

STRETCH ARMSTRONG

EPISODE #102

"PULLED IN EVERY DIRECTION"

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<First Draft 1/25/2016>
<Second Draft 2/17/16>
<PRODUCTION DRAFT 3/3/16>

A-STORY: Jake, Nathan, and Ricardo turn themselves in to Malcolm Kane and Quentin Rook expecting to be punished, only to discover that Rook wants to hire them and send them to catch Multi-Farious.

B-STORY: Jake is trying to figure out how he can live his busy life, fulfill the responsibilities his father expects of him, and still be a professional superhero.

THEME: Life pulls you in many directions - but doing the right thing should always take priority.

TEASER

EXT. CHARTER CITY PARK - RESUME FROM EP. 101

**

RESUME: JAKE, NATHAN, and RICARDO (in their make-shift costumes) are surrounded by MALCOLM KANE and his GUARDS - all guns are aimed at the boys. Jake looks at his friends.

1 JAKE

Believe it or not, being arrested was not on my schedule today.

2 KANE

You're coming with us, you little punks. No one destroys a Rook laboratory without repercussions.

Nathan's eyes are wide.

3 NATHAN

I've never even had detention - and now I'm gonna get chained up in a dungeon.

*

Ricardo sees, in the rubble MULTI-FARIOUS created, a STREAM leading into an open sewer - a chance to escape.

4 RICARDO

Don't be crazy. No one uses dungeons anymore. Besides, I got one more trick up my leg. On three, break for the sewer. One... two...

Ricardo raises one of his legs, throwing mass into it.

5 JAKE

No.

Ricardo stops himself from bringing his foot down - the mass bounds back up his body.

6 RICARDO

I think you meant to say "three".

7 JAKE

This whole thing's our fault - so it's our responsibility. We wanted to be superheroes - well superheroes don't run from their problems. They face them.

8 RICARDO

Look, I'm not married to the whole "superhero" thing.

9 NATHAN

Thinking of how much trouble we're in makes me want to pee my pants a little - but Jake's right.

Jake raises his hands and moves towards Kane. Nathan follows.

10 JAKE

Take us in.

Ricardo puts up his hands and joins the boys.

11 RICARDO

You two are a terrible influence.

Kane's guards rush toward the boys, taking them into custody. *

INT. ROOK SECURITY OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

BLACKNESS: Suddenly, <KA-CHUNK> a DOOR opens at the end of the hall, casting a SHAFT OF LIGHT on the BOYS, sitting on a bench, waiting for their punishment.

Kane's silhouette enters the door frame.

12 KANE

Mr. Rook wants to see you - personally.

Nathan <GULPS>. Suddenly <VRRRRRR> the sound of WHEELS heading towards the door can be heard. The wheels <SKID> to a HALT, revealing QUENTIN ROOK... on a hoverboard - that actually hovers!

13 ROOK

Why's it so dark? Show our guests a little hospitality. *

At a hand-sign from Rook, the room ILLUMINATES - revealing not a prison cell, but a cutting-edge and stylish room filled with tech. Jake and the others look at their surroundings, impressed. *

But they're even more impressed with Rook himself. This isn't the uptight, suited guy they've seen on TV. Dressed casually, Rook looks (and acts) like the coolest dad they've ever seen.

14 ROOK (CONT'D)

So glad you guys could make it.

15 JAKE
Uh, no problem.

16 ROOK
What you did out there tonight? Way impressive. And thanks for the chopper save - otherwise Rook Unlimited would be taking resumes for a new CEO right now.

The boys look confused by Rook's warm attitude. So does Kane.

17 NATHAN
You're not gonna toss us in your dungeon?

18 ROOK
Don't be crazy. No one uses dungeons anymore.

19 JAKE
But you are arresting us, right?

Rook raises an eyebrow, confused by their questions. *

20 ROOK
Arrest you? I want to hire you. How would you three like to be the Official Superheroes of Charter City? *

Jake and the boys look at each other, smiles growing on their faces. *Could this be true?*

SMASH CUT TO OPENING TITLES

ACT ONE

EXT. ROOK TOWER - NIGHT

EST: ROOK TOWER, a beacon towering over Charter City.

21 ROOK (O.S.)
Pour me a half latte, half energy
drink--

INT. ROOK UNLIMITED - CORRIDOR - DAY

We follow Jake, Nathan, and Ricardo, still in their silly costumes, as Rook leads them on his hoverboard down a corridor while multi-tasking on his phone.

22 ROOK
--and Cindy, while you're at it, e-mail the third quarter audit to my handheld. And make sure to get an energy drink for yourself.

Behind him, the kids whisper to themselves.

23 NATHAN
Is he serious? *Official*
superheroes?

24 JAKE
My dad works for Rook - he's not a guy who says things lightly.

25 RICARDO
We are SO calling ourselves the "Super Awesomes."

26 NATHAN
That is the worst name--

27 JAKE
SHHHH.

Rook puts down his phone and turns to the boys. Jake (comically) attempts to lower his voice to sound more mature. He <CLEARS> his throat. *

28 JAKE (CONT'D)
(awkward deep voice) *

Your building... is not what we expected.

Rook smiles as he types a code into a door. *

29 ROOK

You mean boring with a capital ZZZZZZ? When I started Rook, I thought it had to be like all the other corporations out there - about as exciting as watching a file download.

The door opens and Rook rolls on--

*

30 RICARDO

What's with the voice, bro?

31 JAKE

Trying to talk like my dad. I don't want Rook to know we're in high school.

32 RICARDO

Oh. I'm sure that did the trick.

They follow Rook into a new hallway--

*

INT. ROOK UNLIMITED - MUSEUM HALL - CONTINUOUS

--revealing a VAST corridor filled with pictures and artifacts from the history of Rook Unlimited: a young Rook in his lab, him working with an older woman (DR. C - long hair/glasses design), the first Rook lab in a shack. Rook rolls in as the kids follow.

**

*

33 ROOK

Then as Rook Unlimited took off, I figured: what's my priority? Being rich? Or being myself? And why can't I do both? So I broke from structure. Did what I wanted to do instead of what was expected. And look at these rewards.

*

The kids look at the displays, mesmerized with a sense of awe at the history they're seeing. The young pictures of Rook, smiling and laughing, really humanize him.

34 JAKE

(awkward deep voice)
Very impressive historical documentation.

*

Rook stops and turns to Jake.

*

35 ROOK

Something wrong with your voice?

Ricardo lets out a small <BURST> of laughter.

36 JAKE

(awkward deep voice)

I do not understand your question.
This is my voice.

*

37 ROOK

Look, I can tell you guys are
young. It's okay, I still want you
as my Superhero Team. You'll fit in
perfectly with my existing program
of Flexium research. Observe!

*

*

*

*

With that, Rook opens ANOTHER door - this one is massive--

INT. ROOK UNLIMITED R&D - CONTINUOUS

--revealing a HUGE ROOK LABORATORY filled with incredible
Rook tech! SCIENTISTS move about the space, experimenting
with various compounds. The boys follow Rook as he rolls
through the area.

38 ROOK

What happened to you three in the
lab explosion was a miracle of
science - your specific body
chemistries interacted with our
most cutting-edge compound--

*

Rook wheels over toward a lab window, looking into a room
with LAB TECHS as they conduct experiments on...

39 ROOK (CONT'D)

--FLEXIUM.

Jake and the boys watch as the techs STRETCH out the Flexium
into a long strand, then they pull it in another direction,
creating a giant WEB! WEIGHTS drop from the ceiling onto the
net, STRETCHING IT, but it does not break!

40 JAKE

That's... like me.

41 ROOK

Flexium can stretch to incredible
lengths - but still hold its
strength. I've been working for a
decade on this compound. It can be
lighter than air--

At another window, the boys watch as a LAB TECH leaps from a scaffolding - with a Flexium-glider that enables him to fly around the room! The other LAB TECHS <APPLAUD>.

Nathan watches this, his eyes lighting up.

42 ROOK (CONT'D)
--or as dense as lead.

In another window, TECHS move a WALL OF FLEXIUM into position, then hammer at it with a jack-hammer machine. The Flexium barely shows a dent. Ricardo loves what he sees.

43 RICARDO
So Flexium made us invincible?

Rook <LAUGHS>, continuing to lead the boys through the lab.

44 ROOK
Looks like it made your muscles and bones more pliable and stronger, but like anything, Flexium has its limits. And we're still testing what those limits are. **

In another window, a tech <BLASTS> FLAMES at a mound of Flexium - at first the flames blow over the compound, but after a beat, it begins to melt. Jake and the boys see this. Nathan <GULPS>. Rook leads them into an elevator, going down. **

45 ROOK (CONT'D)
So far we've found uses for Flexium in construction, vehicles, even clothing.

46 JAKE
Clothing?

They step out of the elevator to the R&D bottom floor. Rook motions to a lab tech who hands him a sample of FlexCloth. *

47 ROOK
No joke. This is the new Flexium fabric we've been experimenting on for the military. *

48 JAKE
Wait... Are you making us costumes? *

49 ROOK
Costumes are for Halloween or weird parties. This is cutting-edge Rook Wear!

With a flourish, Rook calls their attention to THREE SETS OF *
GOGGLES. *

50 NATHAN *
Only goggles? Not that I'm *
complaining, but that isn't exactly *
a costume. *

51 ROOK *
<SMALL CHUCKLE> You'll see when you *
try them on. *

With a prompting from Rook, one of the Techs approaches Jake *
with a pair of the goggles and REACHES up to pull off Jake's *
mask. Jake STEPS back, avoiding the Tech's reach. *

52 JAKE *
Whoa! Hands off the mask. We *
haven't agreed to work for you yet. *

53 RICARDO *
I have. I totally have. This is me *
agreeing. *

Jake looks at Rook, making sure the Tech stays back. *

54 JAKE *
If being Rook company superheroes *
means revealing our identities - *
then "no go." What happens if some *
bad guy with a grudge finds out *
where we live? We're not putting *
our families at risk like that. *

55 ROOK *
This company has the best data *
storage in the world. Your *
identities will be secure. You can *
trust me. *

56 JAKE *
Maybe we can trust you - but Rook *
Unlimited employs over half the *
city. No, if this is going to work, *
we keep our identities secret - and *
out of corporate files. *

Awkward pause. Even the Lab Techs look over at the boys in *
this tense moment. After a beat, Rook speaks, smiling. **

57 ROOK *
Not a problem. It's like being *
anonymous online, I get it. *
(MORE)

ROOK (CONT'D)
I'm not hiring who you really are,
I don't care who you really are -
I'm hiring... THE FLEX FIGHTERS!

A giant WALL SCREEN flashes on behind Rook, revealing the FLEX FIGHTERS logo!

58 ROOK (CONT'D)
My PR department whipped up the
team name and logo. Sweet, right?

**
*

Nathan's shoulders slump.

**

59 NATHAN
I guess it's okay. I had some of my
own thoughts, but never mind.

**

Rook holds up Stretch's visor, displaying it.

60 ROOK
These visors are your central
communication HUBS - you can talk
to us, or use a scrambled private
channel. Best of all, all your Rook
gear is actually stored in these
things.

Rook tosses the visor to Jake.

61 ROOK (CONT'D)
Welcome to your first day of work.

INT. ROOK UNLIMITED R&D - MOMENTS LATER

MONTAGE: Jake, Nathan, and Ricardo are each alone in one of
three CHANGING BOOTHS. INTERCUT AS: Each of them reaches up,
removes their masks, and tries on the Rook Gear Goggles.
Suddenly COSTUMES FLOW DOWN FROM THE GOGGLES covering them!
Each kid reacts with SHOCKED SURPRISE! But then steps back
and checks the mirror-- *They look cool...* END MONTAGE.

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SLOW-MO: Each boy steps out of a changing room, revealing
their new, super-cool GEAR! NOW they LOOK like superheroes.

Jake walks out the room, assuming an ACTION POSE. FREEZE-
FRAME - with GRAPHIC TITLE: **CODENAME: STRETCH**

Nathan spreads his "wings". FREEZE-FRAME - with GRAPHIC
TITLE: **CODENAME: WINGSPAN**

Ricardo stomps out of the room, flexing. FREEZE-FRAME - with
GRAPHIC TITLE: **CODENAME: MEGA-MASS**

*

Rook sees his heroes and a huge grin appears on his face.

62 ROOK
Epic!

PULL BACK TO REVEAL: The boys are still in the R&D lab, standing in front of a video wall. Their code names were actually written on the screen.

*
*
*

63 ROOK (CONT'D)
Like the code names? Of course you do. PR team again. I had them up all night! HA! They were so mad!

*
*
*
*

Stretch and the guys look at each other, smiles on their faces. They can't hide how awesome this is.

64 STRETCH
Too bad my dad never scheduled time in my day to be this awesome!

Rook turns to a WALL-SIZED console with images of DON ROBERTSON and MULTI-FARIOUS, containing stats and data.

65 ROOK
OK-- Work time: Don Robertson might have been scatterbrained - and WAY uptight - but he's a good guy at heart.

*

Rook turns to the boys, who look ready for action, standing by a wall in the back of the room.

66 ROOK (CONT'D)
That's why I need you to bring him in - without hurting him. One problem: he disappeared after the battle in the park.

67 STRETCH
We'll be ready when he shows again.

68 MEGA-MASS
Til then, you gotta have some sweet video games in this place, right?

69 ROOK
Even better.

With that, Rook hits a button - and the wall (and floor around it) completely SPINS, taking the boys with it (almost like a spinning bookshelf a la Scooby Doo)--

INT. TRAINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The boys now find themselves in a dark, empty room!

70 MEGA-MASS

What?! Rook just totally duped us!
What a jerk-store.

They look around - it's a vast, empty space with pools of light coming from spotlights in the ceiling.

71 WINGSPAN

What do you have to say now, Mr.
"No One Uses Dungeons Anymore"? I
knew we'd be trapped here for life.

A LIGHT turns on across the room - a CONTROL CENTER behind glass, revealing KANE and SECURITY GUARDS.

72 KANE

Rook thinks working with you
amateurs is a good idea. I
disagree. You're weak. Untrained.

*

Kane flips a switch.

73 KANE (CONT'D)

So I'm here to change that. We use
this room to test chemical
compounds - but I now see it has
some other uses. Let's see how
powerful you really are.

**

**

Suddenly METAL ORBS launch out of the walls! The boys immediately spring into action - but Wingspan is NAILED, sending him sprawling across the room!

74 WINGSPAN

Come on! I hate dodgeball!

75 MEGA-MASS

Really? Only sport I like.

**

Mega-Mass MASS-BASHES BACK the balls!

76 STRETCH

Way more fun than wind sprints day!

Stretch STRETCHES out to catch balls and fling them back!

MONTAGE: the boys TRAIN as Kane throws everything at them! Metal fists, giant orbs, laser beams - and the kids twist, fly, and bash back - fully unleashing their powers! From the looks on the boys' faces, they're loving it! END MONTAGE.

CLOSE ON: Stretch stretching, avoiding spears from the walls - with a distinct smile on his face! He lands near Wingspan.

77 WINGSPAN

Uh, Stretch, Private Channel--

Stretch switches his comms.

78 WINGSPAN (CONT'D)

Isn't this a school night?

Stretch's face drops - the real world coming in.

79 STRETCH

I hate you. You're right. But I hate you.

EXT. JAKE'S APARTMENT - DAWN

Stretch, in costume, stretches himself up onto his balcony.

INT. JAKE'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Stretch slides through the window, pushes the PILLOWS hidden under his blanket and quickly slips under his blankets. *

EXT. CHARTER BAY - DAWN

The bay is quiet, peaceful. But then DARK SHAPES move through the water. First one, then the other piece of Multi-Farious pops his head out of the bay. They pull themselves (themselves?) ashore, merging back together...

Trouble is returning to Charter City.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. JAKE'S BEDROOM - EARLY MORNING

OVER BLACK: An <ALARM> clock sounds!

JAKE POV: Eyes open. He reaches out to hit the snooze button (MATCHING ACTION IN EP. 101, ACT 1) but this time--

--His arm BUNGEES out and <SLAMS> the clock off the night stand into the far wall where it <SMASHES>! His arm <SNAPS> back. Jake sits up quickly and looks down at his hand.

80 JAKE

This is gonna take some getting used to.

Jake's computer <BLINKS> to life - Dad on-screen.

81 MARK (ON-SCREEN)

Time to catch the worm! Hey, you're already up. Thatta boy!

*

Jake looks at his hand, flexing it.

82 JAKE

Rigid structure bears great rewards.

INT./EXT. VARIOUS - MONTAGE

MONTAGE: Jake practices his violin, notices an apple in the kitchen. Balancing his violin in the crook of his neck, he STRETCHES and gets it, taking a <BITE> - without missing a note!

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--Jake runs track at school, but then looks around - the place is empty. So he starts running again, STRETCHING and BOUNCING around it - going MUCH FASTER than ever before!

**
*

--Everyone in class is paying attention, but Jake stares out the window at the city beyond, seeing ROOK TOWER in the middle of town. It's clear where his mind is. END MONTAGE.

EXT. SCHOOL COURTYARD - DAY

SCHOOL BUSES take kids home as others mill about after class. Jake and Nathan sit in the courtyard with open chemistry text books. Ricardo sees them and wanders over.

83 JAKE

Plus side: Rook-Sponsored superhero team. Down side: 45 pages behind in my chemistry reading. Is it even possible to be a Superhero *and* a High School student?

**

84 RICARDO

(mocking voice)

"I got superpowers, but my homework's late, Boo-hoo."

(normal voice)

Hello? Am I the only one who's got his priorities straight?

85 JAKE

Fighting monsters doesn't exactly maintain my GPA, so until--

Jake trails off when he sees, across the courtyard--

--RIYA DASHTI, who ollies her BOARD, grinds across a picnic table and dismounts with an EPIC FLIP. [PROD. NOTE: Riya's wearing a helmet.] Ricardo sees Jake watching - and smiles.

*

*

86 RICARDO

Whoa, Jake - maybe you *do* know what's important. Who's *that*?

87 NATHAN

That's Riya, the love of his life. They're gonna get married right after college, have three kids, and live in a penthouse on the bay.

Ricardo pats Jake on the back.

88 RICARDO

Well done, bro, she's gorgeous. Hey, Riya!

89 JAKE

Oh no. No no no.

Jake tries to block Ricardo's mouth - as Riya glances over at the boys, a frown on her face. She turns back to her friends.

90 RICARDO

What's up, crazy-pants? She's your girlfriend, right?

91 JAKE

I've never actually spoken to her.

Ricardo looks at both of them, realization setting in.

92 RICARDO

My new friends are complete losers.
How long have you been crushin' on
her?

**

93 JAKE

376 days. She transferred here last
year. She's the woman by which all
women will forever be compared.

94 RICARDO

Look, I'm not a professional doctor
of love, but if you wanna marry a
girl and have three kids, you need
to talk to her first.

**

95 NATHAN

Jake's convinced himself the only
reason she's not dating him is
because she doesn't know he exists.
Once she knows who he is, he no
longer has that excuse.

96 RICARDO

Yesterday you slingshotted yourself
into the face of giant monster, and
now you're telling me you're afraid
to talk to a girl?

*

97 JAKE

Yes. That's exactly what I'm
telling you.

98 RICARDO

Well, "Stretch" - time to expand
your experiences...

Ricardo SHOVES Jake in Riya's direction. Jake STUMBLES
forward, moving closer to her--

JAKE POV: Jake's vision grows myopic as he focuses on Riya.
His <HEARTBEAT> gets faster. He's near her now - her back to
him. He opens his mouth to speak when--

*

--<BREET-BREET> His Rook-Phone goes off. He SPINS to pick it
up. Behind him, Ricardo and Nathan's phones also go off. Jake
charges past the others.

99 JAKE

Guys - they must have found him.

Ricardo shakes his head - unbelievable timing.

100 RICARDO

We're coming back to this, bro.

Behind them, over her shoulder, Riya notices them leaving.

EXT. CENTRAL STATION - DAY

RESUME FROM EPISODE 101, TEASER: We're mid-fight in front of Central Station! Multi-Farious <SMASHES> down on the team! [PRODUCTION NOTE: Some exact beats from the end of the 101 teaser will be used here to re-orient the audience, making it clear that they're coming in on the same fight as before.]

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The boys SCATTER with Stretch snatching up a CUTE FEMALE BYSTANDER as Multi-Farious PLOWS into the place where she was just standing, shattering it!

Stretch swings and drops the bystander off at a safe place. He WINKS at her. Her face BEAMS.

101 STRETCH

Here you go, ma'am. You can join the rest of the evacuees.

*
*

102 FEMALE BYSTANDER

You are so amazing...

The boys BOUNCE back into the fight, dodging the monster.

103 MEGA-MASS

So you have no problem talking to girls during a monster fight?

104 STRETCH

It's the mask. I bet I could talk to Riya if I was wearing a mask.

105 MEGA-MASS

Because that wouldn't be creepy.

IN FLEX'S VISOR: The phone <RINGS> - incoming call: DAD.

106 STRETCH

Sorry, dad. Gotta send you to voicemail.

Wingspan tries his signature move on Multi-Farious' back, but the creature <SPLITS> in two before Wingspan connects - sending Wingspan passing through empty space to <CRASH> on the ground below.

[PROD. NOTE: One monster has green eyes, the other blue.]

*

107 WINGSPAN
Not fair! <IMPACT>

108 STRETCH
Splitting in two? Old news. We've
seen that trick before, buddy.

One Multi-Farious CHARGES the boys - who spring up on top of
him! At the same time, the other monster goes straight for
the station wall - <SMASHING> through it!

109 MEGA-MASS
Why's he attacking Central Station?
Did he miss the uptown express? *

The Multi-Farious, outside, BUCKS the boys off! They go
flying as the monster charges to join its other self inside.

110 WINGSPAN
Maybe he just likes trains. I like
trains.

They bounce after the monster(s).

INT. CENTRAL STATION - DAY

The Flex Fighters enter the station and for a moment are
taken aback to see the two Multi-Fariously simply TEARING UP
the place - <SMASHING> and <CRASHING> their way around.

111 STRETCH
If he likes trains, he clearly
hates train stations. *

The Multi-Farious near Stretch CHARGES into a newsstand,
PLOWING it over! Splinters and products go flying! BOTH
MONSTERS SPEAK at the same time as if in stereo.

112 MULTI-FARIOUS
Rook builds. Rook Proud. I DESTROY!

The second Multi-Farious <SMASHES> a leg through a large
portrait of Rook on one wall of the station.

113 MEGA-MASS
He's throwing a temper tantrum out
of revenge against Rook?

114 STRETCH
Rook just built this place - a gift
to the city. It was all over TV.

115 WINGSPAN

This guy - or, uh, guys? - really needs to find a more constructive way to work out his frustrations.

*
*

IN STRETCH'S VISOR: The phone <RINGS> again: DAD.

Mega-Mass hears it ring.

116 MEGA-MASS

Is that Riya calling?

117 STRETCH

Stop it. It's my dad. I hope it's not important-- You're up!

Stretch manages to FLING a Multi-Farious in Mega-Mass's direction as Wingspan flies for the other one.

118 MEGA-MASS

'Bout time.

Mega-Mass gears up for a mass-punch, but right before he's about to hit Multi-Farious, the creature <SPLITS> again! Mega-Mass WHIFFS as two smaller, but identical Multi-Fariouslyes fly ** past on either side of them.

119 MEGA-MASS (CONT'D)

Oh, come on!

On the other side of the station, Wingspan GRABS a Multi-Farious, attempting to lift it up...

120 WINGSPAN

Time to catch your flight!

But that Multi-Farious BREAKS in two as well, both parts slipping away from Wingspan!

121 STRETCH

"Time to catch your flight?"

122 WINGSPAN

I'm new at this banter stuff!

Stretch SLINGS one of the newly smaller Multi-Fariouslyes away, but as it IMPACTS the far wall it <SPLITS> again!

123 STRETCH

More monsters, more problems.

IN STRETCH'S VISOR: <RING> number three. Incoming call: DAD.

124 MEGA-MASS
Superheroes don't take a call in
the middle of a bad guy fight!

125 STRETCH
It could be an emergency.

A coordinated team of Multi-Fariouses RUN at the boys like
linebackers - they each BOUNCE, STRETCH, or FLY away!

126 WINGSPAN
Like this isn't?

Stretch DODGES more monsters as he hits "accept" on the call.

127 STRETCH
Hello, dad?

128 MARK (ON PHONE)
Jake? Great. Where are you? Still
at tennis practice?

129 STRETCH
Yeah, uh, I'm in the middle of some
"mixed doubles".

Stretch ZIPS away from two Multi-Fariouses that run into each
other instead of him and <BONK> heads--

130 MARK (ON PHONE)
Sorry to interrupt, but I need
help.

But Stretch releases too soon and <CRASHES> to the floor! He
looks up - a WALL of Multi-Fariouses are about to smash him!

131 STRETCH
HELP!

132 MARK (ON PHONE)
I said "help". No need to shout...

The wave of monsters comes <CRASHING> down after Stretch!

133 MARK (ON PHONE) (CONT'D)
Jake?

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. CENTRAL STATION - DAY

RESUME: Stretch is about to be crushed by a wave of monsters--

134 MARK (ON PHONE)
Jake, are you there?

135 STRETCH
For now...

Nearby, Mega-Mass MASS-<POUNDS> a column that falls onto the wave of Multi-Fariouses. Stretch sees it coming and JUMPS up to land on top of it--

136 MARK (ON PHONE)
Look, I have an overseas video conference and my computer isn't loading the app.

--and he ROLLS the column back and forth on top of the writhing monsters, like a lumberjack doing a log roll--

137 STRETCH
Can't you call I.T.?

Wingspan <SWOOPS> past Stretch, who BUNGEES his arms to grab on. Wingspan PULLS Stretch, giving him enough momentum to FLING up the column like a ramp!

138 MARK (ON PHONE)
They're busy - some problem with the trains... I need you. This is a matter of life and death.

Stretch slings himself around monsters that JUMP at him!

139 STRETCH
<EFFORT> Life and death? Right...

Across the station, ROOK CAMERA DRONES fly inside.

INT. ROOK TOWER - ROOK'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Rook and Kane stand near the wall monitor. ROOK I.T. WORKERS (including ROOK I.T. WOMAN) work with equipment. The monitor jumps to life.

**

*

140 ROOK I.T. WOMAN
We've got a visual, sir.

**

ON SCREEN: We see Stretch and the boys fighting the Multi-Fariouses. They bounce and swing around.

141 ROOK

He's still multiplying... Don, what happened to you? Has Central Station been evacuated?

142 KANE

Yes. Sir, in my professional assessment, the Flex Fighters are making the situation worse.

Rook keeps his eyes on the monitor showing the station fight.

143 KANE (CONT'D)

They're untrained, inexperienced children. Having powers and costumes does not make them superheroes.

144 ROOK

And you have a better suggestion?

145 KANE

This creature doesn't respond to small arms fire. We've convinced City Police to clear the field. Rook Security has absolute control. Let's use it. We should deploy targeted missile strikes.

*
*
*
*

146 ROOK

Missiles in the city? No. I have faith the boys will pull through.

RIGHT ON CUE: <SMASH!!!> Kane and Rook look up. ON-SCREEN: Stretch and Wingspan get CLOBBERED and slam into each other.

*

Kane looks from the screen to Rook. He raises an eyebrow.

147 ROOK (CONT'D)

Give them a few more minutes. If they can't turn this around... you do what you need to do.

INT. CENTRAL STATION - CONTINUOUS

Stretch STRETCH-PUNCHES a Multi-Farious, whipping past it.

148 STRETCH

Check your settings. Do you have the input switched to "on"?

149 MARK (ON PHONE)
Of course.

Wingspan gets thrown near Stretch.

150 WINGSPAN
Hate to say it - but maybe Kane was right. Maybe we're not ready.

Nearby, Mega-Mass <POUNDS> the ground, SHAKING it. Several monsters are BOWLED over, some climbing the walls are knocked off and DROP down. He narrowly dodges them.

151 MEGA-MASS
Being a superhero sounded like so much fun - <EFFORT> - nobody talks about the hard work. And pain!

152 MARK (ON PHONE)
Wait. Yes, now it's switched to "on". But it's still not launching.

Stretch swings up to a perch and sees the large TICKET BOOTH has a wrought-iron roof that's cage-like.

153 STRETCH
That's it!

154 MARK (ON PHONE)
You figured it out?

155 STRETCH
Gonna have to put you on hold for a second, dad. *

156 MARK (ON PHONE)
No, wait. I--

Stretch presses a button on his visor. Dad is on hold.

157 STRETCH
Guys! Round 'em all up in the center! I've got an idea!

Wingspan swoops down and FLAPS with enough wind power to send some monsters flying toward the center of the room.

158 WINGSPAN
I hope it's better than your idea for that homemade rooftop water slide.

Mega-Mass <POUNDS> the ground, sending concussion waves across the floor - which <CRACK> marble tile - but send more Multi-Farioues into the center of the space.

159 MEGA-MASS

Rooftop water slide? That's the best idea I've ever heard!

*

160 STRETCH

Yeah, except I broke an arm and spent half the summer re-shingling my grandma's house! Mega-Mass - nail that ticket booth!

Mega-Mass spins on the ticket booth.

161 MEGA-MASS

You're not the boss of me... But, lucky for you, I feel like smashing that thing anyway.

He <POUNDS> it, shattering the wood shell. Stretch - his feet anchored up in the ceiling's crossbeams, STRETCHES down, grabs the cage-like wrought iron roof, and--

162 STRETCH

Let's see if we can contain this situation.

--FLINGS it over top of the gathered Multi-Farioues! The creatures GRAB the bars and PULL on them - trapped!

163 WINGSPAN

Okay. Much better than "Roof Tube 9000".

But the creatures all start <SPLITTING> as they speak again with one voice--

164 MULTI-FARIOUS (ALL)

Pawns of Rook! You CANNOT stop me!

The now even smaller Multi-Farioues SLIP through the bars of the improvised cage.

165 STRETCH

"Pawns of Rook"? Get it? Like in chess? Kinda funny.

Mega-Mass shoots Stretch a critical look.

*

166 MEGA-MASS

When this is over, remind me to explain to you what "funny" means.

A wall of mini-Multi-Fariouses <SLAM> into him-- bashing Mega- *
Mass into a wall! *

INT. ROOK TOWER - ROOK'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Kane and Rook watch Mega-Mass <BASH> into the wall. It's a *
bad hit. Rook winces. Kane notices. *

167 KANE
Sir?

Rook hesitates - clearly conflicted... Then nods. Kane exits,
speaking into his comms as he goes.

168 ROOK
Alright. You're a go.

169 KANE
Delta team. Lock and load. Our *
launch window is T-minus 2 minutes. *

Rook looks back to the screen.

170 ROOK
Come on, guys.

INT. CENTRAL STATION - CONTINUOUS

The Flex Fighters punch, bounce and kick their way through a
sea of Multi-Farious copies.

171 WINGSPAN
Too many. I can't keep up with them
all! ...Getting overwhelmed...

172 STRETCH
Kind of like my whole life.

Stretch's phone <RINGS> in his visor again. He connects.

173 MARK (ON PHONE)
You had me on hold forever. Son,
this problem is important - let's
start from the top and focus on the
details.

As Dad's words wash over Stretch, he scans the crowd.

174 STRETCH
Start at the top... and focus on
the details...

He spots an identical Multi-Farious - but with GREEN EYES. *

175 STRETCH (CONT'D)
That's it! Dad, you're a genius.

176 MARK (ON PHONE)
You have a solution?

177 STRETCH
Start at the top. Try turning it
off and on again.

Stretch disconnects the call.

178 STRETCH (CONT'D)
The first Multi-Farious, the big
one. What color eyes did he have?

Wingspan looks at the blue-eyed Multi-Fariouslyes around him.

179 WINGSPAN
Uh... Green, I thought. That's
weird, now they're all blue. *

Stretch DIVES into the crowd of Multi-Fariouslyes, searching.

180 STRETCH
Not all of them. We've got to find
one with green eyes. Multi-Farious
PRIME - the one they're all made
from! If we take him down, all the
others should fall too! There! *

Stretch STRETCHES for Green-eye, but he SLIPS away! *

EXT. CENTRAL STATION - CONTINUOUS

Concerned BYSTANDERS gather near the station behind police
barricades. Dust and the <SOUNDS OF COMBAT> come from inside.

Suddenly-- <RRRRRRRRRR-SCREAAACH!!!> several URBAN ASSAULT
VEHICLES zoom in on the other side of the barricade.
<BUUUUUURT> Large MISSILE ARRAYS rise out of each of the
vehicles. Kane rises out of the hatch of one. OFFICER
REYNOLDS addresses him. *

181 OFFICER REYNOLDS
The payloads are cycling up. 30
seconds from launch... We'll notify
the Flex Fighters before we fire -
correct, sir? *

Kane's hesitation is momentary - barely perceptible...

182 KANE

Yes.

*

INT. ROOK TOWER - ROOK'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Rook looks at the screen, where the Flex Fighters don't seem to be fighting anymore - they're searching through the crowd of monsters. Rook is confused, but maybe a little hopeful.

183 ROOK

What are you guys doing...?

INT. CENTRAL STATION - CONTINUOUS

Green-eye SLIPS past Wingspan, under Mega-Mass's legs, and JUMPS over a stretching Stretch!

*

184 STRETCH

Alright guys, just like the Botany Report we'll someday get to - let's work together!

Stretch LEAPS ahead of Green-eye and TRAMPOLINES him UP to Wingspan, who SWINGS him, shooting him down toward MEGA-MASS!

*

*

185 MEGA-MASS

No botany report is this epic!

Mega-Mass sends up through his whole body a FULL BODY MASS <SLAM> that knocks Green-eye toward the wall at speed! Green-eye <BAAAAAMS!> through the wall and outside!

*

EXT. CENTRAL STATION - CONTINUOUS

Kane, Officer Reynolds, and the Bystanders all look up to see Green-eye <BURST> through the wall and LAND on the ground in front of the assault vehicles. Kane is in total surprise.

*

Green-eye <GROANS> and passes out.

*

INT. CENTRAL STATION - CONTINUOUS

At the exact moment Green-eye passes out outside, all of his copies DROP to the ground, unconscious - like puppets with their strings cut. The Flex Fighters look around - amazed.

*

186 STRETCH

See what happens when you focus on one thing at a time?

EXT. CENTRAL STATION - CONTINUOUS

The Flex Fighters emerge from the station to a chorus of <CHEERS>! They're taken aback - sharing surprised looks, but they quickly warm to it. They WAVE - the crowd goes <WILD>!!!

187 MEGA-MASS
This I could get used to.

Kane sees all this, a sour expression on his face. He sees Officer Reynolds is <CHEERING> too. He gives Reynolds a hard look. Embarrassed, Reynolds grows quiet.

188 KANE (INTO COMMS)
Delta Team, stand down. Threat neutralized.

The missile arrays <SHHH-SHUNK> back into the vehicles.

Stretch's visor <RINGS> and he answers it.

189 STRETCH
Dad? You do the on/off thing?

190 MARK (ON PHONE)
It worked, champ. My conference call's going through just fine. You're a hero!

Stretch smiles. Maybe he is. Rook's men gather the monster.

INT. ROOK TOWER - ROOK'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Rook watches as the Flex Fighters bow for the crowd. He pats the I.T. workers (including I.T. WOMAN) on the shoulders. **

191 ROOK
I never doubted them.

INT. JAKE'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Mark watches footage of the Multi-Farious/Flex Fighters combat on a NEWS FEED. There's a shot of Stretch STRETCHING!

192 MARK
This has to be some kind of publicity stunt - no one could really do that, right? Either way, these guys are heroes!

<CLICK> Jake walks in the door. Mark sees him.

193 JAKE
Hey, dad.

194 MARK
Jake? Do you have something to tell me?

Jake sees, behind his dad, himself as Stretch bouncing around a Multi-Farious. He FREEZES - Does his dad know?

195 MARK (CONT'D)
I called your cello teacher. You didn't show up for practice! Never skip out on your commitments, son. Ever.

196 JAKE
Oh. My botany assignment went long--

197 MARK
That's just an excuse. You have responsibilities, Jake. If you focused, your botany assignment wouldn't have run over.

198 JAKE
I have a lot on my plate, dad.

199 MARK
If you can't maximize your time, I'll make it easier. You're grounded.

Jake, shoulders slumped, walks off into the hallway as his dad turns back to watching Stretch on the TV. Suddenly Jake notices his VISOR has fallen from his pocket - on the living room floor behind the couch. Uh-oh. *

With dad distracted by the TV... Jake BUNGEES an arm in and SNAPS up the visor. He shoves it in his pocket and heads for his room, but not before sneaking a glance at the TV, where his heroic "Stretch" image shows. *

200 MIYA KIMANYAN (O.S.)
...looks like Charter City has its own Superheroes - The Flex Fighters... **

Jake grins to himself, then walks off.

END OF EPISODE... BEGINNING OF THE ADVENTURE! **