

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

Written by Steven Bland

On a Sunday night, on 37<sup>th</sup> Street, a hulking seven foot tall, one thousand pound, green-skinned human-elephant hybrid wearing torn khakis was menacing a gang of street thugs.

"KEEP AWAY," one of the thugs begged. "KEEP AWAY!"

Suddenly, Gale-Force arrived on the scene and quickly got between the thugs and the creature.

"You heard him, Peanut," the superheroine told the creature.

"KEEP AWAY," she shouted as she converted her body to organic tin.

I have enhanced strength, thanks to one of my benefactors, the Lion, she thought. But, when I use my power of Tin Mimicry, which I got from another one of my benefactors, the Tin Woodsman, - -

My strength increases to superhuman levels, she thought as she grappled with the creature. But, will it be powerful enough to go toe-to-toe with this behemoth?

Gale-Force turned toward the street thugs.

"GET OUT OF HERE," she warned them. "RUN!"

The street thugs listened to her and fled.

Unbeknownst to Gale-Force and the creature, they were being watched by spy-drones equipped with cameras.

During the scuffle, the green-skinned human-elephant hybrid's body gave off pheromones which caused Gale-Force to have a panic attack, which shocked her into reverting back to human form.

The human-elephant hybrid creature threw the superheroine a few feet away.

Steven

Bland

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

Gale-Force quickly recovered

Something about this creature made me panic, she thought. And it *still* is making me panic.

But I've *got* to fight it.

Before the superheroine could challenge the creature again, they both heard police sirens approaching.

Gale-Force watched as the green-skinned human-elephant hybrid quickly left the scene. Unbeknownst to the creature, the spy-drones were still following him.

He's high-tailing it out of here, she thought. I'd better do the same.

Thinking only of her home, Gale-Force clicked the heels of her silver boots three times. In an instant, she was gone.

Elsewhere, in another part of town, 95<sup>th</sup> Street, to be exact, three thieves broke into a jewelry store. Once inside, the thieves quickly began their looting spree and filled their sacks with as many jewels as they could.

A young woman with short red hair, wearing a gray bodysuit, blue gloves, blue boots, a blue utility belt, an eye mask with special lenses, a gold cybernetic tiara, and mouse ears on her head, arrived on the scene.

"Halt, criminals! Cease robbing this store at once, or I'll *make* you," said the costumed young woman.

"Oh, yeah?! You and *what army*?" One of the thieves asked mockingly.

Steven

Bland

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

The young woman in the mouse costume smiled as she sent out a cybenetic summons. Soon, lots and lots of mice arrived on the scene to her side.

"*THIS ARMY,*" she proudly exclaimed.

"*SIC 'EM,*" she exclaimed as she commanded the mice to go after the thieves and climb all over them.

"GET 'EM OFF!! GET 'EM OFF!!" The thieves screamed in panic as the mice clung to them.

The young woman in the mouse costume heard approaching police sirens outside.

"Whatever you say," she said and she commanded the mice to get off of the criminals.

Two police officers arrived on the scene.

"Hello, boys," the young woman in the mouse costume said with a smile. "These three nasty men tried to rob this store, but I caught them for you."

"Uh, huh," one of the officers said. "And, just who are *you* supposed to be, young lady?"

"I am the Mouse Queen, Kansas City's newest superheroine," answered the costumed young woman.

"And these are my loyal assistants who helped me to ensure that justice would reign," she said as she directed the officers' attentions to her mice.

"Their job is done," the Mouse Queen told the officers as she sent out a cybernetic command to the mice. In minutes, the mice left.

*Steven*

*Bland*

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

"And now, so is mine," said the costumed young woman.

"Hold it, 'Mouse Queen'," the other officer said. "You need to come with us and answer a few questions."

"Another time, perhaps," the Mouse Queen said as she somersaulted over the officers's heads and headed for the exit.

"Ta ta," she said with a smile before leaving.

The officers turned their attentions to the jewel thieves and immediately cuffed them.

"You have the right to remain silent," one of the officers told the jewel thieves.

Meanwhile, having gotten further away from 37<sup>th</sup> Street, the green-skinned human-elephant hybrid creature slowed down and started calming down. Soon, the creature reverted to the thin and wiry form of a blond fourteen-year-old boy named Max Miller.

From above, the spy-drones had recorded the creature's transformation and relayed the recording to a hidden, underground laboratory, where a shadowy figure watched and reviewed the footage.

Max soon reflected on how he got cursed with his transformations.

I was always being bullied by the other kids, because I was a skinny nerd, he mused. I still am.

*Steven*

*Bland*

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

Desperate to bulk up and gain muscles so that the other kids couldn't bully me anymore, I developed a serum which contained a sample of elephant DNA, which I acquired while visiting the zoo last year, thinking it would give me the body and strength I wanted - - and needed, he thought.

But, it turned me into a seven-foot-tall, hulking, human-elephant hybrid, - - a *human freak*. I ran away from home and to the park where I could be alone. As I was feeling sorry for myself, I felt a strange form of radiation bathing me. I looked up and noticed that it came from a green meteor that was streaking through the sky over me.

I felt myself changing back into the thin and wiry science nerd I once was. My days as a human-elephant hybrid were over, he thought.

Or so I thought, he mused. Not long after that, I found myself once again harrassed by bullies at school. They made me very angry.

And, when I got angry, I transformed back into a seven-foot-tall, hulking, human-elephant hybrid, he thought. Only *this* time, I had *green skin*.

Frightened of me, they ran, he thought.

Afterwards, when I calmed down, I changed back to normal fourteen-year-old Max Miller.

Unbeknownst to Max, one of the spy-drones launched a small neurotransmitter device at the back of Max's device. The small device found its target and affixed itself to it.

Perfect, the pleased shadowy figure thought. My neurotransmitter device has been implanted in the boy's neck. At my command, the device will create a rage in him that only *I* can control. I have no wish to control him now, but I will have need of him at a later time.

*Steven*

*Bland*

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

Upon feeling the device being affixed to the back of his neck, Max turned around to see if anyone was behind him. There wasn't. One of the spy-drones got a good look at his face.

So that's the face of the one behind the monster, the shadowy figure thought. He will be mine to control - - when the time is right.

The next morning, Max Miller, wearing a white sweater with a red shirt, blue pants, and black shoes, arrived at North Kansas City High School, carrying a lot of books coming. A bunch of kids saw him.

"Watch this," Lance, one of the kids said to the other kids. Lance deliberately stuck out his foot in front of Max, tripping him.

Max fell to the ground, dropping his books in the process.

"Y'know, new kid," a smirking Lance said. "You *really should* watch where you're going."

"You *deliberately* stepped in front of me," Max told Lance.

"*Prove it*," one of Lance's buddies dared.

Another one of Lance's buddies, JD, picked up the notes Max dropped off the ground.

"Thanks," Max said with a smile.

"Thanks, nothin'," JD said. "These are mine. You knocked them out of my hands when you fell."

"But, those are *my* math notes," Max said. "Give them *back!*"

Steven

Bland

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

"I said they're *mine*, geek, a smirking JD said. "Now, go to class and *shut up* - - or I'll make *mincemeat* out of ya!"

Max got very angry. And as he got angry, his skin started turning green and his thin, wiry frame started to bulk up. Lance and his buddies were getting scared.

Soon, Dorothy Donaldson, and her best friend, Emma, who had seen what happened, arrived.

"That's enough, JD," Dorothy told him. "Give him back his math notes. *Now!*"

"Okay, okay," JD said. He was still in shock over the change that was starting to come over Max.

"H-Here," JD said as he handed the math notes back to Max. "Here are your math notes back."

JD, who was still visibly shaken, turned to Lance and his buddies.

"We'd better stay away from the new kid," JD warned Lance. "He's starting to look green around the gills."

Max calmed down, and both his skin and his body returned to normal.

Dorothy went over to Max.

"Are you okay?" Dorothy asked.

"They *shouldn't* have done that," Max said. "They shouldn't have tried to make me *angry*."

"No, they shouldn't," Dorothy agreed. "It was wrong of them to do that."

"What's your name?" Dorothy asked the new kid.

"My name's Max," Max replied. "Max Miller."

Steven

Bland

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

"Nice to meet you, Max," Dorothy said. "My name's Dorothy Donaldson."

"And this is my best friend, Emma Lowell," she said as she introduced him to Emma.

"Hi, Max," Emma said with a smile as she extended her hand to Max for a handshake. They shook hands.

"Max, Dorothy and I will be going to Jamba Juice for a smoothie after school today. Would you like to join us?"

"I'd like to, but I can't," Max answered. "I'm starting work as an intern for Dr. Mark Norton at his lab later this afternoon."

"Actually, Emma," Dorothy said. "Once I get my smoothie, I'm heading to the public library to begin my afterschool job as a volunteer."

Later, in science class, Dorothy Donaldson was paying attention to her teacher as he gave a lesson. Sitting across from Dorothy was a young girl named Piper Hamlin. Piper had short red hair, and was wearing a green shirt, light-brown cargo khaki pants with a brown belt and brown shoes.

The science teacher noticed Piper sleeping at her desk.

"Piper?" The science teacher asked her, trying to get her attention.

Piper was still sleeping.

"Piper?" The science teacher asked again.

Piper was still sleeping.

*Steven*

*Bland*

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

"MISS HAMLIN," the science teacher called out. Piper quickly rose from her slumber.

"Wh-Wha?" Piper asked.

"Piper, this is the *second* time you've slept in class," the science teacher said. "Can you tell me why you've been so exhausted lately?"

"N-No. I - - I just don't know," Piper answered.

"I see. Well, you'll have *plenty of time* to figure it out, young lady," the science teacher said.

"In *detention*."

"Yes, sir," Piper said with a sigh.

Dorothy looked at Piper.

"I don't *get* it, Piper," Dorothy whispered. "*What* do you do? *Where* do you go all the time?"

"Look, Dorothy," Piper whispered. "It's really *none of your business*. Leave me alone.

Please?"

"Okay," Dorothy said as she went back to minding her own business.

Later, that afternoon, Max Miller arrived at Dr. Mark Norton's research lab.

Max soon met with Dr. Norton himself.

"You must be Max Miller," Dr. Norton said with a smile as he proffered his hand to Max.

"Yes, I am," Max answered. "And, you're Dr. Mark Norton, right?"

Steven

Bland

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

"The one and only," Dr. Norton replied.

"It's an honor to meet you, sir," Max said.

"It's funny, but I feel like I've seen you *somewhere* before," Dr. Norton said.

Max was clearly puzzled. Max was clearly puzzled.

"Oh, well," Dr. Norton shrugged. "Must be my imagination."

"Do you have any questions, Max?" The scientist asked.

"No, sir," Max answered. "Can't think of one."

"Let's give you a tour of the place and then, we'll get you started on your first project," Dr.

Norton said.

"Sounds good to me," Max said with a smile.

Dr. Norton proceeded to give Max a tour of the laboratory.

Meanwhile, at Piper Hamlin's home, Piper was getting chewed out by her parents.

"You got *detention* for sleeping in class a *second time*?" The father asked.

"*What* are you doing every afternoon that is taking up *so much* of your time?" The mother asked.

I can't tell them that I was out catching criminals as the Mouse Queen, Piper thought. If they found out, they would *absolutely freak*.

Steven

Bland

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

"I, uh, really don't know," Piper answered.

"Well, young lady," Mr. Hamlin said. "You'll have *plenty* of time to figure out an answer.

Because you're *grounded*. Go to your room!"

"Yes, sir," Piper said sighing as she went to her room. Once inside, she closed the door behind her.

Meanwhile, inside a Jamba Juice establishment, Dorothy joined Emma as they went to a counter to order smoothies.

"So, Dorothy, what duties will you be doing in your volunteer work at the library?" Emma asked.

"Basically, I'll be shelving books, assisting patrons at the circulation desk, helping the children's librarian, and, maybe even working to repair damaged books," Dorothy answered.

"Sounds - - exciting," a less than enthused Emma said.

Soon, Dorothy and Emma got their smoothies.

"Well, I have to get going to the library now," Dorothy said before leaving. "See ya."

"Sure, see ya," Emma said as she waved goodbye.

Later, that night, Max Miller was preparing to leave Dr. Norton's research lab.

"Good night, Dr. Norton," Max said. "I'll see you tomorrow."

Steven

Bland

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

"Good night, my boy," Dr. Norton said with a smile.

Once Max was outside and the door was closed behind him, Dr. Norton smiled a fiendish smile as he took out an electronic hand-held device and activated it.

Max felt a rage building up within him and was soon transforming into a seven-foot-tall, green-skinned human-elephant hybrid once again.

The transformed Max heard a voice coming from the device that was affixed to his neck.

"GO ON A RAMPAGE," the voice commanded. "TEAR DOWN *EVERY* SCIENCE LAB AND WAREHOUSE IN SIGHT!"

The green-skinned behemoth obeyed. He ran through the city at one hundred miles per hour. Upon seeing the first science lab, the creature charged toward it with incredible speed and force, knocking it down and causing it to collapse. The creature continued his rampage, charging toward and knocking down every science lab and warehouse he could find.

Inside her room, Piper was looking at her costume and equipment and contemplating her future.

Maybe I should give up trying to be a superheroine like Gale-Force, she thought.

She was soon alerted on her smartphone about a seven-foot-tall hulking green-skinned human-elephant hybrid on the rampage, tearing down every science lab and warehouse in sight.

But *not tonight*, she thought.

Steven

Bland

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

Elsewhere, at the Kansas City Public Library, Dorothy Donaldson was preparing to call it a night.

"Thank you for your help, Dorothy," the head librarian told her. "Have a nice night."

"Sure thing," Dorothy said, before leaving.

As soon as she exited the building, Dorothy turned on her smartphone, which soon alerted her to a rampaging seven-foot-tall hulking green-skinned human-elephant hybrid tearing down every science lab and warehouse in sight.

Looks like trouble, she thought as she headed for a secluded spot to change. Once she found one, Dorothy focused on her benefactors, the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodsman, the Lion, and Locasta Tattypoo, while clicking her heels once.

"WHOOSH!" A magic cyclone rose up around her, transforming her into Gale-Force.

Focusing on where the hulking green-skinned human-elephant hybrid was, the superheroine clicked the heels of her magic silver boots three times.

Instantly, Gale-Force appeared where her quarry was, in the middle of charging toward another science lab. She was also blocking his path.

I'm starting to feel another panic attack coming on, she thought before converting her body to organic tin. But I have to remember, that just because I'm afraid, it doesn't mean that I can't act!

*Steven*

*Bland*

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

Even with the Lion's enhanced strength and my organic tin body, I may not be as physically strong as this behemoth, she thought. But with some judo moves, I *might* stand a chance.

Suddenly, the Mouse Queen arrived on the scene, drawing the creature's attention away from Gale-Force.

Who *is* this woman? And, *what's* she doing here? Gale-Force thought as she cast her gaze upon the young woman in the mouse costume.

"Halt, creature," the Mouse Queen told the green-skinned behemoth. "I am the Mouse Queen and you won't be causing any *more* mayhem on *my* watch!"

Is she *crazy*? She won't stand a chance against this creature, Gale-Force thought.

"*Get out* of here," Gale-Force warned the Mouse Queen. "You'll just get yourself killed!"

"Nonsense," the Mouse Queen said. "I'm not afraid!"

"Because I have my loyal army of mice with me," she added as she sent out a cybernetic summons to every mouse in the city.

Mice soon came from everywhere to the Mouse Queen's aid. At her cybernetic command, the mice moved toward the hulking green-skinned human-elephant hybrid and climbed all over him. The behemoth recoiled in fear.

Well, *I'll* be, Gale-Force thought. The creature is actually *afraid* of the mice.

The green-skinned behemoth stomped his foot, causing a quake which caused all of the swarming rodents to fall off of him.

Steven

Bland

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

Realizing that the Mouse Queen was the one who commanded the rodents to climb all over him, the creature set his sights on her.

Uh oh, Gale-Force thought. That creature is really angry - - and heading for the Mouse Queen.

Using the Lion's speed and agility, Gale-Force leaped onto the human-elephant hybrid's back as he moved closer toward the Mouse Queen.

Gale-Force soon noticed the implant on the back of the green-skinned creature's neck.

*This* must be what's causing him to go on these rampages, she thought as she removed the tiny device.

Using the Scarecrow's intelligence, Gale-Force struck a nerve on the behemoth's neck, rendering him unconscious and causing him to fall.

Soon, Gale-Force and the Mouse Queen witnessed the human-elephant hybrid creature reverting to the form of Max Miller.

Good Lord, it's Max, a surprised Gale-Force thought.

Unbelievable, the Mouse Queen thought. This creature - - is actually just - - a *kid*."

Gale-Force then looked at the implant and saw that it was developed by Dr. Mark Norton.

I'm going to have to pay this Dr. Norton a little visit, she thought.

Clicking her heels three times and focusing on Dr. Norton's laboratory, the superheroine arrived there in an instant.

Steven

Bland

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

Soon, Gale-Force confronted Dr. Mark Norton..

"You put this device on a young boy named Max Miller, knowing he could transform himself into a seven-foot-tall hulking human-elephant hybrid of tremendous strength, didn't you?" Gale-Force asked.

"Yes," Dr. Norton answered. "I had heard reports of a seven-foot tall, green-skinned human elephant hybrid somewhere in the city and figured that the creature would prove useful to me. I sent my spy drones to find the creature and keep him under surveillance. To my surprise, one of my spy drones caught the creature calming down and reverting to the form of young Max Miller. I seized the opportunity by having the spy drone launch the neurotransmitter chip which affixed itself on his neck, which I could activate at any time. It was only a happy accident that young Mr. Miller came to my laboratory to work as an intern."

"*Why* did you do it?" An angry Gale-Force asked.

"My real name is Dr. Anton Arkham," the scientist said as he pulled his face off, revealing it to be nothing more than a latex mask. "Five years ago, the scientific community called me mad and ended my career. When I came across young Mr. Miller and his ability to transform himself into that green behemoth, I knew I had found the tool I needed to exact my revenge upon my former colleagues for relegating me to obscurity!"

"Well, *guess what?* I'm going to relegate you to *prison*," Gale-Force said as she grabbed Dr. Arkham, focused on the nearest police station and clicked the heels of her boots three times.

*Steven*

*Bland*

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

Gale-Force and Dr. Arkham appeared at the nearest police station in an instant before a group of surprised police officers.

Gale-Force handed the scientist to the cops.

"Dr. Anton Arkham," one of the officers said in surprise.

"And here's something new he invented," the superheroine said as she handed the neurotransmitter implant to the officer.

"You know that seven-foot-tall, hulking green-skinned human-elephant hybrid that had been sighted many times in this city?" Gale-Force asked. "Well, that device is a neurotransmitter implant which Dr. Arkham used to enrage and control the creature."

"Book him," Gale-Force told the police. They do.

Focusing on where she left Max and the Mouse Queen, the superheroine clicked the heels of her boots three times.

Gale-Force instantly reappeared in front of Max and the Mouse Queen.

"It's over," Gale-Force assured Max. "No one will control you again."

"But my nightmare will never end," a sad Max said.

"What's your name?" Gale-Force asked. "And how did you get the ability to turn into that creature?"

Minutes later, Max had told his story to Gale-Force and the Mouse Queen.

*Steven*

*Bland*

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

"Max, I am so sorry," Gale-Force told him.

"Yeah, well, I did it to myself," Max said. "It's my burden to bear and mine alone."

"You don't have to go it alone, Max," the Mouse Queen told Max.

"But, I don't have any friends," Max said.

The Mouse Queen unmasked herself in front of both Max and Gale-Force.

"My real name - -," the Mouse Queen said. "- - is Piper Hamlin."

No wonder Piper was sleeping in class for two days straight, Gale-Force thought. She was leading a double-life as this new superheroine, the Mouse Queen.

"Piper, you were a great help to me," Gale-Force told the new superheroine. "I hope you'll continue your new and promising superhero career."

"You can count on me," Piper said proudly.

Thank you, Gale-Force. I really *needed* to hear that, she thought.

"Max, Piper," Gale-Force told them. "I have something to show you."

Focusing on her desire to be Dorothy Donaldson again, Gale-Force clicked the heels of her magic silver boots once.

"WHOOSH!" A magic cyclone rose up around the superheroine, transforming her into Dorothy.

"You're Dorothy Donaldson?" An awestruck Piper asked.

"Yes," Dorothy answered with a smile.

Steven

Bland

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

"Wow," an awestruck Max said.

"Incredible," said an equally awestruck Piper.

"Now *we all* have secrets to keep," Dorothy told them.

"Thank you," a tearful, but smiling Max said as he, Dorothy, and Piper hugged each other.

Meanwhile, in Melinda's realm, Melinda was fixing the staff that Gale-Force had broken.

Suddenly, Singra appeared.

"Hello, Melinda," Singra said, announcing her presence and attracting Melinda's attention.

"Singra," Melinda said. "What are you doing here in my realm?"

"Why, to propose an alliance, of course," Singra answered.

"An alliance?" Melinda asked.

"Yes," Singra answered. "I want to help you take down Glinda, and her champion, Gale-Force, once and for all."

"But how," Melinda asked.

"Don't worry," Singra answered with an evil smile. "I have a plan."

Gale-Force #6 - "Green With Anger"

Elsewhere, Max Miller went to visit a martial arts master.

"Hi, my name is Max Miller," Max said as he introduced himself.

"Are you here to learn self-defense?" The martial arts master asked.

"Actually, I already know self-defense," Max answered. "I want to learn meditative breathing techniques."

"Then, let's begin," the martial arts master said.



THE END



- 20 -



**Copyright © Steven Bland.**

**All rights reserved.**

**The information on this website may not be reproduced,  
republished or mirrored on another web page or website.**

**Do not link to this website without my permission.**

*Steven*

*Bland*

# EXCELVERSE

## MOUSE QUEEN



*Steven*

*Bland*

Copyright © Steven Bland.

All rights reserved.

# EXCELVERSE

## TUSKAR



Copyright © Steven Bland.

*Bland*

All rights reserved.