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YOUNG GIANTS

By

Brett Anderson

FADE IN:

INT. APT STAIRWELL - HOT SUMMER AFTERNOON

Two young women enter an apartment building and start walking up a flight of stairs. One of them is carrying two brown bags of groceries.

RACHEL

My gosh, it is so hot out.

LAURA

Oh, this whole summer has been sweltering.

RACHEL

I know, it's gross. So, anyway, when I finally came to, I realized I had spent the night naked at the zoo and figured "you know what? I think need professional help."

LAURA

That's amazing. You seemed so squared away in high school.

RACHEL

I know. But, you know, you're young, you're back stage at a *Toad the Wet Sprocket* concert...you try things. But the rehab saved my life. That, and the birth of my two sons.

(sentimental)

Ahh, Laura it is so good to see you. It's been way too long.

LAURA

Absolutely, and you look so good, especially after having two kids.

They approach the apartment door.

RACHEL

Thanks. My two boys are my life. They're inside. I can't wait for you to meet them.

LAURA

Ooh, I'm excited. How old are they?

RACHEL

Four and five and a half.

LAURA

Oh, I'm sure they're adorable.

RACHEL

Well, they were when they were born.

Rachel gets her house keys out.

LAURA

Oh come on, if they're only four and five, I'm sure they're still cute as can be. Do you just leave them with a sitter when you're out?

RACHEL

Well, I kind of don't need one.

LAURA

(confused)

You're a single mom right? You don't have a baby-sitter?

Rachel has a concerned look on her face.

LAURA

Rachel? Are you alright?

RACHEL

Yeah, yeah, I'm fine. Listen, there is something you should know before you come in. My boys are not exactly...normal. So I just want to prepare you.

LAURA

What do you mean?

RACHEL
Just come in...you'll see.

CUT TO:

INT. APT - CONTINUOUS

RACHEL
(affectionate)
Hi guys!

Sitting on the floor are apparently two grown men wearing only underwear. They're coloring.

ZEKE
Hi mom.

DAMIEN
Hello.

They boys have the tone and demeanor like young teenagers. Laura has a very concerned look on her face. Rachel sets the bags down on the counter.

RACHEL
Are you guys coloring?

ZEKE
Yeah, look what Damien drew.

Damien holds up an amazingly good portrait.

RACHEL
Oh honey that's beautiful!

DAMIEN
It's okay considering I did it left handed with just my fingers.

RACHEL
Guys, I want you to meet someone.
This is Laura, we went to high school together.

DAMIEN AND ZEKE
Hi Laura! Pleasure.

LAURA
(confused)
Hi...

The boys resume coloring. Bothered, Laura turns to Rachel.

LAURA
What is going on here?

Rachel pulls her aside so the boys can't hear her.

RACHEL
I didn't want to scare you...I can explain. You see, Zeke and Damien were both born with a condition called "acute gigantism".

LAURA
Acute gigantism?

RACHEL
It's a gland problem. Their growth rate is ten times that of a normal child, so their physical features are years ahead of their actual age.

LAURA
Oh my God.

RACHEL
Yeah, I came home one night and Damien was doing one-armed push ups. (subtle) And Zeke is actually hung like a camel.

LAURA
That's incredible, I've never heard of it.

RACHEL
Yeah, it's rare, but look at them.

Zeke and Damien are playing guns in the background.

DAMIEN
I got you!

ZEKE
Na ah!

DAMIEN
Mom! I shot him seventeen times and he won't die!

RACHEL
Zeke, if you were shot you need to die.

ZEKE

I have special powers though!

DAMIEN

My ass!

The boys continue playing. Back to Laura and Rachel.

RACHEL

I'm so sorry, this must be weird.
I understand if you want to leave.

LAURA

No, no...I mean I understand the
physical condition. But they don't
really talk like they're five
either, they sound like teenagers.

RACHEL

That's another thing. I was
inseminated with the same man's
sperm, twice. I found out this man
was actually a bio-chemist from
Oxford, so not only are they
physical specimens, they're also
geniuses.

LAURA

This is amazing. So how old are
they physically?

RACHEL

According the doctor's assessment,
they're both in their late
twenties. Zeke's already having
problems with his prostate.

LAURA

And mentally?

RACHEL

Well, it's weird. Sometimes
they'll still act like five-year
olds, it's like their intelligence
fades in and out. Like last week,
I came home and Damien had build an
entire computer from scratch out of
silverware and batteries. But then
that same night he took a dump in
his pants.

LAURA

When did you first start noticing
that your sons were...well, men?

Zeke and Damien begin slap-boxing in the background.

RACHEL

It was during the holidays. Zeke
was only six months old at the time
and he ate an entire Christmas ham
all by himself.

LAURA

And Damien.

RACHEL

With Damien I could tell right
away. I was three months pregnant
with him. I felt some sharp pain
down there so I got up and went to
the ladies room and I couldn't
believe it. His foot was actually
hanging out of my vagina. I was
freaking out!

LAURA

Holy crap! I'll bet.

RACHEL

Yeah, but they're still just kids
at heart and they do normal kid
stuff, they like to wrestle...

Zeke slams Damien onto the coffee table destroying it. Laura
is startled. They begin grappling intensely.

RACHEL

Guys, be careful!

(back to Laura)

So yeah, they stay active and play
games and stuff.

Laura turns her attention to the two boys.

LAURA

Oh my god! Is he hurting him?

DAMIEN

Tap out bitch!

Damien has Zeke in a sophisticated submission hold.

RACHEL

Zeke! You're gonna pass out again,
just tap out.

Zeke taps out.

RACHEL(cont'd)

It's hot outside, why don't you
guys go play in the hose.

ZEKE

I don't want to play in the hose.

RACHEL

What do you mean? You love the
hose.

ZEKE

Damien always puts the hose in his
butt and then sprays me with it.

DAMIEN

No I don't.

RACHEL

Damien? Do you put the hose in
your butt and spray Zeke.

DAMIEN

No! Okay, yes.

ZEKE

That's friggin' gay, by the way.

RACHEL

Zeke Zachary Scott! How do you
know what that is? Never talk like
that. Now apologize to your
brother.

DAMIEN

I'm sorry Damien.....(under his
breath) fag.

RACHEL

Hey! Now, what do you do when you
hurt someone's feelings?

Zeke hugs Damien.

LAURA

That is so sweet.

RACHEL
Go play for a bit, but then I want
you guys to take a bath.

DAMIEN
Oh, I hate baths. Last time Zeke
stood up and peed on my head.

RACHEL
Zeke! Did you pee on Damien's
head?

ZEKE
No I didn't.

DAMIEN
Don't lie! Your lying, I remember
you stood up behind me when I was
washing and you peed right on top
of my head.

Rachel slaps Zeke.

RACHEL
If you ever do that to your brother
again, you will not leave your room
for a week. And no Rubik's cube!

ZEKE
Okay, sorry Damien.

RACHEL
Damien? What do you say?

DAMIEN
Now who's the fag?

RACHEL
Enough! Go outside and play.

DAMIEN AND ZEKE
(happy)
Kay! You're it!

Damien and Zeke run down the hall.

RACHEL
But don't go out in your underwear
this time.

(MORE)

RACHEL (cont'd)
 (to Laura) Last Saturday I let them run out in there underwear because it was so hot, and Zeke almost got arrested for indecent exposure because someone thought he was a grown man. I swear Laura, some days I just don't know if I can handle them.

Zeke and Damien run out the door with a bat and glove.

DAMIEN
 I'm Jose Canseco! I'm Jose Canseco!

ZEKE
 Hah! You're on steroids! And you like whores!

LAURA
 (to Rachel)
 They must be a handful.

RACHEL
 You have no idea. Some neighborhood kids were throwing the ball in the street and the ball ended up over by Damien, and obviously they don't know about his horse-like strength, and they asked him to throw it back. So Damien threw it back to this kid, it broke through his glove, hit him in the face, and killed him.

LAURA
 Oh my gosh!!...you're kidding!
 What did you do?

RACHEL
 I was gone, Zeke told me. In fact I think he just started writing a novel based on the events.

LAURA
 Well, it was so good running into you. But I think I'm gonna go.

RACHEL
 I understand, you have a life.

LAURA
 But it was great seeing you.

RACHEL
You too, let's get together for
coffee some time.

LAURA
Yeah, absolutely.

RACHEL
Oh, and could you not tell anyone
about the neighbor's kid dying at
the hands of my son. I'd like to
have him around for as long as I
can, the doctor says he only has
four years left to live anyway.

LAURA
Of course, of course.

RACHEL
Okay, take care.

Laura exits.

THE END