

# PLANET OF THE APES™

## THE TIME OF MAN

### ARMANDO'S TALE

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ILLUSTRATED BY  
GEORGE SCHALL

LETTERED BY  
ED DUKESHIRE

### MAN'S BEST FRIEND

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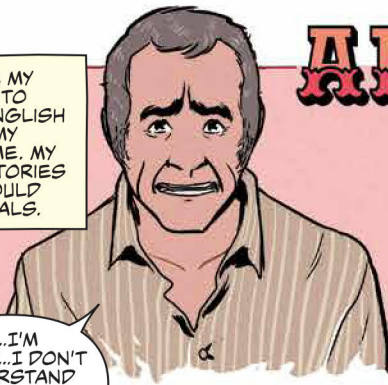
20th  
CENTURY  
FOX



# ARMANDO'S TALE

script by DAVID F. WALKER  
art by GEORGE SCHALL  
letters by ED DUKESHIRE

WHEN I WAS A CHILD, MY FAMILY IMMIGRATED TO AMERICA. I LEARNED ENGLISH FROM THE BOOKS MY GRANDMOTHER READ ME. MY FAVORITES WERE THE STORIES OF A DOCTOR WHO COULD CONVERSE WITH ANIMALS.



ALL MY LIFE, I WANTED TO TALK TO ANIMALS. I DID NOT THINK IT WOULD BE LIKE THIS.

I...I'M SORRY...I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE ASKING OF ME.

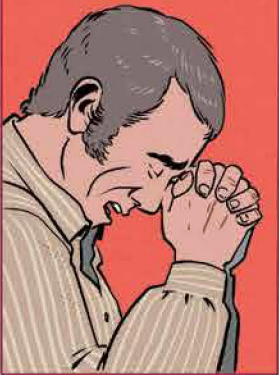
ARMANDO, CORNELIUS AND I HAVE DISCUSSED THIS. WE ARE HOPING YOU WILL WATCH OUR BABY FOR US...JUST FOR A LITTLE WHILE.



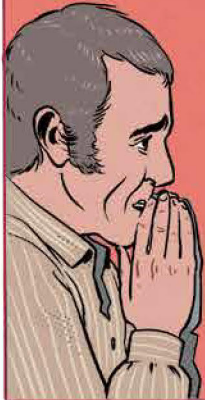
JUST UNTIL WE CAN ESCAPE FROM THOSE HUNTING US--THOSE THAT WOULD KILL US AND OUR BABY OUT OF FEAR AND IGNORANCE.



I DON'T KNOW IF I AM THE RIGHT PERSON FOR SUCH A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY.



BUT I WILL DO IT.



MY PRECIOUS SON--YOU WILL BE SAFE. AND WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT, WE WILL BE REUNITED.



THANK YOU, ARMANDO. WITH THE AUTHORITIES AFTER US, IT IS JUST TOO DANGEROUS.

THE DANGER WILL SOON PASS, MY FRIENDS.





**24 HOURS LATER.**

ALL OF MY LIFE I HAVE LOOKED TO ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI FOR GUIDANCE. TODAY, I PRAY TO HIM.

I PRAY TO THE FATHER, THE SON, THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND ALL THE SAINTS THAT COME TO MIND.

...TO REPEAT THIS LATEST UPDATE, THE TALKING APES KNOWN AS CORNELIUS AND ZIRA HAVE BEEN SHOT.



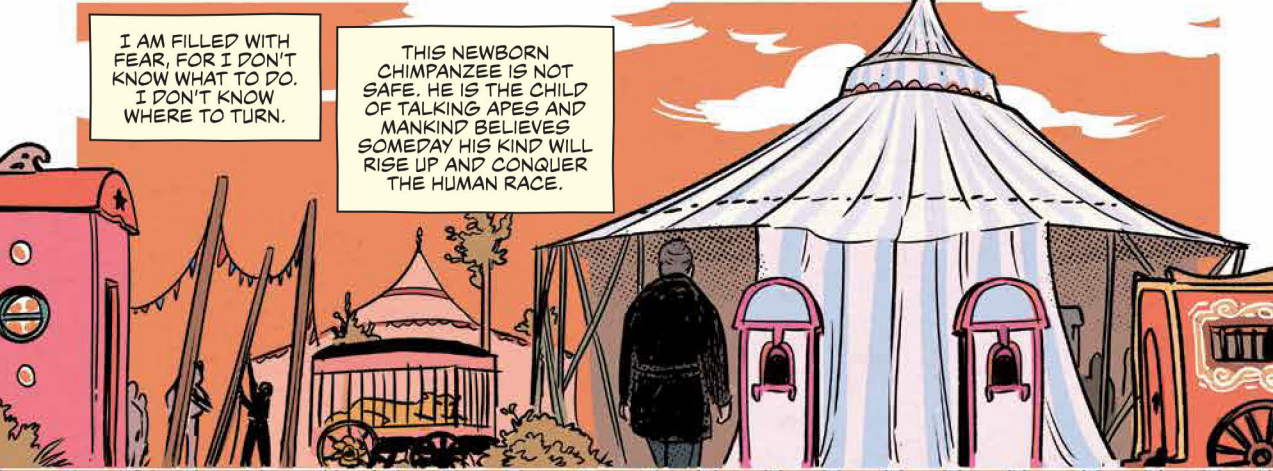
WE HAVE RECEIVED CONFIRMATION FROM AN ANONYMOUS SOURCE IN THE LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT THAT BOTH APES, AND THEIR NEWBORN BABY, HAVE BEEN KILLED.



LOUSY INHUMAN BASTARDS.

I AM FILLED WITH FEAR, FOR I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO TURN.

THIS NEWBORN CHIMPANZEE IS NOT SAFE. HE IS THE CHILD OF TALKING APES AND MANKIND BELIEVES SOMEDAY HIS KIND WILL RISE UP AND CONQUER THE HUMAN RACE.



AND I AM HIS CAREGIVER. I AM THE SURROGATE FATHER TO AN APE THAT MAY BE THE SEED FROM WHICH THE DESTRUCTION OF HUMANITY TAKES ROOT.



I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...

...BUT I WILL DO THE BEST I CAN.





1976.

EVERY SINGLE DAY FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS I HAVE LIVED IN FEAR.

ARMANDO?



I AM AFRAID THAT SOMEONE WILL DISCOVER THE TRUTH ABOUT MY ADOPTED SON...

...I LIVE IN FEAR OF WHAT THE WORLD WILL DO TO HIM IF THEY FIND OUT THAT HE EXISTS.



ARMANDO?

WHAT IS THIS WORD?



NOT SO LOUD, CAESAR.

BUT YOU WEREN'T LISTENING TO ME.



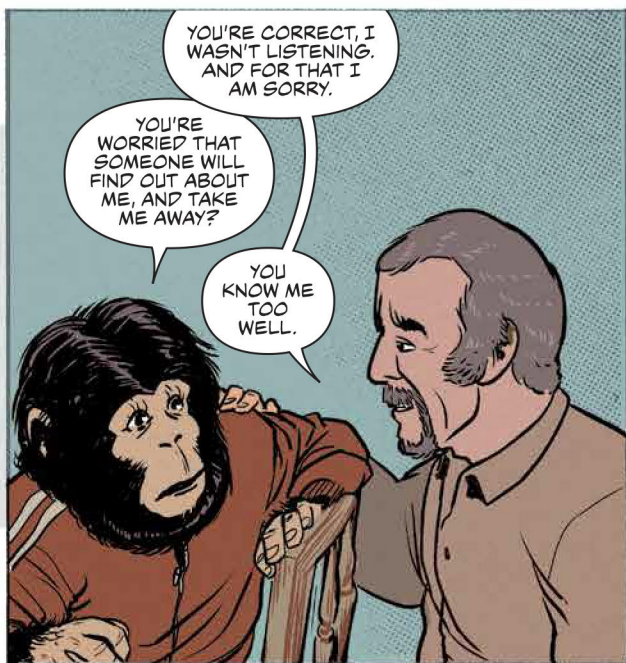
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU...



...WE MUST ALWAYS BE CAREFUL?

YOU MUST ALWAYS BE QUIET.







ONE WEEK LATER.

CAESAR, THIS IS NOTHING TO FEAR. SHALL I REMIND YOU THAT THIS WAS YOUR IDEA?

I KNOW IT WAS MY IDEA. BUT...I...



...I AM AFRAID.



FEAR IS NORMAL--ESPECIALLY AS WE FACE THE UNKNOWN, OR WHEN WE ENDEAVOR THAT WHICH WE HAVE NEVER DONE BEFORE.

WHAT DOES "ENDEAVOR" MEAN?

IT MEANS "TO TRY."

IT IS OKAY TO BE AFRAID, CAESAR.

BUT AS MY GRANDMOTHER USED TO SAY TO ME, "MÚEVETE MÁS ALLÁ DEL MIEDO."

MOVE BEYOND FEAR.





LUCAN HAD BOUGHT  
THE ANIMAL IN HIS  
YOUNGER DAYS.

ON A WHIM,  
REALLY.

# MAN'S BEST FRIEND

WRITTEN BY  
DAN  
ABNETT

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COLORS BY  
GABRIEL  
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LETTERED BY  
ED  
DUKESHIRE

LUCAN HAD A WIFE, TWO  
CHILDREN, AND A GOOD  
HOUSE IN THE SUBURBS.

HIS CAREER IN LAW  
WAS PROSPERING.  
SOME SAID A SEAT  
ON THE COUNCIL  
AWAITED HIM.

IF NOTHING ELSE, HE HAD A FULL  
PURSE, AND AN INCLINATION TO  
SPEND SOME DISPOSABLE INCOME  
INDULGING THE YOUNGSTERS.

HE HAD BEEN  
PASSING THE  
MARKET, AND THE  
ANIMAL HAD  
CAUGHT HIS EYE.

THERE WAS A  
SADNESS TO IT, A  
PLEADING HE  
COULD NOT RESIST.

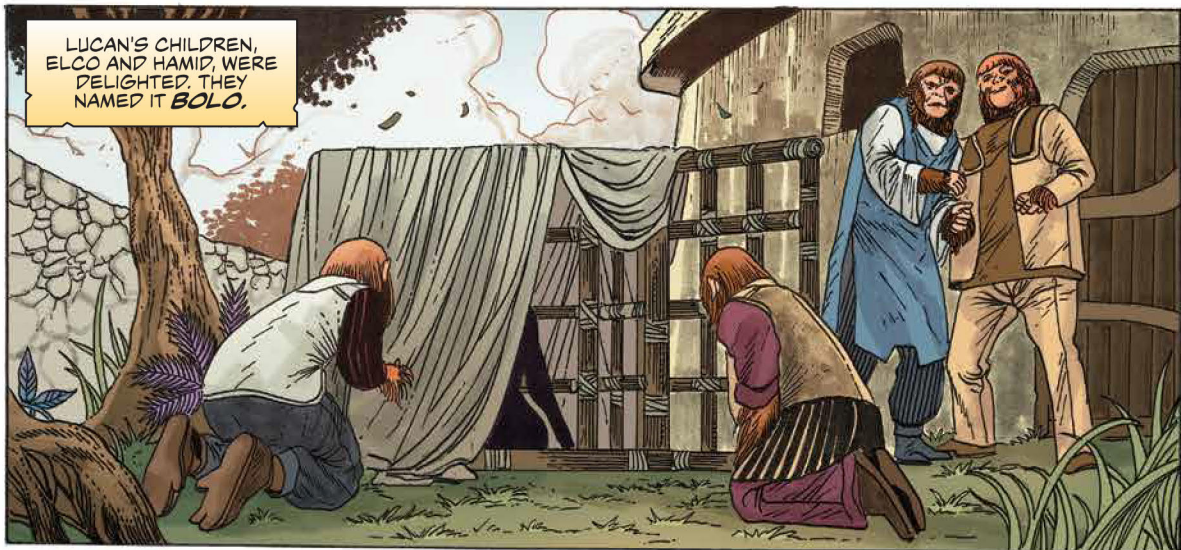
JUST A WHIM.

FIVE,  
HERE!

SOLD TO  
THE GOOD  
LAWYER!



LUCAN'S CHILDREN, ELCO AND HAMID, WERE DELIGHTED. THEY NAMED IT **BOLO**.



HIS WIFE, MATRA, LESS SO.

WE HAVE HOUSE-HELP A-PLenty. WHY THE EXPENSE OF ANOTHER--

LOOK AT THE LITTLE THING. IT'S SO ADORABLE.

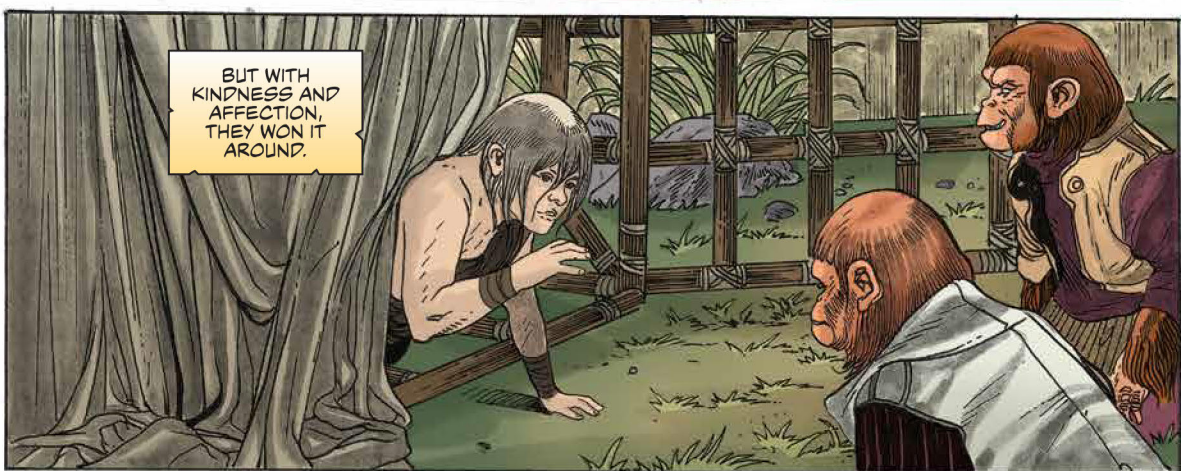
AND LOOK AT THE CHILDREN'S FACES, EH?



BOLO WAS TIMID AT FIRST. AFRAID OF **EVERYTHING**, AS IF TRAUMA HAD SCARRED ITS EARLY LIFE.



BUT WITH KINDNESS AND AFFECTION, THEY WON IT AROUND.





AND BY SUMMER, IT HAD BECOME A LIVELY COMPANION.

TO THE *ENDLESS* AMUSEMENT OF THE CHILDREN.



LUCAN WAS NO FOOL. HE KNEW THAT A PAMPERED ANIMAL COULD *SOMETIMES* GET OUT OF HAND.



HE MADE SURE HE TRAINED BOLO WELL, AND LET IT KNOW WHO WAS MASTER OF THE HOUSE.



BUT BOLO SEEMED TO *BENEFIT* FROM THE KIND YET STRICT CONTROL, AS THOUGH *RULES* WERE SOMETHING IT COULD UNDERSTAND.



SOMETHING THAT GAVE IT A *SPACE* TO INHABIT.





AND AS IT GREW, IT PROVED TO BE A HARD WORKER, TOO.

NOT THAT THEY'D **NEEDED** MORE HOUSE-HELP, BUT LOPEY WAS GETTING OLD, AND HAAK COULD BE SULLEN.



WITH THE PASSING OF A FEW YEARS, BOLO BECAME **MORE** THAN A PET.



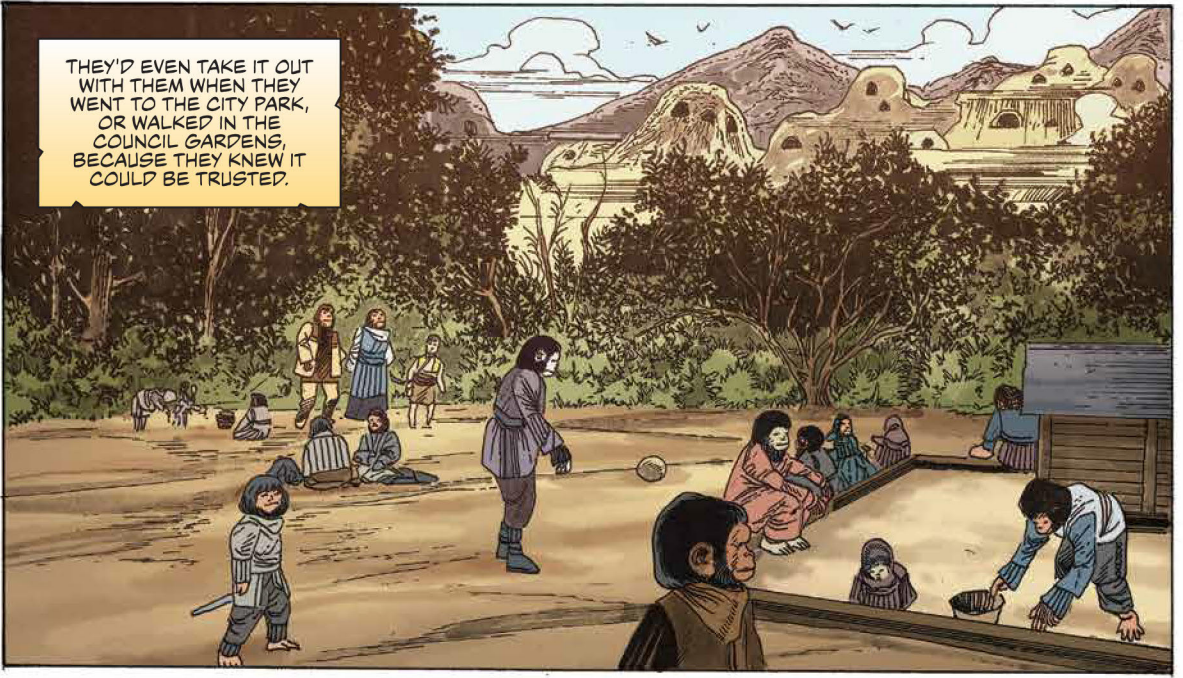
IT WAS PART OF THEIR LIVES.



PART OF THEIR **FAMILY**, LUCAN LIKED TO JOKE.



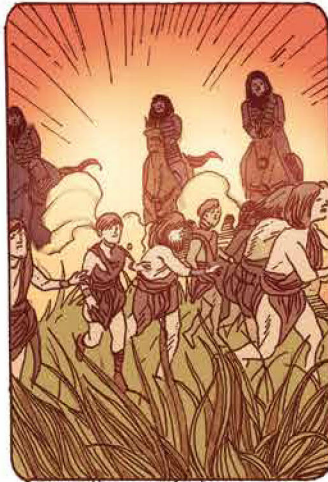
THEY'D EVEN TAKE IT OUT WITH THEM WHEN THEY WENT TO THE CITY PARK, OR WALKED IN THE COUNCIL GARDENS, BECAUSE THEY KNEW IT COULD BE TRUSTED.



IT WAS OBEDIENT AND GOOD-NATURED, AND NEVER FOUGHT WITH THE ANIMALS OWNED BY LUCAN'S NEIGHBORS.



AND ONLY ONCE IN A WHILE DID IT SHOW ANY HINT OF THAT EARLY TIMIDITY.



COME ON, LAD!  
GOOD BOY,  
BOLO!

