

# MICHAEL'S

# dream

## A TALE OF COURAGE & COMPASSION

Written by

**Dr. Anthony L. Rose**

**& Dr. Penny Patterson**

**Photos by Ron Cohn**

A BIOSYNERGY BOOK / ALTISIMA PRESS  
THE GORILLA FOUNDATION / KOKO.ORG



# Michael's Dream

A TALE OF COURAGE AND COMPASSION

Written by

**Dr. Anthony L. Rose**

**& Dr. Francine “Penny” Patterson**

**Michael/Koko photos © by Ronald L. Cohn,**

**Africa photos © Karl Ammann / Anthony L Rose**

**Painting © by Shimm Schimmel**

**GLOBAL EDITION**

**DRAFT Z7**

January 15, 2015 / March 31, 2021

*Michael's story* – Test Draft for use  
worldwide – Readers age 5 and up.

*Epilogue & Prologue* – Test Draft for use  
worldwide with schools & communities,  
donors, and professional partners.

© 2014 /2021 Anthony L. Rose & Francine Patterson, California, USA

P.O. Box 3837, Palos Verdes, California 90274

P.O. Box 620530, Woodside, California 94062 USA

*In memory of Michael*



ISBN 0-9700170-2-2

Copyright © 2011 by The Gorilla Foundation / Koko.org

Copyright © 2014 /2021 by The Biosynergy Institute / Biosynergy.org

Photographs copyright © by Ronald H. Cohn / The Gorilla Foundation / Koko.org

Africa Photographs copyright © by Karl Ammann / Anthony L Rose

All rights reserved.

The Gorilla Foundation / Koko.org

P.O. Box 620530, Woodside, California 94062 USA

1-800-634-6273 / [www.koko.org](http://www.koko.org)

email: [michael@koko.org](mailto:michael@koko.org)

The Biosynergy Institute / Biosynergy.org

P.O. Box 3837, Palos Verdes, California 90274 USA

1-310-913-1470 / <http://biosynergy.org>

email: [michael@biosynergy.org](mailto:michael@biosynergy.org)

## PROLOGUE: Compassion for Primates.

APES AND MONKEYS can teach a lot to people, if we take time to watch, listen, and talk with them. I know from my own experience.



In the 1960's I was doing laboratory research with a macaque monkey named Snicky. He was a youngster when I met him, but after two years he had grown big and strong. Each day he'd snicker and coo at me when I walked into the lab. He liked it when I cooed back, but not when I put him in the experimental chamber. Then he got upset, and angry.

One morning I was visiting another scientist when the custodian came in and told me one of my monkey's had escaped the cage and was wrecking my laboratory. "Will you help me capture him?" I asked. The janitor said, "No sir, it's your monkey," and walked off. I rushed out and ran up the hall. This was the first time I'd faced a monkey outside its cage. I was scared.

I shut the door behind me, peered through the shadowy light and saw Snicky on a shelf across the room. He was pumped up, his hair on end, teeth barred. Frightened, I cooed at him - our usual morning greeting. He shuddered, jumped from the shelf, landed in my arms, and held on like a child clinging to Dad for safety. I sat down, held him, felt deep remorse, and decided to stop experimenting on monkeys.

Many years later I went to Africa to work in wildlife conservation. At the Mefou Primate Sanctuary in Cameroon I met Bobo – a gorilla orphan whose family was slaughtered by bushmeat hunters. I sat and held him, as I had Snicky, and vowed to devote myself to teaching compassion for primates. My first step was to go to the rain forest to ask hunters and villagers about their experiences with great apes.

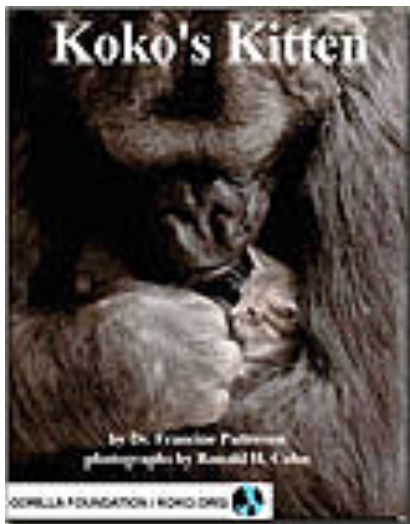


Dr. Rose and Bobo in Cameroon.

I found that people who once revered the apes had learned from colonials that wildlife was nothing but meat for the table. Traditional respect for great apes needed to be revived, and people who slurred them had to recant and acknowledge that apes are kindred animals to humans. Only by changing minds and rebuilding African people's compassion for the apes in the forests, would the slaughter stop.



Gorillas poached in Africa (Photo by Ammann)



Penny Patterson asked me if her book, *Koko's Kitten*, might change the minds of poachers and ape-meat buyers. I took the book to Cameroon and read it to Joseph Melloh, a gorilla hunter I'd helped become a gorilla protector. He was overjoyed to know that great apes could talk with people: "I have seen them talk with each other in the forest. I must tell my friends, so they will stop killing gorillas and chimpanzees." A few months later I received a letter from Joseph, reporting that he had talked about Koko with bushmeat hunters; they were moved, and wished to stop poaching apes.

While Joseph built empathy for apes in the bush, we began teaching in towns and cities. Since 2000, The Gorilla Foundation has sent 25,000 copies of *Koko's Kitten* to Africa. The book has been read and discussed in over 500 schools, churches, and communities, causing at least 250,000 people to appreciate the emotions and intelligence of gorillas and other great apes.



Anthony Rose teaches in Yaoundé public school.

With the aid of our partners – the United Africa Association (UNAFAS) – the tale of Koko befriending a kitten and mourning its death has made teachers, students, and their families affirm: “the gorilla has feelings like people – we mustn’t eat gorilla meat?” Still, declarations of concern do not always translate into societal change. When one family stops eating ape meat, another may take up the practice naïvely. A bushmeat trader who refuses to sell primates will see other vendors replace her in the market. If a hunter decides to stop tracking apes, another hunter can fill his niche in the forest. We need to change social systems, to sustain compassion for primates.

Story telling is a powerful social tradition in Africa. When a folktale is shared in a community, its message attains social credibility. If the story is repeated often, becoming legend, it has sustained influence. Koko’s story evokes lasting empathy for gorillas, in urban areas. It has less enduring effects in forest communities. Some hunters see Koko as an American gorilla who is different from the apes of Africa. Village elders often recite the poignant legend of the hunter who caringly spared a mother gorilla, after she begged him not to make her baby an orphan. “If you can show us an African gorilla with those sentiments, we can enforce the ban on ape hunting,” they’ve declared.

So we began to tell a modern story that would reinforce that old folktale – the story of Koko’s adopted brother. We’ve talked about Michael in many villages, and in many dialects. The effects have been striking. Elders and village leaders are moved to make ape-hunting taboo again. Hunters become visibly disturbed, then silent, as if ashamed. We believe that Michael’s story, if integrated with local legends, can motivate the sustained social change required to convert hunting societies into great ape guardians.



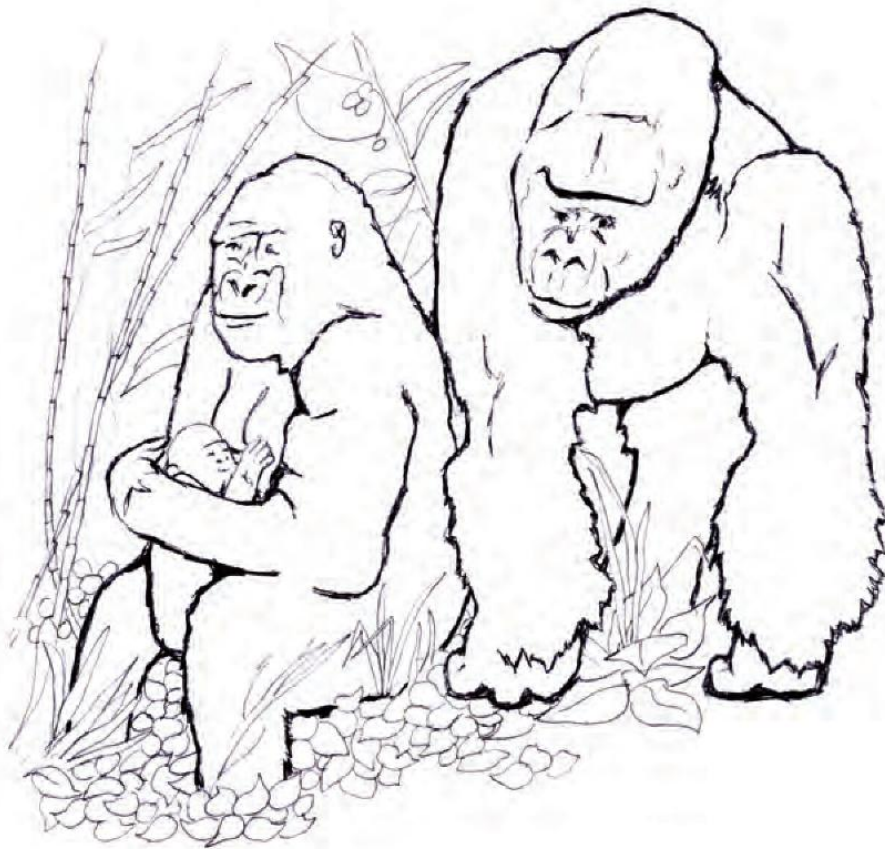
Young Michael longs for his mother.

What makes Michael different is that he was born in Africa, poached as a youngster, and then came to live in America with Koko. At age eight Michael began having nightmares about the murder of his gorilla mother. He signed his horrible dream to Penny, and it was recorded on video. People who see and hear Michael’s brave tale feel compassion for great apes and want to protect them. We hope you will too!

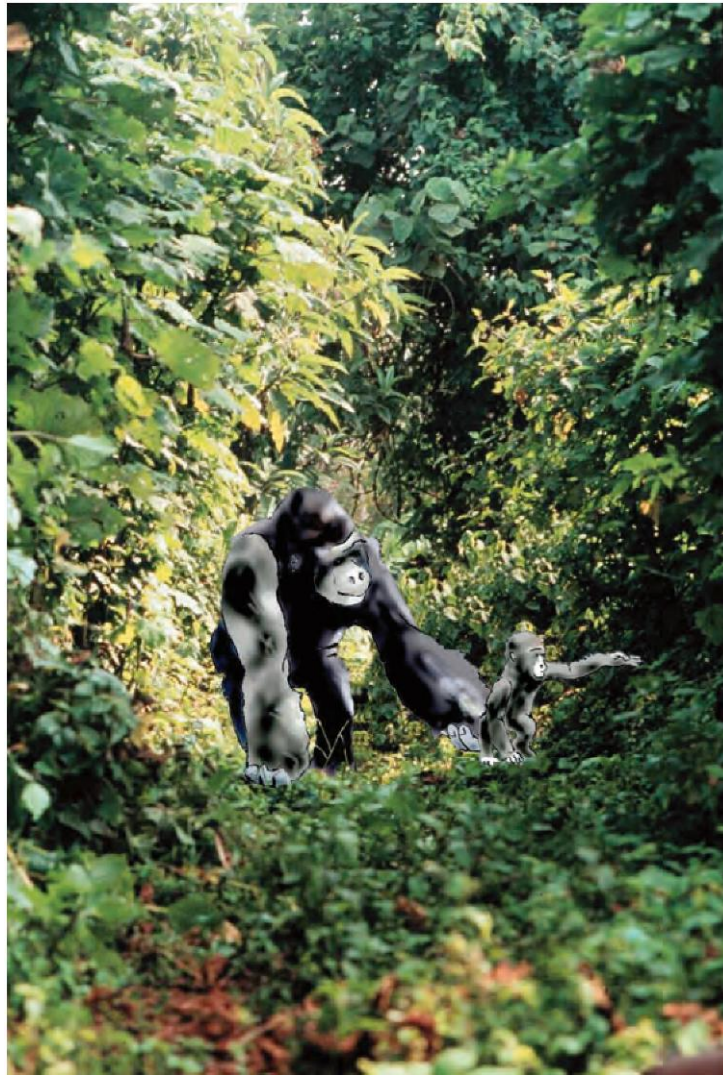
Here is Michael’s story. - *Anthony L Rose / Palos Verdes, California USA*

## **MICHAEL: A BRAVE AND COMPASSIONATE GORILLA**

Michael began his life in the rain forest in Cameroon. Like all gorilla babies, he was protected and cared for by a close and vigilant gorilla family. His mother carried him everywhere at first. As he became stronger, she let his aunts touch him, give him gorilla kisses, and hold him tenderly. But she never let him out of her sight.



*Michael's free-living gorilla family.*



### *Michael and his father*

Michael's dad was a huge handsome ape, muscular and powerful, with a beautiful gorilla face. The hair on his back had turned silver to signal he was the leader. When he was with his mom and dad, Michael felt safe to explore his rain forest home.

But his happy life changed after his second birthday. Hunters followed his family's tracks and shot his mother and father. Gorillas are strong, but they cannot fight a man with a gun. Michael, afraid to leave his parents' side, watched them die.

Michael lived through the slaughter of his family. He was tough; very few young apes survive this ordeal. A European man found and took him to live in a zoo in Vienna. At age three Michael was moved to the United States to live a very different life from that in the African rain forest.

On September 9, 1976, Michael joined Dr. Penny Patterson and Dr. Ron Cohn, and stayed with them the rest of his life. It was there that he met Koko, learned sign language, and became the most loved, educated, and intelligent African born silverback gorilla in the world.

*Michael with Koko - and Ann, Ron, Barbara and Penny.*





*Koko signs “Smile” to young Michael.*

Penny, Koko, and the Gorilla Foundation caregivers taught Michael to talk in sign language, so he could tell them his wants and his needs. Michael went way beyond their expectations: he learned how to talk about his thoughts, feelings, and dreams.

Michael's first word was "food." His caregivers molded his hands into the gestures of American Sign Language (ASL), while at the same time they spoke the words. The sign and word for "food" came quickly to him. He liked to eat.



*Michael signs "Food."*

But food was not what Michael wanted most. He wanted love. He was quick to turn Ron into his father and make Penny his mother. He shaped them into the parents he had lost in the forest. So while they taught him to talk like people, he taught them to love as gorillas do.

Michael came to Penny for comfort and sought out Ron to ease his fears. He knew that the differences between male and female humans in his California home were similar to those he had experienced as a wild gorilla in the Cameroon rain forest.



*Michael playfully  
“bites” Ron while  
getting a hug.*

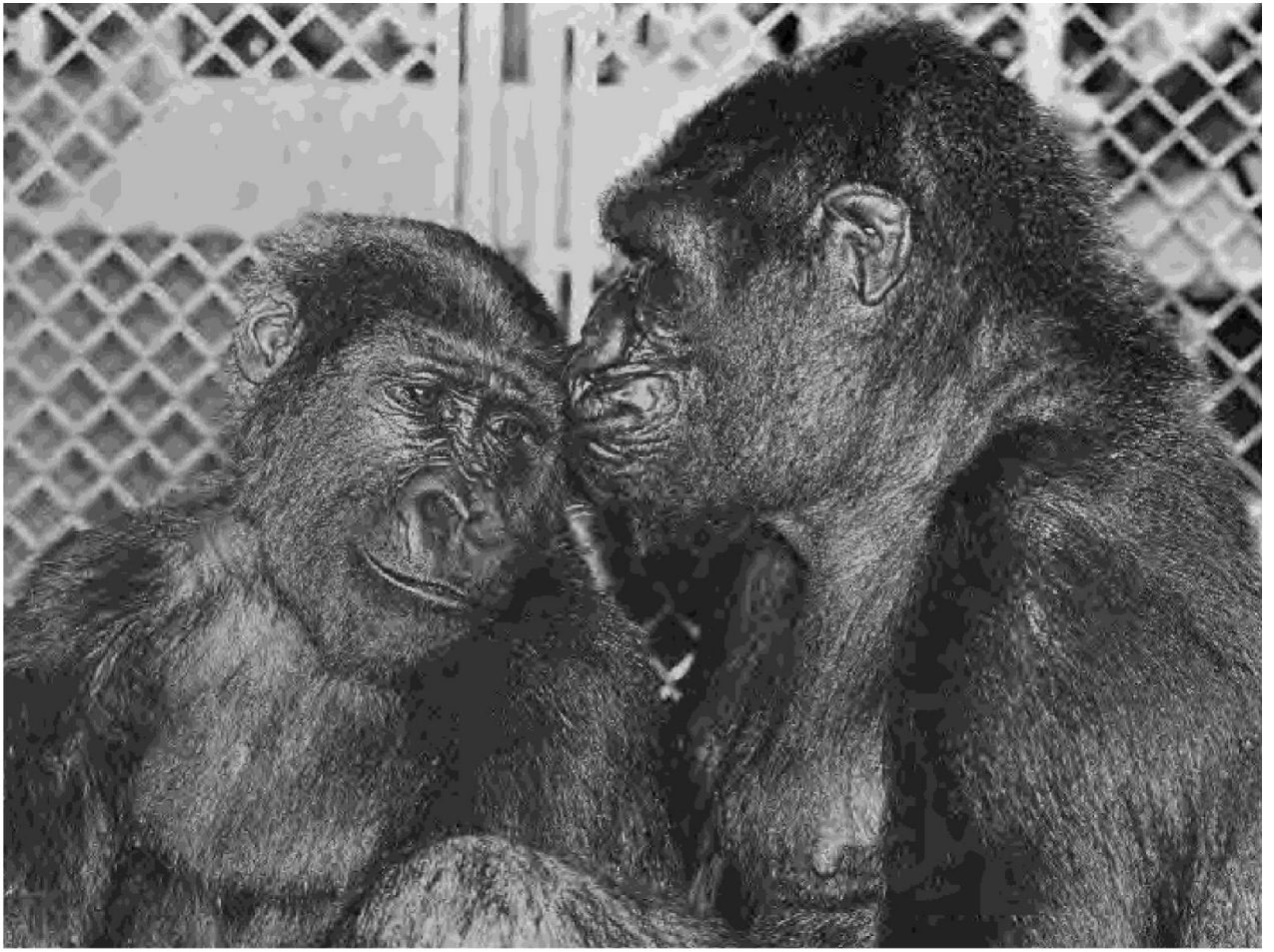
Young gorillas need playmates as well as parents. Michael was lucky to have Koko. When he moved in she was almost six years old, knew many words in ASL, and was a celebrity as the first “talking gorilla.” Koko had expected a baby, and was upset that Michael was a strong forty-pound youngster. As a jealous only child, Koko made trouble for Mike at first. She teased and taunted him, when Penny and Ron were not watching.



*Koko, Penny, and Michael.*

As the weeks passed, Mike began to stand up for himself. He stunned Koko with his strength, making her more cautious. She began to play carefully with Mike, and soon the two were inseparable. Michael won his way into Koko's heart.

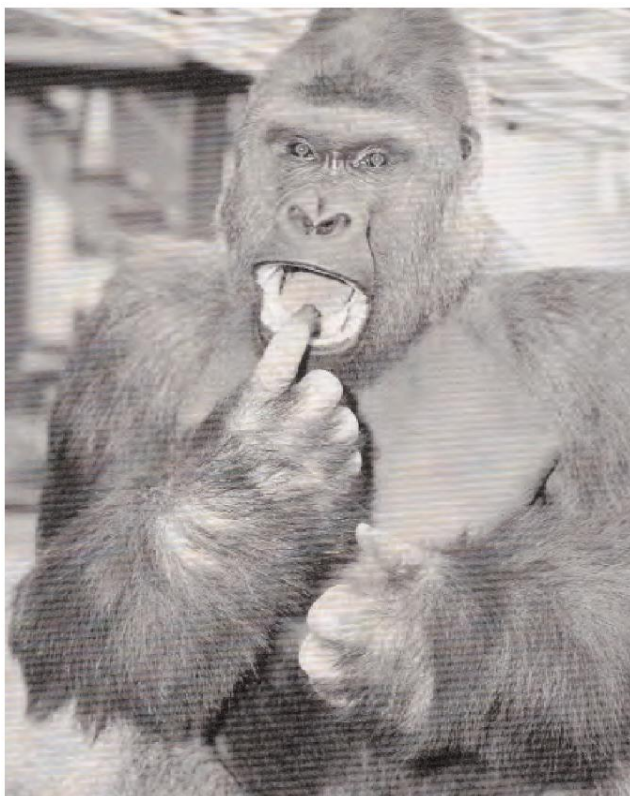




*Young Michael gets a kiss from Koko.*

The relationship between Mike and Koko grew strong. At first Koko was the older sister, teaching Michael how to get along in their world. If Mike made a mess with toys, Koko scolded him with a slap or a bark. When he played nicely, or performed some of his exciting acrobatics, she ran up to give him a hug and a kiss. Before long, Michael became much stronger than Koko. Then Michael defined right and wrong. Nobody dare threaten to hurt him or his sister Koko. Michael would charge and even bite a person whom he felt was a danger to his family. He was quick to show his strength and bravery.

When Michael was eight years old, a caregiver named Barbara Weller arrived to work and found him looking out the window signing the word for leash. Barbara asked, “Why are you signing ‘leash’ Mike?” Michael looked over at Barbara and signed 'Girl'. He turned and peered out the window again; then signed “Know. Hit-in-mouth.” Barbara asked him to repeat what he said. Michael signed, “Hit-in-mouth. Red. Bite.”



Barbara asked: “Do you want to hit someone? Or did someone get hit?” Michael replied with the sign for “Hair” and then signed, “Girl” followed by “Red”. Barbara asked, “What? Red haired girl?” Michael answered, “Lip” – a sign he used to refer to a woman. Barbara asked if he meant “woman” when he said “Lip.” This seemed to upset Michael who quickly signed, “Lip lip lip big-trouble!”

***Michael signs “Mouth.”***

Later Barbara was told that before she arrived there had been a terrible disturbance across the yard at another research station. A red-haired woman had screamed, hit an assistant, and was subdued by police. Koko and Michael had watched from the window, and were very upset. Michael had been trying to tell Barbara what he had seen. When someone was in danger, or hurt, Michael wanted to talk about it.

Except, perhaps, when he caused the hurt. One day when Mike and Barbara were playing tickle, Mike tried to put the hood of her sweatshirt onto his head, and scratched her neck with the zipper. Barbara told him he was too rough. He signed, “Unlisten” – he didn’t want to hear what she was saying. Barbara insisted that he listen but he still refused, and tried to pull her outside to play, signing “Out!” Then Mike examined the red mark on her neck. When she asked him how her neck got hurt, he replied “Zipper.” She told him that was right and asked why it happened. He told her he’d been a bad boy by signing – “Toilet Mike. Rough.”



When Mike realized that he had hurt Barbara, he showed his compassion and admitted his guilt. He was uncomfortable causing pain. As he grew into a huge strong silverback, there was very little that could hurt him. Tough as he was, he was equally sensitive.



Mike learned to love music, and asked often to hear symphonies and opera. The tenor Pavarotti became his favorite singer. To watch Mike lounging in his room blissfully listening to violins and woodwinds made one wonder if the classics are a primeval music that soothes the emotions, like the ripple of rain showers falling onto the canopy of the gorilla’s forest home.

***Mike listens to classical music.***

Michael saw things with an artist's eye. He often asked for drawing materials and paints. He was intense when making a painting. It was not just random splatter for Michael. He focused on objects in his environment, and illustrated his impression of them. Mike continued to paint throughout his years as an adult silverback gorilla.



Michael became friends with a black and white dog named Apple. They played together for hours, chasing one another around the enclosure long after Mike's human caregivers grew tired. One day when Michael was painting, his dog friend came into view. The gorilla stopped and stared at Apple, then pulled out fresh paper and carefully selected brushes and colors. Black, white, and tan were all he needed. Before long one of the most famous gorilla paintings of all time had been created. Michael named the painting after his dog friend and their favorite game – "Apple Chase."



*Michael's painting "Apple Chase" -- and his dog, Apple.*

While Michael welcomed most other animals, he was cautious about people. When he heard a person walking through the woods toward his rooms he stopped playing, pushed aside his favorite foods, and stood in a threat posture at the window.



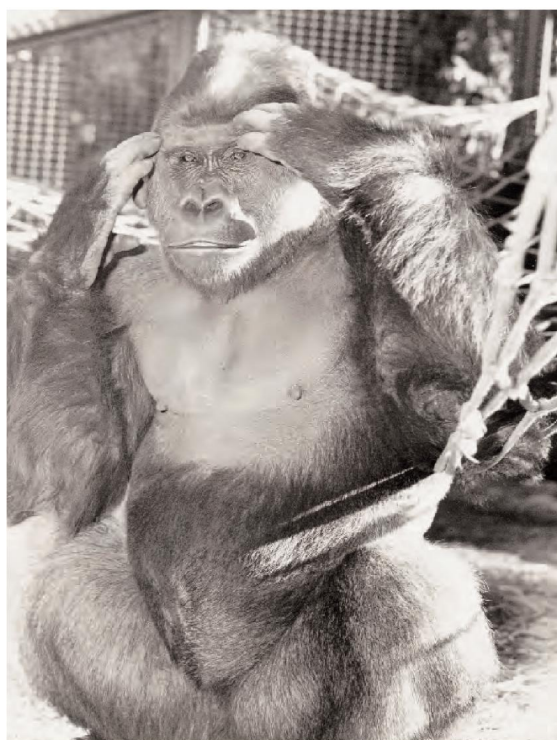
If it was someone he knew and liked, he grunted and huffed his acceptance. But strangers, especially strange men, caused severe reactions. Young Michael sometimes hurt himself banging on the walls and running across his play yard in anger, as he threatened an unfamiliar man who surprised him. No matter how huge and strong he became – and Michael was a very powerful silverback – he felt endangered by unknown humans. The cause of his fear became clear when he was a boy of eight years old, and began telling people about his dreams.

## Michael's Bad Dream

One morning, young Michael woke up screaming. His friends raced into his room and sat down beside him. "What is upsetting you Michael?" asked Penny. Covered with sweat and shaking badly, Michael held tight to his adopted mother. He was confused and upset. Soon, Michael began to talk about his gorilla mother to Penny and to his caregivers. The most remarkable conversation anyone ever had with Michael, or with any gorilla, took place first with Barbara Weller.

It began when Barbara asked Michael: "Who is your mother?" After a second try, Michael formed the signs, "Gorilla. Lip." Barbara told Mike how smart he was for knowing that his mother was a gorilla woman. She then asked, "Who is your father?" Mike paused and then replied, "Foot. Gorilla good." Foot is a word Mike often used to signify a man, and he used it here to identify his "good" gorilla father.

Barbara asked if Mike knew his mother's name. He answered, "Good. Nice gorilla." The sign "Good" had been used often for "mother" and for Penny. She then tried something different, and asked him if he remembered when he was a baby with his mother. Mike's answer came quickly, "Baby know – Good. Gorilla – Good." Barbara then asked him "what happened when you were a baby gorilla?" Mike seemed anxious, and surprisingly answered, "Big-trouble do!"



*Michael signs "Trouble."*

When Barbara asked Mike “Why big trouble when you were a baby?” he replied hastily, “Chase chase gorilla do red do.” Mike often used the word “red” to indicate anger, and sometimes to express fear. “Who chased the gorilla baby?” she asked. Mike said, “Visit. Foot.” and then pointedly hit his foot with his fist.

This indicated that a strange man, a visitor, was involved. She asked him, “Did Foot chase you when you were a baby?” Mike replied vigorously that the man (Foot) had done something to his mother (Good), not to him. He signed, “Foot” and then forcefully signed “Good” – his name for his mother.

Looking for more detail, she asked Michael “What did foot do to you and your gorilla mother?” Mike became agitated and signed, “Do. Out. Gorilla. Big-trouble.” There was little doubt that something very disturbing had been done, particularly to his mother, and Michael was trying hard to describe it.

Barbara asked him specifically, “What happened to your mother?” He surprised her and answered, “Eat.” It was becoming more clear that the man whom Mike labeled Foot had done something awful to Michael's mother – had the stranger “eaten” her? “What do you mean by ‘Eat’?” Barbara asked.

“Squash gorilla” he signed. It was at this point that Barbara began to realize that Mike was reporting his memories of his mother's murder by hunters in the rain forest.

She asked him once again, “What happened to your mother?” This time he replied, “Sorry. Do Good. Do rock.” Confused, she asked, “What happened with a rock?” Mike answered, “Do rock. Gorilla. Sorry.”

Suddenly Barbara thought she understood and asked, “Did a rock squash your mother?” Mike was very upset by now and replied, “More hit do. Neck neck bite.”

When Barbara questioned the word “bite” he repeated, “Bite bite”, and she asked, “Who bite?” He answered “More gorilla chase” and then lay down to rest on the floor. Had Michael recalled seeing his mother being hit in the neck with something?

Barbara persisted, asking, “Tell me more please. Did Foot hurt your mother?” Mike ignored her at first so she repeated, “Tell me more about your mother. Talk about your gorilla mother. Gorilla mother when you were a baby. What happened to your gorilla mother?”

Michael seemed to be reflecting, remembering past events, when finally he signed, “Sorry. Nice. Eat. Hit-in-mouth.” Michael had used these words in the past to signify that he was sorry when he saw a nice bird that was dead and being eaten by a cat. But they were talking about his gorilla mother.

Barbara asked him, “Is your gorilla mother dead?” Mike replied, “Sorry. Good. Eat.” She asked again if his gorilla mother was dead. He continued to sign, “Sorry” and “Good, Good” and “Sorry.” Mike was feeling very sad to think of what happened to his good gorilla mother. Finally, when Barbara asked Michael if he was sad that his mother was dead, he signed, “Sorry” and then signed, “Trouble Squash.”



A mother gorilla, killed and butchered in the forest (Photo by Ammann)

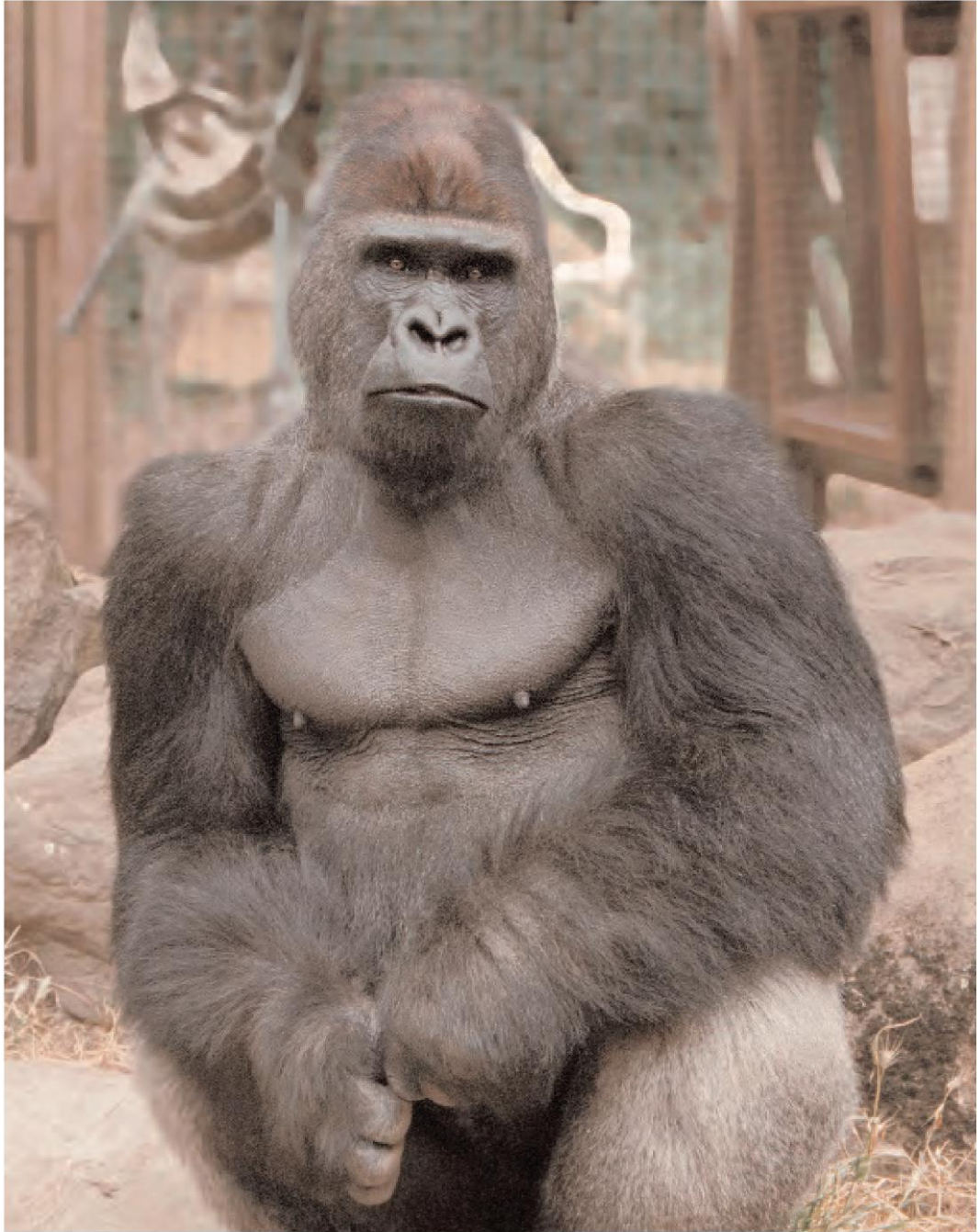
At that point Mike was extremely upset, and they cut off the conversation. By then Barbara had no doubt that Michael had been recalling the time, as a baby in the forest in Africa, when a strange man chased his mother, shot her and most likely butchered (squashed) her body in front of him. This is, after all, what happens with young gorillas poached from the forest.

Michael remembered the death of his mother again, and again. He retold his story to Penny and Ron for many years, and they recorded it on film for others to see. Often he seemed to be recalling the horrid sound of gunshot, the cries of pain, his own terror and trembling. He described the bright red blood, the shock, the struggle and submission as strong arms carried him off while his mother lay slaughtered in the bush. Michael never forgot his mother, the man who killed her, or his deep anguish.

People who see their parents murdered are permanently scared by the experience. So are gorillas, and other great apes that are poached in the wild. Humans who live with and care for great apes know the depth of their sensitivity. But only when Michael told his nightmare to his human friends in signs and gestures, did we realize how vivid the gorilla's memories of traumatic early life events could be.

**Michael recalls the man who murdered his mother.**





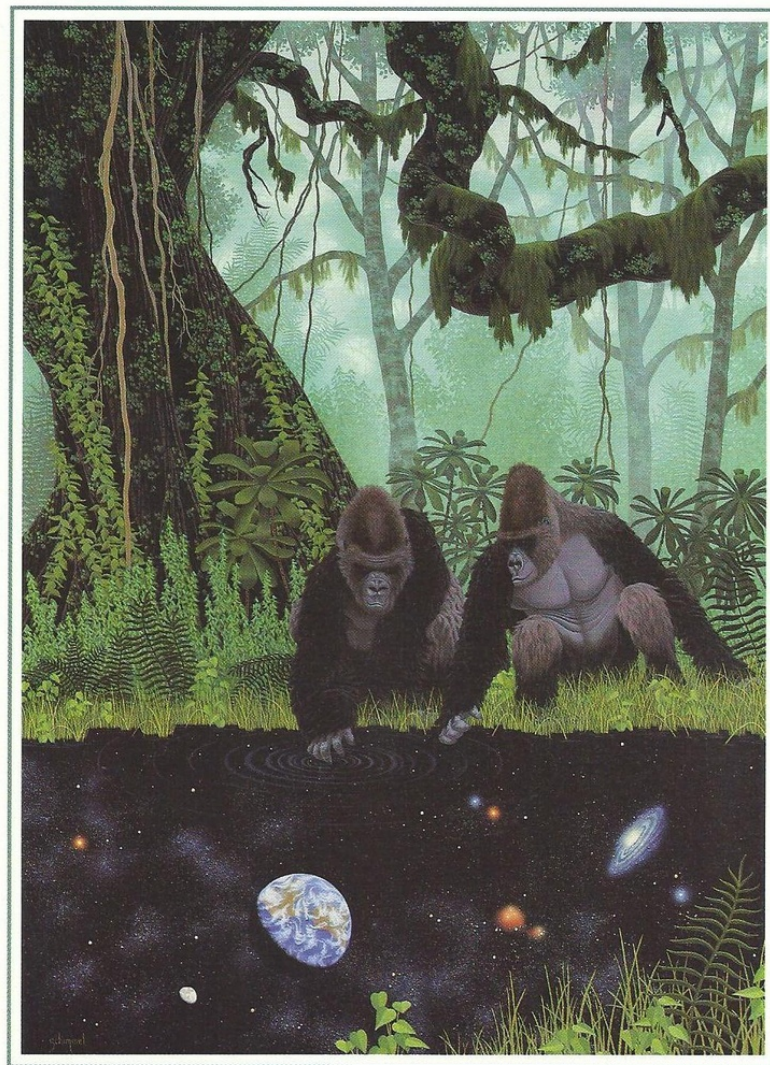
Michael never fully recovered from the trauma of his poaching experience, but his life became nonetheless rich and rewarding. As an individual he achieved things that many humans and practically no gorillas ever accomplish. And most important, with his human and ape friends, he found love.



Michael, the silverback gorilla who learned to tell us his dreams, died a sudden death just after his 28th birthday. His heart gave out, as happens with many captive male gorillas. We believe he died because the fear instilled in him as a youngster made him work too hard to protect Koko and his human family. He did not want to lose them, the way he lost his first family in the forest. His compassion for “good” people was unbounded, and eventually he suffered from caring too much.

Michael has taught us some very important lessons. Because he could overcome his frightful beginnings, he gives us all hope that we too can improve our lives. His human-like achievements show us that we are part of a circle of brave and compassionate animals. Perhaps most important, his lifelong stance as the protector of ape and human, assures us that we are not alone in this world.

Born in an African rainforest with a loving gorilla family, Michael witnessed his mother's murder, and told his sad story to his new human family in America. The rest of his life was spent living in biosynergy with loving humans and other animals. His compassion for others gave him the courage to act on his desire to keep peace in his new home. Michael's nightmare memory of his mother's murder was the foundation for his courage. But it is his dream of a world in which humans and gorillas are at peace with one another that we treasure most. It is this world that we seek, in his memory.



**“Testing the Waters” by Shim Schimmel**

## **Epilogue: Michael's Call for Compassion**

In Africa today the slaughter of great apes for meat is a big business. Although it is illegal, people break the law so they can sell gorilla meat for the feast table. Most consumers don't know how smart, sociable, and sensitive apes are. Hunters shoot any apes they can find, including the infants. But sometimes a baby, like Michael, is spared the bullet. Gorilla babies, if they live, are found clinging to their mother's dead bodies and have to be pried loose – usually by the man who pulled the trigger. Imagine the infant ape's terror – an unforgettable trauma.



**Joseph Melloh holds an orphaned baby chimp. (Photo by Ammann)**

Thousands of orphan apes die in villages and homes across equatorial Africa every year. There are not nearly enough programs to rescue and give sanctuary to these unfortunates. Knowing how much these young apes feel and remember, we cannot sit back and let them die trembling in terror, or live in trauma. They need the same support as human orphans, and as Michael was given when he joined Koko.



**Baby gorilla orphan dying in African village. (Photo by Ammann)**

But the larger challenge is to protect the gorillas who are being hunted in African rainforests. For every orphan ape who survives in an African sanctuary or zoo, at least twenty apes are slaughtered in the forest and butchered for sale in the marketplace. Timber and mining companies from around the world cut roads into pristine landscapes, destroying flora and enabling poachers to empty the forests of wildlife. This must be stopped, if Africa's natural heritage is to remain.

Michael's story can have sustained impact on people who live in gorilla habitat regions. Discovering that monkeys, like Snicky, bond emotionally to researchers has changed the way laboratory science is practiced. When the African people realize that the great apes in their forests remember the details of their childhood experiences for a lifetime, just as humans do, the practice of hunting apes and destroying their homelands will also change.

Michael suffered a trauma caused by careless humans who invaded his childhood home, and he came to love the caring humans who gave him a new home. Like Penny, Ron, and the many others who lived with Michael, local people who live in the forests of Africa are crucial to the safety and health of wild gorillas. With repeated telling, the story of Michael will inspire local people's personal compassion and community commitment to live in biosynergy with their great apes neighbors.

The Gorilla Foundation is committed to help the people of African to move from acknowledgement of Michael's nightmare to realization of Michael's dream. As Michael displayed throughout his life, we are most noble when we act bravely out of compassion for the biosynergy of all living beings. If we promote compassion and biosynergy in our local communities and our regional ecosystems, the people and great apes who live in African rain forests will begin to thrive again.

Please join us in pursuit of Compassionate Conservation, for the good of all Life.

***Anthony L. Rose, Ph.D.***

***The Biosynergy Institute, Palos Verdes, California USA***

***Francine "Penny" Patterson, Ph.D.,***

***The Gorilla Foundation, Woodside, California USA***

***Photos of Michael & his family are by Ron Cohn,***

***\*Africa photos are by Karl Ammann & Anthony Rose,***

***Thanks to Shim Schimmel for his painting "Testing the Waters."***

**Additional Readings and Videos Available at Koko.org:**

***Growing Up Human, Anthony Rose & Andre Auw, 1974***

***Koko's Kitten, Penny Patterson & Ron Cohn, 1985.***

***Koko et son Chaton, Penny Patterson & Ron Cohn, 1999.***

***Conversation with Koko, PBS/NATURE Video, 1999.***

***Koko-Love! Penny Patterson & Ron Cohn, 2000***

***Gorilla Journal: Michael Memorial, Patterson, Cohn, et al, 2000.***

***Consuming Nature, Anthony Rose, Russell Mittermeier, Karl Ammann, et al, 2003***

***La Nature Devorée, Anthony Rose, Russell Mittermeier, Karl Ammann, et al, 2004***

***Biosynergy: The Synergy of Life, Anthony Rose, 2005-2021.***

***Michael's Story (Video), Penny Patterson & Ron Cohn, 2010***

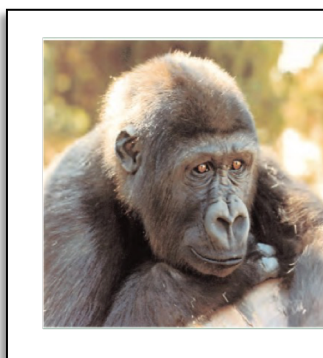
***Gorilla Journal: Learning from Michael, Patterson, Rose, & Cohn, 2012***

***The Education of Koko (e-book), Patterson & Linden, 2014***

## **PLEASE HELP MICHAEL FULFILL HIS COMPASSIONATE DREAM!**

Here are some actions you can take to assure that Michael's story is told and his dream of a world where humans and great apes live in biosynergy is fulfilled.

1. **Share** this book by reading and discussing it with family and friends. When you are done sharing, return the book to the School Library, for others to use.
2. **Draw** pictures of Michael and his family, and post them in your home, and in classrooms, so you will remember to be compassionate to all living beings.
3. **Talk** with friends and family about the sensitivities of gorillas, their personal kinship with humans, and the terrible effects of poaching and forest destruction.
4. **Partner** with your local leaders - elders, teachers, preachers, lawyers, doctors, business-people, politicians - to plan and implement projects that will make your community aware of Michael's courageous story and will encourage people to behave compassionately towards all primates in the forests and in captivity.
5. **Communicate** with conservationists in your region to tell them how Michael's story and your efforts have made local people want to protect wildlife and forests.
6. **Meet** with newspaper and magazine editors and reporters and help them write articles describing Michael's story and your compassionate conservation activities.
7. **Contact:** [Michael@Koko.org](mailto:Michael@Koko.org) to tell us about your ideas and actions. If you wish, we'll share your stories of compassion for all life on [Koko.org/Mike'sDream](http://Koko.org/Mike'sDream)



**DONATE:** The Gorilla Foundation needs your help to print and distribute "Michael's Dream" and to support the use of Michael and Koko's stories to encourage people to put their compassion into action. Your compassionate involvement and support will help protect and conserve the great apes and the people who share their habitats and their lives. Please be generous!

**[HELP US FULFILL MICHAEL'S DREAM!](#)**

# MICHAEL'S DREAM



## A TALE OF COURAGE & COMPASSION

**Altisima Press, Palos Verdes, California, USA 2015/2021**

**First Test Edition printed in United Kingdom**

*All Rights Reserved*