

ACT ONE

INT. LAKEWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT - LOCKER ROOM - DAY (DAY 1)

SOUND of a mop squelching on tile

A grimy locker room. KIP FIELDS (29, a scrawny 5'8" blue fox) mops the floor, His Best Friend, KACEY FLOWERS (29, a slight 5'5" red fox), scrubs a persistent stain on bench. They both wear LFD-issued janitorial jumpsuits.

KIP

(Sighs)

I swear, this gunk is mutating.
Yesterday it was just mud, today it
smells like burnt cheese and regret.

KACEY

That's just Brent's protein shake. He
missed the blender. Again.

Kip leans on his mop, looking at a row of heavy-duty firefighter turnout gear. His gaze lingers.

KIP

Remember when we were *this* close?
Feeling the heat, the rush...

KACEY

(Not looking up)

I remember failing the physical.
Repeatedly. And I remember you
dropping the 150-pound dummy.

KIP

His name was "Rescue Randy," and he
was unbalanced!

The locker room door swings open, slamming against the wall.
Enter BRENT JACK (31, a smug, muscular green jackal) and
KAROLYN LANDON (29, an athletic, diva-esque pink lizard).
They're in LFD athletic gear, sweating from a workout.

Brent wrinkles his snout, spotting Kip.

BRENT

Ugh, it stinks in here. Oh wait, it's
just the runts. Hey Fields, you
mopping up your tears from the last
training course?

KAROLYN

(Tossing her gym bag)

Look at them. It's so *sad*. Hey Kacey, do those giant ears pick up satellite radio, or just everyone laughing at you?

KACEY

(Clenching her scrub brush)

At least I can *hear* the fire alarm, Karolyn. Unlike you, who's probably deaf from the sound of your own voice.

KAROLYN

(Gasps, offended)

You little...

Brent shoves Kip. It's not hard, but Kip, being so light, stumbles back and falls over his mop bucket.

BRENT

Watch your friend's mouth, "mop-jockey." Some of us are actual heroes.

KIP

(Scrambling up, furious)

Being a hero isn't about how much you can lift! It's about...

BRENT

(Leaning in)

It's about *not* being a 100-pound weakling who washes out.

RHETT RIBBERT (28, a goofy, lanky green frog) slides into the room, trying to de-escalate.

RHETT

Whoa, fellas! Easy! We just had these floors waxed!

(He slips on the spilled mop water, pinwheeling)

Woah-woah-WOAH!

Rhett lands on his back.

RHETT (CONT'D)

...See? Hazardous.

VICKY WOLFINSKI (30, a sharp-eyed purple wolf) enters, followed by ANGIE PRATT (29, a toned pink pronghorn) and

RYDER LEON (30, a calm orange lion with a burnt-orange mane).
They are all in LFD uniforms (not janitorial).

VICKY

(Helping Rhett Up)

Brent. Karolyn. Don't you have some
weights to lift or mirrors to stare
at?

ANGIE

(Stepping between Kip and Kacey)

Pick on someone your own size. Oh
wait, you can't. They'd hit back.

BRENT

(Smirks)

Always rushing to defend the litter.
How pathetic.

The door opens again. CAPTAIN MICHAEL VINCENZO (34, an
imposing, stern black wolf) stands there. His presence
silences the room.

VINCENZO

What is this? A playground? Jack,
Landon, hit the showers. Pratt,
Wolfinski, Leon, Ribbert, diagnostics
on engine 4.

(His cold eyes land on Kip and
Kacey)

Fields. Flowers. My office. Now.

Vincenzo turns and walks out. Brent intentionally shoulders
Kip as he leaves. Kip just trembles with quiet rage.

INT. VINCENZO'S OFFICE - DAY

A sparse, organized office. Trophies and plaques line the
walls. Kip and Kacey stand at attention.

VINCENZO

(Not looking up from a file)

I don't care who started it. What I
care about is that my janitorial staff
is causing friction.

KIP

Captain, they harass us every day. We
were just...

VINCENZO

(Slams the file shut)

You were just *nothing*. You washed out. You failed the physical exam six times, Fields. You, Flowers, couldn't even make the ladder climb. You are here, mopping these floors, out of my own pity.

KACEY

Pity? We have heart! We have...

VINCENZO

Heart doesn't lift a steel beam off a civilian. Heart doesn't carry 80 pounds of gear into three-alarm fire. Muscle does. Size does. You don't have it. Know your place.

(He turns back to his computer)

Get out of my sight.

Kip and Kacey deflate. Dejected, they turn to leave.

Just as Kip's paw touches the doorknob, a loud KLAXON blares.

DISPATCH (V.O.)

All units, all units. Five-alarm fire reported at Oro-Tek Research, 1400 Industrial Way. Facility reports unknown chemical agents and an experimental reactor on-site. Proceed with extreme caution.

Vincenzo is instantly on his feet.

VINCENZO

(Into his radio)

This is the one. All hands, move!

He shoves past Kip and Kacey.

KIP

(To Kacey)

Oro-Tek? That's the biggest lab in the county...

INT. LAKEWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT - FIREHOUSE BAY - DAY

Chaos. The "A-Team" - Brent, Karolyn, and others-suit up, climbing onto the massive fire engine.

Vincenzo barks orders.

VINCENZO

Jack, Landon, you're primary entry. I
want that reactor core contained. Go,
go, go!

The engine roars to life and peels out of the bay.

Kip and Kacey are left standing in the exhaust fumes, holding
their mops.

Vicky, Angie, Rhett, and Ryder pile into a secondary
"Support" truck.

RYDER

(To Kip)

Stay safe, you two. This sounds bad.

The support truck speeds off.

Kip looks at Kacey. The dejection is gone, replaced by a
dangerous spark.

KIP

They're going to overlook something. I
know it.

KACEY

(A small, nervous smile)

The janitor's utility van is still in
the back. And I still have the keys.

KIP

(Grinning)

Let's go.

EXT. ORO-TEK RESEARCH - NIGHT (DAY 1)

The research lab is a futuristic dome-like structure, now
engulfed in chemical-green and orange flames. It's a warzone.

LFD is on the scene. Vincenzo directs crew.

VINCENZO

(Into radio)

Brent, report!

BRENT (V.O.)

Main lab is clear. We're pulling back.
Too unstable.

The LFD utility van (a glorified golf cart) screeches to a halt behind a row of police cars. Kip and Kacey jump out, staying low.

KIP
(Surveying the building)
He's pulling back? Already?

Kip's eyes scan the inferno. Through a cloud of toxic-green smoke, he spots movement in a small, ground-floor window of a side lab.

Two small figures. Trapped.

KIP (CONT'D)
Kacey, look! Side lab! He didn't even
check it!

KACEY
They're... tiny.

KIP
He's leaving them. He's leaving them
to die!

Kip breaks from cover, running toward the side of the building.

KACEY
Kip, wait!

Kacey runs after him, pulling a small tablet from her jumpsuit.

INT. ORO-TEK RESEARCH - SIDE LAB - NIGHT

The room is collapsing. A steel support beam pins two small figures: a FEMALE CYAN STOAT and a MALE ORANGE STOAT, both in lab coats.

FEMALE STOAT
Help! Please, somebody!

The door is blasted open by Kip's shoulder. He and Kacey rush in.

KIP
(Coughing)
We're here! We'll get you out!

Kip and Kacey grab the steel beam. They pull. They strain.

Their muscles quiver. It doesn't budge.

KIP (CONT'D)
(Roaring in frustration)
It won't... move! We're not strong
enough!

MALE STOAT
The reactor! It's going critical! You
have to leave us!

KIP
No! We don't leave anyone behind!

The main door to the lab bursts open. BRENT and KAROLYN step
through the flames, wearing breathing masks.

BRENT
(Shocked)
Fields? Flowers? What the heck are you
doing?!

KIP
Helping! You missed them! You were
going to leave them!

BRENT
(Looks at the Stoats)
They're acceptable losses, runt. The
building is coming down.

KACEY
(Stepping forward, tablet in hand)
Speaking of acceptable losses...
Karolyn? I've been doing some digging.
This is a termination warrant,
approved this morning by Chief Dahmer.

Kacey shoves the tablet in her face.

KACEY (CONT'D)
Turns out faking your physical
certification is a fire-able offense.
You're done.

Karolyn's face turns from smug to murderous.

KAROLYN
You... little... RAT!

She lunges at Kacey, Brent grabs Kip.

BRENT
I'm dragging you out, if I have to
break your arm!

In the center of the main lab, visible through a shattered partition, a massive, suspended REACTOR BALL glows. It's pulsing a brilliant, unnatural blue.

MALE STOAT
IT'S BREACHING!

The reactor ball cracks. A high-pitched WHINE fills the air

KIP
(To Brent)
GET OUT!

Kip and Kacey give the steel beam one last, adrenaline-fueled SHOVE. It moves. Just an inch, Enough for the Stoats to scramble free.

KIP (CONT'D)
(To the Stoats)
The window! Go!

The Stoats dive out the shattered window.

KIP (CONT'D)
KACEY, RUN!

The reactor ball implodes, then EXPLODES.

A massive wave of blue-white energy vaporizes the lab.

It hits Kip, Kacey, Brent, and Karolyn. They scream as the energy rewrites them.

The building, the town, the world...

FADES TO WHITE

ACT TWO

INT. BROOK CITY METRO HOSPITAL - DAY (2 MONTHS LATER)

The steady BEEP... BEEP... BEEP of a heart monitor.

Kip's eyes flutter open. His vision is blurry.

He sees a kind-faced St. Bernard in a doctor's coat (DR. BILL BARNABY) and a gentle yellow bird in scrubs (NURSE LISA CANARO).

DR. BARNABY

(Softly)

...Mr. Fields? Kip? Can you hear me?

Kip groans. His throat is dry. His voice out as a deep, resonant rumble.

KIP

Wha... Kacey?

He tries to sit up. The entire hospital bed CREAKS and GROANS under his weight.

KIP (CONT'D)

(Confused)

What's...

He looks at his paw. It's massive. Thick-fingered, covered in new, powerful muscle. He's huge.

He tears the heart-monitor stickers off his chest - a chest that is now broad and defined. He scrambles out of the bed, which is comically small for him. He stands, unsteady, and looks in a mirror.

His 5'8" scrawny frame is gone.

He is 6'8", 250 pounds of solid muscle. A superhero's physique.

KIP (CONT'D)

(Staring in shock)

What... what happened to me?

DR. BARNABY

Easy, son. You've been in a coma. You and the others were caught in the Oro-Tek explosion. That was two months ago.

KIP
(Panicked)
Two months? Kacey! Where is Kacey?!

He bursts through the door, his oversized hospital gown flapping.

NURSE LISA
Doctor! His vitals!

DR. BARNABY
Good heavens. They're... perfect.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM (KACEY'S) - CONTINUOUS

Kip barrels down the hall and slams open the door to Kacey's room.

She's already awake. Standing. Staring at her own reflection.

Her 5'5" slight frame is also gone. She is 6'5", with the powerful, defined muscles of a warrior. Her ears are still large, but now they look proportional, regal.

She turns. They just stare at each other.

KACEY
...Kip?

KIP
...Kacey?

KACEY
(Looking at her new hands)
...I feel... strong.

KIP
We're...

The door bursts open again. VICKY, RHETT, ANGIE, and RYDER rush in, looking frantic. They stop dead, staring at the two new giants in the room.

RHETT
(Blinks)
Whoa. Did you two... eat the old Kip
and Kacey?

Vicky bursts into tears, rushing forward. She hugs Kip, who just awkwardly pats her on the back, his new arm enveloping her.

VICKY

(Sobbing)

We thought you were dead! They moved you both to Brook City, they said the blast...

ANGIE

(Pokes Kip's new bicep)

Holy... That's solid. What did they put in your IV, protein powder?

RYDER

(Pulls out a handheld scanner)

Fascinating. Your cellular density is off the charts. The reactor's energy... it seems to have rewritten your DNA, forced an... evolutionary leap.

KIP

What about Brent? And Karolyn?

RYDER

(Shakes his head)

They vanished. Woke up from their comas a week ago, broke out of the hospital. No one's seen them since.

KACEY

And... Lakewood?

Vicky looks down.

VICKY

Lakewood is... gone, Kacey. The blast radius was 20 miles. The town was evacuated. LFD is disbanded.

KIP

Disbanded? So... where do we go?

EXT. GRANDVILLE - DAY (DAY 61)

A clean, pleasant suburban neighborhood. The sign reads: "GRANDVILLE - A BROOK CITY FIRST RESPONDER COMMUNITY."

The gang pulls up to two identical, adjacent townhouses.

ANGIE

We all got transferred to Brook City Metro. Pulled every string we had.

(MORE)

ANGIE (CONT'D)

Welcome home.

VICKY

We had to split you up. Housing rules.

Kip, you're with me and Rhett.

(Points to the left townhouse)

Kacey, you're with Angie and Ryder.

(Points to the right)

Kip and Kacey look at their new, painfully normal homes.

Ryder wheels a large, covered box out of his van.

RYDER

Kip. We all know you've been...
adjusting. Vicky said you've been
having trouble sleeping. I've been
working on a companion for you. A
therapy-bot, if you will.

Ryder pulls the sheet off. Inside is a sleek, robotic dog. It
whirs, tilts its head, and a digital "BOOF!" comes from the
speaker.

It hops out and trots over to Kip, nudging his giant leg.

Kip, the 6'8" behemoth, melts. He kneels, his huge hand
gently petting the robot.

KIP

(Voice thick)

A puppy.

RYDER

His name is Orbit.

Orbit's tail wags (a small antenna).

INT. KIP'S TOWNHOUSE/KACEY'S TOWNHOUSE - MONTAGE - DAY

A series of quick cuts showing the struggle to adapt.

-Kip tries to drink a cup of coffee. His grip is too strong.
The ceramic MUG SHATTERS. Orbit "whines"

-Kacey tries to type on her laptop. Her powerful fingers
smash three keys at once. The screen cracks.

-Kip plays fetch with Orbit in the small backyard. He gently

throws a ball... it SMASHES through the wooden fence.

-Kacey tries to cook. She grabs the refrigerator door and accidentally RIPS IT off its hinges.

KIP (V.O.)
This is impossible.

KACEY (V.O.)
Everything is too small. Too fragile.
We're too... *much*.

EXT. BROOK CITY STREET - DAY (DAY 65)

Kip and Kacey walks down a busy street. They're in baggy sweat-suits, but their new size still turns head. They look miserable.

KIP
We can't be firefighters. We can't even open a jar of pickles without it exploding. We need a job Kacey. What can we do?

KACEY
(Shakes her head)
Who's going to hire two... walking anvils?

They pass a quaint, old-fashioned ice cream parlor. "SCOOPS' ICE CREAM PARLOR."

A "HELP WANTED" sign is taped to the window.

From inside, they hear frantic SQUAWKING and CLANGING.

SCOOPS (O.S.)
Frozen flappers! Blizzard beaks, this blasted contraption!

Kip and Kacey look at each other.

INT. SCOOPS' ICE CREAM PARLOR - CONTINUOUS

They enter. CLYDE "SCOOPS" PENNER (48, a flustered purple and white penguin) is wrestling with a massive, sparking soft-serve machine.

SCOOPS
Blast! It's jammed again!

KIP
(Gently)
Excuse me... sir?

Scoops looks up at the two giants.

SCOOPS
What? Can't you see I'm in a...
(He trails off, looking at their
size)
...My, my. You two are... sturdy.

KACEY
(Reading the machine's schematics)
Your compressor's out of alignment.
Kip, hold it steady?

Kip places one hand on the 500-pound machine, holding it perfectly still. Kacey, with surprising delicacy, reaches into the machinery and snaps a belt back into place.

The machine whirs to life.

SCOOPS
(Jaws drop)
I'll be... You're hired! Both of you!
(He beams)
Now, can one of you get the new tubs
from the freezer? They're 50-pounders,
so...

CUT TO:

Kip walking from the freezer, easily carrying four 50lb tubs in each arm. Kacey follows, carrying a stack of six.

Scoops' beak hangs open.

A small TV in the corner of the parlor suddenly flickers to a breaking news report.

REPORTER
(ON TV)
...we have unconfirmed reports of a
massive explosion at the Rubinox
Plastic Factory. in the Brook City
industrial district! The fire is... oh
my... it's spreading to the adjacent
apartment complex!

Kip and Kacey lock eyes. The fire. The people.

They drop the ice cream.

KIP

We have to go.

SCOOPS

Go? But what about the mint chip?!

KACEY

(Already out the door)

Sorry, Scoops!

ACT THREE

EXT. RUBINOX FACTORY/APARTMENT - DAY (DAY 65)

Chaos. The factory is a toxic inferno. The apartment building next door is catching, smoke pouring from the windows.

Brook City Metro Fire (BCMFD) is on scene, but they're overwhelmed. FIRE CHIEF CHARLIE JENKINS (57, a large blue bear) directs his crews. POLICE CHIEF JANICE MILLER (50, a tough German Shepherd) sets up a perimeter.

CHIEF JENKINS

(Yelling)

The ladder's not stable! The heat's warping it! We can't get to the upper floors!

On the 5th floor balcony, a MOTHER (red deer) and her CHILD (red fawn) are trapped, screaming.

Kip and Kacey burst through the crowd.

CHIEF MILLER

(Spots them)

Hey! You two! This is a restricted area! Get back!

KIP

(To Kacey)

I'll take the apartment. You clear the factory.

KACEY

Kip, we're not...

KIP

(Looks at the trapped family)

Yes. We are.

Before anyone can stop him, Kip *jumps*.

He grabs the 3rd-floor balcony ledge, his new muscles coiling. He climbs the building, hand over hand, like a ladder. The crowd GASPS.

KACEY

(Sees a group of workers trapped by a flaming car)

Oh, crud.

Kacey runs to the burning car, She grabs the bumper... and lifts it over her head. The workers' jaws drop. She TOSSES the car, which explodes harmlessly mid-air.

KACEY (CONT'D)
(To the workers)
Go! Get out of here!

Meanwhile, Kip reaches the 5th floor. The Mother and Child are terrified.

KIP
(Voices gentle, despite the chaos)
It's okay. I've got you.

He scoops them up both up in one arm. He looks at the raging fire, then at the roof of the adjacent, shorter building.

KIP (CONT'D)
Hold on tight.

He LEAPS.

He soars across the the 20-foot gap, landing like a cat on the other roof, safe. The crowd below ERUPTS in cheers.

EXT. STREET (AFTERMATH) - DAY

The fire is contained. Paramedics tend to the rescued.

Kip and Kacey walk back to the street level, covered in soot.

People are coughing, smoke filling their lungs.

A high-tech WHIR. ORBIT zips through the crowd. His side-panels open, deploying a dozen portable oxygen masks. He zips from victim to victim, nudging them, offering air.

The Mother and Child run to Kip, hugging his legs.

MOTHER
You... you saved us. Who are you?

Kip and Kacey stand tall. For the first time, they don't feel like freaks. They feel... right.

CHIEF JENKINS
(Stomping over)
Who the fiery blazes are you two?!

Chief Miller is right behind him, fuming.

CHIEF MILLER

You just contaminated a dozen crime scenes! You endangered yourselves! You...

(She looks at the saved family)
...you...

CHIEF JENKINS

You can't just... do that! This is a civilized city! We have procedures! This is vigilantism!

KIP

We were just trying to help.

CHIEF MILLER

(Points a finger)
I'm lucky I'm not arresting you both. Go home. And don't ever pull a stunt like this again. We have professionals for this.

Kip and Kacey look at each other. The ecstatic high of the rescue crashes into the guilty low of the warning.

They turn and walk away, Orbit trotting silently at their heels.

INT. KIP'S TOWNHOUSE - NIGHT

The whole crew is gathered in Kip's living room. Kip paces. Kacey stares out the window. Orbit is in his charging dock.

KIP

They were right. We broke the law. We're not firefighters. We're not... anything.

KACEY

We saved them, Kip. We did what the *professionals* couldn't.

VICKY

But what's the long game? You can't just show up and lift cars. The world's not ready for... this.

RYDER

(Tapping on a tablet)
Then perhaps... we need to give them something to be ready *for*.

He projects an image onto the TV. It's a sleek, stylized logo: a shield, emblazoned with a knight's helmet, silhouetted against a cityscape.

RYDER (CONT'D)

You're not firefighters. You're not janitors. You're something new.

ANGIE

You're protectors. Guardians.

RHETT

(Snaps his fingers)

You're like... knights! For the city!
You're City Knights!

A silence. Kip looks at Kacey. A slow smile spreads across his face.

KIP

City Knights.

(He looks at his new, giant hands)

I like it.

KACEY

(Turning from the window, a new determination in her eyes)

No more mops.

KIP

No more sidelines. If we're going to do this, we do it right. As a team.

He puts his large paw in the center. Kacey puts hers on top. Vicky, Angie, Rhett, and Ryder all join.

KIP (CONT'D)

Let's get to work.

EXT. BROOK CITY ROOFTOP - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

Two figures stand in silhouette, looking down on the glittering city.

FIGURE 1

The reactor... it changed them.
They're powerful. Just like us.

FIGURE 2

(A fiery hiss)

They're *freaks*. They think they're
(MORE)

FIGURE 2 (CONT'D)
heroes? They're just getting in the
way.

The moonlight reveals them.

FIGURE 1 is BRENT JACK, now clad in dark, techno-sorcerer robes, floating on a high-tech glider. Green energy swirls in his palm.

BRENT (WARLOCK)
They saved a few lives. Adorable.
We'll show them what *real* power is.

FIGURE 2 is KAROLYN LANDON, now taller, scaled, with a draconic, prehensile tail. Fire dances on her claws.

KAROLYN (FLAME)
This city will burn. And this time,
we'll be the ones holding the match.

They both laugh, a cold, dark sound that echoes over the unsuspecting city.

FADE OUT.

END OF SCRIPT (SCENE END)