

ALTERED EGOS

INT. MEDICAL CLINIC/CORRIDOR - NIGHT

A MAN (49), slowly walks down a dimly lit corridor with closed office doors on both sides.

He's the total nerd. Pale skin, thick, black, curly, hair - untouched by a comb. He stops at the last door. A sign on it reads: "QUIET - SESSION IN PROGRESS." He removes a business card from his pocket - inspects it.

INSERT BUSINESS CARD

"Dr. Mentary - Clinical Psychiatrist - Split Personality Disorders."

BACK TO SCENE

The Man's hand hesitates over the door knob. He takes a deep reassuring breath then slowly turns the knob and slightly opens the door to reveal:

INT. MEETING ROOM - NIGHT

Metal folding chairs in a semi-circle filled with Superheroes, all in full costume. They are SUPERMAN, CAPTAIN AMERICA, SPIDER MAN, BATMAN, ROBIN, AQUA MAN, THE FLASH, THE GREEN HORNET, THOR and THE HULK.

There is one empty chair at the end of the semi-circle next to the HULK. Well, it's kind of empty - half of HULK's ass occupies it as well as his own chair.

DOCTOR MENTARY (50), stands behind a small podium addressing the Superheroes. He has flowing gray hair, is dressed like a twenty something and holds an unlit tobacco pipe in one hand.

DOCTOR MENTARY

And that's why it is so important
that you each really get in touch
with your alter ego and --

BATMAN

(exaggerated hoarse voice)
I'm Batman.

DOCTOR MENTARY

And learn to accept that person
just as you would your Super Hero
persona. That way --

BATMAN

(exaggerated hoarse voice)
I'm Batman.

DOCTOR MENTARY

Yes, I know. We all know. But don't forget that you are also Bruce. Stay in touch with him. That's the point of this group. Anyway, the important thing is to --

BATMAN

(exaggerated hoarse voice)
I'm Batman.

ROBIN

Oh, give it a fucking rest already.

The other Super Heroes chuckle. Batman turns to Robin.

BATMAN

(exaggerated hoarse voice)
You're Robin.

Robin stands up and clumsily walks over The Hulk.

ROBIN

Christ, I need a cigarette.

DOCTOR MENTARY

As I was saying.

Spider Man shoots a sticky web towards the door and pulls it open. The Man freezes in panic, now fully exposed.

SPIDER MAN

Who the fuck are you?

DOCTOR MENTARY

(to the Man)
Ah, the new member. I've been expecting you.

The Doctor points to the half empty chair next to The Hulk.

DOCTOR MENTARY

Please, have a seat.

The Man attempts to take a seat next to The Hulk. The Hulk tries to scoot over, crowding a very irritated Thor in the process. There just isn't enough room.

MAN

It's okay. I'll stand.

The Man leans up against the wall.

DOCTOR MENTARY

Okay, where were we?

(a beat)

Superman, last week you were sharing some issues related to intimacy. Any update?

Superman rises, his cape spilling Captain America's coffee as he makes his way to the front.

CAPTAIN AMERICA

God damn it.

Superman reaches the podium.

SUPERMAN

This is difficult to talk about.

(a deep breath)

Anyway, as I told you last week, when I'm Superman I feel virile. But when I'm Clark I just can't get it to - er - can't get it to...

(a beat)

Let's just say I'm having a hard time having a hard time.

Spider Man leans over to Captain America.

SPIDER MAN

(whispering)

Limp dick.

DOCTOR MENTARY

(to Superman)

Impotence is fairly common with this disorder.

CAPTAIN AMERICA

(whispering to Spider Man)

I knew it. Man of steel, my ass.

Captain America and Spider Man share a chuckle. This does not go unnoticed by Superman. His angry glare is interrupted by the RING of the Green Hornet's cell phone.

DOCTOR MENTARY

Please, everyone. You know the rules. Cell phones off.

In unison, the Superheroes remove their cell phones and start to power them down. The Hulk tries, but his enormous green finger covers the entire screen. No way he's hitting the off button. He sheepishly hands his phone to Thor.

THE HULK

Help?

Thor takes the phone, places it on the floor and smashes it to bits with one swing from his hammer. The Hulk grabs Thor's phone - swallows it whole. They stand to face each other.

DOCTOR MENTARY

Okay - okay. That's enough now.

(to The Man)

Please, I think it's time for you to introduce yourself.

The Man nervously approaches the podium.

MAN

Where should I start?

DOCTOR MENTARY

Tell us about your powers.

MAN

Well, I am afraid that my super powers aren't very impressive.

(to the Superheroes)

I mean, compared to all of yours.

SUPERMAN

Don't worry. Some folks here can only throw a hammer.

THOR

I am a Norse God!

SUPERMAN

My bad. Didn't mean to bring up a Thor subject.

Thor's hammer whistles by Superman's head - lodges in the wall.

DOCTOR MENTARY

(to the Man)

Please, continue. Tell us who you are.

BATMAN

(exaggerated hoarse voice)

I'm Batman.

Spider Man shoots a web, instantly covering Batman's face.

BATMAN
 (muffled)
 Mmmmmmm Bahmnnnnnn.

Doctor Mentary points at the Man - encouraging him to speak.

MAN
 I am Superimpose Man.

SPIDER MAN
 What the fuck? What's your power?

SUPERIMPOSE MAN
 My power - um, my power is that I
 have the ability to --

The Flash notices a puddle of water underneath Aquaman.

FLASH
 Someone needs a bathroom break.

AQUAMAN
 It's sea water.

CAPTAIN AMERICA
 Only if it's the yellow sea.

AQUAMAN
 Oh, yeah! Well, at least I don't
 look like the seventh member of the
 Village People.

Aquaman and Captain America stand to face each other. The other Superheroes line up on either side - ready for battle.

DOCTOR MENTARY
 (losing control)
 Everyone - stop it! I volunteer for
 these sessions to help you with
 your alter egos and all of you are
 acting like little children!

Embarrassed, the Superheroes settle back in their seats.

DOCTOR MENTARY
 (to Superimpose Man)
 Please, you were saying - about
 your power.

SUPERIMPOSE MAN
 I have the power to place or lay
 something over another in a manner
 that both are still evident.

The Superheroes are dumbfounded - The sound of crickets as Robin returns from his smoke break.

SUPERIMPOSE MAN

You know, like when you see a movie and then some words will appear on the screen to identify time and place.

ROBIN

Hashtag; shitty writer.

HULK

Huh?

ROBIN

(smugly, to the group)
Sometimes writers use Supers as a cheap trick because of their inability to properly write description or sequence a story.

SUPERIMPOSE MAN

But I have the power to do that in real life. I can change the scene.

THE FLASH

I call bullshit!

Sensing a fraud in their midst, the Superheroes stand to rush the podium.

SUPERIMPOSE MAN

Oh, crap.

Superimpose Man closes his eyes in deep concentration.

INSERT BLACK SCREEN:

SUPER: ALL SUPERHEROS APPEAR AS THEIR ALTER EGO.

BACK TO SCENE:

The Superheros are gone. They have been replaced by their alter ego; CLARK KENT, STEVE ROGERS, PETER PARKER, BRUCE WAYNE, DICK GRAYSON, ARTHUR CURRY, JAY GARRICK, BRITT REID, DONALD BLAKE and BRUCE BANNER. They mill about - confused.

Superimpose Man looks the same other than he now wears a pair of oversized, black framed glasses. The Superheroes gasp at that the site of him. Yep - it's JJ Abrams.

JJ ABRAMS

And - scene!

