

# SMALLVILLE

"Commencement"

Episode #2T5222

Written by

Todd Slavkin & Darren Swimmer

Directed by

Greg Beeman

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## CAST

Clark Kent  
Lex Luthor  
Lana Lang  
Jonathan Kent  
Martha Kent  
Chloe Sullivan  
Jason Teague  
Lionel Luthor  
Lois Lane

Jor-El (Voice)  
Principal  
Pilot  
Colonel  
Security Guard  
Supervisor  
Tech  
National Guardsman

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## SETS

### INT.

Kent Farm - Barn  
    - Kitchen  
    - Living Room  
Luthor Mansion - Bedroom  
    - Library  
    - Vault  
Talon - Apartment  
Cave  
    - Inner Chamber  
Nasa Observatory Base - Observation Room  
Chloe's V.W.  
Kent Pick-Up  
Helicopter

### EXT.

Kent Farm  
    - Road  
Smallville High - Football Field  
Luthor Mansion - Helipad  
New Mexico - Nasa Observatory Base (Stock)  
Arctic Tundra  
Bluff  
Cornfield  
Helicopter  
Highway 54  
Military Road Block  
Stratosphere

"Commencement"

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 INT. LIVING ROOM - KENT FARM - NIGHT 1

Clark lies asleep in darkness, on the couch under a blanket, when suddenly the

LIGHT BULBS IN THE LAMPS

begin flickering on and off, BUZZING with electricity. When the television blinks on, CRACKLING STATIC snowing on screen,

CLARK'S EYES OPEN.

Awakening in confusion, he sits up, taking in the anomalous light show.

CLARK

What is going on?

Suddenly SHUTTERS start FLAPPING open and closed, RAYS OF LAVENDER LIGHT seeping in from outside. Clark leaps to his feet, hurries to the window in his T-shirt and boxers, when

A DRAWER WHIPS OUT OF THE BUREAU.

Silverware and metal cooking utensils FLAIL TOWARD THE WALL and stick like magnets. Clark is incredulous, when LOUD BARKING causes him to swivel, toward the frantic SHELBY by the front door, SCRATCHING to get out.

2 EXT. KENT FARM - NIGHT 2

Clark emerges from the house bathed in lavender light, Shelby running ahead. Clark is in absolute awe as he stares up at the sky above the field.

RIBBONS OF COLOR SWIRL LIKE THE AURORA BOREALIS

in the otherwise starry sky. As Clark walks toward the field, entranced by the beauty before him,

SHELBY SUDDENLY STOPS,

and starts WHIMPERING. Clark looks curiously at the dog.

2 CONTINUED:

2

CLARK

You okay, boy? What's wrong?

The dog starts to HOWL up at the sky. Clark looks up, a fierce gale whipping through his hair as he stares in shock.

THE NEBULA ABOVE SWEEPS INTO A BRIGHT SPHERE OVER CLARK,

then SPEARS DOWN and SCORCHES him as if Clark were a bug under a magnifying glass. Clark SCREAMS in agony as the beam of light

SEARS THE FLESH OFF CLARK'S BONES,

until nothing is left but a skeleton.

SMASH CUT TO:

3 INT. LIVING ROOM - KENT FARM - NIGHT

3

Clark bolts up on the couch, eyes wide with fear, breath ragged. MARTHA and JONATHAN, wearing robes, try to calm him.

MARTHA

Clark, it's okay, it was just a bad dream.

JONATHAN

You scared the daylights out of us, shouting in your sleep like that.

Concerned, Clark looks at his parents.

CLARK

What was I saying?

MARTHA

You kept yelling "It's Coming", over and over.

As Clark reacts, disturbed...

4 EXT. NASA OBSERVATORY BASE - NEW MEXICO - (STOCK) - NIGHT

4

As a line of huge, rotating telescopes suddenly lock into place, one after another, CHYRON READS: Ground-based Deep Space Surveillance Headquarters: Socorro, New Mexico.

5 INT. OBSERVATION ROOM - NASA OBSERVATORY BASE - NIGHT 5

CLOSE ON: A SMATTERING OF SPECKS BLIPPING ON A RADAR SCREEN.  
REVEAL a stunned TECH sitting at the console in a darkened  
room, staring at the screen in horror.

TECH

Sir! You better take a look at  
this!

A SUPERVISOR hurries over, peers over his shoulder.

SUPERVISOR

What do you got?

TECH

I've never seen anything like it.  
There was no activity whatsoever  
ten seconds ago.

SUPERVISOR

(troubled)

My God. It's headed straight for  
Earth.

OFF the impending doom...

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

6

INT. LIBRARY - LUTHOR MANSION - NIGHT

6

CLOSE ON: BLOODIED WATER DRIPPING FROM A WASHCLOTH. REVEAL Lana, trembling in shock as she vigorously scrubs her blood-stained hands in a porcelain wash basin. She sits at the coffee table beside the fire, as LEX tries to calm her.

LANA

I didn't mean to do it... I... I don't even remember stabbing her.

LEX

Lana, take a deep breath, try to relax...

LANA

A woman is dead because of me.

LEX

You said she was trying to kill you, Lana. You did what anyone would do. You had no choice.

Lana shakes her head, wracked with fear and remorse.

LANA

What am I going to tell Jason?  
She's his mother.

LEX

Let me worry about that.

LANA

(panicking)

I need to go the police, Lex.  
Right now. I need to tell them  
what happened.

LEX

I'm not so sure that's a wise idea.  
(off Lana's look)

Genevieve Teague was a powerful woman, Lana, married to one of the most powerful lawyers in Metropolis. Even though it was self-defense, Charles Wesley Teague is going to make sure a jury sees otherwise.

(MORE)

6 CONTINUED:

6

LEX (CONT'D)

(off her look)

I'll be honest. I'd be surprised  
if you weren't convicted.

Lana looks at Lex, ready to crumble.

LANA

What am I going to do?

LEX

You're going to let me handle it.

(off her look)

That means you have to trust me,  
and do as I tell you.

Lana slowly nods, realizing she has no choice.

LEX

You'll stay at the mansion and cut  
off contact with the outside world  
until I get this resolved.  
Hopefully it won't take long.

Remembering, Lana suddenly goes to her purse.

LEX

Don't worry, Lana, it's still  
there. I would never take it from  
you.

The side door opens and the SECURITY GUARD urgently enters.

SECURITY GUARD

Mr. Luthor, we have a situation.

As Lex reacts, concerned, and heads to the door, Lana reaches  
in her purse and pulls out the element, wine-brown blood  
stains marring its gleaming point. OFF Lana, disturbed...

7 INT. KITCHEN - KENT FARM - NIGHT

7

Still shaken, Clark sits at the table nursing a mug of warm  
milk with honey, Martha pouring mugs for her and Jonathan.

CLARK

I can't help but feel like it was  
some kind of a warning.

MARTHA

Clark, it was nothing but a bad  
dream.

JONATHAN

You used to have them all the time when you were little, remember?

CLARK

This was different. It felt so... real.

(off their sympathetic look)

If it is a warning, I need to do something.

JONATHAN

Clark, what you need to do is get some shut-eye, so you're not half asleep when they hand you your diploma tomorrow.

MARTHA

Your father's right. Don't let a nightmare spoil your high school graduation.

LOIS

Nightmare?

They look up at LOIS strolling down the stairs in her pajamas, YAWNING.

LOIS

Did Clarkie have a bad dream? What happened, did you show up at graduation in your birthday suit?

CLARK

Something like that.

LOIS

Well I had a bad dream too, only mine's come painfully true.

(beat)

The General's recruited me on a recon mission to track down my sister-the-grifter in Europe. We leave for Heidelberg tomorrow.

Clark hides his relief, as the parents react sadly.

MARTHA

Lois, I'm so sorry to hear that.

LOIS

I know how devastated you are, Clark, but if you can keep the tears to a minimum, I'd appreciate it.

CLARK

No, I was actually starting to get used to running out of hot water every morning.

LOIS

I'm telling you, Smallville, cold showers build character.

(to Jonathan and Martha)

Mr. and Mrs. Kent, thank you for everything. You guys are basically like the Mom and Dad I always wished I had.

JONATHAN

Well you're welcome back anytime.

CLARK

Dad --

MARTHA

We're all going to miss you, Lois.

LOIS

I'm going to miss all of you too.

As Shelby scampers into the kitchen and leaps up on her:

LOIS

This one, not so much.

OFF the smiling family...

8 INT. APARTMENT - TALON - NIGHT

8

Lex walks into the dark, eerily quiet apartment, flicks on the light, and is startled to see LIONEL sitting smugly in a chair, legs up on the table.

LIONEL

I thought I'd do Miss Lang a favor and tidy up the place. She sure left quite a mess.

Caught off guard, Lex takes in the immaculate apartment, no sign of a murder.

LEX

What are you looking for, Dad, the good housekeeping seal of approval?

LIONEL

It's amazing how well household hydrogen peroxide works on those stubborn stains.

(beat)

For a woman without a heart, Mrs. Teague sure did have a lot of blood.

Lex eyes his father.

LEX

You didn't come here to perform a post-mortem on Genevieve Teague. What is it you want?

LIONEL

I'd like to offer a trade. Lana Lang's freedom in exchange for the artifact she has in her possession.

LEX

I understand your search for these three ancient stones borders on the fanatical, but Lana Lang has nothing to do with this.

Lionel chuckles.

LIONEL

How chivalrous of you, Lex, the gallant hero trying to protect the damsel in distress.

LEX

I'm warning you, Dad. Leave her alone.

LIONEL

I always knew the damsel was strong-willed, but I must confess I am shocked by the mortal lengths she's gone to get her way.

(beat)

(MORE)

8 CONTINUED: (2) 8

LIONEL (CONT'D)

You have until sundown tomorrow night to give me the stone. If you fail, I will deliver Genevieve Teague's corpse to the Sheriff with Miss Lang's DNA as postage.

OFF Lex, contemplating his dilemma...

9 EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - SMALLVILLE HIGH - DAY 9

CAMERA CRANES DOWN past a billowing American Flag to the MARCHING BAND SOUNDS of "Pomp and Circumstance". REVEAL a sea of caps and gowns as excited Graduates stand in rows in front of the stage, where one by one they step up and receive their diploma from the smiling PRINCIPAL. Friends and family sit in lawn chairs clapping and taking pictures.

PRINCIPAL

Michael Hoover...

Clark CLAPS in line by the stage, nervously looking out at the crowd of APPLAUDING parents angling for photo ops.

PRINCIPAL

Michelle Jewel...

As Clark moves closer to the stage, he spots CHLOE through the crowd, adorable in her cap and gown, a row away.

CLARK

Chloe, have you seen Lana yet?

CHLOE

Still no sign, and my worry meter's starting to head into the red. Lana's never so much as had a tardy. She's not going to miss her high school graduation.

CLARK

She'll show up. She has to.

PRINCIPAL

Clark Kent...

Clark steps up on the stage, putting on a grin as he looks out at

JONATHAN AND MARTHA

beaming with pride, CLAPPING WILDLY. As Clark receives his diploma, Lois lets loose with a two-finger WHISTLE.

PRINCIPAL

Lana Lang.

Walking off the stage, Clark turns back to see the stage empty, the line stopped.

PRINCIPAL

Lana Lang?

Still nothing. Clark and Chloe exchange a worried look across the crowd, when suddenly the LOUD THUNKING OF HELICOPTERS OVERHEAD. Wind GUSTS, caps flying off a few heads. Clark clutches onto his cap, looking up at

TWO MILITARY CHOPPERS

hovering. The crowd reacts, tense with concern as

MILITARY VEHICLES

suddenly rumble onto the field from different directions. Clark stares in confusion as A COLONEL steps out, mic in hand leading to the MEGAPHONE on the vehicle.

COLONEL

Attention! Remain Calm! On orders of the Federal Emergency Decree, all nonessential personnel must evacuate the area within a fifty-mile radius.

Jonathan, Martha and Lois react in the concerned and confused crowd.

COLONEL

A meteor shower is predicted to hit Smallville and surrounding areas in approximately three hours.

As terror erupts through the throng, OFF Clark, staggered...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

10 EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - SMALLVILLE HIGH - DAY

10

Widespread panic as graduates and their parents scramble for the parking lot. Clark moves through the crowd toward Chloe.

VOICE OVER MEGAPHONE

Please proceed to the nearest exit  
in an orderly fashion!

CLARK

Chloe!

CHLOE

(hurries over)

Twice in 15 years. This is crazy,  
Clark. It's like Smallville has an  
extra-terrestrial bulls-eye on it.

Clark shifts, uneasy.

CLARK

I know, it's pretty weird.

CHLOE

There must be some connection in  
the cosmos. It couldn't be a  
coincidence.

Clark's eager to change the subject.

CLARK

We need to find Lana! I'm going to  
go check her apartment.

LOIS

I'm sure Lana's already on her way  
out.

They turn to see Lois shoving through the crowd toward them.

LOIS

Apparently over half of Lowell  
county's already been evacuated.  
She was probably running late and  
told to leave town.

CLARK

Chloe, you need to find your dad and get out of town as fast as possible. You too Lois.

LOIS

I'll go with Chloe. But listen up, Smallville. You can't panic. You hear me? That means you can't go crawling under a rock, like you're prone to do from time to time.

CLARK

I'll try to handle it.

CHLOE

Call me when you find her, Clark.

As Clark nods and Lois and Chloe hurry off, Jonathan and Martha approach.

JONATHAN

Clark! There you are!

Clark turns, relieved to see his parents, yet filled with guilt. Jonathan and Martha see his pain.

MARTHA

Honey, it's not your fault.

CLARK

That dream was a warning, and I ignored it.

JONATHAN

There's nothing you could've done to prevent it, Son.

CLARK

We don't know that, there still may be something I can do.

JONATHAN

Clark, in the last meteor shower, kryptonite came down from the sky. If the same thing happened today, it could be deadly for you.

MARTHA

You need to get home and start packing.

CLARK

Take the truck, I'll be right there. If this is connected to me, I want some answers.

MARTHA

Clark, you don't have time --

But Clark is already gone. OFF Jonathan and Martha, filled with worry...

11 INT. INNER CHAMBER - CAVE - DAY

11

CLOSE ON: THE OCTAGONAL KEY in a slot in the altar. REVEAL Clark in the darkened room, standing angrily at the stone pedestal, where the ELEMENT FROM EGYPT remains embedded.

CLARK

If you are my father, talk to me!  
Tell me what you've done!

Light suddenly washes down over Clark, and the DISEMBODIED VOICE OF JOR-EL BOOMS from above.

JOR-EL (O.S.)

I have done nothing, Kal-El. It was the humans who brought it on themselves.

CLARK

What do you mean?

JOR-EL

Their blood has stained one of the three elements.

Clark is horrified.

JOR-EL

The knowledge of the universe is meant for you only, Kal-El. I sent you to this planet to find the elements, but you chose to deny your heritage and live as if you were human.

CLARK

I wish I was.

JOR-EL

Today, Kal-El, you will witness the consequences of your actions.

CLARK

No. You never said there'd be another meteor shower.

JOR-EL

Human blood has awakened a great danger from the darkness of space.

CLARK

I need to stop it.

JOR-EL

There is nothing you can do to prevent what is already in motion. But the meteor shower is just the beginning, Kal-El.

Clark is confused, and suspicious.

CLARK

What are you talking about?

JOR-EL

You must unite the elements at once. It is the only way to save the Earth from total annihilation.

Clark is overwhelmed by the task.

CLARK

But I have no clue where they are, and I don't have time to find out. My family needs me.

JOR-EL

The three must become one, my Son. Only then will your true destiny be revealed, and the planet you call home be spared.

CLARK

Please, help me. I can't do this alone!

The light quickly fades, leaving Clark alone in the empty, dark cavern. OFF Clark, the fate of the world on his shoulders...

12

EXT. KENT FARM - DAY

12

Jonathan bursts out of the house carrying two packed duffel bags, Martha behind with a box of framed photos. Clark blurs into the driveway, urgent, as they approach the pick-up.

JONATHAN

Go pack your things, Clark. Time's running out.

CLARK

I'm not going with you.

Jonathan and Martha react, concerned.

MARTHA

You have to come with us.

JONATHAN

Clark, I know you feel responsible, and want to stay and help out everyone you can, but --

CLARK

I spoke to Jor-El.  
(off their look)  
I have to find the other two stones and unite them. If I don't, the entire world will be in danger.

Emotional, Martha shakes her head.

MARTHA

No. You're my son, and I'm not going to let you go on some suicide mission.

JONATHAN

There could be kryptonite everywhere.

CLARK

Mom, Dad, I can't deny it any longer. My destiny is to unite these stones.

Jonathan and Martha exchange a desperate look.

MARTHA

You may be stronger than steel, Clark, but you're not invincible.

12 CONTINUED:

12

CLARK

I don't have a choice.

Jonathan nods, realizing the painful truth. He gently places an arm around his wife.

JONATHAN

We always knew one day the time would come when Clark would have to fulfill his destiny, whether we like it or not. Now is that time.

Martha reacts, wipes away a tear.

MARTHA

Knowing it's coming definitely doesn't make it any easier.

Mother and son exchange a bittersweet look.

CLARK

I'm going to make sure everything's packed before I leave. I'll go close up the barn.

As Clark hurries off, OFF the parents, shaken...

13

INT. BARN - KENT FARM - DAY

13

Clark walks into the dark barn, surprised to find Lana waiting in slats of soft afternoon light.

CLARK

Lana?

LANA

I didn't mean to startle you.

As Lana walks toward him, Clark can see the troubled expression on her face.

CLARK

I thought you'd already been evacuated. Are you okay?

LANA

Why does everything in this town always end in tragedy?

CLARK

It doesn't have to. I know this meteor shower must bring up a lot of painful memories, but this time is different, Lana. We have warning. We'll be safe.

LANA

I'm not so sure.

Clark grows concerned, as Lana fights to stay strong.

CLARK

What do you mean?

LANA

I don't know what's going to happen to me, Clark. That's why I want you to have this.

Confused, Clark watches Lana pull out a brocade cover from her purse to REVEAL THE STONE FROM CHINA, its sharpest end still tarnished with blood. Clark is stunned.

CLARK

Where did you get that?

LANA

In China. Whatever it is, whatever it means, I know somehow it will be safe with you, Clark.

Clark takes the stone, disturbed as he eyes the blood-stain.

CLARK

Lana, is this blood?

Overwhelmed, Lana looks up at Clark, eyes pleading.

LANA

Remember all those times I asked you for explanations and you told me you couldn't give me one? That I just had to trust you?

(off Clark's look)

Now I need you to trust me.

Clark nods, no choice but to comply.

CLARK

Lana, my parents are about to leave. Go with them. They'll drive you to Granville.

Lana fights to control her emotion.

LANA

I want you to know, Clark, no matter what happens, there will always be a place for you in my heart.

CLARK

Lana, you're acting like we're never going to see each other again.

LANA

Just in case we don't...  
(teary)  
I love you, Clark.

Clark is staggered. The words leave his lips before he can think.

CLARK

I love you too.

Lana leans up and kisses him on the lips. Their kiss lingers, until Lana gently pulls away.

LANA

Goodbye.

As Lana turns and walks out of the barn, tears streaming down her cheeks, OFF Clark, alone, the second element glinting in his hand...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

14 INT. LIBRARY - LUTHOR MANSION - DAY

14

Lana quickly walks through the doors, speaking in hushed tones into a cell phone.

LANA  
(into phone)  
Chloe, even though you may not hear from me for awhile, I want you to know I'm okay...

LEX'S HAND suddenly grabs the phone out of her hands. REVEAL Lex, seething anger seeping through his cool exterior.

LEX  
Lana, what did I tell you?

LANA  
I have to let my friends know I'm all right.

LEX  
I can't help you if you don't trust me and follow my instructions.  
(beat)  
I assume the stone is still safe.

Lana looks at him, covering.

LANA  
As safe as it can be.

LEX  
Let's keep it that way. I'll put in my vault.

Thrown, Lana eyes Lex.

LANA  
Why?

LEX  
A chopper's being fueled to evacuate you to Metropolis, where you'll be taken to an undisclosed location.

(beat)  
(MORE)

LEX (CONT'D)

It's probably best not to travel  
with the murder weapon.

LANA

I understand, but I think I'd  
rather hold into it.

Lex quickly rethinks his strategy.

LEX

Lana, I'll do anything I can to  
protect you, including supporting  
whatever story of self-defense you  
want to run with.

(off Lana's stunned look)

But the fact is, you killed her  
with that object. It's what  
prosecutors fondly refer to as the  
smoking gun.

Lana nervously looks at him.

LANA

It's not a story, Lex. I'd never  
murder someone.

LEX

The truth is, you don't remember  
what happened.

Lana is aghast.

LANA

Are you telling me you think I  
murdered her in cold blood?

LEX

Of course not. I trust you, Lana.  
Now you have to trust me with that  
stone.

LANA

(shakes head)

I'm sorry, Lex. I can't.

As Lana stands defiant, OFF Lex, smoldering, as he forces a  
nod...

15

EXT. KENT FARM - DAY

15

Jonathan tightens a rope, securing the large load packed into the bed of the pick-up. Martha hurries out holding a bronzed toddler shoe.

MARTHA

I can't believe I almost forgot this.

JONATHAN

We don't have any more time. We need to leave now.

Clark SUPERSPEEDS up holding two heavy suitcases under each arm.

CLARK

The loft's shuttered and the barn's closed up. I'll put these in back.

MARTHA

Clark, you know, it's not too late to change your mind.

CLARK

Mom, I'm closer than ever to accomplishing what I need to do. I promise you, we'll meet in Granville when this is over.

Martha hugs her son tightly, tears pooling in her eyes as she realizes it could be the last time she sees him.

MARTHA

Please, be careful.

CLARK

Don't worry, Mom.

Clark opens the car door for her. As Martha steps inside, Jonathan takes Clark by the shoulders, emotional.

JONATHAN

You've never let us down before, I don't expect now to be any different.

(off Clark's nod)

I want you to know... you're the best thing that ever happened to your mother and me.

Jonathan and Clark hug.

CLARK

I can do this, Dad.

JONATHAN

I know you can.

Jonathan takes a long last look at Clark before getting in the car. As the ENGINE STARTS...

INT. KENT PICK-UP (MOVING) - DAY

Martha turns to wave goodbye but Clark is already gone. With dread, she turns to Jonathan, who puts the car in gear.

MARTHA

Those meteors can kill him,  
Jonathan...

JONATHAN

If we have any faith in our son,  
Martha, we can't let that faith  
waver now.

As Jonathan drives off, Martha looks back at the farm receding down the driveway.

MARTHA

That farm... it's our life.

JONATHAN

This family's our life. And no  
meteor shower is going to change  
that.

When Jonathan turns onto the road, he stares in horror through the windshield at

JASON TEAGUE

standing right in front of them, face bloodied and bruised. Jonathan SLAMS ON THE BRAKES as Martha SCREAMS.

EXT. ROAD - KENT FARM - DAY

Concerned, Jonathan steps out of the car toward Jason, who stands in torn clothes. Martha climbs out as well.

JONATHAN

Jason, are you okay?

MARTHA

What happened to you?

JASON

I've had what you'd call a rough day.

Jason suddenly WHIPS UP a double barrel shotgun, aiming at them with a KA-CHUCK. Terrified, Jonathan and Martha raise their hands.

JONATHAN

Settle down, Son.

JASON

Where's Clark?

JONATHAN

He's not here. Why don't you put down the shotgun and we can talk.

Jonathan starts to move toward him when Jason FIRES into the windshield. AN EXPLOSION OF GLASS.

JASON

Where is Clark, goddamnit?!

OFF Jonathan and Martha, trapped...

18 EXT. HIGHWAY 54 - DAY

18

As a line of cars wait in slowed bumper-to-bumper traffic to leave town, suitcases strapped to their roofs,

CHLOE'S ORANGE V.W.

comes barrelling along the shoulder in the other direction, leaving a wake of dust in its wake.

19 INT. CHLOE'S V.W. (MOVING) - DAY

19

Lois drives like a madwoman while Chloe listens to Lana's message again on her cell phone.

LOIS

Why would Lana be at Lex's mansion when she's supposed to evacuate?

CHLOE

I don't know, but I could swear  
that was Lex's voice in the  
background.

(worried)

Lana sounds like she's in trouble,  
and there's no way I'm going to  
abandon her. The mansion's right  
around that bend.

Suddenly Lois and Chloe react, frustrated as Lois slows.

LOIS

Unless you have a jet-pack in your  
purse, we're not going anywhere.

20

EXT. MILITARY ROADBLOCK - DAY

20

The V.W. slows to a stop at a blockade flanked by TWO  
NATIONAL GUARDSMEN in military fatigues. As they drive into  
the lane marked off by orange channelizer posts, Lois pokes  
her head out, cheery.

LOIS

How's everyone doin' today?

NATIONAL GUARDSMAN #1

Emergency vehicles only. Turn the  
car around and exit the impact zone  
immediately.

CHLOE

Our friend could be trapped inside.  
We'll be right back once we find  
her.

NATIONAL GUARDSMAN #1

I'm sorry, ma'am. No one gets  
through.

21

INT. CHLOE'S V.W. - DAY

21

Chloe sighs, frustrated as Lois takes a deep breath.

CHLOE

We were so close.

21 CONTINUED:

21

LOIS

Have no fear, diversion is my middle name. I create the opening, you slip on through.

22 EXT. MILITARY ROADBLOCK - DAY

22

Lois climbs out of the car, catching the Soldiers off guard. She's all business.

LOIS

Is this a roadblock or a lemonade stand, soldier? Those barricades aren't perpendicular to the shoulder. Your channelizers are spaced too far apart. And unless I've got a serious case of cataracts, I don't see any reflectors on those I-beams.

NATIONAL GUARDSMAN #1

Who the hell are you?

LOIS

The daughter of General Sam Lane, who would be spitting nails if he saw this train wreck.

The Soldiers suddenly stand straight while ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CAR, the door cracks open and Chloe's shoe steps out.

LOIS

You guys look like a couple of cub scouts out here. Where's your den mother? Baking cookies?

The sound of a car door clicking shut gets a Guard's attention. Realizing she's blown her cover

CHLOE

ducks behind the car. As the Soldier eyes the car...

LOIS

Look at me while I'm talking to you!

(off his returned look)

I don't want to have to report you to your superior officer, but the integrity of the Armed Services is at stake here...

22 CONTINUED:

22

As Lois continues to rant, Chloe scurries into the field.

23 INT. CAVE - DAY

23

Clark walks into the darkness, the blood-stained ELEMENT in his hand as he approaches the wall. He places his other hand on the octagonal keyhole, and "the wheel of symbols" glows on the wall. Like a touchpad, he enters a sequence of symbols.

24 INT. INNER CHAMBER - CAVE - DAY

24

Clark steps into octagonal room, toward the STONE PEDESTAL illuminated by a single shaft of light. The light prisms off

THE ELEMENT FROM EGYPT

embedded in the first of the three slots. As Clark steps closer, stone in hand...

25 INT. LIBRARY - LUTHOR MANSION - DAY

25

Lex enters to find Lionel at the bar, sipping a scotch.

LEX

What happened to the your survival instincts, Dad? Fire and brimstone are about to rain down from the sky, and you're sipping a cocktail like it's Sunday at the country club.

LIONEL

I'm well aware of the imminent danger, Lex, but I'm not about to leave without knowing my son is okay.

LEX

Who's kidding who? You're not about to leave without the element.

(shrugs)

Hate to disappoint you, but I haven't even seen Lana. She's probably on the run, halfway to Costa Rica by now.

Lionel chuckles.

LIONEL

A face like Lana Lang's isn't easy to hide. It's only a matter of time before she catches the attention of a customs official.

LEX

Agree to leave Lana alone, and I'll give you something you desperately need.

Lionel eyes his son.

LIONEL

I need very little in life, Lex. I'm a blessed man.

LEX

I wonder. What good is a key if you don't know where the lock is?  
(off Lionel's look)  
You have one of the elements, but I know where it goes.

Father and son lock eyes.

LEX

I'll take you there right now.

LIONEL

As much as I wish it were true, I don't have the stone, Lex. Miss Teague's accusations were merely the paranoid delusions of a desperate dilettante.

As Lex studies his father, questioning...

26 INT. INNER CHAMBER - CAVE - DAY

26

Clark holds Lana's element above the pedestal, then cautiously places it down into its designated slot.

THE TWO CRYSTALS GLOW WHITE-HOT,

bathing Clark in light. As Clark reacts, intrigued...

27 INT. LIBRARY - LUTHOR MANSION - DAY 27

... Lionel's breast pocket begins to GLOW WHITE-HOT. Lex watches in shock as Lionel begins trembling as if in a seizure. Lex is horrified as

VEINS OF GREEN ENERGY CRACKLE AND BRANCH OUT

from the crystal and stretch over Lionel's entire body.

LEX

Dad!

Lex rushes over to help him. But when he reaches his hand out to touch his father,

LEX IS BLOWN BACK 15 FEET,

CRASHING into the library wall. Lionel collapses to the ground, eyes rolled back into his head as the glowing element SKITTERS across the floor.

28 INT. INNER CHAMBER - DAY 28

A SHRILL RINGING PIERCES through Clark's ears as he clutches at his head in pain. Bewildered by the familiar frequency, Clark looks around to get an idea where it's coming from... and BLURS off in its direction.

29 INT. LIBRARY - LUTHOR MANSION - DAY 29

Lex stares in awe at the glowing stone, Lionel unconscious, when the door swings open and TWO SECURITY GUARDS rush in.

SECURITY GUARD

Sir, is everything okay?

LEX

Take my father upstairs.

SECURITY GUARD

Mr. Luthor, we're in the process of evacuating the mansion.

LEX

Take him upstairs. Now!

As the Guards drag the limp Lionel out the door, Lex reaches for fireplace tongs, and approaches the illuminated element charring the wood floor.

OFF Lex, face to face with what he believes is his destiny...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

30 INT. LIBRARY - LUTHOR MANSION - DAY 30

Clark SUPERSPEEDS through the open door into the empty library. Pained by the DISCORDANT FREQUENCY, Clark goes to the bookshelf beside Lex's desk, moves it over to REVEAL

A STEEL VAULT.

The RINGING now unbearable, Clark grabs the handle and pulls, SNAPPING THE STEEL DOOR open in one swift move.

31 INT. VAULT - LUTHOR MANSION - DAY 31

Clark bursts in and heads past the recreated Egyptian statue of Ra, the Mayan Rain God statue, and the equine statuette from China, straight for

THE GLOWING STONE

on the back shelf. When Clark touches the stone, THE RINGING SUDDENLY STOPS and the glow subsides. Stone in hand, Clark turns, then abruptly begins to weaken, feeling the effects of potent kryptonite poisoning. Clark collapses to REVEAL

THE CHINESE MASK WITH KRYPTONITE EYES

on the shelf across from him, its menacing gaze glowing green over the writhing Clark. OFF the ailing hero...

32 EXT. HELIPAD - LUTHOR MANSION - DAY 32

Lex ushers Lana toward an awaiting LuthorCorp chopper, its THUNKING ROTORS forcing them to have to yell to be heard.

LEX

I'll meet you in Metropolis.

LANA

You're not coming?

LEX

I have a pressing matter to take care of.

(beat)

I need that stone now.

Lana stops, looks at him under the chopper wash.

LEX

We all have a need to cling onto things, Lana. But eventually you have to loosen your grip.

(calm and determined)

Give it to me. It's too dangerous now.

Lana realizes she can't cover anymore.

LANA

I don't have it.

Lex looks at her, thrown.

LEX

Lies don't become you, Lana.

LANA

It's the truth. I don't have it, Lex.

(off his concerned look)

Don't worry, it's safe. I promise.

Desperate, Lex reaches for her purse, and yanks it off of her arm. Lana is shocked, as Lex rifles through its contents.

LEX

Where is it, damnit?!

Disturbed, Lana levels a look at him.

LANA

This was never about my safety, was it. This is about you getting your hands on that stone.

Lex stops, realizing he's gone too far. He contains himself, shuts the purse, and hands it to her.

LEX

It's always been about your well-being, Lana. Always.

Lex leans in and kisses Lana on the forehead. As Lana swallows, uneasy...

PILOT

I can't wait any longer, Mr. Luthor.

32 CONTINUED: (2)

32

Lex nods as he helps Lana up and into the chopper.

LEX

I'll call you in the city!

Lana uneasily nods. As the chopper ascends, Lex watching from below, OFF Lana, deeply disturbed...

33 INT. LIBRARY - LUTHOR MANSION - DAY

33

Chloe hurries in through the door, eyes searching.

CHLOE

Lana? Lana, are you here?

She suddenly stops, staring in horror at Clark's legs splayed on the floor in the corner, protruding from the open vault.

CHLOE

Oh my God. Clark.

Chloe runs over to the vault, sees Clark face down on the steel floor, the

GREEN METEOR ROCK EYES

on the Chinese mask glowing above him. Recognizing the toxic effect on Clark, she grabs his arms and

DRAGS CLARK ACROSS THE LIBRARY FLOOR.

As she gently sets him down, she notices Clark's hand clutched around a crystal. Chloe goes to the vault, tries to shut the damaged door, but it won't latch. As Clark slowly begins to stir, she hears

FOOTSTEPS IN THE HALLWAY.

Chloe heads for the double doors, desperately hoping to divert the person and cover for Clark, when suddenly

LEX

appears in her path, surprised to see her.

CHLOE

Lex. I was looking for Lana. I got a call that said she --

LEX

Lana's already left.

He looks over her shoulder, suspicious.

LEX

Why is my vault open?

When Lex walks past her, Chloe turns, relieved to find Clark gone and Lex heading straight for the safe.

CHLOE

Oh. That. I don't know, I just got here. I don't know what happened.

Lex peers into the vault, sees that the stone is gone. He turns on Chloe, eyes full of venom.

LEX

You know more than you're telling me, Chloe. That much is obvious. Now I suggest you tell me the truth.

CHLOE

Lex, I swear, I came here looking for Lana.

LEX

Your curiosity seems to always have a way of landing you in precarious positions. Only this time you're out on a very narrow ledge, with only one way back.

(beat)

Where is the element?

Chloe tries not to let her fear show.

CHLOE

I'm sorry someone broke into your piggy bank and stole your goodies, Lex, but it wasn't me. Now I suggest we high-tail it out of Smallville before we get flattened into meteor rock pancakes.

LEX

Not before we find the stone. You're coming with me.

As Lex firmly takes her arm, OFF Chloe, scared...

34 INT. LIVING ROOM - KENT FARM - DAY

34

CLOSE ON: A GUN PRESSED AGAINST MARTHA'S TEMPLE. REVEAL Jason, frantic as he holds the weapon on Martha, who sits on a chair, trying to be strong. Tied up with extension cord, Jonathan sits on the couch.

JONATHAN

Let her go! My wife has nothing to do with you.

JASON

A mother always knows her son's deep dark secrets.

(to Martha)

Where does he keep them?

MARTHA

Jason, why do you think Clark knows anything about ancient stones?

JASON

Let's see, where do I start? My Mother's spent her entire life searching for the artifacts, and all her research leads to one person.

(beat)

A farm boy from Smallville with no record of ever being born.

JONATHAN

Clark was an orphan.

JASON

Does that explain how he can throw a football over 300 miles per hour?

Jonathan and Martha exchange a worried, react in shock.

JASON

I asked him to try out for the team, remember? It wasn't a coincidence I was his coach.

JONATHAN

Jason, none of this matters right now. A meteor shower is about to decimate this town. We all need to get to safety.

JASON

I'm not going anywhere until I have the stones, and your son is the only one who can get them for me.

JONATHAN

Jason, please, calm down. If you put away that gun, we can try to help you.

JASON

(cocks gun)

Start talking or I swear to God I'll blow her brains out.

Scared, Martha fights to stay strong as Jason pumps the gun. OFF Jonathan, trying desperately to loosen his restraints...

35 INT. INNER CHAMBER - CAVE - DAY

35

Clark steps into the chamber, realizing he's about to complete a course of action set in place centuries ago. He steps toward the pedestal, where the two other crystals lay in wait. Clutching

THE CRYSTAL FROM LEX'S VAULT,

Clark reaches out and places it in the last remaining slot.

BRILLIANT COBALT LIGHT

suddenly flares up into Clark's awestruck face, energized air blasting back his hair. Clark stares in wonder and awe as the three crystals fuse together to form

A COBALT-BLUE DIAMOND,

which mysteriously starts to lift out of the pedestal and hover above. As Clark reacts in wonderment...

36 EXT. STRATOSPHERE - DAY

36

A barrage of fiery green meteorites penetrate the earth's atmosphere, showering down from the darkness of outer space. As they begin their deadly descent toward Earth, OFF the ominous collision course...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

37 INT. LIVING ROOM - KENT FARM - DAY

37

Jason is in a panicked sweat as he holds the gun on Martha, arm trembling. Jonathan discreetly loosens his hands behind his back.

JONATHAN

Martha, we have no choice. Tell him where those stones are.

As Martha looks at her husband, confused, Jason turns on her.

JASON

You heard him. Talk!

Jason presses the gun against her, when suddenly Jonathan SLAMS into Jason from behind, knocking the gun out of his hand and tackling Jason to the ground.

JONATHAN AND JASON LUNGE FOR THE SHOTGUN.

Martha tries to stop Jason, grabbing his arm. Jason winds back and ELBOWS HER HARD IN THE HEAD, sending her to the ground unconscious.

JONATHAN GETS HIS HAND AROUND THE SHOTGUN BARREL,

but Jason clutches the handle. As the two men war over the weapon, Jason manages to wrap his finger around the trigger and FIRE.

PLASTER FALLS FROM ABOVE

as both men struggle. But Jason is rabid, overpowering Jonathan. Digging a knee into his chest, Jason gets control of the gun. With an eerie blood-lust in his eyes, he aims the rifle under Jonathan's chin... when

A HEAVY IRON CANDLESTICK

SLAMS into his head with a sickening CRACK. Jason falls to REVEAL MARTHA behind him, candlestick in hand. Jonathan climbs to his feet, holds the trembling Martha tight in his arms. They look down at Jason splayed unconscious.

JONATHAN

Are you all right?

37 CONTINUED:

37

As Martha nods, dazed, they hear the sudden BURST OF A DISTANT EXPLOSION.

MARTHA

What was that?!

JONATHAN

The meteors! Get in the cellar!

Jonathan and Martha hurry for the kitchen door when A LOUDER CONCUSSION, CLOSER BY, shakes the house. They get to the door, reach for the handle, when suddenly A HORRENDOUS THUNDERING from overhead. Before they can react,

A HUGE METEOR

CRASHES through the house, Jonathan and Martha disappearing in the avalanche of debris.

38 EXT. HELICOPTER (FLYING) - DAY

38

The LuthorCorp chopper swerves through the air, trying to make it through the maze of fiery projectiles raining down.

39 INT. HELICOPTER (FLYING) - DAY

39

Horrified, Lana looks out at the deadly air-raid of meteors, the devastation on the ground below.

40 EXT. HELICOPTER (FLYING) - DAY

40

A meteor cuts through the air, and SLAMS into the tail of the aircraft, obliterating the rear stabilizer.

41 INT. HELICOPTER (FLYING) - DAY

41

The world spins outside, as Lana SCREAMS, holding on, while the Pilot desperately tries to land the crippled craft.

PILOT

Mother Mary full of grace, forgive me for my sins...

42 EXT. CORNFIELD - DAY 42

The helicopter SLAMS into the ground in an EXPLOSION of dirt and vegetation, smoke and flames from the engine licking the cockpit.

43 INT. INNER CHAMBER - CAVE - DAY 43

Clark stares at the floating, cerulean-blue jewel, mesmerized. When he reaches out and grabs the diamond-shaped object, Clark is immediately

ENVELOPED BY BLINDING BLUE-WHITE LIGHT.

Clark squints into the brightness, a wind washing over him. A LOUD WHOOSH and the CAMERA BULLET-CRANES INTO THE SKY TO REVEAL Clark is on the...

44 EXT. ARCTIC TUNDRA - DAY 44

Clark stands on the pristine ice, all alone. Nothing but whiteness and sky as far as the eye can see.

45 INT. BEDROOM - LUTHOR MANSION - DAY 45

CAMERA PUSHES DOWN ON Lionel, who lies asleep in the four-poster bed, the sheer white curtains billowing in the wind. As the SOUNDS OF DESTRUCTION play outside,

LIONEL'S EYELIDS SUDDENLY POP OPEN,

REVEALING green, Kryptonian letters scrolling down the glassy whites of his eyeballs.

46 EXT. BLUFF - DAY 46

Standing beside Chloe's idling V.W. overlooking the town, Lois stares out in despair as meteors batter the land, plumes of grey smoke bleeding from the wounds, into the scarlet sky.

A SINGLE TEAR

rolls out of the corner of her eye...

47 INT. CAVE - DAY

47

Determined, intrigued, Lex leads Chloe into the darkness.

CHLOE

We're not in this cave for cover,  
are we Lex?

LEX

You know as well as I do. It's the  
center of it all.

Chloe can't help but be intrigued as Lex moves deeper into the cave toward a shimmering blue-white light. Lex and Chloe stare in amazement at

BLINDING LIGHT RAZORING THROUGH A GROWING FISSURE

in the wall. Lex and Chloe shield their eyes, amazed, as the wall continues to open, wind lashing out. When Lex starts walking forward, Chloe grabs his arm.

CHLOE

Lex, no! What are you doing?!

Unshakable, Lex continues walking into the light. Chloe is horrified.

CHLOE

Lex, no!

Suddenly the light engulfs Lex and Chloe. A LOUD WHOOSH and the LIGHT IMPLODES, leaving the cave dark and still. Lex and Chloe are gone.

48 EXT. CORNFIELD - DAY

48

Smoke rises from the twisted wreckage of the LuthorCorp chopper. The cockpit door suddenly breaks open from Lana's kick. Bleeding from a cut on her forehead, the horrified Lana struggles to slip past

THE DEAD PILOT,

his face streaked with blood. Lana stumbles out of the wreckage, getting her bearings, the sky streaked with smoke trails. Lana starts walking when

A METEOR COMES SCREAMING OVERHEAD

48 CONTINUED:

48

and CRASHES DOWN into the earth nearby, its impact knocking Lana to the ground in an explosion of dust and debris.

LANA CLIMBS TO HER FEET,

surrounded by thick smoke. She pushes through the thick stalks, when she suddenly stops, staring out in shock and horror at

A GLEAMING STEEL-BLACK SPACESHIP,

the size of a stealth bomber. It hovers over the ground, emitting a PULSING SUB-BASS HUM. OFF Lana, astonished...

49 EXT. ARCTIC TUNDRA - DAY

49

Clark looks around the whiteness, wondering what part this glacial wasteland could possibly play in his true destiny. He holds out his hand to reveal

THE CERULEAN BLUE DIAMOND.

The jewel's point rotates in Clark's hand like a compass needle. Clark eyes the strange object, and suddenly, as if overtaken by instinct, he winds back and throws the diamond in the direction it was pointing.

THE DIAMOND TUMBLES THROUGH THE AIR,

end over end, headed RIGHT AT CAMERA. As it's about to collide, CHYRON READS: "To be continued..."

FADE OUT.

END OF SEASON FOUR