

= Elle Bishop =

Eleanor Zoe Bishop , mostly known as Elle , is a fictional character on the NBC series Heroes . She is portrayed by Kristen Bell . Elle appeared as one of the new characters introduced in Season Two and according to contract , would continue on the series for at least 13 episodes into Season Three .

Elle is introduced in the episode " Fight or Flight " as an agent of the Company , an organization whose primary purpose is to identify , monitor and study those individuals with special abilities . The daughter of Company head Bob Bishop , she possesses the power to generate and manipulate electricity . Elle is portrayed as mentally unstable , which is attributed to extensive " testing " condoned by her father to research her abilities when she was young .

= = Concept and creation = =

In 2007 , following the cancellation of Veronica Mars , actress Kristen Bell had voiced interest in appearing on Heroes because she was a fan . In July 2007 , during a train ride back from the San Diego Comic Con with Heroes actors Zachary Quinto and Masi Oka , and writers from the series , the writers had mentioned that if Bell " ever want [ed] to come on Heroes , give us [writers] a call " , to which Bell said she would love to . Announced in August 2007 , Bell was to portray Elle , a " mysterious young lady " with an " awesome power " for a total of thirteen episodes . Heroes creator Tim Kring and the writers had created the character of Elle with the idea that she was a " cautionary tale " of what could happen if the other characters had known of their abilities for the duration of their lives as Elle did . Kring pitched Bell the idea for the character " which she loved " and soon they were " off and running . " The casting of Bell , as Kring explains , " was not easy to pull off , " but because of the large ensemble cast of the series and multiple story arcs , " we found a way to jump into a small window in [Bell ? s] schedule . "

The character Elle was created long before Bell was cast ; however , Kring noted " when you do cast an actor ... you try to tailor that character a little closer to who the actor is . So it 's hard to know when one starts to influence the other " .

= = Appearances = =

= = = Main series = = =

= = = = Generations = = = =

Elle 's first chronological appearance is in " Four Months Ago ... " . During this time , the Company made Peter Petrelli their willing prisoner and in those months he was held , Elle seems to have developed a cute crush on him . Peter confesses that he likes the little jolts which Elle gives him as a tease and kisses her . She confides in Peter that she has lived in the Company 's holding facility for 16 years . She also admits to being diagnosed as a sociopath ; she explains at age six , she accidentally set her grandmother 's house on fire and , at age eight , caused a major blackout in Ohio . She also says that she spent her ninth birthday in a glass room with an IV of lithium in her arm . She also explains that she has never been on a date and has never been swimming . When he escapes from the facility , Elle is upset and angry to the point that she blasts Peter , setting him ablaze during his escape . She then chases after Adam Monroe while the Haitian goes after Peter .

Elle first appears in the episode " Fight or Flight " searching for Peter in Ireland . Peter has no recollection of his past and is staying with the owner of Wandering Rocks Pub , Ricky . Elle questions Rick about Peter 's whereabouts and when he pretends not to know Peter , she kills him with a large bolt of electricity on her way out the door . Later on , during a telephone conversation with Bob Bishop , her father and Company head , she dismisses the murder as trivial and insists she

can find Peter . However , she is pulled off the assignment , much to her frustration .

In " Cautionary Tales " , Elle comes back to the United States . Former Company employee Noah Bennet captures Elle for collateral , as Bob had captured his daughter , Claire . He ties Elle 's hands to a chair and ties her bare feet together and puts them in a metal dog bath which is full with water . Elle tries to use her abilities while in the dog bath , but she shocks herself . During this time , Noah tells Elle that Bob allowed the Company to perform tests on her which had begun as early as the age of seven . This included subjecting her to high doses of electricity , which scarred her emotionally for life . Elle has no recollection of the tests , and Noah suggests the Haitian had a role in causing Elle to forget her experiences . After an agreement is made , she is reunited with Bob and Claire momentarily reunited with Noah . However , Elle attacks Claire and West as they leave . She tries to attack Noah , but he shoots Elle in the arm before she can hurt him or anyone else . As it seems Noah is going to kill Bob , Mohinder Suresh , a scientist working with Noah and the Company , shoots and kills Noah . Elle leaves with Bob and Mohinder , giving Bob a look of distrust .

In the episode " Truth & Consequences " , Bob chastises Elle for allowing West and Claire to escape . He then assigns Elle to perform surveillance on Claire and her family as they prepare to leave town . Claire , however , spots Elle from a distance , leading to a physical confrontation , which leads Claire to threaten to expose the Company

Elle 's last appearance in season two is in " Powerless " . Her father reprimands her for her mistakes ; to redeem herself , she attempts to re @-@ capture the now powerless Sylar for the Company . She uses her ability to confront Sylar in Mohinder 's research lab , but Sylar is armed with a gun and shoots at Elle . Sylar manages to slip away , leaving Elle unharmed . She comes out somewhat defeated , but is informed by Mohinder that if not for her arrival , Sylar would have killed him , Maya Herrera and Molly Walker . He says the three of them owe her their lives , to which she replies , " Cool " .

The episode marked Bell 's previously expressed interest in performing in scenes with the character Sylar , as she and Zachary Quinto had been good friends for almost ten years . Bell had said that she " would love to see him and Elle face off one day " . In November 2007 , Bell and Quinto filmed scenes at a restaurant in Los Angeles , which was set as a " New Jersey Diner " and had involved police and paramedics . The filmed scenes are part of the untold stories which are a special feature of the season 2 DVD set .

= = = = Villains = = = =

Returning in the episode , " The Butterfly Effect " , following her failure to stop Sylar , Elle seeks assistance from Noah Bennet . He is detained in Level 5 , a high security ward for the Company 's most dangerous prisoners . However , Sylar is already there , having killed her father . He attempts to take her ability , but the pain of being scalped causes her to involuntarily release a massive electrical surge . This knocks Sylar out , but also disables security for the entire facility , allowing the prisoners to escape . Elle is later fired by Angela Petrelli , the new head of the Company , who tells Elle that the only reason the Company kept her was because of her father 's influence .

In the episode " Eris Quod Sum " , Elle makes her way to Claire 's house to seek help from Noah , having lost control of her ability . She attacks Claire out of anger , but is subdued when Lyle throws water on her . She is told that an organization called Pinehearst could help her with her condition , so Claire agrees to escort her there . They reach Pinehearst just in time to see Peter Petrelli thrown from a seventh story window . Claire takes him away from the building , but Elle refuses to leave after learning from Peter that they can take her powers away .

In the episode " Villains " , Elle 's life a year earlier is explored , revealing that she had been partnered with Noah Bennet at one point . The two are assigned to watch Sylar (still Gabriel Gray) in order to discover how he transfers abilities . Elle saves Gabriel after he attempts to kill himself out of guilt for killing his first victim . She is told to befriend him , and Gabriel develops an attraction to her that suppresses his hunger . Using a list of people with abilities Gabriel had compiled , Noah arranges to introduce Gabriel to one of them to see his power in action . However , Elle does not agree with the plan , revealing she has developed feelings for Gabriel . She reluctantly goes along

with it when Noah threatens to fire her. They then introduce Gabriel to Trevor , an evolved human with a kinetic projection ability . Her repeated references to Trevor being " special " anger Gabriel , and he orders her to leave while he kills Trevor . Elle is left with guilt as she caused an event that helped to create " Sylar " .

In the following episode , " It 's Coming " , set in the present , Arthur Petrelli , head of Pinehearst , arranges for Sylar to speak with Elle . His aim is to have Sylar use his latent empathic abilities to take powers , rather than doing so through killing . Elle is chained to the floor in a metal room , still in pain from her ability . She repeatedly attacks him , furious at Sylar for her father 's murder , eventually begging him to kill her so that her pain will go away . He forgives her for turning him into a monster and convinces her to forgive herself for her crimes , wanting to take away her pain without killing her . At that moment , Elle 's pain disappears and she regains control of her ability . Likewise , Sylar is able to absorb her power . The two appear to rekindle their old feelings for each other as Elle teaches Sylar how to use her ability .

In " The Eclipse Part I " , she and Sylar are sent to retrieve Claire who is revealed to be the catalyst , the unknown part of the formula that would allow someone to produce abilities . On assignment , Elle challenges Sylar and he shows her that he can still be a killer , and not just a " daddy 's boy " by killing a rental car assistant . Eventually , they find Claire and Noah , and a fight ensues , however , Elle and Sylar find themselves powerless ; the result of the eclipse . Elle aims a gun at Noah but Claire jumps in and takes the bullet . Noah knocks Elle out and dislocates Sylar 's arm , while he escapes with injured Claire . After awakening , Sylar explains to a shocked Elle that losing his abilities is a bit of a relief . She tells him that they can 't just take what they want anymore , then Sylar retorts and grabs Elle , kissing her passionately . Outside , Noah aims a rifle at them .

In " The Eclipse Part II " , Sylar and Elle sleep together but then are confronted by Noah . Elle is shot in the thigh in the ensuing struggle . Both Elle and Sylar flee while Noah follows Elle 's blood trail to a grocery store . There , Elle and Sylar plan to ambush Noah in the rear of the store . Sylar pushes Elle into a cargo elevator , in an attempt to hide her from Noah . Elle watches as Noah slits Sylar 's throat with a box cutter . When the eclipse ends , their abilities are returned and Sylar is revived . He and Elle go to the Bennet residence and overcome Noah and Claire while holding Claire 's mother , Sandra , hostage . Suddenly , Hiro teleports in and takes both Sylar and Elle to Coste Verde beach , leaving them there before disappearing . Sylar and Elle kiss , and he explains that he and Elle are " damaged goods " and that they will " never change " . Sylar then begins to slice Elle 's skull open .

In the following episode " Our Father " , Sylar , covered in Elle 's blood , is shown pouring lighter fluid on Elle 's body . He painfully says , " Goodbye Elle , " then sets her ablaze with the electric ability he inherited from her .

== = Redemption = = =

In the episode " Tabula Rasa " , Elle is seen in flashbacks as Sylar witnesses his real memories reflecting in the Hall of Mirrors .

In " The Art of Deception " , Matt reverts Sylar 's memories of his kills , including the ones of Elle .

== = In Heroes graphic novels = = =

Elle also appears in the Heroes webcomics . Her appearances in the online series occur before her introduction on the television series . Elle 's first webcomic appearance is in " Elle 's First Assignment , Part 1 " , which reveals her first assignment for the Company . Elle monitors Claire Bennet , posing as a student at Union Wells High School . After following Claire home , Elle ends up confronting Eden McCain . The incident is broken up by Noah Bennet , who informs Elle that he doesn 't " want [Elle] hanging around [his] daughter any more " . In Part 2 , she finds out about the tape of Claire testing her power and tries to take it from Zach . She is stopped by the Haitian and Mr Bennet , who find out about the tape as well . Elle also appears in " The Man With Too Much Brains " to recruit the original webcomic character Matt Neuenberg to the Company . She also was teamed

up with Thompson Jr. to capture Donna Dunlap , a woman with enhanced vision in " Donna 's Big Date , Part 1 " , and she was among the agents that try to capture Echo DeMille at Lake Arrowhead , where he managed to convert Elle 's electricity into soundwaves , in " Going Postal " . She is also referred in " Faces , Part 1 " to have helped Thompson Jr. and Penny Logan taking down The Croatian .

In " Sum Quod Sum " , it is revealed that she has lost control of her ability since leaving the Company , so she has gone to London to find help from Claude . After she tracks him down , he confronts her but then runs away . It begins raining , and Elle decides to take advantage of it . She releases an electrical charge , which travels through the water on the ground and into Claude , but she , too , is knocked unconscious in the process . Claude and his friends , Abigail and Lee , carry her to his place and he begins to show Elle the source of her problem . Things get ugly when Elle accidentally shocks Abigail , which leads them to fight each other ; Abigail 's force field redirects Elle 's lightning towards Lee , so Elle stops and then is asked to leave the place . Although Claude asks her to stay , she prefers to look for the help of Noah , so she goes to Costa Verde and attacks Lyle while waiting for his father .

In " From the Files of Primotech : 1991 " , the childhood 's background of Elle is further explained : how she started a blackout in Athens , Ohio that took out three other counties . Elle 's mother sent her to his father , Bob , to New York to deal with her . Bob asked the help of Charles Deveau , who recommended taking a fatherly approach , but ended up taking Dr. Zimmerman 's advice : treat Elle as any other posthuman and test her abilities . During one of these tests , Bob tried to calm the weeping Elle turning her drinking straw into gold , but this backfired as it allowed Elle to accidentally shock her father . After this , Elle escaped and Bob enlisted Noah Bennet to go after her . Noah eventually found Elle at an arcade and anticipating her attack , he wore latex gloves . Elle quickly electrified a machine making it toss balls at Noah , so she could escape . When Noah followed Elle through a mini @-@ golf course , she electrified a mini @-@ windmill , making it throw blades at Noah . Finally , Elle was cornered ; Noah promised her Bob would be proud if she came back with him . Once back at Primotech , Bob locked Elle up while discussing the situation with Kaito and Noah . Angela brought a young Haitian to mind @-@ wipe Elle to forget what just happened and enjoy her 9th birthday cake .

= = Powers and abilities = =

Elle has the ability to generate and manipulate electricity , discharging and directing it as electrical arcs . She has been shown being able to weld a lock , blast objects , knock people unconscious , and even kill a man . She is not entirely immune to the electricity she produces , however , as shown when she is drenched in water and attempts to create electricity ? she gives herself an electric shock , causing great pain .

Elle has endured a series of testing by the Company during her childhood that measured the extent of her power . Bob had stated that Elle was in a " different league " when comparing her to Claire . When inquiring about her abilities , Elle was able to learn from Noah Bennet that the Company had wanted to record the extent of her abilities (whether she could power a flashlight , a street lamp , or an entire city block) and Bob had often prompted to continue the tests further , even after Elle had passed out .

Her ability is shown to respond to her emotions . After Bob 's death , mourning Elle loses control over her ability and her body starts to produce electricity at any time (Sum Quod Sum graphic novels) ; this makes Elle unable to stay close to electrical devices such as computers and even a plane . She claims to live in constant pain (Eris Quod Sum) . This ends when Sylar helps her forgive herself (It 's Coming) .

= = Characteristics = =

When Kristen Bell was cast , she noted that with Elle it would be " unclear whether she 's good or bad " . In " Four Months Ago ... " , Elle admits to being diagnosed as a sociopath and previous to

that , she had displayed sadistic behavior as a result of testing done to her as a child . Bell explains , " Bodies are not able to take that much electricity and pain , and so Elle 's psychologically a little off her rocker . " She is able to kill without apparent remorse , although in one instance , she reacts defensively when Mohinder asks her how many have died by her hand .

During an interview with thescifiworld.net , Tim Kring described Elle as " a little off " , and Bell added that Elle is " a little messed up in the head " and a highly conflicted individual who does not have the ability to decipher between right and wrong . Because of that , Bell explains that Elle comes off as more of a victim . Bell also explains that Elle is one of the few characters with abilities that embrace their power and is almost on the verge of being addicted to her ability . Elle " enjoys the emotional power it gives her over other people " . She is described as one who is " always out to get what she wants " and someone who " doesn't have many boundaries " . Bell describes Elle as a vixen who " feels like she has a romantic connection to everybody " , and in a few episodes , Elle is shown displaying a great deal of affection to men and flirting with both Peter Petrelli and Mohinder Suresh .

Bell noted the similarities between Elle and the character Claire Bennet , saying that they " relate to each other " and " are two sides of the same coin " because , while Elle 's father sanctioned testing on her , supposedly causing her mental instability , Noah kept Claire hidden , preventing Claire from experiencing the same childhood that " really messed [Elle] up " . Bell has said in interviews that in later episodes of Heroes , " You 'll find out that Elle holds the key to Claire 's future " and that Elle has " a [present] with Peter and a past with Claire 's dad and a future with Claire " .

= = Reception = =

With the cancellation of Veronica Mars , Variety reported that attaining Bell was a " major , major coup for NBC " because of how in @-@ demand the actress was . Universal Media Studios ' Katherine Pope noted that " many studios [were] chasing [Bell] in both film and TV " and that Pope was happy that Bell " chose to star in our show . " When Bell was cast , Tim Kring explained that because she had known several of the cast members for years as well as some of the writers , it " was already like part of the family by the time we cast her . "

In an interview with Bell , Eric Goldman of IGN commented on Bell 's " eagerly awaited debut " on the series . Matt Roush of TV Guide reported on Bell becoming a series regular on Heroes , and stated he " like [s] her more and more , especially as we see the tragic dimension of how Elle has been so cruelly used by her ' daddy , ' Bob , and is much more than the flirty assassin we first met . " Bruce Fretts , also of TV Guide , said that Bell 's portrayal of Elle was responsible for " sparking Heroes to life . " He explains that " [i] n just a few scenes ... [Bell is able to] juice up the slumping sophomore drama " and her " live @-@ wire performance turned Chapter 5 into this season 's strongest episode yet . " However , because of the large ensemble cast , Matthew Gilbert of Slate.com commented that Season Two of Heroes was " even more overpopulated than the last , expanding from a rabble to a veritable global riot of Dubiously Gifted Ones . "