



DC
COMICS™

39

SUPergirl

THE NEW 52!

BATTLE
FOR THE LIFE OF
SUPERBOY!



RATED T
TEEN

PERKINS
JOHNSON
LUPACCHINO
McCARTHY

HI-FI

DCCOMICS.COM

Reading Comics online: VIEWCOMIC.COM

APR 2015

CRUCIBLE

PART 4

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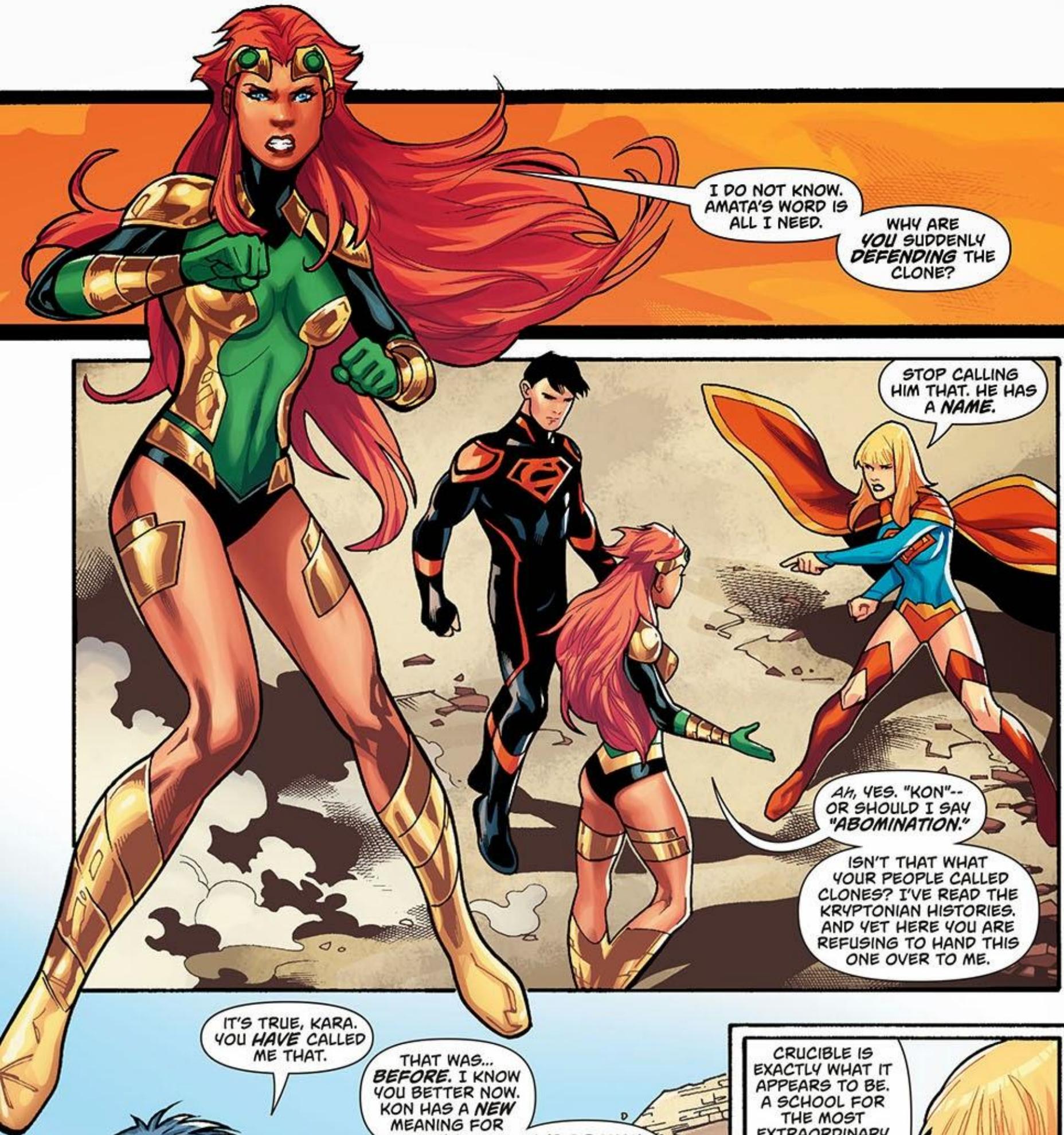
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supergirl based on the characters created by jerry siegel and joe shuster, by special arrangement with the jerry siegel family.
superboy created by jerry siegel.

ROME, ITALY.





I WANT TO BELIEVE THAT, BUT WHAT KIND OF SCHOOL SENDS ITS STUDENTS INTO LIFE-AND-DEATH BATTLES TO EDUCATE THEM? AND WHAT DID ROHO MEAN WHEN HE TALKED ABOUT "A GREATER WAR"?

ARE WE STUDENTS OF CRUCIBLE, OR ITS SOLDIERS?



YOU PRESUME THE TWO ARE MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE. BUT NOW IS NOT THE TIME FOR DEBATE.

STEP ASIDE, KARA.



I ALREADY TOLD YOU--

KARA, WAIT.
I APPRECIATE YOUR
LOOKING OUT FOR
ME, BUT IT'S
MY CHOICE.

I'M GOING WITH HER.



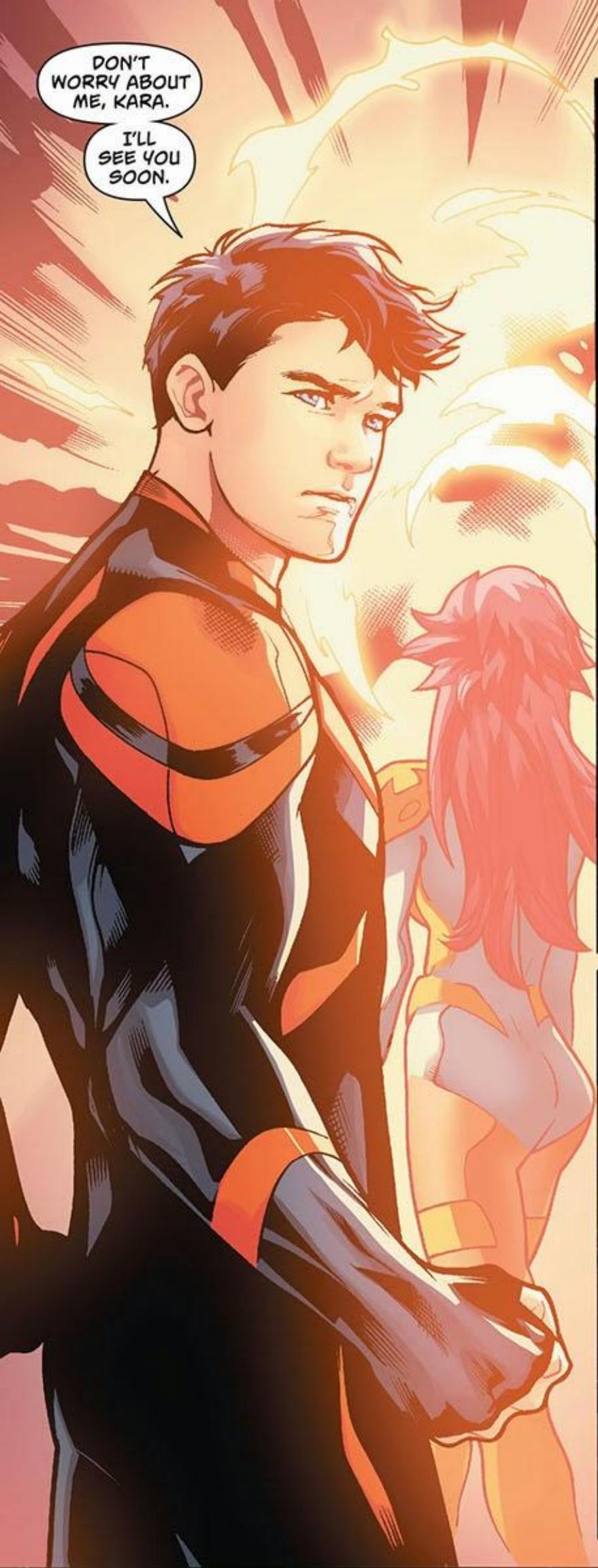
KON, NO!
YOU BELONG
HERE, ON--

DO I, KARA?
DO I REALLY BELONG ON
EARTH? I'VE BEEN ASKING
MYSELF THAT SAME
QUESTION.

MAYBE VISITING
THIS "CRUCIBLE" WON'T
PROVIDE THE ANSWERS I'M
LOOKING FOR, BUT I'M
WILLING TO FIND OUT.







CRUCIBLE ACADEMY.

I KNEW
THIS WAS A
MISTAKE.

THE COUNCIL
WAS WRONG TO APPROVE
KORSTUS' PLAN TO ACQUIRE
THE KRYPTONIAN CLONE.
ALL IT HAS DONE IS PUT
OUR STUDENTS IN
HARM'S WAY.

I SHOULD
NOT HAVE SENT
THEM. I SHOULD NOT
HAVE AGREED
TO THIS.

AS THE
PRECEPTOR BEFORE
ME SAID, IF YOU
WANT ANYTHING
DONE--





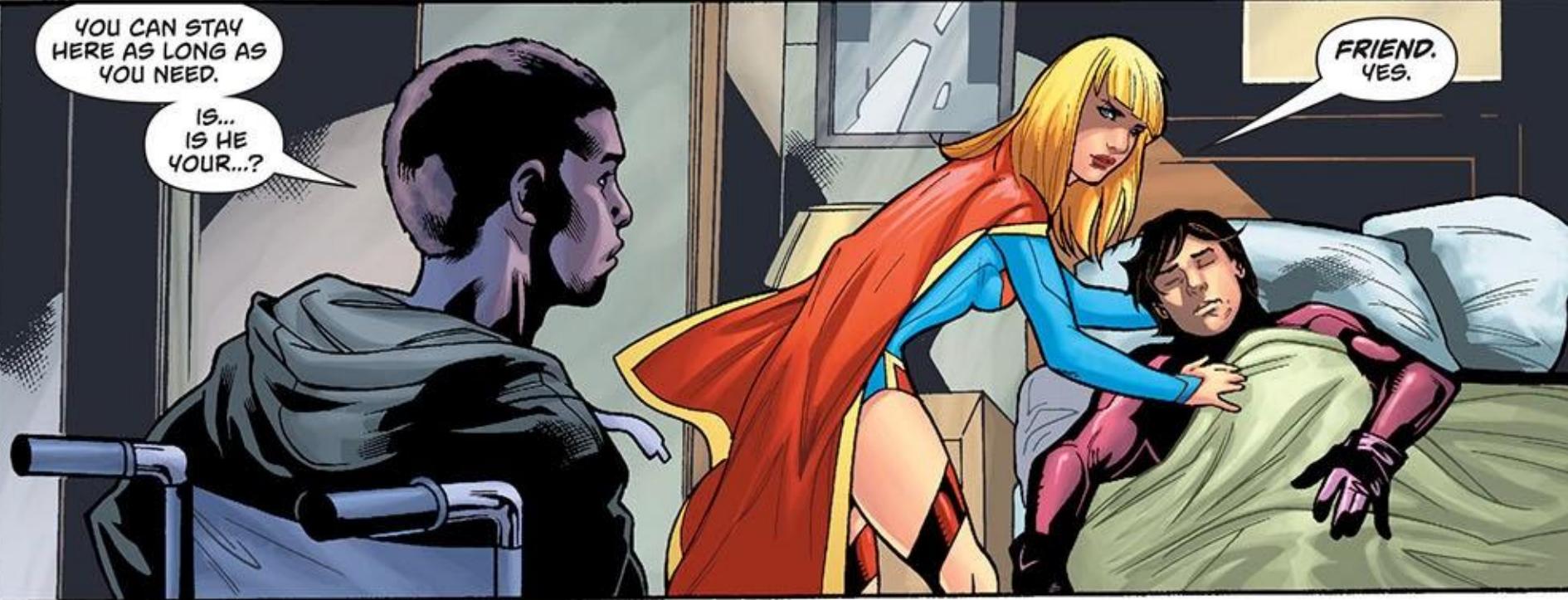
QUEENS, NEW YORK CITY.



YOU CAN STAY
HERE AS LONG AS
YOU NEED.

IS...
IS HE
YOUR...?

FRIEND.
YES.



THANK YOU FOR
YOUR HELP, MIKE. WHEN
I WAS TRYING TO THINK
OF THE SAFEST PLACE
I KNEW OF...

...I
THOUGHT
OF YOU.

I'D BE THERE
IN A HEARTBEAT
FOR YOU. YOU
KNOW THAT.

HOPEFULLY
THAT SOUND MEANS
COMET'S FEELING
BETTER.

YEAH.
SO WHERE
DID YOU AND...
UH, COMET...
MEET?

SNN
DOORRE

A KIND OF SCHOOL.
AND SOMEWHERE I NEED
TO GET BACK TO
RIGHT AWAY.

BUT I CAN'T
JUST LEAVE COMET
ALONE BACK HERE
ON EARTH.

"BACK HERE ON
EARTH"? MUST BE
SOME SCHOOL.

BUT HE WON'T
BE ALONE. I'LL LOOK
AFTER HIM.





WAAAHHHNN



CRUCIBLE'S EMPTY, LIKE
EVERYONE--THOUSANDS OF
PEOPLE--JUST DISAPPEARED!

KARA
ZOR-EL.



KARA ZOR-EL, YOU
ARE IN VIOLATION
OF THE MANDATORY
CURFEW FOR ALL
STUDENTS.

I'VE NEVER HEARD
OF ANY CURFEW AT
CRUCIBLE.

KARA ZOR-EL, YOUR
RETURN WAS EXPECTED.
ORDERS ARE TO MOVE
YOU TO YOUR QUARTERS
IMMEDIATELY. FAILURE TO
DO SO WILL RESULT IN
IMMEDIATE DETENTION.

CURFEW?

ORDERS
FROM WHOM?
I WANT TO SEE
PRECEPTOR AMATA,
NOW!

AMATA IS NO LONGER
PRECEPTOR OF
CRUCIBLE ACADEMY.

PRECEPTOR KORSTUS
HAS DECLARED A
MANDATORY CURFEW.
PLEASE COMPLY.

KORSTUS?

WHAT HAPPENED
TO AMATA--

--AND WHERE
ARE MAXIMA
AND KON?

COMPLY.
COMPLY.



YOU HEARD
THE SECURITY
'BOTS, GIRL--







IT'S A FASCINATING THING, KRYPTONIAN PHYSIOLOGY.

OH, YES.
WE'VE BEEN STUDYING YOU SINCE THE DAY YOU ARRIVED.

IT'S PART OF CRUCIBLE'S SECURITY PROTOCOL. WE CAN'T HAVE THOUSANDS OF META-POWERED STUDENTS RUNNING AROUND WITHOUT SOME KIND OF GUARANTEE OF THE SCHOOL'S SECURITY.

WE DEVELOP A FAIL-SAFE FOR EVERY NEW STUDENT, TIED TO THEIR UNIQUE GENETICS.

A FAIL-SAFE THAT ENSURES THEIR... COOPERATION... SHOULD THE NEED ARISE.

UHHH...

IN YOUR CASE, A DEVICE THAT INHIBITS THE ABILITY OF THE SOLAR ENERGY STORED WITHIN YOUR CELLS TO BE DELIVERED TO THE REST OF YOUR BODY.

MUCH THE WAY YOU MIGHT STARVE A PLANT BY KEEPING IT IN SHADOW.

BEFORE YOU DIE, I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING.

SOMETHING WONDROUS, SO AT LEAST YOU WILL KNOW YOU DID NOT DIE IN VAIN.



IN FACT, GIVEN YOUR KRYPTONIAN HERITAGE, I SUPPOSE YOU HAVE A UNIQUE CONNECTION TO MY PLAN FOR CRUCIBLE'S FUTURE.



FOR IT IS THE KRYPTONIAN CLONE WHO WILL ENSURE CRUCIBLE'S PLACE AS THE PREMIER PEACE-KEEPING FORCE IN THE UNIVERSE.

WITH ME AT ITS HELM, OF COURSE.



NO MORE NEED FOR UNRELIABLE STUDENTS TO MAINTAIN ORDER ACROSS THE GALAXIES.

NO, THIS IS MUCH MORE EFFICIENT...



...AND SUCH A WONDERFULLY SIMPLE IDEA...

...RAO...

...NO...



NEXT: THE FINAL FATE OF A **SUPER!**