

Tips for the Prospective Superhero

by Christian Bell

Expose yourself to radiation. Work out daily and lay off the Twinkies. Acquire large sums of cash. Learn to sew. Work in the pharmaceutical or genetics industry. Expose a predatory insect to radiation then have it bite you. Buy large rolls of spandex from fabric store. Have relatives or friends who may be clones. Rent a spacious top-level apartment in the city with a skylight and non-inquisitive neighbors. Drop out of school. Buy a journal and keep a list of excuses. Run wind sprints and lay off the beer. Use teeth whitener. Be at the end of your rope and take a head-hanging walk through the worst part of town. Learn how to dodge bullets. Find a town with a super villain and move there. Keep your girlfriend/boyfriend at a distance. Live in the worst part of town. Learn how to keep your cool and tell one-liners under stress. Keep a list of secluded spots for changing clothes. Go to therapy for your acrophobia. Be an orphan. Buy glasses. Work in law or the aerospace industry. Spend large sums of cash. Throw away your television. Have trouble paying your bills. Learn kung fu. Have your girlfriend/boyfriend and/or any of your relatives die tragically. Talk to yourself in long explanatory monologues. Have foster parents. Expose yourself to lab experiments that most likely will go awry. Have parents who you think are your parents but actually aren't. Be an enigma. Never age. Work the night shift. Die and come back to life.

