By
EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS

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JOE JUSKO

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Publishers
TARZANA CALIFORNIA
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“THE RETURN OF TARZAN” by Edgar R. Burroughs

15 CENTS
JUNE-1913

New Story Magazine

A Sequel to
"TARZAN OF THE APES"
Sketch Map of Eastern Algeria for use with The Ape Man
New York, Oct. 11, 1912

Mr. Edgar Rice Burroughs,
2088 Park Avenue,
Chicago, Ills.

Dear Burroughs:

"The Gods of Mars" will go through all right and if events are highly favorable you will possibly receive a check next Thursday. I think the story is very entertaining. I notice with considerable sinking of heart that you do not name the chapters. You can do just as you think fit about fixing them up. If you are lazier than I am you very likely will say "Oh, let Hessey do it!" Of course you will see I am entirely at your mercy.

I shall be sending you today or sometime very shortly, most probably under separate cover, or possibly in this envelope, a batch of letters which I have received commending "Tarzan". You may have them for your own. Most of them are going to be published in the All-Story for December. There are some others which I shall very likely send you later. I am returning to you also those letters which you were kind enough to send me.

I have been thinking over the necessity of a sequel to "Tarzan" and it certainly looks as though we ought to have one, don't you think so? Of course, as you say, sequels are never quite as good as the originals, but with such a howling mob demanding further adventures of your young hero, it looks to me as though it would be a very good move to bring him again to the notice of the great public.

I have been wondering whether it would not be possible to have him, after receiving his come on from the girl, make a stagger at being highly civilized in some effete metropolis, like London, Paris or New York, where he very quickly finds the alleged diversions of civilization to be only as ashes in
his mouth. Thereupon, he decides that the only thing he can do is to go back to the woods and again rule the apes. Naturally, with the amount of civilization which he has got hold of, he finds upon his return to the jungle that there is small satisfaction in being king over a few animals. For a while, of course, he tried to persuade himself into believing that he is happy once more. He very likely develops extreme cruelty and runs the gamut of doing all kinds of almost insane things with the various animals and also with the blacks.

Then I was wondering whether it might not in some way be possible to introduce a young woman, whose childhood and youth had been spent exactly as Tarsan's. She had been somehow marooned in the wilderness and, as Tarsan, had grown up to be a savage. I suppose you will have to re-introduce for some reason or other Clayton and his wife. I don't know exactly how.

I don't offer this line of guff as anything more than a suggestion. It may be that you may find in it something which your superior ability might whip into shape. Think the matter over, anyway, and if you do get any definite story in mind let me know and send me a simple scenario of your idea.

It is very funny about Mr. Brown. I really am not sure of his whereabouts, but he took your address with a great deal of care. However, he may not have liked the stories of yours which I showed him and possibly he thought he would not hurt your feelings by gratuitously looking you up and telling you he thought you were more of a success as a cheesemonger than as a story writer. We, however, know differently and have no doubts at all that the time will come when let alone naming race-horses "Tarsan", the word "Tarsan" will become a generic term for anything that is a huge success.

Very truly yours,

M.H.
THE FRANK A. MUNSEY COMPANY
175 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

New York, November 9, 1912

Mr. E. R. Burroughs,
2008 Park Avenue,
Chicago, Ills.

Dear Burroughs:

You know I am terribly sorry to have forgotten my word with you in regard to that one cent a word stuff. I should, however, be very much obliged to you if you would allow me to make up the deficit on the next manuscript which I buy from you. This is the second or third time that I have made that kind of a beef and most everyone has been decent enough to let me correct it without billing up our, to me, mysterious business office. Just hang on to this letter as an agreement that I will pay you one cent a word for the next manuscript you give me and add $100.00 to that amount. I hope this will strike you as being all right, and let me again apologize.

I shall only be too glad to take a look at "The Outlaw of Torn". As a matter of fact, I should feel rather bad if you did not let me take a snap at it. It is my job, you know, to read manuscripts as many times as authors see fit to chuck them my way and I am perfectly willing to do this so long as I have the enthusiasm I have had and always shall have for your work.

I was very much interested in the sequel that you have planned. Let me write of it in detail.

Down to the point where Tarzan takes passage for the Congo, I liked it but if I were you I should cut out the mutiny aboord because I think that is rather over-done. Put in the storm, if you will. I realize, of course, that it is necessary for the development of your story to have Tarzan meet Hazel Strong and it may be that you can see no way of bringing about this arrangement with the disappearance of Tarzan unless you have the mutiny, or the wreck or something of that sort, but I should make that as cursory as seemed right to you. You see the way you have done here, you first
have the ship wreck and the mutiny, in which Tarzan and Miss Strong are concerned and then a little later you have practically the same sort of a stunt with Jane and Clayton.

I am afraid that I must definitely taboo your suggestion concerning the cannibalism of the people in the boat where Jane and Clayton are. Really, now, that is going a little bit too far. Suppose you eliminate everyone in that boat except Jane and Clayton and one sailor. Or suppose you have more sailors aboard, two or three of whom leap overboard in madness, as you suggest. Let them draw lots, as you suggest again, and let Clayton be the victim, and then have your story go on just the same, but it seems to be both inhuman and bad art to work the cannibal stunt to any definite fashion. It also seems to me that you must spend most of your time in the story naturally with Tarzan, as he is the central figure, and that you ought to tell about Jane and Clayton in as short a space as is justifiable. Of course, I don't mean to kill all the good scenes with them, or to make it appear that you are skipping over their vicissitudes. Only certainly it seems to me that you ought to do complete justice to the latter part of your story when you have got the triangle, Tarzan, Clayton and Jane, because there you have a tense situation, the end of which no one is supposed to know.

I don't know whether what I have written is very clear because I have a rotten cold today and besides that I have busted my glasses and my mind does not seem to work very well. If you don't understand, drop me a line and I will try to be more definite. I am returning the scenario and I think on the whole it is a corker.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Editor,
THE ALL STORY MAGAZINE.

M.H.
my dear Mr. "etself:

Thanks for the additional letters—I have had a couple more myself. I hope they like The Gods of Mars as well. If you get hold of any more of these testimonial letters I shall be glad to have them when you are through with them.

Relative to the Tarzan sequel, I agree with you that most of the story should deal with jungle adventures and I have so arranged it. Have also cut out the first shipwreck and the mutiny and all that part of it and have discovered a really logical way to push Tarzan overboard.

Then I have worked a real villain in from the start who can run all through the story, leaving a lurid trail of hell behind him. He is Rakoff, the Countess' brother, and a Russian spy. I have made the Count a Frenchman and put him to work in the Ministry of War. Rakoff is holding a club over his sister's head to force her to obtain certain plans or papers for his secret governmental staff, you know. The club is his knowledge of an affair she had with a man. I don't devote much space to this but just get it in to give Tarzan a chance to interfere in Rakoff's plans and arouse the latter's relentless hatred.

Then I may change my plan of putting Tarzan into the Foreign Legion, and instead intrust him with a secret mission for the minister of war and bring Rakoff the spy on his trail so as to keep them together in a same and sensible manner. This will give Rakoff a chance to become acquainted with Miss Strong and go on down the coast with her, meet the Clayton party and get a bid to join them from Lord Temmington. Then I will put Clayton, Jane, Rakoff and three sailors in the small boat when the yacht is abandoned. The sailors will leap overboard. Clayton and Rakoff will draw lots. Clayton will lose and then very much as I had it before except that Rakoff does not die but accompanies them on shore. Adds to the horrors of their plight by making advances to Jane.

I am going to have Tarzan discover gold emblems among his tribe of blacks and learn that they were taken from captives from a tribe to the south west, who said that they in turn had them from a great walled city in
interior. Then Tarzan will set out upon a journey through the heart of Africa in search of treasure. He will have a number of adventures though I shall not devote much space to the journey. He finds the walled city, partially ruined, and inhabited by a race descended from that prehistoric people who built great forts and temples in the heart of Africa presumably for the use of their colonies of gold hunters. As these ruins have been found and minutely described in several works on the subject it will not add any to the improbability of the tale to make use of them. It will also give Tarzan the much needed opportunity of accumulating a fortune without working for it.

We will have adventures with this strange race, learn something of their history (which I can assure you will add vastly to the sum total of the world's knowledge) and while their prisoner discover the forgotten treasure vaults of their ancestors far beneath the surface of the city. He will escape with the remnant of his party, carrying with him gold ingots and precious stones.

The above covers roughly the principal changes I contemplate. When he returns to the coast he finds evidence that Jane has been there and been captured and carried away.

I may make changes as I write, for I want to have a story that will grip the interest of those who liked the first one and hold it from start to finish.

I have two other bully stories rolling around in my head. One of them has possibilities far beyond any I have yet written — I don't mean literary possibilities, but demshool possibilities. It will be based on an experiment in biology the result of which will be a real man and a real woman — not monsters. I have it practically all planned out in my head.

Yours very truly,

2005 Park avenue
Newport News, Va., Oct 10th

Dear Sir:

I have been a reader of the All Story Magazine for some time, and am well pleased with it.

The story, "Jargon of the Ages," in your last issue was an exceptionally interesting one. I admired Jargon's strength and prowess, Patrice's love, and while in the jungle, and sympathized with him in his sorrow; when after many months he had found his son, mine and was rejected.

I was sorry when I reached the end of the romance which ended so unhappily for the hero, and if it is at all possible, I for one wish that a sequel could be written, which would tell us more of "Jargon of the Ages."

Yours, so a devoted reader,

[Signature]

124-34 S. T.

Newport News.
Dear Editor,

I have been a very ardent reader of the All-Story and Argosy Magazines since last March, and I never think of missing a single story in either Magazine. I commence with the very first story and take them as they come. I am a great favorite of Mr. Burroughs' stories so please give us some more of them as soon as you like and just as often as you like the more the better. I believe I can say with a doubt that I do not know when I have read a story that I liked and impressed me so much as-Tarzan of the Apes.
the only fault I can find with it is it was not near long enough. I have just finished it and it seemed that I could not leave it alone. I will anxiously wait for some more of Mr. Burroughs' stories but do not let it be too long in coming.

Yours Very Respectfully,

R. J. Monroe
Gentlemen:

"Tarzan of the Apes" which appeared in the Sept. number of the All Story I think one of the most intensely absorbing stories I've ever read but Mr. Burroughs' climax seems to me to fall flat.

Acts of sacrifice such as Tarzan commits when he refuses to recognize his parent-age are in keeping with the middle of a story, but at the end, in these days of love stories, some friend (D'Arnot) turns up and "sets things right" and the hero and heroine "live
happily ever after”
Clayton is a good character
but I can’t see where he’s
done anything to merit the
sacrifice Targan makes
Can’t you persuade Mr. B.
to write a sequel to this story
wherein T. will be treated as
his character deserved? It
don’t make much difference
what becomes of Clayton.
Miss Porter can simply break
it off engagement and for all I
care Mr. B can kill Clayton
in a train wreck.
I hope Mr. B. will see fit
to write such a sequel because
I’ve talked over this story with
a number of persons and they
all agreed that it would be
improved upon by this addition
Hoping soon to read this
sequel in the All-Story of
which I have always been
an enthusiastic reader I
am

Sincerely Yours
J.O.B.
Chicago Oct. 5th, 1917

Frank A. Munsey Co.
175 - 5th Ave.
New York.

Gentlemen — In the October All Story Magazine
"Jargon of the Apes" by Edgar Rice Burroughs
is as out of the ordinary, as fascinating
and yet at the end so disappointing
that it calls for a sequel.

Jargon of the Apes should have a sequel
to do him justice and we beg to ask
that the author favors me with
Jargon of the Apes in Book II.

Sincerely
Alex De Camp

3057 Lake Park Ave.

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Aug. 3 1918

Mr. E. R. Burroughs,
1020 North Boulevard,
Oak Park, Illinois.

My Dear Mr. Burroughs:-

Thanks for your favor of the lat. I am
still interested and am glad to know that you have now decided
to permit the production of the "Return of Tarzan"

Please let me know what you want for the picture
rights, and terms of payment, If a percentage arrangement would
be agreeable what terms would be satisfactory.

Awaiting your favor, Iam,

Yours very truly,

P.P. Craft
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Pictured from the concluding chapters of "THE RETURN OF TARZAN"

by

Edgar Rice Burroughs

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