

ALEXANDER SALKIND PRESENTS

THE
ADVENTURES
OF **SUPERBOY**™

AN ALEXANDER AND ILYA SALKIND
PRODUCTION

"Bodyswap"

by

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THE ADVENTURES OF SUPERBOY

"Bodyswap"

FADE IN:

1 INT. STATION WAGON - DAY

1

A family is packed into their station wagon, along with luggage, camping equipment, etc. The kids are in back, fighting. MOM and DAD look worn out. Dad whirls around.

DAD

So help me, if you two don't cut it out, I'm gonna come back there --

MOM

Burt!

(chastising)

This is a vacation. Vacations are fun.

Dad is obviously embarrassed by his outburst. The LITTLE GIRL begins to snifle, frightened by his unusual response. He turns back to her.

DAD

I'm sorry, honey. Sometimes Daddy has bad days.

He looks back up front.

2 HIS POV

2

A car's coming directly at them; it's passing a truck on a curve.

3 INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

3

The kids scream; Dad yanks the wheel to avoid disaster.

4 EXT. ROAD - CONTINUOUS

4

The station wagon veers, skids off the road out of control, then heads straight for a tree.

5 DAD'S POV

5

through the windshield, as the car races toward the tree. But suddenly, there's a red and blue blur -- It's SUPERBOY -- who lands between the station wagon and the tree and brings the vehicle to a gentle stop.

6 EXT. ROAD - DAY

6

Superboy steps out from in front of the station wagon. The dazed family now gets out. Dad approaches Superboy.

DAD
(badly shaken)
I thought we were gonna...
(gratefully)
How can I ever thank you?

TIGHT ON SUPERBOY

It looks like he's about to give his usual answer, but then:

SUPERBOY
Got any cash?

Dad stares at him for a moment, then laughs nervously. Superboy produces some gum and sticks a wad in his mouth.

SUPERBOY
No cash, huh?
(eyeing their car)
Well... car's in good shape.

And moving in super-speed, he unloads their stuff, jumps in, and guns the motor.

SUPERBOY
Engine's good. Consider the debt
paid in full.

And with a wave of his hand and the pop of a gum bubble, he fishtails off. The family stands in stunned silence. After a long beat, the little girl tugs on her Daddy's pantleg.

GIRL
Does Superboy have bad days, too?

On Dad's dazed look, we:

FADE OUT.

END TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

7 INT. BUREAU PARKING GARAGE - DAY

7

LANA pulls into her space in the Bureau's deserted indoor garage. As she steps out of her jeep, a hushed voice calls out:

VOICE (O.S.)
(urgently)

Lana!

Lana looks for the source of the voice but doesn't see anyone. She slowly backs away. As she turns, she's grabbed, and a strong hand blocks her scream. She's pulled behind a car, struggling fiercely. Suddenly, her eyes meet her assailant's. It's LEX LUTHOR! (Note: He is wearing a wig here.)

LUTHOR
You have to help me.

Lana struggles, shaking violently, trying to loosen his hand.

LUTHOR
I'm not Luthor!
(intensely)
I'm Superboy!

Lana stops struggling, momentarily amazed. Luthor pulls his hand away. After a beat:

LANA
You're out of your mind...

LUTHOR
It's my body I'm out of.

LANA
What?

LUTHOR
Two minutes. And then you can walk away. Trust me.

LANA
Trust? That's a funny word coming from you.

LUTHOR
Lana, I need you to listen to me... But I won't force you...

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

Luthor's unusual pleading manner makes Lana uncertain.
Finally:

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED:

7

LANA

Two minutes. Then I scream...

LUTHOR

(taking a deep breath)

It was an experiment. I wanted to know where I was from. This Doctor -- Deland -- he used to work with Professor Peterson... He said he could help me...

And as he speaks, we:

CUT TO:

8 INT. LABORATORY - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

8

As Luthor's tale unfolds, we see Superboy sitting in a chair with various electrodes attached to his head and body -- attended by DR. OLIVER DELAND, mid-forties and rumpled. Some experiment is about to commence. Superboy seems anxious.

DELAND

... And every memory makes a crease in the brain. If I can scan them with electron beams, we might be able to get all the way down to your earliest memories. Maybe find out where you came from.

SUPERBOY

(considering the ramifications)

And why I'm here.

Deland makes a couple of notes on some papers, compares them to figures in a reference book, then tucks the papers inside the book and puts it back on a bookshelf. Superboy watches, until:

DELAND

Ready?

Superboy nods.

SUPERBOY'S POV - ON DELAND

DELAND

Now close your eyes, and start counting backwards from a hundred.

The SCREEN goes BLACK, as Superboy closes his eyes.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

SUPERBOY
One-hundred... ninety-nine...
ninety-eight...

There is a crackle of power that surges for one beat, two...
before the current snaps off.

9 POV SHOT - SUPERBOY (INT. SMALL ROOM - NIGHT)

9

START ON BLACK: as the counting continues but now in a
different VOICE. Different, but familiar. Very familiar.

VOICE (O.S.)
Ninety-seven, ninety-six,
ninety-five.

FADE IN as the CAMERA looks down and sees... strange hands!
MAINTAIN POV as the CAMERA looks around and sees that it's all
alone -- in a different room. It STANDS UP -- UNSTEADY.

VOICE (O.S.)
Dr. Deland?

No response. There is a sink nearby, and the CAMERA goes to
it and looks down at the basin. The hands cling to it as if
to steady themselves. And then something falls into the sink.
A wig. PAN UP to the mirror above the sink... so we can see
the stunned face and shiny skull of... Lex Luthor.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Superboy, now in Luthor's body, spins away from the mirror,
horrified. From an adjacent room he hears a loud laugh. He
goes over to a small window in the door and looks out.

HIS POV

The lab is exactly the same as it was when he closed his eyes
moments ago. Superboy -- or rather Luthor in Superboy's
body -- is looking into a mirror. He is laughing.

SUPERBOY
(to Deland)
You are indeed a genius.

DELAND
I'm not in this for an ego massage.
We agreed on a sum of money...

SUPERBOY
Not until I get your notes and the
blueprints for this thing.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED:

9

DELAND
(nervously)
How can I be sure I'll get my
money?

SUPERBOY
Trust me, getting money will never
be a problem for me again.

He picks up a metal transformer and crushes it with one hand.
He laughs maniacally.

BACK TO SCENE

Inside the room, Superboy -- in Luthor's body -- can't believe
he's been duped. He stands there, frozen. (NOTE: Unless
otherwise noted, Superboy-in-Luthor's-body will be called
LUTHOR; Luthor-in-Superboy's-body will be called SUPERBOY).

10 INT. LABORATORY - NIGHT

10

Superboy turns to Deland with a dark smile.

SUPERBOY
Perhaps it's time our bald friend
finally made it to the electric
chair.

He starts toward the adjacent room.

11 INT. SMALL ROOM - NIGHT

11

As Superboy enters to confront: an open window with curtains
blowing in... and the trackless night outside.

CUT TO:

12 INT. BUREAU PARKING GARAGE - DAY

12

Luthor is finishing up his story.

LUTHOR
They tricked me, Lana -- using my
past as bait. And I swallowed the
hook.

He stares at Lana, imploringly. For a moment, it's unclear
how she'll react. Then:

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

LANA

Are you done? Is this the part
where you let me walk away?

LUTHOR

Please... I need you to go back and
see if Deland's still there. If the
police catch me, I'll--

LANA

-- You'll get what you deserve.

LUTHOR

No, you don't understand...

He takes Lana's arm, and she immediately screams. He tries to
quiet her down, but suddenly, a large hand clamps down on his
shoulder. A BURLY MAN now spins him around.

BURLY MAN

What're you doin'?

LANA

He's hurting me!

And the burly man punches Luthor in the face. He falls back,
gripping his now bloody nose in both shock and pain. He
begins backing away. The burly guy turns to Lana.

BURLY MAN

You okay?

LANA

(nodding)

Get him! That's Lex Luthor!
The police want him.

The guy turns and sees Luthor backing away. He takes off
after him. Luthor runs off as fast as he can.

CUT TO:

13 INT. PARKING LOT ALCOVE - DAY

13

Luthor ducks into the alcove and hides. He sees the burly
man run by the entrance and continue on. Luthor sags in
relief, his chest heaving. He reaches up and touches his
nose, then winces in pain and pulls his bloody hand away.
Pain, exhaustion, injury: these are all new to him. He slumps
against the wall.

CUT TO:

14 INT. THE BUREAU - DAY

14

Lana is sitting at Matt's desk, sipping a cup of water.

MATT
Sure you're okay?

LANA
Yeah. Just scared.

MATT
Did Luthor have a gun or anything?

Lana shakes her head.

MATT
Did he try to take you away with
him?

LANA
(thinking about it)
No...

MATT
Doesn't sound like Luthor.

LANA
I know, but...
(after a beat)
Who else could it have been?

Matt shrugs.

MATT
I'm going to go tell Jackson about
this... You sure you're okay?

Lana nods, and Matt takes off.

LANA
(to herself)
It had to be him.

After a moment, Lana reaches up and types something into
Matt's computer.

INSERT ON COMPUTER

Next to "SEARCH" on the screen, the words, "DR. OLIVER DELAND"
appear. A few seconds, then a large file comes up on screen.

BACK TO SCENE

Lana looks at it intently. Just then, a voice behind her
makes her jump.

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

VOICE (O.S.)

Lana?

Lana turns quickly. It's ARTIE.

ARTIE

You seen Clark? I've got some printouts for him.

LANA

I'll take 'em. He's home with the flu. He sent me a note.

ARTIE

Just like grammar school, huh?

He starts to go but notices the screen.

ARTIE

Whoa! Who's that?

LANA

Oh, it's nobody.

ARTIE

Pretty impressive credentials for a nobody: Ph.D. in physics and bioengineering; a tenured position at Shuster...

Lana is also looking at the screen.

LANA

... But was forced to resign for unstated reasons...

ARTIE

And look at those publications... Is this something to do with Luthor?

LANA

(unsure)

Ah, no. I don't think so.

ARTIE

Good. Leave Luthor to Superboy.

Lana nods uncertainly and Artie moves away. But Lana's thoughtful expression betrays a nagging doubt.

CUT TO:

15 INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

15

TIGHT ON DARLA, scared and maybe a little excited, too.

DARLA
Lex... Lex!

WIDEN to show that Darla is now in mid-air, in a chair, held up by Superboy.

SUPERBOY
What's my name?

DARLA
All right, all right... It's Superboy.

LUTHOR
Superboy... I like the sound of that.

And he lets her down, somewhat less than gently.

DARLA
So what now? Gonna take over the world?

SUPERBOY
Maybe. Can't do it right away, 'cause everybody'll know something's wrong. I mean, I can have a little fun now and then, but I don't want anyone to start believing that Luthor lunatic when he says he's in the wrong body.

DARLA
So why don't you just get rid of him?

SUPERBOY
Just like that? No chance... I want him to feel what it's like to be me. Persecuted, humiliated, despised...
(beat)
And then I'm going to see that he gets what was coming to me...

Superboy sits down and grabs the seat, making a sizzling noise -- aping the contortions of a man dying in the electric chair. He breaks off his pantomime and laughs maniacally.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

15

DARLA
Don't wait around for that. Do it
now. Business before pleasure.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

15

SUPERBOY
(thinking)
Business before... pleasure.
(after a beat)
Maybe you've got a point.

He starts to go to the door.

DARLA
You're going to take care of him
now?

SUPERBOY
I just said I was. And Superboy
never lies.

CUT TO:

16 INT. LANA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

16

Bedtime. Lana's pacing anxiously. She goes to a mirror, dabs a bit of cold cream on her cheek, and just as she does, she suddenly stops. In the mirror, she catches sight of Superboy, standing behind her near the open window, watching her. She spins around.

SUPERBOY
I'm sorry... I didn't mean to
frighten you.

LANA
No, that's all right. I've... been
hoping to see you.

SUPERBOY
Me, too.

LANA
I saw Luthor this morning.

SUPERBOY
Luthor? Did he hurt you? I'll--

LANA
(shaking her head)
No, he didn't hurt me. He only
wanted to talk to me.

SUPERBOY
About what?

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16

LANA

Oh, some story about how you and he had changed bodies. It was crazy, but...

SUPERBOY

But?

LANA

Nothing...

Superboy starts moving toward her.

SUPERBOY

Lana, whatever he says, don't listen to him. You have to trust me... Will you do that?

LANA

(reflecting)

Trust...

SUPERBOY

Like always... because there's something more important I need to talk to you about. It's our... friendship.

He moves in closer.

SUPERBOY

I've been thinking that maybe it's time we deepened it -- gave it another level of meaning.

He gently pulls her to him. Lana is not prepared. Her mind is reeling. This is what she's wanted for a long time, but something's not right. The doubts come flooding back and she turns away.

SUPERBOY

What's wrong?

LANA

I... I'm not used to you acting this way.

Superboy immediately backs away.

SUPERBOY

I'm sorry. I guess we all have our weak moments.

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16

He goes over to a nearby table where he scribbles something on a pad of paper. He rips it off and hands it to Lana.

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16

SUPERBOY

This is where I'm staying. For
when you have yours.

He leans in and gently kisses her on the lips. Then:

SUPERBOY

It's important that you trust me,
Lana. You're the one who's always
known me best.

He goes over to the window. He looks back and smiles, then
steps out and flies off. Lana looks at the paper, then slowly
wipes her mouth with the back of her hand, thinking.

CUT TO:

17 INT. LABORATORY - NIGHT

17

All is quiet in the darkened lab. Then, with a loud creak,
the door begins to swing open, silhouetting Luthor in the
doorway. He steps into the room and looks around. His eyes
fall on something, and his face fills with dismay.

HIS POV

The light from the door partially illuminates the room. It
has been ransacked -- the equipment destroyed. But something
far worse lies in the corner. It's Dr. Deland, still alive,
but barely, with a large bloodstain on his shirt.

BACK TO SCENE

Luthor rushes over and checks his pulse. But just then, he
hears the sirens of arriving squad cars and slamming doors.
He quickly stands up. He's got to get out of there. But then
he looks back down at Deland. If he leaves, he risks a human
life. A beat, then Luthor leans over and starts administering
mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. And as he does this, we hear
running feet and excited voices; and then we see the dancing
beams of flashlights...

WIDEN

As Luthor's caught in a pool of light, kneeling over Deland's
prone body.

COP

(yelling)

Freeze!

Luthor quickly rolls into the darkness and comes up running as
bullets strike nearby! He crashes through the rear exit.

18 INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

18

Luthor heads down a corridor lined with windows. He comes to one and looks out. He grabs a nearby chair and -- with difficulty -- throws it through the window.

ANGLE ON COPS

They run down the hallway after him. They come to the window and look out.

A19 REVERSE

A19

from the street below, looking up. We see the policeman looking out the window, toward the street. And then above him, we see Luthor standing on a ledge, out of breath, frightened. The policeman soon gives up and backs away from the window.

19 EXT. ROOF - NIGHT

19

Luthor now climbs onto the roof. Then he darts to the edge of the building and... the world stops. He remembers. Without super-powers, where is he going to go? He looks across at the next building; it's too far to risk, now that he is merely mortal. He looks down into the alleyway.

HIS POV

The flashing lights of cruisers, the squawk of the radios, the glistening asphalt... At least they haven't spotted him. One of the squad cars is peeling away.

BACK TO SCENE

Luthor breathes a sigh of relief. But then, a hand taps him on the shoulder. He turns to face his worst nightmare. It's Superboy. Who smiles broadly.

SUPERBOY

Hello, Luthor.

On Luthor's look of dismay, we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

20 INT. JAIL - DAY

20

TIGHT on a pair of hands grasping steel bars... they don't bend. PULL BACK to show Luthor (or Superboy, still in Luthor's body) straining mightily at the bars. Finally, he gives up.

LUTHOR

(shouting)

I'm not Luthor! This is a mistake!

VOICE OF GUARD

Yeah, and you're the one who made it when you took on Superboy.

Luthor looks off to see several COPS coming toward his cell. They're led by a jail GUARD.

LUTHOR

Ask Doctor Deland. He can tell you who--

GUARD

Deland's dead. Died on the way to the hospital.

Luthor's face falls; the guard now unlocks his cell door. *

LUTHOR

What're you doing?

GUARD *

Letting you out so they can take you to the state prison.

LUTHOR

What for?

GUARD

'Cause that's where the electric chair is.

On Luthor's look,

CUT TO:

21 EXT. JAIL - DAY

21

Luthor is being led out of the back of the jail and to a nearby van by the cops.

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

21

LUTHOR
It's a mistake! You're killing
the wrong man!

The cops chuckle. Suddenly, a convertible slams up
alongside... barely missing them. The cops are forced to
scatter. The driver turns. It is Lana.

LANA
(to Luthor)
Get in!

LUTHOR
(amazed)
Lana?

LANA
(to Luthor)
Get in!

He does.

22 INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

22

Before Luthor is firmly in place, Lana jerks the wheel around
and floors the pedal. There's gunfire and scorched rubber as
they fishtail down the alley behind the jail. Lana's
adrenaline is running on high. Luthor is stunned.

LUTHOR
You shouldn't be doing this.

LANA
(in disbelief)
Are you crazy? I'm helping you.

LUTHOR
But you're breaking the law!

LANA
(grim smile)
Now I'm sure it's you...
Superboy.

On his reaction, we:

CUT TO:

23 EXT. ROAD - DAY

23

Lana and Luthor are going from the convertible to Lana's jeep.

LUTHOR
What made you finally believe me?

LANA
I knew you'd never come on to me
like that.

LUTHOR
Like what?

Lana just smiles. A beat, as Lana lets Luthor's jealousy simmer. Then she starts the jeep and they screech off.

CUT TO:

24 INT. DELAND'S LABORATORY - NIGHT

24

WIDE as Lana and Luthor sneak in, tearing through the police tape that seals the door. Books are scattered all over the floor. Luthor picks up one of the books.

LUTHOR
I think he put them in this one.

Lana takes the book and opens it. The papers Deland wrote on are indeed in here.

TIGHT ON LANA

exitedly examining Deland's notes.

LANA
They're his notes, all right... the
blueprints for the machine... We
can rebuild it!

No response from Luthor. She looks at him.

LUTHOR

is looking off into space, shoulders slumped.

TWO SHOT

Lana's concerned.

LANA
What's wrong?

LUTHOR
Think about it.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED:

24

LANA
About what?

LUTHOR
What we've got to do. Going up
against somebody with his powers.
Now I know what he feels like:
hopeless.

He starts to turn away, but Lana grabs him.

LANA
Listen to me... You think the only
thing that makes you a hero is your
powers?

She points to the chalk outline where Deland's body was.

LANA
You told me yourself, when you
could've run and maybe escaped, you
stayed and tried to save Deland.
That's what being a hero really
means. It's who you are, not
what you are.

LUTHOR
Lana... There's no way to--

LANA
Yes there is. You're in Luthor's
body; all you have to do is start
thinking like him.

On Luthor's confused look,

CUT TO:

25 INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

25

Superboy is partaking of a meal for ten. Darla, at the other
end of the table, is watching a news report. She glances at
Superboy periodically.

NEWSMAN
Convicted killer Lex Luthor escaped
from jail late today while being
transferred to a maximum security
prison where he faced execution.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

NEWSMAN (cont'd)

Police say they are following up several leads but admit to having no real evidence as to his whereabouts. Luthor was convicted of murder last year and sentenced to death, but he escaped execution when the electric chair unexpectedly malfunctioned.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

Superboy blows a gust of super-breath at the TV, and it falls over backwards, imploding.

SUPERBOY
Better than remote control.

DARLA
What now?

SUPERBOY
What do you mean, 'What now?' It's even better this way. Let him taste freedom one more time, so when he sits in that chair...
(licks food from his fingers)
It'll hurt even more.

Just then, there is a knock at the door. Superboy turns and uses his X-ray vision to see who's there.

HIS X-RAY POV

It's Lana.

BACK TO SCENE

Superboy thinks a moment, then turns to Darla.

SUPERBOY
Be a good girl and go wait in the the other room.

DARLA
Why? Who is it?

SUPERBOY
It's business.

She goes out onto the balcony. Superboy opens the door with a big smile.

SUPERBOY
Lana... What a surprise!

LANA
I decided you were right. It is time to move our relationship to another level.

Superoby can hardly hide his enthusiasm. He puts on his best Superboy imitation and gestures her in.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

SUPERBOY
(softly)
I'm glad. Won't you come in?

But Lana doesn't step in. Instead:

LUTHOR (O.S.)
Luthor!

NEW ANGLE - HALLWAY OUTSIDE DOOR

As Superboy turns to see... himself, or rather, Superboy in Luthor's body, standing near Lana. Superboy is delighted.

SUPERBOY
Oh, I get it. A trap. And how did you plan to take me in? Cuffs?

LUTHOR
Don't worry about that. You killed Deland for no reason, and now you're going to pay for it.

SUPERBOY
No reason? I am truly offended. Deland was the only one who knew about our little switcheroo. And he was also the only one who could switch us back.

LUTHOR
So you killed him.

SUPERBOY
Of course I killed him, but I did have a reason.

LUTHOR
And now you're going to pay for it.

As Lana watches anxiously, Luthor pulls out a small lead-gray box from behind his back.

SUPERBOY
And what could that be, Kryptonite?

LUTHOR
You got it.

Before Luthor can open it, Superboy turns his heat-vision on it.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

INSERT

The lead box smolders and begins to melt. Luthor's hands are burned; he drops it.

BACK TO SCENE

SUPERBOY

You have to be pretty quick to beat Superboy. I've learned the hard way...

(with a grim smile)

Now so will you!

Superboy moves toward Luthor. Luthor shouts to Lana:

LUTHOR

Lana! Run!

She runs down the hall. Luthor takes off in the opposite direction. Superboy, amazingly, stops cold.

TIGHT ON SUPERBOY

still at the door, smiling. Darla now comes out.

DARLA

What are you waiting for? Get 'em!

SUPERBOY

I'm trying to think which one of my powers I should use.

(a beat)

Yes... that one... It's his favorite...

CUT TO:

26 EXT. STREET - NIGHT

26

Luthor's running down the street. He looks glances back over his shoulder and a look of horror comes over his face.

27 HIS POV

27

From out of the black night sky, it's Superboy.

28 BACK TO SCENE

28

Luthor runs as fast as he can, but it's as if he's standing still.

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED:

28

Superboy swoops down on him and plucks him off the street.

ON LUTHOR

bereft of hope.

CUT TO:

29 INT. PRISON/EXECUTION AREA - DAY

29

TIGHT on Luthor's hand, being strapped into position on the electric chair.

LUTHOR'S VOICE

You can't do this!

WIDER

to show the guards strapping a wigless Luthor into the chair. Near them, the WARDEN listens impassively.

LUTHOR

I'm not Luthor, I'm Superboy.

WARDEN

I think it's pretty obvious who's who.

And as he says this, he nods toward the spectators, and Luthor follows his gaze to:

THEIR POV

The spectators -- Superboy's in the front row, trying to look grave.

BACK TO SCENE

As Luthor's ankles are strapped to the chair.

LUTHOR

He's Luthor!

WARDEN

Sure he is.

WIDER

and he walks off toward a small room at the side of the execution room.

ON SUPERBOY

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED:

29

as a JAILER -- the executioner -- walks over to him.

JAILER
Do you want to do the honors?

SUPERBOY
Sir?

JAILER
Pull the switch...

SUPERBOY
I couldn't...

JAILER
It's only fitting.

Superboy thinks on that.

30 INT. SMALL ROOM - DAY

30

as the WARDEN enters. He stops when he sees someone on the other side of the room.

HIS POV

It's Lana.

THE WARDEN

WARDEN
Governor'll be here any minute. He could still change his mind.

31 INT. SPECTATOR'S AREA - DAY

31

The jailer's still trying to convince Superboy.

JAILER
... You'd be doing the world a service.

SUPERBOY
Well, if you put it that way...

The jailer smiles and leads Superboy to the switch.

32 EXT. HALLWAY - DAY

32

A distinguished-looking man -- obviously the GOVERNOR -- rushes down this corridor with some assistants.

33 INT. EXECUTION AREA

33

LUTHOR

now has the helmet slipped onto his head.

SUPERBOY

takes hold of the switch.

LUTHOR

looks at him.

SUPERBOY

mouths the words 'Bye-Bye.'

34 INT. SMALL ROOM - DAY

34

The governor enters; Lana urgently holds up a tape recorder to him.

LANA

I had this hidden on me.

She now presses the play button for the governor.

SUPERBOY'S VOICE (TAPE)

Of course I killed him, but I did
have a reason...

The governor listens impassively as the tape continues.

35 INT. EXECUTION AREA - DAY

35

The governor steps out of the room. A long pause, then:

GOVERNOR

Let's do it.

SUPERBOY

smiles.

LUTHOR

is stunned.

CLOSE

on the switch. Superboy's hand pulls it -- hard. Suddenly,
blue fire arcs through Superboy's body and he can't let
go!

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED:

35

LUTHOR'S BODY

is similarly engulfed!

TIGHT ON SUPERBOY

As he closes his eyes and whips his head side to side. Go to BLACK SCREEN for a beat, then FADE BACK IN. ON LUTHOR'S EYES which slowly flutter open. He looks around.

LUTHOR

Wait a minute...

SLOWLY PULL BACK TO REVEAL Luthor is clamped down in the chair. He begins to realize he's been tricked.

LUTHOR

No... No! NO!

ANGLE ON SUPERBOY

Lana comes up tentatively, joining the governor, warden and jailer.

LANA

(to Superboy)

Did it work?

He turns and looks at her. There is a brief beat, then he breaks out in a smile.

SUPERBOY

We did it...

ANGLE ON LUTHOR

The governor, warden and jailer smile in relief. The guards begin to loosen Luthor's bonds.

LUTHOR

All you've proved is that brains are better than brawn. Which means I can beat you.

SUPERBOY

You better hurry. Once they rewire the chair, you're going to be its first guest.

Suddenly, Luthor rips free and lunges for Superboy. The guards hold him back.

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED:

35

LUTHOR
(starts giggling)
I'd watch your back, my friend.
I'm not dead yet!

PULL IN TIGHT on Luthor's laughter, then

FADE OUT.

As the laughter continues...

THE END