

Chronicle Comics: Avery "Hive" Blackthorne



"Strength is not found in brute force, but in the precision of thought and the unity of purpose. Alone, we are weak. But together, even the smallest of ants can bring down giants."

Identity Profile

Name at Birth: Avery Blackthorne

Primary Moniker: Hive

Other Known Names: Hive Mind, All-Knowing Avery, The Eyes and Ears of N.E.S.T

Visibility: Obscured

Chronological Age: 24

Species/Type: Bloomer (Bullet Ant(s))

Moral Stance: Neutral

Group Affiliations: Beast Bloomers

Family Ties: Deceased Father, Estranged Mother

Operational Base: N.E.S.T

Nationality: Russian

Civil Status: Single

Day Job or Role: $\frac{1}{3}$ Leader of Nest, Leader of the Strategical Assessment and Planning Division.

Birth Date: 06/01/2016

Hometown: Russia

Creator(s): Gluttony

Physical Attributes

Sex/Gender Identity: Female (They/Them pronouns as a result of their hive mind situation)

Sexual Preference: Lesbian

Height: 5'6"

Weight: 90lbs

Eyes: Black

Hair: Blonde

Defining Characteristics: Her skin is a rich olive tone with subtle, almost imperceptible patterns on their skin resembling the texture of an ant's exoskeleton. She has a pair of small (ish) holes in both wrists.

Personality Profile: Cold, calculating, and always ten steps ahead. Avery values strategy and information over any individuals strength or speed, often clashing with the other leaders' methods, due to their extreme confidence in their individual abilities.

Fears: Avery fears not being in control most of all. She fears not being able to protect N.E.S.T from a situation where order descends into chaos.

Backstory

Avery Blackthorn, born Ekaterina Vasilievna Blackthorn in St. Petersburg, Russia, was raised in a family that valued intellect above all else. Her father, a renowned entomologist, and her mother, a brilliant mathematician, instilled in Avery a deep fascination with biology, cryptography, and strategy. A prodigy in science and mathematics, Avery's abilities made her an intellectual outcast, unable to connect with others, but she thrived in the pursuit of

knowledge. Her childhood was marked by a deep isolation, preferring the company of books and experiments to peers.

Whilst on an expedition, Avery's father's team came across numerous Beast Bloom canisters, abandoned and half-forgotten in a hidden lab. After running some tests, and unearthing their potential to alter both animal and human physiology, her father, driven by his failing career and the looming threat of losing his funding, saw an opportunity for one last gamble. Without her consent, he subjected Avery to the spray in a cruel experiment, bonding her to a swarm of bullet ants in a desperate attempt to harness the chemical's power.

The results were far beyond his expectations. Avery's intellect skyrocketed, and she gained the ability to command the ants with surgical precision. Her mind, now capable of processing information in intricate patterns like a hive, became a perfect strategic engine. But the transformation was horrific. Her father's reckless actions turned out to be his undoing. As Avery's abilities grew, her senses became overloaded, and she quickly lost touch with her emotions. In a moment of chilling calculation, she killed him. Fleeing the bunker afterward, filled not with fear or anguish, but an empty void, leaving behind the only life she had ever known.

Avery's escape led her straight into the arms of N.E.S.T, the organization rescuing people subjected to the Beast Bloom. Recognizing her potential, they took her in and nurtured her abilities. With her newfound powers and intellectual prowess, Avery quickly rose to the top, earning the title Hive—the pinnacle of strategic brilliance. Now a cold, calculating mastermind, she uses her ability to command swarms of ants and her enhanced intelligence to outmaneuver enemies and execute complex missions. Yet, beneath the layers of intellect and control, Avery remains haunted by the memory of her father's betrayal and her own actions, unsure if she will ever find peace with her past.

Abilities and Skills

POWERS

Ant Control:

Avery's connection to the bullet ant grants them control over **swarms of insects**, specifically ants, which they can command with unparalleled precision. They can summon, direct, and manipulate these swarms to fulfill a variety of roles:

- **Overwhelming Distractions:** Using sheer numbers, the ants can create chaotic diversions, overwhelming enemies with confusion and panic.
- **Sabotage:** The ants can disable traps, destroy equipment, or infiltrate enemy ranks undetected.
- **Intel Gathering:** Avery can use their swarm as an extension of their senses, allowing them to eavesdrop, scout terrain, and detect unseen threats.

Hive Mind Intelligence:

The bond with the bullet ant amplifies Avery's natural intelligence, enabling them to think in **intricate, hive-like patterns**. They can process vast amounts of information simultaneously, devise multi-layered strategies, and adapt their plans instantly based on shifting circumstances. Their enhanced cognitive abilities give them a profound advantage in

tactical planning and real-time decision-making, making them virtually unbeatable in games of strategy.

Bullet Ant Stingers:

Embedded in both of Avery's forearms are **bullet ant stingers**, which they can deploy at will. These stingers deliver a venomous sting containing **poneratoxin**, capable of inducing **excruciating pain**, temporary paralysis, and disorientation in their enemies. The venom's effects make their stingers a weapon of last resort, able to incapacitate even the toughest opponents.

Enhanced Attributes:

- **Speed and Reflexes:** Avery's connection to the ants sharpens their reflexes to a superhuman degree, allowing them to react to threats and changes in their environment with lightning speed.
- **Endurance:** Their bond bolsters their stamina, enabling them to remain focused and effective even under extreme physical and mental pressure.
- **Strength:** While not superhumanly strong, Avery's physicality is subtly enhanced, giving them enough power to handle intense combat situations.

Adaptive Tactics:

Avery can use their ants in conjunction with their enhanced mind to quickly devise solutions in dynamic situations. For example, using the swarm to build temporary bridges, form

barriers, or even create distracting decoys shaped like themselves. The flexibility of their powers makes them a master manipulator in any environment.

Hive Apex:

When Avery activates **Hive Apex**, they ascend to the absolute pinnacle of their intelligence and awareness, fully synchronizing with the collective consciousness of their swarm. In this state, their mind expands exponentially, allowing them to process information at an almost incomprehensible speed and detail. Avery becomes a **living hive mind**, their perception stretching across multiple perspectives simultaneously through the swarm.

- **Strategic Overload:** Avery can predict and anticipate enemy actions with eerie precision, calculating probabilities and outcomes several steps ahead of even the most adaptive opponents. Every move they make is meticulously optimized for maximum impact.
- **Sensory Amplification:** By fully tapping into their swarm's senses, Avery gains near-omniscient awareness of their surroundings. They perceive the world in hyper-detail, from the faintest vibrations in the air to the subtlest changes in temperature or scent. Nothing escapes their notice.
- **Tactical Mastery:** In this heightened state, Avery can coordinate complex maneuvers with their swarm on an unprecedented scale. They might divide the swarm into multiple units to perform simultaneous tasks, such as attacking, defending, and gathering intel, with flawless synchronization.
- **Mental Fortitude:** Their enhanced intelligence allows them to resist mental assaults, manipulation, or disorientation, as their mind becomes a fortress of layered, hive-like defenses.

Limitations:

- **Duration:** Hive Apex is taxing on Avery's body and mind, limiting how long they can maintain this state. Prolonged use risks mental strain or physical exhaustion.
- **Emotional Suppression:** In Hive Apex, Avery's humanity becomes diminished, their focus purely analytical. This can alienate allies or lead to morally cold decisions.

Learned Skills

Combat & Self-Defense:

Though Avery prefers to avoid physical confrontation, they have a good foundation in **hand-to-hand combat** and **defensive tactics**. They've trained in various forms of unarmed combat and weapons handling, absorbing the information with frightening speed, focusing on efficiency and incapacitating enemies quickly rather than engaging in prolonged fights. Their stingers also give them a deadly edge in close combat situations.

Leadership & Command:

While Avery values intellect over brute strength, they possess a deep understanding of how to **lead** others, whether through direct command or more subtle manipulation. They are highly skilled in **motivating** allies and organizing teams to achieve complex objectives. Their ability to read situations and people enables them to inspire loyalty or strategically manipulate those around them to serve their goals.

Linguistics & Cryptography:

Avery has an excellent grasp of multiple languages and can decipher even the most complex **cryptographic codes**. This skill enhances their ability to gather and analyze intelligence from various sources, break enemy communications, and effectively communicate with allies in a range of environments. Their mastery in **linguistic manipulation** can also aid in persuasion and subtle mind games.

Weaknesses

Over-Reliance on Strategy:

Avery's immense focus on strategy and intellect can sometimes lead to an **over-reliance on planning** and manipulating situations. This makes them vulnerable to **unpredictable chaos** or situations that require immediate, instinctual action. When things don't go according to plan or when faced with rapidly evolving threats, Avery may freeze or struggle to adapt quickly. This can be particularly dangerous when they face opponents who thrive in disorganized or high-stress environments, or when their carefully laid plans are disrupted by external forces.

Emotional Detachment:

Avery's cold, calculating nature often leads to **emotional detachment** from others, making it difficult for them to form genuine connections or trust allies. While this helps maintain focus on their goals, it can also result in **misunderstanding or alienation** within a team.

Power Metrics

Rank the character's traits on a scale from 1–7:

- Intellect: 6/7 (7/7 with Hive Apex)
 - Physical Power: 3/7
 - Speed/Agility: 3/7
 - Stamina/Endurance: 4/7
 - Energy Output: 0/7
 - Combat Skill: 5/7
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Tools of the Trade

Gear and Utilities:

- **Tactical Vision Glasses:** Avery utilizes a pair of high-tech glasses that enhance her visual perception, providing her with multiple visual modes for a variety of situations, including thermal, night vision, and augmented reality overlays. These glasses also include a built-in data processor, allowing her to instantly analyze the environment or detect hidden threats, from energy signatures to traps or surveillance systems. The glasses are linked to her swarm control system, giving her the ability to see from the perspective of her ants, allowing for instant tactical adjustments and intel gathering.

Weaponry:

- Ant Stingers

Mobility Options:

- NA

Fun Facts (Optional)

(Add quirks, hidden details, or cool Easter eggs that enhance the character's lore and uniqueness.)