

PLANET OF THE APES

"The Race"

Teleplay

by

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&

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"THE RACE"

"ACT ONE"

FADE IN

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

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - ESTABLISHING SHOT - DAY 1

The peaceful, rustic road winds along a ditch, beyond which is a scrim of thick, green foliage. On a fairly straight stretch of the road we see BURKE, VIRDON and GALEN approaching. Burke and Virdon have found a chunk of wood that is somewhat in the shape of a football and they are chunking it at one another, running forward and back, around and past Galen, sometimes almost hitting him with it and causing him to duck. Galen gestures annoyance and continues slogging on.

GALEN

(disgusted)

Cut it out! You act like a couple of humans!

BURKE

You think we should act like apes?

GALEN

When I joined you I thought you had possibilities. But the longer I'm with you the more I doubt my own good judgment.

VIRDON

(heaving ball)

Twenty-three! Eighteen! Hup!

GALEN

(ducking)

Now stop it!

The ball gets past Burke and he tumbles into the ditch after it.

GALEN (cont'd.)

Football! Bah!

VIRDON

Football, Galen! Football!

Cont.

2

1 Cont.

Burke, coming out of the ditch with the chunk of wood, stops suddenly as he hears something. He looks off.

CLOSE SHOT - GALEN 2

GALEN  
(alert)  
Something?

CLOSE SHOT - VIRDON LISTENING, LOOKING OFF 3

BACK TO BURKE 4

BURKE  
Listen!

We hear SOUND OF HORSES HOOVES, OFF, cantering toward us. As soon as this is established, Burke gestures silently, drops the chunk of wood and turns toward the shrubbery.

ANGLE ON DITCH 5

as the trio moves off the road, across the ditch and disappears behind the scrim of foliage.

PAN HIGHWAY 6

Four mounted gorillas are approaching, leading a small herd of horses at a canter. The two apes in front hold rifles, while the others hold the reins and lead-lines of the other horses. In charge is an Urko lieutenant, ZANDAR, and beside him is his second in command, ZILO. They come into FULL FRAME and pass. We then PAN to the place where the Astronauts and Galen disappeared.

ANGLE BEHIND FOLIAGE 7

Burke, Virdon and Galen crouch low, not moving.

BACK TO ROAD 8

The apes are disappearing around a curve.

## BEHIND THE SCRIM

Burke, Virdon and Galen peer cautiously over the grass in which they are hiding as they hear the SOUND of hooves receding. Then they rise, relaxing - it's all in a day's work. Burke points the way - away from the road.

## BURKE

Let's cut across and stay out of their way. They're Urko's gorillas.

Cont.

PAN as they start away from the road and HOLD as they come to the moss-and-vine-covered ruins of a residence chimney. Galen stops to examine it. The others stop, too.

GALEN

What's this?

VIRDON

It's a chimney. A fireplace.

He reacts as he looks around and sees:

ANGLE DOWN, VIRDON'S POV

15

showing outlines of foundations of a house, growth-covered.

VIRDON (o. s.)

Pete! It's one of ours!

BACK TO SCENE

16

BURKE

You sure?

VIRDON

Look around you, man! It's the way they built houses back in our time!

Excited, he begins clawing at the growth around the chimney and Burke joins him. Galen watches, amused.

GALEN

I guess your people didn't know much about building houses. Putting a fireplace in the middle of a room so it would burn the place down.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND BURKE, GALEN IN BACKGROUND

17

They are too excited to pay any attention to Galen. Burke plunges his hands into the recess of the fireplace and brings out a package wrapped in foil Christmas paper.

BURKE

Santa Claus!

GALEN

Santa who?

Burke busily unwraps the package

BURKE

He was a jolly old elf who rode  
through the sky in a sleigh pulled  
by eight reindeer and came down the  
chimney at Christmastime and left  
presents for the children.

ANGLE ON GALEN

18

GALEN

(laughing)

Rode through the sky...? Came  
down the chimney...?

He doubles up with laughter.

ANGLE ON BURKE

19

He gets the package open and reveals a pair of roller skates.

BURKE

All right, funny boy, take a  
look at these.

BACK TO GALEN

20

He stops laughing and stares in amazement.

GALEN

An ancient machine?

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND BURKE WITH THE SKATES

21

Burke sits on the floor and starts putting on the skates.  
Galen comes into the picture and stoops to watch.

BURKE

Clear away some of the moss,  
Alan, and I'll give our friend  
here a little demonstration.

Alan rises and kicks at some of the brush on the floor slab.  
As Burke gets the skates on, Galen doubles up all over again.

GALEN

Now I've seen everything! Wheels  
on your feet!

Galen walks away, laughing. Burke gets to his feet. CAMERA PULLS BACK to cover the cleared area as Burke tries to skate on the not very smooth slab.

BURKE

What do you think, Galen?

ANGLE ON GALEN

22

as the edge of the slab, as he laughs, turns his back and sits on old concrete steps leading down.

GALEN

I think you humans have got a long way to go!

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND BURKE

23

VIRDON

If it's any consolation, Pete, I thought you were pretty good.

Burke almost falls in the rough terrain and Virdon holds him up. They both react as they hear, off, a SCREAM. They look off and see:

ANGLE ON GALEN

24

He is crawling toward Virdon and Burke, registering terror, looking back at something.

INTERCUT SCORPION

25

crawling away from the steps where Galen sat.

ANGLE ON SCENE

26

as Virdon and Burke hurry to Galen.

BURKE

What happened?

Galen points, then collapses. Virdon goes past him and looks down, then whirls and looks at Burke, alarmed.

VIRDON

Galen! What is it?

GALEN

It's the tiger scorpion.

(gasping)

I moved. If I had stayed still,  
it wouldn't have stung me.

Burke has ripped off the skates. He and Virdon kneel by Galen and begin giving him first aid. Virdon whips out a knife, to cut open the wound, as for a snakebite. Burke wraps a jacket or tunic around Galen's shoulders to ward against shock.

GALEN

(fainting)

No use. Need serum. Without  
serum - tiger scorpion - is fatal!

He collapses prone on the building slab.

EXT. CLOSEUP OF BLACKSMITH'S ANVIL - DAY 27

Man's hands are fashioning a horseshoe from white-hot iron.

WIDEN to reveal MARTIN, a blacksmith, making the horseshoe. Beyond him we see GREGER, his young son, firing an outdoor forge. In the background there is a kind of corral with a couple of horses in it. Not far away there is a farmer's hut and a shed near it.

Martin finishes shaping the horseshoe and plunges it into a can of water. It hisses and makes a cloud of steam. Then Martin holds the horseshoe up, gray and smoking. He plops it on the bench beside him and turns to the forge. He is about to start on another horseshoe when both he and Greger react, looking off as they hear SOUND of hoofbeats.

ANGLE ON ROAD LEADING TO MARTIN'S PLACE, MARTIN'S POV 28

Zandar and his party approaching, riding hard.

ANGLE ON MARTIN AND GREGER 29

as they move forward, showing fear, to meet the apes. Zandar and his men ride past CAMERA and surround the humans.

CLOSEUP OF ZANDAR 30

looking down on Martin. Zandar is as cruel as Urko, but not as fearful in appearance.

CLOSEUP OF MARTIN 31

He is all but bowing in his effort to appear humble.

CLOSEUP OF GREGER 32

He stares levelly at Zandar, chin up and firm.

BACK TO ZANDAR 33

He tilts his head, indicating the horses.

ZANDAR  
Urko's horses.

GROUP SHOT

34

MARTIN  
 (nodding)  
 Yes.

ZANDAR  
 You have to finish the job in  
 two days, in time for the race.

MARTIN  
 We will. I've already started  
 on the shoes.

ZANDAR  
 Make sure you don't disappoint Urko.

MARTIN  
 No, of course not.

Zandar stares at Martin a moment, then rides his horse in  
 a small circle and stops in front of Greger.

ANGLE ON ZANDAR, STARING GRIMLY 35

CLOSEUP OF GREGER, UNFLINCHING 36

BACK TO SCENE 37

ZANDAR  
 A human has been seen near here,  
 riding one of our horses.

Martin shoots a glance of alarm at his son.

GREGER  
 (evenly)  
 A human, riding a horse? He  
 must be crazy.

ZANDAR  
 Yes - considering the penalty.  
 If he's caught he will be put  
 to death. That is the law.

CLOSEUP OF GREGER AS BEFORE 38

GREGER  
 I wouldn't be caught dead  
 on a horse.

Cont.

## ANGLE ON ZANDAR

39

He senses Greger is guilty, but he can't do anything about it.

ZANDAR

(a beat)

If you ever are, you will be.  
You can be sure of that.

He turns away, riding to Martin.

ZANDAR

Urko wants the gray horse first.  
We have to train him for the  
big race.

## BACK TO SCENE

40

MARTIN

Yes, of course.

ZANDAR

(a shout)

Yo!

The four gorillas spur their horses and lunge away, leaving the rest of the herd. Stoically, Greger opens the corral and shoes the horses in. Martin calls to him, concerned.

MARTIN

You see, my son? I tried to  
warn you. Now you have been seen!

GREGER

(smugly)

Being seen and getting caught  
are two different things.

MARTIN

Why can't you just obey the law?

GREGER

(with spirit)

Because it's their law, not ours!  
We shoe their horses and clean up  
after them, but we can't ride them!  
What kind of "law" is that? Why  
should we be second-class beings?

Cont.

Martin goes back to his forge, grumbling.

MARTIN

Listen to your father, Greger.  
Obey the law, like the rest of  
us. The apes know what's best.

Greger speaks as he closes the corral gates on the horses.

GREGER

Oh, Father! If I listened to  
you I'd never do anything!

VIRDON (o. s.)

Hello!

Martin and Greger react, turning to see:

ANGLE PAST SHED

41

Viridon and Burke, supporting Galen between them, come forward. PAN to include SEELAH, Martin's wife, who appears in the door of the hut in the background.

BURKE

May we come in?

ANGLE ON MARTIN AND GREGER

41-A

MARTIN

What do you want?

Viridon, Burke and Galen move into the picture.

VIRDON

Our friend's been hurt. We  
need help.

GREGER

(warily)

An ape is your friend?

SEELAH (off)

What is it, Martin?

All turn to look at Seelah.

## ANGLE ON SEELAH

as she moves quickly toward the Astronauts and Galen, showing maternal concern for all beings. PAN as she joins the trio.

BURKE

It's our friend, here, Ma'am.  
He's been bitten by a scorpion.

SEELAH

Oh, my goodness! Bring him inside,  
quickly! Get him into bed!

She moves to assist Galen.

## ANGLE ON MARTIN AND GREGER

Both are uncertain about the situation - Martin because of his distrust of all strangers, Greger because of his dislike of apes. But, after a moment, Greger's sense of decency takes over and he moves forward.

## FULL SCENE

Burke and Virdon are carrying Galen into the hut, with Seelah supervising. Greger is moving to join them. After another moment, Martin, too, follows toward the hut.

## INT. THE MARTIN HUT - TWILIGHT

Galen lies on a rude cot covered with a rough blanket. He moans and tosses. Seelah is mopping his brow with a cloth while Virdon and Burke pace. Greger sits on a stool, staring at Galen. Martin stands in the shadows in a corner.

SEELAH

(shakes her head)  
It's bad. There's nothing  
more I can do.

VIRDON

We have to do something.

SEELAH

He needs serum to fight the poison.

BURKE

Then let's get it!

SEELAH

It isn't that easy. The village  
is five miles from here. By  
the time you walk there and back...  
(shakes her head again)

ANGLE ON BURKE AND VIRDON

44-A

as they exchange glances. Then:

BURKE

I'll take one of the horses.

ANGLE ON GREGER AND MARTIN

45

GREGER

(a beat, then  
with irony)

Humans aren't allowed to ride  
horses. You'd be shot.

ANGLE ON BURKE AND VIRDON

46

BURKE

I'll take a chance.

He starts toward the door. PAN with him. As he crosses  
the room, Greger rises and stops him.

GREGER

(briefly)

I'll go.

VIRDON

(entering scene)

Why should you? It's our problem.

GREGER

You don't know the way. I know  
how to get through without being  
seen. I've done it before.

Cont.

Greger starts for the door, Martin following.

MARTIN

(loudly)

The village is full of apes who  
have come for the races! They'll  
catch you this time for sure!

ANGLE ON DOOR

47

as Martin catches up with Greger and stops him.

MARTIN

Listen to me, son! They'll shoot  
you on sight!

GREGER

(audaciously)

Only if I get caught.

He breaks away and goes out, with Martin following.

BACK TO SCENE

48

Virдон and Burke look at Seelah, uncomfortably. She  
resumes bathing Galen's forehead. After a moment:

ANGLE ON DOOR

49

as Martin reenters. He stares balefully at the Astronauts.

MARTIN

Why did you come here? You've  
brought us nothing but trouble.

ANGLE ON SEELAH

50

She looks disapprovingly at her husband, then registers  
at the SOUND of hooves, off, indicating Greger is on his  
way. She looks at the Astronauts and says, with meaning:

SEELAH

My son is very brave.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. A FIELD

51

Greger rides a horse, bareback, through the field.

EXT. VILLAGE STREET, IN TOWN OF VENTA 52

Since the area is horse country, there are a feed and grain store, a saddlery and other related stores in view. Some human workers are carrying sacks of grain from a cart into the feed store, and outside the saddlery two apes are engaged in horse-trading. Other apes and humans come and go, indicating abnormal activity for the village.

EXT. EDGE OF VILLAGE 53

Greger rides to the end of the street and looks into the village. Then he makes a wide detour.

EXT. AN ARROYO 54

Greger rides into a deep cut, dismounts and tethers his horse to a tree in a dark place, then hurries away.

EXT. THE STREET AS BEFORE 55

Greger enters and walks down the street, hurrying but not being obvious about it. As he comes to the grain store the ape MERCHANT, overseeing the unloading of grain, calls to him.

MERCHANT

Boy! Give us a hand here!

ANGLE ON GREGER 56

He realizes he must handle this very carefully. He stops.

GREGER

(politely)

I am on an errand.

TWO SHOT FAVORING MERCHANT 57

MERCHANT

You're a strong, healthy young man.  
How would you like to work for me?

GREGER

I will ask my master.

He bows and moves away tactfully.

15

EXT. THE CLINIC 60

A whitewashed building. A bandaged ape is led from the entrance by an ape nurse.

ANGLE ON GREGER 61

Approaching, he stops and steps aside, waiting for the apes to get away. Then he goes to the side of the building.

WINDOW OF CLINIC 62

Greger approaches and peers in the window.

INT. ROOM IN CLINIC, GREGER'S POV 63

It is much like a military first-aid station, unoccupied.

ANGLE ON WINDOW FROM INSIDE CLINIC 64

Greger surveys the room, then climbs in. He moves to a medicine cabinet. PAN. He opens the cabinet.

CLOSEUP OF OPEN MEDICINE CABINET 65

Greger's hand reaches for a bottle of serum.

BACK TO GREGER 66

Furtively he pockets the serum and closes the cabinet.

NURSE (o. s.)  
What are you doing here, human?

ANGLE ON NURSE FROM BEHIND GREGER 67

She stands glowering. She's larger and obviously stronger than Greger. He stands frozen for a moment, then dives out the window. The nurse rushes to the window and looks out.

NURSE  
Stop! Come back here!

Then she turns and races toward the door.

16

EXT. OUTSIDE THE CLINIC, NURSE'S POV 68

Greger is high-tailing it down a side street.

EXT. THE ARROYO 69

At the mouth of the arroyo, Zandar and his three companions rein their mounts and get off, tiredly.

ZANDAR

We'll make camp here. We could stay in the village, but - too many loud-mouthed humans, here for the races.

They are unloading some gear and do not see Greger as he appears above them on a ledge overlooking the arroyo's mouth. Greger freezes.

ANGLE ON GREGER 70

as he stares in dismay at gorillas.

REVERSE ANGLE, GREGER'S POV 71

looking down on the apes as they prepare to make camp. PAN down the arroyo to Greger's horse at a closed end of the cut. PAN back to Zandar and company.

ANGLE ON GREGER 72

He makes a decision and moves away. Follow. The cut to:

END OF ARROYO 73

as Greger comes to the edge above his horse. He looks down guardedly, then slips into the arroyo. Some gravel falls with him, making a noise. His horse whinnies.

ANGLE ON GORILLAS 74

as they react to the noise they have heard. Zandar and Zilo move toward the sounds, curiously.

## ANGLE INTO THE ARROYO

75

from behind the gorillas as they move into the arroyo. Then, abruptly, Greger rides wildly out of the arroyo, right through the apes, scattering them, at the same time letting out a kind of war whoop as he goes past the CAMERA.

ZANDAR

It's a human! On a horse!  
Did you see his face?

ZILO

He came too fast! I couldn't see!

One of the other apes now has his rifle up and fires.

ZANDAR

After him! Shoot to kill!

The apes scramble onto their horses and ride away.

## INT. MARTIN'S HUT

76

Galen lies on the cot, moaning deliriously. Burke sits by him, holding his hand. Virdon paces the floor. Seelah is at a table, preparing something. Martin stands at the window, staring out, depressed.

MARTIN

Something's wrong. It's taking  
him too long.

SEELAH

It depends on what route he took.

VIRDON

I should have gone.

MARTIN

(angrily)  
You both should have gone! And  
the ape, too! Get out of here!  
Now!

## ANGLE ON SEELAH

77

as she turns from her work and stares at Martin.

SEELAH

Martin! It's my house, too!

## ANGLE ON MARTIN

78

as he turns away and goes back to the window.

## EXT. CHASE SEQUENCE

79

Depending on terrain of location. Greger rides by, then Zandar and his apes. At another spot, Greger plunges into foliage with his horse and hides. The apes pull up, looking around. Zilo rides into the foliage. Greger, flushed out, dashes across the trail at right angles to the apes. One of the gorillas fires. As Greger plunges into the foliage on the other side of the road we see that his horse has been hit and is limping but still running. Fortunately, there is a stream here and Greger rides his horse across it. The apes come to the stream, hesitate, then splash into it in pursuit of Greger. They fire at Greger but he is going at an angle and they miss. He disappears in the dark.

## EXT. THE MARTIN BARNYARD

80

Greger, his horse limping, rides into the yard. Martin and the Astronauts pile out of the hus. Seelah comes to the door.

BURKE

(jubilant)

You made it!

VIRDON

Good work, Greger!

Greger, breathing hard, slides off the horse and hands the serum to Burke, who dashes toward the house. Virdon stays just long enough to put his hand on Greger's shoulder and say:

VIRDON

Thanks! For Galen.

Then he turns and races to the house. Martin comes to Greger and looks at him, registering gratitude that he's back. But he reacts differently as he sees:

## ANGLE ON HORSE'S SHOULDER

80-A

showing the bullet wound.

## BACK TO SCENE

80-B

MARTIN

The horse! What happened?

Cont.

Greger is a little shaken by his narrow escape.

GREGER

(lightly)

It's only a flesh wound.

MARTIN

Wounded? Now you are in trouble!

GREGER

(impatient)

It's not serious, Father! The bullet was stopped by the shoulder blade. He'll be all right.

(a bit of a grin)

Just be thankful they missed me.

He begins to work on the horse's wound.

INT. THE HUT

80-C

CU on Seelah, pouring serum from the bottle into a large spoon. WIDEN to reveal Burke holding Galen's shoulders and head up from the cot, to receive the medicine, while Virdon holds Galen's hand. The Astronauts watch intently as Seelah sets the bottle down and brings the spoonful of serum to Galen's lips, deftly slipping the dose into his mouth. Galen reacts, swallows and then seems to stop his writhing and go to sleep. Burke lets him lie back.

SEELAH

They say it works very fast.

(a beat)

If it works at all.

Burke and Virdon register big at this. They look at one another, then at Galen. Burke sits by Galen, struggling to control his emotions, watching the chimp's face. Virdon paces the room a moment. Then:

VIRDON

I'll go see if I can help with the horse.

He goes out of the room, leaving Burke watching Galen.

18-b

EXT. THE BARNYARD

81

Viridon comes out of the house and stops as he sees:

ANGLE ON GREGER

81-A

working on the horse's shoulder, with Martin looking on, nervous and fidgety.

ANGLE ON VIRDON

81-B

as he moves decisively toward Greger and the horse.

VIRDON

Let me at that, Greger. I'm  
an old hand with horses.

ANGLE ON GREGER AND HORSE AS BEFORE

81-C

as Greger and Martin look toward Viridon. Viridon walks into the picture and Greger steps aside as Viridon takes over.

CLOSER SHOT

81-D

as Virdon looks at the horse's wound - a bullet in the shoulder, stopped by the shoulder blade. As Virdon explores the wound the horse flinches and rears.

VIRDON

Let's get him in the stable. I'll sterilize my knife and dig it out.

Virdon goes to the horse's head and takes the reins to lead the horse away. PAN with the group as they go.

VIRDON

You ought to get some rest, Greger, You must be tired.

GREGER

I'm all right.

The CAMERA is now looking toward the barn as Virdon leads the horse there with Greger and Martin near. Then all of them stop and freeze as - from four different directions - Zandar and his companions ride silently into the yard. Nobody says a word. Zandar gets off his mount. He walks to Virdon who stands holding the horse's reins.

ZANDAR

So you're the one! Riding a horse. Do you deny it?

ANGLE ON VIRDON

82

He remains calm, thinking of bluffing it through.

VIRDON

I don't deny anything. But this horse has been wounded and I think it should be taken care of.

He moves as if to proceed, but Zandar stops him.

ZANDAR

Never mind the horse! We have plenty of horses!

(to Zilo)

Arrest this man! Take him to the village! Hold him for Urko!

Cont.

Zilo and the other gorillas pile off their horses and seize Virdon. But as they start to drag him away, Greger steps forward, holding up a hand.

GREGER

Hold it! I'm the one.

ANGLE ON ZANDAR

83

ZANDAR

(a cruel smile)

So it was you, after all!

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND MARTIN

84

VIRDON

Look, Greger, you don't have to do this, just to save my neck.

MARTIN

(a wail)

My son! I warned you!

ANGLE ON ZANDAR

85

as he realizes that Martin has given the game away. He nods to his apes, indicating Greger.

ZANDAR

His own father confirms it.  
Take him away.

GROUP SHOT

86

Zilo and one of the gorillas drag Greger and throw him on a horse. Zandar mounts and leads the group away, pausing only for one parting shot at Martin.

ZANDAR

Thank you, Old Man. You will be invited to see the execution.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND MARTIN

87

as they stare disconsolately after the departing group.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

EXT. STREET IN VILLAGE - DAY

88

It is the following morning and the day's activities have begun. Zandar, followed by Zilo and the other gorillas, swaggers down the street, lording it over all. As they come to the grain market a human carries a huge sack of grain out of the shop and attempts to put it on a cart. He sees Zandar and, unnerved, drops the sack virtually at Zandar's feet. Zandar reacts first with a show of irritation and then with supreme arrogance he picks up the sack and heaves it on the cart as if it were a box of shredded wheat. He looks around at his followers for applause. He gets it.

ZILO

That's good, Zandar! You are very strong.

Zandar walks on, arrogantly, as he says:

ZANDAR

There isn't anybody stronger.  
(an afterthought)  
Except Urko himself.

We PAN with him as he goes on. He comes to a kind of tiger cage in which a human lies, curled up and still. Zandar stops, grinning, looking into the cage. After a moment, he rattles the bars and the human rouses. It is Greger. He is dirty and tired but not defeated.

ZANDAR

Did you sleep well, human?

GREGER

Did you expect me to, in this?  
Why can't I be put in the jail  
with the other criminals?

ZANDAR

Because we want everyone to know  
what happens when a human is  
caught riding a horse. Even  
those who are not here when you  
are executed will be taught a lesson.

Cont.

GREGER

How many humans have you shot  
for riding horses? But they  
still go on doing it! What good  
does it do to kill them?

ZANDAR

As much good as it does you to  
break the law.

GREGER

Sure! You'll enjoy  
seeing me die, won't you?

ZANDAR

(gloating)

My boy, I intend to ask Urko for  
the privilege of pulling the  
trigger myself!

He walks arrogantly away. We hold on grim, defiant Greger.

EXT. MARTIN'S BARNYARD

89

Martin is working at his anvil, making horseshoes. Burke  
and Virdon come out of the hut, ready to go to the village.

BURKE

Will you go with us, Martin?

Martin stops hammering and looks sullenly in the distance.

MARTIN

It won't do any good. The apes  
never listen to humans.

VIRDON

We can try. Greger risked his  
life for Galen, and Galen is an  
ape. Maybe they'll consider that.

MARTIN

You'll only cause more trouble.

(then, grudgingly)

But if you see the prefect, Barlow,  
he might have a warm spot for my  
son. We keep his horses well shod.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND BURKE

90

as they look at one another, registering.

BURKE

Barlow? Is he the ape who  
used to be prefect at Alar?

MARTIN

Yes.

The Astronatus punch one another jubilantly.

VIRDON

Hey, we know him! He's a reasonable  
kind of ape. Maybe he'll listen to us.

MARTIN

Maybe. But what can he do with Urko?

BURKE

He can get to Zaius. That's  
what's important.

Now they all react as they hear:

SEELAH (o. s.)

Come and see your friend!

ANGLE ON SEELAH IN DOOR OF HUT, SMILING

91

SEELAH

He's sitting up in bed!

Virdon and Burke rush to join Seelah and enter the hut.

INT. MARTIN'S HUT

92

Galen is sitting up in bed, eating from a bowl of porridge.  
He grins as the Astronauts enter, with Seelah behind them.

GALEN

If it was up to you guys I would  
have starved to death in my sleep.

(to Seelah)

Thank you, Seelah. It's delicious.

Virdon and Burke go to Galen and pummel him.

Cont.

VIRDON

You're just goofing off, man!  
You don't even look sick!

GALEN

(feeling bandaged arm)  
I am, though. Like you say -  
Wow, what that scorpion did to me!

BURKE

Yeah, but what you did to that  
scorpion.

(mock seriousness)

Do you know, he took one bite of  
you and just keeled over and died!

Galen breaks up and the others join in. Then, seriously:

VIRDON

Take it easy the rest of the day.  
We've got to go see the prefect and  
try to save the guy that saved you.

GALEN

(serious)  
Yes, of course.

He glances at Seelah and she turns away, moved.

BURKE

And guess who the prefect is!  
Your old friend, Barlow!

Galen is electrified. He swings his feet off the bed and  
prepares to rise.

GALEN

Barlow! From Alar?  
(rising)  
I'm going with you.

Seelah moves to Galen and tries to push him back into bed.

SEELAH

No, you mustn't! You need  
more rest.

Cont.

GALEN

How much rest would I get now?  
Barlow and I got along together.  
I've got some influence with him.  
(taking Seelah by the  
shoulders and speaking  
very sincerely:)  
For your son's sake, Seelah -  
I've got to go.

VIRDON

You might as well give up, Seelah.  
He's as stubborn as a mule.

Seelah nods and Galen turns to the Astronauts, ready to go.

BURKE

It's a long walk, Galen.

GALEN

(with humor)  
Ah! I'll ride! That's where I  
have it over you. I can ride a  
horse and not be stopped. You  
guys can walk behind me and  
pretend to be my slaves.

VIRDON

(sour face)  
We sure pay one heck of a price  
for being human.

GALEN

(thoughtfully)  
Yes - I suppose you do.

He marches out ahead of them, and the Astronauts follow humbly.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. VILLAGE STREET AS IN 88

93

Galen rides into the village on a horse with Virdon and  
Burke following meekly on foot, as slaves. PAN with them.  
Virdon registers as he looks off and then nudges Burke.

ANGLE ON CAGE, VIRDON'S POV 94

Greger sees the trio and reacts, seizing the cage bars.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND BURKE, GREGER'S POV 95

Viridon makes a "cool it" gesture, surreptitiously, as they go on.

INT. BARLOW'S OFFICE - DAY 96

Barlow stands looking out the window. He seems unhappy. At the SOUND of door opening, he turns and sees:

ANGLE ON DOOR, BARLOW'S POV 97

A human aide, DAMON, enters, carrying a saddle.

DAMON

Here's your new saddle, Prefect Barlow. It just came in.

ANGLE TOWARD BARLOW 98

as he comes to his desk and meets Damon there.

BARLOW

It's no use. We have no chance of winning the race. Urko's horse will win as usual - and this year he has chosen me to be the one who gets beaten.

DAMON

It doesn't seem fair.

BARLOW

(bitterly)

Fair? When has Urko ever been fair? Look at the way he had me transferred here from my native village! Urko is never fair.

(a beat, then, brooding:)

And the stakes in the race! Half my horses, and half my lands, if I lose! And of course I'll lose!

He sits at his desk, wearily.

DAMON  
 (discreetly)  
 There is someone to see you.

BARLOW  
 (about to say "no")  
 I'm not in the mood to -

DAMON  
 A chimpanzee with two slaves  
 to sell.  
 (pause)  
 He says you know him.

BARLOW  
 (wearily)  
 I can't buy any more slaves.  
 But show him in.

Damon goes out.

ANGLE ON DOOR 99

as Damon goes out. We see Galen and the Astronauts being  
 told by Damon to enter. They start in, all deadpan.

ANGLE ON BARLOW 100

He registers recognition and rises. He starts toward the  
 trio, enthusiastically, then restrains himself.

ANGLE ON DOOR 101

as the trio enters. Damon closes the door after them,  
 staying in the outer office. PAN as they cross to Barlow.

BARLOW  
 Galen! What are you doing  
 here? You must be mad!

GALEN  
 Of course! But I had to see you!

ANGLE ON BARLOW 109

He registers his sense that no one loves him for himself alone. He moves to go behind his desk.

BARLOW

I 'take it you're in trouble again.

ANGLE ON TRIO 110

GALEN

No. We're not -

VIRDON

But a friend of ours is.

BURKE

A human. For riding a horse.

ANGLE ON BARLOW 111

He sits behind his desk, wearily.

BARLOW

Oh, that one. Young Greger. He's your friend?

(shakes his head)

There's nothing I can do.

ANGLE ON GALEN 112

GALEN

But he saved my life!

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND BURKE 113

BURKE

Galen was bitten by a scorpion.  
He would have died if Greger hadn't  
come into town for the serum.

VIRDON

He did it for one of your own!  
If you told Zaius that...

ANGLE ON BARLOW 114

BARLOW

Do you want me to appeal to  
Zaius on the grounds that Greger  
saved the life of an outlaw?

ANGLE ON BURKE AND GALEN 115

BURKE

You wouldn't have to tell  
him that.

GALEN

Of course not! Barlow,  
be reasonable!

ANGLE ON BARLOW 116

He rises and goes to the window, looking out.

BARLOW

There was a time when I tried to  
be reasonable. In my native village,  
I helped you. It cost me my job, and  
Urko got me transferred to Venta. Now  
I'm less reasonable - and more safe.

(turns to them)

I hate it here. I want to go home.  
There's a chance that I can - if I  
keep my record clean.

ANGLE ON TRIO 117

GALEN

(quietly)

Then you place your ambitions  
above the life of that boy.

Cont.

Barlow goes back to his desk, joining the scene.

BARLOW

He's only a human. And a foolish one at that. It's a wonder the horse didn't kill him. Only the apes know how to handle horses.

ANGLE ON VIRDON

118

VIRDON

(aroused)

Are you joking? I'm a human and I've been an expert horseman since I was ten years old!

ANGLE ON BARLOW

119

He studies the men, thinking, "Perhaps I can use these humans." Then he looks at Galen.

BARLOW

Is he telling the truth?

ANGLE ON GROUP

120

GALEN

My friends don't lie.

Barlow thinks some more. Then:

BARLOW

The proof lies in the riding - not the telling of it, my friend.

He motions with his head, indicating, "Let's go."

BARLOW

Come. I have one horse in my herd I would like to see you ride.

ANGLE ON ASTRONAUTS AND GALEN

120-A

Viridon stands still, studying Barlow. Then:

VIRDON

What about Greger?

ANGLE ON BARLOW

120-B

BARLOW

(a beat)

First, ride my horse. Then we'll talk.

EXT. A CORRAL - DAY

121

CLOSEUP of horse, WODA, with restraining lines on it. WIDEN to reveal ape and human HANDLERS working with the horse. It is high-strung and all but unmanageable. The handlers move cautiously in putting a bridle on it.

ANGLE ON GROUP AT CORRAL FENCE

122

Virдон, Burke, Galen and Barlow are watching the handlers and the horse. Virдон is evaluating it. Burke looks at Virдон, then at the horse, worried.

VIRDON

(to Barlow)

You didn't tell me he was wild.  
He's never been ridden, has he?

BARLOW

(blandly)

No. He's a killer. None of  
my apes can ride him.

Virдон takes a long count, then turns away.

VIRDON

Forget it.

ANGLE ON BARLOW

123

BARLOW

(sparring)

Then you aren't the great rider  
you say you are.

ANGLE ON VIRDON

123-A

VIRDON

I'm an excellent rider. But give  
me one good reason why I should  
risk my neck on a wild horse.

ANGLE ON BARLOW

123-B

He still spars for time, hedging on making a commitment.

BARLOW

If you can ride him - and break him -  
I can be very helpful to you.

INTERCUT BURKE AND GALEN, REACTIONS

124

BACK TO VIRDON

124-A

There's an understanding between him and his friends -  
a "Let's find out what he's up to." He turns to Barlow.  
PAN to include the prefect.

VIRDON

Okay, let's go.

Barlow smiles, pleased, then calls to the handlers:

BARLOW

Saddle him up!

ANGLE ON HANDLERS WITH HORSE

125

as they quickly saddle Woda and bring it to the fence.  
PAN to group scene. Virdon climbs the fence. He touches  
the horse's face, then the top of its head, letting the  
animal nuzzle his armpit and get used to his smell. Then  
he works down its neck, getting ready to mount.

BARLOW

Its name is Woda, but that  
won't help you any.

Virdon starts to mount. The horse rears but as it comes down  
Virdon mounts. He's halfway on but he makes it. The handlers  
back away.

VIRDON

(to handlers)  
Let him go!

The handlers back away and the ride is on!

RIDING SEQUENCE

126

Bronco-busting scene. When the horse discovers it cannot  
dislodge the rider it takes off in a dead run across fields.

INTERCUT CLOSEUPS

127

Those watching express astonishment and elation. Virdon, on Woda, is too busy to express anything.

BACK TO SCENE

128

as Virdon rides the vanquished Woda to the group and dismounts. The handlers take the hard-breathing horse. Barlow, now inside the corral, embraces it.

BARLOW

What a beautiful animal!  
 (to Virdon, slyly)  
 Good riding - for a human.

ANGLE ON VIRDON

129

VIRDON

(wryly)  
 Thank you.

BARLOW

I never saw a horse go so fast!

PAN with Virdon as he joins his friends.

BURKE

Maybe that's because you never  
 saw a human jockey before.

Barlow comes into the picture with the others.

BARLOW

All right - I have a proposition  
 for you. I want you to ride Woda  
 in the big race this week.

INTERCUT REACTIONS OF TRIO, ENDING ON GALEN

129-A

GALEN

(to Barlow)  
 How can he? He's a human.

BACK TO SCENE

129-B

BARLOW

(weaseling)  
 Mm, I have a little influence  
 with Zaius. I can get him to  
 make an exception. What do you say?

ANGLE ON VIRDON 130

VIRDON  
(bargaining)  
Why should I say anything? I'm  
not interested in racing.

ANGLE ON BARLOW 130-A

BARLOW  
If you will ride Woda in the  
race - and if you win - I will  
get Zaius to pardon your friend,  
Greger.

ANGLE ON ASTRONAUTS AND GALEN, PAST BARLOW 130-B

They stare at Barlow - it's too good to be true.

GALEN  
Do you mean that?

BARLOW  
I guarantee it.

The Astronauts and Galen express jubilation. Then:

VIRDON  
(sobering)  
What if I lose?

ANGLE ON BARLOW 130-C

BARLOW  
Then Greger will die. But  
with a horse like Woda, surely  
you don't expect to lose.

ANGLE ON BURKE 130-D

He's still looking for the joker in the deck.

BURKE  
Who would he be riding against?

ANGLE ON BARLOW 130-E

BARLOW  
(evasively)  
An ape who owns horses. It  
varies from year to year.

ANGLE ON ASTRONAUTS AND GALEN

130-F

They congratulate one another. Then Virdon takes Barlow's hand.

VIRDON

All right! I'll do it. And  
I'll think only of winning.

ANGLE ON BARLOW

131

BARLOW

Good. But - a word of caution.  
Tell your friend not to try to escape.  
Humans do, sometimes. If he tries to  
escape, it won't make any difference  
whether you win or lose.

ANGLE ON TRIO

132

as they register: The chips are down!

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. STREET IN VENTA - DAY

133

CLOSE SHOT, GREGER IN CAGE, huddled in a corner, somewhat discouraged. WIDEN as ape GUARD pushes food through the bars.

GUARD

Eat hearty. You never know  
which meal will be your last.

Greger does not move. The Guard, smirking, moves away a little. After a moment, Greger shoves the food out of the cage. The Guard registers - he couldn't care less. Then both look off.

ANGLE DOWN STREET, GREGER'S POV

134

Galen is coming forward, with Burke behind him as a slave. Burke has the roller skates around his neck.

CLOSEUP OF GREGER, REGISTERING

135

BACK TO SCENE

136

as Galen and Burk stop and talk with passersby. Then Burke sits and starts putting on the roller skates. An APE BOY stops to watch.

ANGLE ON APE BOY

137

watching Burke put on the skates.

APE BOY

What are those?

BURKE

Roller skates.

APE BOY

Roller - skates? What are they for?

BURKE

I'll show you.

NEW ANGLE

138

as Burke, skates on, gets up and does a few turns on them. Immediately a crowd gathers.

ANGLE ON BURKE

139

as he waits for what he expects - the gorilla Guard.

ANGLE ON GUARD

140

He sees Burke. Curious, he walks to him. PAN. Burke meets him half way. The Guard stoops to study the wheels on the human's feet. Burke lifts a foot to show them.

BURKE

Would you like to try them?

The Guard is too hypnotized to refuse. Burke quickly takes the skates off and kneels to fasten them on the Guard's feet. Then he steps back. WIDEN as the Guard tries to skate. Burke steps to him and gives him a steadying hand. The Guard tries again, almost falls. Burke catches him. Finally the Guard is on his own. He gets through two strides and then falls, sitting down hard. General laughter.

INTERCUT GREGER, WATCHING, FEELING OUT OF IT

141

BACK TO SCENE

142

Now Burke takes the skates off the Guard and puts them on his own feet again. He begins a fancy demonstration. As

Cont.

he does so he looks off, toward Greger.

142 Cont.

ANGLE ON GREGER

142-A

He is hurting to talk to Burke.

ANGLE ON BURKE

143

With seeming innocence, he skates to Greger's cage. Then he stops and pretends to be fiddling with an adjustment on the skate while talking with Greger.

BURKE

Are you all right?

GREGER

Not exactly. I've got to get out of here.

BURKE

Relax. We'll get you out.

GREGER

(doubting)

How?

BURKE

We've got a deal going with Barlow.

GREGER

A deal? With an ape?

BURKE

Alan is going to ride Barlow's horse in the big race. If he wins, Barlow has promised to ask Zaius to set you free. So sit tight. I mean - be patient.

Now realizing everyone is watching, he takes a few more turns, still close to the cage, while continuing the conversation surreptitiously.

GREGER

A human in the big race? They'll shoot him on sight.

BURKE

No they won't. Barlow already has an okay from Zaius for Alan to ride.

Cont.

GREGER

What if he loses?

BURKE

He won't. The horse is sensational.  
Alan has it out at your father's  
place now, training it.

GREGER

I don't like it. The only sure  
way is to escape. Listen!

He motions and Burke skates closer, doing a slow spin as he  
listens.

GREGER

I've worked one of the bars loose.  
I can get out of here tonight.

Burke is so shocked he stops skating and gestures to Greger.

BURKE

No! Don't! You do that and Bar-  
low's hands are tied! You'll get killed!

ANGLE ON GUARD

144

He has been watching. Now he moves toward the cage, curious.

ANGLE ON BURKE

145

He sees the guard coming, registers and skates away, saying:

BURKE

Trust us!

He skates to the crowd. PAN. He finds the crowd silent,  
staring. He looks back to where they are looking. He sees:

ANGLE DOWN THE STREET CROWD'S POV

146

URKO, followed by some of his gorillas, rides into village.

ANGLE ON BURKE

147

as he skates into the crowd and loses himself. PAN with  
him as he joins Galen and looks around, apprehensively.

ANGLE ON GREGER

148

as he sees Urko and shrinks back in his cage.

ANGLE ON CROWD AROUND BURKE AND GALEN

149

One of the humans next to them speaks, awed:

HUMAN

It's Urko! Leader of the  
gorillas!

GALEN

What's he doing here?

HUMAN

He's come for the race. His  
horse is the one Barlow's horse  
has to run against.

He's come to see his  
horse win.

(a beat)

He always wins, you know.

CAMERA MOVES IN ON GALEN. He registers, then looks at Burke.

ANGLE ON BURKE

150

It's sinking in. After a beat, he says:

BURKE

So that's it! No wonder Barlow  
didn't tell us who Virdon would  
be racing against.

TWO SHOT

151

GALEN

It's the same as if he lied to us.

BURKE

Sure! And we end up right in the  
middle. If Virdon doesn't ride,  
Greger gets shot.. If he does  
ride - Urko gets us.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. STREET IN VENTA 152

LONG SHOT, Urko and company riding arrogantly toward us, with bystanders staring and getting out of the way.

CAMERA PULLS BACK to:

INT. BARLOW'S OFFICE 153

We find Barlow at his window, looking out and seeing the approaching Urko party. After a moment, Barlow turns away and comes toward us, to his desk, his face shows his concern that Urko is coming. He sits at his desk and folds his hands in front of him, waiting tensely. He hardly moves as he hears SOUND of footsteps outside.

ANGLE ON DOOR 154

The door is flung open and two ARMED GORILLAS plunge in, take a quick look around and step to either side of the door. Then Urko enters, followed by Zandar. Urko looks at Barlow, off screen, for a moment.

ANGLE ON BARLOW 155

He nods his head, almost imperceptibly.

ANGLE ON URKO 156

Smiling harshly, he walks arrogantly toward Barlow.

URKO

What's this I hear? You are planning to use a human jockey in the big race?

ANGLE ON BARLOW 156-A

BARLOW

It isn't a rumor. It's been approved. By Zaius.

ANGLE ON URKO

157

URKO

(big laugh)

You're a bigger fool than I thought.  
 What chance will a human have against  
 my rider? All Zaius has done is give  
 you enough rope to hang yourself.

BARLOW

We'll see.

URKO

(now grim)

Who is this human who's crazy enough  
 to ride against one of Urko's apes?

ANGLE ON BARLOW

158

He knows he cannot give Virdon away. That would blow  
 the game.

BARLOW

(a shrug)

What difference does it make?  
 He's a human.

URKO

Has he ever ridden a horse before?

BARLOW

(a beat)

Yes. He's quite good.

ANGLE ON URKO

159

URKO

(a cruel smile)

Then you won't object if we  
 raise the stakes a little, will you?

ANGLE ON BARLOW

160

He realizes he's trapped. He hesitates. Then:

BARLOW

How much?

ANGLE ON URKO 161

URKO  
(harshly)  
All your horses, if you lose.  
And all your lands.

ANGLE ON BARLOW 162

BARLOW  
(tense)  
And if I win?

ANGLE ON URKO 163

URKO  
(expansively)  
What would you like?

ANGLE ON BARLOW 164

BARLOW  
(a swallow)  
Transfer me back to Alar.

ANGLE ON URKO 165

Promises come easy to him. He doesn't have to keep them.

URKO  
(a shrug)  
If that's what you want.

He turns to go but stops as Barlow speaks:

BARLOW  
Is that a promise?

URKO  
Yes, of course!  
(cynical smile)  
You have my word.

He goes out and his gorillas follow quickly.

ANGLE ON BARLOW 166

He swallows again. He has made a desperate gamble.

EXT. A FIELD - DAY

167

In the distance, Virdon is putting Woda through some jumps and stretch runs in training for the race. We PAN with the horse to find Barlow just inside the field, watching with great satisfaction. On the other side of the fence are Galen and Burke, somewhat depressed.

BARLOW

Beautiful! Beautiful! We're going to win!

BURKE

That's not quite right, Barlow. You're going to win. But as soon as Urko spots Alan on your horse he'll kill him - and us, too!

GALEN

(bitterly, to Barlow)  
I don't understand you. Why didn't you tell us what we were getting into?

BARLOW

(blandly, still watching horse)  
You didn't ask. Besides, I didn't know for sure Urko was coming.

BURKE

And besides that, if you'd leveled with us you might have missed out on getting a winning jockey.

BARLOW

I realize Urko's presence is a problem for you. But I'm sure you're clever enough to solve it.

BURKE

Sure!  
(snaps fingers)  
Nothing to it!

BARLOW

Just make sure you keep Virdon out of sight till the race is over. If you don't - Greger will die.

Cont.

Burke and Galen register at this horrible truth which Barlow treats so matter-of-factly. Galen looks at Burke.

ANGLE ON GALEN

168

GALEN

Unfortunately, he's right.

TWO SHOT, BURKE AND GALEN

168-A

BURKE

Yeah!

Then he snaps out of it, motioning Galen to follow.

BURKE

Come on, Galen! Let's get busy!  
We've got to have a plan!

ANGLE ON BARLOW

168-B

He watches them go, then turns back to watch his horse.

LONG SHOT, VIRDON RIDING WODA

168-C

QUICK CROSS-FADE TO:

EXT. AREA NEAR GRANDSTAND AT RACE COURSE - DAY

169

The race course is little more than a rough lane going past the stands. We are near two poles which indicate the starting point of a race. Some distance from the poles, Burke is digging a deep hole in the ground. Galen lies on a hummock carving notches in a spool.

GALEN

I wish I could help you. But we have to think of appearances.

BURKE

Yeah! Sure!

GALEN

If anybody saw me digging, they'd say, "Why are you doing that? That's what human slaves are for!" Otherwise I'd give you a hand.

Cont.

Burke stops and wipes his brow.

BURKE  
Cut it out, Galen! You love it  
and you know you do!

Galen holds up the spool.

GALEN  
Well, I'm doing all I can. Even  
if I don't understand it. Do you  
think this is going to help us  
save Virdon?

Burke goes back to his digging.

BURKE  
You're getting warm, buddy! You're  
getting warm.

GALEN  
(puzzled)  
Warm? I'm not the least bit warm.

BURKE  
That's for sure.

Galen, baffled, resumes carving notches in the spool.

EXT. MARTIN'S BARNYARD - DAY

170

Martin is shaping a horseshoe on his anvil. Virdon  
hovers close, watching.

VIRDON  
Thinner, Martin! Thinner! A  
racehorse must have thin, light-  
weight shoes on his feet.

MARTIN  
Urko's don't. His racehorses  
wear the same shoes as any other.

VIRDON  
That's the point! That's where we  
have the advantage. In a race,  
every little bit helps.

Cont.

MARTIN

If it will help to save my son,  
I will do anything.

He continues shaping the shoe and Virdon bends closer to watch.

EXT. A RURAL ROAD

171

This is part of the race course - rugged and rocky. There is a jump here - a kind of fence across the track, partly covered with foliage. Several of Urko's gorillas are making a tangle of vines just inside the jump, where the horses will land coming over. Urko is supervising.

URKO

Tangle them up, my friends, but  
leave the way open at the side.  
Kagen will be told to ride my  
horse across where he will be  
clear of the vines. The human  
will be stupid enough to jump  
across the middle. I want to be  
sure he falls.

(checking the work)

More vines here! Make the tangle  
thicker!

One of the gorillas brings another handful of vines.

EXT. NEAR GRANDSTAND AS BEFORE.

172

Galen is perched on a stump, fashioning something which we cannot see at the moment. Burke comes to the hole carrying two large pails of water. He dumps them into the hole, which is now about half full. He registers exhaustion.

GALEN

Sometimes I question your judgment.  
First a spool with notches in it.  
Now this. Am I just wasting time?

BURKE

What are you complaining about?  
I'm the one who's doing all the  
work. Just do what I tell you.  
There's a method in my madness.

GALEN

Method in madness? How can there  
be method in madness? Only a human  
would think of a thing like that.

Burke picks up his pails and gets ready to go for more water.

BURKE

Ah, but humans do think! Give us  
credit for that much, anyway.

He leaves. Galen busies himself with what he is making.

CLOSEUP OF GALEN

173

We now see that Galen is fashioning a fake scorpion.

EXT. MARTIN'S BARNYARD - DAY

174

CLOSEUP of Martin applying shoe to horse's hoof. WIDEN to  
include Virdon watching as Martin finishes and steps back.

VIRDON

That's good, Martin. With those  
shoes, Woda will go like the wind  
and still have his hooves protected  
from the rocks along the race course.

He mounts the horse.

VIRDON

Now I'll take him out and get him  
used to his new shoes. Then -  
(a gesture)  
Watch out!

ANGLE ON MARTIN

175

He looks at Virdon with a mixture of hope and worry.

MARTIN

I still don't see how you hope  
to win. Urko's horses always  
win. And even if you do win,  
what's to keep him from killing  
you as well as Greger, for daring  
to ride a horse?

ANGLE ON VIRDON

176

He rides to Martin and rumples his hair in a friendly manner, smiling gamely.

VIRDON

Look at it this way, Martin. If we don't try, Greger wouldn't have any chance at all, would he?

He rides away. Martin watches him go. Then he takes off his blacksmith's apron and goes to open the corral gate.

ANGLE ON DOOR OF HUT

177

Seelah stands in the doorway, calling to Martin.

SEELAH

Where are you going, Martin?

ANGLE ON MARTIN

178

MARTIN

To the village! To take Urko's horses to him! I've finished shoeing them!

He goes into the corral and begins haltering horses.

EXT. URKO'S CAMP AT THE ARROYO - DAY

179

CLOSEUP of Urko eating ravenously. WIDEN to reveal Zandar and other gorillas eating. An ape, MORO, comes to Urko.

URKO

Did you fix the trap at the tree on the back road, Moro?

MORO

It's all set up. I tied the branch low enough to strike the human, but high enough so he won't notice it. Kagen will ride around it.

URKO

Good. Eat your meal. Zilo!

OUT 180-  
181

ANGLE ON ZILO

182

Zilo is a short distance away, eating. He rises and comes quickly to Urko. In the background we see Martin approaching, leading several horses.

ZILO

Yes, Urko?

URKO

(loud and arrogant)

I want you in place fifty yards from the finish line.

ANGLE ON MARTIN

183

He is tethering the horses nearby. He reacts as he hears:

URKO (o. s.)

If the human is leading when he passes you - kill him.

ZILO (o. s.)

Yes. I understand.

URKO (o. s.)

He must not win!

CAMERA MOVES IN on Martin's face as he registers at what this means regarding Greger. He finishes tethering the horses, then moves hypnotically toward Urko.

ANGLE ON URKO

183-A

He is still eating. Zandar, standing near, looks off and then speaks to Urko.

ZANDAR

Someone to see you.

Urko looks off, sees:

ANGLE ON MARTIN

183-B

standing before Urko, humbly.

CLOSEUP OF URKO

183-C

eyeing Martin suspiciously.

URKO

What do you want, old man?

ANGLE ON MARTIN

184

MARTIN

Excuse me. I am Martin, the  
blacksmith. I have shod your  
horses for many years.

ANGLE ON URKO

185

URKO

Have you been paid well?

MARTIN

Oh, yes! I have been well paid.

URKO

Then what have you come here  
for? Go back to your forge.

ANGLE ON MARTIN

186

MARTIN

Please - I can be of help to you.  
I have also shod the horse that  
Barlow has entered against you.  
(a beat)  
I know how to make sure you win.

ANGLE ON URKO

187

URKO

(suspiciously)

How?

ANGLE ON MARTIN

188

MARTIN

I can fix Woda's shoes, with  
wedges under them that will pain  
him and slow him down. I know  
right where to put them.

ANGLE ON URKO

189

MARTIN (cont'd)

It would slow him just enough, but not enough to be found out until it was too late. Then you wouldn't have to worry about killing the rider.

URKO

(slowly)

Why do you want to help me?

ANGLE ON MARTIN

190

MARTIN

(a gulp)

It's for my son, Greger. He is the one who has been sentenced to die for riding a horse.

Now Martin all but falls to his knees in his plea.

MARTIN

Please! He's headstrong and stupid, but he's all I have. Let him go and I promise you he'll never ride a horse again.

(a final entreaty)

And I will help you win.

ANGLE ON URKO

191

He chews on his food, thinking. Then, harshly:

URKO

If my horse wins, I will let your son go free.

ANGLE ON MARTIN

192

He backs away, groveling.

MARTIN

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

ANGLE ON URKO

193

He watches Martin go, then gestures to Zandar. Zandar comes to him.

Cont.

URKO

As soon as the race gets started  
let the human escape from his cage.

ZANDAR

Let him escape?

URKO

(a grin)

You know what to do when a human  
tries to escape, don't you?

ZANDAR

(a beat)

But you promised the old man his  
son would go free.

URKO

(harshly)

He can never go free! When a  
human rides a horse, he must  
die! Always!

ZANDAR

And the human on Barlow's horse -

URKO

(an evil grin)

He will die, too! If he should  
be winning, we'll kill him before  
he crosses the finish line. If  
he loses - we'll kill him afterward.  
It's only a question of when.

FADE OUT

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

EXT. RACE TRACK IN FRONT OF GRANDSTAND - DAY

194

An assortment of APE OFFICIALS and HUMAN WORKERS is on the track. Urko's horse, TUSAN, is getting a bit of a workout under its jockey, KAGEN.

As Kagen brings his horse back to where Urko stands, an ape Official speaks to him.

OFFICIAL

Well, Kagen, are you going to win?

KAGEN

Have you ever seen one of Urko's horses lose?

OFFICIAL

Good luck to you.

KAGEN

Urko and I don't put much faith in luck.

OFFICIAL

In what, then?

URKO

(interjecting)

In hard riding. And planning ahead.

OFFICIAL

Then you've planned a good race?

URKO

(smirking)

We can promise you a race you'll never forget.

OUT 195-  
201

EXT. STREET IN VENTA - DAY

202

CLOSE ON GREGER in cage. He is huddled, eyes staring straight ahead. He reacts as he hears:

GUARD (o. s.)

Sleep well, human?

WIDEN to show Greger's Guard standing by the cage but not looking at Greger as he speaks.

GREGER

Does it matter?

GUARD

I guess not. After today,  
you'll get plenty of sleep.  
They're planning to shoot you  
right after the race, in front  
of the whole crowd.

Cont.

Greger shows tension at this horrible truth.

GUARD

(too casually)

You're a young man. You're too young to die.

GREGER

Explain that to Urko.

GUARD

That wouldn't do any good. Your only hope is to escape.

GREGER

If Barlow's horse wins, I won't have to escape. I'll be free.

GUARD

If it wins. Only a fool trusts his fate to "ifs." But then, you're only human. Apes make things happen. That's why we rule the planet.

Greger studies the Guard, trying to figure him out. The Guard looks around, then speaks to Greger, confidentially:

GUARD

Listen - I am not like the others. I am sorry for you. I don't want to see you die.

(looks around

conspiratorially)

While the race is on, I'll be at the track. I'll leave the cage unlocked. The street will be deserted and you can run away.

(a beat)

That way it won't matter how the race comes out.

CLOSE ON GREGER

203

GREGER

(uncertain)

That would mean I didn't trust my friends to win for me.

ANGLE ON THE GUARD 204

GUARD

It would also mean you were man  
enough to decide your own fate.

ANGLE ON GREGER 205

as the Guard turns and leaves. CAMERA CLOSES IN on Greger  
as he registers his grave doubts of the entire situation.

EXT. IN THE STANDS - DAY 206

The apes sit in the front section and the humans sit in  
the back. Barlow is here, nervous and worried. Zandar  
sits near with Zilo and the gorillas. Urko ENTERS.

URKO

(to Barlow)

Well, my friend, we've come to  
the moment of truth.

BARLOW

(mildly)

Not quite. The moment of truth  
is there - at the finish line.

ANGLE ON FINISH LINE 207

An Official stands with a flag, waiting to signal a winner.

BACK TO URKO 208

He points in another direction.

URKO

For this race, it's there -  
at the starting line.

ANGLE ON STARTING LINE 209

It is some distance away and the figures there are obscure.

ANGLE ON URKO AND BARLOW 210

URKO

I see your horse. But where  
is your wonderful human jockey?

Cont.

BARLOW

(nervous)

Don't worry. He'll be here.  
He can't afford not to be.

EXT. THE STARTING LINE

211

Woda is held by Martin. Urko's horse, Tusan, stands not far away, with Kagen already mounted. Woda is nervous, prancing with high steps. Martin has difficulty holding him. PAN to Burke and Galen, huddled with Virdon nearby.

VIRDON

I don't like the way he's acting.

GALEN

It's just nerves. He's never  
been around so many people before.

BURKE

He'll be all right.

(intently)

Now listen, here's the plan. You  
know what to do first. The mudhole  
is right over there.

He points and Virdon looks and nods. Then:

BURKE

But keep your face turned away  
from the stands anyway, just in  
case. Then, when you come in for  
the finish, don't stop! The gate  
will be open at the end of the  
stands. Ride out - and keep on  
going. We'll meet you by the house  
where we found the roller skates.  
Remember?

VIRDON

Got it.

He gets ready to go. Burke stops him, gripping his shoulders.

BURKE

And for God's sake - win!

Cont.

Virдон nods and runs off. Burke turns to Galen.

BURKE

Got your spool?

GALEN

Yes, I have it.

BURKE

All right, go! Do your number  
just before Virдон rides by  
the stands.

Galen nods and hurries away. Burke turns to see:

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND WODA

212

Virдон is mounting. In the background we can see Kagen laughing at "a human getting on a horse." Martin backs away, watching Woda closely. The horse begins to pivot and rear a little.

ANGLE ON VIRDON

213

He smiles confidently and guides Woda in a circle. Then he deliberately pulls at the reins, forcing Woda to rear.

ANOTHER ANGLE

214

Woda rears straight up and Virдон falls from its back. He lands in the hole that is full of thick, muddy water.

ANGLE ON BURKE

215

He makes a gesture of "right on."

BURKE

(to himself)

Attaboy! Perfect! Your own  
mother wouldn't recognize you!

ANGLE ON URKO IN STANDS, BARLOW NEAR

216

Urko throws his head back and laughs. Then, to Barlow:

URKO

This is the great rider who  
is going to beat Kagen? Ho!

ANGLE ON VIRDON IN HOLE

217

He crawls out. His face is masked with mud and he is unrecognizable. He grins and, without wiping off any of the mud, goes to Woda and mounts again. PAN.

Now the horse begins to misbehave badly, rearing and twisting almost as if it had never been broken.

VIRDON

What's the matter? There's  
something wrong! Easy, Woda!

PAN WITH HORSE AND RIDER as Woda sashays away from the starting line. Near a shed, Virdon decides to dismount. The horse rears and Virdon falls again, this time for real.

INTERCUT KAGEN, LAUGHING

218

BACK TO VIRDON

218-A

He gets up, still holding Woda's reins. The horse is no longer rearing but it is still nervous. Burke runs to Virdon. Martin walks to them, hypnotically.

BURKE

What's the trouble?

VIRDON

(to Martin)

Hold him.

Martin takes the reins and calms the horse. Virdon takes one of the horse's hooves and looks at it. Burke watches.

CLOSEUP, WODA'S FOOT

218-B

showing a metal wedge driven between shoe and hoof.

ANGLE ON BURKE AND VIRDON

218-C

They register at what they've seen.

VIRDON

My God!

Burke turns his head sharply and looks at:

MARTIN

218-D

holding Woda's reins, and guilty as hell.

ANGLE ON BURKE

218-E

He whirls away from Virdon and rushes to Martin. PAN.  
He seizes Martin, shaking him fiercely.

BURKE

You double-crosser! Your own son!

MARTIN

No! It was to save him! Urko said -

OFFICIAL (o. s.)

Get ready for the start!

ANGLE ON VIRDON

218-F

VIRDON

Give me a pair of pliers! Quick!

ANGLE ON BURKE AND MARTIN

218-G

Burke shakes Martin, to underscore Virdon's request.

MARTIN

(gasping)

I - haven't got - !

VIRDON (o. s.)

A screwdriver! A knife! Anything!

Martin shakes his head, despairingly. Burke releases him  
and rushes to help Virdon.

ANGLE ON VIRDON

218-H

as Burke joins him, feeling in his tunic for some kind  
of tool. Then he grabs up a small, wedge-shaped rock  
and, while Virdon holds the horse's hoof, Burke chips  
at the metale wedge with the rock.

ANGLE ON URKO AND BARLOW IN THE STANDS

219

URKO

What's holding up the race?

Cont.

BARLOW  
 (nervous)  
 Races never start on time.

Urko rises and shouts angrily down toward the Official.

URKO  
 Start the race! No more delays!

ANGLE ON OFFICIAL 220

at the starting line. He looks toward Virdon.

OFFICIAL  
 (shouting)  
 Bring your horse to the starting  
 line!

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND BURKE 221

working on another hoof.

VIRDON  
 Last one! Almost got it!

ANGLE ON STARTING LINE 222

The Official stands with his hand raised. Near him a gorilla is aiming a rifle into the air. Kagen sits Tusan on the starting line, poised for the race.

OFFICIAL  
 Go!

He drops his hand, the gorilla fires the rifle and Kagen spurs Tusan forward with a lunge.

ANGLE ON CROWD REACTING 223

featuring Urko and Barlow. Behind them, we see Galen, holding something in his hand, moving surreptitiously.

ANGLE ON VIRDON AND BURKE 224

They register, then keep on working furiously. Virdon knocks the wedge loose and leaps on Woda, riding off to join the race.

61

ANGLE ON RACE 225

Kagen on Tusan is passing the stands on the first lap. PAN TO Virdon, on Woda - just crossing the starting line.

ANGLE ON URKO AND BARLOW 226

Urko is pleased, Barlow stunned. Galen appears closer behind them, moving to conceal himself behind spectators.

CLOSE ON GALEN 227

as he prepares his spool-and-string noisemaker.

ANGLE ON TRACK 228

as Virdon approaches his first pass by the stands.

CLOSE ON VIRDON'S FACE 229

covered with mud. Some of it has come off by now.

CLOSE ON URKO 230

He peers intently, trying hard to recognize Barlow's rider.

WIDER SHOT, URKO, BARLOW AND GALEN 231

Galen makes a nerve-shattering sound with the spool. Everybody, including Urko and Barlow, looks around. At the same time, Galen drops out of sight behind spectators. Seeing no one, Urko and Barlow look back at the race.

ANGLE ON TRACK, URKO'S POV 231-A

Virdon and Woda are now going away so that Virdon's back is all Urko can see.

ANGLE ON URKO 231-B

He settles back, rubbing his chin, trying to figure out what it is about Virdon that puzzles him.

EXT. THE RACE COURSE 232

Along the stretch out of view of the stands. Tusan is still in the lead but Woda is beginning to close the gap. Far off, we hear SOUND of crowd cheering.

## AT THE STARTING LINE

233

Burke overtakes Martin, who is slinking away. He grabs the old man and turns him around, shaking him.

BURKE

Martin - you fool! Why did you do it?

MARTIN

(terrified)  
For Greger - !

BURKE

He's riding in this race to save your son, you half-wit!

MARTIN

But - Urko has a gorilla there -  
(points)  
- to kill Virdon if he's winning.  
So I promised Urko -

Burke turns his head and sees:

## ANGLE ON ZILO

234

lounging at a point a distance before the finish line, with rifle slung over one arm.

## BACK TO BURKE AND MARTIN

235

MARTIN (continuing)

- if he would spare Greger - and he promised -

Burke sees it all. He shoves Martin away and races off.

## ANGLE KAGEN AND TUSAN

236

They are approaching the booby-trapped jump. In the background we can see Virdon and Woda coming on fast. At the jump, Kagen veers Tusan and they come over, clearing the tangle of vines. Virdon, unsuspecting, rides Woda over the center of the jump. Woda stumbles and Virdon is thrown.

ANGLE ON VIRDON 237

as he scrambles to his feet. He registers anger as he looks at the tangle of vines, then scrambles back on Woda and rides on.

EXT. A PLACE NEAR THE GRANDSTANDS 238

Galen is keeping out of sight. Burke races to him, grabs him and, in dumb show indicates a change in plans. Galen takes the fake scorpion out of his pocket. Burke leads him off.

EXT. A PLACE NEAR ZILO 239

Zilo lounges as before, hefting his rifle, ready for action. Burke and Galen appear in the background, Burke pointing to Zilo and then leaving. Galen stays, watching Zilo.

EXT. ANOTHER PART OF THE RACE COURSE 240

Woda is closing in on Tusan.

CLOSE ON KAGEN 241

as he looks back and then urges Tusan on faster.

WIDER SHOT 242

The race course now crosses a stream. Tusan enters first, splashing water everywhere.

ON VIRDON AND WODA 243

As they enter the stream, water kicked up by Tusan splashes into Virdon's face, washing off the mud. He is now entirely recognizable.

NEW ANGLE 244

On the other side of the stream, Woda comes out of the water close on the heels of Tusan, and is closing. TRUCK long enough to show Woda passing. Kagen tries to bump and flails at Woda with his crop, but Virdon seizes the crop and throws it away. Then Woda passes Tusan.

ANGLE ON RACE TRACK 245

POV of Urko and Barlow. Woda comes into the stretch leading Tusan by a good length. SOUND of crowd roaring.

ANGLE ON URKO AND BARLOW 246

Barlow is rooting, Urko furious. He looks toward Zilo.

ANGLE ON ZILO 247

He registers at what is happening and raises his rifle.

CLOSE ON VIRDON, RIDING 248

VIRDON

(happy)

Beautiful, Woda! Beautiful!  
We've got it made!

ANGLE ON ZILO 249

His rifle is at his shoulder. Then, at his left shoulder, Galen appears and places the fake scorpion on it, at the same time shouting:

GALEN

Scorpion! Don't move!

Zilo freezes, with only his eyes moving to see the scorpion. He holds, as the SOUND of crowd roar intensifies.

ANGLE ON FINISH LINE 250

Viridon is winning by three lengths.

ANGLE ON URKO 251

He is raging. Then he freezes, staring.

ANGLE ON VIRDON 252

Urko's POV, ZOMMING IN on Virdon's now recognizable face.

ANGLE ON FINISH LINE 253

Viridon crosses, winning.

ANGLE ON URKO AND BARLOW

254

Urko recognizes Virdon. He whirls to Barlow.

URKO

He's one of the fugitives! No wonder you wouldn't tell me who your jockey was!

BARLOW

(gloating)

That wasn't part of the bargain! The wager is still on! I win!

Urko whirls to Zandar.

URKO

Zandar! Get our horse! Follow him!

He dashes off with Zandar.

ANGLE PAST FINISH LINE

255

Kagen, having lost, pulls up. Virdon, having won, keeps on going. Ahead, we see Burke pushing open a gate near the end of the stands.

EXT. GREGER'S CAGE

256

Greger hears SOUND of crowd roar. He looks around, trying to decide what to do. He tries the door of the cage. It is unfastened. He is still undecided. The Guard runs in.

GUARD

(excited)

Why didn't you run? I left the gate unfastened!

(as Greger hesitates)

Can't you hear the crowd? Urko's horse won! Hurry! It's your last chance!

Greger looks at the Guard, then at the Guard's rifle. He looks into the Guard's eyes. The Guard throws the rifle down at his feet and raises his hands in a gesture of faith. Greger decides. He leaps out of the cage and starts to run. The Guard immediately picks up his rifle and aims at Greger.

Cont.

GUARD

Stop!

ANGLE ON GREGER 257

He stops and turns. He sees:

ANGLE ON GUARD, GREGER'S POV 258

The Guard is aiming at Greger. Behind him Greger sees Burke zooming toward the Guard on his roller skates and at the same time Virdon, on Woda, is thundering toward them all.

CLOSE ON VIRDON, RIDING 259

VIRDON

(shouting)

Greger! Over here!

BACK TO SCENE 260

The Guard is momentarily distracted and as he hesitates Burke zooms into him and sends him spinning, his rifle skittering across the street.

ANOTHER ANGLE 261

Greger, getting the message, runs to the other side of the street and makes a flying mount onto Woda behind Virdon. They disappear. Burke skates out of sight behind a building. We PAN in the opposite direction to see Urko's gorillas, mounted, riding in pursuit.

CHASE SEQUENCE 262

as terrain permits.

EXT. A BRIDGE 263

Virdon and Greger ride in on Woda, stop and dismount. Virdon slaps Woda on the rump and it runs on. Virdon and Greger hide under the bridge. Urko and his gorillas ride in, stop, listen, hear SOUND of Woda's hooves in the distance. With a signal, Urko leads his gorillas on.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. THE RUINS OF THE OLD HOUSE - TWILIGHT

264

Greger, chastened perhaps, crouches near the chimney. Virdon stands on the edge of the ruins, straining to see and hear. He is worried and impatient. He moves around, then freezes as he hears, off, a WHISTLE.

VIRDON

They're here!

He moves toward the nearby foliage as Galen and Burke break through, breathing hard.

VIRDON

Good going! You had me worried.

BURKE

We had to detour. Quick. We haven't got any time to lose. They're fanning out to the south. We'll cut north and lose them. Let's go!

Hastily, and without words, Galen and the Astronauts move to Greger. He rises and they take his hand, Virdon last.

GREGER

What can I say?

VIRDON

Say nothing. And don't be afraid. Barlow has sworn to protect you. He has promised to take you and your family with him back to Alar. You will be safe with him.

Swiftly, silent, the trio moves away. They stop as they see:

EDGE OF CLEARING

265

Martin and Seelah have appeared. Seelah carries a package. Martin stands back, ashamed, as Seelah comes forward.

INTERCUT REACTIONS OF ALL

266

BACK TO SEELAH

267

SEELAH

I fixed you some food. You'll need it on your journey.

NEW ANGLE

268

As, one by one, the Astronauts and Galen embrace Seelah and start on their way, with Burke carrying the food.

ON MARTIN

269

as Virdon comes to him and stops. After a moment he looks up.

MARTIN

I'm very sorry.

VIRDON

(a beat)

Take care.

He shakes the old man's hand, and goes. Burke does the same, then Galen. Martin turns to look after them as they go, single file, into the foliage.

ANGLE ON MARTIN, SEELAH AND GREGER

270

They wave a farewell.

FADE OUT

END