You have learned much since we began your training...

THAP-

...yet in truth, the more you know, the less you understand.

It is not the accumulation of knowledge, but the realization of the self that marks the true power of the warrior.

Until you know your self, you will not know Jujitsu.

More important, remember to keep your eyes open. Here endeth the lesson.

WHUD

Unnghh...!
SIR, WE'VE LOST THE NANITE TELEMETRY.

BUT BEFORE IT CUT OUT, LIFE SIGNS HAD DROPPED TO ZERO.

SUPERMAN IS DOWN.

OH... HOW DISAPPOINTING.

SIR...?

I WAS HOPING TO MAKE HIM SUFFER FIRST. BRING ME THE BODY.

I'LL SHOW THE PEOPLE THE TRUTH ABOUT THE SPACE MONSTER THAT'S BEEN HIDING AMONG THEM.
WHERE... WHERE... AM I?!

SHHH...

YOU'RE SAFE...

YOU'RE IN THE BLOCK.

DR. VERITAS...!

PLEASE, CALL ME SHAY.

SHAY, KEEP BACK...!

I APPRECIATE YOU'RE ONLY TRYING TO HELP, BUT I'M NOT SAFE TO BE AROUND RIGHT NOW!

MY HAND IS CARRYING SOME KIND OF ALIEN INFECTION!

NOT ANYMORE. YOUR SUPER-IMMUNE SYSTEM THREW IT OFF, THOUGH NOT WITHOUT CONSEQUENCES.

BUT WE'LL COME TO THAT. HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
TELEPORT. IT SEEMED EXPEDIENT, GIVEN THE POTENTIAL RISK OF TRANSMISSION. FORTUNATELY I’D BEEN OBSERVING YOU SINCE YOU SAVED THIS COMPLEX FROM THE STREAM OF ETERNAL MAELSTROMS...

... AND I’M ALWAYS HAPPY TO RETURN A FAVOR.

LAST THING I REMEMBER, I WAS FALLING TOWARDS METROPOLIS. MY HAND STARTED TO...

MUTATE...

I COULD FEEL ITS RAGE, ITS HATE...

HOW DID I END UP HERE?

YOU UNDRESSED ME...?

NOTHING I HAVEN'T SEEN BEFORE. I'M A DOCTOR.
IS THE REDUCED STRENGTH
WHAT YOU MEANT BY
CONSEQUENCES?

PARTLY THAT...

...AND PARTLY
THIS.

MY GOD! WHAT IS
IT...?

IT'S YOU.
This is what remains of the viral agent that infected your hand. It hijacked your skin cells, mutating them.

I think you should pull your people out of there until we have a better idea of what we're dealing with.

**Science is how we find out what we're dealing with.**

Don't worry, cellular activity ceased after your super-immune system rejected the modified tissue...

I saw it. In the palm of my hand, it started out tiny, no bigger than a single cell.

Perhaps a virus native to your home planet...?

I've never heard of anything like this.

We'd know more if only we could analyze its genetic structure.

Unfortunately its cells have proved just as impervious as your own, resistant to invasive techniques...

Would you like me to take a closer look?

I was hoping you'd say that...
Looks like it's somehow combined my Kryptonian DNA with its own...

That's my conclusion as well, Superman. It seems to have created a new life form using you as its power source.

It looks to have adapted itself on a cellular level—like a virus.

But instead of your healthy cells fending off the attack, it seems they were tricked into morphing together, creating some sort of—

Hybrid.

Now we need to make sure that—

Kraknh!
YOU WERE SAVINGS, VERITAS? I THINK IT WANTED YOU TO DO THAT.
YOU MEAN DESTROY IT?

NEED TO SHUT THIS DOWN. NOW.

WHOOP—IT'S STRONG...

AND GROWING!

SUPERMAN, DON'T!

VOUR MEAN PESTROV IT?

NO, I THINK IT'S ACTUALLY FEEDING OFF YOUR—

HAAHSSSSS!

IT'S AS FAST AS ME, ANYWAY.

KRA-KUH-KOOM
I'M OKAY, SUPERMAN, AN MV HOLDBARRIER SUIT PROTECTS ME FROM INJURY. BUT NOT FROM FEELINGS RUN OVER.

ARGH! I'M ALL EARS, DOCTOR...

I HAVE A PLAN I THINK MIGHT WORK!

I NEED TO SEND IT AWAY, BUT YOU NEED TO GET OUT OF ITS GRASP FIRST!

I DON'T HAVE MUCH OF A...

NOT HAPPENING!

THEN YOU HAVE TO TRUST ME.
VERITAS?
WHERE AM I?
THE RED LIGHTS...
GRARRRRNN...

THEY MIMIC THE RED SUN'S
GLARE.

YOU'RE IN THE
BIO-LAB QUARANTINE
CHAMBER. THAT THING
SEEMS TO FEED OFF
YOUR ENERGY. IN THE
PROCESS, IT'S INHERITING
YOUR STRENGTHS.

WHICH MEANS IT JUST MIGHT
ALSO INHERIT YOUR
WEAKNESSES...

I THINK IT'S WORKING.

IT'S INJURED... MOVING SLOW...

...SEEMS... WEAK. BUT...

...SO AM I...

DOC?
CUT THE LIGHTS...

BUT IT'S WORKING.
CAN YOU STAND IT A LITTLE
LONGER?

HEEEEEEEE! SSSSSUIIPERRRR--
MMMMAAAANN...

YOUR TURN TO TRUST ME
NOW. CUT THE LIGHTS!
...red sun lights dimmed.

Look at usss, we are one....

H H H H H H H H H H

CRK CRK

H H H H H H

CRK CRK

CRK CRK

Like hell we are!

KRAKADOOM
SUPERMAN! I'M SENDING MY TEAM DOWN FOR YOU NOW. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

JUST DANDY, DOCTOR.
SOME THING STRANGE IS HAPPENING, SHAY. WHILE I WAS DOWN THERE WITH IT, I SAW... MYSELF.

AND YESTERDAY, IT WAS JIMMY OLSEN, WHO WORKS FOR THE DAILY PLANET. I'M SEEING THINGS THAT AREN'T REAL...

THE VIRUS LIKELY SICKENED YOU MORE THAN JUST PHYSICALLY. YOU'VE NEVER SUFFERED DELUSIONS BEFORE?

WHAT IF THIS VIRUS HAS BEEN DORMANT IN ME ALL ALONG?

WHAT IF IT MUTATES AND BECOMES HARMFUL TO THE PUBLIC? I CAN'T ALLOW MYSELF TO STAY HERE IF I RISK HARMING THE PEOPLE I WANT TO PROTECT.

SUPERMAN, IT GAVE YOU A BEATING—YOU CAN HARDLY STAND AND YOUR BODY TEMPERATURE IS TWICE YOUR NORMAL... BUT YOU WON.

WE KNOW ITS WEAKNESS, EVEN IF THE WORST CASE EVER HAPPENS.

NOT THIS REAL. WHERE IS THE HYBRID NOW?

I TELEPORTED IT INTO A GALAXY WITH A RED SUN. I'VE ALSO THEORIZED THAT THE ORGANISM NEEDED OXYGEN TO ACT AS A BINDER TO REPRODUCE ITS CELLS--THAT'S POSSIBLY WHY YOUR TURNING IT TO ICE STOPPED IT IN ITS TRACKS.

DR. VERITAS! THE NEWS FEED IN METROPOLIS—YOU BETTER TAKE A LOOK!

LOOKS LIKE THE WORSE CASE IS HERE.
--As we reported moments ago, it's literally like a scene out of a horror movie, where ordinary people have turned into--monsters, for lack of a better descr--

RUN, RUN! MOVE!

Mr. Luthor? May I express my concern over your strategy?

Concern? How can you be concerned, Aria?!

We may have to get to safer ground. Sorry if we lose video for a--

It has been reported that Superman is in Metropolis.

He beat the virus. Defeated or not, I'm sure it gave Superman a run for his money, which suits my current stratagem just fine.

Besides, you can't express concern. You're just my robot! Now excuse me while I return to the show outside.
WHERE ON EARTH IS OUR SUPPORT? WHERE ARE THE POLICE?!

NOT HERE NOW. THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS TO ME. JUST STAY BEHIND ME WHILE I--

GOOD. NOW THAT I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION...

WAIT... IT'S A MIRACLE... THEY'RE-- THEY'RE TURNING AND WALKING AWAY!

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?! SUPERMAN'S BACK!

NO!

NO!

HHHSSSSS!
I'll try to do this as peacefully as possible.

But first, separate them. They might spread the contagion to...

It would kill them if they turned infected. Whatever I exposed them to...

Infected by whatever I exposed them to...

The fall to the underground infrastructure is about twenty feet.
As you predicted, Mr. Luthor, Superman is as attracted to the Hybrid as it is to him.

I was wrong. The correct emotion would have been faith.

Oh, yes. Have faith, darling.
AND WATCH AS LEX LUTHOR SAVES METROPOLIS FROM THE ALIEN MENACE THEY CALL SUPERMAN...
Deep below the tumultuous seas, the youngest member of Krypton’s Science Council stares at something so immense and awe-inspiring, he can scarcely find the words to describe it.

Jor-El?! Say something.

I thought you were crazy when you said it existed.

Not crazy, Lar. Instinct, a fixed action pattern that has a clear beginning, middle and end.
THE SCIENCE COUNCIL HAS CALLED AN EMERGENCY MEETING.

AS I'VE BEEN TELLING YOU, YOUR VOTE IS ESSENTIAL TO AMEND THE CURRENT EXPLORATORY BUDGET.

IT'S SUPPOSED TO START IN TEN MINUTES AND YOU'VE DROPPED OFF THE LOCATION AGAIN.

SORRY, KRA-IL. ARE YOU SEEING THIS?

IF SO, THE EXPLORATORY BUDGET WILL BE THE LAST THING ON THE AGENDA.

IT'S EVEN MORE MAGNIFICENT THAN YOU DESCRIBED!

THE ANCIENT UNDERWATER CITY OF KAN. THEN ALWAYS TALKED ABOUT IT LIKE IT WAS JUST A FAIRY TALE—IT HERE IT IS, ZORA.

THIS DISCOVERY COULD SHATTER EVERYTHING WE KNOW ABOUT PRE-KRYPTONIAN LIFE. IT COULD UNEST AN ENTIRE NEW AGE OF DISCOVERY.

I'M NOT SO SURE THAT'S A GOOD THING.

AMAZING.

THANKS FOR COMING, JOR-EL!

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I'M NOT SO SURE THAT'S A GOOD THING.
I don't see anything. What are you talking about?

Is this some kind of joke?

Tellons, Kra-hu.

Tellons, Kra-hu.

How can it be? Tellons have been extinct for centuries.

Everybody stay still. I don't want to spook them.

Those teeth don't look extinct to me.

My apologies to the Science Council, Kra-hu.
"BUT I WILL BE RUNNING LATE."

PAMN
BOV.
UNBELIEVABLE.
WE SWEAR ALLEGIANCE TO KRYPTON AND VOW TO PROTECT THE LIVES OF ALL SCIENCE COUNCIL MEMBERS AND HALF THE TIME JOR-EL DOESN'T EVEN BOTHER TO SHOW UP.

JL
LARA
LOR-VAN. I THINK THOU DOST PROTEST TOO MUCH.
A place where many great discoveries have been presented, discussed and debated. It's the cornerstone of Krypton's advanced civilization.

"Would you rather be engaged to a gun like him than some old broken-down war horse like me?"

"Sometimes I wonder..."

"Even a broken-down war horse comes when you call it..."

"Move aside, Cadet!"

"Lara Lor-Van, Colonel."

"Pay attention then, Lor-Van, you might learn something."
FOR KRYPTON!

Next:
SIEGE ON THE SCIENCE COUNCIL!
WE’LL GET TO THOSE STORIES IN A MOMENT, BUT FIRST WE’RE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR MORE TROUBLE IN CORAL CITY!


I’M BETHANY SHOW FOR CHANNEL 52 NEWS!

WE’LL GET TO THOSE STORIES IN A MOMENT, BUT FIRST WE’RE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR MORE TROUBLE IN CORAL CITY!

AN AWARDS SHOW SHOCKER! SUPER-POWERED FASHION IN A FLASH AND MUCH MORE!

BETHANY SHOW...52 ANCHOR

Coral City has been in the headlines for all the wrong reasons lately, and the situation seems to be unsalvageable at this point.

The fragile relationship between the citizens and the Coral City Police Department has become openly hostile as the group known only as the Movement captured video footage of two CCPD officers assaulting two unidentified minors.

The Movement has been increasingly active in Coral City, suggesting that their numbers continue to grow despite law enforcement’s concerns that several super-powered individuals are involved in the organization.

The bodies of several homeless people, discovered with their eyes missing, appears to be the work of an active serial killer in Coral City.

A spokesperson for the CCPD refused to acknowledge similarities in these cases, claiming that the city was awaiting a detailed report from the FBI before making any declarations.

And now, let’s turn to our entertainment reporter to get the latest on a story that’s taking the entertainment industry by storm!

Thank you, Bethany.

It’s being called one of the most shocking twists in Hollywood history, but it’s not part of any summer blockbuster!

A spokesperson for the actor Buddy Baker refused to acknowledge similarities in the cases, claiming that the city was awaiting a detailed report from the FBI before making any declarations.

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Calendar Man...

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Calendar Man...

Calendar Man...
IS THE PUBLIC’S FASCINATION WITH THE COSTUME-SET ENCROACHING ON OTHER ASPECTS OF POPULAR CULTURE...?

...OR IS BUDDY REALLY THAT DESERVING?

WITH A PERFORMANCE THAT HAS LEFT EVERYONE SCRAMBLING TO FIND COPIES OF “TIGHTS” IN ORDER TO JUDGE FOR THEMSELVES, THE QUESTION NOW BECOMES, “CAN HE WIN?”

IT SEEMS ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE, BUT CONSIDERING BUDDY’S ERRATIC BEHAVIOR AND FREQUENT RUNINS WITH THE PAPARACCI SINCE BEING NOMINATED...IT MAY BE BEST IF BAKER’S FIFTEEN MINUTES OF FAME WERE TO EXPIRE ASAP!

THANK YOU, CALENDAR MAN.

I’M SUPPOSED TO SEE TIGHTS THIS WEEKEND.

CAN’T WAIT!

CHANNEL 52’S VARTOX IS OUT ON ASSIGNMENT THIS WEEK, BUT I’M SURE HE’LL BE SORRY TO HAVE MISSED OUR NEXT SEGMENT ON TRENDS IN COSTUME CHANGES!

I KNOW...WE ALL KNOW...THAT HE’S A BIG FAN OF POWER GIRL, AND WE HEAR SHE HAS A NEW LOOK. I’M SURE IT’S NOTHING TOO PROVOCATIVE, THOUGH.

CALENDAR MAN HAS MORE ON WHO’S WEARING WHAT.

THAT’S ONE WAY TO PUT IT, BETHANY.

AS IF BEING ABLE TO FLY WEREN’T A BIG ENOUGH THRILL FOR SOME OF THESE PEOPLE...

WISH WE COULD FIND OUT WHICH DESIGNERS THEY PREFER!

WE’LL BE RIGHT BACK WITH A PANEL OF LEGAL EXPERTS TO DISCUSS OUR RECENT “SPECULATION” ON CHICAGO’S POLICY OF ZERO TOLERANCE FOR COSTUMED VILLAGERS.

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