

PAUL COOMEY

The Volcano Rendezvous

[\(Check out the video of Paul reading the story...\)](#)

Once upon a time, not too long ago, in a town not so far away from where you are now, there lived three superheroes.

Our first hero is Super Boy, the world's greatest superhero detective. He has special powers. He can fly! He can solve any crime! He has X-ray vision! He can stand extreme temperatures! He's super strong! But he has a weakness – he can't be near spider webs.

Our second hero is The Kaos Kid. He has super powers too. He can fly! He can make himself invisible! And he can shoot lasers out of his eyes! But he also has a weakness – he can't control some of his powers very well. When tries to use them, things can get a bit... chaotic.

Our third hero is the mega mysterious Spider Princess. She can shoot spider webs *out of her butt*. She can climb *anywhere*. She can tell *extra* tricky and *super* convincing lies. Her weakness is that she doesn't like to share.

One Saturday morning, Super Boy wakes up late. He yawns, gets out of bed, scratches his bum and wanders downstairs to the kitchen. While he is eating his Chocco Pops, the doorbell rings. When he opens the door, there's no-one there. But on the doorstep, there's a big box, tied up with a red bow. Super Boy looks around.

He's suspicious.

"I am suspicious," he says.

He picks up the box and gives it a sniff.

He gives it a shake.

Using his X-ray vision, he looks inside.

It's empty, except for a letter. Hmmm.

"Hmmm," he says.

He opens the box and takes out the letter.

He opens the letter.

He reads it.

Here's what it says:

Hey.

Stupid Boy

Meet me in ten minutes.

On top of the volcano. On Volcano Island.

I've got the Timescope. Let's make a deal.

Signed: The Kaos Kid

"The Timescope?!" says Super Boy. "No way! How is that possible?"

The Timescope is an incredible and ancient device that the three heroes spend all their time searching for. Whoever has it can use it to see through time. Want to look at what you were doing last Wednesday?

You can do that with the Timescope. Want to look into next week to see the next episode of your favourite TV show? You can do *that* with the Timescope. Want to look *waaay* back in time to see if your mum was lying when she says she never picked her nose? You can do *that* with the Timescope. SuperBoy wants the Timescope because he can use it to solve crimes. The Kaos Kid wants it because he can use it to predict what will happen when tries to use his powers, and the Spider Princess wants it... well, no-one really knows why the she wants it. She's mysterious, remember? But she really wants it.

Super Boy quickly changes out of his superhero pajamas and into his SuperHero costume. He flies as fast as he can to Volcano Island, landing on the hot, smoking edge of the crater.

“Nice landing,” said The Kaos Kid.

“Thanks,” said Super Boy. “Sooo... where is it?”

“Where is what?” said The Kaos Kid.

“The Timescope?” said Super Boy.

“I thought you had it?” said the Kaos Kid. “That’s what your letter said.”

“Huh?” said Super Boy. “*My* letter?”

“Yeah,” says The Kaos Kid, holding up a letter. “This one.”

Super Boy reads the letter. It says:

Hey.

Kaos Klown.

Meet me in ten minutes.

On top of the volcano. On Volcano Island.

I've got the Timescope. Let's make a deal.

Signed: Super Boy.

“I didn't write that,” said Super Boy.

“Huh?” said The Kaos Kid. “Then who wrote it?”

“I did,” said The Spider Princess, clambering up onto the edge of the volcano on her eight long, spindly, clattering legs. “Ha! *Obviously*. Idiots. Why would either of you share the Timescope if you found it? *I* sent the letters to get you both here.”

Before Super Boy and the Kaos Kid can reply, The Spider Princess spins around and shoots a massive jet of super sticky web out of her butt, pinning them both to the ground.

“Uh-oh,” said The Kaos Kid, completely stuck. He looks at the hot, bubbling, spitting lava beside them, “This is not good.”

“Ha ha haaaaaaa!” shrieked The Spider Princess. “I knew you two morons wouldn't be able to resist coming here! And as soon as this volcano blows, that will be the end of you! Nothing will get in my way! I'll find the Timescope and then I'll *take over the world!*”

“Ambitious,” says the Kaos Kid, “But we’ll stop you! Super Boy is super strong! He’ll break us out of your web in no time!”

“Are you sure about that?” asks The Spider Princess. “He doesn’t seem to be doing very much at all.”

She’s right. Super Boy hasn’t moved. He’s frozen still and totally helpless.

“Did you forget that his weakness is spider webs?” asks The Spider Princess. “I didn’t. And it’s not as if you can control your powers, *is it?*”

The Kaos Kid doesn’t answer. He’s furiously trying to free himself from the tangle of spider web but every time he tries to use his laser eyes to cut the spider web he just turns invisible, and he can’t fly because he’s stuck to the ground. The volcano rumbles and roars and the ground starts to shake. As The Kaos Kid struggles, The Spider Princess leans over him and grins.

“I *win*,” she whispers, and she clatters happily off down the side of the volcano on her eight spiky legs.

“Super Boy!” shouts the Kaos Kid. “Do something!”

Super Boy doesn’t move. The ground shakes again and the volcano begins to erupt. Huge, burning rocks shoot into the air and crash down the steep sides of the mountain.

“SUPER BOY! LOOK OUT!” shouts The Kaos Kid, as lava rains from the sky. A flaming rock lands near Super Boy and explodes in a

burst of fire. Super Boy can stand extreme temperatures, but the spider web can't and as soon as it burns away he jumps into the air, flying as close as he can to The Kaos Kid.

“Kaos!” he shouts. “Cut the web! Use your laser eyes! You can do it!”

“Help!” shouts the Kaos Kid. “I can't do it!”

“You have to!” shouts Super Boy. “I can't come any closer to the web! You can do it. Concentrate. Close your eyes. Breathe.”

The Kaos Kid closes his eyes. The ground shakes, and he can feel it starting to collapse underneath him. He tries to clear his mind. The volcano roars. The Kaos Kid breathes. He imagines bright blue lasers, strong and true, cutting through the thick ropes of spider web. He opens his eyes. There's a flash of blue. In a split second, his laser vision cuts through the spider web and he leaps to his feet! He soars into the air and away from the mouth of the volcano.

“That was close,” says Super Boy, flying by his side. “Come on, follow me.”

“Where are we going?” shouts The Kaos Kid as he speeds after him.

“Can you hear that?” asks Super Boy.

“Hear what? The massive exploding volcano over there? Yes, I can hear it!”

“Not that! I mean the screaming,” says Super Boy. “There she is,” he says, pointing at a pile of gigantic boulders on the side of the volcano.

Through the smoke and the rain of lava, they can just see one of The Spider Princess's legs poking out from under a rock. "Quick!"

Super Boy and the Kaos Kid work fast, heaving and throwing huge rocks and stones out of the way to free The Spider Princess. She struggles unsteadily to her feet, then falls. The Kaos Kid grabs her and all three of them fly into the air, clear of the smoke and fire.

In no time at all they're at Super Boy's house. The Spider Princess is stretched out on the couch, gently snoring. Super Boy and The Kaos Kid are sitting at the kitchen table eating Coco Pops.

"How did you *know*?" asks The Kaos Kid.

"How did I know what?" says Super Boy.

"How did you know I'd be able to use my lasers to escape? And that The Spider Princess was trapped under those rocks?" He looks at Super Boy.

"Wait a minute! Do you have the Timescope?!"

Super boy smiles and munches on his Chocco Pops.

THE END



The Volcano Rendezvous



Story Activities

1. 'Rendezvous' is a fancy way of saying 'meeting'.
Why do you think the author used this word?
Can you think of a better name for the story? I bet you can!
2. Super Boy, The Kaos Kid, and The Spider Princess all have cool superpowers. If you had superpowers, what would they be?
3. What do you think Super Boy, The Kaos Kid and the Spider Princess look like? Can you draw them?
4. In the story we are told that the three superheroes spend all their time searching for The Timescope, an incredible and ancient device that you can use to see through time.
What do you think The Timescope looks like? Can you draw it?
5. The Spider Princess wants The Timescope so that she can use it to take over the world. How would she do that?
6. If you had The Timescope, what would you use it for?
7. At the end of the story, The Kaos Kid asks Super Boy if he has The Timescope. What do you think – does he have it?
8. What do you think will happen when The Spider Princess wakes up?
Could you write the next episode in the adventures of Super Boy, The Kaos Kid and The Spider Princess?

Super Boy, The Kaos Kid and The Spider Princess are characters that appear in the comics that Stick and his friends read in *Stick Boy*.

Look for *Stick Boy* in your school library, local library or your local bookshop, and you can read the first chapter at <https://www.stickboy.tv/>

