

Behind The Hero
Episode 01 - Speedee

by
Searnold

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Searnold
(310) 806-3373
SuperSearnold@yahoo.com
<http://www.SuperSearnold.com>

PAGE 01:

PANEL 1.1

An extra large panel that takes up the size of four of the normal screens. Exploding out of the screen in exaggerated action poses are all of our characters: Joshua, Speedee, The Time Master, the two F.B.I. Agents, Officers Ed & Larry, Awesome Man, Timmy, Cat Burglar, and Buck-O. A super awesome logo for the show is at the top of the screen (I'll design the logo when I do the lettering - just leave some space for it so I'm not cutting off the top of character's heads). [Note: you don't need to draw the sound effects, either - I can take care of them with my lettering program.]

LOGO

BEHIND THE HERO: A Documentary
Episode 1 - Speedee

NARRATOR

Hello - and thank you for tuning in to "Behind The Hero." If you don't already know, "Behind The Hero" is an unprecedented attempt to take a look inside the superhero community. Everything you will see is completely real. There are no actors. No writers. No scripts. No stunts. No special effects. Only an honest look at the world's most exciting people: Superheroes.

PANEL 1.2

Joshua Roberts holding a microphone. Behind him is daytime in our fictional city. The Time Master's tower is a clearly visible building in the skyline of the city, but not the center of attention. It looks like a giant comical clock - think Ben Big replica. Joshua looks straight at the camera like a professional TV reporter.

JOSHUA

My name is Joshua Roberts. I'll be your host and guide as we travel through the superhero community, finding answers to the questions you want to know.

PANEL 1.3

Same background. Now we see Speedee in full costume standing in a goofy over-the-top action pose while also making a silly face at the camera.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)
Today's episode features a hero who happens to be a close personal friend of mine: the man known only as Speedee.

PAGE 02:

PANEL 2.1

A panel of static with a little red record dot at the bottom right corner. [Remember, I'll add the record dot myself, so you don't have to worry about it.]

CAPTION
June 6th
8:17am
Speedee's Kitchen

RECORD DOT
REC

NARRATOR
Speedee also happens to be my roommate. This is some of the first footage I took the morning after his powers mysteriously manifested.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)
Is this thing on?

PANEL 2.2

Inside Speedee's apartment. It's kind of a run down place - the type of place you get when you're first out of college and living on your own but don't really have any money. Speedee is making breakfast - but super fast. He's all over the place. He's in his civvies. This whole page should have more of a home movie feel than the rest of the documentary.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)
Wave to the camera, Lawrence.

SPEEDEE

It's just Speedee now, Dude. I've decided to ditch Lawrence altogether.

PANEL 2.3

Speedee has stopped making breakfast and stands right in front of the camera - waving at his audience.

SPEEDEE

Hello viewers. Welcome to "Behind The Hero." I hope you like the show.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

So what are you doing?

PANEL 2.4

Back to making breakfast.

SPEEDEE

Dude - I'm just making breakfast. I agreed to do your little project, not to let you voyeur your way into every second of my life.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

It's not just a project - it's a professional documentary.

SPEEDEE

Whatever. Just make sure you get plenty of shots of me in action. I want everyone to see how awesome I am! And make sure you shoot my good side.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

Which side's your good side?

PANEL 2.5

Speedee sticks his butt out and up towards the camera and gives it a little pat.

SPEEDEE

Oh - you know it's my back side!

SFX
BUTT-THRUST!
(everybody loves a
butt-thrust)

PANEL 2.6

Speedee, once again facing the camera, has a semi-concerned look on his face. He's pointing at Joshua and is totally for serious - but in a 'two friends messing around' sort of way. He's looking at Joshua, not the camera, so he's not looking directly at the reader, but only very slightly off to the side.

SPEEDEE
You do NOT get to use this part in
the show, Joshua.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)
I wouldn't dream of it.

PAGE 03:

PANEL 3.1

Inside Speedee's bedroom. Of note - Speedee has a HUGE comic book collection that takes up a large portion of his room. We can also see his computer desk, which we'll be coming back to later. Joshua is holding the camera so we still have that home movie feel, and we still can't see Joshua. The focus of the panel is Speedee's costume - gloves, shoes, cape, tights, shorts, and long-sleeve shirt - laid out on his bed. Also on the bed is a pillow case with eye slits cut in it. This is the cheeziest excuse for a mask that any man has ever seen. One of the pillows on Speedee's bed is also conspicuously missing its pillow case. There should be a second pillow on the bed adorned with a pillow case identical to the one that is now a mask - but sans eye holes. Speedee is standing next to the bed in his boxers (which have some sort of hilarious design on them - maybe hearts?). Now that we see him without clothes on, we can tell that he's a fairly scrawny little dude.

CAPTION
June 7th
8:41am
Speedee's Bedroom

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)
Hehehe. This is your costume?

SPEEDEE

Yeah. What's so funny?

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

It's very... homemade.

PANEL 3.2

Joshua zooms in on each aspect of Speedee's costume as he puts it on so that all we can see is that part of the costume. Think of the costume montage from the Batman movies. In this panel, Speedee has just started putting his tights on. Zoom in tight as he starts to pull them up over his boxers.

SPEEDEE

Well - yeah. I wanted something cheap and easy, so I could start heroing right away.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

I bet the ladies will enjoy you running around in those sexy little tights.

SPEEDEE

Ha. Ha. They're aerodynamic, alright?

PANEL 3.3

Zoomed in on Speedee holding his shoes. Speedee points to the bottom of his shoes, where he has glued on metal plates to help absorb the impact of his running. By this point he has put on his shorts and shirt, but not his gloves, cape, or mask.

SPEEDEE

Oh - check this out. I made special modifications to my shoes since I do like a year's worth of running in about an hour.

PANEL 3.4

Close up of Speedee fastening his cape around his neck.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

Are you sure a cape is such a good idea - considering the nature of your powers?

SPEEDEE

It'll be fine. The cape is a must.
All the best heroes have capes.

PANEL 3.5

Zoomed in on Speedee's hands as he slips on his rubber gloves. These are obviously the stereotypical rubber gloves that cleaning ladies use.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

Hahaha! Hehehe! I'm sorry. Aren't those the gloves we scrub the toilet with?

SPEEDEE

No.

SPEEDEE (CONT'D)

I bought new ones.

PANEL 3.6

We see Speedee's whole body, in all his costumed glory. Also with the stupid looking pillow case mask on and tucked into his shirt's collar. Talk about ridiculous. Speedee is standing in a modeling pose - showing off the costume that he is very proud of.

SPEEDEE

Ta-Da!

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

HA!HA!HA!HA!HA!HA! Hoooo boy!
Are you trying to conceal your identity or protect the public from your ugly face? Seriously - take off that ridiculous excuse for a mask.

PAGE 04:

Joshua and Speedee (still in his costume, but now sans mask) are in their living room, sitting on opposite sides of a couch, with the camera set up on a tripod watching them (so no more home movie feel). These interview pages are set up so that the three panels on the left of the page are Joshua and the three panels on the right of the page are Speedee - so you can tell that they're sitting on the same couch.

If you ignored the panel borders, each set of two panels would look like a single picture of the two of them sitting on a couch. The dialogue will go down the middle of the page, between the panels, so that it flows like a natural conversation. Make sure to draw Joshua on the far left side of his panels and Speedee on the far right side of his panels - each sitting on the extreme ends of their side of the couch - to provide as much space as possible for the dialogue balloons. Unless I specifically mention that they are looking straight at the camera or straight at each other, they'll be looking at a sort of 45 degree angle so that they can see each other and the camera.

It's also important that everything (besides Speedee and Joshua) looks exactly the same in each panel with the same amount of zoom. The camera that is filming this is not moving throughout the entire conversation, so the perspective remains constant. <---- [Biggest Mistake Of My Career...]

...so far.

Learn from my mistakes and make your comics visually dynamic. That way they won't suck.

PANEL 4.1

Joshua sitting on the couch. This is his first interview so he's a bit nervous and unsure of himself, even though he and Speedee are friends. He's using interview cards and looking down at them instead of at the camera. Joshua is asking some very serious questions here - he's in dead serious full on reporter mode.

PANEL 4.2

Speedee responds with uncharacteristic seriousness. He looks like he's recalling something that happened yesterday, something mundane - like brushing his teeth - and he's telling a regular boring story.

CAPTION (4.1)

June 7th
8:56am
Speedee's Living Room

NARRATOR (4.1)

Like so many of those in the superhero community, Speedee's origin is shrouded in mystery.
(MORE)

NARRATOR (4.1) (CONT'D)

One of the purposes of "Behind The Hero" is to unravel those mysteries.

JOSHUA (4.1)

Let's start at the beginning - tell us your origin story.

SPEEDEE (4.2)

Oh, it's a good story. There was this ninja zombie invasion from an alternate dimension. So I volunteered for these experiments to help save the world - but everything went horribly wrong. Then the robot clones were killing everybody so naturally I had to step in and stop them. Of course, no one remembers any of this because of the mind wipe.

PANEL 4.3

As Speedee's dialogue bubble continues down past Panel 4.3, Joshua is extremely confused - a reaction to Speedee's incredulous story, which Joshua knows isn't true but Speedee seems to believe it is. Joshua was not expecting this at all. He looks questioningly straight at Speedee, and everything about his body language reveals what he's thinking: "What the balls are you talking about?"

PANEL 4.4

Speedee's standing up, with wide-eyes and huge hand gestures telling this epic tale that's complete BS.

PANEL 4.5

Joshua realizes Speedee is making this up - so he remains calm and very professionally asks his next question, while holding back a laugh.

PANEL 4.6

Speedee, once again sitting back down on the couch, all excitement gone, kinda shrugs.

JOSHUA (4.5)

Uh-huh. And how did you actually discover your powers?

SPEEDEE (4.6)

Woke up yesterday and BLAM-O: I'm super fast.

JOSHUA (4.5)

Doesn't the mysterious origin of these powers concern you at all?

SPEEDEE (4.6)

Nope.

PAGE 05:

We're still on the couch, with the exact same page layout as page 4. <---- [Second biggest mistake of my career.]

Remember my advice about being dynamic? At the time, I thought the variation in expressions and interesting dialogue counted as "dynamic." As soon as I got the pages back from Marcelo I realized the truth - but alas, far too late.

PANEL 5.1

Joshua, once again looking straight down at his interview cards, moves on to the next card.

PANEL 5.2

Speedee sitting on the other side of the couch. In contrast to Joshua, he's totally confident - even overconfident - looking directly into the camera (i.e. straight out at the reader). He's totally full of himself.

JOSHUA (5.1)

Why don't you tell us a little bit more about yourself.

SPEEDEE (5.2)

What do you want me to say? My name's Speedee. I'm the world's newest hero. And I'm awesome. Everything about me is super fast.

JOSHUA (5.1)

How has that affected your personal life?

SPEEDEE (5.2)

Well - peeing doesn't take nearly as long as it used to - is that the sort of thing you meant?

JOSHUA (5.1)

What? No. No one wants to hear about that.

PANEL 5.3

Joshua, still unsure of himself, flips over to his next card.

PANEL 5.4

Speedee shows his driver's license to the camera. It has a goofy picture of him (you know how bad driver's license pictures always turn out) and the following:

DRIVER'S LICENSE

(in small font on the license)

Speedee

License #: D3752937

DOB: 08-12-85

Sex: M

If you take care of the picture, I'll take care of the lettering.

JOSHUA (5.3)

Moving on - is it true you legally changed your name to Speedee?

SPEEDEE (5.4)

You bet! Check it out!

JOSHUA (5.3)

And why not just keep your real name?

SPEEDEE (5.4)

Cause my new name is totally awesome and my old name is totally lame. No offense, Mom.

JOSHUA (5.3)

Wait - you spell your name with two "E's"?

SPEEDEE (5.4)

Yeah - I didn't want to get confused with that guy in the comic books.

PANEL 5.5

Joshua, very serious, is starting to pull away from using his note cards as a crutch. He's still clutching them like a life preserve, but he's looking up (still at that 45 degree angle.)

PANEL 5.6

Speedee is completely dumbfounded. The thought of money had never once crossed his mind. Surprised and caught off guard, he turns his head away from the camera to look straight at Joshua.

JOSHUA (5.5)

You read a lot of comic books - right?

SPEEDEE (5.4)

Absolutely!

JOSHUA (5.5)

Did comic books influence your decision to become a super hero? I mean - why not use your powers to become a super villain?

SPEEDEE (5.4)

Why not become a villain? Cause I'm not a complete loser.

JOSHUA (5.5)

Have you given any thought about how you plan to make money as a professional hero?

SPEEDEE (5.6)

What now?

PAGE 06:

PANEL 6.1

Still sitting on the couch doing an interview. Every time it'll be the same thing: Joshua on the left side of the left panels, Speedee on the right side of the right panels, dialogue down the middle. In this panel, Joshua is still using his note cards, but is slowly becoming more comfortable.

PANEL 6.2

Speedee. On the couch. Thoughtful.

JOSHUA (6.1)

What do you hope to accomplish as a hero?

SPEEDEE (6.2)

I just want to stop bad guys - simple as that.

JOSHUA (6.1)

Do you stand for anything?

SPEEDEE (6.2)

Great justice? I don't know - I haven't really thought about it.

JOSHUA (6.1)

Have you thought about a super hero catch phrase?

SPEEDEE (6.2)

You mean like, "Truth, Justice, and the American Way?"

JOSHUA (6.1)

Something like that.

SPEEDEE (6.2)

I kinda like "Truth, Justice, and the American Way."

JOSHUA (6.1)

Have you thought about one that isn't copyrighted?

SPEEDEE (6.2)

Ummm.... No.

JOSHUA (6.1)

Alright then - who are your heroic...

PANEL 6.3

Joshua, still holding his cards, looks questioningly over at Speedee. His face says, "I'm waiting... Were you gonna say something? Any day now would be fine."

PANEL 6.4

Speedee's looking away - off in his own world - thinking really hard, and holding out one finger towards Joshua like, "Wait - don't say anything - give me one second to think." Make sure it doesn't look like he's saying, "Talk to the hand."

SPEEDEE (6.4)

Wait. I'll think of something.

...
...
...

Whenever you're in need of a... No.

...
...
...

JOSHUA (6.3)

Chirp chirp. Chirp chirp. Are those crickets I hear?

SPEEDEE (6.4)

Hold on - just gimme a sec.

...
...
...

How about - no...

SPEEDEE (CONT'D)

(small font)

Help... you... I'LL help you...
I'll HELP you... if you need...
need... help... I'll... no...

PANEL 6.5

Joshua looks impatiently straight over at Speedee. He's let his cards fall into his lap and is tapping his finger on the sofa.

PANEL 6.6

Speedee's pondering harder than ever. He's looking down at the floor and scratching his head. He's drawing a blank.

JOSHUA (6.5)

Apparently not everything about you is super fast.

PAGE 07:

PANEL 7.1

Continuing the conversation on the couch. In this panel, Joshua is barely using his cards.

PANEL 7.2

Speedee, indicating himself with his hands, is demonstrating the obvious comparison that he basically is The Flash.

JOSHUA (7.1)
Who are your heroic idols?

SPEEDEE (7.2)
The Flash. For obvious reasons.

JOSHUA (7.1)
No. I meant real heroes.

SPEEDEE (7.2)
Oh. Well - The Living Lazer - obviously. Who doesn't look up to that guy? You know who else I'm a big fan of? Those dudes in The See-Thru Brigade.

JOSHUA (7.1)
You mean The Invisible Battalion?

SPEEDEE (7.2)
I thought they were called the See-Thru Brigade. They're such an enigma.

PANEL 7.3

Joshua is still holding his cards, but has let his hands relax into his lap. He's not looking at them at all - he's looking straight over at Speedee. He's relaxed and the two of them are just having a conversation now.

PANEL 7.4

Speedee making his case that he's a worthy hero. Cocky. Very "Pshaw!"

JOSHUA (7.3)

I know. I'd love to do an episode about them but...

SPEEDEE (7.2)

How would you ever find them?

JOSHUA (7.3)

Exactly. Moving on, what sorts of aspirations do you have - as a hero?

SPEEDEE (7.4)

Well it's every hero's dream to join The Extremes.

JOSHUA (7.3)

Yeah - but they're so exclusive. They haven't updated their roster since they were founded.

SPEEDEE (7.4)

That's cause there haven't been any decent new heroes in the past 10 years. Once this tape gets out there, they'll be begging me to join.

JOSHUA (7.5)

Don't they already have a fast guy?

SPEEDEE (7.4)

You mean Accelerated Man? Pshaw! I could run circles around him while he's running circles around a speeding car that's driving circles around...

PANEL 7.5

Joshua, very inquisitive, looking over at Speedee.

PANEL 7.6

Speedee points straight out at the reader. He's addressing his audience with a warning.

JOSHUA (7.5)

I think we get the point. Just how fast are you?

SPEEDEE (7.6)

Fast enough that you do not want to mess with me. So all you potential villains out there had better think twice about being evil.

PAGE 08:

PANEL 8.1

Joshua is now very comfortable with the whole interviewing thing. He does still have his cards, but he's not even looking at them.

PANEL 8.2

Speedee's looking away, off to our right, avoiding the subject.

JOSHUA (8.1)

Speaking of villains - what's the greatest battle you've ever fought?

SPEEDEE (8.2)

Yeah. About that...

JOSHUA (8.1)

What?

SPEEDEE (8.2)

I haven't actually fought any villains yet.

JOSHUA (8.1)

Really? What were you doing all day yesterday?

SPEEDEE (8.2)

Dicking around...

PANEL 8.3

Joshua's genuinely excited now. He has high hopes for what's in store.

PANEL 8.4

Speedee, eyes opened huge, with his jaw gaping open. He is actually speechless and even a little scared - also shocked at the notion that Joshua thinks he's going to die.

JOSHUA (8.3)

Well this works out great. I'll be able to get footage of your premiere battle. Are you nervous at all?

SPEEDEE (8.2)

Heck no.

JOSHUA (8.3)

Have you thought about the possibility that you could die?

SPEEDEE (8.4)

...Not until just this very moment - no. Thank you very much.

JOSHUA (8.3)

Wow - I might get a death on my first episode! I didn't figure I'd catch one of those on film for years.

SPEEDEE (8.4)

... ..

PANEL 8.5

Joshua's kidding around with Speedee - genuinely having a good time with the interview now.

PANEL 8.6

Speedee sitting back in the couch, contented, and nodding. The dialogue explains exactly how he feels - he loves attention.

JOSHUA (8.5)

I'm kidding. I'm sure you'll do fine. Worst case scenario - you can always run away like a coward.

SPEEDEE (8.4)

Oh shut-up. You are so not helpful. This is the last time I do you a favor.

JOSHUA (8.5)
Come on - doing this was as much
your idea as it was mine. You know
you love the attention.

SPEEDEE (8.6)
I do.

PAGE 09:

PANEL 9.1

Much the same, but Joshua is down to his last card.

PANEL 9.2

Speedee is confused. Did Joshua really just ask that?

JOSHUA (9.1)
And of course, I cannot end the
interview segment without asking -
what is your favorite sandwich?

SPEEDEE (9.2)
Huh?

JOSHUA (9.1)
What's your favorite sandwich?

SPEEDEE (9.2)
You're kidding, right? What kind
of question is that?

PANEL 9.3

Joshua's question is totally serious.

PANEL 9.4

Still a bit perplexed, Speedee humors Joshua and tries to
think of the best answer.

JOSHUA (9.3)
It's a perfectly valid journalistic
question. We're trying to get to
know you as a person. I'm thinking
of using it as my signature
question - kind of like "Stay
frosty San Diego."

SPEEDEE (9.2)
Okay. That's just weird.

JOSHUA (9.3)
Just answer the question.

SPEEDEE (9.4)
But there are so many different types of sandwiches. How can I choose? I guess if you're talking about homemade sandwiches, it would have to be PB&J - because it's the easiest.

JOSHUA (9.3)
It can be any sandwich.

SPEEDEE (9.4)
Can it be a money sandwich?

PANEL 9.5

Joshua is almost annoyed that Speedee isn't taking him seriously. But he can't be annoyed because he's too amused by Speedee's answers.

PANEL 9.6

Speedee is genuinely pondering this now. Joshua has opened a Pandora's box that cannot be closed until Speedee decides on the answer to this question.

JOSHUA (9.5)
Any sandwich you would actually eat.

SPEEDEE (9.6)
Hrm. I'm gonna have to give this some serious thought. Let me get back to you on that one.

PAGE 10:

PANEL 10.1

From the perspective of the camera - which is in the passenger's seat of Joshua's car - we see Joshua driving down a crowded freeway. The focus of this panel is Speedee - seen through the driver's window - effortlessly running alongside the car, waving happily.

Unbeknownst to him, a small corner of his cape is stuck in the door, and can be seen inside Joshua's car. The cars on the freeway should have a speed trail similar to Speedee's to show that they, too, are moving at a fast pace.

CAPTION

June 6th
11:22am
The Freeway

NARRATOR

My first attempt to accompany Speedee on patrol did not go well.

SPEEDEE

You're just slowing me down, Dude.

PANEL 10.2

Same shot. Speedee zooms off, zig-zagging his way in and out of the cars as though they were stationary. The corner of Speedee's cape that was stuck in the car door tears off.

Speedee's cape now has a small (but noticeable) amount of battle damage on it. This is going to be a running gag - every time he zooms off somewhere his cape is going to get a bit more ripped up. The amount of damage will slowly escalate until there's nothing left but a rag on his neck, so this first tear should be noticeable, but subtle (if such a dichotomy is even possible.)

SFX

RIIIIIIP!

SFX (CONT'D)

Whoooooosh!

SFX (CONT'D)

Honk! Honk!

SFX (CONT'D)

HONK!HONK!HONK!

PANEL 10.3

Inside Speedee's bathroom - which has a giant mirror along one of the walls. We see Speedee's face, zoomed in WAY too tight, as he holds the camera himself (just in front of his face) and looks into it. Speedee's trying to do a Blair Witch impersonation, but he's too happy to be scary.

CAPTION

June 6th
12:34pm
Speedee's Bathroom

NARRATOR

I tried giving the camera to
Speedee.

SPEEDEE

Help! Help! I'm lost in... my
bathroom!

PANEL 10.4

An awkward angle of the ceiling - Speedee has no idea what he's doing with the camera. Joshua is in here, too, but we probably can't see him, since the camera is pointed at the ceiling.

NARRATOR

That didn't work out well, either.

PANEL 10.5

We see in a mirror that the camera is now strapped to Speedee's head. Boy does he look goofy. Speedee's waving to the mirror, grinning from ear to ear. Joshua is standing beside him, shaking his head at Speedee's silly antics.

SPEEDEE

Look at me. Look at me. I'm on
TV. I'm on TV.

JOSHUA

Go fight some crime or something -
would ya?

PANEL 10.6

A panel of just complete blur. Basically, Speedee's running all over town with the camera strapped to his head, but he's going so fast that the camera doesn't pick up anything discernible.

SFX

Zooooooooom! Swoooooosh!

SPEEDEE (OFF PANEL)

Since Joshua's not here, should I
give a running commentary?

(MORE)

SPEEDEE (OFF PANEL) (CONT'D)
Hello viewers. What you are seeing
is me running around, trying to
find some villainy to thwart.

SFX
RIIIIIIIIP!

SPEEDEE (OFF PANEL)
Awww man! My cape!
Hmmm... All this running is making
me hungry.

PAGE 11:

PANEL 11.1

Speedee is on the sidewalk out in front of a deli in the middle of town. He's looking down into a trash can and throwing out a half eaten pastrami sandwich. The camera is still strapped to his head, so we see this from an almost 1st person perspective.

SPEEDEE (OFF PANEL)
Yuck! Not pastrami.

PANEL 11.2

Seconds later, still from the perspective of the camera on Speedee's head we see an ice-cream truck driving down the street.

SPEEDEE (OFF PANEL)
That's it! Of course! It's so perfect! Why didn't I think of this before?

PANEL 11.3

More blur as Speedee zooms back home.

SFX
RIIIIIIIIIIP!

SPEEDEE (OFF PANEL)
Aww crap! Not again!

SFX
Swoooooooooosh! Zoooooooooooooom!

PANEL 11.4

Back in the bathroom, Speedee is talking to Joshua. Once again, the angle is a little off. Since Speedee would be looking Joshua in the eye, and the camera is on top of Speedee's head, the camera is angled such that we barely see the top of Joshua's head at the bottom of the panel. I think these sorts of awkward angles will help get across the "this was filmed with a camera" feel. Joshua hasn't moved hardly at all since we last saw him, and is surprised to see Speedee back so soon.

JOSHUA

What are you doing back so soon?
Did you thwart any villainy?

SPEEDEE (OFF PANEL)

I did two laps around the whole city, and couldn't find so much as a purse snatcher. Oh, and I think I'm gonna need a new cape.

JOSHUA

I told you the cape was a bad idea.

PANEL 11.5

Via the mirror (and at an oddly crooked angle) we see Speedee, now sporting two brand new tears in the middle of his cape, handing Joshua the camera.

SPEEDEE

Yeah yeah. Here - let's see if the Speedee-Cam worked.

NARRATOR

It did not.

PANEL 11.6

Now that Joshua is holding the camera it's in much better focus. He's looking at Speedee who holds up an ice-cream sandwich as if offering it to Joshua. Speedee has a huge grin on his face.

SPEEDEE

By the way - I figured it out. Ice-Cream sandwich!

PAGE 12:

PANEL 12.1

Joshua and Speedee are on the rooftop of a skyscraper during dusk. Joshua has the camera, so obviously we can't see him. Speedee is pointing to the building next to them, which is substantially taller than the roof they're on. Across the street is Marston's Jewelry (visible, but not the focus of the panel).

CAPTION

June 6th
7:01pm
City Rooftops

SIGN

Marston's Jewelry
Unrobbed since last Thursday

NARRATOR

When patrolling proved
unsuccessful, we tried a classic
stakeout across the street from the
most robbed store in the world -
Marston's Jewelry.

SPEEDEE

You know - I've always heard that
patrolling via rooftops can be
quite effective. But how are you
supposed to get over to the next
rooftop?

PANEL 12.2

A blur of Speedee runs down the side of the building and across the street towards the jewelry store. So far he's only about half way across the street. To show that the roof is pretty tall, he should basically be a colorful blurry spec down on the ground. His speech bubble is coming from the speed trail left at the top of the building with the last part of his dialogue in progressively smaller lettering as he gets further away.

SFX

DINGALINGALINGALINGALING!

SPEEDEE

Finally - a robbery! Don't worry -
I'll be there in a jiffy!
(MORE)

SPEEDEE (CONT'D)

Hey - maybe that could be my catch phrase...

SFX

Zooooom!

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

Yeah... uh... I'd keep working on it. ... Okay - there's no way he heard that. I need to stop talking to myself.

PANEL 12.3

A few minutes later (so still dusk time, the sun is setting in the upper right corner) - down on the street outside Marston's Jewelry. Awesome Man is triumphantly handing the villain - Cat Burglar - to two generic and identical police officers (named Ed and Larry) who are standing next to their squad car. Cat Burglar is a female humanoid cat who is every stereotype of a cat burglar enhanced as comically as possible: she's got the standard black ski-mask with her cat ears sticking out - black tights with her tail sticking out - etc. None of them seem to notice Joshua or Speedee.

In the foreground on the far right of the panel we see Speedee's disappointed face - he's standing a bit too close to the camera and is not the focus of the shot.

POLICE OFFICER ED

Thank you - uh...

AWESOME MAN

Awesome Man's the name.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

It's already over? What happened?

SPEEDEE

I don't know.

PANEL 12.4

Speedee's face (still in the foreground but now on the far left) is quite puzzled but still a little sad and disappointed. He's looking into the camera - ignoring what's going on behind him. He throws his hand over his shoulder and casually motions behind him with his thumb.

Behind him, we see Awesome Man's feet and the bottom of his cape as he flies off the top right side of the panel - into the sunset.

The police officers put handcuffs on Cat Burglar, but are looking up towards Awesome Man - watching in spectacle as he flies away. Cat Burglar turns her head in this direction and notices Joshua and Speedee - she's checking Joshua out.

SPEEDEE

This new bozo showed up before I even got here.

SPEEDEE (CONT'D)

Which is weird - cause I got here in like half a second.

AWESOME MAN

Up, up, and away!

POLICE OFFICER ED

Is he allowed to say that?

POLICE OFFICER LARRY

I don't know. Isn't that phrase copyrighted?

PANEL 12.5

Over the police scanner in the squad car everyone hears that there has been an explosion downtown. Speedee gets this super excited look on his face - kid in a candy store excited. Nothing's going to prevent him from saving the day this time. The police officers put Cat Burglar into the back of their squad car. She's looking seductively over at Joshua, subtly trying to get his attention.

RADIO

We have an explosion downtown at the Eighth National Bank. All available units report.

SPEEDEE

Sweet! Another crime! Don't worry - I'll be there in a jiffy!

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

Speedee - wait!

PANEL 12.6

Speedee's long gone, with only a faint memory of his speed trail visible.

Joshua turns the focus of the camera to the two police officers who are standing in front of the police car and looking at Joshua confusedly like, "Who are you?/ What did you just ask?" They aren't mean looks, just confused. Of note: the dialogue balloon is going to go above them in this panel because their looks are a reaction to it. So put them bigger than they've been, more dominant, but a bit lower on the page.

SFX

Wooooooooooooooooosh!

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

That's such a terrible catch phrase.

...

I don't suppose I could hitch a ride with you guys?

While the initial idea of hitching a ride with a cop may seem ludicrous, they ultimately allow him to accompany them. So it's important that the police car look inviting - to plant that subconscious thought that Joshua will be able to ride with them. So the doors should be open and Cat Burglar should now be sitting on the far side of the back seat, leaving an open seat for Joshua. Cat Burglar is looking seductively over at Joshua - with a come hither stare. She's patting the open seat with her handcuffed paws.

PAGE 13:

The sun has set. We are now at a crime scene in the middle of downtown. The fact that this is a crime scene isn't the main focus of the panel. But off in the background or in the corners we should be able to see police tape having closed off a certain area of the street. Whenever we get a chance to see it (probably not until at least panel 13.3), Speedee's cape now has a giant stain on it.

PANEL 13.1

Joshua has just gotten out of the squad car. Officers Ed and Larry wave at him from in the front seats. Cat Burglar sadly waves goodbye with her handcuffed paws while looking at him longingly. She's going to miss him.

CAPTION

June 6th
8:11pm
Downtown

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)
Thanks for the ride Officers.

POLICE OFFICER ED
Any time.

POLICE OFFICER LARRY
Just make sure we make it into your
show.

POLICE OFFICER ED
Oh - but don't tell anyone about
that little mishap.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)
Deal.

PANEL 13.2

Much like panel 12.4 - in the foreground an upset Speedee pointing behind him. In the background, Awesome Man is putting Buck-O into the back seat of the squad car.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)
Thanks for leaving me behind,
Speedee. Did I miss all the action
again?

SPEEDEE
We *both* missed all the action
again. Can you believe this new
bozo got here before me!? This
doesn't make any sense! How does
he keep doing that?

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)
Do I detect a hint of jealousy in
your voice?

PANEL 13.3

The squad car drives off. Speedee goes over to Awesome Man to give him a piece of his mind. He is not happy. Awesome Man has an oblivious smile on his face.

SPEEDEE
Hey you - New Guy! I don't know
what type of shenanigans you're
trying to pull, but you're
seriously messing up my mojo.

AWESOME MAN

Don't worry Citizen - everything's under control now. You know you're safe when Awesome Man's around.

SPEEDEE

Citizen? CITIZEN?! Do you see these tights, Buster? I am no citizen - I'm a hero.

AWESOME MAN

My mistake, Good Sir. But I'm afraid I've never heard of you.

PANEL 13.4

Joshua reaches out and hands Awesome Man his card (the card is the focus of the panel). Speedee is looking towards Joshua (so not straight at the audience - but close) with a confused look of betrayal.

BUSINESS CARD

Joshua Roberts
"Behind The Hero"
www.myspace.com/Behind_The_Hero

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

Awesome Man - right? My name's Joshua Roberts. I'm doing a documentary called "Behind The Hero" and was hoping you'd agree to be on my show.

SPEEDEE

Dude - what are you doing? This is supposed to be my episode!

SFX

Tug! Tug!

PANEL 13.5

Joshua looks down to see Timmy (10-ish year old boy) standing near his feet, tugging on Joshua's trench coat. Timmy is exceptionally excited to be here.

TIMMY

Hey Mister - do you wanna do an episode 'bout me? I'm Timmy - I'm gonna ta be Living Lazer's sidekick - soon as I has more esperience.

(MORE)

TIMMY (CONT'D)

He said so himself to me when I met him.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

Uh... .. Maybe next time, kid.

PANEL 13.6

As Timmy walks off, we see two F.B.I. Agents approaching from a distance. They're small and in the background, but obviously coming this way, and not happy. They have black suits and ties - sunglasses - very Men In Black. Agent #1 is male, Agent #2 is female.

TIMMY

Okey dokey - next time. Bye-bye Mister.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

Bye Timmy.
What an odd kid.
Hrm? What's this - more cops?

PAGE 14:

PANEL 14.1

Close up on our F.B.I. Agents. They're hard-asses who don't show any pleasant emotions. They hold up their badges.

F.B.I. AGENT 1

Alright - nobody move. We're with the F.B.I.

F.B.I. AGENT 2

And all Super Human Activities fall under our jurisdiction.

PANEL 14.2

F.B.I. Agent #1 is handing a huge stack of paperwork to Awesome Man. Awesome Man is flustered by this - this is the first time we see him not smiling.

F.B.I. AGENT 1

Awesome Man - you're a new hero, right?

AWESOME MAN

Affirmative Sir.

F.B.I. AGENT 1

Excellent - then you can start by filling out these. The rest of the forms you need to file under article seven section nine of the Super Human Activities Code will be made available to you upon completion.

AWESOME MAN

Uh... very well then.

AWESOME MAN (CONT'D)

Sheesh - this isn't what I signed up for.

PANEL 14.3

Speedee excitedly approaches the F.B.I. Agents who look at him with disdain. Speedee is holding out his hand to shake theirs, but they aren't returning the gesture. F.B.I. Agent #2 is looking at the hand like, "What am I supposed to do with that?"

SPEEDEE

Hey - shouldn't I be filling out paperwork, too?

F.B.I. AGENT 1

That depends. Who are you?

SPEEDEE

I'm a new superhero. Name's Speedee.

F.B.I. AGENT 2

Like the guy from the comic books - Green Arrow's sidekick, right?

SPEEDEE

No.
I spell my name with two EE's.

F.B.I. AGENT 1

Well, Speedee with two EE's, come see us if you ever actually bring a villain to justice. Until then you aren't really much of a hero - are you?

PANEL 14.4

Speedee zooms off, sending Awesome Man's paperwork flying everywhere.

SPEEDEE

Man - this whole thing whomps! I'm outta here!

SFX

ZOOOOOOOOOOM!

SFX (CONT'D)

SWHOOOOSH!

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

Speedee - wait!
Not again.

PANEL 14.5

The F.B.I. Agents turn their attention to Joshua. Agent #1 is looking at Joshua (so not straight out at the audience.) Agent #2 is looking straight into the camera and just barely beginning to reach her hand out to cover the camera. In the background, Awesome Man is picking up papers.

F.B.I. AGENT 1

And who do we have here? Joshua Roberts - right? We were warned about you.

F.B.I. AGENT 2

If you know what's good for you, you'll keep that camera away from things that are under our jurisdiction.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

What about freedom of the press?

F.B.I. AGENT 2

Hehe. Yeah right.

PANEL 14.6

F.B.I. Agent #2 puts her hand over Joshua's lens, so all we see is a giant hand.

PAGE 15:

Back at home - we're back to the split panel, with the panels on the left showing Joshua and his side of the couch and the panels on the right showing Speedee and his side of the couch.

PANEL 15.1

Joshua just got home. He's standing in front of the couch and taking his coat off. He's exhausted.

CAPTION

June 7th
12:13am
Back At Speedee's Apartment

PANEL 15.2

Speedee's sitting on the couch holding a half-eaten ice-cream sandwich. He's clearly upset. His attention is towards Joshua in panel 15.1.

JOSHUA (15.1)

Where'd you run off to? I had to deal with those crazy FBI Agents all by myself. I spent like 3 hours filling out paper work. I think someone at the bureau is trying to shut me down.

SPEEDEE (15.2)

So? You're lucky you got to fill out any paperwork. Besides - you don't always have to have that stupid camera on!

JOSHUA (15.1)

What's wrong with you?

SPEEDEE (15.2)

What's wrong?! If I didn't have to keep slowing down for you and your stupid show, I'd have stopped 10 villains by now!

PANEL 15.3

Joshua is quite upset with Speedee. He's facing directly to our right, watching Speedee as he runs off (which we'll see in the next panel).

PANEL 15.4

Speedee has run into his room. All we see is his speed trail leading from the couch off panel to the right.

JOSHUA (15.3)

Oh please! I can't be slowing you down because you ran off and left me!

SPEEDEE (OFF PANEL) (15.4)

You and your stupid show can bite me!

SFX

WHOOOSH!

SFX (CONT'D)

SLAM!

PANEL 15.5

Joshua's face is right in front of the camera. Behind him, we still see the left side of the couch. Joshua is looking straight into the camera as he reaches over and turns it off.

JOSHUA

It looks like we might have to end this episode early. Sorry folks.

PANEL 15.6

Nothing but static on the camera.

SFX

(the sound of static...
what does that look like
phonetically?)

BZZKKXXZZKKXXZZKKXXZZKKXX

PAGE 16:

The next morning. Same page layout. The camera hasn't moved.

PANEL 16.1

Joshua walks towards Speedee (who is sitting on the couch in panel 16.2). Joshua is carrying a sandwich.

CAPTION

June 7th
10:22am
Speedee's Living Room

RECORD DOT

REC

JOSHUA

Hey.

PANEL 16.2

Speedee's sitting on the couch watching TV. The TV is next to the camera, so we can't see it. Speedee's body is facing towards us, but his attention is focused slightly off panel - to our right. His eyes are looking not at the audience, but at the TV. He has hung up his tights - literally - they're hanging over the couch. He's wearing his civvies. He's bored and he's holding the remote out and clicking it about 30 times per panel. He doesn't acknowledge Joshua, and he hasn't noticed the camera.

SFX

Clickclickclickclickclickclick.

SPEEDEE

Hey.

PANEL 16.3

Joshua (still standing in front of his side of the couch) offers the sandwich towards Speedee and lifts the bread to reveal that it's filled with dollar bills and some loose change.

PANEL 16.4

Speedee reluctantly looks over towards the sandwich (i.e. towards panel 16.3). He is slightly amused and cracks a half smile, but he's still sulking. He has let his hand holding the remote relax into his lap.

JOSHUA (16.3)

I brought you something.

SPEEDEE (16.4)

He he. Money sandwich. Good times.

JOSHUA (16.3)

Look - I'm sorry I got mad at you last night.

SPEEDEE (16.4)

I'm sorry I ran off without you. Forgiven?

JOSHUA (16.3)

Forgiven.

PANEL 16.5

Speedee has stood up and joined Joshua on the left side of the couch for a hug. This is always how they make up when they fight, so it's not an awkward hug. It's a heartfelt friendly hug - but not TOO friendly. It's still a man hug - they're not tightly embracing each other. The hug has Speedee positioned in such a way that he sees the camera for the first time. In fact, he's looking directly at it - and he's a little ashamed of what he did last time it was on. So he's not too happy to see it. (In a sad way, not an angry way.)

SPEEDEE (16.5)

Uh-oh - do your viewers really want to see this sissy stuff?

JOSHUA (16.5)

Wrenching emotional turmoil? Angry relationship drama? A heartfelt apology? Sounds like pretty good television to me. Are you sure you still want to do the show?

SPEEDEE (16.5)

I don't know, Dude. I don't feel like much of a hero.

PANEL 16.6

Speedee and Joshua, right after the hug, are walking in front of Speedee's side of the couch, over towards Speedee's room. Joshua has his "I've got an idea" face on. He's leading the way as Speedee sort of straggles behind him, picking up his tights.

JOSHUA (16.6)

Don't talk like that. You are a hero. Now get dressed - I think I've got an idea that's gonna solve all your problems.

PAGE 17:

For this page, I'll take care of the lettering on the computer screen. Just leave as much empty space as you possibly can on each panel filled by the computer screen. We don't need to see all of Speedee and Joshua, just their sides on the edges of the panels is fine. The camera won't move for the whole page.

PANEL 17.1

A bit later, they're in Speedee's room, in front of a computer screen. Speedee is once again in his costume. They're sitting with their backs to the camera, looking at the screen - so the focus of the panel is on the computer screen. Speedee and Joshua are sitting on either side of it (Joshua on the left, Speedee on the right), so we can only kind of see them. But what's important is what's on the screen. In this panel, the screen is displaying a Craig's List ad.

CAPTION

June 7th
10:31am
Speedee's Bedroom

JOSHUA

We're gonna find you a nemesis.

SCREEN TEXT

Reply to: BehindTheHero.ADocumentary@gmail.com
Date: 2008-06-07, 10:31AM

UP AND COMING HERO SEEKING NEMESIS.

Hey - My name's Speedee and my specialty is, well, speed. I'm a hot new super hero looking for his arch rival and ready to get started right away. My current catch phrase is, "I'm so fast - I'll leave you wanting more." (It's a work in progress.)

If interested - call 916-247-2332

it's NOT ok to contact this poster with services or other commercial interests

PostingID: 379038752

SPEEDEE

With Craig's List?

PANEL 17.2

Same as above. But now we see a Google search result for the word "villain" on the computer screen. Over the next few panels, Joshua and Speedee will be scrolling through these results.

JOSHUA

Yep. And Google.

SCREEN TEXT

Web Images Maps News Shopping Gmail more
GOOGLE "villain" Search
Web Results 1-10 of about 79,000,000 for **villain**

Villain - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

One popular concept of the "**villain**", meant to mimic the purposely distinctive visage of **villains**, initially from the stage plays of the 1880's ...

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/**Villain** - 54k - Cached - Similar pages

Villain (1971)

Directed by Michael Tuchner. With Richard Burton, Ian McShane, Nigel Davenport. Visit IMDb for Photos, Showtimes, Cast, Crew, Reviews, Plot Summary...

Imdb.com/title/tt0067952 - 50k - Cached - Similar pages

Popular **Villainy**

Reporting on the intersection of **villainy** and everyday life with an eye towards what's new and what's next in the field of evil.

www.popularvillainy.com/ - 68k - Cached - Similar pages

Villains Anonymous

The official website for THE support group for reformed **villains**. Are you addicted to **villainy**? Do you try and try but just can't stop being evil? Get the help you deserve.

www.villains-anonymous.org/ - 12k - Cached - Similar pages

Villainous Weekly - The Magazine

Find new ways to modernize your villainous routine. Includes everything you need to know: latest schemes, evil technologies, costumes, catch phrases, henchmen health plans, even which heroes are operating in your area.

www.villainous-weekly-magazine.net/ - 79k - Cached - Similar pages

Villain Match.com - Find The **Villain** That's Right For You

Post your hero resume and we'll match you with a villain who suits your specific powers. Matches are designed to be challenging, but should ultimately lead to victory for the hero.

www.villainMatch.com/ - 18k - Cached - Similar pages

PANEL 17.3

Having scrolled down, we see a few more of the search results. Speedee's cell phone rings (off panel.)

JOSHUA
Stop scrolling so fast.

SPEEDEE
Stop reading so slow.

SFX (OFF PANEL)
Ring ring ring.

PANEL 17.4

More search results appear on the screen. Speedee reaches towards his phone.

JOSHUA
You're cell phone goes "ring ring ring?"

SPEEDEE
What other sound would a phone make?

JOSHUA
Better question: how do you fit your phone in those tights?

PANEL 17.5

Speedee holds his phone up to his ear. Joshua leans into the computer, extra intrigued by the VillainMatch.com website.

JOSHUA
Hrm. Villain matching? What's this about?

SPEEDEE
(re: his phone)
Go for Speedee. Time Master? Oh - THE Time Master. Wait - like the super villain? Yeah - that's my ad. Already? I just put it up like, 10 seconds ago. Destiny, huh? Works for me. Storm your fortress? Who says that anymore? Okay - shutting up. Uh-huh. Uh-huh. Okay - see you then.

PANEL 17.6

Speedee and Joshua have turned around now, shifting the focus completely onto them. The computer screen is in the background. Speedee's excited as all get out - a big goofy grin spread across his face.

JOSHUA

What was that?

SPEEDEE

The Time Master answered our Craig's List ad. He wants to be my nemesis.

JOSHUA

The Time Master? You mean that nut with the tower in the middle of the city? No hero's ever been able to take him down. Are you sure you're ready for this?

SPEEDEE

Absolutely!

JOSHUA

Can I come with?

SPEEDEE

You better! I want the whole world to see this!

PAGE 18:

PANEL 18.1

Establishing shot of The Time Master's very tall tower from the perspective of the camera looking up from down on the ground. It's a tall and skinny building somewhere downtown. Lots of cheesy time and clock imagery involved. Think Big Ben replica. Speedee stands ready at the front door.

CAPTION

June 7th
12:13am
The Time Master's Fortress

SPEEDEE

The Time Master. This is so perfect.

(MORE)

SPEEDEE (CONT'D)

If I can take this guy down, I'll
make a name for myself for sure.
Epecially doing it on camera.

PANEL 18.2

Just inside the tower - it resembles a very expensive hotel lobby. There's an empty receptionist's desk as well as two elevators. Speedee is excited to see an army of robots waiting for him. The robots are quite an eclectic mix. Some are from far far in the future, some built from spare parts from old 1920's cars, and others an amalgam of everything in between.

ROBOT

HALT! INTRUDER ALERT! INTRUDER
ALERT!

SPEEDEE

Sweet! Robots! I love fighting
robots!

PANEL 18.3

A blurry image of Speedee runs around the robots who are having a difficult time reacting to his speed. In the image, we see Speedee in multiple places at the same time. He is dismantling the robots.

SPEEDEE

Areyougettingthis?

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

Sort of. It's a bit blurry.
You're going way too fast.

SPEEDEE

Sweet - thatissocool!

PANEL 18.4

The robots have now been completely dismantled and lie in a giant pile of spare parts. Speedee has stopped running around. He's looking straight at the camera and indicating the pile of robot parts. It's important that we can tell that this pile of junk is the dismantled robots. Speedee's cape is a bit more ripped up than it has been.

SPEEDEE

And that - my friends - is why I
love fighting robots.

PANEL 18.5

A giant rip in time tears open in the middle of the room. It is basically a portal to a post apocalyptic world. Through the portal comes a massive army of far more threatening robots. Floating above them - coming through the rift in time - is The Time Master. He is floating in mid-air, cross-legged, holding his temporal staff and looking threateningly over towards Speedee.

Speedee, at the far right side of the panel, has a worried look on his face. This might be harder than he thought.

THE TIME MASTER

How do you like them robots?!

ROBOTS

DESTROY. DESTROY. DESTROY.

SFX

Gulp.

SPEEDEE

Uh-oh.

PANEL 18.6

Close up on The Time Master looking menacingly straight at Joshua (so not DIRECTLY out towards the audience, but only very slightly to the side.)

THE TIME MASTER

These ought to keep Speedee busy for awhile. You there - Mr. Roberts - come with me... or else!

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

Umm... okay.

PAGE 19:

Up in The Time Master's office. The camera is zoomed out as far as possible, so as to take in as much of the office as possible. It is a large office filled with all sorts of technologically advanced gizmos and gadgets - none of which actually do anything specific. He also has important artifacts from throughout time littered about his office (such as the first wheel, the first printing press, a copy of the Declaration of Independence from just days after it was drafted, etc.) There are all sorts of screens along the walls - each monitoring different time periods. Cave men. Ancient Egypt. Industrial Revolution. The Future.

Those sorts of simple stereotypes. One of the screens shows Speedee fighting robots down in the lobby. Think of a giant security room with 20 TV screens and a security guard who is supposed to be monitoring them all. The Time Master uses his office to observe different time periods in a similar fashion.

The stuff in The Time Master's office isn't the focus of the panel, so they can be small and in the background. Its primary function is just to provide atmosphere and characterization for The Time Master. The focus is on the interview.

We're going to set this up quite similar to how we set up the interview with Speedee on the couch. The panels on the left and the panels on right will go together to look like one long wide-shot of The Time Master's office. Joshua will be sitting on a stool on the left side of the left panels, holding his interview cards. The Time Master will be on the right side of the right panels, floating in mid-air. The conversation will flow down the middle of the page. Unless I note that they're looking specifically at each other or directly at the camera, they'll be turned at that 45 degree angle between the two.

PANEL 19.1

All we see is the empty left side of The Time Master's room as Joshua is still behind the camera. There is an empty stool ripe for sitting in on the far left side of the panel.

PANEL 19.2

The Time Master motions for Joshua to sit in the empty stool over in panel 19.1.

JOSHUA (19.1) (OFF PANEL)
So... have I been kidnapped?

THE TIME MASTER (19.2)
Don't be ridiculous. You are my guest.

JOSHUA (19.1) (OFF PANEL)
Oh - okay. Why?

THE TIME MASTER (19.2)
For an exclusive interview - of course. Come - sit.

NARRATOR (19.1)

Why The Time Master forced me to do this interview remains a mystery. But I do know this much - you watching this right now is exactly what The Time Master needs to complete his evil scheme... whatever it may be.

PANEL 19.3

Joshua reluctantly sits in the stool. He is confused and cautious and desperately looking at his note cards - trying to come up with a decent interview question.

PANEL 19.4

The Time Master is very insistent that Joshua gets his name right.

JOSHUA (19.3)

Alright - umm... Let's see - I've got some cards here... I've never interviewed a villain before. I must admit - I'm a little nervous. Where should I even begin?

THE TIME MASTER (19.4)

Ask me what my evil plan is.

JOSHUA (19.3)

Okay. This is Joshua Roberts. I'm here with Time Master...

THE TIME MASTER (19.4)

The.

JOSHUA (19.3)

Excuse me?

THE TIME MASTER (19.4)

My name is THE Time Master.

JOSHUA (19.3)

Oh. Okay. I'm here with The Time Master.

THE TIME MASTER (19.4)

No no no.

JOSHUA (19.3)

What?

THE TIME MASTER (19.4)

THE.

JOSHUA (19.3)

The Time...

THE TIME MASTER (19.4)

No. You're saying "thu." It's
"thee."

PANEL 19.5

Joshua loosens up and lets down his guard. He's no longer clenched so tightly. He goes into full fledged super serious reporter mode.

PANEL 19.6

The Time Master crosses his arms defensively. He scoffs at Joshua who just fell right into his trap.

JOSHUA (19.5)

Alright. Theeee Time Master. I think the question on everyone's mind is: what exactly is your villainous scheme?

THE TIME MASTER (19.6)

Hmph. Like I'm really going to reveal that on national television.

JOSHUA (19.5)

But you just said... nevermind.

PAGE 20:

Much the same with the set up here.

PANEL 20.1

Joshua is still fumbling with his note cards and looking straight down at one of them as he reads a question.

PANEL 20.2

The Time Master is giving Joshua a very confused look - "What did you just say?"

JOSHUA (20.1)

Okay, umm, if you won't tell us your specific plan, why don't you tell us some of your aspirations as a hero?

THE TIME MASTER (20.2)

... ..

JOSHUA (20.1)

Villain. Sorry. As a villain. The card says hero so I... sorry. Let's just move on.

PANEL 20.3

Joshua's flipping through a bunch of his cards, looking at them confusedly. He's nervous and unsure of himself.

PANEL 20.4

The Time Master cockily answers that no hero has ever defeated him.

JOSHUA (20.3)

Geez... These questions are all geared towards heroes. Here we go - which hero would you most like to do battle with?

THE TIME MASTER (20.2)

Probably Superman. He seems like he'd be difficult to defeat.

JOSHUA (20.3)

I was thinking more along the lines of real heroes.

THE TIME MASTER (20.4)

Oh - well. I've pretty much done battle with every hero I care to. And won. Even The Extremes have never beaten me. Though this impending battle with Speedee should prove more... interesting than my previous encounters.

PANEL 20.5

Starting to move away from the cards, Joshua is genuinely curious about what The Time Master is saying.

PANEL 20.6

The Time Master leans forward. He looks cautious - like he's telling a secret that he doesn't want to get out - and he's worried that there are spies in this very room.

JOSHUA (20.5)

Tell me this: you've got so much power and you've never been defeated - how are you not the uncontested ruler of everything?

THE TIME MASTER (20.4)

That was never my goal.

JOSHUA (20.5)

Then what is your goal? What are you trying to accomplish with your villainy?

THE TIME MASTER (20.6)

You wouldn't believe me if I told you.

JOSHUA (20.5)

Try me.

THE TIME MASTER (20.6)

Very well. I suppose I can tell you this much - I have been to the future and am trying to ensure that certain events occur the way they are supposed to. I can't say any more for fear of disrupting the delicate balance of the time stream. But be assured - every move I make is part of a well calculated plan.

PAGE 21:

PANEL 21.1

Much the same as before. Joshua is truly intrigued by The Time Master.

PANEL 21.2

And The Time Master is happy that Joshua is figuring all this out.

JOSHUA (21.1)
Even this interview is all part of
that process?

THE TIME MASTER (21.2)
Absolutely.

JOSHUA (21.1)
And that's why you called Speedee?
To get to me?

THE TIME MASTER (21.2)
Yes yes yes. You see - everything
is working perfectly and I bet the
viewers at home can't even tell.

JOSHUA (21.1)
Now I'm intrigued. Would it mess
up your grand scheme too much if
you gave me tomorrow's lotto
numbers?

PANEL 21.3

Joshua is now a bit confused, but in an excited way. Wait -
you're really going to give me the lotto numbers?

PANEL 21.4

The Time Master is very sure of himself. He knows his plan
is working perfectly.

THE TIME MASTER (21.4)
Not at all. In fact, that's an
essential aspect of the plan.

JOSHUA (21.3)
Excuse me?

THE TIME MASTER (21.4)
You're going to use your winnings
to turn this show into a huge
success - which is vital for my
ultimate victory.

JOSHUA (21.3)
Maybe knowing that, I'll choose not
to - just to thwart you.

THE TIME MASTER (21.4)
No - you won't.

PANEL 21.5

Joshua concedes to The Time Master's point, shrugging a little bit like "Yeah - I guess you're right."

PANEL 21.6

The Time Master looks straight into the camera. He's addressing the audience now - and this is real for serious business.

JOSHUA (21.5)
Yeah - you're right.

THE TIME MASTER (21.4)
We should probably wrap this up. Speedee should be finishing up with my robots by now.

JOSHUA (21.5)
Well we can't conclude the interview without asking the most important question of all: what's your favorite sandwich?

THE TIME MASTER (21.6)
I'm glad you asked that. You see, it hasn't been invented yet. I can't even describe it to you. But let it be known - there are great advancements in the culinary field of sandwichrey yet to be had. I plea to all of you viewers - go and experiment with your sandwiches until they have reached perfection!

PAGE 22:

PANEL 22.1

The camera is in the same place. So this is the left side of the room, where Joshua had been. But now he is walking over towards the camera. The Time Master's dialogue is coming from where he still is, over on the right side of the room in Panel 21.2. We also see Speedee's blur running through this panel (just the blur) and into the next panel.

THE TIME MASTER (22.2)

Quick - get behind the camera!
Speedee'll be here any second and
you'll want to catch our battle on
film. Because, oh - what a battle
it shall be!

PANEL 22.2

We're setting up for a battle of epic proportions. Speedee (having just run through the previous panel - speed trail still blurry behind him) is standing face to face with The Time Master. The battle with the robots was the final straw for his cape. It can't even be called a cape anymore. All that's left is the little shredded bit of cloth dangling around his neck. The rest of it has gotten completely ripped off. Speedee's fists are up in a cheesy "I have no idea what I'm doing" boxing-type pose. The Time Master has evil in his eyes.

SPEEDEE

The Time Master! Now that I have
destroyed all of your robots,
there's nothing you can do to stop
me from brining you to justice!

THE TIME MASTER

You fool! Did you really think it
would be that easy? The robots
were merely a distraction! Time
itself is my play thing. And now I
have you right where I want you.

PANEL 22.3

Joshua is behind the camera now, so it's able to follow the action. We're close in on Speedee and The Time Master as they prepare for battle. Speedee's a bit disappointed about his inability to pull off epic dialogue.

SPEEDEE

Man - how do you sound so cool with
such corny dialogue? When I throw
around lines like that they come
off totally lame.

THE TIME MASTER

Silence! Now that I have lured you
into my fortress...

PANEL 22.4

The Time Master is monologuing. He is explaining his evil plan - as villains are want to do. Speedee is quite perplexed. He expected an epic battle.

THE TIME MASTER

You may take to me to jail and receive credit for my capture.

SPEEDEE

Wait - what?

THE TIME MASTER

The future depends on you becoming an heroic sensation. And what better way than to capture the most elusive villain of all time - me? But it's imperative that we make my defeat look convincing. Everyone ready?

PANEL 22.5

The Time Master goes into his act. He's clutching his chest like he's having a heart attack - but is totally faking. Speedee's looking straight at the camera and shrugging. He doesn't know how to react. He's as confused as we are.

THE TIME MASTER

Oh woah is me!

PANEL 22.6

The Time Master is kneeling before Speedee, holding up his temporal staff as an offering and bowing his head down as though he is unworthy to look upon Speedee. Speedee's still looking at the camera - quite perplexed. He reluctantly accepts the staff from The Time Master.

SFX

???

THE TIME MASTER

Please please oh mighty Speedee - spare me your wrath. I would rather be stripped of my power and forced to suffer the consequences of my evil than to have to fight you for another moment. Take my time staff - for without it, I am but a helpless old man.

PAGE 23:

PANEL 23.1

A bit later - outside The Time Master's fortress. The F.B.I. Agents have arrived. In the background, Speedee is handing The Time Master's staff to F.B.I. Agent 1 (the male). He's handing Speedee a huge stack of paperwork and Speedee's got the biggest grin in the world. Agent 2 (the female) is pushing a handcuffed The Time Master towards their car. As The Time Master is walked past the camera, he looks straight at it and says:

THE TIME MASTER

Let any who see this know that Speedee truly is the greatest of all heroes. Thank the heavens that I am spared from having to contend with his awesome might.

F.B.I. AGENT 2

Save it pal. You're going away for a long time for all the suffering you've caused this city.

THE TIME MASTER

Yes. Yes. Let me pay for my crimes. Speedee has taught me the error of my ways. What a great and mighty hero he his.

PANEL 23.2

As the F.B.I. car drives off with The Time Master in the back seat, he turns and gives an unmistakable wink and thumbs up to the camera. He should look totally goofy. What's up with this guy? We can't tell if he's completely insane or the most clever evil genius ever.

SFX

WINK! *_-

PANEL 23.3

Large panel - the same size as panel 1.1 - that takes up the size of 4 of the regular panels. Speedee stands triumphantly in front of The Time Master's tower and looks straight into the camera. He's trying to come up with something clever to say. He wants to be cool, but is just coming off dorky. While Speedee is the focus of the panel, make sure that there is also enough blank space for all of this dialogue.

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

Well, my friend - you got your wish. You're a hero. Do you have any final thoughts for our viewers?

SPEEDEE

Just this. You can sleep soundly tonight knowing that I'm around to keep you safe.

SPEEDEE (CONT'D)

No - that's too corny.

SPEEDEE (CONT'D)

Whenever you're in trouble - Speedee'll be there on the double.

SPEEDEE (CONT'D)

No. Hold on - I'll get this.

SPEEDEE (CONT'D)

Never fear - Speedee's here!

SPEEDEE (CONT'D)

No - no rhymes. Uhhh...

SPEEDEE (CONT'D)

How about "Just call my name and I'll be there." No - that's misleading - I don't have super hearing.

SPEEDEE (CONT'D)

If speed is what you need, I'm your dealer.

...

That doesn't sound right...

SPEEDEE (CONT'D)

I'm sure I can think of something...

NARRATOR

That about wraps it up for our first installment of "Behind The Hero." Thanks again for tuning in. Be sure to check us out on the web at www.myspace.com/Behind_The_Hero. And be sure to let me know if you have a question that you'd like me to ask your favorite hero! We'll see you next time for more heroic shenanigans.

SPEEDEE

We can fix this in post - right?
You wouldn't want to make me look
bad - would you?

JOSHUA (OFF PANEL)

I wouldn't dream of it.

THE END.

PAGE 24:

This page is NOT from the perspective of the camera.

This is our little "extras" page. I don't want this page to be confined by panels - they're just free floating images on the page without backgrounds (think Will Eisner if you're familiar with his style.) We'll see 4 things:

SPEEDEE'S NEW CAPE

Speedee has a super extra long brand new cape on and is in mid-fall, tripping all over it - right onto his dumb face. He's all a-tangle.

SPEEDEE

Wooaooooah! Alright - maybe a cape
isn't such a good idea.

WHAT SPEEDY DID YESTERDAY

Speedee - moving super fast - is all over the place, playing 3 video game systems and reading a whole collection of comic books all at the same time. He's giddy!

SPEEDEE (CONT'D)

Best! Superpower! Ever!

THE "LITTLE MISHAP" IN THE SQUAD CAR

In the front seat, Officers Ed & Larry are looking at each other confusedly. In the back seat, Cat Burglar (no longer in her cuffs) is seductively putting her paw on Joshua's leg. Joshua is slightly uncomfortable and still holding his camera. With her tail, Cat Burglar is holding up a set of cop keys connected to an open pair of handcuffs.

OFFICER ED

Hey Larry, do you have the keys?

OFFICER LARRY

I thought you had 'em, Ed.

SFX

Jing-a-ling-a-ling

CAT BURGLAR

Hi there handsome. Want to go
someplace more purrrrr-sonal?

JOSHUA

Ummm... Gee - I don't know that we
should... Officers?

MEANWHILE - BACK IN JAIL

The Time Master is in jail in a classic black & white
stripped jump-suit. He's sitting at a jail cafeteria table
with Buck-O and Cat Burglar, also in jump-suits. They're
huddling together, talking about their secretive plans. The
Time Master has an evil spark in his eye. He's scheming all
sorts of maniacal plots.

THE TIME MASTER

I know this looks bad - but trust
me - everything occurred precisely
as I expected. You both played
your parts perfectly. Well done.
Well done.

CAT BURGLAR

But what do we now? Meow?

**Note how the typo (underlined above) made it into the final
script. Be wary of such things.**

THE TIME MASTER

Now? Now we wait. And make sure
that as many people as possible
check out the next episode of
"Behind The Hero." That's right -
I'm talking to all of you out
there. Yes - YOU. Don't think I
don't know that you can see us.
It's all part of the plan.

NARRATOR

Can The Time Master be stopped? Be
sure to buy the next issue to find
out. ... Or is that exactly what
he wants you to do?