

***RUNAWAYS:  
"ROAD TRIP" (part 1 of 8)  
Pitch for Marvel Comics Presents***

**ACT I:**

**PAGE 1-**

1- *The open road: a long stretch of straight-ahead highway in Utah. Sagebrush, blue sky, fluffy clouds, purple mountains majesty.*

CHASE (O.S.) It's freakin' gorgeous.  
That's all's I'm sayin'.

MOLLY (O.S.) Chase!

2- *The Runaways, piled into a spacious van on pillows and sleeping bags. Molly crowds to the front, her speech balloon crowding everybody, trailing back through the van.*

MOLLY Lemme see!

KAROLINA How should we know? We can't see anything back here.

MOLLY Are we there yet?

NICO No, Molly

VICTOR WHY didn't we bring the leapfrog?

CHASE Because the van is cool!

VICTOR The van is not cool.

CHASE The van is cool!

MOLLY Where are we?

CHASE Utah.

MOLLY What's a Utah?

XAVIN Have we arrived yet?

KAROLINA No, Xavin.

MOLLY I'm gonna throw up.

CHASE Nobody's throwing anything!

3- *In the driver seat, Chase notices something on the road ahead.*

CHASE Woah.

**PAGE 2-**

1- *On the side of the road ahead, a young woman lays unconscious in a young man's arms. THE BOY (ADAM) holds THE GIRL's head in his lap. She is unconscious, with long hair all over the place. Both sixteen, blond and blue-eyed, classic greek godlings.*

CHASE (O.S.) Leather Tramps!

2- *The van, back-to-front.*

CHASE Everybody, be cool!

NIKO We're not picking up hitchhikers.

CHASE Shut up, I'm the driver.

KAROLINA They're kids.

3- *Chase is opening the door and stepping out.*

CHASE Um, hi...

Is she OK?

4- *Chase's POV of the two.*

ADAM Thank God you're here.

5- *Chase stands impotently. Behind him, the passenger and side door of the van swing open. With Karolina in the lead, the rest of the team is tentatively spilling out.*

CHASE What...

KAROLINA Oh my God.

CHASE ... happened?

KAROLINA She's breathing.

ADAM She hasn't woken up since yesterday.

MOLLY Did she punch somebody? Because I fall asleep in the road every –

CHASE/NICO We have to get her to the hospital.

6- *Inset panel: close-up on Chase.*

CHASE Get in.

**PAGE 3-**

1- *Tall panel #1 (of 3): Xavin and Victor open the back doors of the van as the boy hands his unconscious companion over the threshold, onto blankets on the van floor.*

MOLLY What's your name?

ADAM My name is Adam

2- *Tall panel #2: Still holding the back door, Xavin has half-shifted back to skrull form. Adam is horrified.*

ADAM What is that?!

3- *Tall panel #3: Xavin, now in full skrull form, holds his hand to his chest, imperiously.*

XAVIN I maintained human appearance while we ascertained whether you were –

ADAM What in God's name are you???

4- *Adam backs away from the van.*

VICTOR You couldn't "maintain" another hour, Xavin?

ADAM We're not going anywhere with you... people.

5- *Chase blocks Adam from going to the girl in the van.*

CHASE Ok, dude, now be cool. We don't even know what happened to her. She needs a doctor, and you need to take a deep...

6- *Adam's eyes glow blue.*

CHASE ...breath.

Aw, crap.

***PAGE 4***

- 1- *Adam pounds his open hands into the asphalt road. He speaks in crazy bible-y font.*
- ADAM *There shall not an hand touch it, but he shall surely be stoned, or shot through.*
- 2- *Adam lifts great piles of road in each hand, and...*
- 3- *...chunks of road fly at the Runaways and the open back doors of the van!*
- 4- *Karolina makes her Magic Rainbow Waves™ as Xavin makes Invisible Woman Force Shield™ to protect them, deflecting the rocks. One of the back doors is knocked clean off its hinges.*
- KAROLINA *Get in the van get in the van get in the van get in the van!*
- NICO *Chase! Drive!*

***PAGE 5***

1- *Xavin pushes his force field into Adam, knocking him backwards.*

2- *Xavin runs toward Adam with a rocky ThingFist. Adam reaches into the street again.*

ADAM *By the greatness of thine arm they shall be as still as a stone.*

3- *Adam, his fist covered with road-rock, BASHES Xavin away.*

4- *Karolina, in flight, has caught Xavin mid-air. Below them, Nico has cut her hand with a razor-blade as the rest of the team grit to attack Adam, scared and unsure.*

NICO *When blood is shed, let the staff of one emerge!*

ADAM *The assembling of their faces is as the east wind*

NICO *(through gritted teeth, under her breath) Chase, start the car.*

VICTOR *He speaks English.*

ADAM *and it gathers up captives just like //*

5- *He extends his arms and the van and Runaways are engulfed in sand.*

ADAM *// The Sand.*

6- *Nico waves her staff wildly in front of her as her spell turns the wind back toward Adam.*

NICO *Blowback!*

*Get in! Now!*

**PAGE 6**

1- *Adam has been knocked on his back as the remaining van door SLAMS shut. Molly's head is sticking out from the front seat as Chase hits the gas.*

MOLLY Go go go drive drive drive!

2- *In the back of the van, Xavin strains to maintain an invisible force field to replace the gaping hole in the back of the van.*

CHASE He's a total psycho with psycho rock powers!

XAVIN What is a rock power?!

KAROLINA He throws rocks with his... eyes... when they... turn blue.

3- *Nico looks at Victor plaintively.*

NICO Victor, can't you do something with the iron in the --

VICTOR How?

CHASE Like Magneto!

VICTOR I'm not Magneto!

4- *The detached door flies past the Chase's driver-side window.*

CHASE No joke.

5- *In the back, Victor reaches out with his power.*

VICTOR I got the door!

MOLLY Why did he talk like Thor?

NICO That was The Bible.

6- *Behind the van, framed by the space where the door was, Adam is closing in on them, fast.*

ADAM The noise of a whip, and the noise of the rattling of the wheels.

7- *In four mini panels bordering panel 6, Adam's power POPS each of the four tires.*

EVERYBODY Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!

***PAGE 7***

1- *Chase is holding on to the steering wheel for all he's worth.*  
CHASE Hang on!  
MOLLY Chase, stop making it all crashy!  
CHASE Nico!  
NICO Victor, try to keep us steady!  
VICTOR I'm trying!

2- *With Victor steadying them, Chase pulls the car to a safe stop on the side of the road. The barrage of rocks stop as Adam gains on the van at a dead run.*  
  
MOLLY Somebody do something!  
KAROLINA Nico, cast something!  
NICO It's a desert and he's Bible-thumping us! How am I supposed to --  
  
KAROLINA He's religious.  
CHASE He's coming!

3- *Nico looks at Adam's unconscious companion and closes her eyes.*  
NICO Testify.

4- *An image of the girl as an angel, glorious and winged, bursts forth as the back hatch of the van flies open. Adam is awestruck, stopped dead in his tracks and fallen to his knees.*

5- *Molly bursts through the angel image, both hands over her head*  
6- *Molly BONKS Adam on the head, hard.*

**PAGE 8**

1- *In the background, Adam is out cold, with Molly standing over him, dusting off her hands. The angel image is dissipating as the girl wakes up, surrounded by Runaways.*

VICTOR Are you ok?

GIRL I think so.

2- *The girl is in the same pose, with a smile.*

GIRL I'm hungry.

3- *Karolina offers her an apple as the girl sees Adam*

GIRL Oh no. What happened?

CHASE He's ok. He's just unconscious. He went crazy and attacked us.

4- *From the look on the girl's face, this has happened before.*

GIRL Oh.

NICO Do you know him?

GIRL Yes, I'm sorry he -- It's complicated. We got kicked out.

5- *The Runaways and their word balloons crowd around her, with Chase pushed to the front to talk to the pretty girl.*

ALL Kicked out? / Why were you out here / How did you get /  
What's with the rock powers / Can we help you?

CHASE A-hem! What's your name?

6- *The girl has taken a bite of the apple.*

GIRL Eve.