

# **SUPERHERO DEBATE**

by

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INT. COMIC BOOK STORE - DAY

CHARACTERS:

ALEX: An enthusiastic comic book nerd who is powerless

SAM: A less enthusiastic comic book nerd who is equally powerless.

Cuts to:

SAM

Forget it, its too dangerous. Im not going through with that shit.

ALEX

C'mon man. You say the same shit everytime! "Im through with you", "never again", "its too dangerous".

SAM

Yeah, and im always right too

ALEX

But you're still here arent you? You still go along with it

SAM

Yeah well, my days of going along with it are over, and my days of going AGAISNT it have just began.

ALEX

You know what you sound like right now?

SAM

A guy who has a fucking brain, is what I sound like

ALEX

You sound like a bitch

SAM

Yeah well, I'd take that over being a DEAD any day.

ALEX

But like, think about it, I mean REALLY think about it. We could be heros man. Superheros!

SAM

No we can't! That the dumbest shit I've ever heard, and you say alot of dumb shit.

ALEX

Man, why the fuck not?! We've always fantasised about it since we  
(MORE)

ALEX (cont'd)  
were kids, so why not actually  
fucking do it?

SAM  
Because, Al, its fucking  
impossible. We dont have super  
powers.

ALEX  
So?

SAM  
So you can't be SUPER hero without  
SUPER powers.

ALEX  
Man, who's to say we can't? Batman  
doesnt have any super powers

SAM  
Batmans also a fucking billionaire  
with high tech gadgets. You're a  
regular guy who works at a comic  
book store and has student debts.

ALEX  
Rorscach's broke as shit, he still  
fights crime. And with home made  
gadgets too.

SAM  
Rorscach's a brawler, dumbass. You  
haven't even been in a fight.

ALEX  
But thats the beauty of it! We  
could learn!

SAM  
STOP SAYING WE!!

ALEX  
I mean, everyone has to start  
somewhere. You think Peter Parker  
got bit by the spider and beat The  
Chameleon the next fucking day? He  
didnt. We just need an origin story

SAM  
What you NEED, is to lay of the  
fucking comics and get a real job.

ALEX  
Man think about it, dont you wanna  
make a difference. Like a real one?  
You get your ass beat everyday out  
there, dont you wanna prevent that  
from happening to others

Sam sits up straight and points at Alex sternly

SAM

Now thats too fucking far...

Alex pauses

ALEX

Youre right, im sorry. But im serious man. The worlds a fucked up place right now. And its not getting any better. You know, you look around and it seems the world has too many problems for one person to solve. But what if I told you, that we had the potential to change things for the better.

SAM

I'd say pull your head out of your ass. Its not so simple.

ALEX

Im not saying that it'll be simple. Im saying that its possible. Being a hero isnt about having powers. Its having an ordinary person, choose to do an extraordinary thing. Its about being someone who refuses to stand by when they see shit go down. Being someone who steps up to protect the vulnerable, someone who embodies the values of courage, compassion, selflessness...

Sam loosens up

ALEX

Being a hero doesnt mean shooting webs from your fucking wrists, or running faster than the speed of light. It means making a choice. A choice to lend a helping hand to those in need. To be a beacon of light in a dark tunnel. Its about doing whatever you can to make the world a better place. THATS, what a superhero is. And man, we can be fucking superheros.

Sam pauses

SAM

Look, I appreciate the enthusiasm. I really do. I would love nothing more than to become what we read about in these fucking books. And

(MORE)

SAM (cont'd)

in a perfect world, we could be.  
But this isnt a perfect world. Its  
far from it. Shit like crime and  
evil..they've been apart of the  
human experience since the very  
beginning. Its harsh, but its the  
truth. No matter what you do, no  
matter how hard to try to prevent  
it, crime will never truly go  
away...evil will always exist in  
some form. It'll just find new ways  
to manifest itself the more we try  
to stomp it out. Its just not worth  
putting yourself in danger for.

Alex is silent

SAM

Look, being a hero isn't as  
straight forward as you said. We've  
read about this shit enough to know  
that you'd have to be making the  
hard choices. Sometimes you cant  
save everyone. Shit like that will  
fuck you up.

ALEX

(sighs)

Yeah...guess you're right...

SAM

For now, how about we leave to the  
guys without capes or masks.

ALEX

Yeah...

Alex and Sam go back to reading their comic book, before Sam  
eventually leaves the store. Alex goes back to work