GALEN 125

Puzzled but concerned, he moves to one side to the shadows, to watch the Lieutenant.

INT. PRISON CELL - NIGHT 126

Rowak and Virdon just finishing eating.

ROWAK

I'm still hungry.

Virdon glances at him, says nothing. Rowak rises, crosses to the door.

ROWAK

(shouting)

I said I'm still hungry! How about...!

He breaks off as he notices that the door is ajar, glances excitedly back towards Virdon.

ROWAK

(softly)

Alan!

Virdon glances at him, reacts as he sees Rowak slowly and cautiously start to push the door open. Quickly, he scrambles to his feet, joins him.

ROWAK

A trap?

VIRDON

We're dead either way.

INT. PRISON CORRIDOR - NIGHT 127

as they emerge cautiously from the cell, glance up and down the empty corridor, then move swiftly towards the door leading to the outside.

ANGLE AT DOOR 128

Virdon in the lead now. Slowly he opens the door.

48

EXT. PRISON - ANGLE ON DOOR - NIGHT 129
as it opens slowly. Virdon and Rowak emerge.

ANGLE ON THE LIEUTENANT 130
tensing in the shadows, getting his gun ready.

ANGLE ON GALEN 131
watching tensely.

ANOTHER ANGLE 132
Rowak and Virdon close the door behind them, start to cross
away from the prison. The Lieutenant raises his gun to fire.

GALEN
Watch out!

Rowak and Virdon hit the ground as the Lieutenant fires,
missing. The Lieutenant raises the rifle to fire again.
Galen jumps for him.

GALEN
Run! Run!

Galen lands on the Lieutenant, struggles with him.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND ROWAK 133
scrambling to their feet, racing away into the shadows.

ANGLE ON GALEN AND LIEUTENANT 134
struggling for the gun. It goes off. The Lieutenant slumps
down to the ground, Galen holding the gun, stunned. He
whirls at a sound from the door.

ANGLE ON DOOR 135
as Urko and two Gorilla Guards come rushing out, rifles
ready. They come up to Galen, surround him.

ANGLE ON GALEN 136
He looks from one to the other, then down to the dead
Lieutenant on the ground. Dismayed, he lets the rifle slip
to the ground.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN

EXT. CENTRAL CITY STREET - NIGHT

137

The street is deserted, but for the lone MAN who walks wearily along, a coil of rope over his shoulder, pulling a small handcart loaded with firewood. He is approaching the entrance of an alleyway shrouded in darkness. As he is about to pass the mouth of the alley, Virdon steps out quickly, grabs him with one arm around his chest, the other across his mouth to prevent an outcry, and pulls him towards the darkness of the alley. The only sound is the muffled faint cry of the terrified Man.

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

138

as Virdon pulls the Man into the darkness where Rowak is waiting tensely. Still keeping a hand clasped across the Man's mouth, Virdon whispers fiercely into his ear.

VIRDON

Do you know where an ape named
Zaius lives?

The Man is too terrified to respond. Virdon tightens his grip.

VIRDON

Do you know where he lives?

Fearfully, the Man manages to nod his head yes.

ROWAK

I still think you're out of your
mind.

VIRDON

(ignoring that, to Man)
Will you take us there?

There is no response.

VIRDON

Will you?

In terror, the Man's eyes dart from Virdon to Rowak.

INT. PRISON CORRIDOR - NIGHT

139

Zaius walks briskly along the corridor towards the open door to the cell in which the Astronauts had been held. An armed Gorilla Guard stands outside the cell, comes to attention as Zaius approaches. Zaius pays no attention, strides into the cell.

INT. PRISON CELL - NIGHT

140

as Zaius ENTERS. Galen is in the cell, a prisoner, another armed Gorilla Guard there, as well as Urko. Zaius comes directly to business as he ENTERS, barely glancing at Galen.

ZAIUS

(to Urko)

What are the charges?

URKO

Murder of my Lieutenant. Treason.
Aiding in the escape of the two
humans.

ZAIUS

(to Galen)

Is this true?

GALEN

I didn't mean to kill the Lieutenant.
But they planned the escape. They
were going to murder the humans.

ZAIUS

(to Urko)

Is this true?

URKO

Absolutely not.

ZAIUS

(to Galen)

If you knew of such a plan, why
didn't you report it to me?

GALEN

There was no time.

URKO

He's a liar and a heretic. We
found this book where he'd dropped
it.

He holds out the book Galen had been carrying. Puzzled, Zaius takes it, glances at Galen, then opens the book, flips through it, becoming increasingly tense.

ZAIUS

(finally, to Galen)

Do you realize that possession of
such a book, alone, is punishable
by death?

Cont.

GALEN
(a touch of defiance)
Why, Zaius? Why should truth be
against the law?

Zaius looks at him for a long moment. There is a touch of sadness in his gaze at first, and then he steels himself to speak quietly and firmly.

ZAIUS
I'm sorry, Galen. I can do nothing
for you.

He returns the book to Urko, turns abruptly, and EXITS.

INT. ZAIUS' ENTRANCE HALL - NIGHT 141

as the door opens, and Zaius ENTERS, weary and saddened by his encounter with Galen. He glances to one side as Ullman ENTERS from the direction of the servant's quarters.

ULLMAN
Do you want something to eat, sir?

ZAIUS
(shakes head)
No.
(with a sense
of sadness)
Go to bed, Ullman. I'm going to
read for a while.

ULLMAN
Yes, sir.

Ullman EXITS. Zaius sighs wearily, crosses to the closed door of his study, opens the door.

INT. ZAIUS' STUDY - ANGLE TOWARDS DOOR - NIGHT 142

Zaius ENTERS, closes the door behind him, crosses slowly towards his desk. Something catches his eye, and he glances towards the glass-fronted cabinet.

HIS P.O.V. - CABINET 143

The glass has been smashed.

ANGLE ON ZAIUS 144

Startled, Zaius hurries to the cabinet, realizes that the grenade box is gone, turns hurriedly to cross to the door.

Cont.

VIRDON'S VOICE

(o.s.)
Don't try to leave.

Zaius whirls towards the voice.

ANOTHER ANGLE

145

as Virdon and Rowak step out of the shadows at the far end of the room. Rowak is holding a coil of rope that had been on the Man's cart. Virdon is holding the grenade as he moves in.

VIRDON

Or I'll throw this thing, and
blow you to pieces. Cooperate,
and we'll just tie you up. You'll
be found in the morning.

ZAIUS

(without fear)
What do you want?

VIRDON

Where did you get this?

ZAIUS

A human.

VIRDON

Who?

ZAIUS

He didn't live long enough to
tell me his name.

ROWAK

(reacting with instinctive
anger, moving in towards
Zaius)

Why, you murdering...

VIRDON

(stopping him)
Cool it, Ed.
(to Zaius, who hasn't
reacted to Rowak's threat)
Where did he come from?

ZAIUS

I don't know.

VIRDON

(tensely)
Look, I'm warning you...

ZAIUS

(interrupting angrily)
Yes, I know! You'll destroy me as
your kind once destroyed its world!

ROWAK

What do you mean?

ZAIUS

Your science and your machines --
Very few know your history, and very
few will ever know. And your cities!
Death and destruction! We don't
want them!

(to Virdon, evenly
and tightly)

We don't even want their memory.

ROWAK

(stunned, as the
realization sinks in)
Oh, my God...Alan...

ZAIUS

Yes, you did it to yourselves, as
you would do it again.

(gesturing to grenade)

That human was caught trying to
sneak into the city. And yes, I
had him killed. As I will have
you killed some day. As I must
have poor Galen killed.

VIRDON

(startled, puzzled)
Galen...?

ZAIUS

The infection you carry is fatal.

EXT. PRISON - NIGHT

146

It is dark and seemingly deserted. Then we see three figures
moving in the shadows, one of them being forced along against
his will. Virdon, Rowak, and Zaius. Virdon, still holding
the grenade, is pushing Zaius ahead of him. Behind him is
Rowak, the coil of rope over his shoulder, a piece of heavy
wood serving as a club in his hand.

CLOSER ANGLE - ZAIUS, VIRDON AND ROWAK

147

as they huddle against the wall.

VIRDON

(to Zaius, indicating door)
Go ahead.

ZAIUS

You're fools, you know that. You could have been out of the city by now.

ROWAK

He saved our lives. You expect us to leave him here to die?

ZAIUS

You're strange humans. I don't understand either of you.

VIRDON

(to Rowak)

Ed.

Rowak takes up a position against the wall, alongside the door, the club ready in his hand. Virdon takes up a position on the other side of the door, against the wall.

VIRDON

(to Zaius)

All right. Now.

Zaius glances from Virdon to Rowak, then steps up to the door, hesitates a moment, then uses the knocker. Virdon and Rowak wait tensely. Nothing happens.

VIRDON

Again.

ZAIUS

You can still escape.

VIRDON

(with intensity)

Again.

Zaius glances at him, then uses the knocker again. Again they wait. Then the small porthole in the door is slid back and we see the face of a Gorilla Guard.

ZAIUS

Councillor Zaius. Open the door.

The porthole plate is slid back into place, and we can HEAR the bolt being pulled back. Virdon indicates for Zaius to step back a little way.

VIRDON

(softly)

Back.

Zaius steps back as the door is opened by the Guard.

ZAIUS

I need some help out here.

Puzzled, the Guard starts to step out.

CLOSE SHOT - ROWAK 148

as he brings the club down hard.

CLOSE SHOT - ZAIUS 149

as he turns and runs.

CLOSE SHOT - VIRDON 150

as he charges after Zaius.

ANGLE ON ZAIUS 151

running. Virdon catches up to him. tackles him. They both go to the ground, the grenade tumbling from Virdon's hand. Zaius rolls over, gets free, scrabbles to his feet, charges for the grenade. Virdon jumps to his feet, knocks Zaius aside just as the ape is about to pick up the grenade. Virdon bends down, scoops up the grenade, turns and looks at the defeated Zaius, both breathing heavily.

INT. SECOND PRISON CELL - NIGHT 152

It is an unused prison cell. The Guard is still unconscious from the blow with the club, and has been bound and gagged. Rowak is looking through his pockets. Zaius has been bound, and Virdon is in the process of affixing a gag.

ROWAK

(with concern)

Alan...

Virdon glances at him.

ROWAK

...no key.

VIRDON

Look again.

Virdon crosses out of the cell as Rowak turns back to look through the Guard's pockets again.

INT. PRISON CORRIDOR - NIGHT 153

as Virdon emerges from the Second Cell.

Cont.

GALEN'S VOICE

(o.s.)
Who is it? What's happening?

Viridon crosses directly to Galen's cell, which is the cell previously occupied by the Astronauts. Galen, looking through the barred opening is completely startled to see him.

VIRDON

Who has the keys to your cell?

GALEN

What are you doing here?

VIRDON

The keys. Who has them?

GALEN

Urko. A new rule. -- I don't understand what you're...

He's interrupted by Rowak, who comes hurriedly out of the Second Cell, up to Viridon.

ROWAK

No keys, Alan.

Viridon looks at Rowak, then down at the grenade.

VIRDON

(to Galen)
Get in the far corner of the cell.
On the floor, face down, hands
over your head.

INT. PRISON CELL - NIGHT

154

Galen at the door, talking to Viridon.

GALEN

Why?

VIRDON

(great tension)
Never mind why! Just do it!

Galen glances at him, then moves to the corner of his cell, starts to get down on the floor.

INT. PRISON CORRIDOR - NIGHT

155

as Viridon bends down with the grenade, puts it on the floor at the door, makes a setting. Then both he and Rowak run down the corridor.

57

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND ROWAK 156
as they hit the floor, cover their heads with their hands.

ANGLE ON CELL DOOR 157
Hold for a beat, and then...WHAMMM!!...the explosion.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND ROWAK 158
scrambling to their feet, rushing back towards the door,
which is gone. Nothing left but a jagged hole. They rush
into the cell.

INT. PRISON CELL - NIGHT 159
as Virdon and Rowak ENTER. Galen is just staggering to his
feet, stunned by the blast. Rowak grabs his arm.

ROWAK
Come on!

Together, they fairly pull him out of the cell.

INT. PRISON CORRIDOR - NIGHT 160
as they pull Galen along towards the prison exit door. We
can HEAR the sound of running feet approaching.

EXT. PRISON - NIGHT 161
as Virdon, Rowak, and Galen emerge...Galen more in control
now. They race away into the darkness.

INT. PRISON CORRIDOR - NIGHT 162
as Urko and several Gorilla Guards come rushing into the
corridor from some other area in the prison. Urko rushes
to the cell door, looks in; then rushes towards the prison
exit, followed by the Guards.

EXT. PRISON - NIGHT 163
as Urko comes hurrying out of the prison, the Guards close
behind. None of the fugitives are in sight.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SPACESHIP - DAY 164
It seems deserted. No sign of life.

INT. SPACESHIP - DAY

165

Viridon is working at trying to extract the magnetic disc from its housing, as Rowak and Galen stand by watching. Galen is a bit tense.

ROWAK

(to Galen, shaking head)
Can you figure that kook? He really thinks that flight record's going to get him back home.

GALEN

(ignoring that,
to Viridon)
How much longer?

VIRDON

Five, ten minutes, maybe.

ROWAK

When are you going to give up that pipe dream?

VIRDON

When I see my family.

GALEN

They'll be looking for us here. I'm surprised they haven't come already.

VIRDON

(working throughout)
It's been a week, Galen. Probably stopped looking by now.

GALEN

Zaius? Urko? They'll never stop.
(suddenly on the
verge of tears)
Never...

He turns away to hide his emotion, walks out of the spaceship
Rowak glances after him with concern.

EXT. SPACESHIP - DAY

166

Galen standing on the ramp, looking forlornly out at the woods. After a beat, Rowak emerges, comes up beside him.

ROWAK

(with compassion)
You okay?

Cont.

GALEN
 (nods, ruefully)
 I'm sorry. I...
 (glances at Rowak,
 then away again)
 You see, I had family, too.
 I had friends.

ROWAK
 (simply)
 You still have friends.

GALEN
 (a grateful smile)
 Yes, I know. I...

He breaks off suddenly, as he hears something we do not yet hear.

ROWAK
 (startled by his reaction)
 What?

Galen holds up his hand for Rowak to be quiet. And then we hear it in the distance, the sound of GALLOPING HORSES.

GALEN
 Horses. Only apes have horses.

Rowak turns and rushes to the hatch.

ROWAK
 (calling in)
 They're coming, Alan! We
 have no time!

INT. SPACESHIP - DAY

167

Viridon is just about to remove the magnetic disc.

VIRDON
 (the final touch)
 It's...just...about...
 (has the disc)
 There's the baby!

GALEN'S VOICE
 (o.s.)
 Hurry! Please hurry!

ROWAK'S VOICE
 (o.s.)
 Come on, Alan! Let's go!

Viridon races out of the ship.

EXT. SPACESHIP - DAY

168

as Rowak and Virdon emerge from the ship. The sound of GALLOPING HORSES is very close now. With Galen in the lead, they dash madly across towards the wooded area, barely make it into the woods when, from the opposite side, Urko, Zaius, and a number of Gorillas gallop in on their horses, rein to a halt near the ship.

ZAIUS

(to Urko)

See if they were here, then take care of the ship!

EXT. WOODS - DAY

169

Galen, Virdon, Rowak scrambling madly through the woods, stumbling, running, crawling, getting to their feet again, running, and finally collapsing behind some bushes. Suddenly from the direction of the ship, we hear the BLAST of a great EXPLOSION. They all react.

ROWAK

The ship?

VIRDON

I'm afraid so.

They're both saddened by the loss of this last link with home. Virdon looks at the disc he holds in his hand, then puts it into his pocket.

VIRDON

All right. Which way?
(glances at Galen)
Galen? It's your world.

GALEN

(quietly)
It's yours, too.
(glancing at Rowak)
And yours.

They all glance at each other, sobered by the awareness that they're all part of the same world. Virdon slowly gets to his feet. The others rise, too.

VIRDON

Let's just start walking.

He moves off through the woods. The others follow.

FADE OUT

THE END