

THE SECRET LIVES OF SUPERHEROES, VOL. 1

By Jon Jory

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ISBN: 978-1-61588-439-1

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DO NOT COPY

THE UNTOLD STORY OF SUPERHEROES AT HOME

By Jon Jory

SYNOPSIS: This superhero family is the picture of perfection. They are hiding their identities, while holding down regular jobs, and only flying around town every-so-often. That is until master villain Dark Star kidnaps Skymaster's children. Will Logan and Vulcan be able to escape? Will Skymaster save his kids? Will Dark Star ever get her Diet Pepsi? This comedic one act has all the action and laughs your audience will ever need.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(5 females, 2 males, 2 extras)

LOGAN (f)..... A young woman in her teens.
(54 lines)

VULCAN (m)..... Logan's brother. *(61 lines)*

GEORGE (m)..... Logan's father. Also Skymaster.
(79 lines)

LOU (f)..... Logan's Mother. *(97 lines)*

DARK STAR (f)..... Supervillain. *(36 lines)*

CELINA (f)..... Logan's friend. *(17 lines)*

LAURA (f)..... Vulcan's girlfriend. *(9 lines)*

EXTRAS:

TWO HENCHMEN (m/f)..... Dark Star's henchmen. *(Non-Speaking.)*

DURATION: 30 minutes

TIME: Present.

SETTING: The home of your average superhero.

THE UNTOLD STORY OF SUPERHEROES AT HOME

AT RISE: *LOGAN calls up an imaginary stairway.*

LOGAN: Mom!!

LOU: *(Offstage.)* What, Logan?

LOGAN: Where are the eggs? I'm trying to eat breakfast.

LOU: *(Offstage.)* In the fridge, dear.

LOGAN: There are no eggs in the fridge.

LOU: *(Offstage.)* Well, your brother got up early. He must have eaten the last of the eggs.

LOGAN: I looked last night, there was a full dozen.

LOU: *(Offstage.)* Well, he's a growing boy. Is your dad having his coffee?

LOGAN: *(Looking out a window.)* No, he's out chopping wood.

LOU: *(Offstage.)* Is he using an axe?

LOGAN: No, he's doing it with his bare hands again.

LOU: *(Offstage.)* What?

LOGAN: Right out where the neighbors can see him.

LOU: *(Offstage.)* Oh that man! I'll be right down.

VULCAN enters. He's wearing jeans, a superman t-shirt, a fedora, and cowboy boots.

VULCAN: Morning, sis. You're not wearing that to school right?

LOGAN: Yes, I'm wearing this to school.

VULCAN: You look like you are giving a piano recital.

LOGAN: *(Gesturing toward VULCAN.)* And you don't suppose that is a little on the money?

VULCAN: It's misdirection. It's so on the money, it's not on the money.

LOGAN: *(Pulling VULCAN in and whispering.)* Did you tell your girlfriend, who is so stupid she couldn't find herself in a mirror, about us?

VULCAN: Maybe. But she is so ultra-cool and throwback freaky, no one would ever believe her.

LOU enters.

LOU: All right, where is that man?

LOGAN: If he's chopping wood, he might conceivably be at the woodpile.

LOU: Don't you be snarky with me, young lady.

LOGAN: Sor-eeee.

LOU: (*Opens door.*) George honey, would you come in here for a minute?

LOGAN: The neighbors are already suspicious. Mr. Beanly saw dad lifting one end of the car... (*Pointing at VULCAN.*) ...so brainless over-here could get the tire off.

LOU: Lots of men can lift one end of a Fiat.

LOGAN: With one hand?

GEORGE: (*Enters.*) Did you call me, dear?

VULCAN: Morning, dad.

GEORGE: Morning, Vulcan – go take off the Superman t-shirt.

VULCAN: I should worry about my superman shirt while you're out chopping wood with your hands?

GEORGE: I'm in a little bit of a hurry, Vulcan, I'm already late at the office.

LOU: Now George dear...

LOGAN: Dad, why are you selling life insurance when you're immortal?

GEORGE: (*To LOGAN.*) Because...

LOU: George...

GEORGE: Why am I always under siege...

LOU: Because you are a little forgetful, dear. Now I'm not criticizing... George, your fly is open.

GEORGE: I'm busy!

LOU: A man is never too busy to zip his fly. Now George...

GEORGE: What!?

LOU: (*Patting him.*) Calm down. Try to think like the Buddhists do.

GEORGE: I'm fine. I'm fine.

LOU: Just listen for one minute. You know I am sympathetic dear, because little, ordinary, everyday concerns are difficult for superheroes to take seriously.

GEORGE: I am trying to save the planet!

VULCAN: I have to go. We're having a first aid demonstration in "practical living."

LOU: Don't forget to take your lunch.

VULCAN: There's never enough to eat, mom. A baloney sandwich, an apple, a piece of cake and orange juice don't cut it.

LOU: *(Trying to contain her irritation.)* We have to fit in.

VULCAN: A growing superhero needs 26,000 calories a day just to maintain.

LOU: You go to school. *(Turning to GEORGE.)* And you listen to me, mister.

VULCAN: I'll be late for dinner. I have football practice.

LOU: Don't throw anyone into the stands.

VULCAN: That was just one time.

LOU: Well, it caused a furor and I had to see Miss Klegmore, the principal.

VULCAN: Double promise. Double promise with peaches on it. Got to go. *(Starts off.)*

LOU: Lunch.

VULCAN: *(Comes back for it.)* Lunch.

GEORGE: Shirt.

VULCAN: Dad...

GEORGE: Shirt.

VULCAN: *(Heading back to his bedroom.)* I'm not a teenager; I'm three hundred years old.

GEORGE: Shirt!

VULCAN: *(As he goes.)* Why is everybody picking on me? *(He's gone.)*

LOU: He means well.

GEORGE: I have to go.

LOGAN: And I have to go. Megan is picking me up.

LOU: Everybody stay where you are.

GEORGE and LOGAN stay.

LOU: Now Logan, a little bird tells me that you are using see-through-sight to make fun of your English teacher when she is in the ladies room.

LOGAN: How do you know that?

LOU: Because I have long distance x-ray sight. So I can see you see her. Now, I am expecting a perfectly ordinary day from you with perfectly ordinary behavior or I am taking away your phone and streaming privileges for four weeks.

LOGAN: Mother!

A horn blows.

LOU: That's Megan. Go, go, go.

LOGAN: (*Exiting.*) I hate being ordinary!

GEORGE: I don't know what we'll do with that girl.

LOU: Well, it's hard for her, George. She's a very honest, forthright young person, so she struggles with all the little white lies we have to tell.

GEORGE: She is not, Lou, the only young superhero with problems.

LOU: Have a little empathy.

GEORGE: When I was her age none of that bothered me, it was just as necessary as taking a shower every day. It was something you had to do and you did it. Why can't it be that way?

LOU: Because, George, as you may have noticed, times change.

GEORGE: (*Kisses LOU on the cheek.*) Got to go. (*Starts off.*)

LOU: George dear.

GEORGE: What?

LOU: You're getting a little sloppy, George. You know that retired policeman next door watches you with his binoculars and you were out there, plain as pie, chopping wood with your bare hands.

GEORGE: I was?

LOU: You were.

GEORGE: I didn't even notice. It's just so much faster.

LOU: Do you want to be recalled to planet Zircon, home of the superheroes and be back teaching every fourteen year old twenty-seven languages and then coaching the boulder throwing team?

GEORGE: That was so boring!

LOU: (*Kissing GEORGE on the cheek.*) Then cut wood with an axe.

GEORGE: (*Taking her hands.*) You're beautiful, you can change into any animal, bird or fish in a split second and you're always right. I'm a lucky man.

LOU: You are dear. Now go.

GEORGE: I'll see you for dinner.

LOU: I'll be gone until four. I have to stop a war before dark.

GEORGE: Have fun. Oh, are we having the velociraptor steaks tonight?

LOU: I'll see if there are still some in the freezer.

GEORGE: Bye-bye.

GEORGE exits. VULCAN enters. He has changed to a Metallica t-shirt.

VULCAN: Is dad still here?

LOU: Just left.

VULCAN: Do I look all right?

LOU: You looked perfectly all right before and you look perfectly all right now.

VULCAN: He's always picking at me. Pick, pick, pick.

LOU: He loves you, he wants you to grow up to be a first-rate superhero and, to tell the truth, he's worried that we'll all be sent back.

VULCAN: Why is he so edgy?

LOU: *(Staring at him.)* Well, I suppose you're old enough. You know we all come from Zircon?

VULCAN: Duh.

LOU: And it's a tricky business sending just enough superheroes to each developed plant to keep order, stop crime, stimulate business and make sure there aren't too many superhero movies.

VULCAN: There's nothing but superhero movies.

LOU: Exactly. When that happens the population is over-sensitized and begins to realize we're actually among them. It's far, far better that they think we're imaginary because then we're free to adjust the society. When they get onto us, Zircon pulls us out for a couple of hundred years 'til things calm down and we're seen as mythical again. That whole thing about Spiderman running for Senate just blew it wide open and Zircon pulled out nine tenths of us and your father is very afraid we're next. But here's the real problem and he must never, never know I've told you. Your father served time on Zircon.

VULCAN: No!

LOU: Yes. Your father, in his younger days, worked a scam where he sold pills that gave you ancillary powers at outrageous prices.

VULCAN: He did? He seems like such a straight arrow. Didn't the pills work?

LOU: Oh yes, but only for a few weeks. For instance his "flight modifier" that added speed and agility. He sold those like candy, but then people started falling out of the sky and landing in the middle of traffic. There were a lot of rotator cuff injuries.

VULCAN: Wow.

LOU: He was serving a thirty year term, but he was released because they needed his special skills on earth.

VULCAN: What were his special skills?

LOU: He can make Republicans and Democrats work together.

VULCAN: But he sells insurance.

LOU: Exactly. He has created life insurance plans that are perfect for Congressmen. They come in, he sells them a policy and then he does his special handshake and they become centrists. They still think they're far right and wild Liberals, but they just vote together all the time.

VULCAN: That's amazing.

LOU: Nevertheless he's an ex-con and the super superheroes on Zircon watch every little thing he does. He's a nervous wreck.

VULCAN: Poor dad.

LOU: Well dear, you have your own life to lead. But cut your father a little slack when you can. He's a good man, but sometimes just a little too entrepreneurial.

VULCAN: Thanks, mom, thanks for telling me.

VULCAN and LOU hug.

LOU: All right. Don't tell I told. Are you practicing your telekinetics?

VULCAN: Yeah, well some, I'll do it tonight, promise.

LOU: What are you up to?

VULCAN: Well, I can move our dog and cat from room to room by just thinking it, but I tried to move a parked motorcycle and it just fell over.

LOU: Mind over matter, dear. Will you be home for dinner or do you have a date?

VULCAN: Date.

LOU: Stay human with her.

VULCAN: I will, mom.

LOU: Don't fly the car a foot off the ground like you did last week.

VULCAN: She just thought it was a smooth ride. Later. *(Exits.)*

LOU: *(Sighing.)* Oh, that boy. Superheroes and adolescence, lord have mercy.

Blackout. Furniture removed. Lights up on VULCAN and his girl, LAURA sitting on an empty stage eating fast food burgers.

LAURA: These burgers are steaming hot.

VULCAN: Yeah.

LAURA: But you got them from Wendy's before you picked me up and that's a half hour ago.

VULCAN: I don't know, Laura, they just stay hot.

LAURA: I swear you're a witch or something. What do you call a male witch?

VULCAN: A warlock.

LAURA: It seems like weird stuff happens whenever I'm with you. Why did your parents call you Vulcan?

VULCAN: In mythology he's the god of fire.

LAURA: See that's why the burgers are hot.

VULCAN and LAURA laugh.

VULCAN: Why do you like me, Laura? Nobody else can stand me.

LAURA: Because you're weird. Luckily I like weird. The non-weirds are way too predictable. I went out with Larry Drain before you transferred in. He was that basketball slash math nerd who graduated last June. He was like a spreadsheet, he literally scheduled everything. He brushed his teeth at 9 pm even if we were seeing a movie. I mean romance is an adventure, right. It's really hard to be attracted to a guy while he brushes his teeth.

Behind them a dangerous looking DARK STAR emerges. She is dressed in black and masked. She lifts her hand and LAURA rises.

VULCAN: What's up?

LAURA: I... I have to go.

VULCAN: Go where?

LAURA: I don't know.

DARK STAR points offstage and LAURA walks off in a trance.

LAURA: Bye, Vulcan.

VULCAN: Laura? What the... *(Puts his arms out as if feeling the air.)*

Oh. I know you're here. Who are you? (Turns upstage.)

DARK STAR: Dark Star is here.

VULCAN: What do you want?

DARK STAR and VULCAN slowly circle each other.

DARK STAR: *(Laughs.)* I don't deal in wants, I deal in needs. You are Vulcan, son of Skymaster. I need your father.

DARK STAR points at VULCAN and he collapses to the ground in slow motion. She stands over him.

DARK STAR: You will bring him to me.

DARK STAR claps her hands and TWO HENCHMEN, clad in black from head to toe, move down and drag VULCAN offstage. DARK STAR moves center.

DARK STAR: So this is the "earth" they speak of. Commonplace. Except for the water. We will take the water back with us and the dark planet will live. Skymaster will come to find his son. The earthlings talk of Diet Pepsi. I want one.

DARK STAR snaps her fingers and the stage blacks out. Almost immediately the light snaps back on. LOGAN and CELINA are sitting at a café table drinking coffee.

CELINA: *(Takes a sip of her latte.)* I am hot for coconut/asparagus latte. Really it has a delicious yucky taste.

LOGAN: What's that stuff sprinkled on top?

CELINA: Some kind of little bugs they've dipped in chocolate.

LOGAN: Starbucks is soooo violent.

CELINA: Yeah, it bombs!

LOGAN: I hear you broke up with Walker.

CELINA: Yeah, he took me to this, like, Polynesian restaurant for my birthday.

LOGAN: What's that?

CELINA: They have all these, like, fruit drinks and you drink, like, six of them 'cause some of them have pearls in them, but I never got a pearl. And then they'll give you a pearl, but you have to do this barefoot fire walk they have out back and Walker, like, made me and my feet got burned and I had to spend nine hours in the emergency room, and there was a really cute doctor so I dumped him.

LOGAN: So now you're seeing the doctor?

CELINA: Nah, I just flirted with him while he swabbed the pus out of my feet.

LOGAN: *(A little horrified.)* Really?

CELINA: Yeah he took burned skin off with tweezers, it was soooooo sexy.

LOGAN: I'll bet.

CELINA: Walker was like crazy anyway. He claims he was driving past your house at night and he saw your father shoot out of the chimney like a rocket.

LOGAN: He did?

CELINA: Yeah, Walker makes up weird stuff to keep you interested, but frankly, it's just weird. I mean can you picture your father flying out of the chimney?

LOGAN: Umm, no – can't imagine it.

CELINA: I mean, nobody's father flies out the chimney, right?

LOGAN: Right.

Thank you for reading this free excerpt from:

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SUPERHEROES AT HOME**

By Jon Jory

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MARRYING MORTALS

By Jon Jory

SYNOPSIS: Being young and in love is hard. Being a superhero in love with a mortal is prohibited. Logan's family has always shielded their superhero secret from the world. Until Logan falls in love with mortal Jeremy. Now Jeremy, his three sisters, and his mother know Logan's family secret. Is there any chance of a happily ever after?

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(7 females, 3 males)

LOGAN (f).....	A young woman in her teens. <i>(90 lines)</i>
VULCAN (m).....	Logan's brother. <i>(14 lines)</i>
GEORGE (m).....	Logan's father. Also Skymaster. <i>(46 lines)</i>
LOU (f).....	Logan's Mother. <i>(115 lines)</i>
DARK STAR (f).....	Supervillain. <i>(10 lines)</i>
JEREMY (m).....	Logan's boyfriend. <i>(46 lines)</i>
FOUR-J (f).....	Jeremy's mother. <i>(20 lines)</i>
JEN-JEN (f).....	Jeremy's sister. <i>(14 lines)</i>
JERRI (f).....	Jeremy's sister. <i>(14 lines)</i>
JENNY (f).....	Jeremy's sister. <i>(14 lines)</i>

DURATION: 25 minutes

TIME: Present.

SETTING: The home of your local average superhero.

MARRYING MORTALS

AT RISE: *A living room indicated by a sofa and an indoor plant. LOU, is dusting and humming. She stops for a moment and does a snatch of the Charleston.*

LOU: *(Stopping.)* Well, those were the days. *(Sits on the edge of the sofa.)* I never told George that Calvin Coolidge was in love with me. Lucky for George we don't marry mortals. *(Fluffs the pillows.)* Oh my, I completely forgot I was broiling that cobra. Darn!

Exits to the kitchen. LOGAN enters in a rush. She throws a baseball cap she's wearing one way and her jacket the other and then does a wild dance.

LOGAN: I can't believe it, I can't believe it, I can't believe it! *(Stops.)*
Mom? Mom!

LOU: *(Offstage.)* I'm in the kitchen, dear. I just burned the cobra.

LOGAN: Dad hates cobra.

LOU: *(Offstage.)* Your father fell into a cobra pit when he was on assignment in India. He was bitten thirty-seven times. He says it gave him a terrible headache.

LOGAN: *(Jumping up and down.)* Mom, mom, mom!

LOU: *(Entering wiping her hands on a dish towel.)* What on earth?

LOGAN: *(Pulling her to the sofa.)* You're not going to believe it, and you're going to have a perfect fit, and then I'm going to have a perfect fit because you had a perfect fit and then it's going to be the best day of the twenty-first century. Sit, sit, sit. *(Pushes LOU down on the sofa.)*

LOU: Honey, I have greasy cobra venom all over me.

LOGAN: Mom, who cares? This is way bigger than cobra venom.

LOU: You got chosen as valedictorian?

LOGAN: Mom, I'm like 80th in the class.

LOU: *(Shaking her head.)* You're such a bright girl, Logan.

LOGAN: Dad told us not to excel at anything so we won't attract attention.

LOU: Oh, that man.

LOGAN: I have an IQ of seven hundred, mom, of course I could be valedictorian. Duh! Dad says if we're found out we'll get sent back.

LOU: Well, they are very serious about anonymity. I really shouldn't even be cooking cobra. The council suggests lima bean casserole on Tuesdays but your father's such a foodie.

Pounding on the closet door.

LOGAN: What's that?

LOU: It's just Dark Star again. After she attacked us, your dad immobilized her and keeps her in the closet. She seems to be getting some strength back.

LOGAN: Mom, you have to listen to me.

LOU: I am listening while I'm talking.

LOGAN: He proposed.

LOU: Oh no.

LOGAN: Oh yes!

LOU: Oh no.

LOGAN: Mom!

LOU: *(Hands over ears.)* No, no, no.

LOGAN: *(Taking her hands down.)* Mom.

LOU: It's been a very hard day. The toilet kept running, the refrigerator was on the fritz, the air conditioning was putting out heat, my car needed a new transmission and the house needed a new roof. By the time I fixed those, it was already lunch!

LOGAN: Mom.

LOU: People think superheroes don't get tired but I really need a nap.
(Collapses into a lying position on the sofa.)

LOGAN: Mom, did you hear me?

LOU: Of course I heard you, you're pretending you're engaged.

LOGAN: I am engaged.

LOU: Logan, your father is Skymaster known in song and story. I am Louie Lightning who had made the all-star team of women superheroes one hundred and twenty-seven years in a row, your brother is Vulcan Prince of Fire, and you, when you graduate will be Lava Girl, known to her intimates as Hot Rock. Most superheroes never marry, as you well know – your father and I are an exception and no superhero is ever allowed to marry a mortal for obvious reasons.

LOGAN: What obvious reasons?

LOU: We fight against evil, against war, against crime, against cartels, against rogue superheroes, Logan. A mortal husband would be an obvious target, always in danger. If you forgot to turn off your powers and kissed him he would literally melt.

LOGAN: I always turn off my powers.

LOU: You have only harmless powers until you are twenty-one. Invisibility, telekinesis, low level short distance flying, things like that. If you ever playfully pushed him he could wind up in South America.

LOGAN: We discussed it.

LOU: You what?!

LOGAN: Mom, he proposed to me, I had to tell him.

LOU: Logan! I can't believe this. Have you gone crazy? The Superhero Council will teleport us back to Zircon – all of us. You know your father is on probation, they'll put him in the Myth of Sisyphus Prison where he has to roll giant rocks to the top of the mountain all day and they roll back down.

LOGAN: He won't tell.

LOU: Have you ever met a moral who could keep a secret? All right, all right, what did he say?

LOGAN: Ummmm, I'm not actually, completely sure he believed me.

LOU: That's wonderful!

LOGAN: But I think he did.

LOU: You didn't do a demonstration, right? You didn't become invisible or pull a tree out by the roots?

LOGAN: Mom, that's so nineties.

LOU: This may be salvageable.

LOGAN: I did take a coin out of his ear.

LOU: Poo! That's common magic.

LOGAN: Actually, I pulled out 100 dollars in quarters.

LOU: Oh dear.

LOGAN: He wants to bring over his mom and sisters to meet you and dad.

LOU: Oh dear.

LOGAN: His mom's a professor.

LOU: What does she teach?

LOGAN: Logic.

LOU: Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear.

Pounding in the closet.

LOU: Back, Dark Star!

LOGAN: (*Simply.*) I'm in love, mom.

LOU: You are not in love! Sorry, sorry dear I'm just flummoxed. Sorry, sorry. Now Sweat, the boy on the football team, proposed to you.

LOGAN: No mom, not Sweat, Jeremy.

LOU: You're going with Sweat, but you're engaged to Jeremy?

LOGAN: See Sweat and I weren't serious, we just figured if people thought we were together, we'd more likely be king and queen at the prom. Jeremy's more of a Nebbish so they wouldn't have voted for us.

LOU: You're marrying a Nebbish?

LOGAN: Mom, he's like brilliant and a black belt in karate and the national high school chess champion plus a published poet who is already accepted at Princeton, he just dresses badly.

LOU: I see.

LOGAN: No you don't.

LOU: No I don't. Now focus, Logan, what exactly did you tell him?

LOGAN: Well, come on, I had to tell him.

LOU: What!!

LOGAN: Mom, I'm a superhero, I'll be flying around stopping crime in the middle of the night and putting plugs in volcanoes when they erupt. We'll be visiting you and you'll carry the refrigerator into the living room to clean behind it. Dad chops wood with his hands.

LOU: I'm going to have a heart attack.

LOGAN: Superheroes don't have heart attacks.

LOU: I'm not a superhero right now, I'm a mother! You told him we're all superheroes??

LOGAN: Sort of.

LOU: What did he say?

LOGAN: He laughed. Then I told him a little bit more and he asked if I was seeing a therapist.

LOU: Good.

LOGAN: Then I told him a little more and he said he'd come by this afternoon to talk to us.

LOU: This afternoon?

LOGAN: We might as well get this over with.

LOU: Your father is in Brazil saving some trapped miners.

GEORGE enters wearing his Skymaster outfit.

GEORGE: No, I'm not. I always keep long distance hearing on when I'm working to keep track of the family.

LOU: Well, that was certainly fast.

GEORGE: I ran a few lights. Now, I hope I'm not hearing what I'm hearing. What am I hearing?

LOGAN: I had to tell him, dad. You and mom never keep secrets from each other.

GEORGE: This is very serious, Logan. I believe there are only three cases in history of superheroes marrying mortals and none of them turned out well. Ironhands, for instance, had a bad dream in the middle of the night and strangled his wife before he woke up.

LOGAN: That's horrible!

GEORGE: Marriages to mortals are an absolute no-no with the Superhero Council. Because of my police record we'll be recalled to Zircon and no superhero will be allowed in the United States for two hundred years. The only exception is if he agrees to become a superhero himself and even so, his family can't know and we'll all have to move to Uzbekistan. Should he not agree, I will have to administer an anti-memory pill to him before he leaves and will try not to hurt him... though I would like to.

LOGAN: Dad!

GEORGE: I love you and am very proud of you, Logan, but you are a complete mess. Teaching the cat to fly was a terrible idea and giving your English teacher two hours of consecutive sneezes was mean spirited.

LOU: What about when she lost control flying and crashed into front window of Starbucks?

LOGAN: I bought everyone lattes.

LOU: Logan, I had to convince six customers and three baristas to take memory pills.

LOGAN: Sorrrreee!

GEORGE: First of all, you're too young to even know what love means.

LOGAN: But I do. Come on dad, do you know how lonely it is? It's like being in the witness protection program, you can't let anybody know you and the superheroes you introduced me to are complete egomaniacs and snobs. It's so sweet to talk to Jeremy about ordinary stuff and have him love me for ordinary reasons. Superheroes don't love you, they just want you to worship them. I can't stand it anymore!

GEORGE: What you are going to do, young lady, is tell Jeremy you were just kidding, and I will tell Jeremy you may not marry until you finish college or I will not support you.

LOGAN: Dad, I'm a superhero, I can counterfeit money.

LOU: Logan, the last time you did that you put George Washington on the twenty dollar bill.

LOGAN: Nobody noticed.

GEORGE: Let me be clear. You are not marrying a mortal.

LOGAN: I will.

GEORGE: You won't.

LOGAN: Then I'll take the zero pill, that makes me forget I have super powers, or anybody else does and I'll live happily ever after as a mortal! *(Pause.)*

GEORGE: You don't have a zero pill.

LOGAN: I took yours. *(Pause.)*

GEORGE: You don't know where it is.

LOGAN: It was taped behind the print of the Mona Lisa you have hanging in your bathroom.

LOU: I have never understood, George, why you want the Mona Lisa looking at you in the bathroom.

GEORGE: It's not looking at me, it's a painting!

LOU: There's no need to get testy.

GEORGE turns and exits.

LOGAN: Where's he going?

LOU: To look – you have it?

LOGAN: Yes. I hid it in the forest.

LOU: Your father has to show once a year that he has it.

LOGAN: That's his problem.

LOU: Logan? Look at me. If you take the zero pill we have to disown you and will be reassigned to another city.

LOGAN: I love him.

LOU: And you don't love us?

LOGAN embraces LOU.

LOGAN: Of course I love you, mom. But I can't live with you the rest of my life.

LOU: Please don't do this, Logan.

The doorbell rings. LOU and LOGAN look at each other.

LOU: I'll get it dear.

LOU exits. LOGAN gets a Kleenex and wipes her eyes. She looks in an imaginary mirror downstage and fixes her hair. LOU enters with JEREMY who wears a sport coat, glasses and a bowtie.

LOU: Jeremy has come to see you dear, isn't that nice?

JEREMY and LOGAN go to each other and embrace. Two teenage girls enter.

LOU: And he's brought his sisters.

JEREMY and LOGAN break the embrace.

LOGAN: Oh. Wow.

LOU: *(Smiling.)* Wow indeed. This is Jurassic, or Jerri for short and this is Jenny.

JENNY: Actually she's Jenny and I'm Jurassic.

LOU: Oh dear.

JENNY: Happens all the time.

LOGAN: Yo. What a surprise.

JENNY and JERRI: Hi Logan.

JEREMY: We kind of share everything.

LOU: Isn't that adorable. Well, let's all sit down shall we?

They do.

JEREMY: *(To LOGAN.)* I figured we better all figure it out together.

JENNY and JERRI: All of us.

LOU: Isn't that nice, Logan, we're all going to figure it out together.

LOGAN: Really nice.

A third teenage girl appears.

JEN-JEN: Hi.

LOU: *(Rising.)* Hi.

JEREMY: That's my other sister.

JEN-JEN: I'm Jenerally.

LOU: Generally what?

JEN-JEN: That's my name, Jenerally with a J. Everybody calls me Jen-Jen.

LOU: Oh I see! *(Pointing.)* Jen-Jen, Jenny and...

JERRI: Jerri – with an I.

LOU: Of course, silly old me.

JEN-JEN: We thought we better all figure it out together.

LOU: *(Cheerfully.)* I know.

JEREMY: We make big decisions together, and this seems like a big decision.

LOGAN: I didn't know, mom.

LOU: It's fine, dear. Would anybody like a ginger ale or, uh, girl scout cookies?

JERRI: What kind of Girl Scout cookies?

LOU: Peanut butter I think.

JEREMY, JEN-JEN, JERRI, and JENNY: We're allergic.

LOU: And the ginger ale?

JEN-JEN, JERRI, and JENNY: The bubbles make us giggle.

LOU: No ginger ale. *(Pause.)* Well, I wonder where your father is.

FOUR-J appears.

LOU: Don't tell me, you're the mother.

FOUR-J: I am. The door was open.

LOU: I'll bet you're Judith.

FOUR-J: Actually, I'm Hortense but everybody calls me Four-J.

LOU: Well, by all means come in.

FOUR-J: This is all very mysterious.

LOU: Isn't it? Logan, honey, get Four-J a chair.

FOUR-J: I'll stand, I have a bad back.

LOU: Will your husband be coming?

FOUR-J: He's in Tehran.

LOU: What fun. Well, goodness me, here we all are.

GEORGE returns, still in costume. He's upset.

GEORGE: *(As he enters.)* It's not there!! *(Sees everybody.)* Oh.

LOU: This is my husband, George. George, these are Jeremy's sisters and charming Mother.

FOUR-J: Four-J.

JENNY: Jenny.

JERRI: Jerri.

JEREMY: Jeremy.

JEN-JEN: I'm Jenerally.

GEORGE: Generally what?

LOU: Let's not go into it. Well, look at you, George.

GEORGE: What? *(Realizing.)* Oh. We're uh... *(Looks at LOU.)*

LOU and GEORGE: Going to a costume party.

ALL GUESTS: Of course.

DARK STAR: *(In the closet.)* Let-me-out!

GEORGE: *(A magic gesture.)* Quiet!

LOU: We're just having some work done in the closet.

FOUR-J: How nice.

JEREMY: Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Logan, Jenny, Jen-Jen, Jerri and...

FOUR-J: Four-J.

JEREMY: Mom. I should probably begin by saying that I love Logan completely and passionately. I know we're young but remember Romeo and Juliet married at fourteen.

GEORGE: And look what happened to them.

LOU: Hush George.

JEREMY: However, and remember I love you, Logan, there are some... unusual ummm, aspects to this that need explication.

LOGAN: Speak English, Jeremy.

JEREMY: What the heck is going on?

LOGAN: Well, as you know mom and dad, I told Jeremy that...

LOU: Yes, we know dear, but obviously that's an active imagination at work because there are no superheroes except in movies and, you know, comic books. Now we joke in our family that we are superheroes because well, we are a very, very busy, active, ummm, sort of family. Very busy. Very. Busy.

JEREMY: Well taken, but it's odd that we drop by and you sir, are dressed as...

LOU: Actually it's not. George is a, ummmm, very ordinary sort of person, but with a funny bone. When Logan told us she had told you that we were... super-people... and George heard that Jeremy... and... some others... were coming over to, uh, you know... he thought it would be hilarious to dress up as a... well, you know.

GEORGE: *(Cheerfully.)* The old funny bone.

JEREMY: You said you were going to a party.

LOU: That too.

LOGAN: Look, this actually isn't a joke this is...

LOU puts her hand over LOGAN'S mouth.

LOU: It's rude to interrupt sweetie. We aren't superheroes and Logan, my darling daughter, is not crazy, we just...

At this moment, VULCAN dressed as Firethrower is heard offstage.

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