

For The Girl Who Lost Everything

Preliminary Pitch for a Supergirl One-Shot
By Alberto Veloso

What does Kara dream of? What is she afraid of? What does she want more than anything in the whole world? Those are the questions every teenage girl asks herself, and regardless of whichever world she came from, Supergirl is, at her core, just that... a teenage girl.

This Supergirl One-Shot aims to answer these very questions in an homage to the classic Alan Moore/Dave Gibbons Annual. This time, it's Supergirl who is attacked with the Black Mercy by her enemy, Reign. Her body crash-lands in Gotham, where Batman struggles to find a solution while Superman continues the fight with Reign.

But the real fight happens inside Supergirl's mind, where the Black Mercy has fooled her into believing she's back on Krypton, and that her tumultuous time on Earth was just a dream, fueled by her anxiety over the upcoming trials. The anxiety part is dead right.

Kara, only daughter of Zor-El, Argo City's most prestigious scientist, does not want to join the Science Guild. Her true passion is music, which she listens to secretly with her best friend Tali. However, to pursue music would break her father's heart, so Kara and Tali come up with a plan to intentionally fail the trials and be rejected by their families' guilds.

On the day of the trials, Kara excels effortlessly until she comes to the last test, the moment of truth. Kara hesitates. She looks to Tali in the crowd. She looks at her father staring down at her with pride. Kara passes the trials. The crowd cheers. Kara's heart breaks.

While the Superman/Reign brawl happens in the real world, in real time, the world inside Kara's mind moves much faster, and we see Kara again as an adult. She is a respected, though unhappy, member of the Science Guild. She's also the caring mother of an eight-year-old boy who is celebrating his birthday (called firstday on Krypton). Friends and family gather around while the boy boasts that he's going to be a space explorer one day, an idea that Grandpa Zor-El quickly shoots down as "ridiculous."

It's the last straw. Kara can't let her son continue along the stifling cycle of expectations. She confronts her father and tells him she's quitting the Science Guild for good.

Rejecting her father leads the real Supergirl to reject the Black Mercy, which Batman quickly places in a containment box. Supergirl joins Superman in the fight against Reign, who they manage to scare away. But the true victory, the victory that each girl must make in her own life, is assertion of her own identity, the finding of her own path in life.

This One-Shot aims to put the "girl" back in Supergirl, and reveal more about life on Krypton than any Superman comic ever could. If you're interested in reading a full-length proposal, please feel free to email me at: alberto@albertoveloso.com.