The SON OF TARZAN EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS, AUTHOR OF THE TARZAN TALES

This is the fourth of the wonderful Tarzan stories dealing with the adventures of the steel-thewed ape-man in the fastnesses of his African

jungle. The first of these stories was "Tarzan of the Apes," which began in the Evening Ledger May 15, 1915. The second was "The Return of Tarzan," which began July 17, 1915, and the third, "The Beasts of Tarzan," which began October 23, 1915. In "The Son of Tarzan" you will meet old friends: Tarzan himself, who is John Clayton, Lord Greystoke; Lady Greystoke, his wife; Alexis Paulvitch, friend of the demon Rokoff; Akut, the great ape, and many others. And you will make several new friends, not the least of whom is Jack Clayton, the son of Tarzan.

CHAPTER I Paulvitch and an Ape

TTHE Mariorie W.'s longhoat was floatenjoying this respite from the arduous him. labor of rowing upstream. Three miles quite ready to sail so soon as they should have clambered aboard and swung the longboat to its davits.

of a man.

When they came close to the shore they saw an emaclated creature with The thin, bent body was naked save for a loin cloth. Tears were rolling down the sunken, pockmarked cheeks. The man jabbered at them in a strange

"Rooshun," hazarded the mate. "Savvy English?" he called to the man.

The scarecrow did, and in that tongue, brokenly and haltingly, as though it had been many years since he had used it, he begged them to take him with them away from this awful country. Once on board the Marjorie W. the stranger told his rescuers a pitiful tale of privation, hardships and torture extending over a period of ten years.

How he happened to have come to Africa he did not tell them, leaving them to assume that he had forgotten the incidents of his life prior to the frightful ordeals that had wrecked him mentally and physically. He did not even tell them his true name; and so they knew him only as Michael Sabrov, nor would his own mother have recognized in the sorry wreck the once virile, though unprincipled, Alexis Paulvitch

It had been ten years since the Russian had escaped the fate of his friend, the archfiend Rokoff; and not once, but many times, during those ten years had Paulvitch cursed the fate that had given to Nicholas Rokoff death and immunity from suffering, while it had meted to him the hideous terrors of an existence infinitely worse than the death that persistently refused to claim

Paulvitch had taken to the jungle when he had seen the beasts of Targan and their savage lord swarm the deck of the Kincaid; and in his terror lest Tarzan pursue and capture him, he had stumbled on deep into the jungle, only to fall at last into the hands of one of the savage cannibal tribes that had felt the weight of Rokoff's evil temper and cruel brutality.

Some strange whim of the chief of this tribe saved Paulvitch from death. only to plunge him into a life of misery and torture. For ten years he had been the butt of the village, beaten and stoned by the women and children, cut and slashed and disfigured by the warriors; a victim of often-recurring fevers of the most malignant variety.

Yet he did not die. Smallpox laid its hideous clutches upon him, leaving him unspeakably branded with its repulsive marks. Between it and the attentions of the tribe, the countenance of Alexis Paulvitch was altered beyond

A few scraggly, yellow-white locks had supplanted the thick, dark hair that had covered his head. His limbs were bent and twisted; he walked with a shuffling, unsteady gait, his body doubled forward. His teeth were gone-knocked out by his savage masters. Even his mentality was but a sorry mockery of what it once had been

They took him aboard the Marjorie W., and there they fed and nursed him. He gained a little in strength, but his appearance never altered for the better human derelict, battered and wrecked, they had found him; a human derelict, battered and wrecked, he would remain until death claimed him.

Though atm in his thirties, Alexis Paulvitch could easily have passed for eighty. Inscrutable nature had demanded of the accomplice a greater penalty than his principal had paid.

the mind of Alexis Paulvitch there lingared no thoughts of revenge only a dull batred of the man whom he and Rokoff had tried and falled to There was hatred too, of the There was instred of the police of a countenance and in his carriage. core of cities from which he had had Every moment of the man's waking companion. The Russian told them that the moment the two officers came

life was filled with morbid thought of hatred-he had become mentally as he was physically in outward appearance, the personification of the blighting ing down the broad Ugambi with ebb- emotion of hate. He had little or nothing tide and current. Her crew were lazlly to do with the men who had rescued

He was too weak to work and too below them lay the Marjorie W. herself, morose for company, and so they quickly left him alone to his own devices.

The Marjorle W. had been chartered Presently the attention of every man by a syndicate of wealthy manufacturwas drawn from his dreaming or his ers, equipped with a laboratory and a gossiping to the northern bank of the staff of scientists, and sent out to search river. There, screaming at them in a for some natural product which the oracked falsetto, and with skinny arms | manufacturers who footed the bills had outstretched, stood a strange apparition | been importing from South America at an enormous cost, What the product "Wot t'ell?" ejaculated one of the was none on board the Marjorie W. knew, except the scientists; nor is it "A white man!" muttered the mate; of any moment to us, other than that it and then: "Man the oars, boys, and led the ship to a certain island off the we'll just pull over an' see what he coast of Africa after Alexis Paulvitch had been taken aboard.

The ship lay at anchor off the coast for several weeks. The monotony of scant white locks, tangled and matted. life aboard her became trying for the crew. They went ashore, and finally Paulvitch asked to accompany themhe, too, was tiring of the blighting sameness of existence upon the ship.

The island was heavily timbered. Dense jungle ran down almost to the beach. . The scientists were far inland, prosecuting their search for the valuable commodity that native rumor upon the mainland had led them to believe might be found here in marketable quantity.

The ship's company fished, hunted and explored. Paulvitch shuffled up and down the beach, or lay in the shade of the great trees that skirted it.

One day, as the men were gathered at a little distance, inspecting the body of a panther that had fallen to the gun of one of them who had been hunting inland, Paulvitch lay sleeping beneath his tree. He was awakened by the

touch of a hand upon his shoulder. With a start he sat up to see a huge anthropoid ape squatting at his side, inspecting him intently.

The Russian was thoroughly frightened. He glanced toward the sailor they were a couple of hundred yards away.

Again the ape plucked at his shoulsaw no menace in the inquiring gaze, or in the attitude of the beast. He got slowly to his feet. The ape rose at his

Half doubled, the man shuffled cau-

that the ape was his-nothing further would be offer, but kept harping continually upon the same theme. "The

Tiring of Paulvitch, one of the men essayed a pleasantry. Circling about behind the ape, he prodded the anthrobold in the back with a pin.

its tormentor, and, in the brief instant of turning, the placid, friendly animal was metamorphosed to a frenzied demon of rage.

The broad grin that had sat upon the sailor's face as he perpetrated his little joke froze to an expression of terror. He attempted to dodge the long arms that reached for him, but, failing, drew a long knife that hung at his

The ape tore the weapon from the man's grasp with a single wrench and flung it to one side; then his yellow der, jabbering plaintively. Paulvitch fangs were buried in the sailor's shoul-

companions fell upon the beast, while Paulvitch danced around the cursing, snarling pack, mumbling and screamtiously away toward the sailors. The ing pleas and threats. He saw his



The captain was shouting to him now to stand aside so he might have a shot at the animal.

ape moved with him, taking one of his visions of wealth rapidly dissipating arms. They had some almost to the little knot of men before they were seen, and by this time Paulvitch had become assured that the beast meant him no harm. The animal evidently was accustomed to the association of human beings.

It occurred to the Russian that the ape represented considerable and certain money value, and before they reached the sailors he had decided that he should be the one to profit by it.

When the men looked up and saw the oddly paired couple shuffling toward them they were filled with amazement and started on a run toward the two. The spe showed no sign of fear. Instead, he grasped each sailor by the shoulder and poered long and earnestly into his face. Having inspected them mamory of Rokoff for Rokoff had led all, he returned to Paulvitch's side, dishim into the horrors he had undergone, appointment written strongly upon his

The men were delighted with him on flow. There was hatren of law. They gathered about, asking Paulvitch guess. stred of order, haired of a certhing, many questions and examining his

before the weapons of the sailors.

The ape, however, proved no easy victim to the superior numbers that seemed fated to overwhelm him. Rising from the sailor who had precipitated the battle, he shook his giant shoulders, freeing himself from two of the men that were clinging to his back, and with mighty blows of his open palms felled one after another of his attackers, leaping hither and thither with the agility of a small monkey.

The fight had been witnessed by the captain and mate, who were just landng from the Marjorie W.; and Paulvitch saw these two now running forward with drawn revolvers, while the two sallors who had brought them ashore trailed at their heels. The ape stood looking about him at the havne he had wrought; but whether he was awaiting a renewal of the attack or was deliberating which of his foes he should exterminate first, Paulvitch could not

What he could guess, however, was

ape is mine. The ape is mine."

Like a flash the beast wheeled upon

With sticks and knives the man's and with the smell of new-spilled blood fresh in its nostrils. For an instant he hesitated, and then again there rose before him the dreams of affluence which this great anthropold would doubtless turn to realities once Paulvitch had landed him safely in some

> buy in London-money that he could not hope to possess without some such windfall as the ape represented. The captain lowered his weapon. "The men started it, did they?" he repeated. "How about that?" and he turned toward the sailors, who had by this time picked themselves from the

would doubtless nurse a sore shoulder for a week or so. "Simpson done it," said one of the "He stuck a pin into the monk from behind, and the monk got himwhich served him bloomin' well right -an' he got the rest of us. too, for which I can't blame him, since we all jumped him at once."

for his experience, except the fellow

who had been the cause of it, and who

The captain looked at Simpson, who sheepishly admitted the truth of the allegation; then he stepped over to the ape as though to discover for himself the sort of temper the beast possessed. But it was noticeable that he kept his revolver cocked and leveled as he did so. However, he spoke soothingly to the

within firing distance of the beast, they side, looking first at one and then and dergo his searching scrutiny. All in would put an end to him in short order other of the sailors.

With a single bound the brute was upon him *

unless something were done, and done

The ape had made no move to attack

the Russian; but even so, the man was

none too sure of what might happen

were he to interfere with the savage

beast, now thoroughly aroused to rage,

The captair was shouting to him now

to stand aside so he might have a shot

at the animal; but, instead, Paulvitch

shuffled to the ape's side, and, though

the man's hair quivered at its roots, he

mastered his fear and laid hold of the

to pull the beast from among the sail-

ors, many of whom were now sitting up

in wide-eyed fright, or crawling away

from their conqueror upon hands and

Slowly the ape permitted itself to be

led to one side, nor did it show the

the Russian. The captain came to a

"Get aside, Sabrov!" he commanded.

"It wasn't his fault, captain," pleaded

Paulvitch. "Please don't shoot him,

The men started it-they attacked him

first. You see, he's perfectly gentle-

and he's mine-he's mine-he's mine!

I won't let you kill him!" he concluded,

as his half-wrecked mentality pictured

anew the pleasure that money would

"I'll put that brute where he won't

halt a few paces from the odd pair.

chew up any more able seamen!"

great metropolis like London.

animal's arm.

quickly, to prevent.

As the captain approached him the ape half rose and waddled forward to meet him. Upon his countenance was the same strange, searching expression that had marked his scrutiny of each of the sailors he had first encountered. He came quite close to the officer and laid a paw upon one of the man's shoulders, studying his face intently for a long moment; then came the expression of disappointment, accompanied by what was almost a human sigh. as he turned away to peer in the same curious fashion into the faces of the mate and the two sailors who had arrived with the officers.

In each instance he sighed and passed on, returning at length to Paulvitch's side, where he squatted down once more; thereafter evincing little or no interest in any of the other men, and apparently forgetful of his recent battle with "Come!" he commanded, and tugged

When the party returned aboard the Marjorie W., Paulvitch was accompanied by the ape, who seemed anxious to follow him. The captain interposed no obstacles to the arrangement, and so the great anthropold was tacitly admitted to membership in the ship's comslightest indication of a desire to harm | pany.

Once aboard, he examined each nev face minutely, evincing the same disappointment in each instance that had marked his scrutiny of the others.

The officers and scientists aboard often discussed the beast, but they were unable to account satisfactorily for the strange ceremony with which he greeted each new face. Had he been discovered upon the mainland, or any other place than the almost unknown island that had been his home, they would have concluded that he had formerly been a pet of man; but that theory was not tenable in the face of the isolation of his uninhabited island.

He seemed continually to be searching for some one, and during the first days of the return voyage from the island he was often discovered nosing about in various parts of the ship; but ground, none of them much the worse after he had seen and examined each face of the ship's company and explored every corner of the vessel, he lapsed into utter indifference of all about him. Even the Russian elicited only casual interest when he brought him food. At other times the ape appeared merely to tolerate him.

He never showed affection for him or for any one else upon the Marjorie W. Nor did he at any time evince any indication of the savage temper that had marked his resentment of the atthat he had come among them.

Most of his time was spent in the eye of the ship, scanning the horizon ahead, as though he were endowed with sel was bound for some port where there | more arrive. animal, who equatted at the Russian's would be other human beings to un-

* * * The man shricked * * * Great fingers sank into his flesh. all, Ajax, as he had been dubbed, was

considered the most remarkable and in-

telligent ape that any one aboard the

Marjorie W. had ever seen. Nor was his intelligence the only re markable attribute he owned. His stature and physique were, for an ape, awe-inspiring. That he was old was quite evident; but if his age had impaired his physical or mental powers in the slightest, it was not apparent.

And so at length the Marjorie W. came to England, and there the officers and the scientists, filled with compas sion for the pitiful wreck of a man they had rescued from the jungles, furnished Paulvitch with funds, and bid him and his Ajax godspeed.

Upon the dock, and all through the journey to London, the Russian had his hands full with Ajax. Each new face of the thousands that came within the anthropoid's ken must be carefully scrutinized, much to the horror of many of his victims; but at last, falling, apparently, to discover whom he sought, the great ape relapsed into morbid indifference, only occasionally evincing interest in a passing face.

In London, Paulvitch went directly with his prize to a famous animal trainer. This man was much impressed with Ajax, with the result that he agreed to train him for a lion's share of the profits of exhibiting him, and in the meantime to provide for the keep of both the ape and his owner.

And so came Ajax to London, and there was forged another link in the chain of strange circumstances that were to affect the lives of many people.

CHAPTER II "To See Ajax"

MR. HAROLD MOORE was a billous countenanced, studious young man-He took-himself very seriously, and life and his work, which latter was the tutoring of the young son of a British nobleman. He felt that his charge was not making the progress that his parents had a right to expect, and he was now conscient ously explaining this fact to the boy's mother.

"It's not that he isn't bright," he was saying; "if that were true I should have hopes of succeeding, for then I might bring to bear all my energies in over oming his obtuseness; on the contrary he is exceptionally intelligent, and learns so quickly that I can find no fault in the matter of the preparation of his lessons. What concerns me is the fact that he evidently takes no intack of the sallors upon him at the time terest whatever in the subjects we are studying. He msrely accomplishes each lesson as a task to be rid of as quickly as possible, and I am sure that no les son ever again enters his mind until sufficient reason to know that the ves- the hours of study and recitation once "His sole interests seem to be feat,

of physical prowess and the reading at everything that he can get hold of retive to savage beasts and the lives and customs of uncivilized peoples. Partico larly stories of animals appeal to him He will sit for hours together pertae over the work of some African exploraand upon two occasions I have found him sitting up in bed at night reading Carl Hagenbeck's book on men and

The boy's mother tapped her fool nervously upon the hearth rug. "You discourage this, of course!" the ventured.

Mr. Moore shuffled embarrassedly, "I-ah-essayed to take the book from him," he replied, a slight flush mounting his sallow cheek; "but-ah-your son is quite muscular for one so young." "He wouldn't let you take it?" asket the mother.

"He would not," confessed the tuter in considerable embarrassment. was perfectly good-natured about it, but insisted upon pretending that he was gorilla and that I was a chimpan attempting to steal food from him. He leaped upon me with the most savage growls I ever heard, lifted me complete ly above his head, hurled me upon his bed and, after going through a panta mime indicative of choking me to death, he stood upon my prostrate form and gave voice to a most fearsome shriet which, he explained, was the victory cry of a bull ape. Then he carried me to the door, shoved me out into the hall and locked me from his room."

For several minutes neither spoke R was the boy's mother who finally broke the silence.

"It is very necessary, Mr. Moore," abs said, "that you do everything in your power to discourage this tendency in

But she got no further, A lond "Whoop!" from the direction of the win

dow brought them both to their feet. The room was on the second floor of the house, and opposite the window to which their attention had been aitrack ed was a large tree, a branch of which

spread to within a few feet of the all Upon this branch they both discorered the subject of their conversation a tall, well-built boy, balancing ease upon the bending limb and staying loud shouts of glee as he noted by terrified expressions upon the faces of

The mother and tutor both rushed toward the window, but before they had crossed half the room the boy half leaped nimbly to the sill and entered the apartment with them.

"The wild man from Borne just come to town," he sang, dancing a species of war-dance about his terrified mother and scandalized tutor, and ended up by throwing his arms. about the former's neck and kissing beupon either cheek.

"Oh, mother," he cried, "there's a wonderful, educated ape being shown at one of the music halls. Willie Grimsby saw it last night. He says it can do everything but talk. It rides a bicycle, cats with knife and fork, county up to ten, and ever so many other was derful things, and can I go and see it. too? Oh, please, mother-please la

Patting the boy's cheek affectionately, the mother shook her head negatively. 'No, Jack," she said; "you know I not approve of such exhibitions."

"I don't see why not, mother," replied the boy. "All the other fellows go, and they go to the Zoo, and you'll nevel let me do even that. Anybody'd this I was a girl or-or a mollycoddle. father!" he exclaimed, as the door opmed to admit a tall, gray-eyed man. fother, can't I go?"

"Go where, my son?" asked the new comer.

"He wants to go to a music hall to ee a trained ape," said the mother, looking warningly at her husband. "Who-Ajax?" questioned the man-The boy nodded.

"Well, I don't know that I blams you, my son," said the father. wouldn't mind seeing him myself. The say he is very wonderful, and that lean anthropoid he is unusually large Let's all go, Jane-what do you say! He turned toward his wife.

But that lady only shook her head by a most positive manner, and turning to Mr. Moore, asked him if it was not time that he and Jack were in the study for their morning recitations. the two had left she turned toward her

"John," she said, "something miss be done to discourage Jack's ter toward anything that may excite the craving for the savage life, which fear he has inherited from you. To know from your own experience strong is the call of the wild at tue You know that often it has necess a stern struggle on your part to rethe almost insane desire which on slonally overwhelms you to plunge au again into the jungle life that claim you for so many years; and at the said time you know, better than any of how frightful a fate it would be Jack were the trail to the savage june made either alluring or easy to b

> CONTINUED IN MONDAY'S EVENING LEDGER