LET'S BE LEGENDS

<u>EP 101 - "PILOT"</u>

OR

"THE GREAT NAME CHANGE"

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Series Logline: After being banished from his father's kingdom for being too lame, novice water mage Steve Jacker sets out to become to most legendary hero in all the realm so he can earn back his honor. Along the way, he strikes up a friendship with an experienced candy mage named Ziggy Starburst. But on their quest to become legends, Steve and Ziggy might just end up destroying the entire cosmos as we know it.

INT. CASTLE - DAY

Two GUARDS chat as they stand on the inside of a castle door, in full armor and carrying battle axes.

GUARD #1

Well I mean I'm just saying - you can't really call us guards if we aren't guarding anything...

GUARD #2 looks at his fellow guard with utter bewilderment. He lifts up his face mask, revealing a big, fluffy unibrow.

GUARD #2

Alright now what are you actually talking about? Were literally on guard duty right now.

GUARD #1

Yes but were inside...Need I say more?

Guard #2 looks blankly at his friend.

GUARD #2

Yes, I think you do.

GUARD #1

You think I do what?

GUARD #2

Need to say more.

GUARD #1

Need to say more about what?

GUARD #2

About why you can't call us guards!

GUARD #1

But we are quards?!

Guard #2 drops his battle axe and starts moving towards his friend quickly when suddenly, BOOM - the front gate of the castle is blown open by the most MUSCLEY, AWESOMESTRY, BAD-ASSERY MOTHER FUCKIN, FUCKIN LEGEND you've ever seen!

FREEZE-FRAME - TEXT COMES ON THE SCREEN in big, bold, bad-ass lettering: Allbright Castle, right in the middle of the action!

The text DISSAPEARS.

STEVE JACKER (V.O.)
(Australian/Kiwi accent)
Aw yeah! All my life I've known one thing. I've wanted to be a freakin' legend!

END FREEZE-FRAME.

The badass legend easily throws off two NEW GUARDS with his bare hands, catching their weapons as they fly through the air and using them to dispel of the next challengers.

STEVE JACKER (V.O.)
I've worked hard. I've studied
harder. I deserve to be the one you
hear about around your cozy little
camp fire while you're sippin' down
warm tea your mum made ya.

The legend slips a ring off his finger and hurls it to the ground - vaporizing two more guards in front of him.

INT. CASTLE HALLWAY - DAY

He runs toward a spiral staircase, looks up, smirks, and squats down - getting ready to leap up as a horde of guards rush him.

STEVE JACKER (V.O.)
I was built for this. I come from a legacy of legends, it's in my blood like - well, blood. But somehow...

The legend leaps with the force of a jet engine. He goes straight up through the 300 flights of stairs and lands, light as a feather, in a small room.

INT. SMALL ROOM, CASTLE - DAY

A frail, blonde-haired MAIDEN is tied up in chains on the wall.

The legend approaches the captured maiden with care and enough suave in his step to floor Daniel Day fuckin Lewis!

He reaches the maiden, and places his hand under her chin.

The maiden lifts her head - and wait, it's not a maiden at all! It's our wanna-be hero, Steve freaking Jacker!

STEVE JACKER (V.O.)

Things just haven't worked out for me so far.

STEVE JACKER

Knack! Thank goodness you're here!
Did father send you?

The legend, KNACK JACKER, sighs and puts his hand to his forehead.

KNACK

Of course he did. He sends a message as well. This is the last time he's putting up with your embarrassing failure. You're being put on trial.

STEVE JACKER

Wait, what?!

Knack cuts Steve's shackles and he falls face first into the floor boards.

STEVE JACKER (V.O.)

But that's the beauty of nothing working out so far...there's still hope they will one day!

The remaining chains fall from the wall and land on Steve's head, knocking him out cold.

STEVE JACKER (V.O.)

Right?

Titles.

INT. JACKER FAMILY CASTLE, LARGE ROOM - DAY

Steve sits patiently in a chair that's far too big for him in a dark room. We can see other chairs in a ring above him, filled with figures larger than life, and hidden in shadow.

STEVE JACKER

Do we really have to do the whole routine I mean -

A spotlight shines down on Steve.

KING JACKER (O.S.)

(booming)

STEVE!

STEVE JACKER Oh-ho! When did you install a spotlight, Dad?

Three other spotlights go off in succession, shedding bright lights upon the other chairs in the room. In one of them sits Knack, and in the other two sit equally looking bad-ass legends - Steve's other brothers. On each of their thrones is a plaque with their names: JACK JACKER, BLACK JACKER, and of course we've already met Knack Jacker.

Steve is genuinely impressed as the final, largest spotlight comes on the center chair. Where none other than his father, KING JACKER, sits. His plaque takes up the entire wall above him and he's one of the most legendary beings within the realm - well, this realm at least...

STEVE JACKER (CONT'D) Seriously, who installed these? Was it Dave? The cheeky boy, they're much better than the old ones.

KING JACKER

SILENCE!

The lights flicker on and off like lightning in the sky.

KING JACKER (CONT'D)

... Thank you Dave.

The king gestures toward a nice looking lizard-man, DAVE, with a tool belt around his waist and a remote in his hand.

KING JACKER (CONT'D)

Steve, you are brought before your constituents -

STEVE JACKER

Contituents.

KING JACKER

What?

STEVE JACKER

Contituents - with a t.

KING JACKER

No, it's constituents - with an s.

STEVE JACKER

Hmm, I don't knowwww.

Steve's brothers begin whispering to each other in debate.

KING JACKER

It's constituents!

Knack raises his hand.

KNACK

I think it's actually confluents.

KING JACKER

I think it's actually shut up and listen to your father!

King Jacker looks toward Steve.

KING JACKER (CONT'D)

Your king!

Silence befalls the group.

STEVE JACKER

...actually I think you're right about the word but are using it completely wrong -

King Jacker flicks his crown with his finger and all the lights in the room go on, revealing a massive hall with an entire crowd sitting behind Steve. It's practically the entire kingdom. They are all dressed proper and posh. Steve sticks out like a sore thumb even in his own halls.

King Jacker gives finger guns and a smirk to Dave who wiggles the remote with a little showmanship.

Steve looks around at the crowd.

STEVE JACKER (CONT'D)

Have they been here the whole time?

KING JACKER

For crimes of wasting kingdom resources, continually putting the kingdom in danger -

Steve continues to scan the crowd.

STEVE JACKER

Little rude is all, I could've said anything here thinking I was in the presence of just my family.

The crowd just stares ahead.

KING JACKER

(raising his voice)
Continuing to embarrass this
kingdom with your general, nonlegendariness, and for the crime of
not living up to the Jacker name!

STEVE JACKER

Come now, I don't think that's actually a crime.

King Jacker points aggressively to Dave, whose now holding a royal book of law. He opens it and we ZOOM IN to see a list of crimes, at the top of which is listed -

STEVE JACKER (CONT'D)

(squinting to read the book)

Failure to live up to the Jacker naalright, fair play to you Dave, really bringing it today. But have I really besmirched our family name?

King Jacker pulls a lever and the wall to his right begins to shift. A giant, floor to ceiling thermometer is revealed that's filled to the brim with a glowing blue liquid. The word 'Legend' is carved in stone at the top of the meter.

KING JACKER

What is this, Steve?

Steve clears his throat.

STEVE JACKER

The Jacker Kingdom Legend Meter.

KING JACKER

And how much have you contributed to this meter?

Steve clears his throat again.

STEVE JACKER

Well, I suppose it depends how you define contributed.

King Jacker stands.

KING JACKER

You've contributed nothing! Your brothers are tired of making up for you and I'm tired of excusing it!

(MORE)

KING JACKER (CONT'D)

I simply won't stand for it any longer. I hear by strip you of your familial rights -

STEVE JACKER

Father, please -

KING JACKER

And banish you from this kingdom, until the day, praise the gods it ever comes, that you prove yourself a legend. And therefore, worthy, of the Jacker name!

Steve stands up.

STEVE JACKER

But I'm your son! I am a Jacker!

King Jacker slams his fist on the wall, cracking it.

KING JACKER

You are no son of mine!...son! You're weak. You're small. And worst of all...you're lame.

The whole room gasps and Steve's brothers shift uncomfortably in their chairs.

STEVE JACKER

But...where am I to go?

KING JACKER

I am a merciful king. Therefore, you have been set up with a job suited perfectly for your...well, for you. In a place just the same. And luckily it's very, very, very berry far away from me.

CUT TO:

EXT. THE MOST UNLEGENDARY PLACE YOU'VE EVER SEEN IN YOUR SORRY LITTLE LIFE (ALSO KNOWN AS ROGERSVILLE) - DAY

Steve sits in a tiny, unremarkable desk, inside a cramped, unimpressive room. A short, clumsy man, ROGERS, paces back and forth as he talks to Steve. He also happens to be the mayor of this sad little village.

MAYOR ROGERS

And this is where we keep the maps! Any questions?

FREEZE FRAME, TEXT APPEARS ON THE SCREEN in sad, thin writing: Rogersville, so far out of the action it's absurd to even be here.

END FREEZE-FRAME.

Steve stares at the empty drawer the mayor is pointing to.

STEVE JACKER

But, Mr. Mayor Rogers, it's empty?

MAYOR ROGERS

Yes! Great eye for detail Steve. We don't have any maps.

Mayor Rogers smiles wide.

STEVE JACKER

Right, and why is that?

MAYOR ROGERS

Because in all my time as mayor of Rogersville, no one has ever asked for one. I don't think anyone's ever made one, actually. I mean, what is there to map here, really?

Steve's eyes glint.

STEVE JACKER

I don't know - we should find out!

Steve stands, brimming with excitement.

STEVE JACKER (CONT'D)
I can go out and do some scouting, see what's out there, fall upon some grand series of adventures with some grand hero and become fellow heroes where we make this the most legendary, coolest freaking place in the whole world where someone goes - holy schmoley, you have an actual map of the Rogersville?! And me and this unsung, yet to be named fellow hero become so impossibly legendary that my father would rather suck himself dry than turn us away - are you

MAYOR ROGERS

with me Mayor Rogers?!

. . .

Steve sits down, defeated.

STEVE JACKER Right, where'd I lose you?

MAYOR ROGER Somewhere around my father would rather suck himself dry STEVE JACKER (CONT'D) Somewhere around my father would rather suck himself dry

Steve lets his head thunk down onto the desk.

STEVE JACKER (CONT'D) Right, that's where I lose everyone...

MAYOR ROGERS

Look Steve, as Mayor of this town, Rogersville, where I, Mayor Rogers, am the Mayor...I think it best if you forget all your ambitions and dreams and hopes of redemption and just stick with being my assistant like your father wanted. And By wanted I mean demanded upon threat of death to myself and my entire town.

Mayor Rogers looks off for a moment and shivers.

MAYOR ROGERS (CONT'D)
But, if it makes you feel better,
and stop looking like that so you
don't scare away my contituents,
you can be the town tour guide if
you'd like? To get some fresh air
every now and then and what not.

STEVE JACKER

How am I supposed to give tours without a map?! C'mon Mayor Rogers, I'm a Jacker for corn's sake, not a tour guide!

Suddenly, the doors to the office BURST open and sparkly smoke fills the room. The smoke somehow turns into a plethora of stars, dazzling in the sky like an observatory. We SEE galaxies upon galaxies, as a tall, caped man, ZIGGY STARBURST, enters the room with mist billowing around him. He looks cool as fuck is what I'm getting at.

Steve's eyes are filled with stars as he gazes at the obvious legend before him.

ZIGGY STARBURST
Gentlemen, I'm looking for a -

He can't help but cough on his own smoke.

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)

Good god that's strong.

He waves his hand and everything returns to normal.

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)

I'm looking for a tour guide!

Steve shoots to his feet.

STEVE JACKER

I'm a tour guide!

EXT. ROGERSVILLE TOWN - DAY

Steve excitedly walks next to Ziggy as he leads them down a cobblestone street. We see more of Rogersville and how uncool it is. It's your classic snow white thatched roof lame-ass village. The complete opposite of the Jacker Castle.

STEVE JACKER

Welcome to Rogersville! I'm Steve, Steve Jacker, the mayor's assistant and burgeoning water mage, and you are?

Steve reaches out his hand for Ziggy but he doesn't take it.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Water mage eh? That's a rare find. Mayor's assistants though, plenty of those. Prove it.

STEVE JACKER

Well the mayor said he'd get me a name tag by the end of the week -

ZIGGY STARBURST

Prove that you're a water mage, I mean.

STEVE JACKER

I'm sorry?

ZIGGY STARBURST

What if we find ourselves in a spot of trouble, here in town?

(MORE)

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)

I need to know my tour guide can handle himself.

A tumbleweed rolls by and Ziggy and Steve watch it roll past.

STEVE JACKER

Right well, I'm still studying.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Burgeoning.

STEVE JACKER

What?

ZIGGY STARBURST

I believe burgeoning was the word you used. You said you were a burgeoning water mage. A healthy vocabulary goes a long way with me, Steve.

Steve nods nervously.

STEVE JACKER

Right, right. Well, okay, here goes.

Steve begins moving his hands in circular motions, focusing extremely hard as the sweat on his body begins to move towards his hands. He looks like he's about to pop a blood vessel as a small, tiny ball of water begins to form between his palms.

Ziggy crouches down and looks at the tiny ball of water.

STEVE JACKER (CONT'D)

(strained)

And that's just the beginning!

Ziggy stands up.

ZIGGY STARBURST

I certainly hope so.

Steve releases and takes several deep breaths. Ziggy extends his hand.

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)

The names Ziggy Starburst!

Ziggy snaps his fingers and makes three gum balls fly around his head before they explode into smaller gum balls that fall to the ground. A group of peasant children come and eat them. ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)

Candy Mage. And a bit of a cosmos philanthropic I suppose you could say. I've seen more of this world than I'd like, but not enough as I would love. I like your energy, water boy. You give a good vibe. And Ziggy Starburst is all about vibes.

Ziggy extends his hand. Steve shakes it in awe.

STEVE JACKER

Holy shit you're perfect.

ZIGGY STARBURST

What's that?

STEVE JACKER

Nothing nothing! Have you seen our town Legend Meter?

EXT. TOWN CENTER, ROGERSVILLE - DAY

Steve stands proudly next to a large thermometer in the town's center - similar to the one seen in Jacker's Castle but much, much smaller and downright pathetic.

STEVE JACKER

(pointing at the meter)

Ta-da!

Ziggy just stares.

ZIGGY STARBURST

So...what is it?

Steve leans on the meter, which almost falls over, before he sets it back upright.

STEVE JACKER

You know, our Legend Meter. Every town from here to the edge of the Great Map has one.

Ziggy looks blank.

STEVE JACKER (CONT'D)

It measures how legendary your town or kingdom is...

ZIGGY STARBURST

(has no idea)

Oh right! Of course! Yes, I've seen many of these in my travels...of course. Right. Yes. See, most of them have been more like legend towers, especially after I roll through.

STEVE JACKER

I suppose Rogersville's meter is, well, I've never actually seen one completely empty before.

A puff of smoke pops out of the completely empty meter.

Ziggy looks around.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Yeah, can't imagine why.

Steve follows his gaze. People are trying to sell shady wares in the street, dirty children are running around chasing rats, and larger rats are chasing around the children. Couples fight loudly through open windows. A man comes stumbling out of a wooden doorway and pukes into a fountain in the center of the square before stumbling directly into it. Another man comes by and begins consuming the puke.

Steve looks disappointed and disgusted, but determined.

STEVE JACKER

Well, I'm going to change it. I'm going to make this place, and myself, legendary...

Ziggy walks up to a nearby sign post.

ZIGGY STARBURST

What's this then? Can a fellow find a place to stay listed here?

Steve runs up excitedly.

STEVE JACKER

No, no, that's the town's quest board! Any brave adventurer can look upon this board and find a quest. It could be anything and you can take it upon yourself to do it! And if you complete it, the town's meter might go up and our legend will grow! ZIGGY STARBURST How exactly does that work?

STEVE JACKER

Well, it's quite simple really, it just -

Steve stares at the Legend Meter.

STEVE JACKER (CONT'D)

Huh. I don't know actually, come to think of it. It just sort of does.

There's only one coffee stained piece of paper pinned to the quest board.

ZIGGY STARBURST

This quest is blank. Does that mean I win?

Ziggy pulls the blank paper off the quest board, revealing an even smaller, sadder piece of paper underneath it.

Steve grabs the smaller paper.

STEVE JACKER

Aha! A quest!

(reading the note)

"Need hurllllp - this can't be alurrrred to stand - house at top of hill."

Steve stands back.

STEVE JACKER (CONT'D)

What do you think it means?

Ziggy scratches his pointy chin.

ZIGGY STARBURST

I'm not entirely sure...but perhaps we should check the house at the top of that hill.

We SEE an ancient, barely standing, creepy-ass house at the top of a single, large hill in the distance.

EXT. BOTTOM OF HILL HOUSE - NIGHT

Ziggy and Steve make their way to the house at the top of the hill. They walk under a sign that says "Welcome to Hill" as lightning strikes up above.

Steve is noticeably frightened.

STEVE JACKER

The Gods do not seem happy tonight that's for sure.

Ziggy takes long, confident strides up the hill.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Don't be silly, everyone knows the cats just like to play with the worlds every now and then. A little rough weather is to be expected from juggling planets like yarn balls.

STEVE JACKER

Good point. Wait the what? What did you just say?

They reach the front door of the house, where a single lantern swings in the wind.

EXT. HILL HOUSE DOORWAY - NIGHT

Ziggy looks around the doorway as Steve looks at him concerned.

STEVE JACKER

What do you mean the cats just like to play with the worlds? What cats?

ZIGGY STARBURST

Is there no doorbell on this thing? Am I actually expected to graze my baby bottom knuckles upon pilfered pine?

Ziggy prepares to knock delicately on the door, takes a small inhale, and then instead whisks his hands in a delicate circle. Three gum balls pop up out of thin air and begin smacking into the door.

STEVE JACKER

(over the knocking)
Ziggy! What was that about the
cats?!

Lightning strikes again and Steve jumps. Suddenly, Ziggy grabs him by the shoulders, his eyes now filled with galaxies, his voice stranger - vaster than the waves of sound upon which it's graciously carried.

ZIGGY STARBURST

The gods have forsaken this realm after the fall of each star to the Great Feline! And its planets have been left as gifts to her young, whom toy with them like a ball of yarn upon which everything you know and love now sits - helplessly at the whim of stardust and fur until it all comes crashing down!

Steve is as white as a sheet as the door to the house opens and an old man, looking a lot like Mayor Rogers, but much older and with a white beard, steps forward.

OLD MAN ROGERS

Hellurrrr thurrr. Can I help yurr?

Ziggy shakes his head and is completely back to normal, turning to the old man. Steve still stands in shock.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Ah, yes! Good evening good sir! I believe we are here to help you.

Old Man Rogers steps forward, eyeing them both.

Steve snaps back to it and steps forward.

STEVE JACKER

We're from the village, Rogersville, down the road.

Old Man Rogers begins to twitch.

OLD MAN ROGERS

You currrrmmm to my hurrrrse, knock on my durrrr, and durrr speak that turrrible town name turrrr me!?

Steve begins to speak but Ziggy cuts him off.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Please Steve, allow me.
 (turning to old man)
Sir...I don't know what the fuck
just came out of your mouth, but I
know I didn't like it.

Old Man Rogers kicks his foot down hard onto the wooden planks below him and a complex system of gears and levers can be HEARD going off. Steve and Ziggy listen with fascination to every clink and clank, following the sound with their heads.

Finally, a button appears on the side of the door frame.

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)

I'll be damned, there is a door bell! Steve, I'm starting to think we underestim-

Old Man Rogers hits the button and a trap door opens under Steve and Ziggy, dropping them straight down.

INT. CELLAR, HILL HOUSE - NIGHT

A set of eyes pop up in total darkness.

STEVE JACKER

Ziggy? Ziggy are you alright?

Another set of eyes pop up.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Well you gotta hand it to the old man. He can't speak worth a damn but that was some fine engineering.

A third pair of eyes shows up, these ones larger and filled with red lines.

CRAZY EYES

Agreed.

Steve and Ziggy's eyes look from one to another, then to the crazy eyes.

STEVE JACKER

Ziggy...

ZIGGY STARBURST

Way ahead of you Steve. Something here isn't quite right, though I can't quite put my manicured fingers on it...

CRAZY EYES

Would this help?

The SOUND of a light switch being pulled is heard and a small, overhead lamp fills the center of the room where we see Ziggy, Steve, and an extremely LARGE WEREWOLF with the same crazy red eyes.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Yes quite, thank you.

STEVE JACKER

Yeah, thanks, much better.

CRAZY EYES

Of course, simple manners really.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Isn't it? One can only hope when one is trapped in a cellar to have the light already on for them. Too often one is stuck in the dark for hours, grabbing one's things, having one's things grab you - it's a mess!...was that too many ones?

CRAZY EYES

Yes.

ZIGGY STARBURST

A gentlemen and a scholar! Your brutal honesty is much appreciated. Tell me, what did the old man send you down here for? How long have you been held captive?

Crazy eyes cleans his extremely sharp teeth with a bone.

CRAZY EYES

Oh I'm not a prisoner. I live here.

Crazy eyes pours a pot of tea and hands a cup to Steve, who takes it graciously.

STEVE JACKER

Really? Here?

He starts looking through some books on a nearby shelf as Ziggy pulls out a chair from a desk and takes a seat.

CRAZY EYES

It's not as bad as it looks.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Is that so?

CRAZY EYES

No, it's falling apart and could collapse at any minute. But there's plenty to read, a nice garden out back, and I get to eat anything that comes through the trap door.

Steve spits out his tea and knocks over a book. Ziggy calmly adjusts himself.

ZIGGY STARBURST

I see. But not us, surely, one so kind and well-mannered as yourself.

CRAZY EYES

Did you come through the trap door?

STEVE JACKER

Yes.

CRAZY EYES

Then I gotta eat ya. Simple as.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Well, you can't argue with the man's logic. That kind of moral strength is sadly missing from today's common folk.

Crazy Eyes HOWLS and starts walking towards Steve and Ziggy, who back quickly against a wall.

STEVE JACKER

I gotta warn you now, my friend Ziggy here is a very powerful candy mage, and we don't want any trouble.

ZIGGY STARBURST

And my pal Steve here, is a very capable water mage, who is definitely looking for trouble! Which you certainly don't want! But he does! So look out! One of those, always seeking trouble so you better look out for them types!

Crazy Eyes snarls and swings out his arms, lengthening his claws.

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)

(whispering to Steve)
Steve, I'm out of mana.

STEVE JACKER

What?

ZIGGY STARBURST

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)

You have to hit him! Hit him right in his crazy eyes, Steve!

Steve looks even more scared.

CRAZY EYES

I promise I take no pleasure in this.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Your drool suggests otherwise. As does whatever business you've got going on down there.

Ziggy backs away and puts his hands on Steve's shoulders.

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)

Listen to me, close your little eyes Steve. Listen to the sound of my voice and focus...

Steve begins moving his hands in circles like before. The sweat from his head trails down to his hands, forming a small ball of water...

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)

That's it! It's just me, and you. Focus...just me and you...and this incredibly hung werewolf who's going to rip us apart if you can't do this!

The ball of water shapes itself into a tiny spear, turning to hardened ice, and Steve hurls it forward!

STEVE JACKER

Awww, yeahhh!!!

Steve, Ziggy, and Crazy Eyes watch in SLOW MOTION, as the tiny ice spear flies toward Crazy Eyes'...eyes. But at the last minute, the ice spear flies upward and pierces through the ceiling, disappearing into darkness.

Everyone stares at the small hole in silence for a minute.

STEVE JACKER (CONT'D)

Well, I'm sure it'll come back down.

Crazy Eyes laughs and licks his shiny sharp teeth.

CRAZY EYES

Don't worry about it kid, some people just aren't cut out for this kind of life.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Don't listen to him Steve, you gave it your best shot. Well, a shot. Well really, you killed us. But that's alright. You tried your best...kind of. Not really. Actually, look, I'm just not feeling so inspired right now.

CRAZY EYES

Enough!

Crazy Eyes lunges forward, going for a killer blow -

STEVE JACKER

We just wanted to complete a quest!

A VOICE cries out from the darkness.

OLD MAN ROGERS (O.S.)

A quest!? Hold on thurrrrr Crazy Eyes!

The sound of a second light being pulled is heard. We see Old Man Rogers sitting in a recliner chair a few feet away.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Have you been there this whole time?

STEVE JACKER

I really wish people would stop doing that to me.

OLD MAN ROGERS

Now why wurrrd a quest send yurrr hurrr?

ZIGGY STARBURST

Okay I can't be the only one having a hard time with this geezer right?

Steve pushes Ziggy back.

STEVE JACKER

We accepted a quest on the quest board in Rogers-

OLD MAN ROGERS

Don't say the name!

STEVE JACKER

... In the town we come from. It said someone needed help and we thought it was pointing us here.

Old Man Rogers stares at Steve for a second.

OLD MAN ROGERS

Why didn't you say so?! I wrrrrote that quest! Pinned it to that buuuuurd some elevntyhurrdnunduernr years ago!

ZIGGY STARBURST

Alright, that's it, I'm officially checking out from this.

OLD MAN ROGERS

Crazy Eyes! Purrr them anotherrr curpa tea!

INT. CELLAR, HILL HOUSE - NIGHT

Steve and Ziggy sit with Old Man Rogers at a table in the cellar as Crazy Eyes pours them some more tea.

OLD MAN ROGERS

I've been waiting on turrr heruurrs to currrrm alurrrg for a lurrrrgn time. Burt furr surrrrm reasons, nobody's currm.

ZIGGY STARBURST

I may have a few guesses.

Steve elbows Ziggy.

STEVE JACKER

What is it you need then sir?

OLD MAN ROGERS

It's that turrrn. That turrible turn.

Steve leans in, anxious but excited.

STEVE JACKER

What about the town? Is there a curse on it?

OLD MAN ROGERS
Oh thurrrs a currrse alright.
Currrse of a terrible god durn

name!

STEVE JACKER

What now?

OLD MAN ROGERS

The name. I hate it. Lived hurrr for genurrrations. I've been trying to get them to change the name furrr yurrrs.

Ziggy downs the rest of his tea.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Mmm peppermint...

(to the old man)

Now, let me make sure I've got this turkey cooked straight - you put out a quest elevntyhurrdnunduernr years ago, on the quest board, where people put quests, for legends and heroes alike to accept...just to get the town's name changed?

Old Man Rogers sips his tea.

OLD MAN ROGERS

Yurrrs.

ZIGGY STARBURST

...You crazy son of a gun you just roped me back in!

OLD MAN ROGERS

And I brought Crazy Eyes hurrrrm with me surrrm time ago in currse people wanted to curm after me for churrrnging the name.

Crazy Eyes bows to Old Man Rogers.

CRAZY EYES

My allegiance is yours.

OLD MAN ROGERS

Would you mind grabbing some purrrmpkin seeds from the shed out back? Think the tea could urrs it.

Crazy Eyes nods and leaves.

STEVE JACKER

Well we can help you change the town name Mr., Mr. Uh?

OLD MAN ROGERS

Rogerrrrrs. The name's Rogerrrrs.

ZIGGY STARBURST

And just like that, I'm back out.

STEVE JACKER

One moment Mr. Rogerrrrs!

Steve leans in close to Ziggy.

STEVE JACKER (CONT'D)

Ziggy this is our chance to complete a quest!

ZIGGY STARBURST

Steve, I know you're sort of new to this whole thing but changing the name of a town isn't exactly going to be tipping any scales.

Steve looks at Ziggy with determination and stands.

STEVE JACKER

I refuse to accept that. Mr. Rogerrrs! We'd be happy to help you. What new name did you have in mind?

Old Man Rogers excitedly gets up and walks to a bookshelf.

OLD MAN ROGERS

I have just the name picked out! Wrote it durrn in murrr burrrk!

ZIGGY STARBURST

Yes, for I can't wait to see what the guy who named his crazy eyed werewolf 'Crazy Eyes', has in mind to change the town name to! Not to mention it's already named Rogersville and your name, again, is Rogers.

OLD MAN ROGERS

Old Man Rogers, thank you very much!

Old Man Rogers pulls out a book as the SOUND of something feint, something far off, breaking through wood begins to get louder.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Steve, do you hear that?

The two look around in confusion as the sound grows LOUDER and Old Man Rogers comes walking back to them with a big book.

OLD MAN ROGERS

Ah ha! Right hurrrr.

Suddenly, the ice pick Steve created earlier comes CRASHING through the ceiling and PIERCES Old Man Rogers right through the top of the head.

STEVE JACKER

ZIGGY STARBURST

Oh my god!

Holy shit!

Old Man Rogers staggers backward, trips over a foot stool, and crashes through a window - crumpling to the ground many stories below.

INT. BROKEN WINDOW, HILL HOUSE - NIGHT

Steve and Ziggy rush over and peer over the edge of the window, looking down at the mangled body.

ZIGGY STARBURST

You were right Steve, it came back! Well done, water boy, well done indeed.

STEVE JACKER

I just killed someone. It doesn't even make any sense. We fell down a trap door, how are we five stories up?

ZIGGY STARBURST

Mmmm, I think I count six actually. Amazing! You know I said it before and I do say I say it again - the man couldn't speak any better than a toddler dropped on his forehead in the middle of an alienated tribe on a desert island, but by god what an engineer. What. An. Engineer. May he rest in piece.

Ziggy walks away and Steve continues to stare out the window.

INT. CELLAR, HILL HOUSE - NIGHT

Ziggy sips from his tea.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Ugh, I was wrong, it's not peppermint at all. One of those weird mint combos. Why can't the bastards leave mint alone? Pepper and Spear. That's all that should be allowed to mix in and I'm tired of pretending otherwise! Steve, can I try your tea?

Ziggy looks over at Steve, still standing at the window, and then looks over to the book the old man had picked out.

Steve's sits against the wall, sliding down, sniffling. Ziggy appears holding the book out.

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D) C'mon now, what do you say we complete this quest?

Steve looks up.

STEVE JACKER

Why bother? You're right. Changing the name isn't legendary at all.

Ziggy let's out a long exhale.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Maybe not. But it's a start. Hell, I'd even take it a smidge further and say it's pretty cool.

Steve wipes his eyes.

STEVE JACKER

Really?

ZIGGY STARBURST

Well, maybe ugly cool. But still, it's within that cool realm. Come on, what do you say?

Ziggy offers his hand and Steve takes it, rising up.

STEVE JACKER

I say people will talk about the Great Name Change for years to come!

ZIGGY STARBURST

That's the spirit! Even if it's nonsense, of course. But, it's the least we can do for the poor bastard you just murdered. Let's get out of here.

CUT TO:

INT. CITYHALL, ROGERSVILLE - DAY

Two guards, the same two we met from the castle in the beginning, are standing at attention inside the city hall doors. They are covered in bandages and one of them, Guard #1, now has a wooden arm.

GUARD #1

All I mean is, what exactly are we quarding?

Guard #2 sighs deeply.

GUARD #2

I can't. I can't keep having this conversation. The last time you started this we got distracted, got our asses kicked, and then got fired. Not to mention you lost your arm! And we both know that's your favorite arm! This discussion is over.

We see a small crowd of townsfolk sitting in crappy chairs or just on the floor as the Mayor gives a speech at the front of the room.

MAYOR ROGERS

Thank you all for coming to this totally annual, typical, not at all conveniently timed town hall on whether or not we should change the name of the town...

GUARD #1

I'm sorry but I just can't let it go. So, tell me as I must ask again, what is it exactly, that we are guarding?

GUARD #2

Don't do that. Don't talk at me like that, alright. We're guarding the damn doors you dense derriere!

Guard #1 puts down his axe and walks closer to his friend as the Mayor continues his speech.

MAYOR ROGERS

As you are all aware, this town was named after the Roger before me, and his Roger's Roger, and his Roger's Roger Roger, Rodge! which was short for Roger.

The towns folk nod in agreement.

MAYOR ROGERS (CONT'D)
So, as no better name yet put forth
today has received the necessary
votes, mine, to change it -

Guard #1 has Guard #2 by the collar.

GUARD #1

But why, my dear friend, are we guarding the doors from the inside? Surely, if we were truly guards, we'd be guarding them from the outside, no?

GUARD #2

I don't know, pal, are we keeping people out or have you never had the thought that maybe we're here to keep the people in?! You son of a bitch!

Guard #1 brings Guard #2 even closer.

GUARD #1

Precisely.

Guard #2 takes a deep breath, like he's about to shout.

GUARD #2

Actually, wow, that's a good point. I concede. How can we call ourselves guards if we're in here instead of out there? But, then again, what if we were to look at it from -

Suddenly, the doors burst open as a giant jawbreaker CRASHES through them, sending the guards flying.

Steve and Ziggy come striding in and Ziggy holds up the old book from the cellar like it's the gospel itself.

ZIGGY STARBURST
THE TOWNSPEOPLE OF RODGERSVILLE,
TREMBLE AS WE!...

All the townspeople and the Mayor look on with fright.

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)

Excuse me.

(clears throat)
We make a new town name
suggestion...to suggest.

Steve gives a thumbs up to the crowd.

MAYOR ROGERS

Alright, sure, bring it up.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Oh right, of course. One moment.

Ziggy and Steve awkwardly weave through the small crowd, making polite apologies as they drop the book in front of the mayor.

They both then make more apologies as they find their seats and finally sit down in between two grumpy looking townsfolk.

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)

Ah, there we are. Bit drafty in here isn't it? Hope it doesn't last long, draft like this...with those doors open and all...

The townsfolk nearby stare at them blankly as Steve tries to act normal.

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)

Brrr am I right? Seriously though, can we get those damn doors shut?

Several townspeople look back at the hole in the wall where the doors used to be and the giant jawbreaker sitting on Guard #1 as it splits in half and he groans painfully.

CUT TO:

EXT. EDGE OF TOWN, ROGERSVILLE - DAY

Ziggy and Steve stare up at something as the sun begins to set.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Well Steve, we did it. We completed a quest and changed the name of the town.

STEVE JACKER

Aw yeah, we certainly did! Heh...you do think it's better than the old name don't you? We did the right thing?

We REVEAL the sign, the previous name, Rogersville, is crossed out with red paint, and written above it in fresh black paint the new name: Rogerstown.

Steve looks nervous but Ziggy looks over to the side. He smiles and grabs Steve's head, turning it in the direction of the town center.

ZIGGY STARBURST

You tell me!

We ZOOM IN on the town's Legend Meter and after a moment, it goes up a fraction of a centimeter with a little *dink*.

For a moment, the pair stares in silence before bursting into celebration and dance.

STEVE JACKER

We did it! We actually did it!

Ziggy grabs Steve by the face.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Steve listen to me and listen to me hard! We did do it - we can do it again, and again, and again! Until Rogerstown becomes the envy of every envious person this side of the Mason-Dixon line! And everyone on the other side too! And even those on the god damn line itself! And even those non envious people, even those generous motherfuckers that have never wanted a damn thing on a damn day in their damn life - yes Steve - even they will want to come and see what we have built! (MORE)

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)

Let's not listen to what everyone has to say about us, let's not give in to their lowered expectations, let's not stoop to their unwholesome levels - let's take this mother fucking town by storm! Let's - let's - let's!

He turns his and Steve's head to the horizon, where the sun is now nearly set - creating a beautiful array of colors across the sky.

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)

Let's be legends!

Steve smiles wide, his eyes sparkling with the most dangerous emotion of all - hope.

CUT TO BLACK.

INT. STEVE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

A light switch flicks on as Steve and Ziggy enter Steve's bedroom. There's a bunk bed to one wall.

ZIGGY STARBURST

You're sure it's alright if I crash here?

Steve throws an extra pair of sheets on the bottom bunk.

STEVE JACKER

Of course! No trouble at all. Stay as long as you'd like.

The two climb into bed, Steve taking the top bunk.

ZIGGY STARBURST

Steve, I'm not going to question why you already have a bunk bed in here...but we are going to talk about it later, so don't let me forget.

Ziggy takes an object from his pocket, holding it in his palms, and whispers something. He then releases his hands and dust swirls toward the ceiling, turning it into the same, beautiful view of the galaxies we saw before in the mayor's office.

Steve stares at it in wonder and amazement. But his smile slowly fades.

ZIGGY STARBURST (CONT'D)
Though we will have to figure out a
system for when we bring home lady
folk...or gentleman folk...or
ladygentleman folk. Or sprite folk.
Or gnome folk, crab folk - jesus
we'd have to be desperate - then of
course there's animal folk -

STEVE JACKER

Ziggy...

ZIGGY STARBURST
Not actual animal animals Steve, of course! I'm not, well, I'm not an animal.

Steve turns on his side.

STEVE JACKER Not the animal folk Ziggy.

ZIGGY STARBURST
Well of course we don't hope, Steve
but -

STEVE JACKER
I've been thinking...you never
mentioned where you came from. Or
why you came, well, here...

Silence.

ZIGGY STARBURST
No, I suppose I didn't.

STEVE JACKER
Well, why did you come here? To
Rogerstown, I mean?

Silence.

ZIGGY STARBURST Goodnight Steve.

Steve turns and lays on his back again. Staring up into the infinite cosmos. As he watches, his eye catches sight of something, an odd constellation in the sky, it seems to be in the shape of a cat, or perhaps a kitten...

Steve furrows his brow and as he watches, the cat seems to come to life, turning and looking back. It gives a mischievous grin, before playing with a planet like a ball of yarn...

STEVE JACKER Goodnight Ziggy...

Our two wannabe legends lay awake in bed, looking up at the stars, not realizing they've already fallen to the ground.

END OF PILOT.