

In My Element
Episode #101
"THE FIRST ISSUE"
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SAMPLE SCREENPLAY

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IN MY ELEMENT
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ACT ONE

1 EXT. CITY - ROOFTOP - NIGHT 1

On a dark and shadowy rooftop, a masked figure appears, rushing towards the edge. He is THE ELEMENT - a young superhero with big dreams and a home-made costume.

He looks out into the night, searching for crime.

Or perhaps just one criminal in particular.

A flicker of movement on a lower rooftop catches The Element's eye. He spots someone in the shadows with something shiny held in their hand.

THE ELEMENT

Gotcha.

The Element takes a couple of cautious steps backwards, before taking a running leap off the rooftop. As he starts to descend, his LEGS DISAPPEAR into a brilliant BURST OF FLAME, which rockets him forwards--

--and very quickly sputters and dies.

The Element finds himself falling, as he desperately tries to bring back the flame.

THE ELEMENT (CONT'D)

(panicked)

C'mon, c'mon, c'mon, c'mon, C'MON!

The ground is getting closer and closer, and the flames at his legs refuse to produce anything more than a flicker.

THE ELEMENT (CONT'D)

(desperate)

COME. ON!

Suddenly, a pair of arms appear through the window behind him; not coming from the room behind the window, but *EMERGING FROM THE GLASS ITSELF*. They grab The Element and pull him backwards, through the glass--

2 EXT. CITY - ROOFTOP POOL - CONTINUOUS 2

--and out of a rooftop pool.

The Element stumbles as he finds his footing, still trying to process the shift in location. The arms release him.

RADAR (O.S.)

You know, if you wanted to stalk
someone, a burst of flame isn't the
most stealthy approach.

The Element whirls around to see his saviour - and arch
nemesis - RADAR.

Radar has moved back to lean against a pool umbrella, with
his arms crossed and a smirk on his face. His round
sunglasses - which are completely impractical at this time of
night - reflect the city lights around them.

RADAR (CONT'D)

For someone made of fire, you're
not very bright, are you?

The Element scowls and thrusts out his arm. Instantly, a
STREAM OF WATER flies towards Radar, and binds his hands
together.

Radar calmly considers the binding, looking almost impressed.
He looks back up at The Element, whose HAND is now MISSING -
his arm ending in a WATERY STUMP.

RADAR (CONT'D)

Listen, as much as I love your
company, you're wasting your time.
I'm just trying to take a nice -
completely innocent - nighttime
stroll.

THE ELEMENT

(sarcastic)

Oh, really?

The Element raises his arm and another wave of water bursts
forth. This time, the water wraps around Radar's legs.

Radar's eyes widen.

RADAR

Hold on--

The water lifts Radar into the air, until he's suspended
upside down. It shakes him like a piggy bank, and money,
jewellery, and other typical loot falls from his many
pockets.

The Element, now missing his full arm, squats down to inspect
the loot.

RADAR (CONT'D)

How do you know that didn't all
belong to me?

THE ELEMENT

Because no one has four different wallets with four different IDs in them.

He stands and holds up four licences in his remaining hand. One of them belongs to a teenager named DARCY LEE.

RADAR

Fair point.

The Element snorts, and the water drops Radar, who falls to the ground with a grunt.

The water returns to The Element, reforming his arm. The water binding Radar's hands remains where it is.

THE ELEMENT

Here's the deal. You and I are going to return all this stuff before anyone notices it's gone, and then I'm going to turn you in to the police.

Radar stands and moves to resume his cool lean against the pool umbrella, though his bound hands make the cool part a challenge.

RADAR

Good plan. Very well thought out. Quick question though; how will they arrest me if you return all the evidence?

The Element pauses, then huffs and squats back down to pick up the loot.

THE ELEMENT

Just shut up and help me pick this up.

RADAR

With what? We have exactly one free hand between us.

The Element frowns, looking up at Radar's bound hands, then back at his own missing one.

After a moment of consideration, he retracts the bindings and reforms his hand.

THE ELEMENT

There. Four hands. Now come help me.

The Element pulls out the bottom of his shirt with one hand, and starts piling loot into it with the other, using it as a makeshift sack.

RADAR

(sarcastic)

Well, as much as I love witnessing
a *real live superhero* in action, I
gotta go. You know how it is.
Places to go, things to steal.

The Element looks up to see Radar standing by the edge of the pool.

RADAR (CONT'D)

See you next time I have to save
your life.

And with a wink and a sarcastic salute, he lets himself fall backwards towards the water.

THE ELEMENT

NO!

Abandoning the loot, The Element lunges towards Radar. He grabs the front of Radar's shirt, trying to stop him, but the momentum is too great, and the two fall into the water together.

The Element and Radar stumble through a shop window and out into the city street. The Element almost steps into the path of a moving car, but Radar grabs his hand and saves him at the last minute.

RADAR

There I go, saving your life again.

The Element scowls and pulls his hand away.

THE ELEMENT

I didn't need your help.

RADAR

Oh, so you'd rather--

A distant SCREAM cuts him off, and they both look towards it. Radar starts to turn the other way, but The Element grabs him and drags him towards the sound.

A large crowd has gathered on the street outside a construction site.

The Element and Radar arrive and immediately spot the cause of the commotion - a CRANE has started to swing towards the APARTMENT BUILDING next to the site, fast enough to cause some serious damage.

The Element stares, FROZEN in shock. Radar glances at him, then back at the crane.

RADAR
(annoyed)
Great.

He pulls The Element towards a nearby window, transporting them both through it.

EXT. CITY - APARTMENT BALCONY - CONTINUOUS

They come out of a GLASS DOOR onto a balcony in the path of the crane's swing. The Element looks at Radar, terrified.

RADAR
You wanna be a hero right? Save the day!

And with that, he disappears back through the glass, not acknowledging the people behind it, who are watching the scene in terror.

The Element turns back towards the oncoming crane, watching, frozen, as it approaches.

THE ELEMENT
(Nervously)
Ok. Hero time.

The Element doesn't move.

THE ELEMENT (CONT'D)
This is it.

The crane swings closer.

THE ELEMENT (CONT'D)
This is what you've been waiting for.

Closer.

THE ELEMENT (CONT'D)
Here's your chance to prove yourself.

Closer.

THE ELEMENT (CONT'D)
You just have to--

Someone screams, and The Element is finally shocked into action.

THE ELEMENT (CONT'D)
(terrified)
Oh god.

The Element lunges forward and lets out a wave of water. It intercepts the crane, managing to slow it down, but not stopping it completely.

THE ELEMENT (CONT'D)
COME ON!

He grunts as he tries to keep the crane at bay.

Parts of his body start to TRICKLE AWAY as he adds more and more water to the fight, until eventually he's just a WAVE OF WATER WITH LEGS.

It's a stalemate. With all of his strength, The Element manages to bring the crane to a stop, but it's still fighting against him.

The Element's legs wobble, and he starts to lose his grip.

Then, just as he's about to reach his breaking point, the crane stops fighting, and starts to swing away.

The Element's legs crumple, and the wave of water comes crashing down, finally letting gravity take hold.

Before it can fall too far, it recedes back towards The Element and reforms his body.

He breathes heavily, exhausted from the fight.

But before he can properly regain his breath, a hand grabs the back of his shirt, and drags him back through the glass door behind him.

END OF SAMPLE