

Justice League unlimited

"Flashpoint"
(Outline)

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(8/9/04)

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TEASER

1. RECAP. Question discovers secret. Luthor beats him up.

He's captured and interrogated. Superman and Huntress go to rescue him. Captain Atom bars their way.

END TEASERACT ONE

1. INT. CADMUS. The big throwdown. SUPERMAN squares off against CAPTAIN ATOM. Supes tries to talk Captain Atom out of helping Cadmus but Captain Atom is a good soldier. His orders are legal and proper. He's going to follow them. He asks Superman to stand down, "maybe we can work this out." That's not going to happen. Captain Atom "lights" his fist with a red-sun radiation glow. He throws a punch that blasts Superman through a wall. Supes is hurt. As he rises, Superman tells Huntress, "Get Question out of here. Don't wait for me." Huntress: "What makes you think I was going to wait for you?" Grinning grimly, he throws Huntress his com-link, once outside

Cadmus' shielded walls, they can be teleported to the Watchtower.

It's on. Superman and Captain Atom battle full out, it's a free for all. Captain Atom throws Red-K punches and fires devastating radiation blasts from his hands.

Superman upends him by sinking his fingers into the steel floor and ripping it up like a carpet. They're wrecking the place. Huntress guides Q through the falling wreckage. Q: "You shouldn't have come for me." Huntress: "You shouldn't have left without me."

Huntress and Q are stopped by a metal door. She's desperately trying to pick the electronic lock when a punch from Superman throws Captain Atom clean through the door. As Cap flies back into the fight Huntress looks at the big hole he left behind. "That's convenient."

2. EXT. CADMUS. Huntress and Question make it outside. We get a good look at the building, so that we'll recognize it later. Huntress calls for a transporter pick up. J'onn is angry that she's using JL channel. She cuts him short, "Q is down, just do it! And monitor this area, Superman won't be far behind..." She and Q beam away.

3. INT. CADMUS. The fight continues. Superman wears Cap down, but Cap won't stop fighting. Superman tries to talk the valiant Captain Atom out of this. "You know you can't win, just let me go." "Can't do that, sir." Cap takes a bad beating, finally succumbing to Superman's greater raw power. Cadmus Guards move in to pick up the downed hero. Superman warns them off with a look. "Don't you touch him! He's Justice League." Superman picks up Captain Atom and strides out. As they walk out into the open, they shimmer and vanish.

4. WATCHTOWER SICKBAY. Question and Captain Atom are in adjoining rooms. Huntress is at Question's side. She uses his gas to loosen his mask and peel it up. We see his battered face beneath. He tries to smile, "You were right. I am the ugliest guy of all time." Hhe touches his face gently, "Not in my eyes."

Next door, Green Arrow walks into shot, looking at Captain Atom through the glass for a long moment. GA's not happy. He walks away.

5. LUTHOR'S MAIN LAB. Luthor is in full mad scientist mode, working on what looks like, to the sharp-eyed viewer, it might be an AMAZO android. He gets a call, puts it on speaker and continues to work. It's Amanda Waller. She tells him that Superman broke into Cadmus, freed Question and took Captain Atom. Luthor mutters to himself that things seem to be moving a bit ahead of schedule, "Still, opportunity knocks." "What?" "Sorry, I'm working on something here, continue." As she does, Luthor walks away from the android to another set up: a monitor showing the position of the Watchtower relative to North America. He begins flicking switches. Waller is concerned about the potential PR problems if this gets out, not to mention the security breach. Luthor waves it aside, "In a minute and twenty-eight seconds, it won't matter. Goodbye Amanda." He hangs up and presses a final button: "Engage." The icon for the Watchtower LIGHTS UP..

6. WATCHTOWER. J'onn is horrified to see the Binary Fusion Generator's elaborate initialization sequence beginning --all by itself. He calmly assesses, and tries to stop it, becoming increasingly agitated as everything he tries fails to work.

MONTAGE as people on the Watchtower react to the warnings.

J'onn tries to pull the manual override, hanging on gamely as it electrocutes him. He won't let it stop him, he pulls the switch but nothing happens. Superman helps him up. He's going to handle this himself.

Superman takes a big breath. He sees the tip of the big weapon beginning to GLOW. No time to wait for the door, He flies THROUGH the floor...

7. EXT. WATCHTOWER. ...and out the side of the Watchtower hull. Holding his breath and flying hard, Superman zooms towards the BFG emitter, fist cocked to punch it but he's a hair too slow.

The BFG FIRES! Eddies from the Energy backwash toss Superman away. He tumbles end over end through space, helplessly.

9. INT. WATCHTOWER. J'onn reacts in horror as the BFG fires.

10. EXT. CADMUS. A beat for recognition, then the BFG beam arcs from the sky and strikes the complex, DESTROYING it in a mushroom cloud. We see shock waves crumble the ground in concentric circles that reach as far as the edges of the city.

Then silence.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

1. THE BLAST SITE. A series of angles. Absolute silence as we cut from one view of the devastation to the next, each shot getting wider until we can see the radius of impact (stopping just at the edge of a nearby city.

2. EXT. WATCHTOWER. Hanging dead in space. DR. LIGHT enters the shot and we follow as she finds unconscious Superman and drags him back towards the airlock. As she approaches, we begin to hear radio chatter and amber emergency lights come on in essential areas.

3. INT. WATCHTOWER. J'onn barks orders for a "Status report." Everyone's running around heading for emergency stations. A technician radios that they can get up to full power in 50 minutes, but not before. Flash wants to lead rescue teams down to the impact site. J'onn agrees, "If you can figure out how to get the bay doors open without power." Flash leaves and J'onn turns his attention back to the Watchtower. J'onn calls Atom and Steel. "I want to know what happened!" The RED PHONE rings and lights up. J'onn's about to find out.

4. INT. JAVELIN BAY. At Flash's instruction, Atom Smasher and Supergirl struggle to HAND CRANK the bay doors open. They succeed and two Javelins full of heroes head for Earth at full burn. We also see slower EVAC ships (like the ones in "Doomsday Sanction), heading out of the Annex stations towards Earth.

5. BRIDGE. J'onn takes the President's call (we never see the President full-on, just from behind, or close on a hand holding the receiver, *et cetera*).

The President is pissed, why did the Justice League destroy a high security R and D facility? J'onn is contrite. "Mr. President. I know this looks bad, but we didn't do it." "I'd like to believe you, J'onn. Even so, we've already communicated our disapproval of you guys having that big ass gun up there." "Yes, Mr. President." "My guys are investigating. We give you a lot of slack but if it turns out you're responsible for this, the full weight of the US Government is coming down on you." President hangs up. J'onn sighs, this is very bad.

6. INT. OVAL OFFICE/AMANDA'S CADMUS OFFICE. The President takes call from Amanda Waller, she's okay and so are the

rest of Cadmus Personnel. After the security breach, she shut the place down, scrubbed and moved to a back-up facility, per protocol. The destroyed facility was abandoned when it was hit. "But the Justice League didn't know that when they fired on us." It's their worst fears realized. "What are you going to do?" President says he's weighing his options. Amanda reminds him that, "If we're where I think we are, my people are your only option." President tells her he'll let her know.

7. JAVELIN. Green Arrow reacts as the Javelin flies over the devastated blast site towards the nearby city. "It's too much power for anyone to have."

8. BLAST SITE. Flash leads a team of Leaguers (including Green Arrow), helping people whose homes were damaged by the shock waves. Time has passed. Evac ships are also on the ground. They're working with local emergency services. It's a miracle no one was killed. GA is cynical. A MAN asks Flash, "Why did you shoot at us?" Flash feels guilty. He has no answer. A WOMAN who is carrying her baby up the gangplank to a Javelin stops and turns, asking the Man what he means. "First they shoot at us, then they come help us?" The Woman hadn't heard what

really happened. Rumor was that it was some kind of industrial accident. The Man scoffs, he saw the beam from the sky, just like when the league shot those invaders with it in Nevada a few months ago. Flash tries to explain that it was an accident, that they can trust the League. The Woman's only response is to gather up her child and walk off the Javelin. Flash hangs his head in shame. GA, clasps him on the shoulder. "People still need help. Let's help them."

9. CADMUS "WAR ROOM." Amanda Waller, General Eiling and Other officials sit silently. All eyes are on the Red Phone at the center of the conference table. Detritus from food and drinks indicate they've been here for a long time. Waller's had enough. "I'm not waiting any longer. Somebody's got to do something." She stands up and exits the room, to the bewilderment of the others.
10. CORRIDOR. Waller walks to a door, palm prints it open. It's Galatea, fully recovered (in fact, she's bigger and buffer than before. "Come with me." Galatea follows.
11. EXT. HANGAR. Waller and Galatea stop in front of the huge sliding doors. "You're in charge. Your mission is to

take down the Justice League. You'll need some help." The doors slide open to either side, revealing the ULTIMEN. But there's more, the doors continue to slide open, revealing set after set of identical clones of the Ultimen, the shot should evoke the reveal of the "super-sized Justice League" in the title sequence. Waller is ice cold. "Get it done."

FADE OUT

END OF ACT TWO