

EXT. THE TOWER BALCONY-NIGHTFALL

Ivan sits on a bench on the large balcony, overlooking the city. Everything is peaceful. Suddenly, Ivan stiffens.

ZAMPANO (V.O.)

Oh, Ivaaaaan!

IVAN

No! You're dead! Leave me alone!

ZAMPANO (V.O.)

Then concider this my ghost,  
haunting you.

IVAN

I already have one obnoxious voice  
in my head! I don't need two!

BLACK (V.O.)

Hey!

ZAMPANO (V.O.)

You'll never be rid of me, Ivan.  
And I know everything about you.  
Even more than you do.

The background disappears into blackness. The hairs on the back of Ivan's neck raise. Suddenly, Zampano's hand reaches out and grabs Ivan's face. Zampano's face appears right in front of his.

ZAMPANO

That little Hero shot me in the  
chest! Believe me when I say that I  
will exact revenge on her! Believe  
me!

HERO (O.S.)

Ivan?

Ivan jumps up onto his feet with a gasp. He's back on the balcony. Hero is looking at him in confusion.

IVAN

D-don't sneak up on me like that!

HERO

I snuck up on you? I thought that was impossible.

IVAN

I was... distracted.

HERO

With what?

Ivan opens his mouth to respond, but changes his mind.

IVAN

Eh, it's nothing. The voices in my head are arguing.

HERO

I thought there was only one voice in your head?

Ivan stammers.

IVAN

Did-did I say voices? I meant voice! And me! We're... arguing. Yeah.

Hero gives Ivan a weird look.

HERO

Are you okay?

IVAN

Me? Yeah! I'm fine! Just dandy! Oh! Silly me. I forgot something in my room! Guess I'll see you later!

Ivan begins to leave. Hero stops him.

HERO

Actually, I'd like to talk to you about something, if you have a minute.

Ivan looks at her uncomfortably, but pauses all the same.

HERO

Ivan... I'm sorry about the way  
I've been acting. Ever since we...  
stopped being together, things have  
never really mended between us.

Ivan's countenance changes to understanding. He nods.

IVAN

Yeah. I'm sorry, too. I guess I'm  
just not sure how to act anymore.

Hero looks up at Ivan's face. He smiles gently down at her.  
Hero sighs.

HERO

So, are we good?

Ivan chuckles a little and pulls Hero into a brief hug.

IVAN

Yeah. We're good.

Ivan lets her go. Hero smiles up at Ivan.

ZAMPANO (V.O.)

I'll make sure that she dies!

Ivan flinches visibly as Zampano's voice whispers in his  
head. Hero looks at Ivan in confusion.

HERO

Ivan? Is something wrong?

IVAN

Huh? Oh, yeah. I just, uh, need to  
talk to Jayde about something. See  
you later!

Ivan abruptly leaves. Hero looks after him.

HERO

Bye.

INT. LEGEND'S OFFICE-NIGHT

Nightlurker is sitting at the long table, his feet resting on the table itself. He is leaning back in his chair, reading one of his magic books. Ivan enters the room.

IVAN

Nightlurker? Do you live in this room, or something?

Nightlurker looks up from his book.

NIGHTLURKER

This room is often quiet and brightly lit. It is ideal for studying... Also, all the light fixtures in my room are broken beyond repair.

IVAN

What?

NIGHTLURKER

A result of an early magic experiment. Did you come to bother my studying to ask questions, or are you here for a real purpose?

Ivan smirks at Nightlurker. Then, he gets an idea.

IVAN

Hey, you can sense the voices in my head, right?

Nightlurker responds without looking up.

NIGHTLURKER

Unfortunately, yes. It is quite hard to-

Nightlurker pauses, looking up from his book with concern.

NIGHTLURKER

There is... more than one, now?

IVAN

It's a recent development. Can you get rid of them?

Nightlurker sighs, sitting up in his chair and setting down his book.

NIGHTLURKER

I am sorry. I have been studying cognitive research extensively for the past while, now. I am afraid my magic is not powerful enough to have lasting effects on the brain.

IVAN

Aren't you some kind of black magic master? I thought-

NIGHTLURKER

Listen. Let me tell you a little about black magic. It is called black for a reason. The deeper you delve into it, the more you lose your light.

IVAN

Your light?

NIGHTLURKER

This light exists in everyone. It is our personality, our feelings, our sense of right and wrong. Black magic saps you of your light, the more powerful you get. Take Jaqui, for example.

IVAN

I see.

Nightlurker bows his head.

NIGHTLURKER

I have gone as far as I dare go. I could not disappoint... her, like that.

IVAN

Jayde.

Nightlurker nods.

IVAN

Hey, don't stress! It's not that big of a deal. I've been dealing with a voice in my head for as long as I can remember! Two won't be much harder.

Ivan grins and stands up. Legend walks into the room. He chuckles.

LEGEND

Has my office turned into the new recreation room?

IVAN

Sorry, Sir. We can-

LEGEND

It's quite all right. I just came in here to look over tomorrow's schedule.

IVAN

What's on the schedule?

Legend picks a piece of paper up from his desk and looks at it.

LEGEND

Well, we have a team meeting first thing in the morning. We have an applicant who would like to join The Unstoppables.

Ivan and Nightlurker both look surprised.

NIGHTLURKER

We have applications?

LEGEND

Not regularly, but this man is quite enthusiastic about joining. He made this application himself.

IVAN

Who is it?

LEGEND

You'll all meet him tomorrow. Turn off the lights as you leave, alright?

NIGHTLURKER

Yes, Sir.

INT. LEGEND'S OFFICE-DAY

Legend and the team are in the room, all doing various things. Nightlurker is reading his book, Hero is cleaning her gun, The Brawn and Ivan are playing a game on the holograph viewer, Jayde is standing off to the side, practicing her psychic powers by moving a glass vase with flowers in it around her with her mind. A robot enters the room.

ROBOT

Molten Blaze is here to see you, Sir.

LEGEND

Excellent! Send him in!

The robot leaves.

LEGEND

Molten Blaze is the applicant I was telling you about.

Molten walks into the room. Ivan lets in a gasp.

IVAN

It's him! The man in the burning house from a year ago!

A loud crash is heard. Everyone turns to Jayde. She stands frozen, a look of horror on her face. The vase lays shattered at her feet.

JAYDE

It's... I don't...

Nightlurker jumps to his feet and rushes to her side.

NIGHTLURKER

Jayde! Are you all right? What's the matter?

Molten turns to Legend, looking only slightly concerned.

MOLTEN

I seem to have caused somewhat of an uproar. Should I come back later?

LEGEND

No, by all means! Anyone eager to join the cause of justice is a friend to us!

Legend elbows Ivan as he says this. Ivan shuts his mouth and frowns. Nightlurker quietly tries to comfort Jayde.

NIGHTLURKER

Jayde, what is it?

JAYDE

Vlad... He looks just like... HIM!

Nightlurker suddenly understands. He stands between Jayde and everyone else, letting his cape conceal her somewhat. He speaks calmly.

NIGHTLURKER

I am sorry. Jayde is not feeling very well today. It is nice to meet you, Mr. Blaze. Where are you from?

MOLTEN

I am from the west. I moved here only a month ago, when I heard of the opportunity this place holds for those with... unique talents.

HERO

So, what are your talents?

Molten smiles and suddenly bursts into flames. The Brawn exclaims in surprise. Ivan's eyes narrow.

BLACK (V.O.)  
 Moved here a month ago? Yeah,  
 right.

A memory flashes in Ivan's mind of him fighting Molten in the burning house.

BLACK (V.O.)  
 Who is this guy?

Jayde whimpers and buries her face into Nightlurker's back. Nightlurker looks momentarily surprised, then he blushes slightly. The flames go out. Molten is unscathed.

THE BRAWN  
 Woo! We sure could use a little  
 firepower on our team!

HERO  
 I agree. We have three long range  
 fighters, and only two close range  
 fighters. Putting Molten on our  
 team would even the odds.

LEGEND  
 Of course, it is up to the team  
 leader...

Legend turns to look at Jayde, who stands solemnly behind Nightlurker. She looks up, and her eyes meet Molten's. She speaks shakily.

JAYDE  
 I must ask. Does the name Howard  
 Hemmings mean anything to you?

Nightlurker winces visibly. Molten thinks for a moment.

MOLTEN  
 Howard Hemmings? I'm sorry. It  
 doesn't sound familiar to me.

Jayde lets out a sigh. She allows a small smile.

JAYDE  
 Welcome to the team, Mr. Blaze.

Molten smiles. He turns his eyes to Ivan, and they flash slightly. Ivan swallows.

EXT. ARBEIVILLE-DAY

The team runs on the rooftops, through the city. Ivan talks to The Brawn aside.

IVAN

I'm telling you, man, he's the same guy! He burned my arms and threw me into a support beam! That's what made the building collapse!

THE BRAWN

You're the only one who saw him. What if it was a different guy?

IVAN

Well, I don't know of many people who can burst into flames on command.

THE BRAWN

But why would he lie?

IVAN

I don't know, but he's up to something! I know it!

THE BRAWN

If you say so, bro.

Suddenly, a ball of flame flies right towards Ivan. He dodges it.

IVAN

Hey! What's the idea?!

MOLTEN

Behind you!

Everyone turns. The man with the hi tech equipment is back. Two harpoons suddenly skewer Ivan. One in his left arm, the other in his chest. He falls to his knees. He grabs a shuriken with his good hand and severs the chords on the

harpoons. Everyone else runs towards the hunter. The hunter flies away with his jetpack. Ivan groans.

IVAN

Do I have a target on my head?!  
Jeez, talk about a blast from the  
past!

JAYDE

Come on. We have work to do.  
Rubella has hostages in the bank,  
and time is of the essence.

The team starts back on their regular path. Molten talks to Ivan under his breath. He grins.

MOLTEN

I wasn't aiming for the harpoon  
guy. If you try to convince these  
simpletons that I was in that  
burning building, I'll show you  
what it means to burn!

Nightlurker glances back at them. Molten smiles and pats Ivan on the back.

MOLTEN

Glad to see your wounds heal so  
quickly! I was worried there for a  
minute!

Ivan glowers at him. The team comes to a stop. They look at the street below.

JAYDE

There's the bank. Let's proceed  
with caution. Rubella won't like  
that we're here, and she might-

MOLTEN

Let's do this!

He jumps down to the street, bursting into flames.

JAYDE

Wait! Hold on!

She jumps down after him. Hero and The Brawn follow suit. Nightlurker scoffs.

NIGHTLURKER

I don't like him.

IVAN

Welcome to the club. He's definitely up to something. Can't Jayde see that? His aura's gotta be emanating all kinds of danger!

NIGHTLURKER

Jayde's judgement is somewhat... skewed concerning him.

IVAN

Why him?

NIGHTLURKER

He looks just like her dead husband.

Nightlurker jumps down to follow the others. Ivan stands shocked for a moment, then shakes his head and follows the others.

BLACK (V.O.)

This guy's gotta go!

EXT. BANK-DAY

Ivan joins the group to see the heroes talking with the police for information. Ivan turns his head to see reporters buzzing all around Molten, who is still on fire.

MOLTEN

That's right! I'm the newest member of The Unstoppables! We're here to save the hostages and throw Rubella back in jail where she belongs!

A reporter approaches Ivan.

REPORTER

Street Ninja! Speculation has been made that you could be an alien from another planet! What do you have to say to that?

IVAN

What? An alien? That's ridiculous!

Ivan places a palm over the camera pointed at him and walks away. He approaches the team.

IVAN

I don't think Molten will help us much here.

Ivan jerks his thumb in Molten's direction. Jayde sighs.

JAYDE

Rubella is heavily armed. I'm not sure what would be the safest thing to do.

MOLTEN

Of course I could take her on myself! In fact, I'll do that right now! Keep your cameras rolling!

NIGHTLURKER

The imbecile! He will put the hostages in danger!

Molten, still on fire, strides up the stairs of the bank and kicks down the doors. Jayde leaps forward.

JAYDE

We need to save the hostages!  
Rubella might shoot them!

The team follows quickly behind her.

INT. BANK-DAY

Molten enters the room. Rubella turns around quickly. She has a large gun under her arm, and there is a line of civilians against the wall, all tied up.

MOLTEN

All right, you! Put your hands up!  
You're coming with me!

RUBELLA

Just who are you? A man comes in  
here, thinking he can tell me what  
to do?! You stupid oaf!

Rubella points the gun at the hostages. They gasp and squirm in fear.

RUBELLA

Move any closer and I'll shoot them  
all!

Molten laughs.

MOLTEN

Justice comes with sacrifice. I'll  
either take you to jail, or you'll  
shoot them and then I'll take you  
to jail! It doesn't really matter  
to me!

The civilians look horrified. Rubella looks uneasy. The team runs in. Rubella lets off a round at them. Jayde holds out her hands and stops the bullets. The team takes on their attack stances. Ivan steps forward with a shuriken.

IVAN

I'll cut the hostages loose! The  
Brawn, you make sure they get out  
safely!

Molten shoves Ivan to the side with a burning hand.

MOLTEN

I'll take care of this situation  
alone! Jayde and I don't need any  
of you!

Ivan collapses, toting a large burn on his shoulder. Molten turns to Jayde.

MOLTEN

Come on, Jayde. Let's do this!

JAYDE

We need our team! Ivan!

IVAN

I'm fine!

Nightlurker and Hero take on Rubella. Hero fighting, and Nightlurker defending. Ivan gets up and he and The Brawn run to the hostages. Ivan cuts them loose, while The Brawn puts himself between them and the fight as they escape the building. Molten stomps his foot.

MOLTEN

NO! I'm the hero! I have the power!  
The rest of you are nothing  
compared to me!

As he stomps his foot, the air suddenly turns red. Everyone stops to look at him. Heat waves emanate from his body.

NIGHTLURKER

Stand down!

Nightlurker lashes out at Molten with black magic, but Molten just heats up the room even more.

MOLTEN

I'll burn all of you to ashes right  
now! All except you, of course.

He turns to Jayde, where there is a pocket of normal air around her. She looks fearful.

MOLTEN

Now that you've seen my true power,  
Jayde, you must understand! We  
don't need The Unstoppables!

JAYDE

The Unstoppables are my family! I  
won't let you hurt them!

Jayde thrusts her hands at him. Molten is encased in a bubble of teal aura. He gasps.

MOLTEN

My oxygen! You're stealing all of  
my oxygen!

The air in the room returns to normal. Molten is no longer on fire. He struggles for a moment, then goes limp. Jayde lets him drop to the floor. All is quiet for a moment.

IVAN

Now do you guys believe me that he  
was a bad egg?

Jayde abruptly turns around and leaves. Nightlurker starts after her.

NIGHTLURKER

Jayde...?

He turns to the others, looking at Rubella and Molten.

NIGHTLURKER

You lot can handle these two,  
right?

THE BRAWN

You bet! Go after her, Lurky.

Nightlurker leaves. Molten groans, opening his eyes. A sword points at his face. Ivan stands over him, smiling.

IVAN

Oh, am I going to love this! Put  
your hands where I can see them!

INT. LEGEND'S OFFICE-AFTERNOON

The team and Legend sit around the table. Legend sighs.

LEGEND

I must say that I'm quite  
embarrassed. Had I known of  
Molten's ulterior motives, I would  
not have allowed him on the team.

THE BRAWN

Aw, don't worry! The hostages are safe, Molten and Rubella are both in jail, everything turned out okay!

Jayde clenches her hands into fists. Nightlurker puts a hand on her shoulder. Legend dismisses the team. Jayde stands, putting a hand on Nightlurker's shoulder for a moment before leaving. As soon as she is gone, his face turns slightly red. Ivan and The Brawn smile.

THE BRAWN

So, things look like they're going pretty well for you, then?

HERO

Leave him alone, Brawny. I think its cute.

Nightlurker stands.

NIGHTLURKER

Come, now. All of you are reading too far into this. Jayde and I are just friends.

Nightlurker's countenance falls slightly.

NIGHTLURKER

That is all.

He leaves the room. Ivan turns to The Brawn.

IVAN

Do you think those two will ever get together?

The Brawn shrugs.

THE BRAWN

Hard to say, man.

HERO

I think they will. They just need some kind of push.

EXT. ARBEIVILLE-NIGHT

Jayde walks down the street in normal attire. She has a purse hung over one shoulder, and is holding a shopping bag in the other hand. She walks back to The Tower. She is almost there, when she hears a voice.

MOLTEN (O.S.)

Jayde.

Jayde stops short. She turns around to look at him.

JAYDE

I thought you were in jail.

MOLTEN

Why the hostility? Is that any way to treat your husband?

Jayde gasps.

JAYDE

No. No, you're supposed to be dead!  
You died! I saw everything!

Molten shakes his head with a grin.

MOLTEN

No, Jayde. I survived.

JAYDE

And Ethan...?

MOLTEN

He was too weak.

Jayde stops. She stares at Molten. Her eyes narrow, then begin to glow. She begins to unleash psychic attacks on him. He bursts into flames and protects himself. After a while, Jayde stops. She is panting heavily.

JAYDE

Weak?! Why didn't you save him?!  
Why were you the only survivor?!  
What happened to you?!

Jayde begins to cry.

JAYDE

Why didn't you come back for me? I thought everything I loved had died!

MOLTEN

I've been changed, Jayde. I can't explain it, but this power... it's fantastic!

JAYDE

Power? You never cared about power! What happened to the Howard I once knew?

Jayde sobs.

JAYDE

What happened to the man I loved?

MOLTEN

Loved? You don't love me anymore? But I have become more powerful than any superhero in ArbeiVille! Even more powerful than you!

Molten stomps forward, his flames growing brighter. Jayde backs up.

MOLTEN

I thought I wanted you back, but now I realize you're just a hindrance!

Molten begins attacking her. She sobs as she attempts to fight back.

MOLTEN

You're trying to stop me from becoming powerful! You're jealous! I hate you!!

Jayde collapses to the ground, tears streaming down her face. As Molten nears her, she curls up on the ground.

Molten raises his flaming fist, when suddenly, a blast of black magic throws him back.

NIGHTLURKER (O.S.)

Leave her alone!

Jayde raises her head. Nightlurker runs to her and kneels beside her. His eyes are wide with fear.

NIGHTLURKER

Jayde!

He turns to Molten, who is picking himself up off the ground. Nightlurker stands, glaring.

NIGHTLURKER

Touch her again, and I will kill you.

MOLTEN

You can't do that! She's my wife!

NIGHTLURKER

Not anymore! Officially, you are dead. She has no obligation to you anymore. Leave now, or I'll have you arrested again! Leave, and don't come back!

Nightlurker lets loose a large black magic attack, and blows Molten into a wall. He lands on the ground, groaning. He slowly gets back up.

MOLTEN

This... This won't be the last you'll see of me!

NIGHTLURKER

It had better be!

Nightlurker prepares for another attack, but Molten runs away. Nightlurker immediately kneels down beside Jayde again. He speaks softly.

NIGHTLURKER

Jayde? Are you hurt?

He gently helps her into a sitting position. Jayde looks up at him.

JAYDE

V-Vladimir! You saved m-me!

NIGHTLURKER

I told you the day I met you that I would do anything for you.

Jayde sniffs, and then suddenly bursts into tears. She wraps her arms around his neck.

JAYDE

Vlad! Th-thank you! I'm so s-sorry!

Nightlurker takes off his cape and wraps it around her like a blanket. Then he gently lifts her up and carries her inside, picking up her shopping bag as well. Jayde buries her face in his chest, and Nightlurker allows his head to gently lean on hers. They go inside.

INT. IVAN'S ROOM-NIGHT

Ivan's room is even more empty from before. He is pacing the room feverishly.

IVAN

No. You can't make me do what you want. I have my own choices to make!

ZAMPANO (V.O.)

This other voice in your head can sometimes get control. Don't worry, Ivan. I'll search your subconscious until I find a way. Then, I'll make you kill Hero for me!

IVAN

No!

Ivan punches a hole in the wall. He takes a few deep breaths. Then, he seems to get an idea. He leaves the room.

INT. ANYA'S ROOM-NIGHT

Anya is asleep in her bed. Suddenly, a knock at the door wakes her. She slowly gets up, and ties a bathrobe around her. The knocking returns, more urgent. She opens the door.

ANYA

Ivan?

Ivan looks exhausted.

IVAN

Thank goodness. I'm sorry for waking you up, Anya, but I need your help.

Anya looks at him. He looks into her eyes pleadingly. Anya nods.

ANYA

Wait for me in the medical wing. I'll be right there.

INT. MEDICAL WING-NIGHT

Ivan sits by the reception desk, stirring nervously. Anya enters, wearing her doctor attire.

ANYA

Ivan, what's the matter?

Ivan stands up and puts his hands on Anya's shoulders. He looks anguished.

IVAN

Anya, I don't know who else to turn to. I think there's something really wrong with me. I need your help.

Anya puts a comforting hand on top of his.

ANYA

I'll do what I can. Why don't we go into the small room to talk.

INT. SMALL ROOM-NIGHT

Ivan and Anya sit together at the table. Anya has her clipboard.

ANYA

Now, what's the matter, Ivan?

IVAN

Well, it started right before Zampano died, I guess. The villains had me surrounded and handed me over to Zampano, then left to gather up The Epics.

EXT. ARBEIVILLE-DAY

Ivan and Zampano stand alone on a street. Ivan smiles.

IVAN

So, it's just you and me, huh?

ZAMPANO

I'd say I'm sorry for what I'm about to do to you, but I'm really not.

Ivan pulls out his swords and runs at Zampano. Zampano just smiles. Ivan swings a sword, and Zampano blocks it with his arm. Ivan gasps. His sword only made a small cut on Zampano's arm. Blood drips down Zampano's elbow. He smiles. His eyes grow wide, as his pupils grow small.

ZAMPANO

Oh, boy. Now you've done it.

Zampano throws Ivan off of him like a rag doll. Ivan picks himself up off the floor.

IVAN

How did...

ZAMPANO

I told you, I'm all about power. Now you get to see what I really look like!

Zampano begins to morph into a misshapen, hideous version of himself, several feet taller. He puts on a crazed grin.

ZAMPANO

Now, look at me! Burn me into your memory! Make sure you never forget what I look like!

Zampano's eyes glow as he stares at Ivan. Ivan stares at Zampano in horror. His eyes glow as well. We zoom in and enter Ivan's eye. There is darkness. Zampano appears, laughing.

ZAMPANO

Hahahahah! Your mind! It belongs to me, now!

Ivan shouts and covers his eyes. Zampano stomps up and begins beating on Ivan.

BLACK (V.O.)

What's happening to us?! Our mind and body are getting beaten at the same time! We can't move! We can't even breathe!

INT. SMALL ROOM-NIGHT

Ivan buries his face in his hands and shudders.

IVAN

He's still there. He's in my mind, talking to me. Trying to get me to do what he wants. I know he's dead, but... it doesn't feel like it.

Anya looks sympathetically at Ivan. She leans closer to him.

ANYA

Oh, Ivan.

Ivan turns his weary eyes towards her, leaning towards her, too. They lean on each other. Ivan closes his eyes.

IVAN

This is... kind of helping, I think.

Anya reaches over and rubs Ivan's shoulder. Ivan sighs.

IVAN  
That feels good.

ANYA  
I know.

Ivan looks momentarily confused, but doesn't seem to mind. Anya slowly moves her head closer. Ivan does the same. They are about to kiss, but Ivan hesitates. Anya blinks.

ANYA  
I'm... sorry.

IVAN  
No, it's okay.

Ivan leans the rest of the way in and kisses her.

BLACK (V.O.)  
This feels... right.

After the kiss, Ivan smiles.

IVAN  
Thank you for listening to me. I think it helped.

Anya nods, and leans her head on Ivan's shoulder. Suddenly, she gets up.

ANYA  
You're welcome. It's getting late, though. I should go.

Ivan smiles up at her gently.

IVAN  
Good night, Anya.

Anya allows a smile.

ANYA

Good night, Ivan.

As Anya leaves, she heaves a sigh. She reaches for the ring on her necklace and rubs it.

Ivan watches her leave. He sighs. Suddenly, a memory flashes in his mind. It is Anya, smiling brightly.

ANYA

Ivan!

Ivan shakes his head.

IVAN

What the...?

BLACK (V.O.)

Did... Did Anya know us before we lost our memory?

END.