Superman or SuperMENACE?

By Lois Lane

It looks as if Metropolis and the world may finally find itself free of the Man of Steel’s recent erratic and dangerous behavior.

After a bloody battle with the monster known as Doomsday in Smallville, Kansas, Superman has grown increasingly unpredictable and destructive. As the Teen Titans were heard to say, “There’s something wrong with Superman.”

Looking more and more like the monster he just defeated, an increasingly dangerous Superman has forced the government to deploy a Kryptonite bomb, which has left the Earth covered in material that we have been assured is not lethal to humans.

Most recently the Last Son of Krypton was spotted in Brazil, where witnesses claimed he first fought an unknown armored, female warrior, who was later joined by Wonder Woman.

Onlookers claim Wonder Woman pulled the Super-Monster into the upper atmosphere, only to return moments later in a battle with a trio of Red Lanterns and the Super-creature.

According to witnesses, Superman finally left the planet of his own accord, but his destination and when he might return are unknown. We will all just have to look up in the sky and pray he does not come back.

How will this all affect Supergirl?
Smallville still under quarantine—
—no change in victims
What is the Justice League’s response?
Weather—Mostly Cloudy Green

Real-time satellite video of the green atmosphere
I remember the first time I ever told my parents I loved them. My dad was so surprised, even embarrassed.

When they first fell into this coma with everyone else in Smallville, I talked to my parents every day, for hours.

But then I found out that something was drawing signals from their brains into outer space.

So now I can't even tell them goodbye for fear of letting the enemy know...

...that I'm coming to kick its ass.

You sure you're up for this, Ms. Lang?

You could be risking--

Hey, I've got my pop gun and everything.

I know you're a genius, but you don't have time to figure out all my equipment.

We have no idea what's up there.

You better start calling me Lana.

All right, Lana, call me John.

Not "steel"?

Maybe when I know you a little better.

And if we're gonna get all life-and-death about this, you better start calling me Lana.

But my heart's in my throat.

Smallville High School.

I'm talking tough, trading quips.

My folks are dying. I'm about to launch into space.

Any instant, I could cry or scream or vomit...
...but I push it down.

We're gonna do this, Clark.

Damn it. We're gonna do this.

Wow, you built all this?

Yup, all standard interfaces, though. You should be able to ... plug right in.

Nice.

DAMMIT.

What?

Government drones. Thought I lost 'em over Colorado.

Ah, wonder woman mentioned you had a little tangle when she told me you were coming...

...you were helping Superman, right?

Yeah, right after the government found out about his Doomsday infection and called him an enemy of the state.

Now that he's off-planet, I guess they've got time to chase me around again.

HOOOOF! That's some kick!

Yeah...

...but they're coming in too fast.

What's with all the fretting? They're just drones...

...and it looks like you built in some pretty sweet gun turrets...

Yeah.

But I just keep asking myself what Superman would do.

John... I don't know how much you've been hanging with the big guy recently...

...but believe me...

...Superman loves smashing drones.

...AND IT LOOKS LIKE YOU BUILT IN SOME PRETTY SWEET GUN TURRETS...
THAT'S WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!

GOTTA ADMIT...
...FEELS PRETTY GOOD TO CUT LOOSE FOR ONCE.

WHEN I FLEW PAST MARS TWO DAYS AGO...

...THERE WERE THREE QUARTERS OF A MILLION ROCKS BIGGER THAN A KILOMETER IN THE ASTEROID BELT.

NOW THERE ARE A COUPLE HUNDRED.

I HAD THIS IDEA THAT IF I JUST LET GO, I MIGHT BURN THIS DOOMSDAY INFECTION OUT...

...AND I COULD GO HOME AGAIN TO THE PEOPLE WHO NEED ME.

BUT THE MORE I SMASH... THE MORE TERRIFIED I BECOME.

BECAUSE THAT AwFUL THING INSIDE OF ME...

...IS JUST GROWING STRONGER.
HA HA HA!

SQUEE! SQUEE!

LAUGHTER... IN SPACE?

SOMEONE'S CREATING ENOUGH ATMOSPHERE JUST TO MOCK--

AND THE DARK FURY INSIDE SURGES UP LIKE A TIDAL WAVE.

WHO--

THERE STILL ENOUGH KAL IN THERE TO RECOGNIZE HIS COUSIN?

SUPERGIRL!

A RED LANTERN NOW.

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NEED A LITTLE HELP...

...GETTING IN TOUCH WITH YOUR ANGRY SIDE.
YOU... YOU NEED TO GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE.

YOU... YOU NEED TO GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE.

YOU... YOU NEED TO GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE.

YOU... YOU NEED TO GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE.

YOU... YOU NEED TO GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE.

...THOSE KILLING MISTS... FIGHTING TO BREAK FREE.

CALM DOWN, KAL. JUST LISTEN--

PFT. YOU NEVER SHOULD HAVE LEFT IN THE FIRST PLACE!

LOOK AT US! WE'RE MAGNIFICENT!

NO. BACK ON EARTH--

--THEY NEED YOUR HELP NOW THAT I'M GONE, KARA.

THEY SHOULD THANK THEIR GODS EVERY SECOND OF THE DAY THAT WE CAME TO THEIR WORLD!

YOU JUST NEED TO FIND SOMETHING TO SMASH.

YOU'RE THE GREATEST HERO THE UNIVERSE HAS EVER SEEN!

STUPID GIRL. SHE'S DONE IT NOW. CAN'T... CAN'T CONTROL...

ERRAA--!

OHHHAAAGH!
STILL WITH ME, KAL?

WHAT... WHAT IS THIS...

ARKON 23. A MOON COLONY OF THE PEOPLE'S FEDERATION OF THE CHAR.

YOU REMEMBER THE CHAR. THEY Fought OUR PARENTS BACK ON KRYPTON. WEIRD LIZARD TYPES. KINDA GROSS, ACTUALLY, BUT SENTIENT AND EVERYTHING.

THEY'RE... EVACUATING?

YES.

SOMETHING DOWN THERE'S DESTROYING THE MOON.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM, KAL?

DOOMSDAY...

...IT WANTS THIS.

...IT WANTS THIS SO BAD.

I DON'T SEE HOW THAT'S REMOTELY POSSIBLE...

I... I DON'T WANT TO MAKE THINGS WORSE.

...BUT IT'S YOUR CHOICE NOW!

WAIT A MINUTE! WHERE ARE YOU--

YOU TOLD ME TO GO BACK TO EARTH. REMEMBER?

YOU CAN MEET ME THERE...
PEOPLE OF THE CHAR!

I WARNED YOU ONE YEAR AGO!

YOU THE EXACT HOUR OF MY RETURN!

WHY ARE YOU STILL HERE?

HARAK!

HARAK HAS COME!
I told you to leave.

Because I would return to consume the molten core of your world.

That's my hunger... that's my curse!

But here you are...

Begging me to kill you.

Harak! Have mercy! The last transports are just now launching!

You've had a year! I've held back as long as I can!

This is the end...

Damn straight.

If any char here still believes the old tablets... please sing your prayers now.
ONCE DOOMSDAY TAKES OVER, ANY NORMAL LIVING THING NEAR ME WILL BURN AND DIE.

**FFF:TOOOOOOOM**

BUT THEIR ENGINES CATCH...

...AND RELIEF FLOODS OVER ME AS THEY ROCKET INTO SPACE.

*IM TERRIFIED."

AND THEN THAT STUPID KILLER HITS ME WITH EVERYTHING HE'S GOT.

*SKRAAKOOOOM*
AND I JUST TAKE IT.

THE RAGE SCREAMS IN MY BRAIN, CLAWING OUT THROUGH MY SKULL.

I CAN'T HOLD IT BACK FOR LONG.

...WHEN THERE'S NOTHING DOWN THERE LEFT TO DIE...

...I KNOW...

BUT RIGHT NOW...

...RIGHT NOW I HAVE TO LISTEN.

THE MOON GIVES UP.

ITS GREAT VOLCANOES EXPLODE, SPOUTING DEATH AND POISON, BURNING THE ATMOSPHERE AWAY.

BUT THE LAST LIVING, BEATING HEARTS BREAK AWAY FROM THE SURFACE IN THE FINAL TRANSPORTS.

AND THEN...

THE MOON GIVES UP.

BUT RIGHT NOW...

...RIGHT NOW I HAVE TO LISTEN.

I CAN'T HOLD IT BACK FOR LONG.

AND I JUST TAKE IT.
WHO—

WHO ARE YOU?

I CAN UNDERSTAND HIM—I’VE ACTIVATED THE TRANSLATOR I GOT FROM MONSU’S PEOPLE LAST YEAR...

BUT MY BRAIN CAN’T CONTROL MY TONGUE. I’M ON THE VERGE...NEARLY GONE...

MONSTER!

WHO—

WHO ARE YOU?

I CAN UNDERSTAND HIM—I’VE ACTIVATED THE TRANSLATOR I GOT FROM MONSU’S PEOPLE LAST YEAR...

BUT MY BRAIN CAN’T CONTROL MY TONGUE. I’M ON THE VERGE...NEARLY GONE...

MONSTER!

I GAVE THEM A YEAR TO EVACUATE!

AND THEY’VE ALMOST EVERYONE OFF THE SURFACE!

AND NOW YOU’VE RUINED IT ALL!

I GAVE THEM A YEAR TO EVACUATE!

AND THEY’VE ALMOST EVERYONE OFF THE SURFACE!

AND NOW YOU’VE RUINED IT ALL!

PROPHETS OF THE CHAIR...

BLESSED MY CHILD AND BRING HIM HOME.

NO!
WHEREVER I GO... NO MATTER WHAT I DO... 

...EVERYTHING WILL DIE.

SHUT THE HELL UP.

DOOMSDAY!

IS THAT WHAT I LOOK LIKE TO YOU?

MORON.

POOMPAV.

THAT'S WHAT I LOOK LIKE TO YOU?

POOMPAV.

JUST A VIRAL CONTAGION THAT'S EVOLVED TO KILL.

WHAT YOU DO WITH IT IS YOUR CHOICE.

NOW YOU CAN CURL UP IN A LITTLE KENT-SIZED BALL OF TEARS AND FLUFF... OR YOU CAN ACCEPT WHAT YOU'VE BECOME, AND DO YOUR DARN JOB.

HA HA HA HA!

AND THEN IT'S TOO LATE.

MONSTER?

HE'S RIGHT.

THEY'RE ALL RIGHT.

HE'S JUST IN MY HEAD. I DON'T HAVE TO LISTEN--

WAIT--

IS THIS ME, YELLING AT MYSELF?

IS IT DOOMSDAY, FULL OF LIES?

I CAN'T TELL.
THOUSANDS OF FEET LONG... 

...AND I HEAR THE WAILING OF THE CHAR WITHIN THE BARGES.

A THOUSAND SEPARATE CHUNKS OF DEBRIS ARE ABOUT TO RIP THROUGH THEIR FRAGILE HULLS. 

AND DOOMSDAY JUST LAUGHS...

...A TERRIBLE RASPING CLANG THAT SHREDS MV BRAIN...

...AND TURN THEM TO DUST.

YOU. YOU DID THAT?

I... I DID.

YOU SAVED THEM?

I CONTROLLED IT.

WHO ARE YOU?

AND HERE'S WHERE SUPERMAN REACHES OUT...

...AND MAKES PEACE.

WHO AM I?

GOOD QUESTION.

HE TURNS TO ME WITH WHAT I THINK ON HIS FACE COUNTS AS A SMILE.
KARA SAIP
YOU WERE MAGNIFICENT.

BUT TODAY...

DOOMSDAY'S DOING THE TALKING.

LISTEN TO YOUR HEART, CLARK.

KARA SAID YOU WERE MAGNIFICENT.

THAT PEOPLE SHOULD THANK THEIR GODS FOR YOU.

IT'S TIME TO BELIEVE.
“SONOFAGUN...”

...SOMETHING BIG JUST BLEW UP OUT THERE, LANA. YOU SEEING THIS?

WE CAN'T GET DISTRACTED, JOHN.

WE'VE GOT OUR COURSE LOCKED IN. WE HAVE TO FOLLOW THOSE SIGNALS, NOT CHASE AFTER--

WE...I THINK IT'S SUPERMAN. I THINK HE'S FINALLY GONE OVER.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO, CLARK?

WOULD YOU SAVE YOUR FRIEND, OR--

VEEP VEEP VEEEEEP

JOHN DOESN'T HAVE TO SAY IT.

I KNOW WHAT HE'S THINKING.

AND THEN THE DECISION'S MADE FOR US.

OH, GOD...
JOHN! THE COMA'S SPREADING-- MOVING OUT FROM SMALLVILLE! WHICH WAY'S IT HEADING? OH, NO!

I'M TRYING THE POLICE-- THE NATIONAL GUARD BASE-- THE MAYOR'S OFFICE-- NO ANSWER!

YES?

LOIS! IT'S LANA LANG! LISTEN, WHATEVER TOOK OUT SMALLVILLE IS COMING FOR METROPOLIS! YOU HAVE TO WARN PEOPLE! TELL THEM TO STOP THEIR CARS, GET TO SAFETY, BECAUSE WHEN IT HITS--

CALM DOWN, LANA. I'M RIGHT HERE...
"OH, YOU'RE PART OF THIS, Aren't you?"

"...EVERYTHING LOOKS FINE TO ME."

"Oh my God, Lois--people are dying--you have to run!"

"Lana, you don't come back down here and talk."

"Oh, my God, Lois--people are dying--you have to run!"

"Lana, you don't come back down here and talk."

"Lana, you don't come back down here and talk."

"WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?"

"Nothing, Lana. It's just me."

"It was a setup!"

"WHATEVER'S ATTACKING METROPOLIS TOOK OVER LOIS AND GET RID OF SUPERMAN!"

"I'M WITH YOU."

"WE'VE GOT TO FIND HIM."

"WHOEVER'S BEHIND THIS..."

"WHATEVER'S ATTACKING METROPOLIS TOOK OVER LOIS AND GET RID OF SUPERMAN!"

"I HAVE SOME OTHER BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO, LANA. BUT WE'LL TALK SOON."

"DON'T YOU COME BACK DOWN HERE AND TALK."

"WHO ARE YOU?"

"YOU HELPED SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT SUPERMAN--MADE THE WHOLE WORLD SCARED OF HIM! AND NOW..."
...is already bringing his replacement.
5 Stages of Doomed

Summer is the time to roll out the blockbusters, and that's what we did this May when writers Scott Lobdell, Greg Pak, Charles Soule and artist Ken Lashley gave us the Man of Steel's greatest triumph that soon turned into his greatest defeat: in Superman: Doomed #1 Superman confronted the creature that once killed him.

Tearing the monster in half may not have been a great idea, since Clark Kent was infected by that creature and started to become the next bad dispositions.

“…Gradually, you'd beard too.”

Stage 2: Bargaining

In Superman/Wonder Woman #9, we saw why he was becoming an “Enemy of the State” as he seriously bulked up and developed an even nastier attitude. “First time Wonder Woman saw him all Doomsdayed out, her face went like this: ‘Boough,’” says Charles Soule, who as writer of Red Lanterns is very aware of Superman’s new withering presence. He’s gotten even bigger and even more spikey, and as we see in Action Comics #33 and in both upcoming Superman/Wonder Woman Annual #1 and Action Comics Annual #3, he is more driven by instinct than intellect. Ken Lashley looks at it optimistically “You know Lois Lane with her new Brainiac powers is gonna beat some sense into him.”

Stage 3: Acceptance

Some devastating events in the Annals will bring about this radical look that Aaron says is absolutely the least huggable Superman ever... maybe.

Stage 4: Depression

Some of the things that happen in the final stage are so devastating that we’re left to wonder: Is this it or is there something even more horrible to come as we go into the final stage and see the “Last Sun” set?

What will happen in Action Comics #34, Superman/Wonder Woman #11, Supergirl #24 and Superman: Doomed #2?

SPOILER: Sometimes there are no happy endings.

—[DOOMED] Group Editor Eddie Berganza
**Meet the New Superman of Earth 2**

Rocketed to Earth from the doomed planet Krypton, Val-Zod developed powerful and extraordinary new abilities thanks to Earth’s yellow sun. Although raised as a pacifist, Val now uses his powers to fight for justice and freedom against the hordes of Apokolips and the tyrannical Kal-El!

Sound familiar? For readers of the monthly series EARTH 2 it sounds exactly right. But for those that haven’t been keeping up with the title, things might seem a little off— and if you are confused, well, it’s about time you give this series a shot because you, dear friends, have been missing out on one of the most unpredictable and exciting titles out there.

Since its start back in 2012, EARTH 2 has made a name for itself with constant twists and turns, nonstop action, and surprise revelations. In the first issue alone, the trinity of Superman, Batman, and Wonder Woman all died at the hands of Darkseid’s hordes (or so it seemed), giving rise to a whole new generation of heroes: The Flash Jay Garrick, Green Lantern Alan Scott and more.

However, it was recently revealed that Superman did not perish after all, and as the destructive force known as Brutaal, the brainwashed former savior has become a monstrous dictator, conquering Earth in the name of Darkseid. It’s now up to a ragtag group of heroes led by the new Batman, Thomas Wayne (yeah, you read that right) to overthrow Kal-El and reclaim the Earth (or what’s left of it). Thankfully, they have an ace up their sleeves—the recently uncovered Val-Zod, who is taking on the mantle of the Man of Steel!

Of course this is just the tip of the iceberg of awesome that is this series, and we still have yet to see just how deep this rabbit hole goes.

Mixed metaphors aside, there are amazing things planned for Val and everyone on Earth 2 both in its monthly series and in the upcoming EARTH 2: World’s End weekly series. So, be sure to take a trip to EARTH 2 and pick up issue #25, on sale now!
The Last Kryptonian-DCP