I've defeated death gods, tamed sun eaters, and subdued monsters...

...but when you're seven miles underground at the doorstep of a secret civilization...

...and the insanely super-powered warrior you've just been fighting turns around and shills...

...troubles uplanders!

You've broken the seals to imperial subterranea--

--and awakened the most terrifying threat our worlds have ever seen!

...the hairs on the back of your neck tend to stand up a little...

EEEEEEEEEEEE!
I hear Lana's breath catch. She's trying very hard...

...not to laugh.

This is how she used to set me in trouble in Mrs. Takahara's 5th grade English class.

But we're in the middle of first contact with an ancient, lost culture here...

So I draw on all my superhuman abilities...

...and keep a straight face.

Ukur, how long since you've been down to this level? A few hundred years...

I think.

They're smaller than I remembered.

Eep!

I once made Clark laugh so hard that milk shot out of his nose and broke his mom's new kitchen table.


I'm gonna... Check out those light globes. Yeah. Good idea.
THAT'S OUR SUPERMAN. MAKING FRIENDS WITH EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING.

BUT AS THE HEAT OF THE ORB BRINGS DROPS OF SWEAT TO MY FACE...

...I CAN'T KEEP JOKING.

I'M AN ELECTRICAL ENGINEER, NOT PRONE TO EXCESSIVE SENTIMENT.

BUT I THINK...I MIGHT ACTUALLY BE ABOUT TO CRY.

IT'S JUST... FLOATING THERE, RIGHT?

HER VOICE GETS ALL THROATY, NOT LAUGHING NOW.

RAF\NATION? HARMFUL EMISSIONS?

NO, NOTHING.

JUST LIGHT AND WARMTH.

I CAN BARELY TALK.

YOU REALIZE THAT ACCORDING TO THE LAWS OF THERMODYNAMICS, THIS THING SHOULDN'T EXIST, RIGHT?

CLARK'S PROBABLY USED TO THE FEELING...

...BUT THIS IS MY FIRST TASTE OF KNOWING...

...WE'RE ABOUT TO SAVE THE WORLD.

IMAGINE THIS KIND OF CLEAN ENERGY REPLACING EVERY REFINERY ON THE PLANET.

YOU REALIZE THAT ACCORDING TO THE LAWS OF THERMODYNAMICS, THIS THING SHOULDN'T EXIST, RIGHT?

TALK TO UKR, LITTLE MONSTER. TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED DOWN HERE WHILE I WAS AWAY.

EEP!

EHP!

EHP!

EHP!

EHP!

EHP!
Hello, Your Highness. My name is—

Ah, your... Highness. My name is—

Ah... Hello, your... Highness. My name is—


Ah, Queen Kokya. Your slave is... Hovering.

Wow. Okay.

Matriarchy. Huh? I can dig it.

The scouts heard them speak English, Your Highness.

Ah, let's try this again...

...I am Kokya, Queen of Subterranea!

And I give you thanks for breaking the seal that has trapped my people for so many ages!
GREAT KOKVA!
YOUR MOTHER'S MOTHER'S SERVANT UKUR PAYS YOU HOMAGE AND BIDS YOUR FORGIVENESS!
IT WAS I WHO SEALED YOU BELOW! THEY TOLD ME THE QUEEN WAS DEAD!
THAT THE MONSTERS WHO KILLED HER HAD TO BE CONTAINED!

WE WERE BETRAYED.
NOW CLEAN UP THIS MESS AND PUT THE BEASTS IN THE STABLES.
IT WAS I WHO SEALED YOU BELOW! THEY TOLD ME THE QUEEN WAS DEAD!
THAT THE MONSTERS WHO KILLED HER HAD TO BE CONTAINED!

QUEEN OF THE UPLANDS!
COME TO THE CASTLE, WHERE WE CAN GIVE YOU OUR PROPER THANKS AND DISCUSS OUR FUTURE.
IS THIS ONE YOUR CONSORT?
BRING HIM, IF YOU LIKE.

CONSORT?
UH, ACTUALLY, HE'S JUST A...

FRIEND?
...SLAVE.

CUTE.

OOOKAH...

YEAH, ANYWAY.
EVERY SINGLE THING I SEE DOWN HERE BLOWS MY MIND.

BUT IT'S THE DOZENS OF FLOATING ENERGY ORBS THAT KEEP MY HEART HAMMERING OUT THIS CRAZY SKA BEAT.

WE'RE GOING TO DO THIS, CLARK.

WE'RE REALLY GOING TO DO THIS.

GHOST SOLDIER, THIS IS TOWER COMMAND.

WE'VE LOST YOUR VIP FEED. WHAT ARE YOU SEEING?

A WHOLE CIVILIZATION, TOWER COMMAND...
...Probably thousands of years old, judging by the stone work...

Whatever you do, do not let Superman establish first contact!

Little too late for that.

But if it's any consolation, the Queen's only speaking to Lang.

LanalaN? Actually, it's Lana Lang, two separate...

Yes, LanalaN.

Yeeeah.

And Lang's after the energy orbs, correct?

Yes, they're generating incredible...

We know, we're getting the readouts.

Any clue regarding the origin of the energy?

No solid evidence yet.

But nothing comes for free.
"LANALANG..."

YEAH, SHUT UP.

SO, WHAT'S THE PLAN, "BOSS"?

WELL, IF THAT BED WERE A LITTLE BIGGER, I'D TAKE A NAP.

HEH.

ENJOY YOURSELF, LANALANG.

RIGHT, THANKS.

WE'LL FEAST IN AN HOUR.

HONESTLY, I DON'T KNOW THE PROTOCOL. I'VE NEVER BEEN A QUEEN BEFORE.

BUT IF THIS KOKYA WANTS TO THANK US, I'M GETTING ONE OF THOSE ORBS.

HEV, IS THIS WATER SAFE?

NO PARASITES OR IMPURITIES. I DON'T THINK THEY'RE TRYING TO POISON US.

SWEET, TURN YOUR BACK.

HUMAN.

BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT THIS.

CLARK—YOU'RE BLEEDING!

YEAH. YOU WERE THERE. REMEMBER? THE GHOST SOLDIER PHASED A KNIFE INTO MY CHEST.

BUT THAT... I DIDN'T KNOW... ACTUALLY SPLIT THE MOLECULES IN HALF.

EVEN SHORT, CIRCULATED MY ARMOR. SOMEHOW...

WHAT? I'M ONLY HUMAN.

NOT EVERY DAY YOU GET TO EYESBALL THE WORLD'S FINEST.

YOU, TOO.

HA.
COME ON, CLARK. OBVIOUSLY, I GET THAT.

BUT YOU GOT ALL SNEAKY.

THAT'S WEIRD.

YOU'RE NOT SNEAKY, CLARK.

I'M NOT WORRIED, CLARK, I'M ANNOVED.

OH, RIGHT.

YOU LIED TO ME.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

YOU WISH I HAD?

THAT'S NOT THE POINT!

I DON'T SEE WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN SAVING THE LIFE OF AN INNOCENT--

BUT NOT WITH ME, CLARK.

I'M STILL FIGURING YOU OUT, CLARK...

...BUT I WOULDN'T TRUST ANYONE MORE...

I'M NOT WORRIED, CLARK, I'M ANNOVED.

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...BUT I WOULDN'T TRUST ANYONE MORE...
...When there's a job for Superman.

Lana, that energy. Which way is it traveling?

Yeah, God. They're... they're draining the little guy...

A million warning bells start clanging in my head.

Bruce would say watch, wait.
SORRY, SUPERMAN.

...NOT today.

GAH!

...NOT TODAY.

GHOST SOLDIER!

WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS!

THEY'RE MURDERERS!

TO HELL WITH THAT.

THIS TIME HE'S TURNING ME INTEGIBLE...

PHASING US RIGHT THROUGH THE BUILDING!
YOU DON'T THINK I KNOW THAT?

THEN WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

YOU'LL REGAIN YOUR CORPOREAL STATE IN A FEW SECONDS. FOR NOW, JUST LISTEN.

GHOST SOLDIER, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? FINISH HIM!

SUPERMAN...

GHOST SOLDIER! DO NOT—REPEAT—DO NOT REMOVE YOUR...

...MY NAME IS LEONARD SAUNER. MAHICAN NATION. STOCKBRIDGE, WISCONSIN...

...I'VE BEEN A SOLDIER FOR A LONG TIME... AND I'VE SEEN A THOUSAND THINGS WORSE THAN THIS.

I'M NOT SAYING I LIKE IT...

...BUT YOU AND I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO START AN INCIDENT HERE. NOT BEFORE WE KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THESE PEOPLE. WE HAVE TO THINK ABOUT EVERYONE—SEVEN MILES ABOVE US. MILLIONS OF CIVILIANS WHO...

EEEEEEEEE!

HE'S RIGHT, OF COURSE.

YOU CAN'T PREDICT THE OUTCOME OF EVERY ACTION.

YOU CAN'T STOP EVERY INJUSTICE SIMULTANEOUSLY.
I won't lie. That felt good.

But now...
I GET A GOOD LOOK AT THE CONSEQUENCES.

I HAVE A SUDDEN HORRIBLE VISION OF AN ARMY OF THESE STONE AUTOMATONS CLAWING THEIR WAY TO THE SURFACE.

EVEN IF JUST ONE OF THEM MADE IT...

...HOW MANY PEOPLE COULD IT KILL?

HOW MANY INNOCENTS WOULD DIE?

EEEP!

EEEEEEEEP!

EEP!

EEEEEEEEEE!
BUT I'M NOT ALONE IN THIS FIGHT.
HAPPY TO HAVE YOU WITH US, LEONARD.
DIDN'T HAVE MUCH OF A CHOICE...
...NOW THAT YOU'VE STARTED A WAR OVER A BUNCH OF MONKEYS.

THEY ACTUALLY LOOK A LITTLE MORE LIKE LEMURS TO ME.
NOT THE BEST COMEBACK.

BUT HE'S NOT MUCH FOR REPARTEE, ANYWAY.
FINE WITH ME.

I'VE GOT ENOUGH ON MY HANES AT THE MOMENT.

AND THEN...

...THOSE PESKY CONSEQUENCES...

...START PILING UP.
THE ORBS!
STOP SMASHING THE ORBS!

AGREED.
THEY'RE TOO PRECIOUS TO LOSE IN A STUPID FIGHT LIKE THIS.

LET'S MAKE A DEAL, LANA-LANG.

GIVE ME YOUR SLAVE, THE BLUE ONE.

His LIFE FORCE WILL MORE THAN COMPENSATE FOR THE LITTLE MONSTERS YOU'RE TRYING TO STEAL.

I Gotcha I Gotcha I Gotcha-

HMM, LEMME THINK ABOUT IT.

NAAH.

OH, NO...
Baka! This way!

Good boy! How are you doing, Lana?

See you got another souvenir.

Baka! This way!

You probably don't believe in ghosts, either.

One gives me that look.

You really have to make friends with everyone, don't you?

He gives me that look.

Why not?

I've got to figure this out!

The queen was talking about "life force," like that's what powers 'em—

—but that's ridiculous. There's no such thing.

Let's get out of here!
YOU DID GOOD, BIG BLUE.
YOU, TOO, BIG RED.

ATCHOO!

HEY, THERE, FELLA, ARE YOU--

HAAR!

OH, NO. THE SUN. THEY'RE NOT USED TO THE--

HRARK!

NO!

SPRING!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING??

OOGAAAH!

I MAY BE A GHOST, MS. LANS...

BUT I'M STILL HUMAN...
...and I'll never side with monsters against my species.
CHANNEL 52
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT!

At Channel 52, we pride ourselves on delivering hard-hitting, fact-based news and entertainment.

So when proof of the relationship between Wonder Woman and Superman crashes the news cycle like an alien rocket ship smashing into Earth...

Well...

I may have said some things about how Channel 52 would keep its eye on the real stories and not get into the hyperbole. The writers need to think about the potential for things to go wrong if they turn evil...

Channel 52 would stay the course.

There would be weather and sports coverage. Darn it!

Obviously, that lasted all of two seconds when the entire universe got to ogle Wonder Woman getting to first base with Superman!

We’ve been playing it on a loop in slow motion for hours and our ratings keep going up.

Like I said, Channel 52 always gives the people what they want. So we are officially turning our programming into 24/7 coverage of Superman and Wonder Woman hooking up.

More kissing!
More expert testimonial!
More of your emails and angry phone calls!
Reenactments, speculation, and no mention of how this could possibly go wrong on a global scale. It’s all coming your way...

More kissing because Channel 52 cares!
Very few characters have made an impact on The New 52 quite like the murderess madwoman known as The Joker’s Daughter! From brandishing the real Joker’s face as a mask (eww), to ruling over the most deadly new location in the DCU – The Gotham Underground – everything The Joker’s Daughter has been involved in has been rather extreme, and she’s just getting warmed up! But who is she and what does she want with Gotham City? With this month’s special THE JOKER’S DAUGHTER #1 we’ll be answering those questions and raising new ones as we reveal more than ever before about this fiendish female. You should expect big things out of THE JOKER’S DAUGHTER this year, and this special is a great place to get caught up on everything you need to know!

WHO IS THE JOKER’S DAUGHTER?

DC COMICS

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