EMERALD DAWN: THE ADVENTURES OF GREEN LANTERN Written by Sarah Beach (based on characters owned by DC Comics)

FADE IN:

TO AN EMERALD GREEN GLOWING COMPLETELY ACROSS THE SCREEN

DISSOLVE TO:

BRIGHT MORNING SUN

EXT. DESERT -- DAY

The dawn sun creeps hugely over the desert horizon.

The horizon stretches far in every direction, punctuated by massive rock formations.

A SLIVER OF SILVER cuts diagonally across the sky toward the horizon.

A SONIC BOOM rolls toward us.

AN AIRPLANE RADIO CRACKLES.

CAROL (RADIO) Hal Jordan! What the heck do you think you're doing?!

INT. JET COCKPIT -- DAY

HAL JORDAN, 30s, impetuous, good-looking "Boy Scout", grins in his helmet. He *loves* flying - piloting jet planes. His flight suit is an olive green.

HAL

Morning, Carol!

CAROL (RADIO) That's *Miz* Ferris to you!

HAL

The weather report said it would be fine. I knew you had the Feds coming to pick up the specs on the plane, so I began the final tests.

Hal relishes the feel of putting the jet in a wide banking

curve.

CAROL (RADIO) Get that plane back here! Right now!

HAL

Yes, ma'am.

He grins again.

EXT. SKY OVER DESERT -- DAY

The JET pulls up, up. Straight up toward the stratosphere. Then it shoots over in a loop.

It comes down, swooping low over the landscape.

CAROL (RADIO) I can see your maneuvers on the radar, you idiot! Get the plane in here! And get to a reasonable height.

INT. JET COCKPIT -- DAY

HAL

Yes, ma'am.

He pulls the jet up from its low skimming level.

CAROL (RADIO) And slow down! We already know its limits.

He chuckles, but he does slow down the plane.

TOM (RADIO) Hal! There's a blip showing up on the radar!

INT. FERRIS AIRCRAFT TOWER -- DAY

TOM KALMAKU, late 20s, part Eskimo, all-round aviation mechanical whiz, leans over the consoles. He's worried about the blip.

CAROL FERRIS watches him, frowning. She's about 30, edgy, ambitious, and rates her beauty and any romance low on her agenda.

It looks like a meteor!

EXT. SKY OVER DESERT -- DAY

A FIREBALL whizzes by the jet, creating turbulence.

INT. JET COCKPIT -- DAY

Hal's playfulness vanishes. He fights to correct the plane's flight.

CAROL (RADIO)

Hal!

INT. FERRIS AIRCRAFT TOWER -- DAY

CAROL

Hal!

She's worried - about Hal, not the plane. And she hates admitting it.

INT. JET COCKPIT -- DAY

He's trying to pull the plane out of a nose dive.

HAL Can't. Talk. Right. Now.

EXT. DESERT -- DAY

THE METEOR smashes into the landscape far below.

DUST AND ROCK clouds upward into the air.

THE SHOCK WAVE sweeps toward the jet.

INT. JET COCKPIT -- DAY

The Jet shudders in the shockwave.

It starts to fall apart.

HAL

Oh, my god!

THE ROAR OF THE IMPACT vibrates everything.

Hal hits the eject button.

THE CANOPY flies off.

THE EJECTION SEAT rockets upward.

The Jet FRAGMENTS.

EXT. SKY OVER DESERT -- DAY

A strange GREEN BEAM OF LIGHT shoots up from the crash zone. It targets Hal in the Ejection Seat. Before the parachute can open, the beam ENVELOPES HIM.

INT. FERRIS AIRCRAFT TOWER -- DAY

Carol's fingers fly over the consoles.

CAROL

Hal! Hal!

Tom pulls her back.

TOM The plane's broken up, Miss Ferris.

Carol whirls from the console. She snatches a phone, punches a number and yells.

CAROL Get a rescue team out on the range! The plane's gone down. But Jordan ejected! I want a search party out there, right now!

EXT. SKY OVER DESERT -- DAY

The Blob of green light with Hal caught in it sinks along a TETHER LINE OF GREEN toward the IMPACT CRATER.

Hal stares down.

The dust settles, exposing the crater.

A LONG, NARROW TROUGH of plowed up earth runs from the center of the crater to an edge.

At the end of the trough, GLEAMING METAL flashes.

The green Tether snakes down toward the metal flash.

The Green Blob speeds toward the ground.

Hal struggles to get his parachute to deploy. But he moves

sluggishly in the Green glow.

Hal's struggle stops when he gets a good look at the destination.

EXT. IMPACT CRATER -- DAY

The gleaming metal is a WRECKED SPACESHIP. Long, impressive, and definitely not made by humans.

Seams on the ship are split open by the impact. But it also shows BATTLE DAMAGE.

INT. SPACESHIP CORRIDOR -- DAY

POV - looking up through the burst wall of the ship, the Green Blob descends toward us.

The Tether runs further into the ship.

The Blob, with Hal, comes through the gap in the hull.

Hal releases himself from the Ejection Seat.

The Seat falls out of the Green Blob, but Hal is carried further into the ship. (Note: there is nothing yellow in this ship.)

HAL'S POV - through the Green Glow, he floats through the tangled remains of the ship, to -

INT. SPACESHIP CONTROL ROOM -- DAY

The Green Glow sets Hal on his feet.

It dissolves from him and snakes toward a RING on the right hand of AN ALIEN in the control Seat.

The Alien, ABIN SUR, looks rather like a human, except for the HAIRLESS CRIMSON SKIN. He's wearing the green and black uniform of a GREEN LANTERN. And he's obviously dying.

The Green Light disappears into Abin Sur's ring.

HAL

What the---?

Abin Sur takes a painful breath and opens his eyes to look at Hal.

ABIN SUR Xaxsa ... Xaxsa greebam kooshoo....

Hal gestures his incomprehension.

Abin Sur lifts his left hand to touch the LANTERN EMBLEM on the Ring. There's a slight FLASH of green light from the ring.

ABIN SUR (CONT'D) You.... you the ring has chosen....

HAL Chosen? What.... Who are you?

ABIN SUR I am... Abin Sur. I have.... little time. You are the one. The ring chooses ... the fearless, the honest. Much ... to tell, but....

He coughs, and spits out some odd colored fluid.

Hal goes to the alien, kneels down by him.

HAL Is there... is there anything I can do for you?

ABIN SUR No. Honor ... the Corps ...

HAL The Corps? What Corps?

ABIN SUR Green Lantern (coughs again) The ring.... the ring will tell.... Ask....

He takes a deep breath and draws off his ring. He fumbles for Hal's hand, and places the ring in Hal's palm.

ABIN SUR (CONT'D) Beware.... danger coming....

Hal stares down at the ring, puzzled.

HAL

Danger?

He looks into Abin Sur's face, but the alien has died. He stands up, backing away.

HAL (CONT'D)

Weird.

At the far side of the control room, he looks down at the ring in his hand.

CLOSE ON THE RING -- IT GLOWS FAINTLY.

HAL (CONT'D) I wonder what the deal is with you.

He puts the ring on a finger.

SPLASH OF GREEN LIGHT.

When it clears, Hal stands in the same pose, but now clad in a Green Lantern costume, like Abin Sur's.

Hovering in the air in front of Hal is the POWER BATTERY, in the rounded shape of a lantern, glowing with light.

> HAL (CONT'D) What the hell? What the heck is that?

A strange sounding voice comes from the ring --

RING Object is the power battery for this ring. Ring must be charged once every 24 of your hours.

HAL

Of my hours? Where the hell are you from then?

RING The home of the Guardians.

HAL That tells me a whole lot. And what happened to my clothes?

There's a green flash again, and Hal stands in his flight suit. The lantern has vanished, but the ring is still on his hand. HAL (CONT'D) Okay. It's official. I'm really getting freaked by this.

He turns and heads down the ship's corridor, toward the hole.

EXT. ABIN SUR'S SHIP - DAY

Hal climbs out of the ship, and drops to the ground. He trudges a distance from the ship, and turns to look back at it.

HAL A real live UFO. What a circus it'll be when they find it.

He walks away a little further, then turns again to look back.

HAL (CONT'D) Too bad. I don't like it. But how do you hide a spaceship?

The ring glows and a beam of light shoots out from it. The green glow shapes into GIANT SCOOPS, which pick up earth from the landscape. The scoops change into GIANT HANDS which pack the earth around the ship.

In a moment, the ship is hidden in a mass of earth, that looks like a meteor.

The green glow zips back down its tether into the ring.

Hal stares at the transformed scene in shock.

HAL (CONT'D) Oooookay. I really need a drink now.

He turns his back on the disguised ship and trudges away.

EXT. DESERT -- DAY

In the far distance, a pair of SUVs race across the landscape, kicking up a trail of dust behind them.

Hal pauses in his plodding, to shade his eyes, looking toward the SUVs. Then he waves his hands.

HAL Hey! Guys! Over here! A shiny helicopter comes racing from behind the SUVs. It swerves toward Hal, and the SUVs also change direction toward him.

The helicopter skims over the ground, kicking up a cloud as it comes to earth near Hal.

A door flies open, and Carol jumps out. She races toward Hal.

CAROL Hal! Hal Jordon! Are you okay?

Before Hal can say anything, Carol has thrown her arms around him. This doesn't upset him at all. He grins.

CAROL (CONT'D) Are you okay? You're okay! Are you all right?

HAL Gee, *Miz* Ferris, I like your employee relations. Sorry about the plane though.

She suddenly recollects herself. She pulls away from him as the SUVs arrive.

CAROL The plane. Right. The plane.

She clears her throat as the drivers of the SUVs get out. She starts to give Hal a reprimand, but she's not convincing herself or Hal, who keeps suppressing a grin.

> CAROL (CONT'D) Jordon, your hot-shot antics could have gotten you killed. And you destroyed the prototype... You could have been... I mean, all the plans and videos in the world aren't the same as having the plane itself to show. The backup won't be done for another two weeks! If you've cost us the contract... I'll....

> HAL It was a meteor, Carol. Nothing wrong with the plane.

CAROL

Miz Ferris to you!

The drivers laugh. She looks around at them, irritated now.

She stalks back to the helicopter. Before she gets back in, she glares at Hal.

CAROL (CONT'D) I'll want a formal report from you when you get back to the field.

HAL

Yes, ma'am.

He heads toward one of the SUVs.

EXT. OUTER SPACE - ASTEROID FIELD

A BLOB OF GLOWING YELLOW moves through the asteroid field, searching.

A LARGE ASTEROID rolls into the foreground, obscuring the Blob.

The Blob comes skimming around the Asteroid, nearer now. Enveloped in the Blob of yellow is another humanoid alien with red skin, but with black hair. SINESTRO, vengeful and a little bit insane. When he shouts in space there's a weird effect to the sound of his voice.

SINESTRO

Abin Sur! Abin Sur! You cannot hide from me! I will find you and have my revenge! On you and on all the Green Lantern Corps! Abin Sur!

Sinestro continues searching through the asteroids.

PULL BACK for a broader view of the arc of the orbiting asteroids.

Above the plane of the asteroids, an EMERALD STREAK crosses space.

Following the Streak, we move past the Moon. The BLUE GLOBE OF EARTH shines as the Streak moves toward it.

INT. HIGHWAY DINER - NIGHT

An 18-wheeler rig rolls by outside.

In a back booth, Hal and Tom are hunched over the table talking quietly. The remains of a couple of burgers lay on their plates. Tom's drinking water, but a couple of empty beer bottles are at Hal's elbow.

> HAL So then this red guy shoves this ring into my hand, and up and dies.

He unfolds his hand, holding it out to look at the back of it.

CLOSE ON HAL'S FACE AT HE FROWNS AT THE HAND.

CLOSE ON HIS HAND - THE RING GLOWS ON HIS FINGER.

Tom looks from Hal's face to the hand, and back to Hal's face. He's puzzled and worried.

CLOSE ON HAL'S HAND FROM TOM'S POV -- THERE IS NO RING.

TOM Are you sure you're okay, Hal? It's been a rough day. Maybe I should drive you back to your apartment.

HAL What are you talking about?

He almost sticks the back of his hand into Tom's face.

HAL (CONT'D) Look at it! You tell me if it's not something weird.

Then Hal notices the confused and worried look on Tom's face.

HAL (CONT'D) Look at it! Can't you see it?

TOM No, Hal. I can't.

Hal drops his hand to the table, astonished.

HAL Well, if that don't damn all. You really can't see it? Tom shakes his head.

HAL (CONT'D) But you do believe me, don't you?

TOM

Well.... I mean, gee, Hal. You could have hit your head in the ejection.

HAL

Some friend you are. I got through the debriefing fine. I even convinced those government suits to hold off on going with the competition until the second prototype is completed. But you -- You're supposed to be my best friend, Tom. You won't believe me.

EXT. IMPACT CRATER -- NIGHT

The Emerald Streak falls out of the sky toward the Impact Crater. Right toward the pseudo meteor.

But instead of punching into the ground, the streak settles and dies out, revealing a rear view of a hulking 7 foot humanoid shape. In the night, we can just make out that the humanoid wears a Green Lantern uniform.

He raises his hand toward the pseudo meteor, and a beam of green shoots from his ring at the shaped earth, cutting into it.

INT. HIGHWAY DINER - NIGHT

Tom's trying to calm Hal down.

TOM Look, Hal. It's late. You've had a couple of drinks. It's been a long and trying day. We can check out the crater tomorrow.

HAL

Yeah. Right.

He gets up from the table, miffed.

TOM Don't take it this way, Hal. I mean it. We'll check out the meteor tomorrow.

Hal stalks away.

EXT. HIGHWAY DINER - NIGHT

Another 18-wheeler rolls by as Hal comes out of the diner.

He walks toward a MOTORCYCLE and gets on it. He yanks on his helmet impatiently.

He revs the machine. The tires spit up gravel. The motorcycle shoots away from the diner.

EXT. HIGHWAY - NIGHT

The motorcycle races down the road.

CLOSE ON HAL'S FACE - HE'S FURIOUS AT BEING DISBELIEVED.

The road curves along the face of a hill, with a bad drop off to the side.

The motorcycle takes the curves dangerously fast.

The headlight hits the SHREDS OF A BIG RIG TIRE strewn across the road.

The motorcycle hits one of the large pieces and skids right for the edge of the drop off. The bike rips through the guard rail and sails out into open air.

Seen from below against the backdrop of the full moon, the bike and rider separate, still falling.

The motorcycle crashes into the ground. But a Green Glow envelops Hal, cushioning him as he comes down to the ground.

EXT. IMPACT CRATER -- NIGHT

The giant humanoid uses his ring to lift the shape of the space ship out of the rubble of earth. A Green Glow totally wraps around the ship.

The humanoid raises his arm, and the ship shoots upward into the empty sky, a green streak. A thin thread of green extends from the humanoid's ring.

A moment later, the thread retracts into the ring.

The humanoid, whose face we still have not seen, dusts off his hands with satisfaction.

Then his ring flares green light again.

KILOWOG Ah ha! Got ya now, ya poozer.

EXT. ROADSIDE -- NIGHT

Hal lies flat on his back breathing hard and fast.

He sits up and hauls off his helmet. He stares over at the wreck of the motorcycle for a moment. Then he stares down at his ring.

He gets to his feet and shambles over to the wreckage.

HAL I'll be a son of a gun.

He stares up the embankment, to the road level high above him. He shakes his head.

HAL (CONT'D) Two wrecks in one day. Someone's watching out for me.

He drops the helmet beside the ruined motorcycle.

Then he starts climbing up toward the road.

EXT. COAST CITY -- DAWN

Morning breaks over the city that sits between the desert and the ocean.

EXT. STREET OUTSIDE HAL'S APARTMENT BUILDING -- DAY

A sleek, expensive yellow sports car rips up to the curb in front of the building.

Carol gets out of the car. She slams the door and walks briskly into the courtyard building.

EXT. HAL'S APARTMENT COURTYARD -- DAY

Carol skirts the pool, and heads straight for the door of Hal's apartment. She pounds on the door, worried.

Hal!

INT. HAL'S APARTMENT -- DAY

Hal, still in the clothes from the previous night, stumbles from his bedroom. He leans against the wall as he opens the door.

Carol pushes her way in past him, and closes the door. She looks him over sternly. He's still groggy from sleep, so he's barely registering who she is.

> HAL What? Carol? What are you doing here?

CAROL Hal, are you all right? Were you injured?

HAL What? You know I was checked out.

CAROL Not the plane, stupid! Your motorcycle!

HAL

Motorcycle?

CAROL

Someone spotted the wrecked bike. The police contacted me after they traced the registration. But no one knew where you were. Tom said... Tom said you'd had some beers, and...

HAL

Oh.

CAROL Are. You. Okay?

He starts to laugh. Which makes her angry. She pulls back her hand to slap him, but he catches her wrist.

HAL Take it easy, Carol. I'm still just waking up. And yes, I'm okay. (pause) But thank you for being concerned. That means a lot to me.

They may be "making conversation", but their bodies are heading toward a kiss.

CAROL Just... just... being concerned about a valuable employee.

HAL

Is that all?

CAROL

Yes, of course.

HAL

At the crack of dawn?

CAROL

You... you saved the contract yesterday, after all. And walked away from a crash. And...

He kisses her. She responds passionately, but only for a moment. She pulls away.

CAROL (CONT'D) No. Hal, no. I can't do this.

HAL

Why not?

CAROL I'm your boss, Hal. I can't. It wouldn't work.

HAL But, Carol, I....

CAROL

Hal, I've got a whole company to run. If we... if we got involved, it could create such a mess.

He lets her go, hurt.

HAL

I see.

CAROL

Don't take it that way, Hal. It's as much for your good as mine.

HAL

Yeah. Right.

CAROL

Look. Yesterday was a rough day for you. Take a couple of days off. Paid vacation. Get some rest. I'll need you... we'll need you to be in top form when the second prototype is ready to show off.

HAL

Fine.

She heads for the door, but pauses and looks back.

CAROL Hal? Are you going to be okay?

He stiffens up, not about to show her anything.

HAL

Of course, Carol. Why wouldn't I be? I'll be back at the hangers in a couple of days.

She leaves, going slowly, no longer certain.

He closes the door and leans his forehead against it.

EXT. DESERT -- DAY

Hal races across the desert surface in an open Jeep. He's not a happy camper.

The edge of the impact crater draws nearer fast.

He slams on the brakes, and a cloud of dust sweeps around him.

He gets out of the Jeep and walks toward the crater's edge.

EXT. OUTER SPACE - ASTEROID FIELD

Sinestro, in his yellow energy field, circles around

asteroids, searching.

CLOSE ON SINESTRO, WE SEE A YELLOW RING ON ONE OF HIS HANDS.

From the yellow ring, a beam of light sweeps the area.

The beam crosses over a spot of glittering energy. He focuses back on it. It becomes clear that it's the residual energy path of some sort.

SINESTRO At last! Now I shall find you!

He follows the energy path. It heads out from the asteroid field, and toward the small spot in space that is Earth.

EXT. IMPACT CRATER -- DAY

Hal stands on the edge of the crater looking down into it.

HAL What the heck?

On the floor of the crater are a couple of MILITARY VEHICLES. A group of people are walking around the pile of rubble where Hal had hidden the ship.

A SOLDIER spots Hal and trots up the slope toward him.

SOLDIER I'm sorry, sir. But you'll have to stay back.

HAL What's going on?

SOLDIER

I can't say, sir.

Below them, as the figures start loading back into the vehicles, one sees Hal and the Soldier talking and starts toward them.

HAL What? You don't know?

SOLDIER Don't make trouble, sir. This area is off limits.

HAL Come on. This isn't a military reservation.

SOLDIER I'm just following orders, sir. Please stay back.

The other figure has arrived. It's an Air Force Major - a female Major. MAJ. STEPHANIE "STEVIE" TAYLOR (about 30) is sharp-eyed, good looking, and all business.

STEVIE At ease, soldier. We're done here. You can load up now.

SOLDIER Sir, yes, sir, ma'am.

The Soldier heads back down to the vehicles.

Stevie looks Hal over, and he looks her over.

HAL

Sir, ma'am?

STEVIE Covering the bases. Can I ask what you're doing out here, sir?

HAL

Curiosity. And what's the military's interest in a meteor?

STEVIE Is that what it was?

HAL

Wasn't it?

STEVIE And how did you hear about this location?

HAL I was here yesterday.

Now she's really interested.

STEVIE You were here yesterday? You must be Hal Jordan then. I am. Who's asking?

STEVIE Sorry, Mr. Jordan --

HAL

Hal.

STEVIE Hal. Major Stephanie Taylor.

HAL

Pleased to meet you, Major. But you didn't answer my question. Why is the military interested in a meteor?

Her cell phone chirps at her. She pulls it out of a pocket.

STEVIE Taylor. ... No, you head back in. It seems our missing interviewee turned up on our doorstep. ... I'll get a ride back.

She folds up the phone abruptly.

Down below, the engines of the vehicles start up, and they circle and head toward civilization.

HAL You know, I could just leave you here on your own.

STEVIE

But you won't. I checked up on you. Not only did you get all the way through the Boy Scouts, you served in the Air Force. You're not going to leave a fellow officer out here in the desert.

HAL

I haven't been military for a long time. You willing to take that chance?

She laughs.

STEVIE I like you, Jordan. Is there some place we can get a cup of

coffee?

INT. HIGHWAY DINER - DAY

Hal and Stevie occupy the same booth Hal shared with Tom. Hal's enjoying the company of an attractive woman who isn't busy working at resisting him. She's savoring her coffee.

STEVIE

Since the plane was destroyed because of the event, of course the military was interested. Have to make sure nothing suspicious happened, like missile fire or sabotage.

HAL Believe me. That was no missile.

STEVIE I know. The object was tracked from space.

HAL

Object?

STEVIE

Hey, I only know what they tell me.

HAL Yeah. Right. Okay, I can play by those rules.

He gets up. She gulps the last of her coffee, and joins him.

Hal stops to pay the cashier as they head out. Stevie exits ahead of him.

EXT. HIGHWAY DINER - DAY

Stevie stands at the edge of the walkway, and watches Hal exit the diner.

STEVIE So, Fly-boy. You going to give me a lift into town, or do I have to wait for the next stagecoach?

Hal laughs.

You're all right, Major.

STEVIE Stevie. My friends call me Stevie.

HAL Oh? We're friends, are we?

They get into the Jeep.

STEVIE (mimicking Bogart) Louis, this could be the start of a beautiful friendship.

HAL I thought I told you to call me Hal.

They both laugh as the Jeep pulls onto the road.

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

AERIAL VIEW looking down on the Jeep as it travels the road.

The giant humanoid KILOWOG flies into the frame, enveloped in the green glow. We still only see his back, but we're beginning to get the idea that his looks are going to be odd.

Kilowog hovers in his flying, as he tracks the Jeep moving along the road.

KILOWOG Ah! There ya are!

EXT. COAST CITY STREET -- DAY

Hal drops Stevie off at a bank of taxis. She waves as he drives off.

EXT. OCEAN BEACH -- DAY

Hal walks along a deserted stretch of beach. He holds out the ring hand, examining it.

HAL What the heck am I supposed to do with you?

A blast of green from the sky zaps Hal, knocking him off his

feet.

He throws up his ring hand, and a shield of translucent green covers him. The blast splashes off the shield.

KILOWOG (O.S.) Time ta show yer stuff, ya poozer!

HAL'S POV --

Kilowog, glowing green, comes down for a landing. The huge humanoid has a pug-face only a mother could love.

Hal stares up at the "monster", astonished.

HAL What the hell are you?

Kilowog, fists planted at his hips, just shakes his head as the green glow washes off him.

> KILOWOG Wha'er things comin' ta? Is this ta be the new Green Lantern?

Hal gets to his feet, brushing the sand off him.

HAL Green Lantern? You connected with that Abin Sur?

KILOWOG

So he told ya his name, eh? That's a good start. That 'n ya not screamin' in fright at the sight o' my face.

Hal can't help himself. He starts laughing.

KILOWOG (CONT'D) Ya laughin' at me, ya poozer? We'll see how long *that* lasts!

Kilowog aims another blast from his ring at Hal.

A flash of green bursts around Hal as he throws up his hand. The shield reappears, and Hal's outfit transforms into the Green Lantern outfit in the same instant.

Kilowog nods with satisfaction.

KILOWOG (CONT'D)

Dat's better!

HAL

Who are you?

KILOWOG Name's Kilowoq. I train all the

new recruits to the Green Lantern Corps.

HAL Recruits? Corps? What's going on?

KILOWOG The ring chose ya. I train ya. Ya ready ta fly?

HAL

Fly?

Kilowog grabs Hal's arm, and shoots up into the air, hauling the startled Hal after him.

EXT. SKY OVER OCEAN -- DAY

Kilowog speeds through the air, pulling Hal along. The green glow wraps Kilowog, but Hal doesn't have the aura.

Kilowog shouts to Hal.

KILOWOG

It's jist a matter of will, ya see? The ring does the work. Ya think it, ya got it. Get it?

Hal tries yelling an answer, but it's lost in the rushing air.

KILOWOG (CONT'D) Alrighty then. Here goes!

Kilowog's forward motion suddenly stops, and he snaps Hal forward, flinging him further into the sky.

HAL'S POV --

As he shoots higher and higher, Hal watches the figure of Kilowog, hovering in one spot, grow smaller and smaller below him.

Then suddenly, Hal realizes he's starting to fall. He

spreads his body out like a skydiver, as he stares down at the ocean surface.

Down, down. That glittering surface gets nearer and nearer.

HAL

Will! Think!

His ring flares bright. The green glow envelops Hal.

Mere yards above the surface of the waves, Hal pulls out of the fall. He zips along parallel to the water, a look of pure joy on his face.

HAL (CONT'D) Wooooooooooo!

Hal flies upward in a spiral, circling round Kilowog.

The big lug just watches impassively.

KILOWOG

Novice.

Hal executes a loop, and then shoots straight up.

EXT. IMPACT CRATER -- DAY

The glowing yellow streak shoots straight down to the center of the crater. A puff of dust rises, as the glow settles away. Sinestro walks out of it, toward the rubble of rock.

He waves his hand over the jumbled earth, the yellow beam sweeping over the dirt.

SINESTRO You were here, Abin Sur! You cannot hide that fact from me. But where have you gone?

He spins around, sending the beam in a flashing circle.

SINESTRO (CONT'D) A Green Lantern has used power here! I can almost taste it! I shall destroy you! And once that is done, the rest of the Corps will fall!

He stalks toward the outer edge of the crater.

EXT. SKY OVER OCEAN -- DAY

Hal joyfully performs another loop, swooping in and out of a thin cloud. Suddenly, the green glow around Hal sputters out. Immediately, he's falling backward toward earth.

HAL

Hey! Ring! Hey!

Kilowog watches Hal plunging down, just shaking his head.

KILOWOG

They never listen.

Kilowog extends his arm. A beam of green light runs from his ring toward Hal. The beam shapes itself into a large scoop, catching the falling man.

EXT. OCEAN BEACH -- DAY

Hal gets set on the beach, as Kilowog comes in for a landing. The beam retracts back into Kilowog's ring.

> KILOWOG Ya dint listen, didja?

HAL Listen to what?

KILOWOG 'Bout the battery. Ya forgot ta charge yer ring.

HAL Charge the ring? What do you mean?

Kilowog suddenly realizes that Hal really doesn't know anything about the Corps, or being Green Lantern.

KILOWOG

Oh, no!

He stomps off to some rocks, and plunks himself down. His elbows on his knees, he buries his face in his hands.

KILOWOG (CONT'D) Why me? Why me?

Hal follows after him, and stands before the big guy, arms crossed, completely puzzled.

What's the matter?

Kilowog looks up, completely disgusted.

KILOWOG

I ain't no lecturer, see? 'N ya! Ya're the dumbest poozer come ta me fer training! Ya dinno de ferst thing 'bout the Corps!

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HAL
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Well, first off, I didn't come to you. You came to me!

Kilowog jumps to his feet.

KILOWOG Ya tryin' ta be funny, little man?

HAL

Whoa, big guy! Take it easy. Just start at the beginning. Charging the ring - right? You were going to tell me?

KILOWOG Huh. Hold out your ring hand.

Hal does so.

KILOWOG (CONT'D)

Battery.

The Power Battery suddenly appears between them, glowing green. There's an opening on either side.

Kilowog thrusts his ring hand in one opening. He gestures for Hal to do likewise, so Hal does.

HAL

What is --

KILOWOG Jist wait. First there's de oath.

HAL

Oath?

KILOWOG Ta remind ya of yer duty. 'N it helps time de charging. Now lessee...
 (pause)
In brightest day, in blackest
night, no Evil shall escape my
sight. Let those who worship
Evil's might beware my power...
Green Lantern's light!

As the oath progresses, Hal realizes it means a commitment to fighting crime, to playing the super hero.

The battery disappears as Kilowog pulls his ring away.

KILOWOG (CONT'D) That'll do ya fer another of yer 24 hours.

HAL

Whoa! Wait a minute. I've got a life here, a job! I'm not into this stuff. I'm no crime-fighter. I didn't even ask for this!

KILOWOG De ring chose ya. Yer de one.

HAL

No way. You can take your ugly mug and your recruiting poster slogans back to wherever you came from--

KILOWOG

0a.

HAL -- and just leave me alone. (pause) What did you say?

KILOWOG Oa. Home of de Guardians of de Universe. Where de Prime Battery is. Where all the Green Lanterns come tagether.

HAL All the--- No! Don't tell me. I don't want to know.

Hal turns and stalks off. As he goes, green light washes

over him, and the Green Lantern outfit changes into his civilian clothes.

Kilowog watches him go, nodding to himself.

KILOWOG Poozer. He'll be back. De ring don' make mistakes.

EXT. ROADSIDE PULLOVER -- DAY

Hal climbs into his Jeep, muttering to himself.

HAL Out of my mind. Aliens, space ships, power rings. It's just too much.

But before he starts the vehicle, he checks his cell phone, and notes a message. He punches in the number from the message.

> HAL (CONT'D) Major Taylor please. This is Hal Jordan returning her call. ... Sure. ... Hey, Stevie. You wanted to talk to me? ... Oh? ... You're asking? (laughs) No, I know a great place in town for dinner. Shall I pick you up, say around 7:30? ... Sounds good. See you then.

He ends the call, and starts the Jeep. Now he's smiling.

HAL (CONT'D) Well, it's not *all* bad.

EXT. BEACH ROAD -- DAY

The Jeep runs along the road. On one side, a narrow strip of beach separates the road from the water. On the other, the land rises in steep slopes.

EXT. BEACH COMMUNITY -- DAY

The road runs through the center of a small community, at a point where the landside slopes are not so steep.

But no traffic is moving on the road in either direction. Cops have stopped traffic well away from the village center. Hal pulls up at the end of a line of cars. Cars are being guided to the side of the road to park.

A Highway Patrol OFFICER walks up to Hal.

OFFICER Pull over to the side of the road, sir. We may need the road clear.

HAL

What's up, Officer?

OFFICER

We've got an armed robber cornered in a stand off. But he's got hostages, and there's a wounded officer pinned down. We're expecting additional help from the city, but they're still 15 minutes away.

HAL What about the wounded officer? Can he hold out that long?

The Officer just gives him an "I don't think so" look.

OFFICER Just move over to the side, sir.

HAL

You got it.

Hal parks his car, and gets out. Other people are cautiously milling about, powerfully curious, but afraid of the possible danger.

Hal backs away from the other people, and catches a glimpse of his reflection in a window.

HAL (CONT'D) (to himself) Well, if you're going to do something, you don't want them seeing your face.

He backs into a narrow space between two buildings.

HAL (CONT'D) Do your stuff, ring. The green glow washes over him, transforming his clothing to the Green Lantern uniform. But this time, he's also got a mask on the upper half of his face.

EXT. SKY OVER BEACH COMMUNITY -- DAY

He flies out over the ocean and rises up, to get an overview of the situation.

Looking down at the village, WE SEE --

The road through the center of the village is empty, except for one cop car, skewed across lanes. The front tires are shot out, and the driver's door is open, and pocked with bullet holes. Behind the door, sitting in a crumpled fashion is the wounded cop, bleeding badly.

Across the road from the cop car, in a roadside eatery, the ROBBER keeps popping up his head every couple of moments, checking things.

Hal starts to fly in, and then halts himself. He suddenly sees that the Robber is holding a teen-aged girl in front of himself like a shield. Hal revises his plan.

> HAL Okay. Here goes.

EXT. BEACH COMMUNITY -- DAY

Hal slowly descends toward the road, between the eatery and the cop car.

In the distance, the watchers start murmuring.

The Robber looks up and sees Hal coming in.

ROBBER

What the heck?

When Hal speaks as Green Lantern, his voice gets tweaked a bit, making it more resonant and eerie.

GREEN LANTERN

There's no way you can escape, you know. Surrender now, and you will not be guilty of murder. Wait much longer, and that cop will die.

ROBBER Who the hell are you? Stay away! Stay away!

GREEN LANTERN It's over. Give it up.

The Robber shoots at Green Lantern.

A shield flashes up in front of Green Lantern. The bullets plow into the shield and stop, obvious in the translucent green glow.

ROBBER

What the hell!?

A tight beam of light zips from the shield, and envelops the gun, yanking it from the Robber's hand.

Another tight beam zaps out, wraps around the Robber's chest and lifts him right up off the ground. The teen aged girl slips to the ground and starts crying with relief.

Green Lantern lands. The shield morphs into a globe still holding the bullets, and the gun.

GREEN LANTERN

Officers!

A cop comes running up.

GREEN LANTERN (CONT'D) You saw this man shoot at me, didn't you.

The cop nods.

GREEN LANTERN (CONT'D) You'd better get an envelope for evidence then. You'll want this man's weapon and these bullets.

COP Uh. Right. You got it. (shouts over his shoulder) Hey, Fred! We need an evidence bag here!

GREEN LANTERN Where are the paramedics?

COP Uh, they're back down the road. He points down the road. Well in the distance, the attendees are scrambling to get back in the vehicle and move up.

A beam of light snakes from Green Lantern to the wounded cop. It lifts the cop up gently, and shuttles the injured man through the air toward the ambulance.

People get out from under the beam. The paramedics stare, frozen, astonished as the victim comes to them. Then they just kick into gear, preparing to transport the victim.

CLOSE ON THE COP'S ASTONISHED FACE AS HE WATCHES ALL THIS.

One cop closes the bag with the gun and bullets in it. Other officers take the Robber into custody, and someone goes to help the girl. The Cop looks back at Green Lantern.

COP (CONT'D) Who are you?

GREEN LANTERN I'm ... I'm Green Lantern.

He rises in the air, salutes the officers, and then shoots out over the ocean.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. OCEAN BEACH - SUNSET

Hal, nicely dressed in a suit, stands on a sidewalk in front of some beach houses, looking at the sunset.

> GREEN LANTERN (V.O.) I'm Green Lantern.

He turns and goes up to the front door of one of the houses.

The door opens, and Stevie steps out. But she's not in "Major mode" this evening. She looks terrific in a flowing dress.

Hal grins and offers her his arm. They stroll away from the beach house.

INT. RESTAURANT -- EVENING

Hal and Stevie are enjoying their conversation over dinner. They share a love of flying, discussing maneuvers with hand movements.

STEVIE

-- so I gave my dad no rest after that first flight. I had my pilot's license by 15.

HAL I know the feeling. It gets in the blood, doesn't it?

STEVIE What's the new Ferris aircraft like to fly?

HAL Sweet. It's very responsive.

STEVIE Too bad about the crash.

Behind them, Carol enters the restaurant with one of the government contractors, GEORGE RANDALL, about 40. As they near Hal and Stevie, Carol sees Hal, and stops, startled.

CAROL

Hal?

The voice of his True Love grabs Hal immediately. He jumps to his feet, to greet her.

Stevie notices his reaction, and it jars her, but she covers it up quickly.

Carol, on the other hand, has a hard time seeing Hal in the company of another good looking woman.

HAL Carol! Um... I didn't expect to see you here.

CAROL

Nor I you.

Hal glances at Randall, and Carol pulls herself together.

CAROL (CONT'D) Excuse me. George Randall, this is Hal Jordan, my top test pilot. Hal, Mr. Randall is one of the government contractors.

HAL That's right! You were there yesterday, but we didn't talk to each other.

Randall shakes his hand.

RANDALL Indeed. You were concise about the events. And persuasive about the aircraft.

Randall nods at Stevie.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

Major.

HAL

Excuse me. Carol, this is Major Stephanie Taylor. I guess I don't have to introduce you to Mr. Randall.

STEVIE

No indeed. We came out from Washington on the same flight.

She extends her hand to Carol. The women shake hands, but they don't want to touch each other any longer than absolutely necessary.

STEVIE (CONT'D) I'm pleased to meet you, Ms. Ferris. Hal's been telling me about the plane. I look forward to seeing the second one when it's finished.

Hal sits down again.

HAL Stevie's also a pilot, Carol.

CAROL Is she? How... nice. Well, we won't keep you from your dinner. Major, Hal.

Carol moves off, with Randall trailing after her. Hal watches her go.

STEVIE Earth to Jordan. Come in, Jordan. HAL

Oh! Sorry about that.

STEVIE

Girlfriend?

HAL

What? No! No, of course not. She's my boss.

STEVIE

And that's all?

HAL

She's ... she's got a lot on her mind right now. About the company.

STEVIE

Oh, really?

HAL

Her father, Carl, had a heart attack four months ago. The future of the company depends on getting this contract. The livelihoods of a lot of people are riding on it.

STEVIE And I suppose she doesn't want to disappoint her father.

HAL Ah, no. She's got a lot to prove.

STEVIE And she's *just* your boss.

HAL

Do I need to repeat it?

She just smiles at him, as she finishes off her dinner.

EXT. BEACH COMMUNITY -- NIGHT

Street lighting lines the road through the community. Traffic is very sparse. A cop car is pulled up at the eatery. A few people linger about, talking about the day's exciting events. Sinestro walks up the center of the road, his ring beam sweeping back and forth. He pays no attention to the locals.

The Cop comes out of the eatery, and is about to get into his car, when he sees Sinestro. So he heads toward the alien, not noticing Sinestro's coloring at first.

> COP Hey, you! You need to get out of the road. That's the fastest way of getting yourself killed, walking in the road that way.

Now he notices Sinestro's odd red skin.

COP (CONT'D) Say, you been at a costume party or something? Have too much to drink? Come on, get out of the road.

Sinestro deigns to notice him now.

SINESTRO I read the power of a Green Lantern here. Where is he?

COP Come on, fellow. Get out of the road!

A yellow beam shoots from Sinestro's ring, makes a hand, grabs the front of the Cop's outfit, and lifts him off the ground.

SINESTRO I dislike repeating myself. Where is Green Lantern?

COP He.... He was here... hours ago. Long gone now. Flew out over the ocean. Dinno where he went.

The Cop gestures vaguely toward the water. He's getting red in the face, nearly choking. The spectators mill about uneasily.

SINESTRO

Did he?

Sinestro turns toward the water. The beam from his ring tosses the Cop to one side, as Sinestro walks away.

The Cop collapses on the ground as Sinestro flies away. A LOCAL rushes to the Cop's side.

LOCAL

Are you okay?

COP Been a hell of a day.

LOCAL He was after that Green Lantern. You think we should warn him?

COP Oh? You know how to contact some guy flying around in green peejays?

EXT. OCEAN BEACH -- NIGHT

Outside Stevie's place, Hal and Stevie are saying good night.

STEVIE I had a nice time at dinner, Hal. I'd like to do it again sometime.

HAL So... you're calling it quits for the day then?

STEVIE I like you fine, Fly-boy. But it seems to me you've still got some baggage elsewhere.

HAL

You think so?

He kisses her. She likes it, but it isn't hot-hot. She pulls away.

STEVIE

You're a terrible liar, Hal. Call me when you want to talk planes.

She smiles at him as she slides into her place.

Hal turns and walks thoughtfully along the beach. Town lights on one side, dark ocean on the other.

EXT. HAL'S APARTMENT COURTYARD -- NIGHT

Hal strolls toward his apartment, lost in thought.

INT. HAL'S APARTMENT -- NIGHT

Hal enters his apartment, closing the door behind him.

There, sitting on his sofa, and making it look like a child's seat, is Kilowog.

KILOWOG So, ya poozer. Ya ready fer yer next lesson?

HAL How the *hell* did you get in here?