



## **Kory Howard**

Spark Adams logo by Alison Olson

**BIG DOG PUBLISHING**

Copyright © 2023, Kory Howard

**ALL RIGHTS RESERVED**

SPARK ADAMS is fully protected under the copyright laws of the United States of America, and all of the countries covered by the Universal Copyright Convention and countries with which the United States has bilateral copyright relations including Canada, Mexico, Australia, and all nations of the United Kingdom.

**Copying or reproducing all or any part of this book in any manner is strictly forbidden by law.** No part of this book may be stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form by any means including mechanical, electronic, photocopying, recording, or videotaping without written permission from the publisher.

**A royalty is due for every performance of this play whether admission is charged or not.** A “performance” is any presentation in which an audience of any size is admitted.

**The name of the author must appear on all programs, printing, and advertising for the play and must also contain the following notice: “Produced by special arrangement with Big Dog/Norman Maine Publishing LLC, Rapid City, SD.”**

All rights including professional, amateur, radio broadcasting, television, motion picture, recitation, lecturing, public reading, and the rights of translation into foreign languages are strictly reserved by Big Dog/Norman Maine Publishing LLC, [www.BigDogPlays.com](http://www.BigDogPlays.com), to whom all inquiries should be addressed.

**Big Dog Publishing  
P.O. Box 1401  
Rapid City, SD 57709**

SPARK ADAMS

3

SPARK ADAMS was first performed at Manti High School, Manti, UT, on Feb. 28-March 2, 2022: Audrey Jones, director; Emma Imlay, assistant director; Rachel Tanner, stage manager; Anjolee Jones, costume designer; and Elizabeth Everitt and Cayden Hirschi, lighting.

**SPARK ADAMS:** Joshua Nordfelt

**PRESIDENT VAN DOREN:** Brexton Jensen

**SECRETARY:** Grace Draper

**NIKKI VAN DOREN:** Madison Worthington

**JOE:** Simeon Olsen

**CARMEN:** Brielle Bratton

**DIEGO:** Jesse Howick

**DARCY:** Matthew Bishop

**COMMANDER OMEGA:** J. Wales

**AGENT Y:** Kory Howard

**PRINCIPAL HANEY:** Phoebe Gordon

**DJ REX:** Quin Zollinger

**ENSEMBLE:** Alison Olson, Daniel Lewellen, Emma Allen, Mariann Everitt, Dallin Nielson, Kennedy Lundeberg, Clarissa Knapp, Anjolee Jones, Izzy Watson, Sydney Merrill, Debbie Olsen, Hallie Williams, Jacob Cox, Matthew Lundeberg, Desmond Bell, Rocky Smith, Libby Hall, Willow Adamson, Sara Watson

## SPARK ADAMS

**COMEDY.** After a freak accident at a high school dance, a student is transformed into the electrifying superhero, Spark Adams, who sets out to save the world, the universe, and everything in between! With cities suffering from recurrent power outages, the President hopes that the new superhero will be the *spark* that restores the country's power grid. But, first, Spark Adams and his friends must find a way to stop the cunning Commander Omega and his minions, who aim to take over the United States with their Global Allegiant Syndicate. This *shocking* comedy will *stun* your audiences with its humor, action, drama, and suspense! Easy to stage.

**Performance Time:** Approximately 60-75 minutes.

## CHARACTERS

(3 M, 4 F, 9 flexible, extras)

**MARK "SPARK" ADAMS:** A C- high school student who transforms into the superhero "Spark Adams" after a freak accident at a school dance; male.

**JOE:** Spark's best friend; male.

**CARMEN:** Spark's friend; female.

**DIEGO:** Spark's friend and a computer game expert; male.

**PRINCIPAL HANEY:** Principal at Spark's high school; flexible.

**DJ REX:** Disc jockey at the school dance; flexible.

**PRESIDENT VAN DOREN:** President of the United States; flexible.

**NIKKI VAN DOREN:** President's daughter; female.

**SECRETARY GORDON/AGENT X:** Secretary to the President; spy for the Global Allegiant Syndicate; female.

**COMMANDER OMEGA:** Leader of the Global Allegiant Syndicate; flexible.

**AGENT Y:** Spy for the Global Allegiant Syndicate; flexible.

**DARCY:** Head secret service agent who is secretly working for Commander Omega; flexible.

**STUDENT 1:** High school student; female.

**STUDENT 2:** High school student; flexible.

**STUDENT 3:** High school student; flexible.

**SECRET SERVICE AGENT 1:** US secret service agent; wears a black suit and sunglasses; flexible.

**EXTRAS:** As Students, Secret Service Agents, Minions, and Reporters/Photographers.

## SETTING

Washington DC.

## SET

**High School dance.** There is a table CS for the DJ's soundboard/equipment. A table for refreshments is SR.

**Secret government bunker.** There is a pedestal with a large red button on top at CS.

**Commander Omega's hideout.** There is a desk and chair.

**Press conference.** There is a podium CS.

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

**Scene 1:** White House.

**Scene 2:** Washington DC High School, school dance.

**Scene 3:** Commander Omega's hideout.

**Scene 4:** Inside a secret government bunker.

**Scene 5:** Press conference.

## PROPS

Files  
White wig, for Spark Adams  
Cup of water  
Cell phone, for Carmen  
Large syringe  
Risk or another board game  
Dark cloak, for Secretary's disguise as Agent X  
Cell phone, for Secretary  
9-volt battery  
Rubber gloves, for Secretary  
Electrical tape  
Knife (large plastic knife)  
Gun (toy)  
Cell phone, for Joe  
Cell phone, for President  
Cell phone, for Spark  
Superhero costume, for Spark

**NOTE:** The Spark Adams logo may be used for your production at no cost. Just scan below to download.



Designed by Alison Olson.

## SPECIAL EFFECTS

Dramatic music  
Large projection of Spark Adams  
Lighting effects  
End of a fast song, for school dance  
Sound/special effect for electricity  
Spark Adams merchandise, opt. (T-shirts, hats, socks, etc.)  
Dial tone  
Electric humming sound  
Crackle sound  
Sound of "explosion" of 9-volt battery  
Sound of dialing  
Sound of hanging up phone  
Phone ringing  
Sound of a big explosion  
Smoke  
Lighting effects for large explosion  
Slow song  
Lighting/special effect when Spark pushes red button  
Flash of cameras for press conference  
Gunshot  
Lighting/special effect when Spark charges his power  
Song for bows



SPARK ADAMS

9

"WE NEED TO FIND  
A SPARK OF HOPE  
TO SAVE AMERICA."

—PRESIDENT

SCENE 1

*(AT RISE: White House. Lights up far DSR. The President is sitting at a small table or desk busy at work. Darcy, a secret service agent, is standing off to one side. Secretary enters.)*

SECRETARY: Good morning, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Ah, Madame Secretary, I'm glad you're here. I need an update on all situations.

SECRETARY: There is a lot going on.

PRESIDENT: Let's just hear it.

SECRETARY: First, poll numbers aren't looking good for re-election.

PRESIDENT: I'm not worried about that right now.

SECRETARY: Okay. Next, three foreign ministers are on the phone right now waiting to speak to you.

PRESIDENT: Tell them to wait.

SECRETARY: I told them that last time.

PRESIDENT: They can wait a little longer. What's the most pressing issue?

SECRETARY: Well, the economy is continuing to decline at a rapid pace.

PRESIDENT: Are cities still losing power?

SECRETARY: More and more each day. We can't seem to keep up with the power shortages. They last for weeks sometimes.

PRESIDENT: Have we figured out the cause?

SECRETARY: No.

PRESIDENT: Have you tried to reset the power grid?

SECRETARY: Yes, many times. We reset it and pressed the button but nothing.

PRESIDENT: Do we have any other solutions?

SECRETARY: Not yet, but we're working on it.

PRESIDENT: That's not good enough! Get more agencies on it. If this continues, America will shut down for good.

SECRETARY: Yes, sir.

PRESIDENT: What else, Ms. Gordon?

SECRETARY: Our military enrollment numbers are down by ten percent.

PRESIDENT: Ms. Gordon, I want to hear some good news, not how the country is falling apart.

SECRETARY: I'm sorry, sir, but there doesn't seem to be any good news.

PRESIDENT: There's got to be a way to fix all this. *(Goes back to his files.)*

SECRETARY: If I may, sir?

PRESIDENT: What is it?

SECRETARY: I know you may not want to hear it again, but it may be time to start thinking about joining—

PRESIDENT: Don't mention that again!

SECRETARY: Sir, the Global Allegiant Syndicate has offered you protection.

PRESIDENT: Yes, but at the cost of handing over the United States to the most destructive terrorist group in the world.

SECRETARY: I'm sure—

PRESIDENT: Stop! I am not sacrificing America at my hands. We cannot put the country in jeopardy like that.

SECRETARY: I apologize. I'm just trying to think of ideas.

PRESIDENT: We can find other solutions. Never mention the Syndicate again.

SECRETARY: But what are you going to do?

PRESIDENT: I don't know. That's what's so frustrating.

SECRETARY: I know, sir.

PRESIDENT: America will cease to exist if we don't do something soon! We need all eyes and ears on the lookout...even my daughter. Please let her know to look out for anything extraordinary.

SECRETARY: I will let her know.

PRESIDENT: And no need to mention any details.

SECRETARY: I understand, sir. Although I doubt that anything will happen at her school. Maybe if you sent her to a private school, they could—

PRESIDENT: You know I want her to be as happy as possible.

SECRETARY: Yes, but—

PRESIDENT: This is not the time to discuss this. Our biggest concern right now is keeping our cities from losing power and shutting down. Get every agency on every and all solutions.

SECRETARY: I will do what I can, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Good. We need to find a way to restore the main power grid to our cities! We need to find a spark of hope to save America!

*(Lights fade out. Dramatic music is heard. Lighting effects. A large projection of Spark Adams appears.)*

SPARK: *(Voiceover.)* Electricity! Fascinating, isn't it? Unfathomable power that makes the world turn off and on. Many have sought to harness its power, but no one has been able to control it like I have. I am Spark Adams, an ordinary kid turned superhero by a freak accident. But when an opportunity comes along, seize it and see where it takes you...perhaps to something big, something important, something monumental! That's what happened to me. A seemingly ordinary moment led to saving the world, and as my friends like to say, the universe and everything in between! The adventure all started at a dance at my high school, Washington DC High...

*(Blackout.)*

## SCENE 2

*(AT RISE: Washington DC High School. A high school dance in full swing. The end of a fast song is heard. Students are dancing and Principal Haney is chaperoning. DJ Rex is standing at his DJ table CS. A table with refreshments is SR. Song ends.)*

DJ REX: *(To Students, announcing.)* Oh, my! That track was off the hook! I saw some of you out there bustin' a move. Principal Delaney might have broken a hip with that shimmy, though! *(Crowd reacts.)* Unfortunately, ladies and gentlemen, we have come to the final song of the night. *(Crowd groans.)* I know, I know. I'd love to keep playing my jams, but even DJ Rex needs to call it a night at some time. The last song will be a slow number, so get up the courage to ask that special someone you've had your eye on the whole night to dance. I'll give you a minute or two to make your move while I take a quick break. Go!

*(Joe, Carmen, and Diego push Spark downstage and egg him on. Diego goes to grab a drink at the refreshment table during this.)*

CARMEN: *(To Joe and Diego.)* Did you see Mark's moves? He was moving like a tortoise on caffeine pills.

JOE: Hey, look at me! I'm Mark "Smooth Moves" Adams! *(Mocks Spark's dancing.)*

SPARK: Yeah, yeah. Laugh it up. I know you all are just jealous.

JOE: Not jealous, but definitely shocked.

CARMEN: *(To Spark.)* By how bad you looked.

*(Diego approaches, holding a cup from the refreshment table.)*

DIEGO: Hey, hey, now. Cut it out.

SPARK: Thanks, Diego.

DIEGO: We all know Mark is a sensitive soul. He might cry.

SPARK: Oh, ha-ha. And I thought you were on my side.

DIEGO: Face it, Mark, you got moves from like the 18th century: churning butter... *(Does a dance move.)* ...or wrangling pigs... *(Does another dance move.)* ...or plowin' fields, yee-haw! *(Does another dance move.)*

SPARK: Stop. It wasn't that bad. Much better moves than yours.

DIEGO: You wish!

CARMEN: I'll tell you who didn't think it was bad.

JOE: Who?

CARMEN: Nikki.

*(Joe and Diego whistle.)*

SPARK: Wait! What?

JOE: Carmen, that's serious territory. You better be careful.

DIEGO: *(To Carmen.)* You better not mess around with Mark about Nikki.

CARMEN: I know, ya babies, just listen. I happened to catch Nikki watching Mark while he was...umm...

SPARK: Dancing?

CARMEN: I wouldn't call it "dancing."

JOE: Convulsing, maybe?

DIEGO: That's more accurate.

CARMEN: Anyway, she was watching him convulsing and then snickered with her friends.

SPARK: Snickered? That's what fifth graders do.

CARMEN: Oh, but this was more like a "he's kinda cute" snicker. She lifted an eyebrow.

*(Joe and Diego whistle.)*

JOE: That's major!

SPARK: *(To Carmen.)* Eh, so what? She raised an eyebrow.

CARMEN: You don't get it, do you?

SPARK: No.

CARMEN: Of course, you wouldn't. A girl raising an eyebrow and snickering with her friends is a telltale sign.

SPARK: A sign for what?

CARMEN: That she's into you.

*(Joe and Diego whistle.)*

DJ REX: *(To Students, announcing.)* All right, amigos, it's time to grab that special someone. I'm loading up the song in a few seconds.

DIEGO: *(To Spark.)* Perfect timing.

JOE: Go ask her to dance, Mark.

SPARK: What? No! I mean, it's not like I don't want to. It's just that...that...

JOE: Nervous?

SPARK: No.

DIEGO: Ya peed your pants?

SPARK: No! What? Of course, I didn't! Did I?

*(Spark looks at his pants. Diego tosses his "drink" on Mark's pants.)*

DIEGO: It sure looks like it now.

SPARK: Diego, what were you thinking?!

DIEGO: Hey, if she rejects a wetter, then I guess she's really not the one for you, now is she?

SPARK: That is really some stupid, illogical, asinine thinking.

DIEGO: Thank you. Now, go!

DJ REX: *(To Students, announcing.)* All right. Here we go, ladies and gentlemen. The final song. Enjoy.

*(Diego pushes Spark toward Nikki.)*

SPARK: Wait...no!

DIEGO: Go!

*(Spark takes a step or two toward Nikki.)*

SPARK: Um...Nikki...

NIKKI: Yes?

SPARK: I was...uh...wondering...if...uh...

*(Lights down. Panicked screams from the crowd.)*

DIEGO: What's going on?!

DJ REX: *(To Students, announcing.)* Settle down, everyone. I'm sure it's just a flipped breaker or a loose cord or something. Don't panic.

JOE: *(Hysterical.)* I want my mommy!

CARMEN: Joe? Was that you?

JOE: Ye— *(Realizes.)* No! I mean, no! That's such a silly thing to say.

DIEGO: Can we help, DJ Rex?

DJ REX: Not really sure what the problem is. Maybe check the wires. Principal Haney, check the breaker box.

PRINCIPAL: Got it.

JOE: We'll look for loose cords. Come on, Diego, Mark.

SPARK: Fine.

*(Joe, Diego, and Mark search around.)*

JOE: I can't see a thing!

CARMEN: Careful where you're looking!

JOE: Oops!

SPARK: I think I got something here...feels like a cord got unplugged.

JOE: Plug it in, Mark.

SPARK: Finding the outlet. Here we are...

*(Spark plugs in the cord. There is a strobe of light as Spark is "electrocuted." Lights up. Spark is lying on the floor, unconscious. His hair is now completely white [a wig].)*

DIEGO: All right! We have light!



JOE: Way to go, Mark! *(Looks around.)* Mark?

CARMEN: *(Sees Mark on the floor.)* Oh, no!

*(Others see Spark on the floor. Crowd reacts. Carmen, Diego, and Joe rush over to Spark.)*

JOE: Mark!

CARMEN: Don't touch him! I think he was shocked.

JOE: What do we do?

DIEGO: I got it!

*(Diego grabs a cup of "water.")*

CARMEN: Diego, no! That will—

*(Diego throws the "water" on Spark. Shocked again, Spark convulses, wriggles, and writhes.)*

JOE: *(To Diego.)* You just killed him! You killed my best friend, you jerk!

CARMEN: No, look!

*(Spark stirs.)*

DIEGO: Mark? I'm sorry, buddy. I didn't know—

SPARK: Whoa. What happened?

CARMEN: You must have been shocked when you plugged in the cord.

DIEGO: *(To Spark.)* Maybe 'cause of your wet pants.

SPARK: What a rush!

CARMEN: Do you feel okay?

SPARK: Yeah...I guess. My head hurts a little.

JOE: Something looks a little off.

SPARK: What do you mean?

JOE: I don't know. Something about you seems different.

DIEGO: Maybe he grew a third arm. I hear that can happen with electrocutions.

CARMEN: You dummies, his hair is white.

SPARK: My hair is what?

CARMEN: Completely white.

DIEGO: *(To Spark.)* Like an old man.

JOE: *(To Spark.)* Or a ghost. Are you dead?

SPARK: No.

JOE: Are we all dead and don't know it?

CARMEN: Stop. Something must have zapped the pigment in his hair.

SPARK: I want to see.

*(Carmen pulls out her phone, takes a picture, and shows him.)*

CARMEN: See?

SPARK: Whoa. That's kinda cool!

DIEGO: Can I touch your hair?

CARMEN: I wouldn't. It might be filled with electric energy.

DIEGO: Way cool!

CARMEN: Mark, do you think you can get up?

SPARK: Yeah. I mean, I feel fine.

*(Principal Haney enters and approaches Spark and the others.)*

PRINCIPAL HANEY: Is everything all right over here?

CARMEN: Yes, we're fine.

*(Principal Haney notices Spark's hair.)*

PRINCIPAL: Whoa! Your hair is white! Are you sure everything is okay?

SPARK: Yes. I just got a little shock.

PRINCIPAL HANEY: Maybe we should call it a night. What does everyone say?

*(Crowd groans and boos. Students adlib, "We want to dance," etc.)*

JOE: Come on, Haney. Be chill for once.

PRINCIPAL HANEY: Mark, you really should go home.

SPARK: I'm okay, Principal Haney.

PRINCIPAL HANEY: Are you sure?

SPARK: Yes. I've never felt better, actually.

PRINCIPAL HANEY: I don't need any lawsuits.

SPARK: I'm not gonna sue. I feel fine, really.

PRINCIPAL HANEY: As long as you're sure.

SPARK: I'm sure.

DIEGO: You heard the man! Let's get this final dance hopping. *(Calls.)* DJ Rex?

DJ REX: I got you! *(To Students, announcing.)* Grab that special someone...again.

*(Music is heard. Students start to dance.)*

JOE: Go on, Mark. Nikki is just standing there.

SPARK: I guess nothing worse can happen, right?

JOE: Of course not. You already have white hair. Your life is basically over already.

DIEGO: *(To Spark.)* Go get her.

*(Spark approaches Nikki.)*

SPARK: *(To Nikki, nervous.)* Would you like to dance?

NIKKI: No thanks.

SPARK: Oh...well...

NIKKI: Unless it's with you.

SPARK: Ha-ha! Good one. You got me.

*(Spark and Nikki go to dance. As soon as Spark touches Nikki, she is shocked.)*

NIKKI: Ow!

SPARK ADAMS  
20

SPARK: Sorry, must be an aftershock.

NIKKI: Ha-ha. Yeah.

SPARK: Let's try that again.

*(Spark touches Nikki and she is shocked again.)*

NIKKI: Ow!

SPARK: Again?

NIKKI: Yes! Just as bad as before...maybe worse.

SPARK: That's weird.

NIKKI: Maybe it's me. I'll try rubbing my hand on something solid first. *(Rubs her hand on the floor.)*

SPARK: Ready?

NIKKI: Yeah. *(Spark touches Nikki and she is shocked again.)*  
Ow!

SPARK: What is going on?

NIKKI: You keep shocking me!

SPARK: I know that. I'm just confused as to why.

NIKKI: Beats me.

SPARK: Well, we can try to dance without touching.

NIKKI: Um...okay...

*(Spark and Nikki start awkwardly slow dancing without touching each other.)*

SPARK: This is nice.

NIKKI: Uh...

SPARK: Okay, this is ridiculous.

NIKKI: Maybe you should see if you can shock someone else.

SPARK: What?

NIKKI: See if you can shock someone else.

SPARK: How?

NIKKI: Just go and touch them.

SPARK: You really think I should?

NIKKI: Sure, it may be kind of fun.

*(Spark sneaks up behind Joe, who is dancing with Student 1, and touches him. Joe is shocked.)*

JOE: Ow! What in the crusted lobster was that?!

SPARK: Did I shock you?

JOE: What do you think?

SPARK: Cool!

JOE: No! Not cool!

SPARK: No, it is. Watch...

*(Spark sneaks up behind Diego and touches him. Diego is shocked.)*

DIEGO: Yowza!

SPARK: Did that hurt?

DIEGO: Of course, it hurt! I don't say "yowzas" for fun, ya know.

SPARK: So cool.

DIEGO: No, not cool!

SPARK: No, listen...I can shock people.

DIEGO: Oh, come on. That's not a thing.

JOE: He shocked me and you.

SPARK: *(To Diego.)* And Nikki.

JOE: Maybe it's just lingering from before.

SPARK: I don't think so. It's not lessening in intensity.

DIEGO: Perhaps you just need to get it out of your system.

SPARK: Worth a try.

*(Spark goes around the room shocking Students. [Note: Everyone Spark touches is shocked and screams.] Spark goes faster and shocks as many Students as he can. Angry, Students form a semi-circle around Spark. Students grumble.)*

STUDENT 1: *(To Spark.)* What's wrong with you?!

STUDENT 2: He's a weirdo, that's what.

STUDENT 1: *(To Principal Haney, indicating Spark.)* Get him away from us!

STUDENT 2: *(To Principal Haney, indicating Spark.)* He's dangerous!

PRINCIPAL HANEY: *(Announcing.)* Everyone, calm down. Let's figure this out. Anyone have any ideas? *(Others mumble and look down.)* Carmen, you're smart. Any thoughts?

CARMEN: I don't know what's going on, but I know he's not dangerous.

STUDENT 2: Not dangerous?! He shocked us all!

STUDENT 1: And it hurt!

CARMEN: He doesn't mean to, do you, Mark?

SPARK: No.

STUDENT 2: It doesn't matter. He's a mutant.

JOE: Hey, Mark may be a lot of things, but he's not a mutant.

DIEGO: Yeah, maybe this power is a good thing.

STUDENT 2: A good thing? How?

DIEGO: Uh...well...Joe, you tell them.

JOE: What? Me? Carmen's the smart one.

SPARK: Look, everyone, I don't know what's wrong with me.

So I shock people...big deal. I'm sure it'll wear off soon.

JOE: Or you could have developed some kind of awesome superpower. I've read about this sort of thing happening in books.

DIEGO: Comic books!

JOE: So? They're real life!

CARMEN: I doubt Mark has any sort of actual superpower.

DIEGO: *(Excited.)* Ooh! Maybe he can make lightning. *(To Spark.)* Try it!

SPARK: Um...okay. How?

DIEGO: Concentrate. Hold your hands out and focus your mind. Think electricity exuding from the palms of your hands.

*(Spark holds his hands out and closes his eyes. Spark starts grunting and making other noises. Nothing happens.)*

SPARK: Nothing?

DIEGO: Nope. I don't think you concentrated hard enough.

JOE: Maybe he has to start small and develop his powers.

What else can we make him do?

CARMEN: Guys, stop. This is ridiculous.

JOE: You said he might have a superpower.

CARMEN: I said I doubted that he had a superpower.

STUDENT 3: Hey! I have a dead cell phone here. Think he can charge it?

CARMEN: Charge a phone?

STUDENT 3: Why not? He has electric powers, doesn't he?

CARMEN: No! Shocking people is hardly evidence of electric powers.

SPARK: Yeah, I can't even make lightning shoot from my hands.

STUDENT 3: Ah, come on. Let's just see. Whaddya say, Mark?

SPARK: Fine. Let me see your phone.

*(Student 3 hands Spark his cell phone. Spark concentrates. Suddenly, the phone lights up.)*

JOE: Whoa!

STUDENT 3: *(Looking at phone.)* He did it! It's already at a hundred percent after one second!

DIEGO: Amazing! I have a friend with superpowers!

*(Crowd reacts.)*

CARMEN: Calm down, everyone. This is nothing to get excited about.

PRINCIPAL HANEY: *(Excited.)* Are you kidding me? We have a superhero at our school! My school! We'll make headlines all over the country, probably the world, too!

STUDENT 1: Let's see what else he can do!

JOE: *(Calls.)* Hey, DJ Rex, turn off your soundboard for a second, will ya?

DJ REX: Sure thing.

JOE: All right, Mark, let's see if you can get the music to play by touching the soundboard.

SPARK: This seems a little absurd.

JOE: Just do it. We need to see what you can do.

SPARK: Ugh! Fine. *(Touches the soundboard, and music immediately starts playing.)*

DJ REX: Radical!

JOE: Oh, yeah! That's what I'm talking about!

DIEGO: I wonder if he can reverse electricity.

SPARK: What do you mean?

DIEGO: Like stop currents from flowing. You can make them flow, but can you stop the flow?

JOE: Sounds like a bad Pepto-Bismol commercial.

SPARK: *(To Diego.)* What do you want me to do?

DIEGO: Um...go over to the light switch, and without touching it, see if you can turn off the lights.

*(Spark hesitantly approaches the light switch and holds out his hand.)*

JOE: *(To Spark.)* Concentrate this time.

*(Spark closes his eyes and focuses. SFX of electricity. Lights out. Crowd cheers. Students adlib, "Wow," "That's so cool!" etc.)*

DIEGO: Okay, Mark, see if you can turn them on.

*(Spark closes his eyes and focuses. Lights up. Nikki is talking on her phone intently. [Note: During the following, she exits, somewhat urgently.]*

PRINCIPAL HANEY: All right, Mark! You are a superhero. Let's get the news cameras rolling. I'll make the call.



CARMEN: Wait! We can't just rush into this.  
DIEGO: Yeah, that's right!  
CARMEN: Are you actually agreeing with me?  
DIEGO: Of course. Mark has to have a superhero name  
before we introduce him to the world!  
CARMEN: No, that's not what I—  
JOE: I vote "Super Shocker."  
DIEGO: Dumb.  
JOE: You have something better?  
DIEGO: Yes. "Shockman."  
JOE: No way! "The Shocker."  
STUDENT 3: "Shock Wave!"  
DIEGO: Shut up, kid. This is our friend. We name him.  
CARMEN: Guys, really?  
DIEGO: Unless you have any ideas, I say we go with "Sparky  
McSpark Meister."  
JOE: "Mark the Spark!"  
SPARK: How about "Spark Adams"?

*(Students positively react, "Ooooooh!" etc.)*

DIEGO: Spark Adams, huh? Joe, what do you think?  
JOE: I like it. Simple, to the point, and accurate.  
DIEGO: All right, Principal Haney, now you can call in the  
reporters and cameras. We have a superhero to introduce!  
JOE: Spark Adams!  
DIEGO: *(To Students.)* Let's hear it for Spark Adams!

*(Joe and Diego encourage Students to cheer, whoop, and holler.)*

CARMEN: Guys!  
STUDENT 2: *(To Spark.)* Do some cool superhero stuff!  
STUDENT 3: *(To Spark.)* Save the world!  
DIEGO: *(To Spark.)* The universe!  
JOE: *(To Spark.)* And everything in between!

*(Students adlib, "Come on, Spark!" etc.)*

CARMEN: *(To Joe and Diego.)* We should think about this before we get carried away.

JOE: No way! We're gonna make this kid a star!

DIEGO: *(To Carmen.)* And then we can cash in on his success.

SPARK: Hey!

*(As the crowd continues to cheer, there is a disturbance near the entrance. Suddenly, Secret Service Agents enter to secure the premises. They are wearing black suits and sunglasses. Crowd stops cheering. President enters. During the following, Nikki enters and tries to look inconspicuous.)*

PRESIDENT: *(To Students.)* Where is he? Where is this super kid?

SPARK: *(Calls.)* I'm right here.

JOE: *(To President.)* And you are...?

PRESIDENT: Funny, kid. *(To Spark.)* Nice to meet you.

*(President goes to shake Spark's hand and is shocked.)*

SPARK: Sorry.

PRESIDENT: No worries, kid. That's some shock you got there.

SPARK: Yes, it was a freak accident. I'm sure the effects won't last long.

PRESIDENT: Well, while you have this power, I have a—

JOE: Whoa, whoa, whoa. Excuse me, but who are you?

CARMEN: Joe, not now.

JOE: No, I want to know who this guy thinks he is coming in here with his goons and propositioning my client.

PRESIDENT: I'm the President.

JOE: Which president?

PRESIDENT: President Van Doren.

JOE: Not ringing a bell.

CARMEN: Shut up, Joe.

JOE: No. No one can just show up here and expect to use Spark Adams how he pleases. I don't care if he is the...the...uh...President of the United States.

CARMEN: He is the President of the United States.

JOE: Wha—? I don't care. Spark is *our* superhero. He only does what we tell him to do.

SPARK: Joe, please stop.

PRESIDENT: *(To Joe.)* Look, son, your friend, here, may be the only hope to save America.

JOE: All right! I knew it! Spark is going to be rich and famous! *(To Students.)* Let's hear it for Spark Adams, everyone...the kid who is going to save the world, the universe, and everything in between!

PRESIDENT: Well, I don't know about the world...

DIEGO: *(To Crowd.)* I'm taking pre-orders for T-shirts, hats, socks, glow-in-the-dark underwear! Who's in?

*(Crowd cheers.)*

SPARK: *(To President.)* I'm sorry for my friends here.

PRESIDENT: It's okay. I'd be excited, too, if I had a friend who had superpowers.

SPARK: I'm not sure how super I am.

PRESIDENT: From what I've heard, I would say you are very super.

SPARK: What have you heard?

PRESIDENT: Oh, yes. Charging a dead cell phone, playing music from an unplugged soundboard, turning off and on lights—

SPARK: How did you hear about all that?

PRESIDENT: Oh, well, let's just say I have eyes and ears everywhere.

*(President gives Nikki a look. She ducks behind the crowd.)*

JOE: All right, "Mr. President," what can my client do for you?

PRESIDENT: That's classified.

JOE: I'm sorry. My client only works for people who can give details. It was nice talking to you.

*(Joe puts his arm around Spark and is shocked. Joe starts to exit.)*

PRESIDENT: Fine. *(Joe stops.)* If you must know —

JOE: Yes, I do.

PRESIDENT: Cities all over America are losing power, thus crippling our country. Nothing is working to restore power to the main grid. I'm hoping your friend, here, can spark the system and get it going again.

JOE: What's the pay?

PRESIDENT: Oh, let's just say that if he succeeds, you'll be taken care of for a long while.

JOE: Wowee! Diego, did you hear that?!

DIEGO: Of course! I'm standing right here!

JOE: *(To President.)* Let me consult with my client and board members.

DIEGO: *(To Spark, Joe, Carmen.)* Huddle up!

*(Joe pulls Spark, Carmen, and Diego downstage. A few Students take selfies with the President.)*

JOE: What do you think, Spark?

SPARK: What do you mean, what do I think?

JOE: About the job.

SPARK: What about it?

JOE: Do you want to do it?

CARMEN: Joe, it's the President of the United States, of course, he's going to do it.

SPARK: Well...

CARMEN: Mark —

JOE: *(Correcting.)* It's Spark Adams.

DIEGO: Get it right, Carmen.

CARMEN: Whatever. *(To Joe.)* He can't say no to the President.

JOE: Why not? It sounds risky.

SPARK: It does?

CARMEN: *(To Joe.)* It's restoring power. How risky can that be?

JOE: Hey, maybe the power grid is guarded by a dragon.

SPARK: Dragon?!

DIEGO: Or a bunch of evil ninja assassins.

SPARK: Ninjas?!

DIEGO: Oh yeah, Spark doesn't know karate.

JOE: Or laser beams that will cut him in half.

SPARK: Lasers?!

CARMEN: Stop! I'm sure it's something simple like pushing a button or something.

DIEGO: Plus, if he succeeds, none of us will ever have to work a day in our lives!

JOE: Okay, Spark, let's do this!

SPARK: *(Reluctant.)* But—

*(President butts in.)*

PRESIDENT: All right. I don't have time to wait any longer.

Spark, are you coming?

SPARK: *(Reluctant.)* Well, I...

JOE: Go! Save the world!

DIEGO: *(To Spark.)* And the universe!

*(Pause. Joe and Diego give Carmen a look.)*

CARMEN: *(To Spark.)* And everything in between!

SPARK: All right! Let's do this!

PRESIDENT: Great. *(To Secret Service Agents.)* Let's head on out. We got him.

*(Secret Service Agents escort Spark off. The Secretary and some Secret Service Agents linger behind.)*

JOE: *(To Diego and Carmen.)* Let's go!

*(Joe, Diego, and Carmen start to follow Spark off. The Secretary stops them.)*

SECRETARY: *(To Joe, Diego, and Carmen.)* I'm sorry, your friend must go alone...top secret mission.

JOE: Oh, come on!

DIEGO: *(To Students.)* Let's at least give Spark a rousing send-off as he goes to save the world!

CARMEN: *(Calls.)* Good luck, Mark.

*(Crowd cheers for Spark.)*

SECRETARY: All right, quiet down! There are a few things we need to go over.

*(Secret Service Agents surround the crowd. Joe pulls Diego and Carmen downstage.)*

JOE: *(To Diego and Carmen.)* I don't like the look of this.

DIEGO: Definitely looks sketchy. *(Points to Secret Service Agent 1.)* Look! That guy has a huge syringe!

STUDENT 3: *(To Secretary, shouts.)* Hey! What's going on?

SECRETARY: Nothing to be alarmed about. Standard protocol.

*(Secret Service Agent 1 "stabs" Student with a syringe. Student passes out.)*

STUDENT 2: *(To Secret Service Agent 1, shouts.)* You just killed him!

SECRETARY: Calm down! He's merely unconscious. It's a serum that will wipe your memories.

STUDENT 3: Wipe our memories?!

STUDENT 1: *(To Secretary.)* You can't do that!

SECRETARY: We can. What you have witnessed needs to be kept classified. *(To Secret Service Agents.)* Get them all!

*(Chaos ensues as Students are rounded up by Secret Service Agents and stuck with syringes. Nikki is caught.)*

SECRET SERVICE AGENT 1: *(Indicating Nikki.)* Madame Secretary, it's the President's daughter. Should I wipe her memory?

SECRETARY: No, of course not. Escort her out of here. Make sure she doesn't get loose, though.

SECRET SERVICE AGENT 1: Yes, ma'am.

PRINCIPAL HANEY: Psst! Carmen, Joe, Diego! Over here! *(Carmen, Joe, and Diego approach.)* Go through there... *(Points off.)* ...and run!

JOE: No need to tell me twice!

CARMEN: *(To Joe and Diego.)* Run!

*(Joe, Carmen, and Diego run off.)*

SECRET SERVICE AGENT 1: *(Shouts.)* They're getting away! After them! *(Approaches Principal Haney. To Principal Haney.)* Stand aside.

PRINCIPAL HANEY: No, this is my school.

*(Secret Service Agent 1 "stabs" Principal Haney with a syringe. Principal Haney crumples to the floor. Secret Service Agent 1 exits. Lights fade to black as Students are subdued.)*

## SCENE 3

(AT RISE: *Commander Omega's hideout. Lights up DSL. Commander Omega is sitting at his desk, playing Risk or another board game with Agent Y. A cloaked figure knocks on the door. It is the Secretary disguised as Agent X, a spy. She disguises her voice.*)

AGENT Y: *(To Omega.)* It's Agent X, sir.

OMEGA: Ah! Agent X, please come in.

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* Thank you, Commander Omega.

OMEGA: I hope things are going well.

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* Yes, quite well. Major cities across America are losing power as planned, shutting down the economy and communication.

OMEGA: Excellent!

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* Almost everything is going according to plan.

OMEGA: Almost everything?

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* Well, the President is becoming more and more desperate. The state of America is rapidly declining, and he is near his wits' end.

OMEGA: That is good news. But what's the problem? Isn't he ready to submit to the Syndicate?

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* Uh...well...not quite. He still holds out hope for America. I believe that he will cave within a few weeks, though. However...uh...uh...

OMEGA: What is it?

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* I'm sure it's nothing, but there has been a recent development.

OMEGA: I do not like the tone of your voice, Agent X. What has happened?

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* It's quite funny, actually—

OMEGA: Just tell me what happened!

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* The President seems to be under the impression that a teenage boy, now known as "Spark Adams," has developed superpowers.



*(Omega and Agent Y look at each other and laugh.)*

OMEGA: Superpowers? What kind of superpowers?

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* Electricity.

OMEGA: You must be joking! Why does the President believe this boy has electric powers?

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* Apparently, there was an accident at the boy's school, and he was electrocuted.

OMEGA: And what is the extent of his powers?

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* That is uncertain. He reportedly charged a couple of cell phones and turned the lights on and off.

*(Nikki enters and hides in the shadows to eavesdrop. The others do not notice her.)*

OMEGA: *(Evil laugh.)* Ah-ha-ha-ha! A boy who can charge a phone?! That doesn't seem to be much of a development.

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* But, sir—

OMEGA: Don't undermine me!

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* I am not, Commander. It's just that if this boy really has electric powers, he may be able to restore the country's power grid.

OMEGA: Hmm...and thus shut down our whole operation. That cannot happen!

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* I know, sir.

OMEGA: Tell me you have a solution.

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* I do, and may I say that it's quite genius.

OMEGA: It better be.

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* I have already hacked into the White House's defense computer system and reprogrammed the system.

OMEGA: Interesting. What will that do?

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* The President is going to use Spark Adams to restore the main power grid. However,

when Spark pushes the button, instead of restoring power, he will release more than a hundred missiles that will hit cities across the US.

OMEGA: Well done, Agent X!

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* Thank you.

OMEGA: But there's still more to do.

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* I am at your service.

OMEGA: I need Spark Adams!

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* Sir?

OMEGA: Get him! Bring him to me!

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* That will be quite difficult. The President—

OMEGA: I don't care! I need him here.

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* Yes, Commander Omega.

*(Nikki sneaks off.)*

OMEGA: As long as Spark Adams is on their side, we may never take down America.

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* I see, sir.

OMEGA: If you succeed, Agent X, I will make you second in command.

AGENT Y: *(Disappointed, whiny.)* But, sir, I thought—

OMEGA: Silence!

AGENT Y: Yes, sir.

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X. To Omega.)* Thank you, sir. You will not be disappointed.

OMEGA: I better not be. This boy could be the downfall of the Global Allegiant Syndicate if you don't succeed.

SECRETARY: *(As Agent X.)* I understand.

OMEGA: Now, go! Bring me this super boy! Bring me Spark Adams! *(Evil laugh.)* Ha-ha-ha!

**[END OF FREEVIEW]**