

IT IS PARAMOUNT THAT WE RECAPTURE THE REMAINING ESCAPEES FROM STRYKER'S ISLAND IMMEDIATELY. THESE FUGITIVES ARE DANGEROUS--AND DESPERATE.

THE MSCU CANNOT AFFORD A MISSTEP IN THEIR APPREHENSION, SO THAT'S WHY I SHALL BE--



ATOMIC SKULL!

I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND **EVERYONE!** THAT THIS OP IS ON **MY SCHEDULE** AND **MY SCHEDULE ONLY...**



...DESPITE WHICH **DISTINGUISHED GUESTS** MAY BE PRESENT.

YES, CAPTAIN.

YES, CAPTAIN SAMYER.

YES, CAPTAIN.



I MEANT NO HARM, JUST WANTED TO MAKE USE OF THE TIME WHILE WE WERE ALL WAITING FOR YOU.

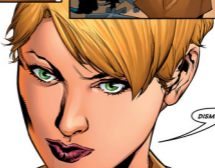


NO DOUBT SKULL HAS FILLED YOU ALL IN ON OUR DIRECTIVE, SO THERE'S NO SENSE IN BEING REPETITIVE.

BUT I WILL ADD THIS...

HAVING "SPECIAL POWERS" DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THE ADVANTAGE. FOR FUGITIVE OR COP.

LET'S NOT FORGET THAT DURING THE MISSION.



DISMISSED!



KANSAS.

LANA FAMILY FARM.

ONE YEAR.

WOULD USED TO BE MY REFUGE FROM EVERYTHING

INCLUDING MY THOUGHTS.

BUT MY MIND HASN'T CLEARED THIS TIME.

THE THOUGHTS REPLAY OVER AND OVER.

I'M DEVASTATED BY THE LOSS OF MY POWERS...

...SO THEN WHY DO I FEEL RELIEVED TO BE HUMAN AGAIN?

EMM.

WHAT IS IT, JOHN?

LOIS CALLED ADAM.

SHE WANTS TO SEE HOW YOU'RE HOLDING UP.

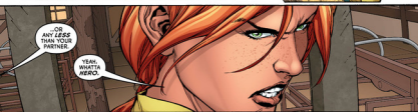
AND NATASHA MADE US A SPECIAL DINNER. IT'S READY. NOW IF YOU--

LOIS CAN WAIT, AND I'M NOT HUNGRY.

LANA, I LOVE YOU.

BUT YOU'VE GOT TO STOP TREATING ME LIKE THIS-- NATASHA, LOIS, EVERYONE.

IT'S BEEN A WEEK. I GET WHAT YOU'RE GOING THROUGH, BUT--





IS IT EVEN POSSIBLE TO FEEL
CONFLICTING EMOTIONS
SIMULTANEOUSLY?

WHY DOES
NOBODY TALK
ABOUT THIS?

OR HAVE I
JUST NOT BEEN
LISTENING?



WE WERE KIDS
THE LAST TIME
WE WERE UP
HERE.

I STILL
LIKE TO COME
UP HERE TO
THINK.



I KNEW JOHN HENRY
WOULD CALL YOU.
HE DOESN'T
UNDERSTAND.

I DON'T
EVEN UNDERSTAND,
REALLY.

TOO MANY
QUESTIONS TO
SORT OUT.



LIKE
WHAT? TALK
TO ME.

SOMETHING IS
MISSING BY NOT
HAVING MY
POWERS.

I GOT SO
USED TO THEM,
USED TO WHAT THEY
MADE ME CAPABLE OF,
AND TO CONTRIBUTING
TO SOMETHING
GOOD...

BUT
THEN...



I ALSO FEEL RELIEVED
OF THE WEIGHT OF
THE WORLD.

OF
RESPONSIBILITY,
OF COURAGE.

IT'S
FREEDOM.



CLARK, I KNOW YOU WANT
ME TO CONTINUE ON, TO
BE SUPERWOMAN, BUT
I CAN'T.