Something Super

By Lee Hotovy

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*Synopsis:*

*With the help of Paraclete Power, Mediocre Man and his trusty side kick Guinea Pig Girl rise to the occasion and take on the bad guys, the V.I.C.E. squad (Villainy International Crimes of the Everyday). Super Heroes abound in this action packed musical, there to stop the speeding trains and super criminals, but don’t ask them to pay the bills. Citizens of Normopolis and the C.O.A., add to the spin-off of favorite Super-hero themes in this crime-stopping, slightly tilted, story of the ordinary things in life that can overwhelm even the supers, until the power of God’s grace intervenes.*

***Cast:***

Mediocre Man/alias Mark Downe/becomes Mr. Ordinary

Guinea Pig Girl/ alias Miss Happ

Citizens (5-10 chorus members)

Gladyz Cravitz, That Girl, June Clever

Donna Midstream, Mayor

Mayor’s Entourage:

Miss Quote, Journalist

Miss Shoot, Photographer/Journalist

Miss Add, Statistician

Super Heroes:

Superlative Man (He’s the Best!)

Wonderful Woman (Wonderful in every way)

Rat Man (Good guy with a powerful tail)

The Swiffer (Powerful Cleaning Action)

Ant Girl (Short but Strong)

Omega 3 Girl (Super Healthy)

Over Achiever (Just what it says)

*Super Villains:*

The Puffin (Puffed Up and Fowl)

The News-sance (Annoying Newspaper Boy)

Mold and Mildew Man (Slimey Figure)

The Irritating Interruptor: (Cuts off lines like a meat slicer)

Gum-Wad (Traps victims in wads of gum…ABC gum)

Mat Woman (One dimensional…very flat minded)

Brain-Freeze (Painfully Dumb)

*C.O.A. (Choirs of Angels) Secret Agent-Angels*

Agent 11--Cherabim

Agent 99--Seraphim

Agent 86--Arch

*Set Design: Using wood construction for different levels of staging and slants, and roof/fire escape attachments and giant comic book pages that are turned for different background scenery.*

*Three sets/levels:*

### Set 1(middle level).Comic book scene of Normopolis city street/converts to sidewalk sale.

*Set 2 (below ground): Comic book page of villain hideout in sewers/pipes etc.*

*Set 3 (above it all): Comic book scene of rooftop scene/or skyscraper.*

*Set 4 (middle ground or slightly below) Hideout for Mediocre Man (phone booth for two.)*

Act 1/Scene 1

*Opening:*

*Citizens/Mayor/Entourage emerge from Normopolis/comic book pages singing…Normal Days*

**LIGHT AND SOUND NOTES**

*Mark Downe and Miss Happ enter, dressed as ordinary citizens..*

Mayor meets Mark Downe and Miss Happ center stage. Mayor’s entourage (statisticians and journalists/citizens stand in background taking notes or snapping pictures)

MAYOR: Welcome to Normopolis, the city of ordinary citizens. I’m Donna Midstream, mayor of this middle-of-the-road city. We boast a solid fifth place on the list of top ten normal cities in the country. We are known for our even-keel and trust you will fit in just averagely here. We have curbside trash pick up, street cleaning, and phone booths on every other corner. We celebrate Founder’s Day on…

MISS ADD: August twenty-third…

MAYOR: … and the

MISS ADD: Second…

MAYOR: Weekend of July the city hosts “Lemon days” where every store has a sidewalk sale. Oh, and that’s only …

MISS ADD: two days away!

MISS HAPP: Wow! That sounds so, so, so…

MAYOR: Normal? Yes, it is.

MISS Q: May we quote you on that, Mayor?

MAYOR: Of course.

MISS S: Mayor likes the sound of Normopolis …

MAYOR: *(Turning to Miss Happ)* And you are?

MISS HAPP: Oh…um…I’m…uh…Miss… Happ. I live just down the street and I’m studying to be a…a…a.. meter maid! You know… Click, click.

MAYOR: Isn’t that wonderful. As Mayor I am well aware of our need for good, timely, meter maids. An average citizen of Normopolis spends…Miss Add…

MISS ADD: Exactly two dollars and forty-five cents…

MAYOR:…annually on meters.

MISS HAPP: Oh… I feel so well-informed.

MAYOR: Of course you do. And you, sir, are?

MARK DOWNE: Uh…Mark Downe. I’m just here to sell…hairbrushes. Fuller brush Man.

MAYOR: Fuller Brush Man…Oh my, I think we have all the hairbrushes we can handle. On average there is a…

MISS ADD: Forty-five percent…

MAYOR: Chance of Normopolis men becoming bald. My husband, is one of those…and very sensitive about it…so we don’t generally mention hairbrushes or combs around the city, but thank you anyway.

MARK DOWNE: What about the other…

MISS ADD: Fifty-five percent….

MARK DOWNE: …of heads?

MAYOR: Hair I suppose. But I wouldn’t set my sights too high…most of our citizens already possess combs and brushes, and if they don’t, well they just aren’t normal!

MARK DOWNE: Oh, well then…what about lint? Do you have lint in this city? Because I have a cracker-jack line of lint removers!

MAYOR: Lint? Hmmmm…my statisticians have not researched that, but it would be fascinating…I’ll get on it right away!

MISS Q: Mayor doesn’t know the low-down on lint…

MISS S: see page three!

MAYOR: Don’t print that if you know what’s good for you. You see Mr. Downe…we are all about the norm!

*(Song…Mayor and entourage)****Here in the City of Normopolis***

***LIGHT AND SOUND NOTES:***

##### Song is interrupted towards end when The News-sance Character rides onto set, with newspaper bag. Evil chuckle, then tosses a smoking newspaper on to the roof…exits, but hides off to side.

*Citizens in shock and anger…*

Citizen 1/Gladyz: What? Not again.

Citizen 2/That Girl: This looks like a job for Superlative Man!

Citizen 3/June: Yeah, he’s the best!

MISS HAPP: Are you sure we need help? It’s just a newspaper…

THAT GIRL: Are you kidding…look at that slope…only an idiot would climb up there.

MISS HAPP: It doesn’t seem all that steep to me, but then I do have a different slant on life…heh, heh…

MAYOR: This is no time for jokes, Miss Happ! Someone could get *seriously* hurt, and that would not be normal!

MISS Q: May we quote you on that?

MAYOR: No!

GLADYZ: Ahhhh! I saw it roll! Oh, it’s going to fall! We need help!

MARK DOWNE: Have no fear, Mam. I’ve seen worse. Why I once knew of an entire phone book falling from a roof just like this…and it only lost the yellow pages before it hit the ground!

GLADYZ: Ahhh…(faints).

MAYOR: Are you crazy? That’s not the kind of thing you say to a woman who can’t live without her want ads!

MISS Q: Mayor crazy for ads…see page six!

MISS S: Pose please….

MAYOR: Oh…of course…wait…let me look normal and not distressed….is that better?

MISS S: Got it!

MARK DOWNE: Sorry…Uh… did I mention we also carry nail clippers?

MAYOR: Nail clippers? No, no….Move away, while we get some real help around here! Will someone call the hero hotline! This is an emergency!

MISS Q: Mayor calls 911 for Not-so-Normalgram!

MISS S: Panic ensues…street riot!

*Crowd starts chattering/slight panic in background*

MAYOR: No, no! Oh…to city hall, Miss Add…we’ll call the Hero hotline ourselves! And stop taking pictures…this is *not* a normal thing to have happen! *Exits with Ms. Add*

MISS Q: Wow! What a story!

MISS S: …finally something worth writing about!

*Moves off to side*

*Miss Happ moves over to Mark Downe./citizens remain looking at newspaper on roof*

MISS HAPP (whispering): Mark, this looks like a job for you-know-who!

MARK DOWNE: I dunno…pretty steep slope on that roof…I’m thinkin’ it might require *something super!*

MISS HAPP: I don’t think so. According to my calculations, the pitch of that roof is no more than ten degrees…a squirrel could do cartwheels across it…and you know how I like squirrels.

MARK DOWNE: Oh all right, but where can I change?

MISS HAPP: The phone booth of course! Follow me!!

*MD and MH exit to change into hero costumes in phone booth/That Girl approaches and they hand her the*

*Phone outside of booth.*

THAT GIRL: Now where is that super-hero hotline number?

JUNE: Oh, I have it memorized…just in case…it’s 1-800-GET-HERO.

THAT GIRL: Does anyone have a dime?

GLADYZ *standing up from faint*: Oh for heaven’s sake! The newspaper is dangling on the roof…call!!

*Suddenly Superlative Man appears on the roof with cape blowing.*

SUPERLATIVE MAN: No need to call, Citizens… I was just flying over your fair city, when with my eagle-eye vision, I viewed from a height of 10,000 feet, the plight of your Daily Normal-gram. This clearly must be the work of that evil mastermind, The News-sance. Only he would be so bold as to toss the editorials of man’s thinking on a hot tar-pitched roof!

Citizen 11: And to think I lined the birdcage with it just yesterday!

Citizen 86: Save it Superlative Man!

Citizen 99: Yeah…pick it up with your super laser vision beam!

Citizen 11: Isn’t he just the best!

S. MAN: No can do!

ALL Citizens: What?

86: You mean you can’t save the paper?

99: Maybe there’s some kind of force field that he can’t break through!

11: Oh yeah, I’ve heard of things like that?

S. MAN: Don’t be silly citizens…I could quite easily save that paper from its precarious situation, and whisk it into the hands of you dear lady in the blink of an eye! Was the name Gladyz?

Gladyz *faints*: Oh….

S. MAN: However…it is beneath me to do so.

99: Of course it’s beneath you…you’re flying?

THAT GIRL: No, no…I think he means it’s beneath his ability.

S. MAN: Correct, Citizen! There are some things that are so mundane, so…dare I say, simple…that only the humblest and most ordinary of men can do them. Saving newspapers from the clutches of bushes, trees, and rooftops is beneath my super-hero abilities…you’ll have to find another kind of hero.

*Superlative Man moves away, but does not exit.*

86: Another kind of hero?

11: But who?

86: If I don’t have my daily crossword, I’m a mess for the rest of the day!

*Mediocre Man and Guinea Pig Girl suddenly appear.*

MM: Never fear, Mediocre Man is here!

99: Mediocre who?

GPG: Mediocre Man! No job is too small for him! Quick to the roof!

*Mediocre Man runs, than stops.*

MM: Uh…Guinea Pig Girl, why don’t you try the fire escape first…looks a little shaky to me.

GPG: *Lowly* Nightmare, Mediocre Man…you’re right! Only a fool would climb that rickety thing. Let me at it!

*GPG climbs fire escape, slipping, but finally reaching roof.*

11: She made it! Remarkable!

S. MAN: Yes…she seems to be quite agile for an average earthling.

GPG: Come on Mediocre Man…its safe!

MM: Uh…right!

*MM climbs fire escape slipping and falling, but finally reaches roof. He stumbles his way to paper and retrieves it. He then slips and falls down ladder and hands paper carefully to Gladyz who has gotten up from faint.*

GLADYZ: Thanks, Mediocre Man…we…uh…couldn’t have done it without you.

THAT GIRL: Oh look, there’s a sale at Hal’s Hardware.

JUNE: Any ladders on sale? I think we need a new one.

MM: Don’t mention it. I’m just here to help. Guinea Pig Girl…Help!

*GPG helps MM up. Superlative Man stands and salutes MM.*

MISS Q: Mediocre Man saves the day

MISS S: Well sort of…

S.MAN: Well done…er…good job…I mean…You did that with such …passion…it was…fine! Keep up the half-baked work, Mediocre Man…it’s all yours!

NEW SS emerges from hiding: It looks to me like it takes Something Super to save the day! *Evil laugh* *exits*

Song/It takes something Super/Citizens sing as they move off STAGE leaving MM and GPG alone

***LIGHT AND SOUND:***