

Ham & Cheese Heroes

a short play

Written by David Garry

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Wonder Mighty Man and **Bob**- Superhero rejects

(Lights up on Wonder Mighty Man and Bob at the Hall of Justice Laundry Room, rapidly ironing and hanging superhero costumes.)

Bob- Wonder Mighty Man! Why are you **starching** Aqua Lad's costume? He's just gonna get back in the water tomorrow!

Wonder Mighty Man- Oh, shut the hole! I'm tired, alright?! (back to work) Hall of Justice Emergency Laundering Team, my ass! Grunt work at 2am is what it is!

Bob- Ohhhh, you're tired. And tomorrow's the big day, too. It's either you or me, loser. First one to catch a villain tomorrow gets to stay in the Hall of Justice. The other one bites it. You'll be just like Hero Boy who bit it last week.

Wonder Mighty Man- Let's remember Hero Boy wasn't cutting it in the Hall of Justice. The best hero work he did was calling 911 to report a car accident he witnessed. Plus he was caught here in the laundry room, sniffing Miracle Woman's panties.

Bob- What about the best hero work you've done? Telling people not to drink diet sodas cause chunks of Aspartame would be stuck to their brain?

Wonder Mighty Man- (defensive) No... not just that. I helped Uberman catch Lumpyman.

Bob- Yeah. Uberman tells a different story.

Wonder Mighty Man- Oh yeah?

Bob- He says you were crying like a baby when Lumpyman came down the street towards you, and you tried to crawl under a car.

Wonder Mighty Man- My mission was to be the bait! And I found maybe one of my powers was to hide very well. Never mind. Well, **BOB**. What about your telekinesis? I heard you can only move pencils with your mind. Would your final superhero name be Movin' Pencil Man?

(Intercom buzzes in, they run to it)

Wonder Mighty Man- Laundry Room, Wonder Mighty Man speaking.

Bob- -and BOB!

Ratman's voice- Did you two wash the ratmobile today like I asked?

Bob- Yes, washed it, waxed it. It's all ready to go, Ratman.

Wonder Mighty Man- I gave the ratmobile an oil change, rotated the tires, shaved the lint off your car mats, and put up a patchouli scented tree on the rearview mirror, Ratman!

Ratman- Thanks Wonder Mighty Man...uh.. Good luck to you both in catching a villain tomorrow...Oh! The reason I buzzed you: Be careful with the codpiece on my rat-suit.

Wonder Mighty Man- I'll handle it with extra special care, Ratman.

Ratman- Good. Goodnight.

(A beat)

Bob- (To Wonder Mighty Man) Holy kiss-ass, Ratman!

Wonder Mighty Man-(softly) Shhh! I think they put us together on purpose, laundering all night to tire and psych us out. See who it's gonna be that they pick. They're probably watching us.

Bob- Oh, you're quick. Anywho, thought I should tell you this: I found out from an informant of mine that **you're** the one being canned tomorrow whether you catch a villain or not .

Wonder Mighty Man- Who did you hear that from?

Bob- Not telling. So, why don't you just become a **villain**. That seems to be the easy route to go. Just pour some acid on yourself.. or touch some powerlines. Get bitter about it.

Here I'll help you out! Get ya mad and bad. I'll fling you across the room.

(Bob raises his fingers to his temples....Wonder Mighty Man stays in place, then goes to a pencil)

Wonder Mighty Man- Oooh... you moved my pencil.

Bob- Alright... Wonder Mighty Strength? Prove it. Let's arm wrestle.

Wonder Mighty Man- I don't want to hurt you.....you'll probably go through the floor.

Bob- I'm not made of styrofoam, tough guy.

(They armwrestle over ironing board, with grunts and much resistance. Wonder Mighty Man loses and stands)

Bob- Pathetic.

Wonder Mighty Man- You must have Wimptonyte on your hands!

Bob- Yeah, I keep a tube of this bogus (finger-quoting) Wimptonyte handy. (Mimes tube) Wimptonyte! Wimptonyte!

(Wonder Mighty Man, by an unseen force, is flung across stage)

Bob- See that? **Delayed** powers. I can move more than just a pencil! I can **see** why you'd be canned before I ever will.... Just be a **villain**. They've got an **easy** lifestyle. Lotsa money. They get **respect. Respect.** Craving a little bit of that?

(A beat)

Wonder Mighty Man- But look at other superheroes that were close to be canned. Impotent Man got to stay in after taking viagra!

Bob- Ain't no drug out there that gives you super-strength...So, not gonna be a villain? Then I guess you're back performing at kids parties, (ominously) and you know how those kids can hurt you.

Wonder Mighty Man- (shudder) No!.... Do you know for a fact, that I'll be canned?

Bob- Yep. But comebacks are totally in. Why don't you stage a comeback as some freaky villain. I bet you have what it takes to dominate the world...in a.... freaky way.

Wonder Mighty Man- Fine. I'll be a villain, and my first mission will be to make your life hell.

(Wonder Mighty Man picks up spray starch, sprays Bob. Bob doesn't react. Bob takes can away from Wonder Mighty Man.)

Bob- (sarcastic) After all my help?

(Voiceover) :

Uberman- Alright you two, it's Uberman. I **was** watching you. X-ray vision, remember? The **both** of you can pack your bags. Wonder Mighty Man, if it's so easy for you to be a villain, you're not worthy of the Hall of Justice. And Bob, for being as deceptive as you are, you're not worthy either.

Bob- (falling to the floor) Ahhhhh!

Wonder Mighty Man- Good! I'm gonna be a helluva villain soon! I'm gonna take this iron to my head and get bitter about it!

Uberman- You go do that.

(Wonder Mighty Man takes the iron, and puts it to his face)

Wonder Mighty Man- AAAHHHHHHHH!!!!!!!

(He takes iron away, and a red mark, the shape of the iron, is left on his face)

Wonder Mighty Man- I'm Iron-Head now!!

(A beat)

Bob- (desperate, getting up) But look, Uberman! I caught a villain!

(Bob throws arms around Wonder Mighty Man, gets burned himself)

Bob- Ahhhhh!

(They chase each other offstage)

Blackout