



KEN REGAN—CAMERA 5

White Ape, the guardian angel of all chimpanzees: *Goodall and friend in Tanzania*

dow" continues the story Goodall began in her 1983 best seller "In the Shadow of Man": a dynastic saga in which chimps named Humphrey, Figan and Goblin maneuver like mafiosi for the status of "alpha male." In one scene right out of "The Godfather," one defeated rival "pressed his mouth to Figan's thigh. And Figan . . . laid a munificent hand on the bowed head before him."

Along the way, Goodall tells subsidiary stories: biographies, family dramas, a four-year war with a splinter group, sexual adventures and misadventures. Where she's heading is the penultimate chapter, "Our Shame": a reminder of how humanity's closest relatives suffer at our hands, especially in laboratories. Despite her love for them, Goodall never confuses chimps with humans. Only humans, she says, are capable of evil; similarly, our capacities for compassion and altruism are immeasurably greater. But after 200-odd pages emphasizing these creatures' family bonds, their long period of childhood dependency—and their ruthlessness about sex and power—we feel the kinship. And when Goodall visits a lab in Maryland, we share her horror at "the nightmare world into which I was ushered by smiling, white-coated men."

D. G.

LUCY

By Jamaica Kincaid. 164 pages.
Farrar, Straus & Giroux. \$18.95.

Not much happens in this novel outside the head of the narrator, a 19-year-old West Indian working as an au pair for a wealthy couple with four