Invisigirl

19-DE04-W19

Logline: Hannah keeps heroics safely in her imagination, but real-life danger refuses to be ignored.

INT. SUPERMARKET - NIGHT

INVISIGIRL, a teen superhero, faces off with her nemesis, CAPTAIN NUMERO in the produce aisle, where he has detained a small group of HOSTAGES.

INVISIGIRL

Unhand the hostages, Captain Numero. And then relinquish those bananas!

CAPTAIN NUMERO

Never, Invisigirl! How ever do you think you will stop me?

INVISIGIRL

I stand for justice, and justice always prevails.

CAPTAIN NUMERO

Ah, but just one girl can only do so much. Why, you don't even have a sidekick. Surely you don't believe you have enough power to defeat such a respectable super villain as myself all by your lonesome, do you?

INVISIGIRL

I don't need a sidekick; I don't need anyone! And I'll prove it to you!

Invisigirl disappears and reappears next to a display of peaches. She grabs a peach and throws it right into Captain Numero's face to blind him. Then, she hurls a barrel of peaches at him to knock him over, then upends a second barrel over top of him to keep him down. This allows her to free the hostages, who quickly escape.

CAPTAIN NUMERO

You may have released the captives, but you played right into my evil plan!

INVISIGIRL

How is that even possible?

CAPTAIN NUMERO

Because I now have two bushels of peaches and six cartons of bananas. So do you know how much fruit salad I can make before the train arrives from Houston traveling at 75 miles per hour?

INVISIGIRL

Wait, what?

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Invisigirl blinks and is now clearly HANNAH, a regular, shy student in math class. Captain Numero is actually her teacher, MR. JONES. The entire class stares at her in anticipation as Hannah looks down at her comic book sketches in her notebook.

MR. JONES

Any guesses at the answer to the train problem, Hannah?

TIMOTHY, the class bully, breaks the silence.

TIMOTHY

Maybe Little Miss Stan Lee will draw the solution for you, Mr. Jones.

MR. JONES

That's enough, Timothy.

Mercifully, the bell rings, and the students begin to exit the classroom. In his rush, Timothy bumps into SARAH, a Muslim student.

TIMOTHY

Outta the way, Princess Jasmine.

Hannah gathers her things, walks into the hallway, and is quickly engulfed in the crowd.

HANNAH V.O.

If only I really could just disappear. I'm pretty invisible anyway, just your average high school student in an average little town. I do what I can to be a good citizen and all, but I'm really more of a behind the scenes kind of girl, if you know what I mean. I don't need the hassle of getting noticed by the jerks who run this place. Flying solo is clearly the way to go.

INT. HANNAH'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Hannah sits at her laptop with multiple windows open on the screen.

These include articles about various social justice issues as well as the latest comic book news. She is currently signing an online petition to clean up the neighborhood river while listening to her favorite rock band on high volume when her MOM interrupts.

MOM

Hannah! Too loud! And you better be studying for that math test.

HANNAH

(turning down the
 music)

Oh my gosh, Mom, there are more important things in the world than homework!

MOM

Not for you right now there's not. Those grades have gotta come up. And we're doing family Bible study right after dinner, so get to it.

Mom leaves the room.

HANNAH

No one ever asked me if I even wanted to do Bible study. What a waste of time.

Hannah pulls out her math book and notebook, open to a page with an unfinished comic.

INT. CAPTAIN NUMERO'S LAIR - NIGHT

Invisigirl fades into invisibility and listens as Captain Numero explains his plans to his MINION.

CAPTAIN NUMERO

... and we will hypnotize them all and force them to complete math problems like mindless robots! While they're busy solving for "x", we'll take over the world! Mwahahaha!!

Invisigirl startles him by appearing right in front of him.

INVISIGIRL

Not if I stop you first!

CAPTAIN NUMERO

And just how do you plan to do that, may I ask?

INVISIGIRL

Well... I.... first, you see, I'll, um.....

The scene fades back to her artwork, and comes up a few days later in the lunchroom, where Hannah is stumped at the next direction of her comic story.

INT. SCHOOL CAFETERIA - DAY

Hannah sits alone with her sack lunch and notebook. She tucks away her math test, emblazoned with a bright red "C." Students chatter around her, but no one seems to notice her.

She watches as Timothy, at a nearby table, mocks Sarah's homemade lunch as he passes by with a group of friends.

TIMOTHY

I bet she's eating dog meat!

The friends laugh and they disappear into the lunch crowd. Sarah looks up at Hannah with hurt in her eyes, but Hannah feels awkward and returns her attention to her own lunch, reaching into the brown paper sack for the last item.

She finds a yellow post-it note that says, "Praying for you today! Love, Mom." Hannah rolls her eyes, crumples it and throws the remnants of her lunch back into the paper bag. She turns her attention back to drawing comics.

HANNAH V.O.

I know Mom means well with all the God stuff, but is it actually real? How is it different than any other superhero story? She can keep her Jesus, and I'll just, I don't know, save myself, I guess.

Hannah takes her laptop out of her backpack and opens it to a school-related message board. She scrolls past posts for pep rallies, sports, and other extra-curricular activities to begin a new thread under her anonymous user name, "Invsgrl22." The topic is a canned food drive for local families in need.

HANNAH V.O. (cont'd)

It's silly to want to change the world, I know.

(MORE)

HANNAH V.O. (cont'd)
But I figure I can do at least
something small to make a difference,
right?

After posting her message, Hannah notices another thread titled, "Muslims Taking Over Our School." She quickly glances at Sarah, then clicks on it to find an angry rant comparing the Muslim students to terrorists. She hovers her cursor over the "report post" button momentarily before clicking it.

HANNAH V.O. (cont'd)
There's no need to draw attention,
though. I can do my part to help
while staying under the radar. It's
safer that way, I think.

Her mind wanders again to Invisigirl.

INT. CAPTAIN NUMERO'S LAIR - NIGHT

Invisigirl sneaks through Captain Numero's lair, but while she is looking around the corner to make sure the coast is clear, Numero sneaks up behind her from the other direction. He lassos her, cartoon style, and Invisigirl is captive as Captain Numero delivers a villain's monologue.

CAPTAIN NUMERO

You'll never escape now, Invisigirl!
And with you out of the way, no one can stop my gargantuan hypnosis device! First, I'll break into all the television stations and change the programming to my specially designed subliminal messaging. Then I'll send a text message to everyone on the planet telling them to watch tv and it will turn their brains into mush! Next, I'll administer the most complex math exam known to man! Then-

INVISIGIRL

I won't let that happen!

CAPTAIN NUMERO

What are you going to do, call for help? Who will come save you? And feel free to turn invisible again-you're still bound tightly whether I can see you or not! Now, let me tell you more about my brilliant, evil plan...

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

In reality, Mr. Jones is rambling on as Hannah struggles to pay attention. She notices Timothy throwing spitballs at an annoyed Sarah, but he soon notices Hannah and silently mouths, "Mind your own business." Embarrassed at being caught, Hannah looks away and resumes drawing her comic.

The bell rings and everyone begins to leave. In her rush to get away from the spitballs, Sarah accidentally drops and leaves behind her calculator. Hannah sees this and picks it up before exiting.

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY

In the crowded hallway, Timothy tries to follow Sarah, but has difficulty getting too close due to other students getting in the way. Hannah rushes to catch up with Sarah.

HANNAH
(handing her the
calculator)
Wait! I think you dropped this.

Timothy thinks he has an opportunity to catch up with Sarah, so he pulls a handgun out of his backpack. Students begin screaming and scattering. A small group of kids, including Hannah and Sarah, duck behind the nearest door, which appears to be an empty guidance counselor's office.

INT. DARK OFFICE - DAY

The handful of students attempt to hide behind the desk and chairs, out of sight of the window in the door. Timothy remains in the hallway, nearing the office as he searches for Sarah. Unfortunately, the door to the office was not completely closed, and the hiding students remain frozen in silent fear.

Hannah grabs her phone from her backpack, but it is off. She powers it on to call for help, and tries too late to muffle the musical tones that play as the screen lights up. Timothy hears the phone and slams open the office door.

TIMOTHY

Come out, come out, wherever you are... Time's up, desert rat. You should've gone back where you came from.

Hannah closes her eyes.

INT. CAPTAIN NUMERO'S LAIR - NIGHT

Invisigirl is tied to a chair and struggles to be free as Captain Numero laughs maniacally, swinging a pendulum hypnotically in front of her face.

CAPTAIN NUMERO

Just watch the shiny orb, dearie, and soon you'll do whatever I say!

INVISIGIRL

(closing her eyes)
You can't hypnotize me, Numero, no
matter how hard you try!

CAPTAIN NUMERO

When will you learn, Invisigirl, that the only way to stop injustice is with something greater? And what, really, could possibly overpower all that is wrong in the world? Makes you wonder what's truly right after all, doesn't it?

INVISIGIRL

(struggling)

I'm not strong enough. My powers alone aren't enough to save the world...

CAPTAIN NUMERO

So I assume you're giving up, then?

INVISIGIRL

Not.... yet.....

INT. DARK OFFICE - DAY

Timothy slams the door behind him and sweeps the room with the gun, then sees Hannah. Instinctively she freezes, but then sees Sarah hiding across the room. After a brief moment of hesitation, she stands to face Timothy.

HANNAH

No. This isn't happening. Not here, not today.

TIMOTHY

It's not you I want, geek girl. But if you get in my way, I won't feel bad for shooting you first.

HANNAH

What's your deal? She never hurt you; she never did anything to anyone.

TIMOTHY

She and her kind are the enemy. I won't just stand around and let them take over!

HANNAH

You call her a terrorist while being the one with the gun. How does that make any sense?

Timothy aims his weapon directly at her. Hannah closes her eyes and braces for the shot. She sees the scene with Invisigirl tied up in Numero's lair.

INT. CAPTAIN NUMERO'S LAIR - NIGHT

Invisigirl notices a yellow post-it note stuck to her shoe. It reads, "God hears your prayers! Love, Mom."

INVISIGIRL

(to herself)

How did Mom get into this story? But this just might help.

(back to Captain

Numero)

I can do a lot, but you're right, Captain Numero. I can't rescue the world on my own. Looks like it's time to call for help.

CAPTAIN NUMERO

Who do you expect to rescue you?

INVISIGIRL

Someone much more powerful.

Invisigirl looks to the sky.

INVISIGIRL (cont'd)

Lord, please send help!

The lair is soon covered in shadow, and Captain Numero looks out the window.

CAPTAIN NUMERO

Is that a meteor?! It's heading straight for my gargantuan hypnosis device! My master plan is ruined!

INT. DARK OFFICE - DAY

HANNAH

Before you shoot, let me pray.

TIMOTHY

(momentarily lowering
his qun)

What? Are you crazy?

HANNAH

Maybe, but here goes.

As she prays, Timothy looks around and aims his gun again, taking a breath and preparing to shoot.

HANNAH (cont'd)

God, you and I don't talk much, but we need you here now. Please help us. Keep us safe. You're the most real hero I know. Amen.

The sound of breaking glass startles everyone, and light from the now broken door window shines in Timothy's eyes. Sarah jumps up from hiding and tackles Timothy from behind. In the confusion, a SECURITY GUARD is able to reach in, open the door, come in, and disarm Timothy.

HANNAH (cont'd)

Thank you, God! That was quick!

Hannah and Sarah comfort each other as the other students run out of the room. The security guard detains Timothy and uses his walkie talkie to call for back-up. Sarah and Hannah are face-to-face with their tormentor.

SARAH

You've been so consumed looking for imaginary evil that you missed the hatred growing in your own heart.

HANNAH

We won't be scared anymore, Timothy. We're done hiding.

The police enter and take Timothy away, leaving the two girls holding hands in the office.

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. CITY - DAY

Invisigirl and SUPER SARAH run through the city together.

INVISIGIRL

Justice will conquer evil!

SUPER SARAH

Bad guys beware!

INVISIGIRL

Now that Captain Numero is defeated, we can protect the innocent citizens of this fair city from a more frightening villain-

SUPER SARAH

You don't mean....

INVISIGIRL

The All Powerful Historio! He's already putting people to sleep with stories of ancient civilizations.

SUPER SARAH

If everyone is asleep, who will stop him from building his own Trojan horse and taking over the mayor's office? It's too horrifying to imagine!

INVISIGIRL

There's no time to waste! We've got to move, and we're gonna need a superpower greater than both of us to save the day!

Cut to comic book drawings of the two superheroes surrounded by light as Hannah and Sarah share lunch at a picnic table in the park outside the local animal shelter.

EXT. ANIMAL SHELTER - DAY

HANNAH

Ok, this could be our best comic yet.

SARAH

But we're gonna have to finish later so we're not late. The puppies are waiting! A sign on the shelter reads "Volunteer Orientation Today." The girls gather their things and head inside. They are happily greeted by a group of STUDENT VOLUNTEERS.

HANNAH V.O.

Invisigirl learned that superheroes don't fight their toughest battles alone, and the light always wins over the dark. And this invisible girl let herself be rescued... and also started talking to the God who never took His eyes off her. Maybe together we'll change the world.