

The Sprintress #1 - "Up to Speed"

Written by Steven Bland

"FREEZE! YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST," shouted police detective Kerry Addison as she charged into the Allen Warehouse in Brooklyn near the East River with a gun in her right hand. Kerry had beautiful long blond hair and blue eyes. She was wearing a light blue short-sleeve blouse, and a navy blue skirt and long jacket. The warehouse was occupied by arms dealers trafficking in illegal weapons. The gang's leader was Dax Drago. Drago, who was strong, had spiked brown hair and a dragon tattoo on his right arm, was wearing a black muscle shirt, black jeans, and combat boots.

"I advise *all of you* to drop your weapons and surrender peacefully," Kerry said as she quickly pointed and waved her gun at Drago and the dealers.

"Not a chance," Dax defiantly responded before he turned his attention to his thugs.

"AWRIGHT, BOYS! WASTE HER!!"

"With *pleasure*, boss," one of the thugs said as he and they quickly drew their weapons. The criminals shot at Kerry, but the beautiful police detective managed to duck out of the line of fire.

Whew. *That was close*, she thought. If I was *any slower*, those bullets would've turned me into Swiss cheese.

"*Big mistake*, Drago, I've spent a *lot of time* in the shooting range at the police department *honing my skills!*" Kerry said as she used her gun and quick reflexes to shoot the guns out of the hands of Drago's thugs.

Steven
Bland

The Sprintress #1 - "Up to Speed"

Then, the beautiful police detective saw Drago making a run for the exit.

"HOLD IT, DRAGO," Kerry shouted as she ran after him. She caught up to her quarry and pounced on him. A scuffle ensued.

"YOU'RE UNDER ARREST," the beautiful police detective told Drago.

The gang leader managed to draw a combat knife.

"I think not," Drago said as he stabbed Kerry through her heart, killing her.

With Kerry dead, Drago ran off and managed to make good his escape from the warehouse and into the night.

The next day, a funeral was held for Kerry Addison. In attendance were her family, her fiance, Nathan West, a handsome brown-haired young man, and Kerry's fellow officers, including Lieutenant Fletcher. Also present, was Kay Garrett, head of Garrett Laboratories. Kay had light brown shoulder-length hair.

"In the midst of life, we are in death," the minister said as the coffin containing Kerry's deceased body was being buried. "Ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

"It's tragic," one of the officers said. "I always knew one of us would end up six feet under, but I didn't expect it to happen so soon."

"No one expects it to happen so soon," another officer said. "But, sometimes, it does. Kerry Addison was one of the best."

Steven

Bland

The Sprintress #1 - "Up to Speed"

Kay Garrett walked over to Lieutenant Fletcher to speak with her.

"Lieutenant Fletcher?" Kay asked. "My name is Kay Garrett. I'm an old friend of Kerry's mother, so I've known Kerry a long time. How did Kerry die?"

"Kerry acted on a tip that Dax Drago and his gang were inside the Allen Warehouse in Brooklyn near the East River last night trafficking in illegal weapons. After she subdued his men, Kerry went after Drago himself. She caught up to and pounced on him. A scuffle ensued. Drago managed to get out a combat knife, which he used to stab Kerry through her heart, killing her. Dax Drago is still at large, continuing his arms trafficking operations."

"How did you learn all of this?" Kay asked.

"We interviewed the thugs Kerry subdued," Lt. Fletcher said. "They confessed everything."

"Thank you," Kay said as she turned and walked away.

Later, inside a research facility, Kerry's still-living brain was connected to some extremely sophisticated computers. Standing before Kerry's brain was Kay Garrett, who was wearing a white long-sleeve blouse with a tan skirt. The computers allowed Kay to hear what Kerry was thinking.

"Hello, Kerry," Professor Garrett said. "Remember me?"

"Dr. Garrett?" Kerry asked.

"Yes," Kay replied. "But, you may call me Kay."

Steven

Bland

The Sprintress #1 - "Up to Speed"

"Where am I?" Kerry asked.

"You're in my laboratory, here at Garrett Labs," Kay answered. "Right now, you are a brain that is hooked up to some sophisticated computers that enable me to hear what you think you're saying."

"I attended your funeral and learned about what happened to you last night," Kay continued. "You acted on a tip that Dax Drago and his thugs were at the Allen Warehouse in Brooklyn near the East River trafficking in illegal weapons."

"Yes. His thugs shot at me, but I managed to duck out of their line of fire," Kerry said. "With my quick reflexes, I used my gun to shoot their guns out of their hands."

"After I subdued Drago's men, I saw Drago himself trying to escape," Kerry continued. "He had a good head start, but I managed to catch up to and pounce on him. A scuffle ensued between us. He managed to pull out a combat knife, which he used to stab me. I felt it going through my heart."

"Yes. Drago killed you," Professor Garrett replied. "He destroyed your body, but, fortunately, not your brain, which I was able to rescue."

"What happened to Drago?" Kerry asked."

"After he killed you, he managed to escape," Professor Garrett answered. "He's still at large, free to continue running his arms trafficking operations."

"I wish there was *something* I can do to stop him and bring him to justice once and for all," Kerry said angrily.

"There *is* something," Professor Garret said with a slight smile.

Steven

Bland

The Sprintress #1 - "Up to Speed"

Soon, in her lab, Professor Garrett got to work placing Kerry's brain into an artificially-created genetically-enhanced female body. The new female body had long red hair and was clad in a gold-colored bodysuit. Minutes later, the process was finished.

Kerry looked at her hands.

"Well, Kerry, what do you think of your new body?" Professor Garrett asked as she gave Kerry a mirror.

Kerry took the mirror and looked at her new body.

"It'll do," Kerry answered.

Soon, a fly was buzzing around Professor Garrett. Suddenly, Kerry instinctively plucked the fly out of the air with her fingers at superhuman speed. Professor Garrett was smiling.

Astonished, Kerry looked at the fly that she had just plucked out of the air.

"H-how?" Kerry asked.

"Your artificially-created female body was originally a *prototype* I created, through genetic engineering, for a project for the military a few months ago, a project which was eventually *abandoned*," Professor Garrett answered. "I had your new body grown to adulthood in only a short space of time and genetically enhanced it to have superhuman speed and reflexes, which would allow it to help the armed forces win wars swiftly and decisively. However, there was no way I could speed-grow life experience, and I didn't have a brain donor. Until today."

"How *fast* am I, now?" Kerry asked.

"Let's find out," Professor Garrett replied with a smile.

Steven

Bland

The Sprintress #1 - "Up to Speed"

Minutes later, Kerry and Professor Garrett were at the lab's test track where Professor Garrett was placing special sensors on Kerry.

"What are these things you're putting on me?" Kerry asked.

"These are sensors that are designed to wirelessly transmit signals to my sophisticated equipment, which is designed to measure your velocity," Professor Garrett answered. She was soon finished with putting the special sensors on Kerry's body.

Then, Professor Garrett directed Kerry's attention to the test track.

"Now, I want you to run around this test track as *fast* as you *can*. I will be monitoring your speed," Kay told Kerry.

"Okay," Kerry said as she went to the start line.

"Anytime you're *ready*," Professor Garrett told Kerry.

"I'm *ready*," Kerry said, preparing to run.

"Go," Professor Garrett told her.

Kerry ran around the track as fast as she could at superhuman speed while Kay monitored her. Kerry's velocity steadily increased until she was fast enough to cause a sonic boom.

"Kerry? Can you *hear* me?" Professor Garrett asked.

"Yeah, what's my *velocity*?" Kerry asked.

"Judging by that *sonic boom* you just caused, you just passed Mach 1 and you're *still* going,"

Kay responded.

Steven

Bland

The Sprintress #1 - "Up to Speed"

"Wow," an impressed Kerry said.

In minutes, Kerry reached Mach 2. Another sonic boom followed, but she kept running until she reached Mach 3. Then, another sonic boom followed. Soon, Kerry was able to go no further and decided to rest. Minutes later, after she was fully rested, Kerry walked over to Professor Garrett to look at the results on her computer.

"My top speed is *Mach 3*?" An amazed Kerry asked.

"Yes," Professor Garrett replied.

"*Incredible*," Kerry responded.

"How are you holding up?" Kay asked.

"Fine," Kerry answered. "For *some* reason, the friction from my superhuman speed didn't hurt me or ruin this bodysuit."

"That's because, when I genetically-engineered your new body to be superhumanly fast, I also made it *superhumanly durable*, so that it can withstand the stress of traveling unprotected at Mach 3," Professor Garrett answered. "Also, I made your bodysuit with Kevlar."

"Wow," Kerry said. "Now, all that's left is to give this bodysuit an insignia and to add gloves and a mask."

The Sprintress #1 - "Up to Speed"

A few hours later, at an alley on a Manhattan street, members of a biker gang were waiting for someone. A custom van soon arrived at the scene. An illegal arms dealer named Tork, who was working for Drago, came out of the van to meet with the gang members.

"About *time* you got here. You got the goods?" The leader of the biker gang asked.

"Oh, yeah," Tork said with a devilish smile as he led the gang members to the back of his van.

"But, please don't crowd."

Tork opened the back of his van to show the would-be buyers his wares.

"There is *plenty* for everyone," Tork told the biker gang.

The members of the gang each walked up to the back of the van to pick out their weapons from it.

One of the gang members, a bald man, picked out a 12-gauge shotgun

"Oh, yeeeahhh," he said with a sly smile as he looked at the new weapon in his hands. "I could have some *fun* with this!"

"FUN TIME'S OVER," a female voice rang out. Tork, the bald biker, and the rest of his gang looked around, wondering where the voice came from.

"Who – Who said that?" The bald biker asked.

Suddenly, a red and gold blur took all of the weapons from the hands of the gang members in an instant.

"MY NEW WEAPON," exclaimed one of the gang members. "IT'S GONE!"

Steven

Bland

The Sprintress #1 - "Up to Speed"

"MINE, TOO," exclaimed another.

After confiscating the weapons that the gang members were about to buy, she took them to a nearby dumpster, and threw them all in. The red and gold blur soon rendered every member of the biker gang unconscious at superhuman speed, leaving only Tork still standing.

The red and gold blur was soon revealed to be Kerry. Along with her bodysuit, which now had a red stylized arrow like the sign for Sagittarius, the Archer affixed to the chest, Kerry was wearing red boots, a red belt which had a circular belt buckle, gold-colored gloves that each had red trim and a red arrow pointing down the back of each glove's forearm with a big, red triangle on the back of each hand pointing toward the knuckles, and a gold-colored full head mask that exposed her long red hair.

"*Who* do you work for?" Kerry asked Tork. "*Who's* your supplier and *where* can I find him?"

"Dax," Tork answered fearfully. "Dax Drago! He's at the old Sterling warehouse at 55 Paradise Lane in Bay Shore, where he's doing business with Vic Copogna and his mob!"

"Well, I have business with Drago, himself," Kerry told him. "I intend to make sure his arms shipments *won't* be reaching the streets *ever again!*"

With that, the Sprintress zoomed off.

Soon, the super-fast heroine arrived at the old Sterling warehouse at 55 Paradise Lane in Bay Shore, where she found Drago and his lieutenants making a deal with Vic Copogna and his mob, whom she overpowered, along with the arms dealer's lieutenants, literally in the blink of an eye.

Steven

Bland

The Sprintress #1 - "Up to Speed"

"DRAGO," Sprintress exclaimed, attracting Drago's attention. "I've taken care of Vic Copogna, his mob, and your lieutenants! It's just *you and me*, now!"

"Who are you?" Drago asked.

"I'm the *Sprintress*! I'm here to put you *out of business* and *behind bars*, where you belong," the Sprintress responded.

"YOU *WON'T TAKE ME*," Drago exclaimed as he quickly pulled out a .45 millimeter gun and, just as quickly, fired it at the super-fast heroine, who easily dodged the bullet.

"You may be quick on the draw, Drago," said the Sprintress before disarming him, literally, in the blink of an eye.

"But, *I'm even quicker*," she added.

Drago quickly drew his combat knife and lunged toward the super-fast heroine.

"YOU'RE *DEAD*," he exclaimed as he repeatedly attempted to stab her.

Sprintress dodged Drago's knife thrusts before quickly depriving him of his weapon. Then, she rained several punches on the arms dealer at superhuman speed in seconds, but he withstood all of them.

I don't believe it, she thought. He took *all* of my best punches and yet, he's *still standing*! He must have extreme agility and strength!

"Is that *really* the *best* you can do?" Drago asked coldly.

Steven

Bland

The Sprintress #1 - "Up to Speed"

"I'M STRONGER AND TOUGHER THAN YOU," exclaimed Drago as he threw as many punches as he could at the superheroine. He was unable to connect, due to his opponent's incredible speed and reflexes.

"But *what good* does *that* do you if you can't land a *single* blow?" Sprintress asked.

Soon, Drago became weary from the punches he was throwing and was soon on the verge of collapse.

"Aw, what's the *matter*, Drago? *Tired?*" Sprintress asked mockingly.

"Well, don't worry, you're going to take a *long rest* soon," the superheroine said as she took advantage of Drago's fatigue to strike the villain in rapid succession. The arms dealer fell to the floor unconscious.

The Sprintress picked up Drago and zoomed out.

In an instant, the super-fast heroine arrived at and entered the nearest police station, where she dumped off her captive before the feet of two officers.

"He's *all yours*, officers," Sprintress told them.

"It's Dax Drago, the arms dealer," the first officer said.

"We've been after this guy for a long time," the second officer said. "And now, we actually have him. I - - We don't know *what* to say."

Steven

Bland

The Sprintress #1 - "Up to Speed"

"Just say that you'll keep him behind bars for a long time," the Sprintress said. "A *very long* time."

"Don't worry. We *will*," the first officer said. "Thanks, whoever you are."

"Call me - - the Sprintress," the super-fast heroine said before zooming out of the police station.

Later, in her laboratory, Professor Garrett was conducting research. Suddenly, the Sprintress zoomed in.

"I just dropped Drago off at the nearest police station," Sprintress said.

"Then, everything turned out fine, I trust?" Kay asked.

"Yes," Sprintress answered.

Then, there was a brief pause.

"But, what do I do *now*?" Sprintress asked. "I *can't* go back to my *old* life."

"No," Professor Garrett replied. "But, you *can* get a *new* one. In fact, I have just created a new *identity* for you and gave you a new job. How do you feel about being my lab assistant?"

"Sounds good to me," Sprintress replied. "Before I became a detective, I had a background in forensic science."

Steven

Bland

The Sprintress #1 - "Up to Speed"

The next day, Kerry, wearing a lab coat over her clothes, arrived at the door to Professor Garrett's lab at Garrett Laboratories. She got out her badge and showed it to the electronic scanner, which recognized her.

The door opened for her and she walked through it. She was soon greeted by Professor Garrett.

"Ready for your first day on the job, 'Nellie North'?" The professor asked with a smile.

"Absolutely," Kerry answered with a smile. Her badge displayed the name of her new identity.

Later, that day, Nellie arrived at Broome Apartments on the Upper West Side.

This is the place. I used my break earlier today to go apartment hunting online and used my new speed to go through the possible apartments. When I came across this place, it just appealed to me, so I called about it and rented it over the phone, Nellie thought.

Inside the building, Nellie went to see the landlord.

"Hi, I'm Nellie North," Nellie said. "And I rented the apartment on the top floor over the phone?"

"Nellie, nice to meet you," the landlord said. "I'm Brian Wade, the landlord. Let's talk in my office.

Soon, Nellie and Brian were inside the latter's office.

"So, you're a lab assistant at Garrett Laboratories right?" Brian asked. "As you said over the phone?"

"Yes," Nellie answered.

Steven

Bland

The Sprintress #1 - "Up to Speed"

"You're aware that we have a rule against loud noises or anything disruptive, right?" Brian asked. "And, also, no possession of illegal drugs?"

"Yes," Nellie answered.

"Okay," Brian said as he handed Nellie some papers and a pen. "Here is the lease for you to sign. Rent is due on the first of the month."

Nellie used the pen that Brian gave her to sign the lease. Soon, she was finished and handed the signed lease to the landlord.

"Thank you, Nellie," Brian said as he took the signed papers.

"Here is the key to your apartment," Brian said as he handed the key to Nellie, who took it.

"Thank you," Nellie said with a smile.

Soon, Nellie walked to her new apartment and opened it with her key. With the door open, she went inside. She looked around and smiled as she saw her old furniture already in place.

I really must thank Kay for getting my furniture from my old apartment and arranging for it to be brought here.

I think I'm going to like this place, she thought.

THE END

- 14 -

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