

"The Gang: Squad Goals"

Ch. 1: Another Sunday Afternoon

"How far are you into that series?" Stubbs asks Lucid. Stubbs lives with three of his best friends, Lucid the amphibian, Inert the deer, and Relik the moth. They live in a small apartment complex on the outskirts of Seattle.

Stubbs is half tabby and half husky. He's the youngest out of the gang. He has light gray fur with black forearms and red fingertips. His right eye is cyan and his left eye has an eyepatch. He has black ears with two red stripes on each. He has gauges on both his ears. His hips are pierced along with his tongue. His tail is large, fluffy, and curled. There is a mouth on the back of his neck that is always stitched up, but he doesn't like to talk about that.

Stubbs brought all three of his friends together and they all got to know and love one another after he introduced them to each other.

Lucid is a brawler. He's the muscles of the group. He fights in illegal, underground, cage matches for a living. He is the only sober one out of the four (doesn't even drink or smoke cigs). He's a strong Christian. He has an ability to incredibly heal and harm others with his mind because of an abnormality in his genes, however every time he uses it, he loses some of his memory.

Lucid has been alive for 1000+ years however due to the use of his powers, he can only remember glimpses of the past 200. He is literally immortal (though only the gang knows about his immortality and his powers).

Lucid is a gray colored amphibian (half bearded dragon and half leopard gecko) with glowing cyan scales on his hands and feet. He has spots of cyan across his muscular body. His pupils can change from four dots, to a horizontal line, to a vertical line, to a plus, and so on. His pupils change shape with the attitude he is in at the time. His mouth and blood is cyan as well.

Lucid was friends with Stubbs ever since Stubbs was in jr high. They used to smoke together, however, when Lucid moved to Utah, he found his faith and quit

smoking and drinking all together. He simply "doesn't have the urge for it anymore" as he puts it.

They met when Stubbs's parents took him to church one Easter and when he went around the back to smoke a cigarette, he found Lucid chiefting on a blunt. He approached him and they started talking. Lucid added Stubbs as a Friend of Facebook and they've since been talking.

Lucid has lived on his own for literally hundreds of years. His family has passed and since he can't remember much, he doesn't know where to look to find any current family members. He can't even remember his parents names. So he's closely connected to the gang because he considers *them* his family now, as do the rest of the gang.

Though he never ages, he looks to be about in his mid twenties.

"I'm on the second season," Lucid has been watching a show called 'Straight Pledge' Inert introduced to him a month ago. He's been stuck on it ever since.

It's a high school, romantic drama, about a Mormon homophobe who falls in love with this rebellious boy named Alex and has to go through obstacles to be with him.

"Katelyn is gettin' closer to Alex. She's had to deal with him smoking weed and she's got a bad rep from talking shit all the time. Even her friends ain't really likin' her anymore,"

"Damn, true," Stubbs responds.

"Yup. She thinks he's weird 'cause he paints his nails and wears really tight jeans. But she lowkey thinks it's hot. She just doesn't want to admit it,"

"Sounds like Katelyn is hatin'," Stubbs's says.

"Don't--don't say that. Please," Lucid responds, in disbelief.

"Well, I'm going to wake up Inert. She's been sleeping since 8:00 last night,"

"So?"

"It's 4:00,"

"Jeez, she must like sleeping more than *you* do," Lucid sounded.

"That's kind of a broad statement,"

"Go wake her up and leave me alone, this part's just gettin' good," he turns his focus on the TV.

"Fasho," Stubbs walks towards Inert's room which is past the living room where Lucid is.

The apartment is shaped like a +. On the bottom branch is the entrance, on the right branch is the entrance to the kitchen and Inert's room, and the left branch is a hallway with the spare rooms; Lucid's is straight down, Relik's is on the left behind the living room, and Stubbs is to the right. Only Lucid, Stubbs, and Inert have windows because they face the outside of the complex.

And in the middle is the living room with one couch facing the TV, one to the left of it, and a recliner on the right, with a glass table sitting in the middle. There's always a bong there just waiting to be smoked out of along with an ashtray (They're technically not supposed to smoke in the apartment, but no one really cares, not even the employees. Inert once walked in on the janitor smoking a joint in the hall while cleaning).

On the top branch is a small area where there's a bean bag sitting on the floor, a shuttered window behind it. That's usually Inert's spot. Next to it is her room. She has the master bedroom (they kind of all agreed that Inert should get it because she's the only girl in the house and she should have her own bathroom. That, and they lost a bet).

Anyway, Stubbs knocks on Inert's door and waits for a response. When he hears nothing, he lets himself in.

Inert is a brown and tan deer. She has bright green eyes. Her antlers have just started to grow this past month; They're little stubs that show from her head. She has a septum piercing and a yellow tag on her left ear that she changes to say either "420" or "69" depending on her mood. She has scarification mods of flowers cut out on her entire left arm and left side of her chest, stomach, and thigh. She has neon green stripes on her arms.

Inert is quirky and cute, but also serious and mean when she needs to be. She's very expressive. She sells drugs by an anonymous alias "Lucy" (short for "Lucifer"). That's how she makes her money. Her drug business is very large for her age and she manages to keep it very lowkey. Everyone in the city has heard of

"Lucy/Lucifer" but only the gang knows who she really is.

She's a tomboy. She hates wearing bras and only sometimes wears panties. She usually wears boxers. She's very loving and jokes around a lot with the gang.

Stubbs has known Inert the longest and met her while he lived in Arizona. They hungout often but, at the time, Inert was addicted to hard drugs like heroin and meth. Stubbs was able to help her beat her addiction and they've been best friends ever since.

The two met at a Pearl Jam concert. At first, they were quite fond of each other. They started talking, shared a few joints, and once it was time to leave, Inert gave Stubbs her number and they've kept in touch. They both have honestly thought about dating one another, but they figured it's best they just stay friends. They don't want to ruin what they already have as a good friendship. They love each other, but not in a romantic way. That goes with the rest of the gang.

Inert's passed out on her bed wearing nothing but men's red and blue, plaid, boxers. Nothing Stubbs hasn't seen before though. Inert prefers to walk around without anything on but either pants or boxers. The gang has seen it all the time, they're literally all used to it by now. They all pretty much walk around in their underwear. Talk about no shame.

He stops by the side of her bed. The window to the left of her bed is closed but the sun is shining through a little bit. She has her own bathroom to the right of her bed. A bong lays on the carpeted ground surrounded by a clutter of clothes.

"Inert," he says softly. She groans and turns on her other side. "Inert," he says a little more harsh. She mumbles something in her sleep.

"Mmmm... Fuck you, Johnny Depp... Where's my money?" She pauses. "Slut,"

"*Inert*," She blinks her eyes and comes to conciousness.

"What?" She rubs her eyes. "Oh, hey, Stubbs," she yawns. "I had the weirdest dream.

"Did it involve Johnny Depp owing you money?"

"Yeah! How'd you know?"

"Lucky guess,"

"Yeah, we had a family together and when we divorced, he never paid child support. And everytime I asked, he gave me a wheel of cheese instead of cash. I was so sick of it, that I took a rocket to his house on a moon or something and demanded at least *seventeen* cheesewheels to feed our starving kids. He just shut the door on me. It was so weird..."

"Sounds trippy,"

"Yeah, man. It was whack," she sat up. "What time is it?" Stubbs checked his watch.

"Perfect time to smoke a bowl," he responded.

"Stubbs, *every* time is a perfect time to smoke a bowl. You got a family gathering? Smoke a bowl. Got church? Smoke a bowl! Getting a prostate exam?--"

"Smoke a bowl?"

"Smoke a bowl *with your doctor*. Eventually you'll smoke him out enough that you'll both start to *enjoy* your prostate exams. He'll use his dick to check your prostate.

"Damn, man, shut the fuck up and get off your ass already. Lucid hasn't seen you in 20 hours,"

"Awww, poor *baby*. I'll make sure to give him a big smooch when I see him,"

"I shouldn't have woke you up,"

"Yeah, for real," she and gets up and walks towards the door. She opens it and walks out. "*Lucid*, bab, how are you! It's been a minute! I haven't seen you sin--"

"Yo, hi, yeah, whatever, shut the fuck up. This shit's just gettin' good,"

"I can *feel* the love," she looks at the TV. "*Oh*, this is when Katelyn hangs out with Alex! This is when she first smokes weed!"

"Woooooow, fucking *spoiler* alert. Good God, Inert,"

"Aww, shiit, my bad! I won't say anything else,"

"Yeah, *please*,"

The two sit down on the couch and get lost in "Straight Pledge."

"Where's Relik?" asks Stubbs.

"He left to the woods, like, an hour ago," said Lucid not taking his eyes off the television.

"Well, shouldn't he--"

The front door flew open and there was Relik.

"Yo, my bad, I had to stop by the store to get some burn ointment,"

"Why?" Asked Inert.

"Because I had a burn,"

"From what?"

"Something hot,"

"Like *what*, faggot,"

"This douchebag a few blocks from here has this really nice blue light and I lowkey wanted to steal it for my room, but when I touched it, I got, electrocuted. It turns out it's some 'bug zapper' to kill bugs. And I'm sure you can guess how offended that makes me feel. You're literally killing off my species, thanks.

"How fucking rude, dude, the nerve on some people," said Lucid.

"That's what I fucking said! He's literally getting away with murder!"

"Yeah, well, I mean, I go hunting even though I'm a deer," added Inert.

"Yeah, but, that's just because you're fucked up,"

"That's true,"

"I think there's a difference between feral animals and us, guys," announced Stubbs.

"No, we're just smarter,"

"Exactly,"

"But ferals are exac--"

"No, dude. We can talk and drive cars and roll blunts, a regular moth just flies in circles and bangs its body on walls. Sure we're the same species, but... we have actual control of our life and the gift of civilized intelligence. But we still have our feral instincts. That's probably why your dumbass was attracted to the light to begin with. And that's also why Lucid sometimes eats bugs when we're not looking,"

"Yo, *fuck* you, Stubbs, I'll fuck you up," said Lucid.

"It's *true*, though!"

"Yeah, and that must be why you trip shit on catnap and spit up hairballs, you fuckin' pussy," spat Inert.

"Yeah? At least I don't eat other cats, you sick fuck,"

"Fuck you, you love elk burgers,"

"Yeah, true, they're pretty bomb. But you're still a cannibal,"

"Ah, living in this society, you gotta make exceptions," Stubbs shakes his head.

"All this talk of food is making me hungry, let's order some burritos," suggested Lucid.

"I know this really bomb burrito place but we'd have to go pick it up," said Inert.

"What is it?"

"Schitts Tayne,"

"Shit stain?"

"No, Schitts Tayne. I know the owners, Jacob Schitts and Alex Tayne. They're cool. They make great Mexican food,"

"I don't even fuckin' care anymore, I just want food,"

"Than let's go,"

"I'm driving!" announced Stubbs.

"Not my car you aren't,"

"Fuck," They began to walk out the door. Stubbs was the last one out because he grabbed a blunt for Inert and him to smoke while driving to Schitts Tayne.

And off they go.