Dr. Galen is a chimpanzee who worked as a veterinarian in the Animal Hospital in Ape City. Galen, frustrated with his position, pleaded with his colleague, Doctor Zira, about advancement. Citing the recent abolishment of the Quota system, Galen believed that he should be held in as high regard as Zira. Zira, however, downplayed her power noting that Doctor Zaius, "looked down his nose at chimpanzees". Galen despised working with humans, as he felt that they were dirty beasts.

In the year 3975, gorilla hunters brought a human astronaut, Col. George Taylor, into the Animal Hospital. Galen was the first ape to speak to Taylor, and actually saved Taylor’s life with a blood transfusion, from the mute human Nova, after a throat wound Taylor suffered from the Gorilla hunt.

Galen also recently has been working with Doctor Milo on human genetic repression theory using a devise Milo discovered in the Forbidden Zone...