

"MAGNORMOUS"

Written by
Jason Mayland

THE NOT-SO-SUPERVILLAINS

EPISODE 103

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SHR PROJECT
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EXT. THE COURTYARD OF EL DIABLO MIDDLE SCHOOL - DAY

We PAN PAST El Diablo students: A GAWKY GIRL IN CHAIN MAIL AND HIGH TOPS SWINGING A MACE... MUTANTS in varsity jackets play catch with an old fashioned FUSE BOMB...

In the FOREGROUND, LUTHER sits on the edge of the fountain with TARA, another normal-seeming seventh grader.

LUTHER

Tara, do you ever feel like you
don't fit in at El Diablo?

The BOMB explodes in the background. No one seems to mind.

TARA

Sure. All the other students are
different than us. But it doesn't
mean they're monsters.

Luther notes an actual OGRE walking by.

LUTHER

When my family moved here, my
parents were so busy with their new
jobs, they didn't realize they were
enrolling me in a school for
supervillains. And when I told
them, they said, "Every school has
its plusses and minuses."

TARA

Mine too. But look at the bright
side. El Diablo is a very
prestigious school. It could mean a
lot for your future.

LUTHER

My future is exactly what I'm
worried about.

Luther takes a COMIC BOOK out of his backpack: the pages are
drawn in classic DC/Marvel style.

LUTHER (CONT'D)

I'm a regular kid now. But lots of
people start out normal, then one
disaster happens and *BOOM!* They're
a villain. I could be one disaster
away from becoming evil.

TARA

Maybe you should stop reading so
many comic books.

Luther nods - he's heard that before. Then he catches sight of something OFF SCREEN as his eyes WIDEN--

LUTHER

Tara! Watch out for that spider!

SWIVEL TO REVEAL a glowing TARANTULA on Tara's arm. Its tiny FANGS clamp into her flesh.

TARA winces in PAIN, and we SMASH CUT TO:

AN IMAGE OF A TARA JUMPING TOWARDS CAMERA AS AN EIGHT-LIMBED SUPERVILLAIN IN A MEXICAN LUCHADORA-STYLE COSTUME -

Reveal that FRED is showing Verna and Luther a flier from the "FBI's Most Wanted" List. We are:

INT. ASSISTED SCHEMING CLASSROOM - MORNING

FRED

They call her *Taraña* now. A single drop of her venom is lethal.
(to Luther, paternally)
This kind of thing happens here all the time. You'll get used to it.

LUTHER

I liked the old Tara. She was nice.

MS. MENACE, the slug-like three-eyed alien teacher arrives.

MS. MENACE

Luther! You know my rule. Never speak *well* about a fellow student behind her back.

FRED and VERNA nod in agreement. Luther frowns.

MS. MENACE (CONT'D)

You've all shown troubling signs of kindness and decency. That's why you've been sent to me, to learn the secrets of science so you can *what?*

LUTHER, VERNA AND FRED

Be the worst that we can be.

MS. MENACE

Indeed. Now. Today we have a very attractive topic - *Magnetic Induction!* Let's start with a simple iron nail, shall we, Luther?

Ms. Menace hands a large NAIL to Luther and turns to a companion BLACKBOARD diagram of a NAIL.

MS. MENACE (CONT'D)

It's made up of atoms, each with its own magnetic field. The fields are disorganized - pointing in different directions. But if we wrap copper wire around the nail...

Luther cautiously wraps the copper wire around the nail.

MS. MENACE (CONT'D)

And attach each end to a battery...

LUTHER

Wait - is this dangerous?

MS. MENACE

No, it's like a walk in the park! On my home planet... which has an atmosphere of pure methane.

Luther connects the wires to a battery and a nail. Ms. Menace continues diagramming on her BLACKBOARD.

MS. MENACE (CONT'D)

The current in the wire organizes some of the magnetic fields inside the iron-- until the nail itself becomes a polarized magnet! Now what should we test it with?

A THROWING STAR ZINGS past Ms. Menace. One STICKS IN THE WALL. REVEAL a NINJA calmly at the desk next to VERNA.

MS. MENACE (CONT'D)

Iron throwing stars! Hello, Jin-Chi, thank you for...joining us.

Back on the desk next to Verna, which is already EMPTY.

Meanwhile Fred points at Luther's wire-wrapped NAIL - a throwing star STICKS TO IT, magnetized.

FRED

It works! Luther, maybe your this is your evil superpower! All Hail the Dreaded Magnormous!

LUTHER

I'm not dreaded anybody. I'm just Luther. That's all!

Luther drops the magnet and STORMS OUT. Fred frowns.

FRED

Yeesh. What's eating him?

VERNA

Not me, I'm vegan.

MS. MENACE

Focus you two - it's time for a group project. You're going to build an induction magnet *one hundred times the size of this nail!*

(pointing at the door)

You can start by inducing *Luther* to join you.

INT. EL DIABLO HALLWAY - DAY

Fred and Verna walk down the empty hallway.

FRED

Luther! Where are you?!

VERNA

Maybe we should just let him go. He doesn't really fit in here.

FRED

He'll come around. He looks up to me. I'm teaching him how to be evil. [VERNA SNEEZES] Bless you.

VERNA

You're a real prince of darkness.

They find LUTHER knocking on the door of the Nurse's office.

FRED

Luther, there you are. We've got a magnet to build!

LUTHER

No way. I'm getting a note from the nurse. I'd rather go home sick than end up as Magnormous.

VERNA

Interesting plan. Have you ever *met* our school nurse?

The door opens. A slimy ARM pulls Luther inside--

INT. EL DIABLO MIDDLE SCHOOL NURSE'S OFFICE - DAY

NURSE GOLEM, a hideous mud-creature, inspects Luther's mouth with a tongue depressor. FRED and VERNA stand in the doorway.

NURSE GOLEM
It says "Ahhhh" for Nurse Golem.

LUTHER
Ahhhhhhh!

NURSE GOLEM
It doesn't seem sick. Just scared.

FRED
He's afraid of becoming evil.

Nurse Golem GASPS in horror.

VERNA
He also likes helping strangers out of the kindness of his heart.

NURSE GOLEM
Oh my. It *is* very sick.

LUTHER
So... I can go home for the day?

NURSE GOLEM
No home! Nurse Golem will fix you!

Nurse Golem wheels out a medieval looking ELECTRO-SHOCK MACHINE, complete with manacles. Nurse Golem throws a switch. SPARKS jump between the head clamps.

NURSE GOLEM (CONT'D)
It sits down right here.

As Luther PANICS, Verna grabs him by the shoulder, delighted--

VERNA
Luther, you genius! It's a perfect power source for our magnet!

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

Verna and Luther push the electro-shock machine down the hallway. Verna calls over her shoulder at Nurse Golem.

NURSE GOLEM
It is a thief!

LUTHER

Yes! I'm a thief! That's evil,
right? Which is...good? So I'm
feeling better -- I mean, worse!

VERNA

We have our power source. Now all
we need is a giant piece of metal.

FRED (O.S.)

Hey guys!

Verna and Luther stop in front of an open office door. The
sign above the door says "LOST AND FOUND."

FRED is inside, standing in a box of lost items. He's holding
a giant IRON SWORD.

FRED (CONT'D)

Will this work?

EXT. COURTYARD - AFTERNOON - STORM CLOUDS

Fred struggles to hold the sword, which is twice his size.

FRED

I wonder who it belongs to? One of
the ogres on the football team? Or
Brad, the headless knight from my
Chemistry Class?

Verna unspools wires from the shock machine's battery packs.

VERNA

Whoever it is should thank us.
We're recycling it! That's good for
the planet. Now how did this go?

LUTHER

Wrap the wires around the sword.

Verna nods, wrapping the giant wires around the blade.

VERNA

Right...that way, the current will
organize the magnetic fields of the
atoms inside!

Luther looks up in the sky behind them. STORM CLOUDS are
gathering in a "Doctor Frankenstein's Laboratory" way.

LUTHER

I'm getting a bad feeling.

Fred holds up the wire-wrapped sword, full of hubris--

FRED

Luther, don't worry so much. Eat
your heart out, Taraña!

That's when BRAD THE HEADLESS KNIGHT enters the courtyard. He speaks in a BOOMING GHOSTLY VOICE, pointing at Fred.

BRAD THE HEADLESS KNIGHT

You! You stole my sword!

FRED

Uh oh - uh, hey Brad!

BRAD THE HEADLESS KNIGHT

You will pay for this!

Fred drops the sword, but Brad lumbers after him--

VERNA

Luther, grab the sword!

Luther looks up at the OMINOUS DARK CLOUDS, but against his better judgment, he picks up the sword.

Verna throws the power switch on the multi-battery pack. A CURRENT courses through the coiled wires. Luther wields the sword, and once again, we FLASH ON--

A vision of Luther as MAGNORMOUS, the villain, holding out a magnetic and BENDING METAL while laughing maniacally--

Luther shakes off the vision and shouts--

LUTHER

NOOOO!

Luther drives the electrified sword into the ground like Excalibur into the stone, just before--

A LIGHTNING STRIKE zig zags from the clouds above, hitting the multi-battery pack and infusing it with extra power.

The sword becomes a SUPER-MAGNET--!!

The headless knight stops in his tracks, his iron and steel armor suddenly attracted to the giant metal magnet.

VERNA

It's working!

The knight stumbles backward, flying through the air, away from FRED, and SLAPPING against the giant sword with a CLANK.

INT. ASSISTED SCHEMING CLASSROOM - DAY

Ms. Menace stands next to Luther, Verna and Fred, looking through the window out into the courtyard at

THE HEADLESS KNIGHT, magnetized to the sword, his booming voice is now a muffled WHINE.

BRAD THE HEADLESS KNIGHT
Come on you guys, unstick me.

MS. MENACE
Wow. You did it.

FRED
Best science project ever!

MS. MENACE
A-plus work. Especially you,
MagNormous.

LUTHER
No no. I'm not a supervillain. I'm
still just plain old Luther.

VERNA
Yeah, but when you held that sword,
you felt the seductive tingle of
evil power, didn't you?

LUTHER
It was induction, not seduction.

They look back at the KNIGHT struggling outside. Ms. Menace sips her coffee and looks at Fred.

MS. MENACE
I'm excusing you early, Fred. When
Brad wriggles free of the magnet...
you're gonna need a running start.

We IRIS OUT on FRED as he reacts to that--

THE END.