

## Twitter Thread by Pulp Librarian



**Pulp Librarian**

@PulpLibrarian



**Pierre Boulle was born today in 1912, so what better time to look back at his sociological science-fiction classic that paved the way for Star Wars and the MCU.**

**This is the story of Planet Of The Apes!**

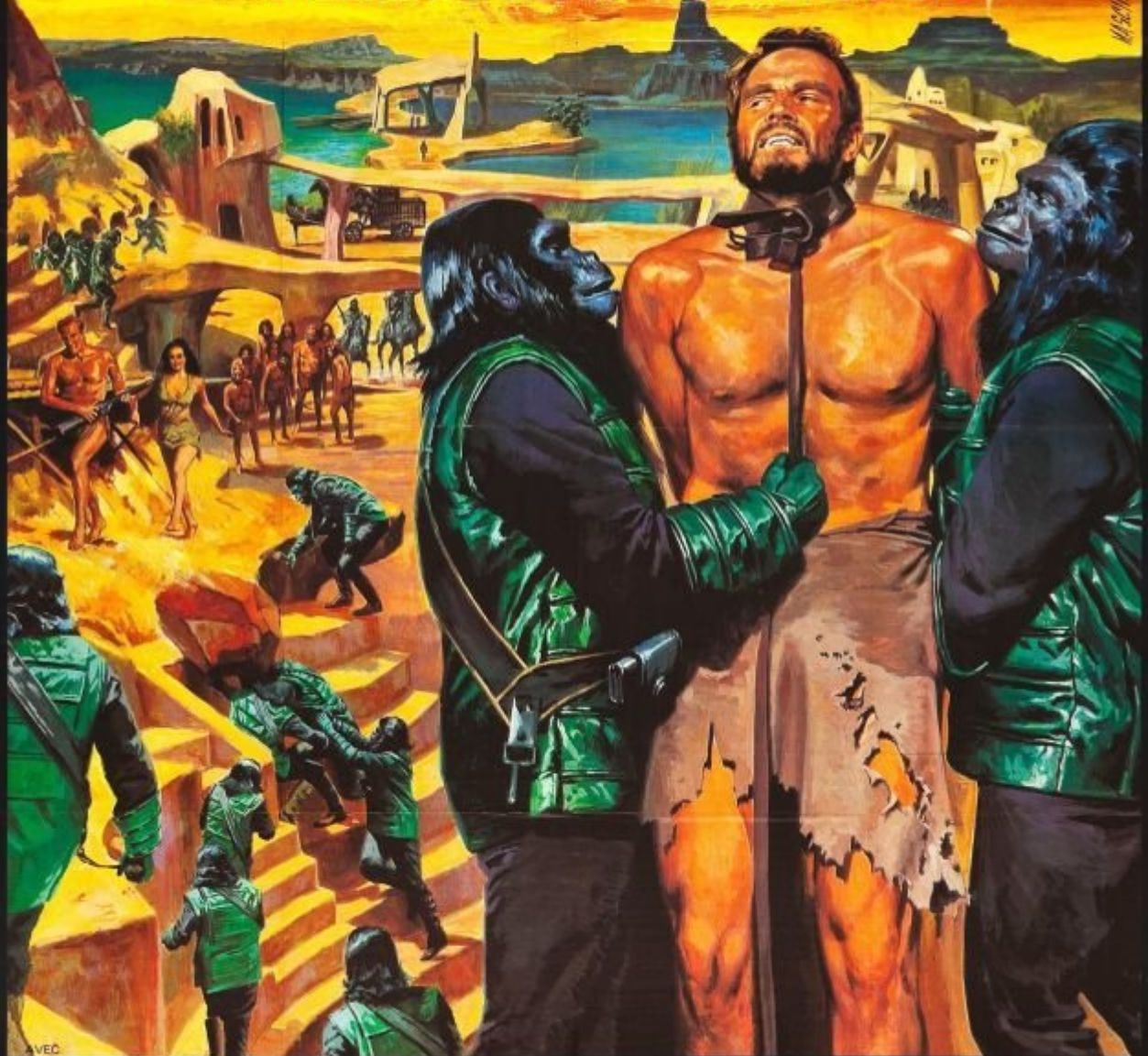
***l'homme traqué, mis en cage par les singes civilisés !***

20th Century Fox  
présente

**CHARLTON HESTON**

DANS  
UNE PRODUCTION  
ARTHUR P. JACOBS

# **LA PLANETE DES SINGES**



AVEC  
RODDY Mc DOWALL · MAURICE EVANS · KIM HUNTER · JAMES WHITMORE · JAMES DALY ET LINDA HARRISON DANS LE RÔLE DE "NOVA" · PRODUIT PAR APJAC PRODUCTIONS  
RÉALISÉ PAR FRANKLIN J. SCHAFFNER · SCÉNARIO DE MICHAEL WILSON ET ROD SERLING · MUSIQUE DE JERRY GOLDSMITH · TIRÉ D'UN ROMAN DE PIERRE BOULLE · Panavision® Couleurs par DeLuxe  
INTERDIT AUX MOINS DE 13 ANS

Pierre Boulle is probably best known for his 1952 novel *Bridge On The River Kwai*, based on his wartime experiences in Indochina. So it was possibly a surprise when 11 years later he authored a science fiction novel.

SPANS A WHOLE NEW WORLD OF ENTERTAINMENT!

HORIZON PRODUCTIONS (GB) present

**WILLIAM HOLDEN  
JACK HAWKINS  
ALEC GUINNESS**

**the  
Bridge on the River Kwai**

with **SESSUE HAYAKAWA · JAMES DONALD**

Andre Morell · Peter Williams · John Baker · Percy Herbert · Harold Goodwin · Ann Sears

and introducing **GEOFFREY HORNE**

**CINEMASCOPE**

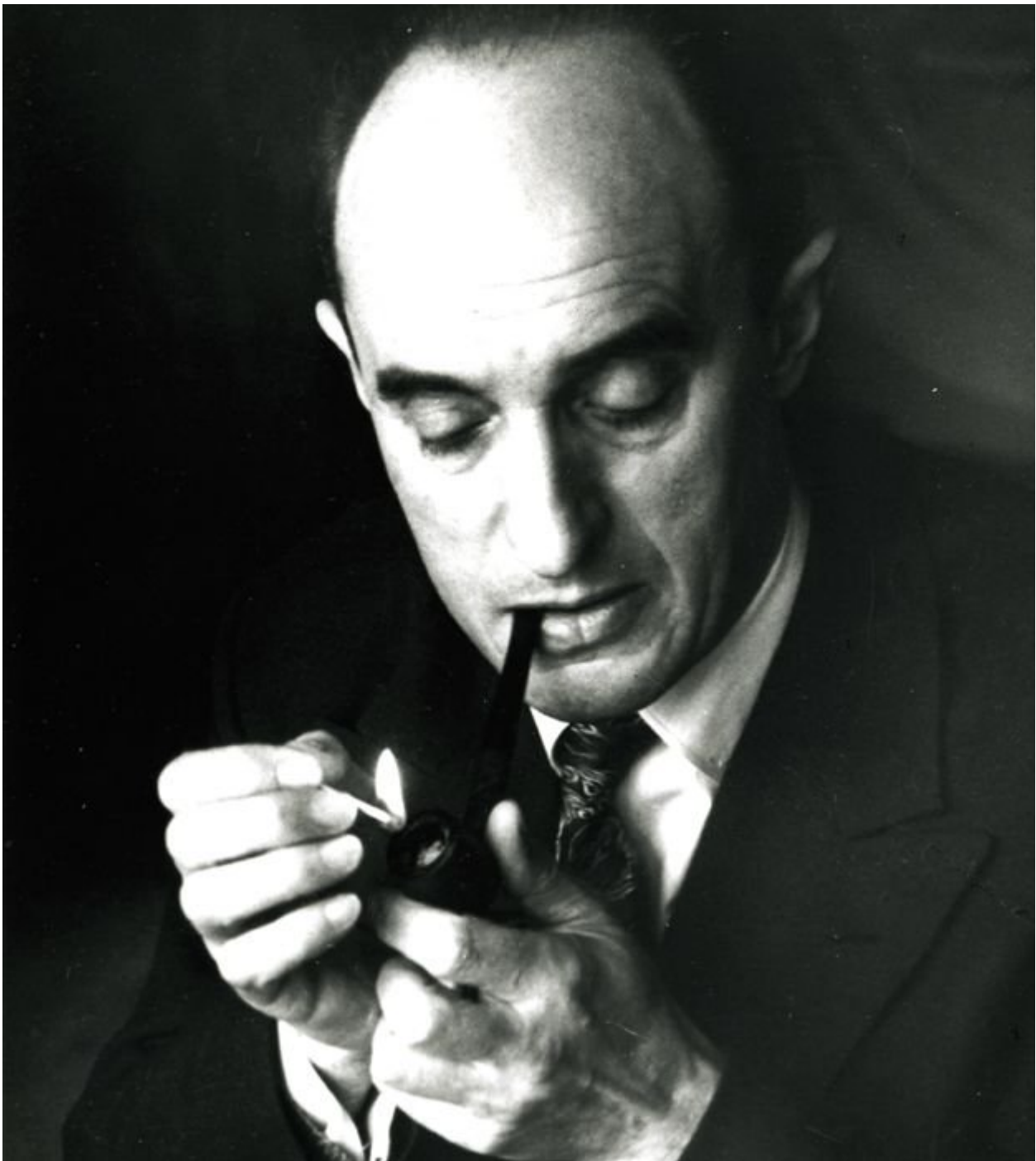
*Technicolor*®

Written by Pierre Boulle, based on his novel

Produced by **SAM SPIEGEL** · Directed by **DAVID LEAN**

A COLUMBIA RELEASE

However Boulle had been a Free French secret agent during the war. He was captured in 1943 by Vichy forces in Vietnam and sentenced to hard labour. This experience of capture would shape his novel *La Planète Des Singes*.



Published in 1963 *La Planète Des Singes* recieved good reviews. An English translation - entitled *Monkey Planet* - was issued the following year. It was a story that seemed to strike a chord with readers.

Pierre Boulle

# La planète des singes

roman

JULLIARD

38<sup>e</sup> mille

In the novel two rich travellers find a manuscript written by journalist Ulysse Mérou. It tells a fantastical tale: how he travelled with two wealthy explorers to Betelgeuse. They land on the planet Soror, a world of primitive humans ruled by advanced

civilised apes.



Zira, a chimpanzee scientist, discovers Mérou can speak; he is given his freedom and eventually has a child with Nova, another captured human. Zira's partner Cornelius also learns how humans once used tame apes as servants, before they overthrew their lazy masters.



Mérou and his family eventually escape back to Earth in a rocket ship, but time-dilation means several centuries have passed there, and now the Earth too is ruled by apes.

The travellers chuckle at this tale: as civilised chimps they know no brute human could become so advanced.

パナビジョン  
デラックスカラー

# 猿の惑星

PLANET  
OF THE APES

20  
CENTURY-FOX

Arthur Jacobs optioned the movie rights and got 20th Century Fox to stump up the cash. Twilight Zone creator Rod Serling wrote the initial movie script, though it was deemed too costly to produce. Blake Edwards came up with the famous ending, though in the end he didn't direct.

Fact and Science Fiction

# AMAZING

stories

FEBRUARY

50¢



BESIDE THE GOLDEN DOOR, by Henry Slesar

BRIDGE  
TO  
AZRAEL

Novel by  
John Brunner



ALEX  
SCHOMBURG

Test screenings were needed to convince Fox to make the film. Charlton Heston appeared as Thomas (later renamed Taylor) and Edward G Robinson as Dr Zaius. Due to the long sessions needed in make-up Robinson eventually declined his role and Maurice Evans took his place.



Kim Hunter and Roddy McDowall were cast as scientific chimps Zira and Cornelius, with Linda Harrison taking the role of Nova after Raquel Welch and Ursula Andress declined it. Shooting began in May 1967 and location work was done in the canyons of the Colorado river.



John Chambers did the Oscar-winning prosthetics for Planet Of The Apes, aided by almost 100 make-up artists. Chambers also made Mr Spock's ears and later fronted up the 'Argo' production company involved in the 1980 Tehran rescue operation.



Amazingly at lunch breaks the Planet Of The Apes actors segregated themselves by 'species' - humans, chimps, orangutans and gorillas - and sat only with their own group. It was an unintentional thing, but a strong signal that the movie

was touching on some very important themes.



Jerry Goldsmith's score for Planet Of The Apes was ground-breaking, mixing a traditional orchestra with an electric harp and clarinet, Tibetan horn, conch shell and stainless steel mixing bowls. It made the movie sound - as well as look - like nothing audiences had seen before.

PR5023SD

# ORIGINAL SOUND TRACK

MUSIC CONDUCTED AND COMPOSED BY  
**JERRY GOLDSMITH**

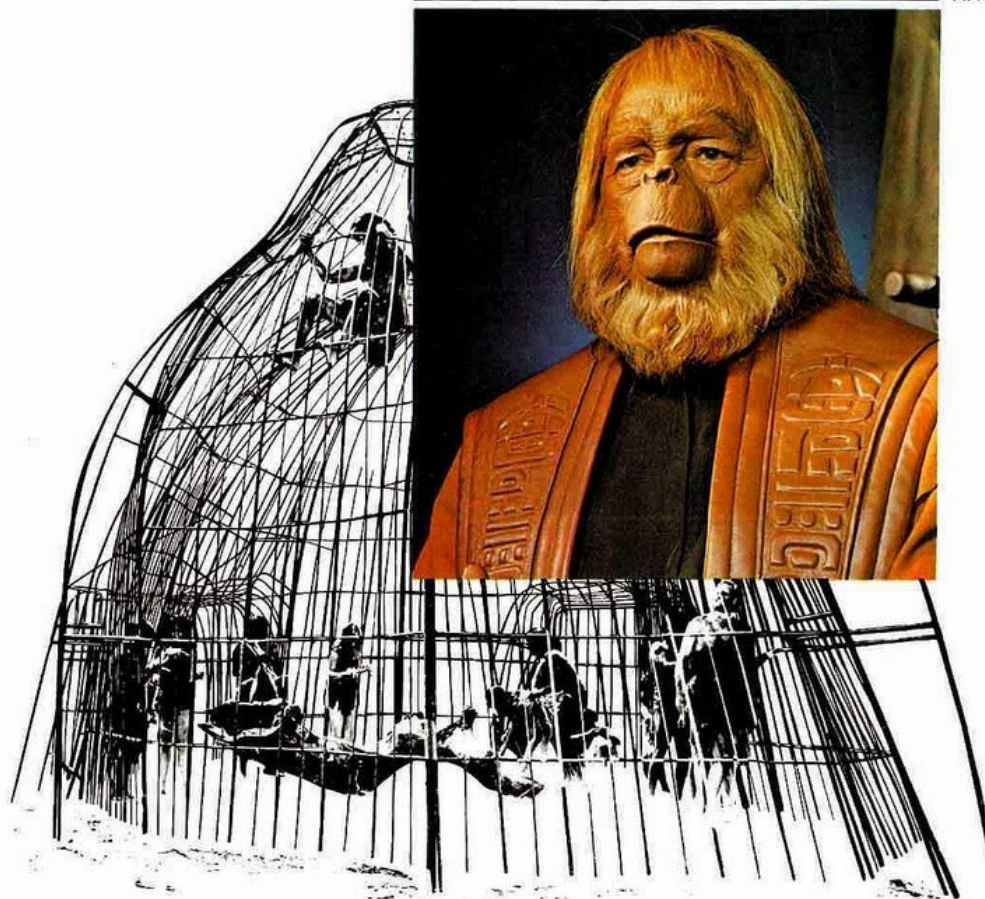
# CHARLTON HESTON

in an ARTHUR P. JACOBS production

# PLANET OF THE APES

20TH CENTURY-FOX  
PRESENTS  
AN UNUSUAL  
AND IMPORTANT  
MOTION PICTURE  
FROM THE PEN  
OF PIERRE BOULLE,  
AUTHOR OF  
"THE BRIDGE  
ON THE  
RIVER KWAI"

Project <sup>3</sup>  
TOTAL  
SOUND  
STEREO



CO-STARRING **RODDY McDOWALL · MAURICE EVANS · KIM HUNTER · JAMES WHITMORE · JAMES DALY · LINDA HARRISON** AS NOVA  
PRODUCED BY APJAC PRODUCTIONS · ASSOCIATE PRODUCER MORT ABRAHAMS · DIRECTED BY FRANKLIN J. SCHAFFNER · SCREENPLAY BY MICHAEL WILSON · AND ROD SERLING · MUSIC BY JERRY GOLDSMITH · BASED ON A NOVEL BY PIERRE BOULLE · PANAVISION · COLOR BY DELUXE

Planet Of The Apes was released on 8 February 1968 and 20th Century Fox used various PR tricks to promote it, including a spoof newspaper. Critical reaction was hugely positive. For a dystopian film it caught the mood of 1968: Vietnam, the Cold War and the counterculture.



## Brilliant Scientist Dr. Zaius Advocates Extermination of Humans

Young Simba were en-  
thrilled last night at the  
National Academy by an  
address by Dr. Zaius, Chief  
Minister of Science and  
Defender of the Faith. In  
a stirring speech advocating  
the complete extermination  
of the human animal, Dr.  
Zaius, aged 100, young  
browsers to take their share  
of responsibility in clearing  
the planet of what he called  
the greatest menace to our  
species.

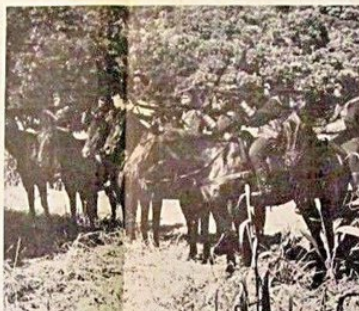
Age civilization is the last  
the "beastly,"  
"Beastly the best man,"  
said Dr. Zaius, "for he is  
the devil's pawn. Alone  
among God's creatures he  
kills for greed. He will  
murder his brother to pos-  
sess his brother's land."  
"Let us prevent him  
from breeding in great numbers,  
for he will make a desert  
of his home and of yours."  
Simba Simba, Over him back

## THE APE EXCLUSIVE MORE PICTURES OF THIS MORNING'S BIG ROUND-UP

These exclusive pic-  
tures of the great hu-  
man round-up were  
taken by famed "Ape"  
cameraman Simba on  
an assignment with  
the Gorilla guards.



A dramatic picture of some of our guards capturing humans in the outer edge of the Forbidden Zone.



Ready for the wild. Some of our mounted Gorilla guards prepare to attack the humans ranging in the Forbidden Zone.

### Official Denial of 'Man Invasion' Rumors

An official denial was given  
today by Zaius, Chief Minister  
of Science, that the  
rumors of a large-scale  
invasion of the planet  
by humans were  
unfounded.



One of the human beasts captured this morning is taken to the cage at the Academy of Ape Science.

### WEATHER LATEST

The outlook for tomorrow is  
cloudy, particularly in the  
Forbidden Zone, where  
the weather is expected to  
be "unpleasantly bright."  
The forecast for the rest of  
the week is a "fine, bright,  
and sunny" day. The  
forecast for the rest of the  
week is a "fine, bright,  
and sunny" day. The  
forecast for the rest of the  
week is a "fine, bright,  
and sunny" day.

### 1000 NEW APE HOMES

The Minister of Housing  
issued a statement today  
that a thousand new homes  
for Gorillas, Orangutans,  
and Chimpanzees will be  
built over the next few  
years.

## "Intelligent Human" Claim Dismissed as "Nonsense"

Young Simba, some were  
amused at the Academy  
last night by the  
claim that the  
human animal was  
"intelligent."

Forbidden Zone used to grow  
that there was some  
evidence to suggest that  
the human animal was  
"intelligent."

"Many will think the  
so-called theory was a  
con-  
cocted story to prevent the  
immediate extermination of  
the human animal."



The human claimed to be "intelligent" by the two scientists.

### HEAD OF SECURITY POLICE AT SCENE "It was just routine"



## For the elegant ape...

Clothes of  
distinction  
tailored  
with  
taste.



STYLED BY

**Zeeka's**

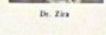
CREATORS OF THE NEW LONG LOOK

ZEKA'S 77, SIMA WAY

## Two Accused at Tribunal Heresy Trial Opens



The trial for heresy of two young scientists from the Academy  
was opened today before the Tribunal of the Ape Nation.



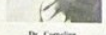
The accused were Dr. Zaius and Dr. Zaius, Chief  
Minister of Science and Defender of the Faith. In  
a stirring speech advocating  
the complete extermination  
of the human animal, Dr.  
Zaius, aged 100, young  
browsers to take their share  
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The Tribunal consisted of the President, Dr. Zaius, Minister  
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## THE TRIBUNAL IN SESSION



Heresy is under at the Tribunal of the Ape Nation today as the President, Dr. Zaius, Minister of Science and Defender of the Faith, and Dr. Zaius, Chief Minister of Science and Defender of the Faith, preside over the trial.

Planet Of The Apes would have four sequels plus a TV spin-off series, as well as a reboot movie series beginning in 2001.

But for me it's legacy was something else...

# GO APE!



## PLANET OF THE APES

ON CBS-TV • FRIDAYS



The success of Planet Of The Apes opened the door for more challenging and gritty science fiction movies: the Omega Man and Soylent Green wouldn't have been made without its success.



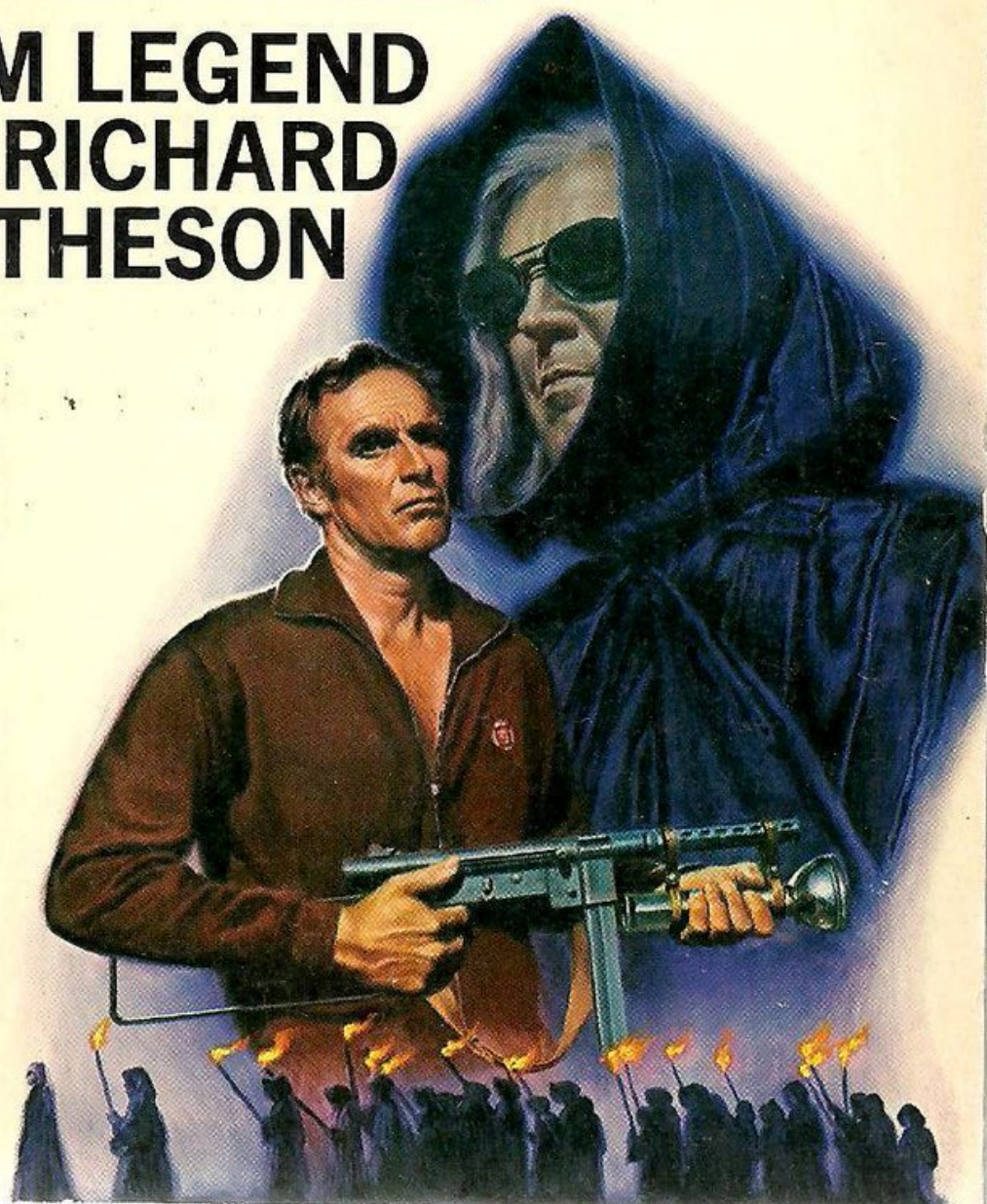
A BERKLEY MEDALLION BOOK

A WARNER BROS. PRODUCTION  
CHARLTON HESTON in

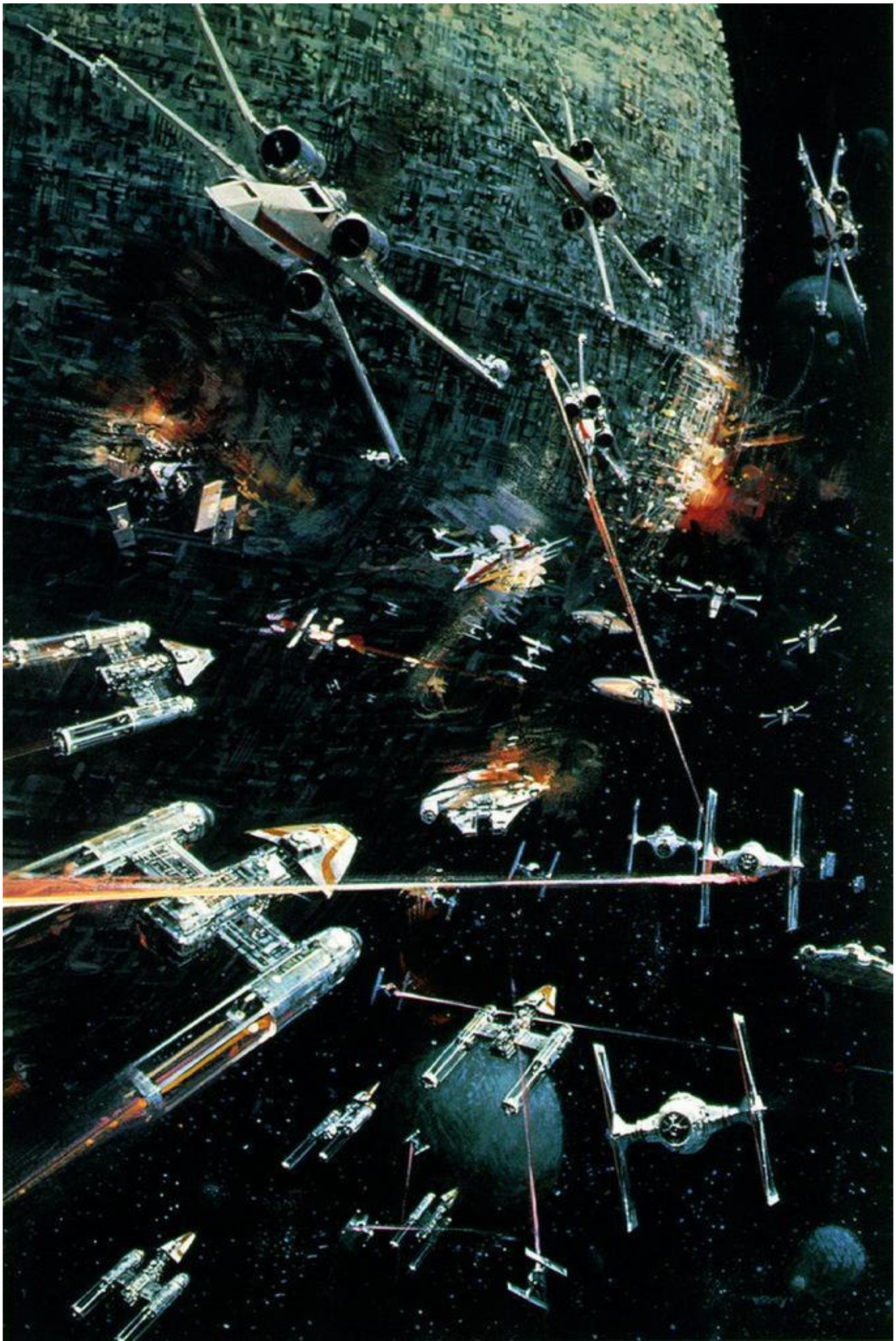
S2041 \* 75¢

# THE OMEGA MAN

I AM LEGEND  
BY RICHARD  
MATHESON



It also wrote the rule book of the modern movie franchise: a catchy idea, a cinematic universe and a range of toys. Star Wars would capitalise on all of this in 1977.



In the end the star of the film is the idea: what is 'civilization' and why must it involve slavery and suffering for others? Pierre Boulle experienced both during his life, which is perhaps why his novel stands the test of time so well.

More stories another day...

