

# KONG<sup>TM</sup> ON THE PLANET OF THE APES<sup>TM</sup>

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DAY TWENTY-FOUR. KONG HAS ALLOWED US TO OBSERVE HIM FOR SEVERAL DAYS NOW. HE SEEMS COMFORTABLE IN OUR PRESENCE.



I HOPED WE WOULD SEE ONE AFTER THE BODY OF THE QUEEN WASHED UP ON THE SHORES OF THE FORBIDDEN ZONE.

PART OF ME HAD BRACED MYSELF FOR DISAPPOINTMENT. THAT SHE WOULD BE THE LAST. A FLUKE, AS THE COUNCIL CALLED IT, AN ANOMALY.



NOW THAT THE KING STANDS TOWERING ABOVE US, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK. I SCRAMBLE FOR QUESTIONS I DON'T EVEN KNOW TO ASK.

I WATCH ZAIUS AND CORNELIUS, WITH THAT SAME BEWILDERMENT, AND YET I CAN'T FEEL FARTHER AWAY FROM THEM.







IT'S AS IF HE SENSES SOMETHING IN US, DOCTOR. DIFFERENT THAN THE HUMANS.

HE IS MORE LIKE US THAN THOSE HE'S LIVED WITH--PROTECTED--FOR CENTURIES.

YOU MIGHT SAY IT CONFIRMS MY GREATEST WISH--AN UNDERSTANDING. OR MY GREATEST FEAR--GIVING INTO SOMETHING ELSE COMPLETELY.



CORNELIUS, I APPRECIATE YOUR WILLINGNESS TO ABSORB AND PROCESS THIS WITH AN OPEN HEART. YOU'VE REDEEMED YOURSELF IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

BUT...I NEED MY SCIENTISTS STRONG. WITH RESOLVE.



WE HAVE ONLY JUST BEGUN UNLOCKING THIS GREAT MYSTERY. OUR RESEARCH IS IN ITS INFANCY.

LEST WE FORGET WHY THIS IS SO IMPORTANT, DOCTOR.



IT'S ALL FOR US, FOR APE CITY.

TO END THE FIGHTING. TO SOLIDIFY A HISTORY BUILT ON WEAK FOUNDATIONS AND BLOODSHED.



WE CANNOT THRUST THIS ONTO THEM. ONE SIDE MAY SPIN IT TO FIT THEIR OWN AGENDA. OR USE IT AGAINST US.

WE MUST BE TACTFUL IN HOW WE RETURN. HOW CAN WE ENSURE THE...TRUTH STAYS THAT WAY?



SCIENCE AND FAITH WERE NEVER MEANT TO FIT AN AGENDA. THEY ARE MEANT TO SIMPLY BE.

THAT'S WHAT MAKES SOMETHING TRUE. IT'S SIMPLY UNDENIABLE.

IN THE END, THAT'S WHAT REMAINS. OR SO I SHOULD HOPE.





I HAVE NOT SEEN HIM LIKE THIS.

OH! NI'TA, YOU STARTLED ME.

HE'S NOT USUALLY AS PRESENT. YOU HAVE STIRRED SOMETHING IN HIM.



YOU ARE ALSO A DISTRACTION. WHEN HIS QUEEN WENT MISSING, HE BEGAN MOURNING. IN A WAY, WE BELIEVE HE GRIEVES FOR ALL KONG PASSED.

I AM GRATEFUL FOR YOUR ARRIVAL. HE'S NEVER CONNECTED LIKE THIS BEFORE. HE'S FEELING PEACE.



YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO INDULGE US IN OUR SEARCH, BUT YOU DID. YOU WELCOMED US WHEN YOU DIDN'T HAVE--

WE ARE A PEACEFUL RACE, DOCTOR ZIRA. IT'S SIMPLY LOGICAL.



I ENVY YOU. TRAVELLING THE WORLD. SEEING NEW, EXCITING THINGS. DISCOVERY. ALL I'VE KNOWN IS THIS. IT'S ALL I'LL EVER KNOW.

NI'TA, THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD...



SOMETIMES OTHERS AREN'T AS WELCOMING OR PEACEFUL. SOMETIMES NEW WORLDS SHOULDN'T BE FOUND.

YOU NEED TO STAY HERE, WITH YOUR PEOPLE. YOUR FAMILIES.



BUT, ZIRA... YOU YOURSELF HAVE TRAV--

I'VE DONE TH-- WE'VE DONE THINGS. OUR PEOPLE. IT'S JUST... IT'S NOT FOR VISITORS. NOT SOMEONE LIKE YOU. TRUST ME.

EXCUSE ME. I HAVE WORK TO DO.









THE  
BEAST IS  
REAL, ARGUS!  
IT LIVES.

IT IS **MASSIVE**.  
IMPRESSIONABLE, YES. A  
PINNACLE OF APE  
EVOLUTION.

THERE  
THEY ARE...  
THE TRAITORS.  
CRUMBLING UNDER  
PRESSURE. IT'S A  
MIRACLE THEY'D  
LASTED SO  
LONG.

AND LIVING  
WITH HUMANS!  
**SHAMEFUL.**

REMEMBER  
WHAT WE SAY--  
THE ONLY GOOD  
HUMAN...?

...IS A DEAD  
HUMAN. YES,  
GENERAL.

I'VE SEEN  
ENOUGH. WE WILL  
RETURN TO BASE  
WITH NEWS OF  
THE GIANT.

THAT  
SHOULD  
PUT A FIRE IN  
THOSE APES TO  
GET OFF THIS  
FORSAKEN  
LAND.