

CAST LIST

PLANET OF THE APES

GALEN

PETE BURKE

ALAN VIRDON

URKO

ZAIUS

CARSIA (FEMALE CHIMP)

LEURIC (HUMAN)

KONAG (GORILLA)

COUNCIL ORANG (ORANGUTAN)

1ST TROOPER (GORILLA)

2ND TROOPER (GORILLA)

DRIVER (HUMAN)

X

Troopers, Guards, Humans, etc.

SET LIST

INTERIORS:

KONAG'S HEADQUARTERS

LEURIC'S BARN

COUNCIL CHAMBER

TEMPLE (RUINED)

JAIL CORRIDOR

LEURIC'S CELL

GARRISON OUTER OFFICE

CARSIA'S WORKSHOP

VARIOUS GARRISON CORRIDORS

EXTERIORS:

BEACH HILLSIDE BY RUINED WALL

TREES NEAR BEACH

RAVINE

CHATKA GARRISON

RUINED TEMPLE

COUNTRYSIDE

FARM

WOODS

BEACH AND CLIFFS

OCEAN PLATEAU

VILLAGE HUT

"UP ABOVE THE WORLD SO HIGH"

ACT ONE

FADE IN

(NOTE TO DIRECTOR: PLEASE ALLOW 45 FEET OF SILENT ACTION  
FOR SUPERIMPOSITION OF TITLES.)

EXT. BEACH HILLSIDE BY RUINED WALL - MED. CLOSE 1  
SHOT - BERRY BUSH - DAY

ripe with odd-looking fruit. GALEN, carrying a small sack, plucks a berry, tastes it, is pleased and starts filling the sack. A SHADOW FLITS BY. Galen pauses, not sure he saw anything. He returns his attention to the berries. The SHADOW FLITS by again. He turns and looks o.s., gasping in surprise, then fear.

GALEN'S P.O.V. - LONG SHOT - GLIDER 2

pitching and yawing, virtually out of control. Its design is similar to a hang glider but constructed of crude wooden struts, animal hide wings tied together with thongs, etc. The pilot is indistinguishable except for his legs hanging down and thrashing about wildly, fighting for control. The glider wings over TOWARD CAMERA (Galen).

BACK TO GALEN 3

gasping in terror, CAMERA ANGLING with him as he dives for the shelter of the ruined wall. After a moment, he peers out.

GALEN'S P.O.V. - THE GLIDER 4

turning away, winging over the valley again.

BACK TO GALEN 5

looking down o.s., CAMERA ANGLING with him as he moves out a few paces, waving, yelling.

GALEN

Alan! Pete!

REVERSE ANGLE - DOWN TO TREES 6

as VIRDON and BURKE emerge, each finishing an odd-looking fruit.

VIRDON

(yells back)

What's the matter?

2

MED. CLOSE SHOT - GALEN 7

GALEN  
(pointing o.s.)  
A...a flying reptile!

He glances o.s., reacts and dives behind the boulder.

MED. TWO SHOT - VIRDON AND BURKE 8

BURKE  
A...what?

OUT 9

THEIR P.O.V. - THE GLIDER 10

appearing momentarily, disappearing.

OUT 11

LOW ANGLE - GLIDER 12

soaring along, CAMERA LOWERING to include Virdon and Burke as they almost reach Galen.

GALEN  
I think it sees us!

Virdon and Burke pause and look back, reacting to what they see.

THEIR P.O.V. - THE GLIDER 13

pitching and yawing, turning and winging away.

BURKE'S VOICE  
(o.s.; awed)  
Well...whadda y'know...

MED. SHOT - VIRDON AND BURKE - GALEN IN B.G. 14

VIRDON  
I don't believe it...

Galen hesitantly moves to them, noting their reactions.

GALEN  
Aren't you frightened?

VIRDON  
Of what? Seeing a man fly?

Cont.

GALEN

(relieved)  
For a moment there, I...  
(reacts)  
Humans can't fly!

BURKE

(reacts)  
Oh-oh!

THEIR P.O.V. - THE GLIDER 15

Something has happened as it yaws and pitches wildly.

EXT. BEACH - LONG SHOT - TWO GORILLA TROOPERS A-15

approaching, suddenly reining in. Looking up, o.s.

CLOSE SHOT - GALEN, VIRDON AND BURKE AT RUINED B-15  
WALL

as they spot the Gorillas, flatten themselves against the wall. Then they look back at the sky.

ANGLE ON THE GLIDER C-15

seemingly out of control, vanishes behind the crest of a hill, apparently crashing into a stand of trees.

ANGLE ON THE TROOPERS D-15

They lash their horses back to the road leading up from the beach.

ANGLE ON GROUP AT WALL 16

VIRDON

Let's get out of here.

Crouching low, they duck across the open stretch of ground to the shrub cover of the hillside.

LOW ANGLE - GORILLAS A-16

as they gallop up the beach past the ruined wall, swing their horses up toward the crash scene; CAMERA PUSHES IN to Galen, Virdon and Burke, crouching in the bushes, as the Gorillas gallop past. Then Virdon, in the lead, Galen and Burke take a short cut up the hill.

ANGLE ON TROOPERS B-16

as they spur up the winding road.

EXT. TREES - MED. LONG SHOT - GALEN AND BURKE - DAY 17

running toward CAMERA. Galen suddenly points o.s.

GALEN

Wait!

REVERSE LONG SHOT - TWO TROOPERS 18

crossing a meadow, below them, riding upward. Beyond, in the b.g., the sea.

BACK TO GALEN AND BURKE 19

GALEN

We'd better get there first.  
A flying human? They'll kill  
him.

They hurry off, CAMERA PANNING them o.s. through the trees.

EXT. TREES - LOW ANGLE - GLIDER WRECKAGE - DAY 20

scattered about, hanging from tree branches. An o.s. THRASHING SOUND is HEARD as CAMERA PANS the scene to HOLD on the upside-down figure of LEURIC, fiftyish, hanging by his foot entangled in a piece of wreckage. He "curses" under his breath as he tries to extricate himself.

CLOSE SHOT - HIS FOOT 21

coming loose from the wreckage.

ANGLE ON LEURIC 22

flailing out with a YELL, grasping the leaves of a branch, CAMERA LOWERING with him as he falls, pulling the branch down with him, allowing him to land with a thump but unhurt.

ANGLE THROUGH TREES 23

as Virdon appears. He sees Leuric o.s. and yells back.

Cont.

VIRDON

Pete! Galen! This way. I  
found him!

CAMERA PANS him quickly to Leuric as the latter sits up,  
brushing himself off.

VIRDON

Are you hurt?

Leuric allows him to assist him to his feet through the  
following. Leuric is preoccupied with the glider and  
pays little attention to Viridon.

LEURIC

No. --

(works back  
muscle)

Ow...Ah! -- Better.

(relaxes)

Let's see. Gust of wind from  
there -- should have put my  
weight that side...

X

VIRDON

(breaking in)

It's not that simple. The  
design is wrong.

LEURIC

I'll correct --. Never mind.

You wouldn't understand.

(surveying wreck)

I can save most of this.

Reinforce the wings. Yes.

That'll do it.

X

VIRDON

Keep trying and you'll kill  
yourself.

LEURIC

It would be worth it. I'll  
fly. That's something no other  
man or Ape has ever done. I --

X

He breaks off as ONCOMING HOOFBEATS are HEARD; turning,  
alarmed, he becomes aware of Galen for the first time.

Cont.

LEURIC

An ape!

VIRDON

(stops him)  
Hold it! We're friends.

LEURIC

(indicates Galen)  
Him?

Before Virdon can answer:

BURKE

Those Troopers spotted you!

Virdon takes Leuric by the arm and they all head o.s.

OUT 24

ANGLE THROUGH TREES - THE TROOPERS

25

urging their mounts forward.

OUT 26-  
28

LOW ANGLE - TROOPERS

29

approaching, reining in at tree where Leuric crashed.  
CAMERA PANS UP to wreckage.

FIRST TROOPER'S VOICE

(o.s.)  
We have the thing that flies.

OUT 30-  
38

INT. LEURIC'S BARN - CLOSE ON GLIDER MODEL -  
DAY

The model swings and swoops, giving the impression, if possible, that it is a full scale glider. CAMERA PULLS BACK TO REVEAL the size of the model and the energy source which initiates its movement -- a large bellows energetically operated by Leuric. Galen watches in fascination, Virдон and Burke in sympathy and appreciation of the effort and intelligence represented by this crude device.

LEURIC

You see, it will work.

The barn is a workshop with primitive tools, glue pots, stretch frames for skins, bamboo poles, etc. On one of the tables, a six-inch hunk of molten glass has been placed carelessly. Leuric, having delivered himself of his pronunciamento to his "guests," now concerns himself with the glider model and speaks essentially to himself.

VIRDON

You got your glider off the ground but you were lucky you weren't killed.

LEURIC

You have a superstitious fear of a man flying.

BURKE

I've got plenty of fears but that's not one of them. I guarantee you'll kill yourself.

LEURIC

How would you know?

GALEN

Believe me, they know.

Cont.

LEURIC

(a beat)

Really? -- No, it's impossible.  
No one has flown. I'm the first.  
They can't know anything about it.

Burke and Virdon exchange looks of frustration which are intercepted by Galen as Leuric continues fiddling with his model.

GALEN

(taking Leuric's  
arm)

Why would an Ape bother to lie  
to humans? When I tell you that  
these two know about flying,  
listen and believe.

Leuric is semi-convinced. He'll listen.

BURKE

I don't know how you got as far  
as you did but now you need to  
know aerodynamics, the characteristics  
of lift bodies, turbulence, wind  
eddies, a dozen other things.

LEURIC

(impressed)

I don't know what all those  
words mean.

VIRDON

You've invented a sort of glider.  
That's a remarkable achievement,  
but it's a dead end. Where do  
you go with it?

LEURIC

Into the sky.

VIRDON

For what? Put the same thought  
and energy into something that will  
be useful for yourself, for others...

BURKE

Invent a new kind of plow or  
something.

Cont.

LEURIC

(driven)

I will fly! I tell you I will  
be the first being to --  
(stopping himself)  
You're trying to steal my idea,  
to take the credit.

Viridon and Burke are reluctant to destroy Leuric's dream.

VIRDON

We're not competing with you.  
We're trying to help.

BURKE

Listen to me, Leuric. If we  
worked on your glider, taught you  
safety techniques, got you soaring  
like an eagle, we'd only be setting  
you up as a target. You'd be  
spotted by some Gorilla and pow!

He mimes a shot and the crash of the glider.

LEURIC

I don't care.

GALEN

Why is it so important?

LEURIC

You rule the world. You've  
never been forced to bow and  
scrape. You've never been denied  
the chance to convince --  
yourself, to prove what you are,  
to do some one thing that will  
say Leuric is -- Leuric, special,  
with ability, imagination --

Our trio is moved by Leuric's need to prove himself.

LEURIC

(ending the  
discussion)

I've already thanked you. Now  
I must get back to work.

His stubbornness is frustrating.

Cont.

GALEN

How long until the Apes find you? Now they know a human has tried to fly, they won't stop until they find that human.

LEURIC

I won't stop my work.

BURKE

A bullet may stop it for you. Isn't there any place you can work where you won't be spotted?

LEURIC

(a beat)

There is one -- No. To transport all my tools, my materials, it would take too much time.

VIRDON

We'll help you move.

Leuric is given pause.

BURKE

Yeah, sure. Now, how about lugging this junk to wherever?

LEURIC

You're very good to me. I will show you. Several trips will be necessary.

VIRDON

That's all right.

As all begin to load themselves with the impedimenta of the barn, Galen picks up the hunk of glass and examines it curiously.

GALEN

Is this something to do with flying?

LEURIC

(headshake)

I found it on the beach. A strange rock appeared after lightning struck...

Cont.

BURKE

The sand must have melted and a hunk of glass formed. I'll polish it, Galen, and show you what can be done with it...If you don't mind, Leuric...

Leuric gestures assent. They continue to load up. CAMERA MOVES IN on a wing section.

OUT 40

INT. COUNCIL CHAMBER - CLOSE ON WING OF GLIDER - DAY 41

This is a wing from the crashed glider. As will be seen on CAMERA PULLBACK, it is being displayed to the full Council by Konag.

COUNCIL ORANG'S VOICE

(o.s.)

You expect us to believe a human --  
(CAMERA pulling back)  
-- a human flew -- something even  
Apes can't do?

Much incredulity from Council. Also present, CARSIA, an intellectual Chimp female -- very bright, with much drive and a subtle Machiavellian mind. She has perfected the device of self-effacement as a lulling weapon. Konag is momentarily left speechless by the attack on his credibility.

URKO

I expect you to believe Konag.  
My garrison commanders don't ask to address the Council for the purpose of lying.

ZAIUS

This is interesting but nothing more than a toy. Is there any objection to having the human found, killed, and any other such toys destroyed?

CARSIA

If I might have permission -- ?

Zaius nods.

Cont.

CARSIA

I'm just a simple scientist who has none of your wisdom in dealing with humans. I merely wonder if this idea -- even though stumbled upon by a human -- might not serve us.

URKO

Ridiculous. How could a human idea serve us?

CARSIA

I don't know. But this is new, unexplored. What would be lost in a closer examination?

Some signs of thoughtful consideration from Council members, bar Urko -- and resentment from Konag.

ZAIUS

Go on...

CARSIA

It's not widely known, but there is reason to believe our ancestors were able to fly.

This is a bombshell. AD-LIB expressions of amazement from all but Zaius.

CARSIA

I have seen references, vague but strongly suggestive, in remnants of books from the old days before the world was almost destroyed.

ZAIUS

Perhaps this human learned from some book he found.

URKO

If he has such a book, it's punishable by death. He can infect other humans. In any case why bother to develop a worthless toy?

CARSIA

I'm sure you're absolutely right, Urko.

He preens.

CARSIA

And yet, I wonder...if flying  
was worthless, would our ancestors  
have engaged in it?

Urko has egg on his face.

OUT 42-  
46

EXT. RUINED TEMPLE - CLOSE SHOT - VIRDON - DAY 47

carrying an armload of glider parts, etc., CAMERA PANNING  
him into the remains of the building.

INT. TEMPLE - ANGLE ON VIRDON - DAY 48

ENTERING, to INCLUDE Burke setting up other tools and  
equipment from Leuric's barn. Virdon dumps his armload  
on a makeshift table.

BURKE

How much more?

VIRDON

Galen and Leuric should be  
bringing the last of it.

Burke nods, picks up the hunk of glass.

BURKE

I'll work on this. I want to  
see Galen's face when he first  
looks through a magnifying glass.

Burke polishes the glass, Virdon fiddles with wing parts  
as Galen rushes in breathlessly.

GALEN

Leuric was captured!

Cont.

On their reaction:

GALEN

I watched from hiding. There  
was nothing I could do. They  
took him away.

VIRDON

Why didn't they kill him?

GALEN

Good question...

(beat)

About the only thing I can think  
of...they just might want to make  
a spectacle of him.

BURKE

How?

GALEN

A public execution.

Their eyes lock.

OUT 49-  
56

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

EXT. CHATKA GARRISON - DAY

57

A carriage, driven by a nondescript HUMAN DRIVER, pulls up. A number of boxes are stacked on the top of the carriage. (The boxes, of course, are crude -- packages wrapped in skins or cloth can augment one or two boxes.) One box, which is only partially visible, is a relic from the twentieth century. It's green, Army issue metal, and will later be seen to have stamped upon it. FRAGMENTATION - COSMOLINE PACK. Carsia EMERGES from the carriage.

CARSIA

(to Driver)

Bring my things in.

Driver begins unloading as Carsia moves into the garrison.

INT. KONAG'S QUARTERS - DAY

A-57

Konag, none too happy, has not risen to face Carsia who is cool and pleasant.

CARSIA

Congratulations on capturing the human. Where is he?

KONAG

In a cell. He's been handled roughly but he can answer your questions.

CARSIA

I'm sure he'll be more cooperative thanks to your handling.

As she speaks, Driver begins bringing in her gear. Konag rises, suspicious, resentful.

KONAG

What is all this?

CARSIA

Some things for use with the human, the rest for my comfort since I'll be staying awhile.

X

KONAG

The Council gave you authority to deal with the human for a short while.

Cont.

CARSIA

Tell me, Konag. How long is a short time? A day, three, seven, nine -- ?

KONAG

We have no guest facilities. This is a troop garrison.

CARSIA

(looking around)  
I don't mind inconvenience. This will be perfectly adequate.  
(to Driver)  
Put those there.

KONAG

These are my quarters!

CARSIA

It's most generous of you to offer them. I'll tell Urko and the Council how very helpful you are.

Konag is speechless. Carsia assumes agreement and begins checking the gear which has been brought in.

CARSIA

I shall also need a large room, a workroom, well guarded. I'm sure you could manage two or three sturdy tables, and beyond that, you'll hardly know I'm here.  
(sorting gear)  
I do thank you, Konag. My servant will carry out your personal effects. I'll question the human shortly.

With which, Konag finds himself dismissed. He hesitates, chomps on his anger, then EXITS.

INT. JAIL CORRIDOR - DAY

58

First Trooper is on duty. He's eating, but quickly hides the food upon hearing FOOTSTEPS. Carsia sweeps IN.

CARSIA

Ah, Trooper. I'm Carsia. You were told to expect me?

FIRST TROOPER

Yes.

Cont.

CARSIA

Take me to the human, Leuric...

FIRST TROOPER

He's being punished. He doesn't show respect.

SOUND of SLAP and subdued CRY.

CARSIA

I'll wait...

ANOTHER SLAP is heard. Carsia is unmoved.

X

INT. LEURIC'S CELL - DAY

59

He's been shoved into a corner by Second Trooper and he shows marks of the treatment he's had. Leuric is in bad shape, unable to pull himself up but glaring nonetheless at his tormentor and displaying no contrition.

SECOND TROOPER

Stand up!

Leuric tries, but can't. He's defiant even in weakness. Second Trooper shrugs.

SECOND TROOPER

Next time, eat what's given to you without complaining.

He turns and opens cell door.

ANGLE FROM CORRIDOR INTO CELL

60

as door opens. Carsia steps INTO doorway, blocking Second Trooper, looking at Leuric with compassion, shaking her head.

CARSIA

(to Second Trooper)

You're worse than these lower animals!

SECOND TROOPER

Who are you?

First Trooper APPEARS behind Carsia to wave Second Trooper to silence.

CARSIA

There's nothing worse than strength and authority without intelligence -- .  
Get out!

X

In total bewilderment, Second Trooper EXITS.

INT. LEURIC'S CELL - DAY

61

Leuric has watched Carsia's performance with wonderment. She moves to stand over him, not pretending to be at his level -- which he would find suspicious, but sympathetic and understanding.

CARSIA

I'm very sorry.

LEURIC

Apes aren't sorry for humans.

CARSIA

I'm different from some Apes. I think you're different from most humans. That's why I'm here.

(calling)

Guard.

First Trooper ENTERS.

CARSIA

When this man has rested, and had his hurts attended, please bring him to me. I needn't warn you there is to be no repetition of the brutality I just witnessed.

First Trooper nods dumbly. Carsia EXITS.

EXT. GARRISON - DAY

62

ANGLE AWAY from front of garrison. Carsia's carriage is parked, the horse unhitched and Driver currying the animal. Burke is standing next to him, admiring the horse, envying Driver.

BURKE

You drove all the way from Central City?

DRIVER

I drive Carsia to towns even farther than this one. She is a very important ape.

X

BURKE

And you get to ride. You're lucky.

DRIVER

(nodding)

Oh, yes.

Cont.

BURKE

If I was an important Ape like Carsia -- is that her name? -- I could think of better places to visit than this village. Nothing ever happens here.

DRIVER

Something happened.

BURKE

What?

DRIVER

I don't know but Carsia wouldn't come all this way to talk to a human unless something unusual was going on...

INT. KONAG'S QUARTERS - DAY

63

Now occupied by Carsia who is facing a somewhat recovered but wary Leuric.

LEURIC

Why did you tell that Guard not to beat me?

CARSIA

Because beatings accomplish nothing which cannot be achieved in a more civilized way.

LEURIC

What do you want?

CARSIA

I will not undergo questioning by a human for whom I've requested decent treatment.

LEURIC

I'm sorry.

CARSIA

That's the first reasonable thing you've said.

LEURIC

And I appreciate what you did.

CARSIA

The second. Good.

Cont.

LEURIC

But why did you do it?

CARSIA

Questioning again. Well, never mind. I suppose I'd be suspicious, too. Leuric, I want to help you.

LEURIC

Why?

CARSIA

(flare of impatience)  
Stop questioning and accept the favors you're offered!

He doesn't reply. She controls her temper.

CARSIA

I am a scientist. I'm interested in truth and knowledge. I've been told you know the secret of flying. Is it true?

LEURIC

Yes.

CARSIA

Can you prove to me that a man -- or an Ape could fly?

LEURIC

I could prove that I can fly.

CARSIA

How?

LEURIC

By flying.

CARSIA

So you say...

LEURIC

I have flown -- almost. If my materials and tools had not been taken from me --

(stops himself)

If they don't kill me, if I ever get out of here, I'll fly.

Carsia studies him silently.

INT. GARRISON OUTER OFFICE - CLOSE ON SECOND  
TROOPER - DAY

65

Second Trooper is sitting at the desk staring up at someone  
o.s., bewilderment written large on his face.

GALEN'S VOICE

(o.s.)

A flying reptile was actually seen  
near here, or so I was told.

CAMERA PULLS BACK to reveal Galen who is squinting at  
Second Trooper.

SECOND TROOPER

I don't know anything about flying  
reptiles but if I hear of any --

GALEN

(interrupting)

You're not interested. I'm wasting  
time. Who is your superior? Where  
is he?

SECOND TROOPER

Konag is inspecting the outposts.  
He'll be back tonight.

GALEN

There must be someone -- is  
anyone else here besides yourself?

SECOND TROOPER

She's busy.

GALEN

She? In a garrison?

SECOND TROOPER

Visiting from Central City.

GALEN

From civilization! I'll wait  
for her.

He sits on a convenient chair. Second Trooper is not  
pleased, but raises no objection.

INT. CARSIA'S WORKSHOP - DAY

66

The "large, well-guarded room" which Carsia requested from Konag. Tables have been supplied and they are loaded with materials identical with those used by Leuric in making his glider. An assortment of tools indigenous to the time as well as some from the twentieth century are on display. Leuric wanders in awe, touching various items as if to insure the reality. Carsia watches.

LEURIC

This must be the finest collection of tools in the world.

CARSIA

I should think so. I borrowed them from our best museums and workshops.

LEURIC

For me to use?

She nods.

LEURIC

So that I can fly?

CARSIA

Is there anything else you'll need?

LEURIC

Is there anything else to need?

CARSIA

I'm not familiar with tools, and some of these were developed by our ancestors. We've since lost the knack of using them -- perhaps because we have humans to do our labor.

(picking up plane)

I suppose you'll know what to do with them. This does seem an awkward instrument for driving nails.

She makes the attempt to drive a nail.

LEURIC

It has another use...

He shows her. The wood shavings will be used later.

CARSIA

Very good. You are clever with your hands. Just be equally clever with your head and design a device which will take you high into the sky.

She nods, smiles.

INT. GARRISON OUTER OFFICE - DAY

67

Second Trooper leaning back in his chair, half asleep; Galen seated, tapping his toe impatiently, nervously examining his fingernails.

GALEN

How much longer must I wait  
for this female?

CARSIA

(entering)  
No longer...Hello. I'm Carsia.

GALEN

(rising)  
Hello, indeed. My name is Portus.  
I'm on an archeological expedition,  
but why on earth would you be in  
this forsaken village?

CARSIA

On another kind of expedition.  
How can I help you?

GALEN

You have already -- by reviving my  
confidence that I am not the only  
Ape in the world with interests  
extending beyond eating and sleeping.

He looks pointedly at Second Trooper who is plainly bewildered. Carsia is amused.

CARSIA

I've not found the company terribly  
stimulating, either. Do come in...

She invites him to follow her and he does after a triumphant look at Second Trooper.

INT. KONAG'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

68

Carsia and Galen seated at the table, tete-a-tete, sipping wine. CAMERA ESTABLISHES unobtrusively the "fragmentation" box.

GALEN

So you see, I had to follow up  
the rumor about flying reptiles...

Cont.

CARSIA

I'm glad you did.

GALEN

Actually, a flying human is even more of a curiosity.

CARSIA

We'll know in a few days.

GALEN

I'd love to see such a sight...

CARSIA

Stay. I'd be delighted to have you present at the demonstration.

GALEN

You are kind.

CARSIA

I don't know if that's the right word to describe me...

Cont.

GALEN  
Charming -- ?

CARSIA  
(smiling)  
Thank you.

GALEN  
Very attractive...

CARSIA  
I wasn't asking for compliments  
although I like to hear them...

GALEN  
But you don't think you're kind.

CARSIA  
Let's say -- I'm not sure. I  
have other qualities. They're more  
important.

GALEN  
Such as -- ?

CARSIA  
Surely it's more interesting if  
you discover them for yourself...

GALEN  
I mean to try but I don't expect  
to find you unkind. That, I can't  
believe.

CARSIA  
I suppose I could take credit for  
saving the life of the human who  
says he can fly. His name is Leuric.

GALEN  
Was he to have been killed?

CARSIA  
He still will be if he's lied. He's  
promised to be ready for the  
demonstration in five days. If he  
fails --

She gestures that it will all be over for Leuric.

Cont.

GALEN

I do hope he succeeds...

(checks himself)

Just so I can see a flying human.

X

CARSIA

(raising her glass)

I'm eager, too. That's why I  
was determined he'd live.

X

INT. TEMPLE - NIGHT

69

Burke still fiddling with the glass which is now well on  
its way to becoming a magnifying glass. He and Virdon are  
listening to a report from Galen.

X

VIRDON

It'll be a short life.

BURKE

Unless he can get his kite off  
the ground...

VIRDON

Which he can't. Galen, couldn't  
Carsia save Leuric even if his  
glider is a failure?

GALEN

I can only go on what she told  
me. I know she's sympathetic,  
she'd certainly want to protect  
him. She's that kind of person...

BURKE

Hey, you getting hung up on her?

GALEN

If you mean what I think you  
mean, I think you're jumping to  
very premature conclusions --  
(indignation dissolves --  
interest replaces it)  
-- which could be correct.

VIRDON

Have a happy love life, but in  
the meantime, what do we do about  
Leuric?

Cont.

BURKE

See that he flies -- if we can figure a way. Why did that guy have to pick on flying to prove himself? Couldn't he have a shot at something easy, like tackling tigers bare-handed.

VIRDON

He can't make a functioning glider. We've got to make it for him.

BURKE

I'm not sure we know enough to build one out of the junk we can get our hands on...

OUT 70-  
74

MONTAGE SEQUENCE

75-  
B-79

A. EXT. WOODS - ANGLE ON VIRDON - DAY

hand in to grasp at tree, hacking down a slender tree branch, stripping it, bending it to his satisfaction.

1-A. INT. CARSLIA'S WORKSHOP - NIGHT

Leuric working feverishly on his clumsy contraption.

B. EXT. TEMPLE - ANGLE ON BURKE - DAY

inspecting a hide, holding it up to the sunlight. In b.g., Galen is braiding thongs into a rope.

Cont.

## 1-B. INT. CARZIA'S WORKSHOP - DAY

Leuric using one of the more efficient tools supplied by Carsia and thus achieving more speedily some task also in progress (at the different location) by our trio.

## C. INT. TEMPLE - ANGLE ON VIRDON - NIGHT

using a stone, smoothing a piece of wooden framework.

## 1-C. INT. CARZIA'S WORKSHOP - NIGHT

Leuric still working madly and far along in the construction of his glider. He is well ahead of our trio, thanks to his sloppy workmanship and the efficiency of the tools.

## D. INT. TEMPLE - ANGLE ON THE THREE - DAY

fitting a section of framework to another, Burke lashing it in place.

## E. EXT. TEMPLE - ANGLE ON GALEN - DAY

removing a pot from a fire, heading into the hut.

## INT. TEMPLE - ANGLE ON VIRDON AND BURKE - DAY 80

fitting a piece of hide to the framework, CAMERA PULLING BACK to INCLUDE Galen standing by holding the pot which contains a primitive feather brush. Burke reaches for the brush, applying the liquid to the forward edge of the hide.

VIRDON

Pull it tight so it'll hold.

Burke tosses the brush back into the pot and assists Virdon. Galen stares at the pot.

GALEN

Amazing. Boiled tree sap, and corn flour.

He runs his fingers around the edge of the pot.

BURKE

Best we could do.

(beat)

It's called glue.

Cont.

They work for a moment, then:

VIRDON  
Galen, lend a hand here.

GALEN  
I can't.

They react and look up.

GALEN  
My fingers are stuck together.

He brings up his hand in a helpless gesture.

EXT. BEACH CLIFF - DAY

81

Our trio approaches cautiously, watching out for any possible enemy. They are carrying the completed glider. As they pause:

BURKE  
What do you think?

VIRDON  
Could fly -- with luck.

GALEN  
I do hope so. It's very exciting!

VIRDON  
If you think the prospect of flying is exciting, wait till you take off.

GALEN  
I will, I mean, I wouldn't miss seeing --  
(reacts)  
I take off?

Solemn nods.

GALEN  
It's been a fascinating experience.

He starts off but is grabbed by Virdon and Burke.

GALEN  
If you roped me to that thing kicking and screaming, I'd still find a way to stay right here on the ground.

Cont.

VIRDON

Galen, listen. This must be tested before we take it apart and try to get it into Leuric.

GALEN

I intend to watch one of you test it and applaud enthusiastically if you are successful.

BURKE

What would happen if some ape looked up and saw a human flying?

GALEN

The ape would try to shoot him...

VIRDON

And up there, hanging on a glider, there's no way to duck.

BURKE

If an ape saw another ape flying, he'd be shook up but he wouldn't shoot.

GALEN

He won't be shook up because he's not going to see an ape flying.

VIRDON

Galen, you've got to!

Galen shakes his head with intractable determination.

BURKE

It's you fly or it's 'Alas, poor Leuric!'

Viridon gives him a dirty look.

GALEN

Save your breath. It's out of the question. I refuse. I absolutely put my foot down.

He glares at them in defiance.

EXT. HILLSIDE - CLOSE SHOT - GALEN'S FOOT - DAY 82

bracing on the lower bar of the glider.

VIRDON'S VOICE

(o.s.)  
That's it...just brace it right there...

CAMERA PULLS BACK to REVEAL Galen as the "pilot" with Virdon demonstrating. Burke holds the glider wing level.

BURKE

Just kick off like he showed you.  
Ready?

GALEN

No.

VIRDON

Go!

Galen kicks off with his free foot as Virdon and Burke haul the glider forward by the wing tips.

OUT 83

LOW FULL SHOT - GLIDER 84

soaring off from the hillside. Burke and Virdon holding up, watching.

ANGLE ON GALEN (PROCESS) 85

trying to control the glider, petrified, gasping.

FULL SHOT - GLIDER 86

winging around, wobbling.

VIRDON'S VOICE

(o.s.; yells)  
Easy! Let the wind do it!

ANGLE ON GALEN (PROCESS) 87

gaining courage, getting the hang of it.

TWO SHOT - VIRDON AND BURKE 88

watching.

ANGLE ON GALEN (PROCESS) 89

settling down, almost smiling. He releases a hand to wave and just as quickly grabs the support again.

FULL SHOT - GLIDER 90

soaring along.

BURKE'S VOICE

(o.s.)  
He likes it!

INT. CARSIA'S WORKSHOP - DAY

CAMERA ANGLING on Leuric's virtually finished glider.

CARSIA'S VOICE

(o.s.)  
Well, Protus, what do you think?

CAMERA PULLS BACK to REVEAL Leuric, the proud inventor, Carsia and Galen.

GALEN

Absolutely marvellous. It's hard to believe one could actually fly. What a thrilling experience that would be...

LEURIC

I'll be the first to know when I fly tomorrow.

Galen reacts, but covers.

GALEN

Tomorrow? That's two days earlier than Carsia said...

CARSIA

Leuric has worked enormously hard. He's ready before we expected.

GALEN

(weakly)  
How nice...

CARSIA

Come, Protus. I've had a new book delivered from Central City. You'll be interested.

She turns and moves to the door, KNOCKING so it is opened by GORILLA GUARD who is outside workshop. Galen is torn. He desperately wants to speak to Leuric who has returned to putting finishing touches on his glider, but Galen can't speak in Carsia's presence. He hurries after her. She EXITS; he stops and calls after her.

GALEN

Carsia, I'll be with you in a minute. I just want to have one last look at this marvellous bird...

He signals to Guard to close the door, which is done, and Galen dashes back to Leuric.

Cont.

LEURIC

Protus -- ?!!!

GALEN

Never mind! Your glider won't fly!

LEURIC

(angrily)  
It will!

GALEN

We've built another which does fly.  
It's being taken apart so it can be  
smuggled to you.

LEURIC

This will fly, and I will fly it.

GALEN

You'll break every bone in your  
thick head!

Leuric turns away to work.

GALEN

Stall for two days. We can't get  
the new glider delivered to you and  
reassembled in less time.

LEURIC

You want time to steal my idea and  
be the first to fly!

Door opens and Carsia pops her head in.

CARSIA

Protus -- ?

GALEN

Coming.

CARSIA

Everything all right, Leuric?

LEURIC

Everything is fine. I'll fly tomorrow...

Galen slowly makes his way to the door as Leuric goes back  
to work on the glider.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

OUT 92

FADE IN

INT. TEMPLE - NIGHT

A-92

Our trio is working feverishly to take their glider apart and divide it into the smallest possible pieces.

GALEN

This is hopeless. Even if we get this in shape by morning, we can't possibly deliver and assemble it in time.

BURKE

That Leuric is a rockhead!  
He's as stubborn as an Ape!

Cont.

GALEN

Apes are stubborn? Leuric isn't an Ape, you're not an Ape, Alan isn't an Ape! You two are determined to risk all of us by trying to save a man even you call a rockhead!

VIRDON

You know, we're going about this wrong. The first order of business is not to deliver a glider that will fly -- the first thing is to stop a glider that won't fly.

GALEN

Very clever, only Leuric doesn't agree with you.

BURKE

(slowly)

Even he could be convinced...

Virdon reads Burke's thought.

VIRDON

If there were circumstances beyond his control...

INT. CARSIA'S WORKSHOP - DAY

93

Leuric has completed work on his glider and is moving it into position to be taken out for its maiden flight. Door opens to ADMIT Carsia and Galen.

CARSIA

All ready, Leuric?

He's a man transported by the anticipation of achieving his life's dream.

LEURIC

Yes, yes!

(defiantly to Galen)

I am ready.

Carsia hears an undertone and looks to Galen curiously.

GALEN

I'm afraid Leuric is somewhat single-minded, a characteristic of humans. I mentioned to him yesterday that there were other areas of interest in science --

He whips out the polished hunk of glass and displays it with great pride.

CARSIA

What is it?

GALEN

This -- made from a natural substance -- is an unnatural device. I call it an expander.

He looks around, finds a bug crawling in the window, grabs it and places it on the wing of the glider, after touching it to the edge of a glue pot. He now holds the glass in position and gestures for Carsia to look through it. She does.

INSERT - MAGNIFIED BUG

94

as seen through the glass.

CARSIA'S VOICE

(o.s.)  
Fascinating, Protus.

BACK TO SCENE

95

Galen is pleased.

GALEN

Now you, Leuric...

Leuric looks and is impressed. Galen sets the magnifying glass down in such a position that the sun's rays, coming through the window, are focused on the glider wing by the magnifying glass.

GALEN

It can expand anything you look at. Now, what I was wondering...

He looks around and gestures for Carsia and Leuric to follow him to the far end of the workshop. The magnifying glass is left to do its work.

ANGLE AT FAR END OF WORKSHOP

96

Galen, followed by Carsia and Leuric, pauses at a workbench. He spots a crude tongue and groove joint in a couple of hunks of wood. He lifts them for inspection, making sure Carsia and Leuric have their backs to the glider, o.s.

Cont.

GALEN

Look at this closely...

As they do, Galen quickly looks over their shoulders in direction of glider, o.s.

P.O.V. SHOT - GLIDER

97

A small hole has been burned by sun's rays. It's smoking slightly and beginning to spread.

ANGLE ON GALEN, CARSIA AND LEURIC

98

Galen uses the tongue and groove bit to hold attention.

GALEN

A well-made joint, you'd say, but can we be sure? How many mechanical failures might be caused by poorly fitting joints, weakened by small flaws which could be exposed by my expander.

LEURIC

(impressed)

I suppose that could help...

CARSIA

(also impressed)

I take a certain, perhaps conceited, pleasure in the way your mind works, Protus.

GALEN

Conceited -- ?

CARSIA

It is uniquely, penetratingly, the mind of a Chimpanzee. Don't be modest. Are Gorillas or Orangutans capable of subtle ideas?

GALEN

I'd never thought of a Gorilla as subtle...

CARSIA

They hold high authority -- by brute force since they lack intelligence...

LEURIC

(yowling)

No! Help!

He points o.s. Galen and Carsia look.

FULL SHOT

99

The last of the flames are licking at what was the glider. It's a total loss. Door is thrown open by Guard attracted by Leuric's yell. Leuric rushes over to engage in the essentially pointless act of stamping out the flames. Carsia snaps at Guard:

CARSIA

Don't stand there! Help him.

GALEN

What do you suppose caused it?

He has moved with Carsia to a point near the ashes. Leuric is distraught.

LEURIC

It's gone, destroyed. Why? Why?

GALEN

Pity...

Carsia is taking note of the rays being focused by the glass. Curious, she puts her hand at the focal point and pulls it back quickly as she feels the heat.

CARSIA

Your expander may have uses you're unaware of, Protus...

She picks up a shaving, holds it under the rays and smoke curls up in a moment. Leuric glares at Galen but manages not to voice his convictions.

GALEN

Amazing! Carsia, I refuse to take credit for this. You will be known as the Ape who demonstrated that fire can be made with an expander.

She hesitates, wondering if Galen is playing a double game. The idea is dismissed.

CARSIA

Thank you.

LEURIC

My flight --

CARSIA

It's merely delayed. You'll be given all the materials you need and you can begin again.

Cont.

GALEN

Since I caused this unfortunate accident, I'll make amends. I have two servants, rascals both of them, but very clever with their hands. I'll have them here, along with whatever materials they can provide to be of help.

Carsia nods her approval.

EXT. GARRISON - DAY

100

Viridon and Burke pulling a cart to the garrison. FIRST TROOPER, EXITING garrison, spots and halts them.

FIRST TROOPER

What do you want?

VIRDON

We're Protus' servants, sir...

FIRST TROOPER

Yes. More foolishness for that human to make into wings. All right. Take it in.

BURKE

Thank you, sir.

They have the cart at the door and start to off-load.

INT. KONAG'S QUARTERS - DAY

101

Carsia is attired in a seductive dressing gown. She pours a glass of wine for Galen who is reading a scroll. Of the wine...

GALEN

Thank you...

CARSIA

I like doing things for you...  
(of the book)  
Interesting?

He looks at her, intrigued, nods, then turns back to reading as she puts the bottle on a nearby table.

INT. CARSIA'S WORKSHOP - DAY

102

Guard holding the door open as Virdon and Burke carry in disassembled pieces of their glider. Leuric is silently steaming. He waits until Guard closes the door leaving the three humans alone.

LEURIC

Galen burnt the wings! He did it deliberately, didn't he?

BURKE

Would you like an engraved apology? Dear Leuric, we only ruined your stupid glider because you'd have broken your stupid neck!

Virdon and Burke are beginning the assembling process.

LEURIC

It would have flown.

VIRDON

It would have flopped. This one will fly and you'll be flying it.

LEURIC

I don't believe you.

BURKE

Do you hear this guy? Alan, what are we doing here?

VIRDON

Gritting our teeth. Leuric, we could have left you to be found by the Troopers when you first crashed.

LEURIC

You were too clever. You wanted to learn all I knew about flight, first.

BURKE

Sure. We stuck our necks out just so we could take lessons from Wobbling Willie and his wonderful, wiggling wings!

Virdon and Burke go on working, ignoring Leuric who stares at them, his anger dissipating and a great longing taking its place.

Cont.

LEURIC

You're making it for me?  
So I will fly?

Both nod.

LEURIC

I believe you. -- I don't know  
why you're helping me. I don't  
know why Carsia is. I don't care.  
If I get up there once -- just  
once, then what happens won't  
matter.

Viridon and Burke look at Leuric, touched by his need,  
impressed by his intensity.

INT. KONAG'S QUARTERS - DAY

103

Carsia watching Galen sipping wine and reading. She's  
curled in a chair. He finishes the scroll, speaks of it.

GALEN

This is certainly flattering.

CARSIA

Not flattery -- truth.  
(taking the scroll)  
Every word.

GALEN

I'm delighted to believe that  
chimpanzees are superior to other  
apes, since I'm a chimp.  
Agreement might not come so  
easy from say a gorilla...

CARSIA

Of course not. They haven't  
the brains to recognize what is  
obvious.

Cont.

GALEN

I suppose patting oneself on the back is harmless and good exercise.

CARSIA

I wanted you to read that book to understand how we feel...

GALEN

We -- ?

CARSIA

(ignoring the question)

Who's the head of the Council?

GALEN

Zaius, of course...

CARSIA

An orangutan. And who is commander of all security forces?

GALEN

Urko.

CARSIA

A Gorilla. Do you know of any Chimp who occupies a top position?

GALEN

(studies her for a beat)

Why not tell me what you're hinting at?

Before she can reply, there is a loud KNOCK at the door.

CARSIA

Yes -- ?

Door opens to ADMIT Konag. He glances at Galen, then ignores him.

KONAG

I've advised Urko of the delay in the flight test.

CARSIA

I was sure you would. Protus, this is Konag, garrison commander.

Nods exchanged.

Cont.

KONAG

Urko believes the human won't fly.

CARSIA

I know Urko's views.

KONAG

He's authorized me to execute the human if the test is delayed beyond tomorrow. You might want to arrange for your things to be moved out by then.

Without waiting for a reply, he EXITS. Carsia turns to Galen.

CARSIA

A garrison commander -- in a position to give orders to you, to me, to Chimps who are far above him in intelligence.

GALEN

He gives orders to Chimps but he shoots humans. What about Leuric?

CARSIA

The test is rescheduled for tomorrow. There should be no problem.

Another KNOCK on the door -- less forceful.

CARSIA

Come in...

Door opens to ADMIT properly deferential Viridon and Burke.

BURKE

Sir, the Guard told us to report to you when we finished.

CARSIA

A precaution...

GALEN

Of course.

(to Astronauts)  
Well, have you finished?

VIRDON

Yes, sir.

Cont.

GALEN

Everything is ready for the flight?

VIRDON

Yes, sir.

As Virdon is replying, Burke's eyes stray to fall upon the "fragmentation" box. With difficulty, he controls his reaction.

INSERT - FRAGMENTATION BOX

104

GALEN'S VOICE

(o.s.)

Very good.

BACK TO SCENE

105

Burke manages to surreptitiously direct Virdon's attention to the box. He's also shocked.

GALEN

(to Astronauts)

All right. You can go.

BURKE

Sir, could we talk to you?

GALEN

I'm busy. What is it?

VIRDON

Well, -- I'm trying to remember what we wanted to say, sir.

He's trying desperately to signal Galen to come out, in such a fashion that Carsia won't spot the signal.

CARSIA

Your servants don't seem very bright, Protus.

GALEN

They're not. Go. You can speak to me later if you remember what you wanted.

BURKE

Well, sir, I just remembered. It was that last load we brought in. We wanted to show you what it did to the cart bed -- sir...

Cont.

CARSIA

Do you permit them to bother  
you with such nonsense?

Galen reads the urgency on the faces of Virdon and Burke.  
To Carsia:

GALEN

I should say not! The two of  
you, out! Right now! At once!

He has them by the arm and practically "throws" them out  
the door. Over his shoulder to Carsia:

GALEN

I'll teach them manners. Back  
in a minute.

He's OUT and the door is closed.

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

106

Presumably, near Carsia's door. Virdon, Burke and Galen  
in a tight group. Hushed voices.

BURKE

Do you know what's in that box  
in your girl friend's room?

GALEN

What box?

VIRDON

Green. Labeled FRAGMENTATION --  
COSMOLINE PACK.

GALEN

No. I wondered but I didn't  
want to pry...

BURKE

Fragmentation bombs. Lovely, little  
mama bombs with lots of baby bombs  
inside so when they blow, they really  
blow. All over the place. They were  
customarily dropped from airplanes.

VIRDON

Now, what's this nice female Chimp  
you've been romancing, doing with a  
case of sudden, widespread death?

Galen looks from Virdon to Burke, considers for the briefest  
moment, then turns on his heel and heads back.

INT. KONAG'S QUARTERS - DAY

107

Carsia putting the scroll away in a box. Door opens and Galen ENTERS.

GALEN

(forceful)

They'll mind their manners now.

He takes his glass and strides about the room, very much the strutting, dominant male.

GALEN

What were we saying?

CARSIA

Why Chimps, the most intelligent and best equipped Apes, are not in control of the Council and the Government.

Galen has halted in his strut as he has, as if by accident, come upon the "fragmentation" box. He looks down at it -- a distraction which he will eliminate by inquiry.

GALEN

I've been meaning to ask you.  
What is this?

CARSIA

The answer to some questions I've been asking.

Galen waits.

CARSIA

Would I waste my time saving a human's life? Leuric means nothing, but if he can teach us to fly -- !

GALEN

I don't understand.

CARSIA

The Council Chamber is guarded when the Council is in session. No one could approach. The same is true of Urko's headquarters. Think Protus -- if Urko, his troops and the Council were eliminated, who would control the world? -- Those are bombs in that box...

Cont.

GALEN

To eliminate -- ?

CARSIA

With Leuric's wings, we can swoop in at night from the dark sky, unheard, unseen...That's why I've fought to keep Leuric alive until we learn to use wings. You do see, don't you, Protus?

GALEN

(fighting nausea)

Yes. Absolutely. It's quite, quite clear...

And he's quite, quite sick at her viciousness, the prospect of mass murder and the certain death of Leuric.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN

INT. TEMPLE - NIGHT

108

Viridon, Burke and Galen -- very gloomy.

GALEN

I admit it. I was wrong about Carsia. Terribly wrong.

VIRDON

And we were probably wrong to build a functioning glider for Leuric.

BURKE

We'd better see to it that it won't function.

GALEN

I wondered why you two were so set against helping a human to fly...

VIRDON

It was an ego trip for Leuric and of no possible use to anybody on this planet -- a waste of time and effort, for what?

BURKE

As it turned out, for Lady Macbeth.

Galen reacts.

BURKE

Carsia.

GALEN

I can try to burn the new glider...

VIRDON

Leuric might be able to duplicate it. If he can't, it's his neck...

GALEN

You're not suggesting we let Carsia murder the Council and all those troops -- ?

Cont.

BURKE

I guess not. Lady Macbeth dropping  
bombs at random on apes or humans  
isn't a very appealing notion.

VIRDON

And we should try to bail out  
Leuric.

He signals to Galen as he and Virдон rise in unspoken  
agreement. All EXIT.

INT. WORKSHOP - NIGHT 112

Leuric resting on a pallet. He reacts as the SOUND of the door OPENING is HEARD.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND BURKE 113

ENTERING, seeing Leuric, CAMERA ANGLING Burke to him. Virdon stays in doorway for a beat, guarding.

LEURIC  
What are you doing here?

BURKE  
Getting you out.

Cont.

Virдон has produced a knife and is about to carve up the glider. Leuric reacts, appalled.

LEURIC

No!

ANOTHER ANGLE

114

Leuric dashes to stop Virдон, grabs him.

LEURIC

Stop!

Burke pulls him away. Virдон faces him.

VIRDON

(talking fast)  
Carsia's using you.

LEURIC

I don't care!

BURKE

That dame'll blow up everything  
if she gets her hands on a  
glider. She's poison!

Virдон turns back, about to carve the glider. Burke holds Leuric's arm. Galen APPEARS in doorway.

GALEN

(hissing)  
Hurry! The Guards will be back.

Burke starts to pull Leuric toward door as Virдон makes his first slash in the wing fabric. Leuric exerts undreamed of strength to pull away from Burke and dive at Virдон.

LEURIC

You won't destroy it! Help!

Burke pulls Leuric off Virдон.

GALEN

Hurry!

VIRDON

I'll bring him.

X

LEURIC

Help! Stop them!

Cont.

Viridon tries to cope with Leuric with one hand while he attempts to destroy the glider with the other. He underestimates the strength lent Leuric by desperation. Burke is at the doorway.

INT. CORRIDOR

115

Galen and Burke guarding, casting nervous glances into workshop. Burke looks o.s. as First Trooper APPEARS, entering from a door or corridor. Before First Trooper can orient himself, Burke has charged, hurled himself at the Gorilla, knocked him down, his rifle skittering away. A hard punch as First Trooper tries to rise and he's out to the world. Burke hurries back toward workshop as:

GALEN

Alan! Now!

INT. CARZIA'S WORKSHOP - NIGHT

116

The glider is essentially unharmed. Viridon is dragging the protesting Leuric toward the door.

VIRDON

They're going to kill you!

LEURIC

I will fly!

INT. CORRIDOR

117

Viridon joins Burke and Galen and has the struggling Leuric in tow.

LEURIC

Help!

A couple of Gorillas APPEAR from a room down the corridor.

VIRDON

(to Galen)

Take him!

Galen grabs Leuric who is struggling less as his confusion has mounted at the turn of events. Burke and Viridon, acting in unison, without needing to express intentions, charge along the corridor like a brace of pulling guards in pro football. They throw rolling blocks to clear the way for Galen who is dragging Leuric along. Viridon and Burke are now beyond the Gorillas who have been left scrambling on the floor. Galen is close to the fallen Gorillas. A door opens and Carsia APPEARS to step in front of Galen.

Cont.

She instantly sizes up the situation, stares at Galen with intense hatred. He looks at her, halted for a moment by her appearance. PICK UP CLOSEUPS OF Galen AND Carsia as they stare at one another. The moment's pause is enough to permit First Trooper to retrieve his rifle, snap shot. Leuric is hit, drops. Galen stoops to help him as two more Gorillas EMERGE to block the corridor.

INT. CORRIDOR - ANGLE ON VIRDON AND BURKE 118

stopping, looking back for Galen after the shot has rung out.

BURKE'S P.O.V. - VIRDON 119

Gorillas blocking the path, raising rifles. Sure death to advance on them.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND BURKE 120

A very brief hesitation.

VIRDON

No chance. Run!

They do. A COUPLE OF SHOTS SPAT NEAR THEM.

INT. CORRIDOR - ANGLE NEAR WORKSHOP DOOR A-120

Galen is on one knee, helping Leuric who is holding his wounded hand. Carsia stands over Galen. First Trooper is aiming rifle at Galen who slowly raises his hands in surrender. Carsia glares in scorn, contempt and resentment.

CARSIA

You've chosen a human in preference to me?

GALEN

In preference to what you're planning...

CARSIA

(to First Trooper)  
Take them away.

She turns and EXITS as First Trooper signals for Galen and Leuric to rise.

OUT 121

INT. KONAG'S QUARTERS - NIGHT

122

Konag facing a tight-lipped Carsia. Konag is very self-satisfied.

KONAG

The test is cancelled.

CARSIA

The flight will proceed as scheduled.

KONAG

I've arranged for the execution of Leuric and that renegade Ape first thing in the morning.

CARSIA

I'll look forward to witnessing Protus' execution after the test flight.

KONAG

Leuric is to be shot, too, so there'll be no test. A dead man can't operate those wings.

CARSIA

One of your Troopers can take the human's place.

KONAG

Risk the life of a Gorilla in a pointless experiment? Absolutely not!

They glare at each other. Impasse.

INT. LEURIC'S CELL - DAY

123

Galen and Leuric -- with Galen dressing Leuric's hand.

LEURIC

It's my fault...

GALEN

Of course it is. Some humans are more human than others but you're the most human -- !

LEURIC

I'm sorry.

GALEN

That's a big help. How's the hand feel?

LEURIC

Numb.

SOUND of HAMMERING, o.s. No note is taken at first. Leuric looks at his hand, shakes his head.

LEURIC

Even if I got free, I wouldn't be able to fly now because of this...

GALEN

We have a date with a firing squad, and you --  
(stops suddenly,  
listening)  
That sounds strange...

LEURIC

What?

Galen moves to look out window.

EXT. VILLAGE HUT - CLOSE ON BURKE - DAY

124

His head is down to avoid notice of recognition. He's pretending to repair a wheel by hammering the spokes in rhythmically. CAMERA PULLS BACK to reveal Virdon next to him drawing back on a slingshot. He lets fly.

INT. CELL

125

Galen ducks back as a stone flies in. Galen quickly retrieves it and finds it wrapped in paper. He unfolds the paper and reads. Door opens and suspicious Gorilla Guard ENTERS. Galen barely has time to shove the paper in his mouth and eat it.

EXT. OCEAN PLATEAU - DAY

126

A mounted procession of Troopers, Konag, plus Carsia in her carriage move forward and halt. Also in the procession, Galen and Leuric under heavy guard, walking beside a flat-bed wagon upon which is the glider. Konag hand signals and Troopers ride off to take prearranged positions as Carsia steps from her carriage.

CARSIA

I don't care what happens to the human. I want that flying device returned safely if it can, in fact, fly.

Cont.

KONAG

If you're worried about him  
flying off with it --

He doesn't bother to finish the sentence but signals to First Trooper who has been assisting Galen in removing the glider from the flatbed. In response to the signal, First Trooper escorts Galen and Leuric to Konag and Carsia. Konag addresses Leuric.

KCNAG

Look.

He points sweepingly.

EXT. OCEAN AND BEACH AND PLATEAU - PANNING 127  
P.O.V. SHOT

TO ESTABLISH the Troopers who have taken positions at every point, with rifles at the ready.

BACK TO GROUP 128

Galen and Leuric look back to Konag.

KONAG

You have an open area marked off  
by my Troopers. If you try to  
fly out of it, you'll be shot down.

Leuric seems to be paying little attention to Konag. He has been trying to hold a control bar on the glider with his bandaged hand and is clearly unable to do so. He looks to Galen in seeming desperation, shaking his head. Konag intercepts the look.

KONAG

Are you trying to signal --

GALEN

Of course he's not. The poor man  
is frightened half to death and  
doesn't know how to tell you.

KONAG

Tell me what?

GALEN

He can't fly with one hand.

KONAG

(to Leuric)  
Is this true?

Cont.

Leuric nods.

KONAG

The test is cancelled.

CARSIA

I insist the flight proceed!

KONAG

And I still refuse to risk the  
life of an ape!

Konag and Carsia are glaring at each other, paying no  
attention to Galen.

GALEN

Don't look at me! You couldn't  
force me up on that. If I'm to  
be killed, I demand a proper,  
decent execution.

Carsia and Konag look slowly at Galen, the idea he's  
intent upon planting is beginning to sprout...

GALEN

I tell you no! It's out of the  
question! The idea is ridiculous!  
Even if I were willing, I don't  
know how to fly.

CARSIA

(to Leuric)

Will the wings support you and  
him?

LEURIC

I don't know. They might...

GALEN

No!

CARSIA

We seem to have solved two problems,  
Konag. I need to learn if those  
wings can carry extra weight. You  
want to spare any of your troops  
the risk of flying...

GALEN

I refuse!

Cont.

CARSIA  
(ignoring him)  
If they crash into the sea, well,  
they'll drown and there's no loss.

KONAG  
(to Galen)  
You will fly, and the human will  
ride with you to tell you how to  
guide the wings.

GALEN  
Carsia, I realized you were cruel.  
I never knew how creul...

KONAG  
Bring the wings.

A couple of Troopers start to carry the glider to the  
starting line.

CUT 129-  
132

EXT. CLIFF - DAY 133

Just above the beach. Virdon and Burke are cautiously,  
silently making their way down a precipitous path; Virdon's  
in the lead. Suddenly, he stops, gestures to Burke and  
points o.s. Burke peers around a rocky face.

EXT. BEACH - P.O.V. SPOT - TROOPER 134

Rifle at shoulder, not aimed, but ready. He's one of  
Konag's Guards.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND BURKE

X  
135

Burke hesitates, reaches off and picks up a baseball-sized rock. He carefully changes places with Virdon so he is closer to the Trooper who is o.s. Burke weighs the rock in his hand, takes a half wind-up for practice and is satisfied. He edges forward slightly to a point where he has a clear shot at o.s. Trooper. A fast wind-up, and the rock is hurled. Over SOUNDTRACK, a small THUNK.

BURKE

(sotto voce)

More fun than the no-hitter  
I pitched in high school.

Both start down and out.

EXT. OCEAN PLATEAU

136

The glider is in position with Troopers at each wing tip and at tail to provide a shove. Carsia and Konag watch as Galen steps forward, with Leuric.

GALEN

Ready?

LEURIC

(ecstatic)

I am going to fly...

Leuric has his arms around Galen's neck.

GALEN

Shove off!

He and Leuric each kick off with his free foot as the Troopers heft the glider forward.

LOW FULL SHOT - GLIDER

137

soaring away from the hillside, a bit wobbly. Leuric's knees are about Galen's waist.

ANGLE ON GALEN AND LEURIC

138

flying the glider.

GALEN

The wind is too strong. I don't  
know if I can control it.

Leuric tightens his grip.

MED. TWO SHOT - KONAG AND CARSIA

watching, mouths agape.

CARSIA

They're flying! I knew it  
could be done!

Konag glowers at her, then o.s.

FULL SHOT - GLIDER

140

winging over, swooping along the side of the cliff.

LOW ANGLE - GLIDER

141

winging around.

ANGLE ON GALEN AND LEURIC

142

getting the hang of it.

LEURIC

I've made it happen. What no  
one has ever done before!

GALEN

We also may be killed the way  
no one's been killed before.  
Here we go!

He closes his eyes as he swings the wing hard over.

HIGH SHOT - GLIDER

143

as it breaks free of the ridge wave, heads out to sea.

ANGLE ON CARSIA, KONAG AND TROOPERS

144

as they stare.

CARSIA

What are they doing?

KONAG

Flying out to sea!  
(to Troopers)  
FIRE! KILL THEM!

REVISED - "UP ABOVE THE WORLD SO HIGH" - 11/1/74 65

FULL SHOT - GLIDER 145

heading toward the sea.

ANGLE ON CARSIA AND KONAG 146

KONAG  
Shoot! Shoot them! All of them!

The Troopers begin FIRING.

CARSIA  
Wait. You may not need to  
waste your bullets.

ANGLE ON GALEN AND LEURIC 147

A bullet rips through the wing. Another smashes a support. Galen fights for control.

FULL PANNING SHOT - GLIDER 148

losing altitude, pitching and yawing, o.s. SHOTS being fired.

CLOSE ON CARSIA AND KONAG 149

SOUND of FIRING.

KONAG  
Hold your fire.

LOW ANGLE - GLIDER 150

It dives suddenly, smashing into the sea between two huge rock islands.

HIGH SHOT - ROCK ISLANDS 151

The surf froths white about the rocks. Between them, the pieces of glider float like dead moths.

ANGLE ON CARSIA AND KONAG 152

Carsia is crestfallen.

CARSIA  
They're dead. And so is the  
secret of flight.

Konag shrugs in unconcern and disinterest. Both turn away.

CLOSE SHOT - GLIDER

X  
153

as Leuric and Galen emerge from beneath the collapsed sail. They keep low in the water, out of sight.

GALEN

Ugh!...Ooh...Ahh...Yeech!

Hands reach out and grab them.

CLOSE SHOT - BURKE AND VIRDON

154

at the edge of the rock, Burke and Virdon in the water, pulling Galen and Leuric to and aboard a concealed raft.

VIRDON

We weren't sure you'd make it.

The raft is rocking gently, its occupants crouching.

GALEN

I almost wish we hadn't!

LEURIC

(ecstatic)

It worked. It flew like a bird.  
I could have stayed up forever.

GALEN

Please. Back to shore. Quick.

BURKE

No way. We'd be spotted and  
shot on sight.

GALEN

(gasps)

I don't care. I'd rather be shot.

VIRDON

Let's go. Keep your heads down,  
don't splash.

They push off, moving out to sea. Galen lies on his back, looking mournfully up at the sky.

GALEN

Please, let them shoot me.

Cont.

LEURIC  
What's wrong with him?

BURKE  
He's caught an ancient human  
disease. Sea sickness.

HIGH SHOT - RAFT

155

as they push it silently out to sea. CAMERA ZOOMS BACK  
to REVEAL Troopers on the beach below, riding away.  
The raft is a tiny, almost invisible speck on the vast  
expanse of the sea.

FADE OUT

THE END