

"PARALLAX"

By

Maximilliano W.C. Del Rio

Based on characters from DC Comics

Man Falls Off Bike

FADE IN:

INT. INTERCEPTOR FLIGHT DECK - YEAR 2059 - DEEP SPACE

The Interceptor (space cruiser) is flying towards Oa, they've been traveling for six days. JESSICA CRUZ (Green Lantern) and MARTHA WAYNE (Batwoman) are sitting at a table playing a card game together.

JESSICA

Okay, it's the same one. What do we do now?

MARTHA

Now, it's *War*.

JESSICA

So, what have we been doing up till now? Saber rattling?

MARTHA

That was also war, but this is 'the' war.

JESSICA

It looks more like a tie.

MARTHA

Put three cards face down, then flip the fourth.

They put their cards down, Jessica looks extremely bored.

JESSICA

It's a tie, again.

MARTHA

Huh, well that's not supposed to happen.

A soft alarm starts to beep on the control panel, a radar panel shows the ship approaching its destination. Martha and Jessica walk over to the cockpit.

MARTHA

We're getting close, go and wake up the rest of the team.

JESSICA

Okay, but on the way back, I am choosing the game.

Jessica gets up and heads through a sliding door to the dorm bunks where she starts to wake up everybody with her lantern ring projections. Green hands start to float from her ring into the hero's bunks to wake them up.

The heroes are all sleeping and the green hands tickle or nudge them awake, but BART ALLEN (The Flash) gets shoved out of his top bun by the two green hands.

JESSICA

For a speedster, your reflexes are terrible.

BART

Yeah, well. For a spaceship, the floor is actually pretty comfortable.

JACKSON HYDE (Aquaman) rolls out of the bottom bunk and stands on Bart who is trying to fall back asleep on the floor. Bart groans but doesn't move.

JACKSON

I hate to agree with Bart, but I think he might be right.

CASSIE SANDSMARK (Wonder Woman) and RYAND'R HARPER-REYES (Arsenal) rub their eyes and stretch as they climb down from their bunks.

CASSIE

Do we have time to shower?

RYAND'R

Dibs on first shower!

BRUCE KENT JR. (Superman) sits up and hits his head on the ceiling.

BKJ

Ow. Wait? The Interceptor has a shower?

BART

Good to know Superman hasn't showered in almost a week.

Over the intercom Martha makes an announcement from the cockpit.

MARTHA

Team meeting on the flight deck, now.

Everybody shuffles out of the dorm bunks and into the flight deck, still in pajamas. Jessica is using her ring to make coffee and pass it around to those at the table.

JESSICA

We are about an hour away from Oa, and we will be in the thick of it once we get there, so let's get on the same page.

BKJ

What exactly are we going to be in the thick of?

CASSIE

Why couldn't we just Zeta there again?

JACKSON

Because Parallax disabled their power battery. Everything there runs on their central lantern battery and that's what Jordan is feeding on.

RYAND'R

Is Hal Jordan really inside that thing?

BART

I thought he died in Vietnam like a hundred years ago?

CASSIE

No, he just went missing. The government covered it up, so they wouldn't look bad.

Martha nudges BKJ when she realizes they are getting off track.

BKJ

Hey! Jessica is trying to give a briefing. She is the field leader on this assignment. So, could we all just try and listen up for like two minutes?

MARTHA

The briefing is going to take longer than 'like' two minutes, Jr. Sorry, um, Jessica?

JESSICA

Yep. The last time the Justice League came to Oa was 1974, but they didn't come alone. The Outsiders joined the League and took on Krona's Darkstars together.

BART

So, we are the first team to go to Oa since the founders did in the 70's? Crash AF.

CASSIE

And the only thing that's changed is we can't even team up anymore. Not even to save the Guardians of the Universe.

JACKSON

They don't want to register with the United Senate that's on them, the world needs heroes they can trust, not vigilantes doing whatever they want.

RYAND'R

Can we just remember The Outsiders was formed because League had a strictly one black guy is enough policy until the 80s?

JESSICA

Enough politics! Everyone is making excellent points but we need to stay focused. Let's go over strategy.

BART

Punch it really hard as many times as possible.

MARTHA

That's probably not going to work this time, Bartholomew.

BKJ

She's right, we might have to throw in some kicks, as well. Sorry, go on.

JESSICA

You know, sometimes I wonder if these briefings are actually helpful.

BART

Wait a second, back to what Jr said. What level of thickness are we entering? Are we actually going into a thick substance or is that just a euphemism that is lost in translation to a time traveler like myself.

CASSIE

I am going to shower.

RYAND'R

Cassie, could you help me put on my spec-suit, I could use an extra hand.

JACKSON

I've got two... Hands. They're not extra though, just the ones I was born with. If you need help. I've got two hands.

CASSIE

Jackson, that was just sad.

BKJ

You know, if you need help talking to girls, I am married. So, I kind of know what I am doing.

MARTHA

Junior, you have been with the same girl since you were fourteen.

CASSIE

And she asked you out.

BKJ

When's the last time you asked someone out, Cassie?

Everybody leaves the flight deck, leaving Jessica and Martha alone.

JESSICA

Meeting adjourned, I guess...  
Everybody, suit up? Don't go back to sleep!

Bart flashes back into his seat.

BART

Only if you make me some breakfast, fearless leader.

RYAND'R

If you're making Bart breakfast could you make some for me too?

The rest of the team adds one, each saying me too, me three, or something similar as they go to get changed. R'yandr uses her ring to start heating up some space food.

CUT TO:

INT. INTERCEPTOR AIR LOCK - UNKNOWN

The whole team is in their space suits, and they are buckling up, finishing their final gear checks and such.

MARTHA

Alright, is everybody ready?  
Excuse me, Field leader?

JESSICA

Team ready? Prepare to disembark.

BART

Let's do this!

Bart is still eating a waffle in his pajamas when he strolls into the airlock.

JESSICA

Bart, get changed!

BART

Oh, right. We're in space. This is a space battle. Crash, crash, crash. I am ready, let's spank this... Entity.

Bart changes in an instant, and then Jessica opens the airlock, and they all fly out into a battle on Oa between hundreds of Green Lanterns and the mighty yellow Parallax.

The Intro song plays as we watch the team fight together, we can see the battle progress, and by the end of it they are all pretty beaten up and bruised, but Ryand'r and Jessica hold Hal Jordan back as BKJ lands the final blow punching him.

CUT TO:

INT. ZURICH HIGH SECURITY BANK - 8:00PM

VIRGIL HAWKINS (Black Lightning), LOOGIE O'BRIAN (Question), TATSU YAMASHIRO (Katana), JASON BLOOD (Etrigan), and KHY'M JONZZ (Miss Martian) are fighting three criminals breaking trying to break into a bank vault.



MULTI-MAN, HELLGRAMMITE, and THE HUMAN BOMB are struggling to work together to escape the heroes.

VIRGIL

Is it just me or does this feel like a very uncoordinated robbery.

LOGGIE

Hellgrammite, Multi Man, and the Human Bomb. I didn't even know they were friends let alone partners in crime. I don't see any commonalities other than the fact they're all C-Listers.

MULTI MAN

C-Lister? I am Multi Man! I can make over a hundred tangible, indistinguishable copies of myself! Fuck you guys, thats cool!

TATSU

Why do the weakest ones always talk the most?

KHY'M

I believe it's referred to as overcompensation.

MULTI MAN

I am right here. I can hear everything you're saying!

ETRIGAN

Thou hast feigned a grandiose malice, only to obscure your infant phallus.

MULTI MAN

Did that yellow shit just say I have a tiny-

Loogie stretches into several arms and knocks out most of the Multi Man copies with a simultaneous hit.

LOGGIE

Sick! I got him, or them. How's it going with Le Insecte?

Hellgrammite has small incisions all over his insect body and he slowly starts bleeding out yellow ooze. Then screeches something horrific directly at the heroes.

VIRGIL

I think she's got that handled, but we could use some help with the quiet one.

LOGGIE

My Dad always said the quiet ones were the freakiest.

KHY'M

Anyone wanna switch dance partners, this ones a little too hot for me-

The Human Bomb creates an explosion knocking Miss Martian through a nearby wall, she goes limp as she falls forty stories.

TATSU

Quest! Little Miss Thang needs a canopy. We got this.

Loogie jumps out of the building and turns into a dart aimed at Miss Martian, then as he approaches her he morphs into a hang glider and catches her.

LOGGIE

I love my job!

Hellgrammite finally slumps to the floor, woozy from the loss of blood. Etrigan makes his way to the Human Bomb trudging through his explosions.

ETRIGAN

Hellfire cannot scorch my hide,  
Beware the power of my tide,  
Someone pop him like a cherry and  
drop him on his side, so we might  
be merry, go home and imbibe!

Virgil sends a bolt of electricity at the Human Bomb who tries to explode it, while Etrigan breathes fire at him. The three powerful forces combine and explode causing a larger blast knocking them both backwards.

TATSU

Did you know that was going to work, Static?

VIRGIL

Yeah. But, in a lot of ways, no.

Loogie and Khy'm fly back into the building. Khy'm uses her telekinesis and ties up all the villains with strips of rebar.

LOOGIE

Why is she allowed to call you Static?

KHY'M

Looks like we're all wrapped up here, I've gotta go. Virg, can you clean up?

Without waiting for an answer, Miss Martian takes off flying out of the hole in the wall.

LOOGIE

Was that a pun? She gets to call you Virg?

TATSU

I need to leave as well. You boys think you can clean up this mess by yourself?

LOOGIE

I mean, I've actually got plans tonight. Mr Lightning, I was hoping-

Tatsu jumps out of the window with a grappling hook and swings away.

VIRGIL

I've got a three year old at home,  
thanks for stepping up, Quest. I  
owe you one.

Virgil grabs his disc and also flies away. Loogie sighs and  
looks at Etrigan.

LOOGIE

Looks like it's just the two of  
us... At least he called me Quest.  
That's my nickname. Hey, you ever  
notice how much sexual tension  
there is in those fancy grocery  
stores?

ETRIGAN

No.

A cloud of smoke and fire surrounds Etrigan and he  
vanishes.

LOOGIE

I thought he could only speak in  
rhymes...

MULTI MAN

You talk more than I do. Maybe  
you're compensating for something?

Loogie turns his left buttcheek into another face and  
stares at Multi Man who looks disgusted, then the face  
stretches out right in front of the tied up Multi Man.

LOOGIE

Or, maybe, I am not getting  
compensated enough? You know how  
much I've been offered to go solo.  
*Question* the movie, brought to you  
by Planet-Plus. Or sometimes they  
want Dad's name. *Plastic-Man*  
brought to you by Cale-Anderson  
Pharmaceuticals! By the way,  
here's my contact info. I have  
become pen-pals with a lot of my  
convictions. I know it sounds  
weird now, but after a decade of



BKJ

Where is she? Did I win? Sorry about the trees, I can probably fix those.

MAX

Brooocey! Finally, I fed the entire staff waiting for you guys to show up.

TATSU

How was space, babe?

BKJ

Good, but I could use some real food, the dehydrated stuff always gives me dia-

MAX

We don't need to hear about it. I am glad there's even food left, Kimi tell your parents how much you ate?

Kimiyo looks at Max as she pronounces "*imported chocolate*" for reassurance that she is saying it correctly.

KIMIYO

I ate two hotdogs, and one pound of *im-por-ted chocolate*. Then I threw up everything and then I ate two more hotdogs.

TATSU

We really need to find a new babysitter.

Tatsu picks up Bruce Kent III from his carriage, and BKJ gives him a kiss on his forehead.

BKJ

But then we'd have to pay them.

MAX

You know, I am the Secretary General of the United Earth

MAX (cont.)

Senate. I do have more important things to do than babysitting.

BKJ

I mean, I did just take down a primordial divine being trying to destroy the will power of the universe-

TATSU

Enough shop talk! I need a beer and some of that imported chocolate.

MAX

Please, the burgers and dogs were ready hours ago. Let's eat and drink and not talk shop.

BKJ

And drink!

TATSU

To another year, and a lot more nights like these!

They all sit down and start eating together, BKJ and Max mess with each other at the table.

CUT TO:

INT. CASSIE AND RYAN'S APARTMENT - 10:00PM

Cassie and Ryand'r slump into their apartment dropping their bags on the floor. Cassie falls onto the couch and Ryan rushes to the bathroom.

CASSIE

I cannot wait to sleep in my own bed, with my own pillow and my normal amount of gravity.

RYAND'R

I swear, a week in space really makes you appreciate the little

RYAND'R (cont.)  
things in life. Like regular sized  
toilets.

Ryan is talking through the open door of the bathroom as  
she pees.

CASSIE  
Foods on the way! What do you want  
to watch? That new 'Zombie-Octopus  
Apocalypse' movie looked pretty  
terrible. Or there's-

RYAND'R  
We are not staying in tonight,  
it's New Years! We are going out.

Ryan gets out of the bathroom and picks Cassie up off the  
couch, she does not wash her hands.

CASSIE  
But who's going to eat all the  
Tiki Masala I just ordered? Hey,  
you didn't even wash your hands!

RYAND'R  
There's a party at Oblivion. Come  
on, get changed!

CASSIE  
For who? Loogie?

RYAND'R  
He is flexible. What about Max?  
He's cute, we could stop by the  
BBQ first?

CASSIE  
I am not going to date the leader  
of the free world, Ryan.

RYAND'R  
Who said anything about dating?

CASSIE  
Loogie can change the shape of any  
part of his body right?



RYAND'R

I knew what they said about  
Amazons wasn't true.

CASSIE

But, we're never gonna find out if  
the Zombie-Octopus finds love?  
Alright, fine. But I am only  
staying for one drink! Wait, what  
do they say about Amazons?

CUT TO:

INT. MOUNT JUSTICE - 10:15PM

Martha and Jessica are unloading the Interceptor in the  
docking bay.

MARTHA

You did a good job. For your first  
time, I mean. And, in general.  
You'll get better. But, you did  
fine. Not, fine, like, *just* fine.  
You did good.

JESSICA

I did nothing. When things start  
to go off book, everybody still  
looks to Ryan and Junior!

MARTHA

Ryan's been leading them since  
they were all on the Titans. It's  
going to take time.

JESSICA

I've been in the Lantern Corps for  
almost five years now. What do I  
need to do to get their respect?

MARTHA

They've been doing this their  
whole lives. Be patient. And never  
let them catch you sweating, for  
even a second... Do you know why  
Ryan requested that you  
specifically lead this mission?

JESSICA

Yeah, because it was on Oa.

MARTHA

No, because you're the logical choice to lead this team. You're the only one that didn't grow up in 'the life.' You know what being a hero really is. For some of them it's just the family business. You know what it's like to be on the other side, you've been a civilian. They've never felt that reality, that's why they need you.

JESSICA

Thanks, I think... So, does the field leader always have to clean up the whole ship by themselves?

MARTHA

Actually, yes.

Martha sets down the boxes she was holding, stretches, then looks into the distance.

JESSICA

But, I am going to miss the BBQ! Martha?

MARTHA

And I miss my three year old.

Jessica tries to speak, but can't Martha is already flying away.

JESSICA

What am I even doing? Seriously, what good are superpowers if you never get to use them?

Jessica drops the box and uses her ring to start taking everything down from the Interceptor.

CUT TO:

INT. ABANDONED LEXCORP WAREHOUSE - 11:00PM

CHRIS KENT (Mister Terrific) and BRUCE KENT SR. (Batman) are walking through a deserted Lexcorp facility, it is covered in dust and has clearly been empty for a while. They are picking through files and looking for something.

CHRIS

Why are we here, Zory? Luthor's been dead for two decades. This obsession of yours is starting to get unhealthy.

BRUCE

You're supposed to be the smartest guy on Earth and you can't tell me why someone might be interested in transuranium elements and miniaturization tech that makes Choi's look like a kids' plaything.

CHRIS

Who says "kids' plaything?" Khy'm isn't going to be happy about this. She says I am indulging your fixations. And you know as well as I do, she is always right.

Chris is on his phone as Bruce stops looking through drawers and spots him.

BRUCE

Chris? Are you texting right now?

CHRIS

It's New Years! I have plans for tonight. Don't you have anything better to be doing?

BRUCE

Nope.

Bruce spots a safe, and lasers it open.

CHRIS

Well, we are going to get dinner in Metropolis then back to the Manor to watch the cube drop with Martha and Virg.

BRUCE

I told them to leave me some leftovers in the fridge.

CHRIS

What about Junior? Go spend some time with your grandkids. Zory? Are you listening?

BRUCE

You and Martha are the only ones that still call me that.

CHRIS

Really? I always liked the name. Zor-El. Kryptonian names just feel heavy, I guess Bruce Kent carries as much weight. You can take the cape off but those names... How do you live up to them?

Bruce pulls out a file, he starts reading it and completely ignores Chris.

BRUCE

You're the son of Helena Wayne and Johnathan Kent, how are you worried about the shadow I grew up in?

CHRIS

I am not worried. I just know what it's like...

Bruce inspects the fingerprints on the safe and starts looking around the room more conspicuously.

BRUCE

Someone was here before us.

Bruce hands the file to Chris.

CHRIS

Project Fairplay? Okay, Will Magnus... An AI researcher that disappeared. Karen Beecher, in nanotech, also missing. Wesley Dodds, Rex Tyler. This is old, too old? It's not what you think it is. They wouldn't have missed this. We wouldn't have missed this...

BRUCE

We did. So, the question is: where are they now?

Khy'm phases through a wall and struts up to the boys, who are now intently focused.

KHY'M

Sorry to interrupt your play date, but it's New Years and-

CHRIS

Khy'm... Something just came up.

Bruce drops all the files but the one he was looking at and pulls a black light from his belt, shining it onto the wall. It reads, 'Hello, Bruce.'

BRUCE

There's leftovers in the fridge.

Chris hands over the file to Khy'm. The three of them start going over the papers they uncovered.

CUT TO:

EXT. SECRETARY GENERAL COMPOUND - 11:45PM

Kimiyo is asleep on Tatsu's chest, as Max and BKJ sit around a fire and polish off a few more beers.

BKJ

So, I thought Jessica was coming by? Everything still going okay with you two?

MAX

She said she had to clean out the ship, something about being "field leader?"

BKJ

Ah, sorry about that. It's just a bit of good natured hazing. She'll get through it, she's a natural leader. And... I think you make a good pair. So, blessings bestowed.

BKJ taps Max on the forehead very gently, but enough to make a thump.

MAX

Yeah... Thanks? I've been dying to ask this, is it true space smells like raspberries?

TATSU

I thought it smelled like sulfur?

BKJ

Well, the inside of my space suit mostly smelled like eggs. But I think that's just because I ate like a full dozen freeze dried eggs before I put it on.

MAX

I thought you could breathe in space?

TATSU

Breathe what? Space is a vacuum, Max.

BKJ

That explains why it's so clean.

MAX

I am a politician, not a scientist, Tatsu. I've got people that know stuff like that so I don't have to.

The three of them laugh together, and Kimiyo starts to wake up. She picks up her daughter and starts heading towards the Guesthouse.

TATSU

I think it's time for someone to get into bed. Max, do you mind if we take the guesthouse?

MAX

Go ahead, I had them make up the rooms for you.

BKJ

When she gets back I want to talk to you both about something.

MAX

No, Bruce. Not again.

Max buries his face in his hands.

BKJ

Just hear me out?

MAX

You know the rules, if they want the backing of the Senate they have to be deputized. They have to do what the government tells them. Besides half of them have criminal records, lawsuits against them, it's a legal nightmare.

BKJ

I know, I know, but... You have been our biggest supporter, at least for the League. I know public opinion has been declining for the past couple years. We can work on a new marketing campaign or something but the Outsiders- It's just... They are different, they need... Autonomy.

MAX

A hand can't work autonomously from the rest of the body, it's not an auxiliary function. They need to work together. I can't give them free reign to do whatever they damn please. There are checks and balances. Who is there to stop them, to put them in check?

Tatsu comes back and cracks open another beer taking a big swig.

TATSU

Nobody. Not now, not ever. Someday the Outsiders are going to be my team. If Bats ever retires. And none of us want to be deputized. Or, put in check.

MAX

I am going to pretend I didn't hear any of that.

Max covers his ears and starts humming.

TATSU

You'd have us get Mommies signature just to take a piss. That's why public sentiment for the League is so low. You keep them on the bench, at least the Outsiders get shit done.

BKJ

She's right though! And the League can handle that for now. However, sometimes, the Outsiders need to go off leash. They need to roam in the wilderness, because we can't. They need to be there-

MAX

To do the things we shouldn't? We have to respect the sovereign rights of our nation states, not



MAX (cont.)

everybody wants *heroes* anymore. If it were up to me we'd have you fall into the military, draft you in as soldiers, special operations-

TATSU

We're not soldiers. We save people, we don't fight wars.

MAX

What does that even mean? Sometimes fighting wars is saving people, and sometimes saving a lot of people means others have to die. Which sucks but it's real. And, nobody wants to let unelected weirdos in spandex make those choices for everybody else.

BKJ

Wait a minute! I thought you loved my spandex?

Max grins and lowers his head, shaking it off, then looking away from BKJ and Tatsu. He lets a little real anger out.

MAX

Hah... You know what people like about soldiers? They follow orders. Soldiers have commanders, rules of engagement, and penalization for when they do something wrong. They have mechanisms for internal review, what do you have?

Max and Tatsu are getting a little heated, but managing to keep their voices down. This is a conversation they have had many times.

TATSU

A few more beers? How about we table this and I grab some...

BKJ

I shouldn't have brought it up-

MAX

No, it's fine. I am sorry. It's just been a stressful... year. I've gotta catch a flight back to D.C. anyway. Thanks for coming, I love you guys. You know that.

TATSU

We know. Thank you, for everything Max. We wouldn't still be here without you.

BKJ

Thanks for having the conversation Max. I know you'll make the right call. No matter what.

MAX

It is the first responsibility of every citizen to question authority.

BKJ

Benjamin Franklin.

TATSU

And what do we do when simply questioning that authority isn't enough?

MAX

I hope we never have to find out.

Max smiles, and walks off as a helicopter lands for him, he climbs aboard and is whisked away.

CUT TO:

INT. WAYNE MANOR - YEAR 2060 - 12:30AM

Martha and Virgil are watching a black and white movie in the theater, JONATHAN HAWKINS WAYNE, their three year old son, is eating popcorn on the floor in front of them.

MARTHA

Chris and Khy'm aren't back yet,  
should we give them a call?

VIRGIL

They're dinner must've run a bit  
longer, they're probably just  
enjoying their night off. Must be  
nice, having free time.

MARTHA

I think he's almost asleep.

VIRGIL

I am almost asleep. When did we  
get so old?

MARTHA

You got old, I still fit in my  
wedding dress.

VIRGIL

You think you could share some of  
those Kryptonian genetics?

MARTHA

I was thinking we could share more  
than that after the movies over-

Virgil shoots up, turns off the TV and grabs his son.

VIRGIL

Movies over, Jon Jon. It's time  
for bed!

JON JON

But, what's going to happen to the  
zombie pirate king and his  
half-octopus children?

MARTHA

It's almost one in the morning.  
It's past time for bed, come on my  
little spark plug.

Martha and Virgil take Jonathan upstairs.

CUT TO:

INT. OBLIVION BAR - 12:45AM

The party at the Oblivion Bar is small but everybody is having a good time. JUSTIN ARTHUR (Shining Knight), RYA CHOI (Atom Man), DOMINIC MNDawe (Freedom Beast), MATVEI RODOR (Zuggernaut), KAHINA ESKANDARI (Iron Butterfly), and YOLANDA MONTEZ (Wildcat) are all drinking together wearing party hats and telling stories.

JIM ROOK, the owner of the bar, is cleaning glasses while Cassie Sandmark sits alone. Jackson Hyde, Bart Allen, and Ryan Choi are all drinking at a table with Bart's fiancée, VALERIE PEREZ. Bart notices Cassie and comes to her.

BART

It's always sad seeing a beautiful girl sitting alone. What do you say we get out of here, take the first flight to Athens-

CASSIE

Your fiancée is right over there! And she is very nice. Congrats, Bart. I didn't even know you were seeing someone.

BART

Well you were invited to the engagement party, and you're still invited to the wedding, so you better not miss it.

CASSIE

I won't. I am sorry, I just don't really like-

BART

Spending time with your friends. I get it, we can be a bit... Much. But, while you're here. Join us, the game's about to start.

CASSIE

I am kind of waiting for someone.

BART

Who? Cassie, I am pretty sure everyone is already here? Unless you mean, Quest?

CASSIE

I swear to god if you tell anyone, I will-

BART

Relax, Cass. But, I hate to break it to you. You're kind of barking up the wrong tree.

CASSIE

If you're trying to tell me Loogie O'Brian is out of my league, I am going to lose my shit.

Valerie joins them at the bar, and gets another beer for herself.

VALERIE

No, you are definitely out of his league, but... How do I put this? You're playing for different teams.

BART

Cassie, he came out of the closet last year. But I guess you wouldn't know that because you never see us out of our tights.

CASSIE

In my defense, we've only met like twice. And both times we were fighting kaiju.

BART

Hey, whoa. Did you just make a joke? I am sure it'll get better. Come on, we are about to begin the games.

Jackson stands up on a table.

JACKSON

May I get everybody's attention. I would like to announce the beginning of the fifth annual Super Olympics. The first and only contest to prove who out there is the strongest, most valiant, and thirstiest hero on Earth!

The group cheers, and Jim Rook starts pouring dozens of shots.

RYAND'R

Contestants please line up, as last year's reigning champ, the Tamaranian Barbarian! I will start off the occasion. Cassie, you're not skipping out on this!

JACKSON

And remember, the most important rule! There are no rules!

Ryan slaps Jackson on the back of the head. They look at each other and smile.

RYAND'R

Stop it, of course there are rules. In fact there's a lot of rules.

Cassie notices the flirting between Ryand'r and Jackson, she turns to Valerie.

CASSIE

How long has that been going on?

VALERIA

Oh, honey. Just take a drink.

Everybody is laughing and enjoying themselves, Jackson and Ryand'r fall off the table and land on the floor, where they kiss each other before Ryand'r jumps back up, and takes another shot.

CUT TO:

INT SECRETARY GENERAL'S COMPOUND, GUESTHOUSE - 1:30AM

BKJ and Tatus are asleep in bed, there is a slight flashing on BKJ's watch and an imperceptible beeping that only he can hear. He sits up, and starts to get dressed, Tatsu turns over and reaches for him.

TATSU

Where are you going?

BKJ

It's my Dad, the watch...

Tatsu gets up, and rubs her eyes.

TATSU

What does he want? Is everything okay?

BKJ

I don't know.

TATSU

Well, when was the last time he used the watch?

BKJ

I don't know.

TATSU

Maybe he just wants to talk?

BKJ

Yeah, sure. I gotta go. I'll be back soon. I love you, okay?

TATSU

Okay. Don't make me come save you.

BKJ steps outside, giving a soft sad smile, then he takes off flying still in his pajamas.

CUT TO:

EXT. DAILY PLANET ROOF - 1:45AM

Bruce Kent is standing on the roof looking over the city, he is drinking water.

BKJ

Hey, Dad? What's going on?

BRUCE

Take a look at this.

BKJ

Happy New Year, to you too?

BRUCE

I am meeting Chris at an abandoned Lexcorp demolition site in an hour. I just want you to share this with the League.

BKJ

That's what this is about? Luthor! Again? He *is* dead! He's been dead for years, Dad! When are you- For a second, I thought you might actually want to... I don't know, hear about how your grandkids are doing?

BRUCE

There's no need to get emotional over this, we found something-

BKJ

Kimi is doing great by the way, she is reading chapter books now. And the baby, he's perfect. A little hairy, but I think he gets that from his Mom's side.

BRUCE

Are you finished?

BKJ

Tatsu had to get a cesarean, it took her a bit longer to recover than usual. She had an infection. But, she's good now. We're all just peachy.



BRUCE

I know she's good, she was on a mission with me last month.

BKJ

Then why haven't you come to see the baby yet? It's been almost a year. You know there's a man under that mask, you are not Batman. The real Bruce is gone. You're just an old man in a costume pretending he is fighting the good fight. When really he's just using it as an excuse to hide from his family.

BRUCE

Did you decide on a name yet?

BKJ sits on the ledge and stares off into the city.

BKJ

Of course.

BRUCE

Are you going to tell me?

BKJ

I'll tell my Dad. Batman doesn't need to know my son's name.

Bruce sits down next to his son on the ledge, he peels back his cowl and reaches into his utility belt. Batman pulls out some chocolate and splits it in half.

BKJ

You know, I only let Tatsu name Kimiyo because I was holding out right?

BRUCE

You didn't have to...

BKJ

I wanted to. It's a strong name, and I think it's cool. Bruce Kent, the third. Not that anybody else will get it.

BRUCE

We will.

BKJ

I am sure he would like to meet the man he's named after.

BRUCE

I'll try to... I will come by, I promise. Are you going to get mad if I call him Zory?

BKJ

Like Grandma used to call me?

BRUCE

And me. She always said I looked like her uncle. Clarks father... Kara was the one who took me here. She said it was her favorite place, that when she was here, she didn't miss Krypton so much.

BKJ

Grandpa J. hated Metropolis.

BRUCE

Your grandfather was born and raised in Gotham, it was in his blood. It's in yours too. Never forget that.

BKJ

Alright, go ahead. Tell me about it, what's developing now in the grand Luthor conspiracy?

BRUCE

Look through the file. Take the kids somewhere safe. I have a bad feeling we're about to walk into a trap and there's nothing we can do to stop it.

BKJ

The kids are at Max's, there's nowhere safer.

BRUCE

Hmmm. I better get going.

BKJ

He's on our side. You seem to be the only one that can't see that.

BRUCE

Take care of yourself, Junior. And my Grandkids. Read the file, and if you change your mind we'll be... Uh, somewhere in Nevada.

BKJ

You know I can't go with you.

BRUCE

Need someone to sign your permission slip.

BKJ

Tatsu already made that joke tonight.

BRUCE

She got it from me.

BKJ

Yeah... Have you heard from Mom?

BRUCE

I don't think she's coming back this time. She loves you, and she misses us everyday.

BKJ

I know, Dad. I know...

BRUCE

I heard you landed the final blow on Parallax?

BKJ

Yeah. I mean, it was the whole team.

BRUCE

Still that must have felt pretty fucking cool.

BKJ

It did. But, that week in space is one I won't be getting back, I missed BK-Three's first unassisted sit. I've been told it's a bigger deal than it sounds.

BRUCE

I never wanted this life for you. For us... But, when Jason died. The world still needed a Batman. That's why I put on the cowl. However, I am starting to think the world might not need a Batman anymore. But, it does need a Superman. Don't ignore them, the voices, I mean. The people, good and bad. The more you tune them out the easier it gets.

BKJ

Hey, you hungry?

BRUCE

Martha saved me some leftovers in the fridge.

BKJ

Come on, you could use a hot meal. You're starting to look a little gaunt.

BRUCE

The donut shop on 3rd is always open. You could tell me a little more about this unassisted sit?

Bruce smiles at his son.

CUT TO:

INT. OBLIVION BAR - 3:30AM

Jim Rook is closing down the bar, most of everybody has left, Zuggernaut is passed out in a booth. Jackson and Ryan are sitting at the bar, with Cassie next to them but her head laid on the bar, asleep or just too drunk to move.

RYAND'R

Alright, Sleeping Beauty, it's time to go home. Can you walk?

CASSIE

Can you carry me?

JACKSON

Let her sleep it off, Jim can take care of her. Have I told you how beautiful Atlantis is this time of year?

RYAND'R

Atlantis is wet and cold the whole year. Besides, I don't really like holding my breath, Jacky-Boy.

JACKSON

You know we've got an elaborate system of bubbles- I don't have any gills do I?

Cassie keeps leaning and almost falls before Ryan catches her.

RYAND'R

I don't know, I haven't really checked... Everywhere. Let's do brunch tomorrow, or today, but later. Maybe you can convince me then?

CASSIE

Brunch? Are we getting food?

JACKSON

You are. Get her something to eat, and call me when you get home.

RYAND'R

I probably won't.

Ryan slings Cassie over her shoulder, before Jackson can lean over and kiss her. They walk through one of the many doors and it leads them straight to their apartment.

CUT TO:

INT. CASSIE AND RYAN'S APARTMENT - 3:30AM

Ryan sets Cassie back down on the couch and goes to the kitchen to fill up a glass of water.

CASSIE

Why didn't you tell me about you and Jackson?

RYAND'R

It's nothing, he is the future king of Atlantis, he's looking for a queen not a badass alien bitch, like myself. Now, it's time to order some food, you still hungry?

CASSIE

No. But, I want tacos. How do you drink so much, do Tamaranians not digest alcohol?

Cassie wanders around the apartment and stares at a vintage poster of themselves on the wall as kids, the last Titans Team: (Cassie Sandsmark (Wonder Girl), Jackson Hyde (Aqualad), BKJ (Superboy), Bart Allen (Kid Flash), Ryand'r Harper-Reyes (Arsenal), Garth Grayson (Nightwing)).

RYAND'R

Actually, I think that's the Reyes side of the family. Besides, my whole lineage is heroes. I kinda want to settle down with a normal guy. Like someone that does marketing or helps you with your taxes, maybe an actor?

CASSIE

You know I thought there was a chance that he, that we might find him out there, somewhere.

RYAND'R

It's a big universe. Besides, he doesn't want to be found, Cassie.

Ryan picks up the phone and calls a place, speaking Spanish on the phone. As she walks into her room, she flies back out. She was just punched across the apartment.

CASSIE

Tacos aren't that fast. Ryan? Who's here?

RYAND'R

Time to sober up Cassie, looks like someones trying to crash the afterparty.

BLACKFIRE (Exiled Tamaran Princess) and TALIA (Head of the Demon, daughter of Ra's Al Ghul) walk out of Ryan's room. Blackfire has green glowing fists and she shoots a blast of energy at Ryan who barely dodges it.

TALIA

They must have lost our invites in the mail.

RYAND'R

Auntie? What brings you halfway across the galaxy?

BLACKFIRE

Traitor to Tamaran. Half-breed child, I am here to kill you. The royal bloodline must be kept pure-

Cassie launches the couch across the apartment and knocks Blackfire back into the other room. Then she leans over and throws up, twice.

CASSIE

Sorry, okay. Let's kick some crazy bitch ass. Get over her Talia Al-

CASSIE (cont.)

Hrugh! Alright, I think that's it.  
I'm ready.

The four women start mercilessly beating the shit out of each other in the apartment. Talia is trying to shoot them, and manages to hit Ryan in the leg. Though Cassie and Ryan appear to hold their own, quite well.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLS OF ATLANTIS - 4:00AM

Jackson is walking through the ostentatious Halls of Atlantis back to his personal bedroom. He is whistling show tunes on his way there, and when he opens his door, he stops as he notices someone standing in the shadows.

JACKSON

Etrigan? I mean, Mr Blood? What are you doing in my home? I know I can be a friendly guy but I am like that with everyone. And I am sort of seeing someone, actually.

Etrigan starts to walk around the room, still skulking in the shadows, as Jackson unassumingly starts to get changed. ECLIPSO (dark magic sorcerer) is hiding in the corner or the ceiling watching Jackson.

JACKSON

We're not doing labels yet, er, yeah. It's complicated, in a good way. So, what does Bats want?

ECLIPSO

Your head on a spike!

Eclipso's voice can be heard but he can't be seen. Instantly Jackson becomes hyper aware of his surroundings and just manages to dodge a blast of hellfire from Etrigan. Though more is coming, and the whole room is set ablaze.

JACKSON

Oh fuck! Well tonight just got interesting. Nothing like kicking some teeth in to finish a night



JACKSON (cont.)

out. Etrigan, what's goin on? Mind control? Blackmail? Brain worm?

Jackson then gets entrapped by some sort of rune inscribed on the floor beneath him, mystical chains enveloping his arms and legs.

JACKSON

Jason, what are you doing? Stop!  
No! Help! Someone, help me!

He can't escape, and Etrigan begins to burn him alive while he screams.

CUT TO:

INT. WAYNE MANOR - 4:00AM

Virgil and Martha are asleep in bed, everything is incredibly quiet and still. Only Virgil's snoring can be heard. Though a slight ticking sound begins to increase in volume, Martha's eyes open wide.

She jumps out of bed and throws her husband out of a window as an explosion begins to destroy their bedroom. Virgil is unaware, and probably still asleep, as she moves at superhuman speeds. With one incredibly fast and powerful leap, she busts through several walls into her child's room.

The fire and blast of the explosion appears to move in slow motion as she gently picks up baby Jon Jon. With a quick crouch she springs upward, narrowly escaping the explosion as it engulfs the entirety of Wayne Manor.

Martha holds her crying baby as time returns to normal and she looks over the scene from the sky. Then she spots her husband in some bushes nearby. She flies to his side, being sure to land gently and not scare Jon Jon any further.

MARTHA

Virgil! Are you okay?

VIRGIL

Just a dislocated shoulder. Now please tell me there is a

VIRGIL (cont.)  
completely reasonable explanation  
for our house exploding.

MARTHA  
There was some sort of pipe bomb.  
Very low tech, this definitely  
wasn't an amateur, or at least  
they're trying to make it look  
that way. Sorry about the  
shoulder, I didn't have time.

Virgil pops his shoulder back into place with a grunt and a  
wince.

VIRGIL  
You got Jonathan out, that's all  
that matters.

MARTHA  
Bruce? Bruce, come in. Wayne Manor  
has been attacked. Someones been  
going through your diary. Get back  
to me as soon as you receive this  
message... Our comms are offline.

VIRGIL  
Well, the babysitter isn't going  
to be happy about this.

Martha and Virgil watch as their home succumbs to the  
whipping flames and the structure begins to collapse on  
itself.

CUT TO:

INT. ALLEN HOUSEHOLD - 4:00AM

Bart Allen is sneaking out of bed to grab some food from  
the fridge. Valeria rolls over and doesn't notice him  
leaving. He opens the fridge door and starts grabbing  
pretty much everything, when the lights go out. (flash from  
the fridge, too bright?)

BART  
Huh, that's weird?

Bart tries to switch on some lights, and then he hears footsteps behind him. Bart immediately goes to a fighting stance, and starts running all over his house.

BART

Who's there? Valerie! Get out of the house.

HAVOK

She can't hear you, Mr Allen. It doesn't matter how fast you are if you can't see what you're supposed to be fighting.

An armored hand grabs Bart and throws him into a wall, a net immediately launches and as he tries to run away it fully envelops him. Bart is ensnared by the net in the fetal position as it starts to tighten and burn him.

BART

How do you know who I am? What do you want!?

MONGUL (intergalactic warlord) steps out of the shadows with a man in a power armor suit, HAVOK. They watch as the Transuranic Net begins to melt into his flesh. He screams in pain. Havok squats down next to him.

HAVOK

Don't try to vibrate your way through that. It's made up of transuranium elements, each cord is decaying at an extremely fast rate, because the density is constantly shifting; you can't move through it without cutting yourself into pieces.

BART

Then these elements will disintegrate in less than an hour! Once I get out of this-

Havok turns a dial and the net tightens, Bart screams.

HAVOK

Oh, I'll only need a minute,  
Bartholomew. You see you're going  
to spread the good word for me,  
you're going to be my little  
Mockingbird.

Mongul stands by his side as Havok takes off his mask and stares into Bart Allen's eyes. The net burns through his skin and gives him radiation poisoning, as he desperately tries to escape.

FADE OUT:

REQUEST TO READ THE NEXT TWO EPISODES