"Bodyswap"

by

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Season #3
Show #8

Final Draft
August 23, 1990

Revised 8/30/90 - Blue (All)
Revised 9/6/90 - Pink
Revised 9/7/90 - Yellow
Revised 9/10/90 - Green

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"Bodyswap" Rev. 8/30/90 - Blue

THE ADVENTURES OF SUPERBOY

"Bodyswap"

FADE IN:

1  INT. STATION WAGON - DAY

A family is packed into their station wagon, along with
luggage, camping equipment, etc. The kids are in back,
fighting. MOM and DAD look worn out. Dad whirls around.

    DAD
    So help me, if you two don’t cut it
    out, I’m gonna come back there --

    MOM
    Burt!  (chastising)
    This is a vacation. Vacations
    are fun.

Dad is obviously embarrassed by his outburst. The LITTLE GIRL
begins to snuffle, frightened by his unusual response.
He turns back to her.

    DAD
    I’m sorry, honey. Sometimes Daddy
    has bad days.

He looks back up front.

2  HIS POV

A car’s coming directly at them; it’s passing a truck on a
curve.

3  INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

The kids scream; Dad yanks the wheel to avoid disaster.

4  EXT. ROAD - CONTINUOUS

The station wagon veers, skids off the road out of control,
then heads straight for a tree.

5  DAD’S POV

through the windshield, as the car races toward the tree. But
suddenly, there’s a red and blue blur -- It’s SUPERBOY -- who
lands between the station wagon and the tree and brings the
vehicle to a gentle stop.
EXT. ROAD - DAY

Superboy steps out from in front of the station wagon. The dazed family now gets out. Dad approaches Superboy.

DAD
(badly shaken)
I thought we were gonna...
(gratefully)
How can I ever thank you?

TIGHT ON SUPERBOY

It looks like he’s about to give his usual answer, but then:

SUPERBOY
Got any cash?

Dad stares at him for a moment, then laughs nervously. Superboy produces some gum and sticks a wad in his mouth.

SUPERBOY
No cash, huh?
(eyeing their car)
Well... car’s in good shape.

And moving in super-speed, he unloads their stuff, jumps in, and guns the motor.

SUPERBOY
Engine’s good. Consider the debt paid in full.

And with a wave of his hand and the pop of a gum bubble, he fishtails off. The family stands in stunned silence. After a long beat, the little girl tugs on her Daddy’s pantleg.

GIRL
Does Superboy have bad days, too?

On Dad’s dazed look, we:

FADE OUT.

END TEASER
ACT ONE

FADE IN:

7 INT. BUREAU PARKING GARAGE - DAY

LANA pulls into her space in the Bureau’s deserted indoor
garage. As she steps out of her jeep, a hushed voice calls
out:

VOICE (O.S.)
(urgently)
Lana!

Lana looks for the source of the voice but doesn’t see anyone.
She slowly backs away. As she turns, she’s grabbed, and a
strong hand blocks her scream. She’s pulled behind a car,
struggling fiercely. Suddenly, her eyes meet her assailant’s.
It’s LEX LUTHOR! (Note: He is wearing a wig here.)

LUTHOR
You have to help me.

Lana struggles, shaking violently, trying to loosen his hand.

LUTHOR
I’m not Luthor!
(intensely)
I’m Superboy!

Lana stops struggling, momentarily amazed. Luthor pulls his
hand away. After a beat:

LANA
You’re out of your mind...

LUTHOR
It’s my body I’m out of.

What?

LUTHOR
Two minutes. And then you can walk
away. Trust me.

LANA
Trust? That’s a funny word coming
from you.

LUTHOR
Lana, I need you to listen to
me... But I won’t force you...

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Luthor's unusual pleading manner makes Lana uncertain. Finally:

(CONTINUED)
7 CONTINUED:

LANA
Two minutes. Then I scream...

LUTHOR
(taking a deep breath)
It was an experiment. I wanted to know where I was from. This Doctor -- Deland -- he used to work with Professor Peterson... He said he could help me...

And as he speaks, we:

CUT TO:

8 INT. LABORATORY - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

As Luthor's tale unfolds, we see Superboy sitting in a chair with various electrodes attached to his head and body -- attended by DR. OLIVER DELAND, mid-forties and rumpled. Some experiment is about to commence. Superboy seems anxious.

DELAND
... And every memory makes a crease in the brain. If I can scan them with electron beams, we might be able to get all the way down to your earliest memories. Maybe find out where you came from.

SUPERBOY
(considering the ramifications)
And why I'm here.

Deland makes a couple of notes on some papers, compares them to figures in a reference book, then tucks the papers inside the book and puts it back on a bookshelf. Superboy watches, until:

DELAND
Ready?

Superboy nods.

SUPERBOY'S POV - ON DELAND

DELAND
Now close your eyes, and start counting backwards from a hundred.

The SCREEN goes BLACK, as Superboy closes his eyes.

(CONTINUED)
SUPERBOY
One-hundred... ninety-nine...
ninety-eight...

There is a crackle of power that surges for one beat, two...
before the current snaps off.

POV SHOT - SUPERBOY (INT. SMALL ROOM - NIGHT)

START ON BLACK: as the counting continues but now in a
different VOICE. Different, but familiar. Very familiar.

VOICE (O.S.)
Ninety-seven, ninety-six,
ninety-five.

FADE IN as the CAMERA looks down and sees... strange hands!
X:INTAIN POV as the CAMERA looks around and sees that it's all
alone -- in a different room. It STANDS UP -- UNSTEADY.

VOICE (O.S.)
Dr. Deland?

No response. There is a sink nearby, and the CAMERA goes to
it and looks down at the basin. The hands cling to it as if to
steady themselves. And then something falls into the sink.
A wig. PAN UP to the mirror above the sink... so we can see
the stunned face and shiny skull of... Lex Luthor.

ANOTHER ANGLE

Superboy, now in Luthor's body, spins away from the mirror,
horrified. From an adjacent room he hears a loud laugh. He
goes over to a small window in the door and looks out.

HIS POV

The lab is exactly the same as it was when he closed his eyes
moments ago. Superboy -- or rather Luthor in Superboy's
body -- is looking into a mirror. He is laughing.

SUPERBOY
(to Deland)
You are indeed a genius.

DELAND
I'm not in this for an ego massage.
We agreed on a sum of money...

SUPERBOY
Not until I get your notes and the
blueprints for this thing.

(Continued)
CONTINUED:

DELAND
(nervously)
How can I be sure I'll get my money?

SUPERBOY
Trust me, getting money will never be a problem for me again.

He picks up a metal transformer and crushes it with one hand. He laughs maniacally.

BACK TO SCENE

Inside the room, Superboy -- in Luthor's body -- can't believe he's been duped. He stands there, frozen. (NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, Superboy-in-Luthor's-body will be called LUTHOR; Luthor-in-Superboy's-body will be called SUPERBOY).

INT. LABORATORY - NIGHT

Superboy turns to Deland with a dark smile.

SUPERBOY
Perhaps it's time our bald friend finally made it to the electric chair.

He starts toward the adjacent room.

INT. SMALL ROOM - NIGHT

As Superboy enters to confront: an open window with curtains blowing in... and the trackless night outside.

CUT TO:

INT. BUREAU PARKING GARAGE - DAY

Luthor is finishing up his story.

LUTHOR
They tricked me, Lana -- using my past as bait. And I swallowed the hook.

He stares at Lana, imploringly. For a moment, it's unclear how she'll react. Then:

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

LANA
Are you done? Is this the part where you let me walk away?

LUTHOR
Please... I need you to go back and see if Deland’s still there. If the police catch me, I’ll--

LANA
-- You’ll get what you deserve.

LUTHOR
No, you don’t understand...

He takes Lana’s arm, and she immediately screams. He tries to quiet her down, but suddenly, a large hand clamps down on his shoulder. A BURLY MAN now spins him around.

BURLY MAN
What’re you doin’?

LANA
He’s hurting me!

And the burly man punches Luthor in the face. He falls back, gripping his now bloody nose in both shock and pain. He begins backing away. The burly guy turns to Lana.

BURLY MAN
You okay?

LANA
(nodding)
Get him! That’s Lex Luthor!
The police want him.

The guy turns and sees Luthor backing away. He takes off after him. Luthor runs off as fast as he can.

CUT TO:

INT. PARKING LOT ALCOVE - DAY

Luthor ducks into the alcove and hides. He sees the burly man run by the entrance and continue on. Luthor sags in relief, his chest heaving. He reaches up and touches his nose, then winces in pain and pulls his bloody hand away. Pain, exhaustion, injury: these are all new to him. He slumps against the wall.

CUT TO:
14 INT. THE BUREAU - DAY

Lana is sitting at Matt's desk, sipping a cup of water.

MATT
Sure you're okay?

LANA
Yeah. Just scared.

MATT
Did Luthor have a gun or anything?

Lana shakes her head.

MATT
Did he try to take you away with him?

LANA
(thinking about it)
No...

MATT
 Doesn't sound like Luthor.

LANA
I know, but...
(after a beat)
Who else could it have been?

Matt shrugs.

MATT
I'm going to go tell Jackson about this... You sure you're okay?

Lana nods, and Matt takes off.

LANA
(to herself)
It had to be him.

After a moment, Lana reaches up and types something into Matt's computer.

INSERT ON COMPUTER

Next to "SEARCH" on the screen, the words, "DR. OLIVER DELAND" appear. A few seconds, then a large file comes up on screen.

BACK TO SCENE

Lana looks at it intently. Just then, a voice behind her makes her jump.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

VOICE (O.S.)

Lana?

Lana turns quickly. It’s ARTIE.

ARTIE

You seen Clark? I’ve got some printouts for him.

LANA

I’ll take ’em. He’s home with the flu. He sent me a note.

ARTIE

Just like grammar school, huh?

He starts to go but notices the screen.

ARTIE

Whoa! Who’s that?

LANA

Oh, it’s nobody.

ARTIE

Pretty impressive credentials for a nobody: Ph.D. in physics and bioengineering; a tenured position at Shuster...

Lana is also looking at the screen.

LANA

... But was forced to resign for unstated reasons...

ARTIE

And look at those publications... Is this something to do with Luthor?

LANA

(unsure)

Ah, no. I don’t think so.

ARTIE

Good. Leave Luthor to Superboy.

Lana nods uncertainly and Artie moves away. But Lana’s thoughtful expression betrays a nagging doubt.

CUT TO:
INT. HOTEL ROOM - DAY

TIGHT ON DARLA, scared and maybe a little excited, too.

DARLA
Lex... Lex!

WIDEN to show that Darla is now in mid-air, in a chair, held up by Superboy.

SUPERBOY
What's my name?

DARLA
All right, all right... It's Superboy.

LUTHOR
Superboy... I like the sound of that.

And he lets her down, somewhat less than gently.

DARLA
So what now? Gonna take over the world?

SUPERBOY
Maybe. Can't do it right away, 'cause everybody'll know something's wrong. I mean, I can have a little fun now and then, but I don't want anyone to start believing that Luthor lunatic when he says he's in the wrong body.

DARLA
So why don't you just get rid of him?

SUPERBOY
Just like that? No chance... I want him to feel what it's like to be me. Persecuted, humiliated, despised...

(beat)
And then I'm going to see that he gets what was coming to me...

Superboy sits down and grabs the seat, making a sizzling noise -- aping the contortions of a man dying in the electric chair. He breaks off his pantomime and laughs maniacally.

(CONTINUED)
15 CONTINUED:

DARLA
Don't wait around for that. Do it now. Business before pleasure.

(CONTINUED;
CONTINUED:

SUPERBOY
(thinking)
Business before... pleasure.
(after a beat)
Maybe you've got a point.

He starts to go to the door.

DARLA
You're going to take care of him now?

SUPERBOY
I just said I was. And Superboy never lies.

CUT TO:

INT. LANA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Bedtime. Lana's pacing anxiously. She goes to a mirror, dabs a bit of cold cream on her cheek, and just as she does, she suddenly stops. In the mirror, she catches sight of Superboy, standing behind her near the open window, watching her. She spins around.

SUPERBOY
I'm sorry... I didn't mean to frighten you.

LANA
No, that's all right. I've... been hoping to see you.

SUPERBOY
Me, too.

LANA
I saw Luthor this morning.

SUPERBOY
Luthor? Did he hurt you? I'll--

LANA
(shaking her head)
No, he didn't hurt me. He only wanted to talk to me.

SUPERBOY
About what?

(CONTINUED)
LANA
Oh, some story about how you and he
had changed bodies. It was crazy,
but...

SUPERBOY
But?

LANA
Nothing...

Superboy starts moving toward her.

SUPERBOY
Lana, whatever he says, don't
listen to him. You have to
trust me... Will you do that?

LANA
(reflecting)
Trust...

SUPERBOY
Like always... because there's
something more important I need to
talk to you about. It's our...
friendship.

He moves in closer.

SUPERBOY
I've been thinking that maybe it's
time we deepened it -- gave it
another level of meaning.

He gently pulls her to him. Lana is not prepared. Her mind
is reeling. This is what she's wanted for a long time, but
something's not right. The doubts come flooding back and she
turns away.

SUPERBOY
What's wrong?

LANA
I... I'm not used to you acting
this way.

Superboy immediately backs away.

SUPERBOY
I'm sorry. I guess we all have our
weak moments.

(CONTINUED)
16 CONTINUED:

He goes over to a nearby table where he scribbles something on a pad of paper. He rips it off and hands it to Lana.

(CONTINUED)
16 CONTINUED:

SUPERBOY
This is where I’m staying. For when you have yours.

He leans in and gently kisses her on the lips. Then:

SUPERBOY
It’s important that you trust me, Lana. You’re the one who’s always known me best.

He goes over to the window. He looks back and smiles, then steps out and flies off. Lana looks at the paper, then slowly wipes her mouth with the back of her hand, thinking.

CUT TO:

17 INT. LABORATORY - NIGHT

All is quiet in the darkened lab. Then, with a loud creak, the door begins to swing open, silhouetting Luthor in the doorway. He steps into the room and looks around. His eyes fall on something, and his face fills with dismay.

HIS POV

The light from the door partially illuminates the room. It has been ransacked -- the equipment destroyed. But something far worse lies in the corner. It’s Dr. Deland, still alive, but barely, with a large bloodstain on his shirt.

BACK TO SCENE

Luthor rushes over and checks his pulse. But just then, he hears the sirens of arriving squad cars and slamming doors. He quickly stands up. He’s got to get out of there. But then he looks back down at Deland. If he leaves, he risks a human life. A beat, then Luthor leans over and starts administering mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. And as he does this, we hear running feet and excited voices; and then we see the dancing beams of flashlights...

WIDEN

As Luthor’s caught in a pool of light, kneeling over Deland’s prone body.

COP (yelling)
Freeze!

Luthor quickly rolls into the darkness and comes up running as bullets strike nearby! He crashes through the rear exit.
18 INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT

Luthor heads down a corridor lined with windows. He comes to one and looks out. He grabs a nearby chair and -- with difficulty -- throws it through the window.

ANGLE ON COPS

They run down the hallway after him. They come to the window and look out.

A19 REVERSE

from the street below, looking up. We see the policeman looking out the window, toward the street. And then above him, we see Luthor standing on a ledge, out of breath, frightened. The policeman soon gives up and backs away from the window.

19 EXT. ROOF - NIGHT

Luthor now climbs onto the roof. Then he darts to the edge of the building and... the world stops. He remembers. Without super-powers, where is he going to go? He looks across at the next building; it's too far to risk, now that he is merely mortal. He looks down into the alleyway.

HIS POV

The flashing lights of cruisers, the squawk of the radios, the glistening asphalt... At least they haven't spotted him. One of the squad cars is peeling away.

BACK TO SCENE

Luthor breathes a sigh of relief. But then, a hand taps him on the shoulder. He turns to face his worst nightmare. It's Superboy. Who smiles broadly.

SUPERBOY
Hello, Luthor.

On Luthor's look of dismay, we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE
ACT TWO

FADE IN:

20 INT. JAIL - DAY

TIGHT on a pair of hands grasping steel bars... they don't bend. PULL BACK to show Luthor (or Superboy, still in Luthor's body) straining mightily at the bars. Finally, he gives up.

LUTHOR
(shouting)
I'm not Luthor! This is a mistake!

VOICE OF GUARD
Yeah, and you're the one who made it when you took on Superboy.

Luthor looks off to see several COPS coming toward his cell. They're led by a jail GUARD.

LUTHOR
Ask Doctor Deland. He can tell you who--

GUARD
Deland's dead. Died on the way to the hospital.

Luthor's face falls; the guard now unlocks his cell door.

LUTHOR
What're you doing?

GUARD
Letting you out so they can take you to the state prison.

LUTHOR
What for?

GUARD
'Cause that's where the electric chair is.

On Luthor's look,

CUT TO:

21 EXT. JAIL - DAY

Luthor is being led out of the back of the jail and to a nearby van by the cops.

(CONTINUED)
21 CONTINUED:

LUTHOR
It's a mistake! You're killing
the wrong man!

The cops chuckle. Suddenly, a convertible slams up
alongside... barely missing them. The cops are forced to
scatter. The driver turns. It is Lana.

LANA
(to Luthor)
Get in!

LUTHOR
(amazed)
Lana?

LANA
(to Luthor)
Get in!

He does.

22 INT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

Before Luthor is firmly in place, Lana jerks the wheel around
and floors the pedal. There's gunfire and scorched rubber as
they fishtail down the alley behind the jail. Lana's
adrenaline is running on high. Luthor is stunned.

LUTHOR
You shouldn't be doing this.

LANA
(in disbelief)
Are you crazy? I'm helping you.

LUTHOR
But you're breaking the law!

LANA
(grim smile)
Now I'm sure it's you...
Superboy.

On his reaction, we:

CUT TO:
23  EXT. ROAD - DAY

Lana and Luthor are going from the convertible to Lana’s jeep.

LUTHOR
What made you finally believe me?

LANA
I knew you’d never come on to me like that.

LUTHOR
Like what?

Lana just smiles. A beat, as Lana lets Luthor’s jealousy simmer. Then she starts the jeep and they screech off.

CUT TO:

24  INT. DELAND’S LABORATORY - NIGHT

WIDE as Lana and Luthor sneak in, tearing through the police tape that seals the door. Books are scattered all over the floor. Luthor picks up one of the books.

LUTHOR
I think he put them in this one.

Lana takes the book and opens it. The papers Deland wrote on are indeed in here.

TIGHT ON LANA

exitely examining Deland’s notes.

LANA
They’re his notes, all right... the blueprints for the machine... We can rebuild it!

No response from Luthor. She looks at him.

LUTHOR
is looking off into space, shoulders slumped.

TWO SHOT

Lana’s concerned.

LANA
What’s wrong?

LUTHOR
Think about it.

(CONTINUED)
LANA
About what?

LUTHOR
What we've got to do. Going up against somebody with his powers.
Now I know what he feels like: hopeless.

He starts to turn away, but Lana grabs him.

LANA
Listen to me... You think the only thing that makes you a hero is your powers?

She points to the chalk outline where Deland's body was.

LANA
You told me yourself, when you could've run and maybe escaped, you stayed and tried to save Deland.
That's what being a hero really means. It's who you are, not what you are.

LUTHOR
Lana... There's no way to--

LANA
Yes there is. You're in Luthor's body; all you have to do is start thinking like him.

On Luthor's confused look,

CUT TO:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Superboy is partaking of a meal for ten. Darla, at the other end of the table, is watching a news report. She glances at Superboy periodically.

NEWSMAN
Convicted killer Lex Luthor escaped from jail late today while being transferred to a maximum security prison where he faced execution.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)
NEWSMAN (cont'd)
Police say they are following up several leads but admit to having no real evidence as to his whereabouts. Luthor was convicted of murder last year and sentenced to death, but he escaped execution when the electric chair unexpectedly malfunctioned.

(Continued)
Superboy blows a gust of super-breath at the TV, and it falls over backwards, imploding.

**Superboy**
Better than remote control.

**Darla**
What now?

**Superboy**
What do you mean, 'What now?' It's even better this way. Let him taste freedom one more time, so when he sits in that chair...
(licks food from his fingers)
It'll hurt even more.

Just then, there is a knock at the door. Superboy turns and uses his X-ray vision to see who's there.

**His X-ray pov**
It's Lana.

**Back to scene**
Superboy thinks a moment, then turns to Darla.

**Superboy**
Be a good girl and go wait in the the other room.

**Darla**
Why? Who is it?

**Superboy**
It's business.

She goes out onto the balcony. Superboy opens the door with a big smile.

**Superboy**
Lana... What a surprise!

**Lana**
I decided you were right. It is time to move our relationship to another level.

Superboy can hardly hide his enthusiasm. He puts on his best Superboy imitation and gestures her in.

(continued)
25 CONTINUED:

SUPERBOY
(softly)
I’m glad. Won’t you come in?

But Lana doesn’t step in. Instead:

LUTHOR (O.S.)

Luthor!

NEW ANGLE - HALLWAY OUTSIDE DOOR

As Superboy turns to see... himself, or rather, Superboy in Luthor’s body, standing near Lana. Superboy is delighted.

SUPERBOY
Oh, I get it. A trap. And how did you plan to take me in? Cuffs?

LUTHOR
Don’t worry about that. You killed Deland for no reason, and now you’re going to pay for it.

SUPERBOY
No reason? I am truly offended. Deland was the only one who knew about our little switcheroo. And he was also the only one who could switch us back.

LUTHOR
So you killed him.

SUPERBOY
Of course I killed him, but I did have a reason.

LUTHOR
And now you’re going to pay for it.

As Lana watches anxiously, Luthor pulls out a small lead-gray box from behind his back.

SUPERBOY
And what could that be, Kryptonite?

LUTHOR
You got it.

Before Luthor can open it, Superboy turns his heat-vision on it.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

INSERT

The lead box smolders and begins to melt. Luthor's hands are burned; he drops it.

BACK TO SCENE

SUPERBOY
You have to be pretty quick to beat Superboy. I've learned the hard way...
(with a grim smile)
Now so will you!

Superboy moves toward Luthor. Luthor shouts to Lana:

LUTHOR
Lana! Run!

She runs down the hall. Luthor takes off in the opposite direction. Superboy, amazingly, stops cold.

TIGHT ON SUPERBOY

still at the door, smiling. Darla now comes out.

DARLA
What are you waiting for? Get 'em!

SUPERBOY
I'm trying to think which one of my powers I should use.
(a beat)
Yes... that one... It's his favorite...

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Luthor's running down the street. He looks glances back over his shoulder and a look of horror comes over his face.

HIS POV

From out of the black night sky, it's Superboy.

BACK TO SCENE

Luthor runs as fast as he can, but it's as if he's standing still.

(CONTINUED)
28 CONTINUED:

Superboy swoops down on him and plucks him off the street.

ON LUTHOR

bereft of hope.

CUT TO:

29 INT. PRISON/EXECUTION AREA - DAY

TIGHT on Luthor's hand, being strapped into position on the electric chair.

LUTHOR'S VOICE

You can't do this!

WIDER

to show the guards strapping a wigless Luthor into the chair.

Near them, the WARDEN listens impassively.

LUTHOR

I'm not Luthor, I'm Superboy.

WARDEN

I think it's pretty obvious who's who.

And as he says this, he nods toward the spectators, and Luthor follows his gaze to:

THEIR POV

The spectators -- Superboy's in the front row, trying to look grave.

BACK TO SCENE

As Luthor's ankles are strapped to the chair.

LUTHOR

He's Luthor!

WARDEN

Sure he is.

WIDER

and he walks off toward a small room at the side of the execution room.

ON SUPERBOY

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

as a JAILER -- the executioner -- walks over to him.

    JAILER
    Do you want to do the honors?
    SUPERBOY
    Sir?
    JAILER
    Pull the switch...
    SUPERBOY
    I couldn’t...
    JAILER
    It’s only fitting.

Superboy thinks on that.

INT. SMALL ROOM - DAY

as the WARDEN enters. He stops when he sees someone on the other side of the room.

HIS POV
It’s Lana.

THE WARDEN

WARDEN.
Governor’ll be here any minute. He could still change his mind.

INT. SPECTATOR’S AREA - DAY

The jailer’s still trying to convince Superboy.

    JAILER
    ... You’d be doing the world a service.
    SUPERBOY
    Well, if you put it that way...

The jailer smiles and leads Superboy to the switch.

E. J. HALLWAY - DAY

A distinguished-looking man -- obviously the GOVERNOR -- rushes down this corridor with some assistants.
33 INT. EXECUTION AREA

LUTHOR
now has the helmet slipped onto his head.
SUPERBOY
takes hold of the switch.
LUTHOR
looks at him.
SUPERBOY
mouths the words 'Bye-Bye.'

34 INT. SMALL ROOM - DAY

The governor enters; Lana urgently holds up a tape recorder to him.

LANA
I had this hidden on me.

She now presses the play button for the governor.

SUPERBOY’S VOICE (TAPE)
Of course I killed him, but I did have a reason...

The governor listens impassively as the tape continues.

35 INT. EXECUTION AREA - DAY

The governor steps out of the room. A long pause, then:

GOVERNOR
Let’s do it.

SUPERBOY
smiles.
LUTHOR
is stunned.
CLOSE

on the switch. Superboy’s hand pulls it -- hard. Suddenly, blue fire arcs through Superboy’s body and he can’t let go!

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

LUTHOR'S BODY

is similarly engulfed!

TIGHT ON SUPERBOY

As he closes his eyes and whips his head side to side. Go to BLACK SCREEN for a beat, then FADE BACK IN. ON LUTHOR'S EYES which slowly flutter open. He looks around.

LUTHOR

Wait a minute...

SLOWLY FULL BACK TO REVEAL Luthor is clamped down in the chair. He begins to realize he's been tricked.

LUTHOR

No... No! NO!

ANGLE ON SUPERBOY

Lana comes up tentatively, joining the governor, warden and jailer.

LANA

(to Superboy)

Did it work?

He turns and looks at her. There is a brief beat, then he breaks out in a smile.

SUPERBOY

We did it...

ANGLE ON LUTHOR

The governor, warden and jailer smile in relief. The guards begin to loosen Luthor's bonds.

LUTHOR

All you've proved is that brains are better than brawn. Which means I can beat you.

SUPERBOY

You better hurry. Once they rewire the chair, you're going to be its first guest.

Suddenly, Luthor rips free and lunges for Superboy. The guards hold him back.

(CONTINUED)
35 CONTINUED:

LUTHOR
(starts giggling)
I'd watch your back, my friend.
I'm not dead yet!

PULL IN TIGHT on Luthor's laughter, then

FADE OUT.

As the laughter continues...

THE END