

Hero or Villain
3 Page Sample

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Written 5-7-08

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NOTE: Adam, Gerrard, Leesa, and Ben are all surrounded by an invisible psionic energy that acts like a cross between a forcefield and an exoskeleton. The psionic energy is only visible when something harmful tries to penetrate it (i.e. a bullet or someone's fist.) But it can also become visible when they focus on it and try to use it offensively. Adam and Gerrard's energy resemble that of The X-Men's Psylocke - a colorful energy that flows out of them. Leesa's energy resembles fire a la The Human Torch. And I'm imagining Ben as a sort of monstrous version of The X-Men's Colossus. While the others' auras are mostly see-through even when visible, his is not. The aura that surrounds his body resembles metal, but it makes his face look like a metallic monster and gives him claws instead of fingers. Also, because the aura completely surrounds his body, it makes him look bigger and stronger than he actually is. I will make specific note of when their auras are visible.

PAGE 1:

PANEL A:

Twilight. Establishing shot of three army prison vans pulling into a military containment complex.

PANEL B:

Inside the containment complex. It's a small room with four cells. The locks are electronic. The bars are automated. There are security cameras. That sort of deal. Leesa, Gerrard, and Adam are being forced at gunpoint into three adjacent cells by US Army soldiers. Their guns are fancy high tech rifles. Another soldier is putting a walkie talkie on the security guard's desk while talking to the security guard who is sitting behind the desk. Adam is protesting and being difficult. Leesa has a bit of her fiery aura around her arm. The soldier next to her is right up in her face.

ADAM

You can't just hold us here! We have rights!

LEESA

I still think we can take 'em.

SOLDIER #1

(the one closest to Leesa)
I'd love to see you try,
Sweetheart.

SOLDIER #2

(talking to the security
guard)

Be extra careful with these guys.
Call us directly if you have any
problems.

SECURITY GUARD

I thought there were supposed to be
four of them.

SOLDIER #2

We ran into complications with the
fourth one. He put up resistance
and had to be terminated.

PANEL C:

Zoom in for a reaction shot on Gerrard as he hears that his
best friend was killed. He's distraught - falling to his
knees in his cell. We're looking at him from outside the
cell as the prison bars fall into place and lock in front of
him.

GERRARD

No.

SFX

KLANK!

PANEL D:

Zoom back out so that we can see all three cells again. The
soldiers leave. Gerrard is focusing a small amount of his
psionic energy into a small almost sword looking weapon
surrounding his hand. (Again, similar to The X-Men's
Psylocke, but at this point, very small.) The security guard
is leaning back in his chair with a smug look on his face.
The walkie talkie still rests on top of his desk.

LEESA

You killed Ben for resisting
arrest? What kind of sadistic
psychopaths are you?

SOLDIER #1

(while leaving)

You don't know nothing, Sweetheart.

GERRARD

I don't believe it.

ADAM

Something's not right here. Why did the Army get involved?

GERRARD

This is obviously about our powers.

ADAM

But then why arrest us? Why not take us to a military research facility?

SECURITY GUARD

Ah - but that's exactly where you are. And where you're going to be staying for the rest of your lives.

PANEL E:

Gerrard angrily uses his psionic energy - now projecting a full length sword-like beam - to easily and effortlessly slice through the bars of his cell.

GERRARD

Not if I can help it.

SFX

SLICE!

PANEL F:

The security guard, completely unprepared, bumbles forward, trying to grab at the walkie talkie, but he knocks it off the desk. Gerrard approaches him menacingly. Adam is holding the bars of his cell like he's trying to get out and reach Gerrard - he has a bit of psionic energy surrounding his hands.

ADAM

Gerrard - no!

PAGE 2:

PANEL A:

As Gerrard slices at the security guard, his beam sword hits a psionic forcefield (a few feet in front of the guard) that is the same color as Adam's psionic energy. Behind Gerrard, we can see Adam concentrating very hard in his cell, his psionic aura showing quite brightly. We're trying to get across that he put up this forcefield in order to stop Gerrard from becoming a murderer. The security guard grabs the walkie talkie and radios for

help.

ADAM

Don't do it, Gerrard.

SFX

SHWOOSHNNNGSSXSXSX!

LEESA

Come on, Adam - let your brother
have his fun.

SECURITY GUARD

I need immediate assistance in the
containment room! These cells are
not sufficient! Repeat - their
cells are not holding them!

PANEL B:

One of the soldiers - now unconscious - is flung like a sac
of potatoes across the room and slams against the wall next
to the security guard.

SFX

THWUMP!

SECURITY GUARD

This can't be good.

PANEL C:

Turn to see the flinger - Ben - confidently standing at the
entrance of the room with his psionic claws showing. Maybe
subtly put a bit of blood on his claws or his shoes - to
indicate that he has "dealt with" the guards in the hallway.

BEN

Hey guys. Miss me?

LEESA

Ben! They told us you were dead.

BEN

Yeah - well - they lied.

GERRARD

Why doesn't that surprise me? Come
on - let's get out of here.

PANEL D:

The security guard shoots Ben right in the chest. Ben looks
down at where the bullet should have hit him with a surprised

look on his face. Ben's psionic armor manifests where the bullet hit and begins to spread over him. Ben is letting the aura and its power consume him. In the background, Gerrard is cutting through Adam's cell.

SFX

BLAM!

SFX (CONT'D)

CLANG!

BEN

Hey - what do you know? I AM
bullet proof.

PANEL E:

Ben is now completely consumed by the power of his psionic energy. He lets it surround him and turn him into a monstrous creature. Ben looks incredibly menacing and frightening and hideous with his full armor showing. He runs towards the security guard and grabs him with his monstrous claws which are large enough to easily wrap around the guard's entire torso.

BEN

How would you like to try that
again?!

ADAM

Ben - what are you doing?!

PAGE 3:

PANEL A:

Ben lifts the security guard into the air - choking the life out of him. Especially now that he looks like a monster, readers should suspect that Ben is going to kill the guard. Adam runs to his side and holds out a hand as if to say "stop." He looks small and insignificant in comparison to Ben's massive form. In the background - if the angle allows us to see it - Gerrard is freeing Leesa.

SECURITY GUARD

CHOOUGHKKK!

ADAM

Ben - STOP! You're killing him!

PANEL B:

Ben's psionic armor recedes, save for his arm and fist which

are still gripping the security guard in the air.

BEN

Oh, calm down. I'm just having a little fun with him.

PANEL C:

Ben throws the security guard against a wall. Leesa and Gerrard start to leave through a hole Gerrard is cutting in the wall with his psionic sword. Adam is hesitating.

SFX

FWUHMP!

BEN

Do NOT follow us. Understand?

ADAM

Where are we gonna go, huh? What are we gonna do now?

PANEL D:

Zoom in tight on Gerrard's face. A light bulb goes on in his head as a mischievously evil grin spreads over his face. He reaches his arm around Leesa.

GERRARD

ANYTHING we want.

PANEL E:

The others have left, but Adam is lingering, looking apologetically at the injured security guard. The guard reaches out his hand and asks for help with his facial expression.

PANEL F:

From the perspective of the security guard - with arm outstretched - we see Adam looking over his shoulder at us one last time as he semi-reluctantly turns and leaves.

PANEL G:

Same angle. Adam turns his head back around and leaves - so we end on him abandoning the security guard still holding out his hand for help.