

# **SUPERPOWERED IMPROVISATION!**

**by D. Brent Holland**

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*A Comedic Duet*

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**SYNOPSIS:** Dana and Adam are writing and rehearsing a scene for their theatre class. A disagreement builds into each character vying for greater (and totally impractical) super abilities.

**TIME:** The present.

**SETTING:** A rehearsal space. Literally anywhere a scene could be rehearsed.

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

*(1 male, 1 female)*

DANA (f)..... A high School theatre student who is playing the super hero. Creative and quick witted. (75 lines)

ADAM (m)..... A high school theatre student playing a super villain. Good natured, but very competitive. (76 lines)

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

I have always loved comic books and super heroes and a lot of my work as a playwright and director has centered around this. In this scene, the characters have to think on the fly and create the world around them through giving and taking moments in the scene. Hopefully you have as much fun with this as we did!

**AT START:** *When the lights come up, we see DANA on her back with ADAM standing above her.*

**DANA:** *(Lying on the floor and sitting up.)* Ok... I like that. But then I'll get up and say "That was nice, but how about some of this?" *(Pantomimes punching him three times.)* Then you can jump back and hit the wall.

**ADAM:** The wall back there? *(Indicates.)*

**DANA:** Yeah. You'll have to really sell it, but you're good at that.

**ADAM:** But that wall is way back there.

**DANA:** Do you think it's too far?

**ADAM:** Well, no... it's just that...

**DANA:** What?

**ADAM:** Nothing.

**DANA:** *(Insistent.)* What?

**ADAM:** Is your character really that strong?

**DANA:** What do you mean?

**ADAM:** Is your character really strong enough to knock me all the way back to that wall way back there?

**DANA:** I think so.

**ADAM:** Hmm.

**DANA:** What?

**ADAM:** My character is strong, but I don't envision him being strong enough to do that.

**DANA:** So?

**ADAM:** But you're saying your character can?

**DANA:** Yeah. Why's that an issue?

**ADAM:** It makes your character stronger than mine.

**DANA:** And?

**ADAM:** Well...

**DANA:** Why's that a problem?

**ADAM:** Well, I mean... I'm a lot bigger than you.

**DANA:** I've noticed.

**ADAM:** But you're stronger.

**DANA:** No, my character is stronger.

**ADAM:** Even though I'm bigger and *(Trying to figure out how to say it.)* I'm a...

**DANA:** A guy?

**ADAM:** Yeah!

**DANA:** Why does that matter?

**ADAM:** It just does!

**DANA:** But these are fictional characters!

**ADAM:** But physiology would kinda lean towards me being stronger, right?

**DANA:** But we're super heroes!

**ADAM:** Well, technically I'm a super villain.

**DANA:** You know what I mean!

**ADAM:** I'm not sure I do.

**DANA:** What I'm saying is that since we're super powered, our biology doesn't matter.

**ADAM:** I'm not sure I agree with that.

**DANA:** Why not?

**ADAM:** Well... it's just that...

**DANA:** Take Chris Hemsworth. *(Or any current actor playing a comic book character.)* He's huge! But if he had to go up against Wonder Woman, he'd get his butt kicked.

**ADAM:** The actress that played wonder woman is tiny. Chris Hemsworth would smash her flat.

**DANA:** I'm not talking about the actress! I'm talking about the character!

**ADAM:** Well, in that case, Chris Hemsworth is Thor and Thor would totally stomp a mud hole in Wonder Woman.

**DANA:** No way! Thor can't hang with her at all! She's Superman's equal!

**ADAM:** She can't even fly!

**DANA:** Yes, she can!

**ADAM:** Then why does she have an invisible jet?

**DANA:** What? She hasn't had that in years! Have you ever read a Wonder Woman comic book?

**ADAM:** *(Thinks for a moment.)* No. Have you?

**DANA:** Of course, I have!

**ADAM:** Well, I still think Thor could take out Wonder Woman.

**DANA:** That doesn't even matter! My point is that Chris Hemsworth can't beat her. Even though he's bigger.

**ADAM:** Whatever.

**DANA:** So, you concede the point?

**ADAM:** I can't even remember what the point is.

**DANA:** The point is that physiology doesn't matter when it comes to super heroes!

**ADAM:** I'm not so sure about that.

**DANA:** You have to be able to admit that Wonder Woman can beat some of the male super heroes! How about Green Arrow!

**ADAM:** Maybe...

**DANA:** You can't be serious!

**ADAM:** Green Arrow is really, really smart!

**DANA:** Let's just finish this fight. We're being graded on this.

**ADAM:** Ok, so you slam me into the wall because you're stronger than me. (*Acts this out.*) But then I jump up because I am totally invulnerable to harm.

**DANA:** You can't be totally invulnerable!

**ADAM:** It's my primary superpower.

**DANA:** But you can't be invulnerable to everything! Why would my character even get into a fight with you if you have no weaknesses?

**ADAM:** I guess your character isn't all that smart.

**DANA:** You can't be invulnerable. That isn't fair. You have to have a weakness!

**ADAM:** You don't HAVE to have a weakness.

**DANA:** Superman has Kryptonite... Martian Manhunter has fire... Green Lantern has the color yellow!

**ADAM:** Fine, then... my weakness is to... (*Thinking.*) Uranium.

**DANA:** Uranium?

**ADAM:** That's right.

**DANA:** (*An idea!*) Well, then I use my uranium-based radiation ray to knock you back into that wall. (*Pantomimes rays coming out of her eyes.*)

**ADAM:** You have radiation rays?

**DANA:** I do. I don't use it often because of the damage to the environment. Naturally, you fly back into the wall.

**ADAM:** I guess it's a good thing I'm wearing my lead based super suit!

**DANA:** You're wearing lead-based clothing?

**ADAM:** I sure am. Therefore, your radiation rays are useless.

**DANA:** What about your head? You don't have on a helmet.

**ADAM:** It's an invisible helmet. Made by the people who made Wonder Woman's jet.

*DANA just looks at him.*

**ADAM:** I have connections.

**DANA:** Right.

**ADAM:** And so since your radiation rays bounce harmlessly off of my lead pants and invisible lead helmet, I stalk dangerously close to you. (*Moves in.*)

**DANA:** But I don't look concerned at all!

**ADAM:** And why not?

**DANA:** Because I call up the ancient power of transmutation to turn the lead in your clothing into pure uranium! Invulnerable? I think not!

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