

"PLANET OF THE APES"

"THE GOOD SEEDS"

Written by  
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CAST LIST

STAN KOVAK

ALAN VIRDON

GALEN (CHIMP)

URSUS (GORILLA LEADER)

POLAR (CHIMP FATHER)

ZANTES (CHIMP MOTHER)

ANTO (CHIMP SON)

REMUS (CHIMP SON)

JILLIA (CHIMP DAUGHTER)

FIRST POLICE GORILLA

SECOND POLICE GORILLA

PATROL GORILLA

PATROL RIDER

GORILLA OFFICER

SILENT BIT:

THIRD POLICE GORILLA

SET LIST

INTERIORS:

BARN AND COW STALL

FARMHOUSE BEDROOM

LIVING ROOM

URSUS' OFFICE

EXTERIORS:

OPEN FIELD

FOREST CLEARING (FALLEN TREE)

FOREST (THICK GROWTH)

FARMHOUSE

BADLY-ERODED HILLSIDE CROP LAND

SMALL PASTURE LOT AT FENCE

DITCH NEAR A LOW FIELD

COVERED WORK AREA

SHOWER AND FAR HILL

HIGHER FIELD (WINDMILL)

RURAL ROAD

GORILLA PATROL HEADQUARTERS

POLAR'S BARN

POLAR'S HOUSE

OUTBUILDINGS

"THE GOOD SEEDS"

ACT ONE

FADE IN

EXT. OPEN FIELD - DAY

1

The field is not too large and is surrounded by rolling hills. No movement for a moment but the swelling SOUND of THUNDERING HORSES' HOOVES. Three mounted GORILLA POLICE ride in at a gallop and, at their Leader's signal pull to a halt. As Leader (FIRST GORILLA) peers into the distance, SECOND GORILLA swings off his horse to study the ground. He spots something, kneels, rises triumphantly.

SECOND GORILLA

They were here, and the track  
is fresh!

He mounts, points in the direction to be taken.  
First Gorilla signals advance and the three pound out.

EXT. BRUSH-COVERED HILL - DAY

A-1

VIRDON, KOVAK and GALEN laboring up the hill, panting,  
fighting weariness. They reach the crest and Kovak stops,  
looking back.

KOVAK

I don't see them.

VIRDON

If you could, it'd be too late.  
Come on.

KOVAK

Galen can't keep up. His butt  
is dragging.

GALEN

I'm all right.

KOVAK

Sure you are! Iron man --  
excuse me. Iron ape...

VIRDON

(needling Kovak)  
Michigan's great running back...

KOVAK

When I was a kid, two thousand  
years ago, give or take a century.

Cont.

VIRDON

Let's move it. No telling how close Ursus' men are. We'll try for that forest by dark...

KOVAK

Coming, Mother...

All trot off.

OUT 2-  
3

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. FOREST CLEARING - NIGHT

A-3

Virдон, Kovak and Galen trot in. All stop while Virдон studies the surroundings.

KOVAK

Sack time? Let's check in here. I'm ready!

VIRDON

No way. Now's our chance to get clear.

He removes something from his pocket and studies it.

INSERT - COMPASS IN VIRDON'S HAND

B-3

small, utilitarian, crudely made.

VIRDON'S VOICE

(o.s.)

We know what direction we're going in. They don't.

BACK TO SCENE

C-3

KOVAK

There's nothing in any direction, what difference does it make?

GALEN

(to Virдон)

You can tell direction from that? Without the stars?

VIRDON

It's a compass, Galen. It always points north.

Cont.

VIRDON (Cont.)

(looking up)

This cloud cover is a break. Ursus' men won't know what direction they're going in. They'll go in circles... we can go straight ahead.

GALEN

A 'compass.' Is it witchcraft?

VIRDON

Handicraft. I made it.

He turns to lead the way. Kovak takes a step after him -- with an effort.

KOVAK

Next handicraft class, make me a trail bike -- twin jet.

X

Galen is bewildered but makes no comment. All three disappear in the thickness of the forest.

(NOTE: Some characteristic bit of terrain -- a rock or a gnarled tree -- should make this clearing readily identifiable.)

ANGLE ON VIRDON, KOVAK AND GALEN IN FOREST - NIGHT D-3

as they force weary bodies to cover ground.

EXT. FOREST CLEARING - NIGHT 4

THUNDERING HOOVES crash into the pitch darkness of the clearing which is suddenly lighted by blazing oil torches carried by THREE GORILLA POLICE on horseback. The Police rein their horses to a stomping halt, but the lathered animals wheel and prance, their energies hard to control. First Gorilla leaps from mount, torch in hand and scans the earth of the clearing. The other two charge back and forth, awaiting his verdict...as he spots what are obviously tracks.

FIRST GORILLA

Through here...they've been this way...!

He leaps back aboard his horse and the three go charging into the night, their torches and horses creating an eerie sense of thunder and lightning through the thick forest ahead.

ANGLE ON VIRDON, KOVAK AND GALEN - NIGHT A-4

running silently through the forest.

EXT. FOREST - THE PREVIOUS SMALL CLEARING - NIGHT 10

The three Gorilla Police on horseback come galloping into the same clearing, and rein up...holding their torches up... recognizing the location...with exasperation. The First Gorilla leaps down again...angrily this time...

FIRST GORILLA

(looking skyward)

Clouds! Blasted clouds!

GORILLA TWO and GORILLA THREE slide from their mounts...

GORILLA TWO

It's forbidden to travel without the stars.

FIRST GORILLA

Nothing's forbidden when you ride for Ursus...

GORILLA TWO

Then how come the spirits have pulled our horses' tails in a circle?

A beat. The First Gorilla realizes the futility of going further. In frustration...

FIRST GORILLA

All right! All right!  
We'll camp here. Make a fire...

(looking up)

...and stand watch to see if it chases the clouds.

(to Second Gorilla)

If not...first sight of where the sun rises...you ride back to Ursus ...report we are going on...until we catch them.

EXT. FOREST - MOVING SHOT - VIRDON, KOVAK AND GALEN - NIGHT 11

walking through the dense, now quite hilly terrain in what appears to be pitch-dark. Kovak has temporarily taken the lead, stops, leans against a tree...

KOVAK

(breathing hard)

Why didn't I buy that nice little bar in Passaic...?

X

Cont.

Virдон marches quickly past him, then Galen, trying to keep up...

GALEN

Come on...we're following the  
'handicraft'...

Galen runs to catch up with Virдон as Kovak warns him...

KOVAK

Heads up Galen...It's rough in  
here.

CLOSE SHOT - GALEN - NEAR A SHARP PRECIPICE 12

Cavorting around a tree to catch up and ahead of Virдон...  
to display his enthusiasm...he slips...

HIGH ANGLE - DOWN THE PRECIPICE - 13  
GALEN FALLING

A sheer drop among ragged rocks below as we HEAR the  
descending YELL of the terrified and surprised chimp.  
Kovak and Virдон ENTER FRAME, looking down...a quick glance  
at each other...then they are rushing to his rescue.

ANGLE ON GALEN - BOTTOM OF THE PRECIPICE 14

We can see Virдон and Kovak, b.g., just making their way  
down, as Galen, still conscious, MOANS in extreme pain,  
holding his leg. They reach the bottom, picking their  
way...and rush to Galen's side.

KOVAK

Take it easy...don't move,  
Galen...

Virдон kneels quickly at the injured chimp...examining his leg  
with an instant look of shock at the extent of the wound...  
the leg torn on a jagged rock.

VIRDON

Lie still...  
(to Kovak)  
Tourniquet...hurry!

Kovak quickly starts tearing a swath of cloth off the bottom  
of his shirt, rolling it to make a pliable rope-like  
tourniquet.

GALEN

Ohhhh! I'm sorry...

Cont.

KOVAK

Forget it. I always make  
tourniquets for my friends.

He hands the prepared tourniquet to Virдон who wraps it  
hastily around the leg and starts twisting...as Kovak  
searches quickly for a broken stick...thrusting it to Virдон  
to use for leverage...

VIRDON

Easy...we've got to stop the  
bleeding first.

GALEN

It was dark...I fell...

KOVAK

(trying levity)  
No kidding. Next time wait for  
the lights to change.

DISSOLVE TO:

CLOSE SHOT - GALEN'S FACE - DAWN

15

He is lying on a crudely made litter and CAMERA ANGLE WIDENS  
to show Virдон and Kovak carrying their chimp companion  
through the forest.

The burden coupled with the strain of the night's efforts  
has brought the Astronauts to the point of exhaustion.

VIRDON

Sun's been -- up for -- half hour.

KOVAK

Feels like -- I've been up --  
half a year.

X

VIRDON

Got to -- keep moving. Sitting  
ducks.

KOVAK

Sitting? -- What's that?

VIRDON

Need a hideout -- or -- HEY!

He's spotted something, o.s. He stops, Kovak does and looks  
in direction indicated.

Cont.

GALEN  
What?

KOVAK  
What is it?

P.O.V. SHOT - DISTANT SMALL FARM COMPOUND - DAY 16

In a clearing through the trees can be seen a cabin, hints of outbuildings, tilled fields.

VIRDON'S VOICE  
(o.s.)  
A farm...looks isolated.

Distant, mournful MOO of a cow.

ANGLE ON THE THREE 17

Kovak and Virdon looking toward the farmhouse...Kovak almost able to "taste" the sight...

KOVAK  
Oh man, look at that! Shangri-la  
Country Style! Chicken with X  
mashed potatoes and gravy...and  
steak and eggs for breakfast...  
How about that Galen...?

GALEN  
(the vegetarian)  
Meat -- Ugh!

And he rolls his head aside at the thought...as though the pain weren't enough.

VIRDON  
This could be it, Stan. Show me  
a couple of nice, smelly  
tractors...and it's home sweet  
home all over again...Saddle up --  
let's move.

They move o.s.

EXT. THE FARMHOUSE - LONG SHOT - THE FRONT - DAY 18

At closer look, the hope of a modern farm vanishes as we see the primitive farmhouse. Virdon and Kovak ENTER FRAME, approaching the house, carrying Galen.

CLOSER ANGLE - FRONT OF FARMHOUSE

19

as Virdon and Kovak carefully put the litter down, Galen able to raise on one arm as Virdon approaches the door. The litter is to one side not visible from inside the doorway.

KOVAK

I'm beat. I don't care if this farmer doesn't have a daughter.

CLOSE SHOT - THE DOOR

20

A beat of hesitation...then filled with expectancy...Virdon knocks on the door...no reply. CAMERA PULLS BACK. Stillness. Virdon once more...knocking. A beat...and the door is opened slowly, just wide enough to reveal the face of a large ape, POLAR. He has to study the disappointed Virdon only a moment...

POLAR

Get away from here! Now!

Virdon doesn't flinch.

POLAR

I'm warning you...we have clubs and corn knives...

VIRDON

We need help. Our friend has been hurt.

POLAR

We don't help humans.

Virdon hesitates briefly, then steps back to gesture toward Galen, o.s. Polar, the big farmer and head of the farm family, opens the door wider and cautiously looks beyond Virdon...seeing the other two figures...

POLAR

(to inside)

Stay back...

ANOTHER ANGLE

21

as Polar steps from the house, walking the few steps to Galen and Kovak with caution...as though he expected to be pounced upon...stopping at the litter...for a look at Galen.

ANGLE TOWARD THE FARMHOUSE

22

Four other figures move hesitantly from the door toward the scene, ignoring Polar's barked order to stay inside...curiosity calling them irresistibly...ZANTES, Polar's wife,

ANTO, the older son, large framed and carrying a machete-shaped corn knife...REMUS, half-grown, the younger ape son... and JILLIA...a daughter between Anto and Remus. They come to stand near the litter, Polar noticing...

POLAR

Jillia...Zantes...get back in the house.

Jillia retreats slightly but Zantes kneels quickly at the litter when she sees the wounded Galen...

ZANTES

Oh dear! That's terrible...  
(to Polar)  
He needs help.

POLAR

Wait...who are you!

GALEN

(weakly)  
My name is Galen...these are my friends...

KOVAK

His tired friends.

Anto brandishes the machete...

ANTO

Are you their prisoner...  
they capture you...?

GALEN

(weaker)  
No...no...please...help us...

REMUS

Are you rich...they're your bonded humans...right?

GALEN

No...no...

And Galen sinks back. Kovak reacts to this serious sign of Galen's worsening condition. Angrily...

KOVAK

(to Anto)  
Hey...put that thing away and help him...will you!  
(to the others)  
We're no danger to you...

ZANTES  
(to Polar, Anto)  
Take him inside...I'll do what  
I can.

They do not move and Zantes becomes slightly angry at her husband's stubbornness.

ZANTES  
(to Polar)  
Ask all your questions later...  
Can't you see he needs help.

Polar appears agreeable, if reluctant...

POLAR  
Don't direct me, wife. I'd  
already made up my mind.

Viridon and Kovak go to start helping with the litter...  
Polar shoves them away.

POLAR  
Not you two...Anto and I will  
carry him.

He motions to another building, away from the house.

POLAR  
You two can wait in the barn.  
Don't touch anything or steal  
anything...or I'll put the Patrol  
on you!

KOVAK  
Don't call anybody 'til we get  
some sleep.

VIRDON  
Just take care of him...

REMUS  
What'd you do to him...?

ZANTES  
You're as bad as your father.  
Go inside...

Viridon and Kovak start o.s. Polar and Anto lift the litter  
and start carrying it to the house.

OUT 23-  
24

INT. BARN - DAY

A-24

A simple structure. A cow is in a stall. Nearby, a pile of straw. Indication of a loft. Door opens to admit Virдон and Kovak. They look around quickly and Kovak makes for the pile of straw.

KOVAK

Man, I could sleep standing up.  
(collapsing to  
straw)

Leave a wake-up call for February.

VIRDON

(flopping down)  
What year?

CUT TO:

INT. BARN - CLOSE SHOT - ANTO - DAY

25

approaching with a pitchfork in his hands. He's menacing.

WIDER ANGLE

26

Anto moves toward Virдон and Kovak who are sound asleep. Anto jabs Kovak.

KOVAK

Ouch! Hey!

Virдон is awake.

ANTO

Get up!

KOVAK

Okay, Sarge. Take it easy.  
I didn't hear reveille...

Virдон is scrambling to his feet, as is Kovak. The former nods a pleasant greeting to Anto who holds the pitchfork in a threatening posture.

ANTO

Why did you sleep so close to  
the cow?

KOVAK

If she doesn't object, why should  
we?

VIRDON

(interrupting)  
We meant your cow no harm...

Cont.

ANTO

Ha! Humans are a curse to cows!  
Everyone knows that!

KOVAK

Live and learn.

The cow MOOS again...they turn to it. Anto increasingly angry...

ANTO

Five years I've waited for a  
bull calf! My own ox...to start  
my own farm. And nothing but  
female calves...heifers...for  
the landlord!

KOVAK

Look...put the stabber down,  
pal...Maybe this'll be your  
lucky year...

VIRDON

I don't understand.

ANTO

(distrust)

Hah...you understand. When a  
son becomes of age...he must  
wait for a bull calf to be born  
before he can start his own farm.  
Five years I've waited. And the  
signs were against me...nothing  
but female calves. This year  
I knew the signs were right...  
until you came.

X

The cow MOOS again...almost anxiously...

ANTO

You hear? You're a bad omen.  
If you've put a curse on her...  
I may kill you...

VIRDON

Hey...wait a minute.

ANTO

Remove the curse...go away...today!

ANGLE ON DOOR - FAVORING REMUS

27

running in to them, bubbling with curiosity...and information  
...and authority...

REMUS

Hey...you two! Galen is asking  
to see you. He's awake...

Kovak and Virdon start for the door...but Anto stops them  
momentarily with the fork...

ANTO

Wait! Bad enough having humans  
in the house...but wash first.  
There's a smell about you...

He leaves. Virdon and Kovak exchange looks.

KOVAK

Well, nobody's perfect.

CUT TO:

INT. FARMHOUSE BEDROOM - DAY

28

This is probably Remus' room. Galen lies on a crude bunk,  
awake and pleased to be alive. Zantes is just finishing a  
new dressing. Polar stands, watching.

GALEN

That's very good. You've  
done this before.

ZANTES

I once trained to be a nurse.  
Until I met Polar...

POLAR

(a break for her)  
Humph! The City...no place  
to raise a family...

ZANTES

(old argument)  
Or even visit...?

POLAR

Some day.

ZANTES

Every time, the same answer.

POLAR

(reasons)  
Anto needs his bull calf...  
Remus hardly out of rompers...

Cont.

Jillia enters, carrying a freshly fluffed new pillow of corn husks, probably, to stuff under Galen's head...doing it coyly, pleased at the presence of this young chimp...

POLAR  
Jillia hasn't even sought out  
a husband...

JILLIA  
Daddy...!

She steps back, embarrassed.

ZANTES  
(to Galen)  
You won't be able to stand on  
that for some time.

POLAR  
How long?

ZANTES  
Why...several days at least.

POLAR  
I can't have those humans  
around here. It's dangerous.  
They've been known to kill cows...  
just for the meat!

GALEN  
Viridon and Kovak won't kill  
your cows.

JILLIA  
Where are they from...those  
humans?

An uneasy beat, Galen hesitating, unwilling to answer this...

GALEN  
You must let them stay. They'll  
work for their keep.

POLAR  
Work? Of course they'll work.  
That's what they're for!

ZANTES  
Well?

POLAR  
I'll see.

Cont.

He strides from the room.

ZANTES  
(to Galen)  
He means well. You'll see.

GALEN  
Did you send for my friends?

ANGLE ON JILLIA 29

A look of mild revulsion...

JILLIA  
How can you keep calling them...  
friends?

EXT. BARN - DAY 30

At the side of the barn, a tub of water is on a bench. Kovak has his shirt off and is washing; Virdon is drying his face and hands on a rough towel and puts on his shirt. As he does, he looks o.s.

VIRDON  
I think we've got to stand  
inspection. Ready?

He tosses the towel to Kovak who dries himself and will put on his shirt over following SCENE.

OUT 31

ANOTHER ANGLE 32

as Polar approaches with Remus. Anto, still angry, stands a few feet back.

POLAR  
I've made up my mind. You can  
stay until your...friend...  
is well. Or able to walk...

ANTO  
(advancing)  
No...!

POLAR  
(a command)  
Enough! You've heard my  
decision.

Cont.

ANTO  
(still angry)  
All right. But the cow is my  
say...they stay away from the cow!

Anto strides angrily away and disappears behind the barn.

POLAR  
He's right about that. The cow  
is his say until the calf is born.

Virdon and Kovak exchange looks...a strange setup to them...

VIRDON  
Anything you say.

POLAR  
But you'll work. Every day!  
Just as though I could afford you.

KOVAK  
You got a deal.

X

POLAR  
Just as though I owned you!

Remus looks up at his father, delighted at the prospect of having a "slave" just like the rich folks...of his very own...

REMUS  
I get one of them...one of  
them's mine.

POLAR  
We'll see...

SHOOTING PAST THE GROUP TO A FAR ROAD -  
ANGLE ON APPROACHING HORSEMAN

33

In the distance, we can see dust rising from the path of a man on horseback, riding toward the farm fast.

Polar turns, shields his eyes to see...doesn't like it. Turns back, a worried look...

POLAR  
Mounted Patrol.  
(beat)  
Are you sure you're not escaped  
bonded slaves...?

Cont.

VIRDON

No, Sir. I pledge you that.  
We are free humans...

Polar is not sure if Virdon is telling the truth. But the chance to have two "slaves" work his farm is worth a risk.

POLAR

(a reminder)

You will work for me!

VIRDON

Yes.

POLAR

All right...hide back there.  
I'll talk to him.

Kovak and Virdon hurry for a hiding place back toward the other barn buildings...as Polar and Remus start walking back toward the front of the house.

THE SCENE IN FRONT OF THE HOUSE

34

Polar and Remus walking toward it as the horseman, an official-looking, uniformed MOUNTED PATROLMAN, comes thundering up to them on horseback, stopping. He does not dismount. A gorilla with a surly attitude.

POLAR

Yes.

PATROL GORILLA

(derisive snort)

I'm looking for escaped bonded slaves. Have you seen any?

OUT 35

ANOTHER ANGLE - TOWARD ANTO AND ZANTES

36

just walking up to hear this...Anto, an interested look... he appears about to say something...but his mother interrupts.

ZANTES

Humans?

PATROL GORILLA

Of course, humans. What else?

POLAR

We know nothing of bonded humans.  
We are just poor tenant farmers.

ZANTES

Yes. We can't help you.

Cont.

PATROL GORILLA  
(glance around)  
If you see any...report immediately.  
Failure to do so carries a severe  
penalty.

POLAR  
We understand.

PATROL GORILLA  
(to Anto)  
Are you dumb? Do you understand?

ANTO  
Yes...I understand.

PATROL GORILLA  
(gloating on his mount)  
If you see a stray human...report  
at once!

They nod...the Patrol Gorilla starts to ride away, then  
stops.

PATROL GORILLA  
Oh yes. Your name?

POLAR  
Polar.

He spurs his mount ahead and gallops away.

ANTO  
(watching the ride)  
I wonder if there's a reward...

He glances at his father who gives him a stern look...turns  
away.

INT. BARN - SHOOTING PAST VIRDON AND KOVAK 37  
TOWARD HOUSE

as they peer out the door to see the horseman leaving.

KOVAK  
Doesn't look like one of Ursus' men.

VIRDON  
Don't kid yourself. He's some kind  
of local patrol. But they're all  
Ursus' men.

Cont.

On their exchanged looks of deep concern, we hear the uncomfortable MOOO of the cow nearby...and see Kovak turn to her...

KOVAK

Don't tell me your troubles...  
we've got our own problems...

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

EXT. BADLY ERODED HILLSIDE CROP LAND - WIDE SHOT - 38  
DAY

A scene of heavy farm work under way. Anto, with an ox hitched to a crude plow, is making one of several vertical furrows, coming down the sloping hill now toward Polar and Virдон, who are carrying unearthed boulders from the rugged field to a fencerow of boulders which have been plow-breakers over the years.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND POLAR 39

as they throw their rocks onto the growing pile. Polar looking with satisfaction at Virдон as good help...much needed.

VIRDON

Rocks. No end to them. The earth keeps breathing them up.

POLAR

How do you know?

VIRDON

I lifted half the rocks in Jackson County when I was a boy.

POLAR

You keep talking strange. There is no such place.

VIRDON

There was.

Polar shakes his head...looks back to the field Anto is plowing.

POLAR

It's a bad field. But we need it. Every foot.

ANGLE SHOOTING PAST THEM TO THE HILLSIDE 40

showing eroded gullies cutting deeply into it.

VIRDON

It's going to get worse every year if you keep plowing it like that.

Cont.

POLAR

What?

Viridon steps to the rock pile and picks up a large earthen jug of water they have brought to the field.

VIRDON

Come on...I'll show you.

LONG SHOT - THE SCENE

41

Viridon leads Polar to the plowed area at which Anto is just arriving with the ox and plow...laboring.

ANOTHER ANGLE - THE NEAR AREA OF THE PLOWED GROUND 42

Viridon stops at the freshly turned earth. Anto notices... lays the reins on the plow and walks over to see what's going on, inquisitively...

CLOSE ON THE THREE

43

Viridon kneels, smoothing out a piece of the fresh earth... then making vertical lines in it...

VIRDON

Look...when you plow up and down that hill like you're doing now...

(pouring water from  
jug onto earth)

Every time it rains...it washes more of your topsoil off...

(pointing)

Look...see...you start getting gullies...

(glancing up at  
eroded hill)

They get so deep...they steal your land...you have to work around them.

ANTO

Playing in mud!

Viridon moves over slightly...smooths out another small patch.

VIRDON

Now...if you'd plow around the hill instead...like this...

(making small  
horizontal furrows)

every time it rained...

(pouring water)

the furrows would hold the water ...it wouldn't run off with the rich soil...and no gullies. See?

Polar kneels for a close look, amazed at the simple experiment.

POLAR  
(to Anto)  
Look Anto...it's true!

ANTO  
It's foolishness. Everyone knows  
plowing down the hill gives the  
oxen rest from plowing up it.  
Foolishness.

Polar stands, pleased with this discovery despite Anto.

POLAR  
Where'd you learn this?

VIRDON  
My family owned a farm...when  
I was young.

A quizzical look of disbelief from Polar. But then determination...to Anto...

POLAR  
We'll plow around...like he says.

Anto is enraged at this.

ANTO  
Then he'll plow around...I'll  
have no part in it!

Anto storms away from them in anger, Virдон giving him a disappointed look.

POLAR  
Don't mind him. He's worried about  
the bull calf. Nothing else on  
his mind.  
(to the field)  
Show me...I'll try.

VIRDON  
Easy.

POLAR  
(slyly)  
But you lied, didn't you?

VIRDON  
(puzzled)  
Lied? No...you'll see.

POLAR

About your family owning a farm.  
Only apes ever own farms...then only  
the rich ones who have friends  
in the government.

On Virdon's resigned look...at what's come to pass:

CUT TO:

EXT. SMALL PASTURE LOT - CLOSE ON RAIL FENCE UNDER 44  
CONSTRUCTION - DAY

Kovak is carrying another rail from a pile he's split to  
insert on top of the third interlocking section he's  
constructing. Remus (his boss) has now had enough of this  
and is prancing around vehemently behind Kovak...protesting...

REMUS

No...no...no! Stop! I order  
you to stop!

Kovak carries the rail to position, sets it on, and turns to  
the tirading Remus...

KOVAK

What's the problem, Boss?

REMUS

That's the wrong kind of fence!

KOVAK

Show me a bale of barbed wire and  
I'll build you a proper one. Right  
now...this is the best I can do.

REMUS

Poles! Set up and down...stuck  
in the ground...like that!

He points and CAMERA PANS to a fence on the near far side...  
half-fallen, made from sapling poles poked upright in the  
ground like a miniature, flimsy fort.

KOVAK'S VOICE

(o.s.)

Come on, Remus...you knock yourself  
out putting up a stick fence like  
that and the first time old Bessie  
rubs against it, it falls in.

BACK TO KOVAK AND REMUS

45

as Kovak points out the "advantages" of the rail fence he's building. Grabbing a lower rail...

KOVAK

Now you take a rail fence like this  
...locked tight...bull strong...  
last a lifetime...and pleasing  
on the eye.

Remus eyes the fence suspiciously...

REMUS

Fences never last long...they're  
not supposed to.

KOVAK

That's where you're wrong  
lieutenant.

REMUS

I'm not wrong. I'm in charge.

X

KOVAK

Sorry, Boss...This kind of fence  
grows on you.

(a thought)

And...you ever want to move it...  
if Polar wants it over there,  
say...you just take it apart...  
and put it together again.

Remus finds this idea instantly interesting.

REMUS

Is that right?

KOVAK

Would I lie to a nice ape like you?

Remus steps to the fence, kicks a solid lower rail...  
testing...then easily lifts the top rail...portability.  
Kovak watching, interested at this young ape's reaction to  
this "modern fence." Pleased with the fence...but still  
asserting his authority...Remus steps back from the fence.

REMUS

I've decided. It's a good job.

KOVAK

Thank you, Boss.

X

Cont.

REMUS

Now back to work.

Kovak starts wearily back for the pile of rails...Remus tagging along...

REMUS

Who taught you to build a fence like that?

ANGLE AT THE PILE OF RAILS

46

Kovak lifting another one, deciding to take two...heavily.

KOVAK

Abraham Lincoln.

REMUS

I'd like to meet him.

CLOSE ON KOVAK'S FACE

47

Straining under the load, his eyes turn heavenward...

KOVAK

So would I, Massa...so would I.

CUT TO:

EXT. APE VILLAGE - DAY (STOCK)

A-47

INT. URSUS' OFFICE - CENTRAL APE COMMUNITY - DAY

48

Gorilla Two, from the original pursuit group, is reporting to URSUS, head of the ape military and police forces, who is pacing with authoritarian anger, barking at his subordinate.

URSUS

The point is...you let them get away!

GORILLA TWO

We could not follow them at night. The clouds...

URSUS

Viridon...Kovak...and that traitor Galen...they can see through the clouds to the stars at night, I suppose.

Ursus walks to a big colored map on a wall, studying it.

Cont.

URSUS

How long?

GORILLA TWO

Four days hard ride, Sir.

Ursus points to a location.

URSUS

That's all farm country. Tenant farms...a few big plantations.

GORILLA TWO

Yes, Sir.

URSUS

They could steal horses.

GORILLA TWO

It's death for a peasant or a human to ride a horse there, Sir.

Ursus turns to the Gorilla, smiling, sinister.

URSUS

Yes. I know.  
(beat)  
You know the way back?

GORILLA TWO

Yes...but it will be slow. The weather is covering the stars again.

URSUS

Then the gods will guide us. These humans are dangerous! They think they are as good as we are. They stir up trouble.

CUT TO:

EXT. POLAR BARN - NEAR A HAY WAGON - DAY

49

Anto and Polar, both with pitchforks, stand near the hay-filled wagon, a crude wooden-wheeled vehicle, not too large... as Virdon is completing a mysterious task of rigging a sling around the entire load. Anto starts impatiently for the wagon with his fork but Polar restrains him.

ANTO

Make an ox pitch hay into the barn?  
Isn't that enough to convince you he's not right in the mind?

POLAR

Wait...watch...

ANGLE ON VIRDON

50

At the wagon, tightening a rope of the sling he has arranged beneath the entire small load of hay. He looks up at the other rope hanging from a specially rigged roller pulley he has fastened at the peak of the barn over the big open door to the mow.

ANGLE SHOOTING TOWARD OX

51

standing away from the load a few feet, one end of the lift rope already fastened to its yoke.

ANGLE ON VIRDON

52

as he climbs the wagon to secure the other end of the lift rope to the top of the gathered sling. He ties a quick knot ...jumps down...and comes to Polar and Anto.

ANGLE ON THE SCENE

53

VIRDON

Okay...ready.

ANTO

Work is meant to be work! Hay is meant to be pitched! By the forkful.

VIRDON

(smiles)

Drive the ox ahead. Go on.

A beat, Polar studies the face of Virдон for any trace of deceit. Seeing none...Polar walks to the ox, picking up a stick switch, then looks back a questioning beat at the load. Then he taps the ox slightly on the flank...

POLAR

Ho there...ho there...

The ox moves slowly ahead and the entire load of hay is lifted smoothly up into the opening and pulled into the mow of the barn! Polar looks at the feat as though it were magic...hurries back to congratulate Virдон...slapping him on the back...

POLAR

Very good...hah! Very, very good!

VIRDON

(to Anto)

Not bad for a guy who doesn't have all his marbles -- right?

Cont.

POLAR

Show me how to make the trick work.

VIRDON

Easy...I'll show you.

POLAR

(to Anto)

You saw! Isn't that better than forking a whole load of hay? Heh? Come on Anto...agree?

Anto continues to look at the mow opening and we see he is on the verge of agreeing...a big success for Virdon...but the possibility is short-lived...as he hears a loud and PAINFUL MOOING coming from the barn. Anto races for the barn, fearful of the sound from the prize cow...Virdon and Polar following...

INT. BARN - ANGLE ON THE COW STALL

54

as Anto arrives to see the cow lying down, not chewing its cud...its head hanging as though ill. It now lets out a low MOO as though hurting. Virdon and Polar arrive at the stall on the heels of Anto who is now kneeling, holding the head of the cow which can be the fountain of his independence if only...

ANTO

(angrily to Polar)

You see...she must have already eaten some hay that fell in here from that...evil device! You see? She's dying...I know it. They are a curse...I told you!

Polar looks to Virdon for some "explanation" of why this is not so...he's heard humans are dangerous to cattle, too.

POLAR

Anto makes a strong argument...

Virdon, with understanding, steps by Polar and into the stall ...and we see him make a quick, quite professional examination...gently pushing the cow's extended belly with his closed fist...back and forth...then standing. He turns to Polar.

VIRDON

How soon is she expected to calf?

POLAR

Three weeks...three weeks, I think.

Cont.

Viridon gives Polar a reassuring smile.

VIRDON

Your calendar is a little off.  
More like two or three days.  
She'll be off her feed for  
awhile...that's all.

ANTO

It's a lie! Throw them all  
out now...or she will die!

VIRDON

The cow is not going to die, Anto.  
(beat)  
Look, Anto...we can't leave until  
Galen can walk. By that time...  
your cow here will be a happy  
mother...and we'll be on our way.

ANTO

(to Polar)  
No! I'm the eldest, the cow  
is in my charge!

VIRDON

(to Polar)  
Have we shown you anything evil  
yet? Tell me, Polar. If we have...  
send us away.

Polar hesitates...a big decision. Then:

POLAR

(to Anto)  
The farm seems to profit from them.  
(to Viridon)  
You can stay...but if anything  
happens to the cow...as Anto fears  
...your fate will be up to him.

Anto is beside himself with this verdict...

ANTO

What good will that do...?

POLAR

Enough!

Cont.

And Polar walks away, having said his final word on this. Anto, in complete frustration now, gives Virdon a threatening look.

ANTO

Then it will be too late!

(pause)

Maybe not...

He goes stomping off in another direction.

CUT TO:

INT. FARM LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

55

Around the glowing fireside of the crude but warm room. Kovak sits near the hearth, sketching something on a rough board, like a design for a windmill. Zantes is helping Jillia make a garment of cloth, sitting in a chair near the fire. Across from her, Polar is mending a harness rope, weaving the loose ends. Remus sits near his mother's side, shelling corn from small corn ears he's taking from a bag, into a clay pot. Virdon returns from the cot on the far side of the room where Galen is lying...to sit on the floor near Remus, watching...

ZANTES

(to Polar)

Where's Anto?

POLAR

(back)

I think he has some things to work out of his mind.

VIRDON

Remus...I thought you said you were shelling corn for seed!

REMUS

I am...

(talking to Kovak)

Kovak should be doing it.

KOVAK

Hey, have a heart...We didn't discuss coffee breaks, but they're part of the deal.

POLAR

(not looking up)

Remus'll shell the corn. It's the job of the youngest son to prepare the seed.

Virdon reaches into the bag, probes around a second and brings out an ear of dried corn twice the size Remus is holding.

VIRDON

(to Remus)

Here...always use seed from the best ears...not the smallest.

Remus laughs...glances around to see if his family has heard this absurdity.

Cont.

KOVAK  
 (re Virdon)  
 Listen to Mother Earth, he knows.

REMUS  
 Did you hear that?

The others smile tolerantly at Virdon's "ignorance."

REMUS  
 (to Virdon)  
 The best ears are for feed and  
 flour. The little ears are for  
 seed.

VIRDON  
 Oh, I see.  
 (fishing)  
 Then it's the...bad spirits who  
 have been making the stalks in  
 the field smaller and smaller  
 every year?

Remus exchanges a look with his father...Virdon hit the  
 truth. Virdon detects it.

GALEN  
 (from his cot)  
 Virdon used to be a farmer when  
 he was young.

REMUS  
 Not much of a farmer. Wasting  
 big corn on seed.

VIRDON  
 Do you expect to be big and strong  
 like your father some day?

REMUS  
 Of course.

VIRDON  
 Ah...that's because Polar is good  
 seed. If your father were small  
 and puny...you probably wouldn't  
 grow big enough to wrestle a calf...  
 let alone an ox.

(hands the big  
 ear to Remus)  
 Each year...if you use the biggest,  
 best ears for seed...the crop will  
 get bigger and bigger. You'll see.

As Virdon looks at the young Remus studying the ear, his mind travels back to similar nights around the fire with his own son.

VIRDON

I once...sat around a fire  
something like this...telling  
my own son almost the same thing.  
(swallowing)  
Chris...I wonder where he is...  
what he is...

Virdon breaks off...goes to stand by the fire.

CLOSE ON REMUS AND ZANTES

56

He tugs at his mother's sleeve; she leans to him.

REMUS

(whisper)  
Is something the matter?

ZANTES

(whisper)  
Well...they have feelings, too...  
just like us. Now hush.

Remus glances at the big astronaut, then back at his ear of corn.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOUNTED PATROL HEADQUARTERS - CORRAL - NIGHT 57

A gorilla PATROL RIDER, just coming off duty, is giving his mount a WHACK, urging him into the corral which he now closes. The uniformed Gorilla now turns to someone...

PATROL RIDER

Why are you so interested in  
runaway bonded humans? You  
couldn't afford to buy one...

WIDER ANGLE

58

We see Anto standing there.

X

ANTO

I just wondered if there was a...  
reward for helping you find one...  
or two.

Cont.

PATROL RIDER  
Reward? Why? Do you know where  
some are?

ANTO  
I thought maybe you could tell  
me what they...look like.

PATROL RIDER  
All humans look alike, you know  
that.

ANTO  
Maybe...I'd go hunting for them  
...if it would pay enough to...  
buy a new bull calf.

PATROL RIDER  
You peasants are all the same.  
You want to get paid for doing  
your duty. There is no reward.

ANGLE SHOOTING PAST THEM TOWARD HEADQUARTERS 59  
BUILDING - AN APPROACHING PATROL GORILLA

As the Patrol Rider turns away from Anto and heads toward  
the building:

PATROL RIDER  
Now move on...unless you want to  
be arrested for loitering around  
horses.

ANTO  
(angrily)  
The returning of slaves should  
be worth something!

Frustrated and angry, Anto turns and storms off.

MOVING SHOT - WITH THE GORILLA 60

as he meets his comrade on the path, stops. The comrade is  
the Patrol Gorilla we saw earlier at the Polar farm...he  
looks inquisitively toward Anto.

REVERSE ANGLE - TOWARD ANTO 61

PATROL GORILLA  
Who is that?

PATROL RIDER  
(a snort)  
Some back country farmer. Thinks  
we ought to be giving a bounty on  
humans this year.

PATROL GORILLA  
He looks familiar. I've seen him  
before...in the last few days.  
(and recalling)  
Yes. Polar's farm.

Anto moves off into the dark.

ANGLE ON THE PATROL GORILLA

62

He gets a sinister look...of suspicion...

PATROL GORILLA  
HmMMM. Looking for bounty, you  
say?

PATROL RIDER'S VOICE  
(o.s.)  
Reward he said.

PATROL GORILLA  
Perhaps Polar's farm needs  
watching more closely.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN

EXT. POLAR BARN - LONG SHOT

63

to ESTABLISH:

INT. BARN - THE COW STALL - ANGLE ON POLAR AND  
ANTO - DAY

64

The cow is still lying down, making low grunting sounds of pain. Anto is extremely worried...and Polar is concerned.

ANTO

She'll die! Then what will I  
do...wait for another heifer to  
freshen...another three years...  
four years...

POLAR

Virдон says she'll be all right.

ANTO

Sure...who's helped you plow the  
fields and harvest the crops all  
these years...Virдон?

POLAR

He seems to know about these  
things.

ANTO

He's turned your mind...with  
clever talk and tricks.

(beat)

This cow is dying from their curse.  
She started dying the day they  
walked in here...carrying that  
human lover...Galen!

The coincidence is strong for Polar.

POLAR

I'll have a talk with them.

ANTO

Galen can stand...I've seen him.

Polar looks surprised.

ANTO

They're staying so the cow will  
die, I tell you. Humans burn the  
flesh and eat it...you've heard  
tell of that!

POLAR  
You say Galen can stand?

CUT TO:

INT. FARMHOUSE BEDROOM - DAY

65

Galen is standing, weakly, with the aid of a crutch, experimenting a few moments at a time. As Jillia enters the room, carrying a water jug:

JILLIA  
Not too much at one time.  
You'll break open the wound,  
mother says.

Galen eases himself back on his cot, pleased.

GALEN  
The pain has turned to itching.  
A good sign. Virdon and Kovak  
will be surprised...when I walk  
right out to them...

JILLIA  
Not quite yet.  
(beat)  
I don't understand you anyway.  
You must have come from a good  
family. And now you're running  
with...humans...who have filled  
your mind with mad ideas.

GALEN  
It's not mad, Jillia. Now I  
just can't tell you any more...  
So stop asking.

JILLIA  
Why don't you just let them  
go on?

GALEN  
I can't...you keep asking the  
same question different ways!  
Just like a female!

JILLIA  
(wryly)  
I thought you might never notice...

CUT TO:

OUT 66

EXT. HIGHER FIELD - ANGLE FAVORING VIRDON AND  
KOVAK - DAY

who are fastening the last slat in a windmill wheel and tying the saplings from which the base of the windmill tower is constructed.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Remus excitedly tugging his father toward the windmill. Anto follows sullenly, a few steps back. Remus babbles in his enthusiasm.

REMUS

See? What did I tell you?  
It's a -- he's making a --  
tell them Virdon, what you're --  
No, don't. I remember.  
(proudly)  
Our very own windymill.

VIRDON

Windmill.

REMUS

That's what I said. Isn't it  
wonderful?

POLAR

What good is it?

REMUS

(quickly)  
It's absolutely -- why, it will  
-- I did know, they told me, but  
it's kind of mixed up in my head...

KOVAK

This is the power unit of your  
irrigation system, Polar.

POLAR

I don't understand.

KOVAK

Well, when Virdon's through  
with that wheel...it goes up  
there.

(looking up)

The wind will make it turn...

(pointing back  
to ditch)

and we'll pump that water out  
of the ditch...and onto the dry  
ground up here where you need it.

Cont.

This is too much for an enraged Anto...

ANTO

You see! Making oxen lift hay  
that should be pitched...now...  
conjuring up the wind to...make  
water pour where it shouldn't.  
It's unnatural! No wonder the  
cow is dying! Tell them!

Polar is utterly confused.

POLAR

Anto says he has seen your  
friend...Galen, stand.

Viridon and Kovak exchange looks...news to them.

POLAR

If this is so...you must go.

ANTO

Yes! It's true! He can stand.

Remus begins a loud protest.

REMUS

They can't go now...not until  
they finish...so I can see it  
work...no...no.

POLAR

It's not for you to say...the  
youngest has no say.

REMUS

I do have a say...I have a  
say. Anto is only worrying  
about a bull calf.

ANTO

Wait till your time comes to  
worry.

REMUS

I want to learn bigger things...  
like this. They can't leave  
now...not until I see it work.  
Please...please?

Cont.

Polar looks at the weird structure of the windmill, strange to his eyes...the mystery of his youngest "rebellling"...the pressure of Anto...too much for him...as he throws up his hands in defeat and leaves...

POLAR

Stay...leave...stay...go...my  
mistake was being a father...do  
what you want...I just live here  
from now on.

As he walks away, Anto joining him...in fading AD-LIB protests from Anto and noncommittal refusals to listen from Polar...Remus jumping up and down in delight now with...

REMUS

Yeah...yeah...stay...stay...

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND KOVAK

69

KOVAK

That Anto is not one of my  
favorite apes.

VIRDON

Yeah. He could be trouble. That  
mounted patrol was looking for  
escaped laborers...but he didn't  
look fussy who he picked up...as  
long as they were human.

CUT TO:

EXT. RURAL ROAD - DAY

A-69

This main road forms a junction with another road leading off to the right. Ursus and Gorilla Two, their large mounts heavily lathered after a bitter ride, gallop our way... Reining up at the crossing.

URSUS

You see. The gods have been with  
us. We've made excellent time.

GORILLA TWO

Yes sir. But the horses...they  
need rest.

URSUS

We ride!

Ursus jerks his reins, spurs his horses on hard, galloping off down the side road...Gorilla Two following.

INT. FARMHOUSE BEDROOM - ANGLE ON VIRDON, KOVAK  
AND GALEN - DAY

Virдон and Kovak giving Galen a friendly, accusing look as they see him standing now on his crude crutch...

GALEN

I stood for several minutes today...

KOVAK

(to Virдон)

What's the big secret? We're supposed to be friends...

GALEN

I wanted to surprise you.

VIRDON

Lovable Anto is chomping at the bit to get us out of here.

GALEN

Apes don't chomp at bits!

VIRDON

Sorry...he's anxious. And I think we'd better accommodate him. He could turn us in.

KOVAK

Maybe we ought to help that cow! Give her a dose of Epsom Salts and get things moving.

VIRDON

If the calf isn't a bull...we could be in bigger trouble.

GALEN

If the cow dies, Anto is entitled to kill you.

KOVAK

Swell! I'm glad he knows his rights.

GALEN

Give me two, three more days... I'm healing fast now.

VIRDON

We could carry you again. But soon as we leave here...Ursus is going to pick up our trail. We'll be chased. If we could only get to some horses... I take it this isn't horse country.

GALEN

Only landed apes and police  
have horses here. Farmers must  
walk...or ride cows or oxen.

KOVAK

Nice arrangement -- keep 'em  
poor and busy.

VIRDON

We're stuck. We sit it out. See  
whether that cow...or Galen here...  
makes it first.

KOVAK

I can hardly wait.

CUT TO:

EXT. HILL - DAY

71

The Patrol Gorilla prods his horse up the hill, reaches a  
vantage point overlooking Polar's farm, and dismounts.

EXT. SHOWER - DAY

72

A crude shower has been constructed consisting of a tub  
raised on a simple scaffold, a "modesty" screen of rough  
homespun, and a pull-cord to release the water. Kovak is  
reveling in the shower while Virдон is dressing, a "towel"  
draped over his shoulders.

KOVAK

I don't mind being a peasant as  
long as I have all the conveniences  
of the rich.

Cont.

VIRDON

Even the rich don't have showers  
in this world. And while you're  
adding conveniences, maybe tomorrow  
you can put in the hot water.

KOVAK

How about a massage parlor, a  
sauna and a gym. Would that  
make you happy?

VIRDON

For openers...

REVERSE ANGLE - LONG SHOT FROM A FAR HILL - 73  
THE PATROL GORILLA

squinting into the sun, his hand shielding his eyes...and we  
can see in his P.O.V., Kovak, faintly, in the shower near  
the barn.

ANGLE ON PATROL GORILLA 74

as he stands, confident he has seen what he came for...he  
hurries to his horse...and gallops off in a direction away  
from the farm.

CUT TO:

EXT. BARN - LONG ESTABLISHING SHOT - DAY 75

We hear Anto's loud yell...

ANTO

No...no...no...

And the start of a LOW, HOLLOW BELL being rung.

INT. BARN - THE COW STALL 76

Anto on his knees near the stall now, filled with grief...  
striking a ceramic bell with a wooden mallet. The cow is  
lying on her side, hardly moving. Anto weaves to and fro...  
moaning.

ANGLE ON DOOR 77

Virдон and Kovak rush in...followed by Polar, Remus...Zantes  
and Jillia...

POLAR

It's her time...the tolling of  
the bell...

ANTO

She's dying...she's dying...

ANOTHER ANGLE

78

As the others hold back, Virdon rushes into the stall, somewhat alarmed at the condition of the cow.

ANGLE ON VIRDON

79

making a quick diagnosis of the cow's predicament. He stands...a very worried look. Kovak comes to him.

KOVAK

(low to Virdon)

Trouble, Doc?

VIRDON

If I remember what the vet used to do...

KOVAK

Try hard. I've got a feeling we don't want to lose this patient.

Polar and Zantes move to comfort their son...but he pushes them away...continuing to toll the bell...with a sad futility we can see by his parents' faces...

ANTO

Dying...dying...she's dying.

Virdon kneels down by Anto.

VIRDON

Look...Anto...listen to me.

ANTO

Dying...dying...

VIRDON

The cow is giving premature birth...she's suffering because the calf is turned. Do you hear me...?

CLOSE SHOT ON THEIR FACES

80

As Anto looks into the face of Virdon...he explodes with rage, shoving Virdon backwards, springing to his feet, dropping the bell and leaping for a pitchfork...which he now turns with on Virdon.

ZANTES

Anto...stop...

## ANOTHER ANGLE

81

Polar holds her back...Remus and Jillia step back in fright. Kovak is waved back by Virdon and as Anto advances on him slowly, threateningly with the pitchfork:

ANTO

You...you've done this...

KOVAK

Watch it, Virdon -- he's fast with that damn thing.

POLAR

Wait! The cow's not dead... you can't claim a life yet...

Anto remembers the "rule" restraining his impulse to kill Virdon immediately...but holding the pitchfork menacingly close to his neck...(NOTE: NOT DIRECTLY AGAINST NECK)

VIRDON

The cow needn't die. I can help. The calf must be turned around...

ANTO

No! You've worked your last trick here! When she dies... you'll die...

## ANGLE ON DOOR - GALEN

82

entering, with effort, hobbling on his single crutch.

GALEN

Anto...stop.

## WIDE ANGLE

83

Anto doesn't even look back...

ANTO

Come in...you human lover... and see what you've done.

Galen hobbles forward a few steps.

GALEN

Blame me, then. It was my wound that brought them here. We'll leave...now. We'll all leave...

Cont.

KOVAK

I'm packed and ready -- I'll  
tell you that.

POLAR

You hear, Anto...they'll leave.

ANTO

No one will leave...until this  
is all over...one way or another.  
Toll the bell, Remus...it's probably  
too late...but toll the bell.

Remus cautiously walks over and picks up the ceramic bell...  
and starts to toll it slowly, strangely, as Anto still holds  
Virton pinned with the pitchfork.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN

OUT 84

EXT. BARN - LONG ESTABLISHING SHOT - DAY 85

The TOLLING of the ceramic bell by Remus says the tense vigil is still going on inside.

INT. BARN - THE SCENE 86

Remus kneels in the open area of the barn floor, gently ringing the dull bell. Galen has hobbled closer to the cow's stall near where Anto still holds Virдон uncomfortably pinned by the menacing pitchfork. Polar and his wife and daughter stand back, mute witnesses to a scene of fear, tradition, superstition.

VIRDON

Polar...talk sense to him...

Kovak speaks a familiar kind of "code" to Virдон.

KOVAK

Say the word...and I'll commit a clipping penalty that'll get us the fifteen yards.

ANTO

What are you saying?

KOVAK

We were just talking about a five-legged race with Galen.

VIRDON

No way. Our best bet is with the cow!

ANTO

Speak so I can understand.

KOVAK

We're six inches from being shish-kebab, buddy, let the cow find another doctor.

ANTO

You're up to something!

Polar steps forward. Remus stops tolling the bell at his father's move.

Cont.

POLAR

Anto...there's nothing they can do.

Anto pulls the fork away from Virdon's throat, steps back, with a firm new intent.

ANTO

You're right. If they try anything I will kill them. I will kill them all!

Virdon breathes a bit easier...but there's still work to do.

VIRDON

Look...Anto...I can help the cow live. I've seen veterinarians do it a dozen times.

ANTO

No!

VIRDON

Polar...do you want this cow to die?

POLAR

At birthing time, the fate of the cow is in the hands of the oldest son...I have no say now.

Zantes steps forward...a little angry.

ZANTES

Who says you have no say! They're old words...of our fathers' fathers...passed down so long we don't even know if they're right...

POLAR

Be still. Don't say such things in front of the young ones!

ZANTES

I won't be still. And it's Remus and Jillia I'm thinking of.  
(to Anto)

Anto...listen. You've seen these humans show how to keep hills from washing away in the rain. You've seen them create...cropland...from fields that were dry. You want this calf...and the bell asks that it be a bull. Let Virdon help you...

Cont.

Viridon makes a turn toward the stall but Anto is having none of it. He raises the fork again.

ANTO

No! You won't touch the cow.

Kovak moves closer to Remus as Zantes realizes her woman's word is useless here just now.

KOVAK

Al...give me a reading on the odds...you sure you know what you're doing?

VIRDON

No. But I'm sure she'll die if she isn't helped.

KOVAK

(sotto voce)

Remus...you trust me?

Remus nods.

KOVAK

(sotto voce)

Okay...just play along.

(then aloud)

I like the odds better your way.

Get ready to operate, Doc...

And with a whirl, Kovak spins and grabs young Remus off the floor in one swoop.

KOVAK

Come on bell-boy...

Kovak lunges to the far side of the area, holding Remus in a single arm bear hug, Remus' body shielding Kovak's midsection from view. Kovak pulls "something" from his belt, jabs the "something" into Remus' back.

KOVAK

I've got a knife! Now put the fork down, Anto...or your baby brother is never going to live to see your baby bull born...

Over above, INTERCUT TO Remus' back. We see the "knife" is Kovak's index finger. Remus is delighted with the role he's playing.

Cont.

REMUS

Ow! Ooo! He's not fooling.  
Please Anto, do as he says. Ooo!

Remus is overdoing it and Kovak reacts accordingly.

KOVAK

You heard him. Drop the fork!

Anto weighs Kovak's words. He's confused, puzzled, angered. Everyone's holding their breath, waiting for Anto to make his move. Kovak "jabs" Remus a little harder.

KOVAK

(low -- stern)

Anto...

POLAR

Do as he says Anto.

Anto lowers the fork in defeat. Galen hobbles the two steps to Anto, takes the fork. All silently sigh with relief.

ANGLE ON GALEN

87

GALEN

You want it to be a bull...ring  
the bell...

ANTO

You won't get away...when this is  
over...if I don't kill you...the  
police will...I won't lie to them  
again...

Kovak and Virdon react. Anto, almost dumb with anguish, stumbles back to the bell, falls on his knees, picks it up, as we see Virdon hurry into the stall with the cow. Anto starts the slow ringing of the bell.

OUT 88

CUT TO:

INT. BARN - CLOSE SHOT - COW STALL - DAY

89

Virdon "discussing" the matter with the cow.

VIRDON

Okay, Sweetheart, now I'm going  
to do my best for you...and I want  
you to do your best for me, eh...

ANGLE ON KOVAK AND REMUS

X

90

Kovak tousles the hair on the boy's head.

KOVAK

Nice going Remus. We make a  
heck of a team.

REMUS

(re the cow)

Come on...let's go watch.

KOVAK

You watch.

(turning his head)

I get a little queasy in the  
operating room. You can tell  
me about it later. Not too  
much detail.

INT. BARN - ANGLE ON POLAR

91

walking with curiosity to the cow stall where Virдон is  
working...turns to Galen, a worried question:

POLAR

Do you know if he can do it...  
instruct a cow in the birthing  
of a calf?

A beat, even Galen is a little uncertain, but reassuring.

GALEN

He's made a needle that can see  
directions even on a cloudy night.  
I think he can...direct a calf  
into the world.

EXT. RURAL ROAD - DAY

A-91

The galloping horses of the Officer Gorilla and  
Patrol Gorilla come pounding by at an ominous speed...in a  
PASS-BY and we see them covering ground fast as they ride  
out of FRAME...

OUT

92-

93

CUT TO:



THE SCENE

C-98

As they meet, the galloping gorillas reining up, seeing the uniforms of "superiors"...now behaving as subordinates.

OFFICER GORILLA

Sir!

URSUS

I am Ursus...Headquarters.

Both subordinate Gorillas become almost rigid with military respect and surprise.

BOTH

Sir!

Gorilla Two basks in the shared respect.

URSUS

Your horses are lathered. For what reason?

OFFICER GORILLA

(importantly)

Escaped bonded humans, sir.

(a nod)

Patrol here thinks he spotted one on a farm near here...

PATROL GORILLA

(proud)

Standing under a stream of water...

He quiets at a chastening glance from his superior.

URSUS

How far?

OFFICER GORILLA

We're almost there, sir.

URSUS

We're hunting two escaped humans and a defector...enemies of the state.

OFFICER GORILLA

Well, sir...I doubt if...

URSUS

(haughtily)

If there are doubts...I will have them...after we've had a look... lead the way!

OFFICER GORILLA

Yes, sir...

With the regional Gorillas in the lead, the four gallop off in the direction of the Polar farm.

OUT 99-  
100

CUT TO:

INT. BARN - CLOSE ON VIRDON - DAY 101

Perspiration still flowing. He breaks into a big smile.

CLOSE ON POLAR 102

Eyes wide with disbelief.

ANGLE ON GALEN 103

The same.

ANGLE ON KOVAK 104

Eyes closed in a countdown of the worst that can happen, as he hears...BAAAAAAA...of a baby calf...and his eyes open just as he hears another BAAAAA, a different pitch...of a second calf!

THE SCENE 105

As all but Anto rush to the stall, in delight and wonder.

ANGLE AT THE STALL 106

One lying, one just trying to stand...two baby bull calves... twins! Zantes and Jillia cry-giggling in relieved amazement...Remus with wide-eyed wonder...Polar and Galen exchanging pleased looks, as Virdon...exhausted, stands, wiping his hands on a piece of homespun.

ANGLE PAST ANTO TO THE SCENE 107

As Kovak turns from the group to Anto.

KOVAK

Anto...have a look. You hit a jackpot. Two bulls straight across.

Anto gets up cautiously, weary with sustained grief, and walks to the stall.

ANGLE ON ANTO AT THE STALL 108

as the others back away. This is Anto's big moment...his family happy for him. He looks in at the twin bull calves, blinks with disbelief, then, as ecstatic delight sweeps over him, crying with the delight of a sweepstakes winner, he falls on his knees near his calves...holding first one small head then another, crying, laughing, moaning with the largest single delight of his entire life.

ANGLE ON KOVAK AND VIRDON 109

KOVAK

When you said twice as bad...  
(watching Anto)  
You're a genius, Virdon. I'll never knock a farm boy again. Twins.  
From now on you handle all our pregnant cow cases.

Cont.

VIRDON

Two bulls Anto. The bell ringing  
may have had something to do with  
it...

X

EXT. BARN - WIDE ANGLE ON SCENE

110

The four Gorilla horsemen come whomping into the area at a gallop, shaking the very ground with their arrival.

INT. BARN - THE SCENE

111

Jillia runs to the door to peek out a crack, as the others look up, frozen momentarily at the sound of POUNDING HOOVES, HORSES SNORTING. Jillia turns from the door...fear...

JILLIA

Police...all kinds...of police...

POLAR

(to Kovak, Virdon)

Hide...back there...

(to his family)

Come outside...quick...

When Anto hesitates:

POLAR

Anto...come on...

Polar, Remus, Zantes, Jillia head out the door as Galen, hobbling, is helped by Kovak and Virdon into a back, hay-filled area of the barn.

EXT. BARN - THE SCENE

112

As Polar and his family, except Anto, now walk with the best surprise they can muster to the mounted police.

OFFICER GORILLA

Polar...!

PATROL GORILLA

(pointing)

That's Polar!

Ursus and Gorilla Two sit back a pace on their mounts, stiffly, with supreme authority, as these regional Gorillas put on a display of severity.

ZANTES

Why do you come riding through  
here...you make enough thunder to  
shake the turnips from the ground!

OFFICER GORILLA

Shut up! Female!

ANGLE TOWARD BARN DOOR - ANTO 113

Just coming to join his family.

OFFICER GORILLA  
You are hiding escaped bonded  
humans, Polar!

POLAR  
No! That's a lie! He was  
through here before...

Polar points to the Patrol Gorilla.

OFFICER GORILLA  
Silence!

THE SCENE 114

PATROL GORILLA  
(pointing, sure)  
He was standing over there...  
under that...thing...

ANGLE TOWARD SHOWER 115

located near the barn and CAMERA ZOOMS IN ON SHOWER.

ANGLE ON ANTO 116

Looking toward the shower, realizing what the spying  
Patrol must have seen.

THE SCENE 117

PATROL GORILLA  
One of them was standing under  
there...in a kind of rain...

And Anto cracks the tension with a DOUBLING-UP LAUGH!  
Laughing that now surprises not only the mounted Gorillas,  
but his own family as well. A moment when the family  
doesn't really understand Anto's unleashed feelings of  
glee...over the bull calves...or what...?

OFFICER GORILLA  
What's so funny, farmer? You  
won't laugh when Polar is hanging  
from a rope...

ANTO  
(between laughter)  
It was me! He saw me!

Cont.

And he laughs again, walks to a big tub of freshly stoned off-white flour near the wall of a granary.

ANTO

We are a poor farm family...  
would you deny us what little  
fun we can make for ourselves?

Anto reaches into the tub of flour for the big wooden scoop that's there, and starts dousing his hairy head and upper body with the flour...loads of it puffing over him, making him almost white.

ANTO

Look? See? I make the family  
laugh...white like a human, see...

Polar and his family, obliging and even somewhat genuinely, begin to laugh.

ANTO

Then I walk around...like a  
straight-necked goose...like a  
human...see...

Anto starts strutting, his neck and back straight like he's seen humans walk, uncomfortably, and even the mounted Gorillas start to laugh.

ANTO

(mimicking talk)

I'll have some meat...and cook  
it good! Ha...Ha...Ha...

As the Gorillas laugh at this imitation, along with the Polar family, Anto seeks to nail down the one last piece of "identification."

ANTO

See...this is what he saw...  
my dressing room...where I take  
the makeup off...

And he hurries to the shower.

CLOSE ON ANTO IN SHOWER

118

A little uncertain how to use it. He pulls the cord, and is surprisingly drenched with water...standing under a "stream."

ANGLE ON THE GORILLAS

All have stopped laughing except the lowest ranked Patrol Gorilla, who continues until his superior shouts at him.

OFFICER GORILLA

Fool!

Patrol Gorilla stops immediately. They appear ready to ride off as they see the now normal but wet looking Anto step from the shower, but Ursus is the thorough police, turning to Gorilla Two:

URSUS

Search the barn! Eyes that  
deceive once...can deceive  
twice!

Gorilla Two jumps off his horse and strides officially by the Polar family.

ANGLE ON GORILLA TWO

A-119

He marches into the barn. As he does so, CAMERA PANS UP TO THE OPENING ABOVE THE DOOR TO HOLD ON THE HAY PILED IN THE UPPER SECTION.

EXT. BARN - FEATURING URSUS

120

Ursus, a menacing figure in his uniform and valuable horse, rides around the meek Polar family now in a circle, waiting ...looking at them in a superior, threatening way.

URSUS

(to Anto)

A clown, eh? We'll see...

Just as we hear two BAAAS from young calves, all eyes turn to the barn. A tense beat, and Gorilla Two emerges from the barn, shaking his head, announcing:

GORILLA TWO

No humans here, Sir. Two brand  
new calves...they would have  
been eaten if there were humans  
around.

The Gorilla Two remounts his horse...as Ursus rides up to the Officer Gorilla.

Cont.

URSUS  
(lowly to him)  
Demote that Patrol. He has made  
fools of authority...

OFFICER GORILLA  
Yes, sir.

Ursus and his man ride off at a high gallop, in the lead  
this time, the Patrol Gorilla and his Officer following...  
we hear the Officer AD-LIBBING an oath at his stupid  
subordinate.

ANGLE ON THE POLAR FAMILY 121

breathing a big sigh of relief, as Kovak, Virдон and Galen come from the barn to join them now, stray straws still clinging to them, revealing where they hid.

ANGLE ON VIRDON 122

as Anto walks to him with head hung in shame for his actions inside earlier.

ANTO

Virдон...I...I'm sorry for  
how I acted to you in there...  
I just...couldn't believe.

(beat)

Thank you...very much.

VIRDON

I watched, Anto. If I hadn't  
seen it for myself...I wouldn't  
have believed that, either.

(beat)

I'd say we're about even.

WIDER ANGLE - TO INCLUDE REMUS 123

just joining them.

ANTO

Will you show me...what I must  
do...in case some day...when  
you're not here...?

REMUS

(a pro now)

Just ask me, Anto...I know...  
I watched the whole thing...

Anto and Virдон glance down at the young Remus...big smiles...

CUT TO:

EXT. FARMHOUSE - NIGHT 124

Days later, a quite spry Galen with Virдон and Kovak are now bidding the Polar family good-bye. Kovak carries a sack which Zantes is now pointing to:

ZANTES

I put some bread in there...

Cont.

JILLIA  
(to Galen)  
Be careful of the leg...I don't  
want you coming back here and...  
laying around...for me to wait on.

GALEN  
Oh?

She lowers her sad eyes from his smile.

ANGLE ON VIRDON, POLAR AND ANTO 125

Standing to one side, watching as Virdon checks the  
compass.

POLAR  
Where will you go?

VIRDON  
We don't really know. West...  
used to be a good direction.  
We'll try it again.

He pockets the compass.

ANTO  
(warmly)  
Thank you, Virdon. I'll  
never forget you.

Virdon gives the big ape a friendly smile.

VIRDON  
I'm not going to forget you  
right away either, Anto.

He puts a hand on Anto's shoulder, pleased that the ape  
doesn't shrink from this now...and we hear, from the barn,  
distantly, two BAAAA...BAAAAAAAAS.

ANTO  
I've named my bulls. One is  
Kovak...one is Virdon...

As Kovak steps to them:

KOVAK  
Just watch the heifers around  
the one named Kovak...

They laugh.

Cont.

VIRDON

Good-bye...good-bye...

Kovak and Galen AD-LIB good-byes now, and the three fugitives walk away from the front of the small farmhouse where they had first come for help so many days before.

CUT TO:

EXT. FARM FIELD - CLOSE ON WINDMILL WHEEL - DAY 126

Turning in the wind. CAMERA PANS DOWN to see Polar and Remus standing there, watching it.

THE SCENE BELOW 127

Polar and Remus are pleased by the sight of the strange device making the wind work for them. As their attention is drawn away by the sound of HOOVES, an approaching horse.

ANGLE SHOOTING TOWARD HORSEMAN - THE PATROL GORILLA 128

He rides up to them, stops. No words in exchange. Polar has won out over this Patrol once...offering no pleasantries. The Patrol Gorilla looks up at the odd structure.

PATROL GORILLA

What's this?

POLAR

A windmill.

PATROL GORILLA

Where did it come from?

REMUS

I made it.

At the Patrol's disbelieving look:

POLAR

He's very bright.

The Patrol takes another look at it, snorts.

PATROL GORILLA

Humph! If you were bright, old farmer...you'd keep him at work in the fields...not building these... toys to play in the wind.

With this admonition, feeling one-up, the Patrol rides off.

CLOSE ON POLAR AND REMUS

129

As Polar points to the low field that has been drained to feed the ditch this windmill is pumping from:

POLAR

Next spring, we'll plant that new field they made for us. Good rich earth.

REMUS

And we'll plant the best seed... like Virdon said...huh?

POLAR

Yes...we'll try it...the best seed this time...

CAMERA BEGINS SLOW PULL BACK on the last SCENE of Polar and Remus standing beside the windmill -- a lasting reminder to them of their experience with these strange humans.

EXT. FORK IN WOODLAND TRAIL - DAY

A-129

Virdon, Kovak and Galen walking down the trail, reach the fork, stop. Galen gestures to the right fork in the trail.

GALEN

If there are no objections, I think we should go this way.

KOVAK

Does it matter. Everywhere we go there's apes.

VIRDON

Yeah. Some good, some bad. Let's go.

They move off down the right fork.

FADE OUT

THE END