

A HERO'S WELCOME

ACT 1

Written by

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INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

CLARK, a greying, middle aged, but well built man, slowly awakens on the sofa after a heavy night of boozing. A red telephone RINGS.

He sits up and stares at the phone for a moment, he's been expecting this call.

CLARK
(sighing)
Hello..?
(smiling)
Well, can't say I'm surprised
you're calling. What took you so
long..?

Clark searches the previous nights beer cans to find a drink.

CLARK (CONT'D)
What have I been up to?

Clark surveys the coffee table full of empty bottles, cans and the remains of suspicious slices of white powder.

CLARK (CONT'D)
Indulging. No longer have to set an
example to anyone, you saw to that.
(beat)
Yeah I heard. Saw it on the news,
how long we got..? Really? Thought
we had longer. Report said about an
hour, before the meteor hits the
west coast.. Then it's goodnight
Vienna.

Clark removes his last cigarette, crumples the pack into a ball and throws it into empty beer cans, prophetically knocking them over like buildings.

CLARK (CONT'D)
It's not funny? I think it's
hilarious!

Clark lights up.

CLARK (CONT'D)
Why? Because now you want me, now
you need me, and because at the end
of everything I'm the one you turn
to.. Well it's not that simple. You
turned your back on me, the people
I loved turned their back on me,
for one mistake..

(MORE)

CLARK (CONT'D)

But I'm glad, it taught me
something, how selfish you all are
and how alone I really am.

BEDROOM

Clark barely audible from the living room.

An open wardrobe, clothes in disarray, some barely on the hanger.

A bedside table has more empty beer and alcohol bottles along with a photo frame face down hiding the picture. On the bed more clothes strewn.

Amongst them, laid out, is a faded but colourful superhero outfit covered in clear plastic, dusty and untouched. Barely visible is the superman S logo.

LIVING ROOM

Clark tightens his grip on the red telephone, the plastic audibly cracks.

CLARK

(trying to control his
anger)

Lets just get this over with. Ask
me.. Ask me Mr President, ask me to
save the world.