

Normal Girl and Vinnie Vegan with the
Very Nice Backpack.

"Pilot"

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EXT. SECRET GOVERNMENT LAND - DAYTIME

CONNIE O'CONNOR, a skinny, fearless, and self-involved 8-year-old girl in a gray t-shirt is standing at a chain link fence. With her is VINNIE CHANG, a chubby 8-year-old boy wearing cargo shorts, a sweatshirt with a mallard on it, a pen behind his ear, a canteen, and a very nice backpack.

CONNIE

Are you ready Vinnie? This is it, no turning back now.

VINNIE

Connie, I am so ready!!

Connie crawls under the fence without a problem. Vinnie struggles, but squeezes through. They run off towards distant mountains. The camera tilts up to reveal a sign on the fence with the black and yellow radioactive symbol and the words, "DON'T BE AN IDIOT."

EXT. MOUNTAINOUS DESERT

Connie and Vinnie are halfway to the mountains. Connie holds out her arm to stop Vinnie. She retrieves a map from her pocket.

CONNIE

According to this map, the cave should be right here.

We see the map, it's crudely drawn in crayon. There's a stick figure with the words "you are here" written next to it. There's a cave with the words "cave is here" next to it. Then the camera quickly pans to the map's legend. There's a small drawing of a stick figure and a cave in the legend.

VINNIE

Umm, I drew that map this morning. I don't think it's accurate.

CONNIE

Shhhhh.

(whispering)

You hear that? We're close.

They take off running...

EXT. CAVE

Connie and Vinnie run into frame. They've reached the cave. There's a sign outside the cave covered in dust.

CONNIE

Help me clear off this sign.

They both blow on the sign from different sides hoping to clear the dust. This goes on for a bit, but it's doing nothing. They blow harder. Vinnie, out of breath, unscrews his canteen lid.

VINNIE

Well, game over Connie, I guess we should probably go back home. I'll make some cashew-cheese quesadillas.

Vinnie takes a drink. Connie looks at the canteen, then at the water flowing into Vinnie's mouth, then at the sign, back to the water, back to the canteen, back to the sign.

CONNIE

Vinnie STOP! I have an idea.

VINNIE

(with water spilling
out of his mouth)

Can I finish swallowing or no?

Connie grabs the canteen out of his hand and we assume she's going to use some water to clean off the dusty sign. Instead, she loudly scrapes the canteen across the sign exposing the words beneath.

"RADIOACTIVE SCORPION DEN: SERIOUSLY, DON'T BE AN IDIOT!"

CONNIE

YES!! Radioactive scorpions!! Woohoo!

Vinnie grabs his canteen back, looks at Connie and takes a LARGE step back from the cave. VINNIE finally swallows.

VINNIE

So let me get this straight, your plan is to go in there and get stung by a bunch of scorpions?

CONNIE

Not just any scorpions. RADIOACTIVE scorpions. This is how so many superheros get their powers.

(MORE)

CONNIE (cont'd)

Bold Lady was just a girl until she was bitten by a radioactive old lady. And now me, Connie O'Connor is about to become SCORPI...GIRL...SCORPI-WOMAN? SCORPKIDION?

VINNIE

Hmm, name needs A LOT of work. I'll start brainstorming.

Vinnie pulls a note pad from his cargo pocket and the pen from behind his ear. Connie grabs Vinnie by the shoulders and looks him in the eye.

CONNIE

Vinnie, you're my best friend. Well, my 2nd best friend, well actually 4th if you count Ned, Ted, and Bed. But definitely top 5 friends. As a top 5 friend, you should know I'm about to undergo a major transformation. I might come out of that cave a hideously-deformed half-girl half scorpion super hero, but I will always be your friend.

VINNIE

(he's heard this all before)

Of course you will Connie O'Connor. Good luck, I'm sure *this time* it's going to work.

Connie takes a deep breath and boldly walks towards the cave. Vinnie starts jotting down names.

VINNIE (cont'd)

(to herself)

Scorplady, Two-Cold Scorpio, The Scorpologist, Stingergirl...

His brainstorm session fades to the background as we see Connie disappear into the darkness of the cave. We hear nothing for a beat, then...

CONNIE

OW! ...OW! OUCH! OW! DANG IT! OW OW
OW OW OW! OW! OW! OW! OW! OW! OW! OW!
OW! OW! OW!

Vinnie becomes audible again.

VINNIE

(to himself)

Hmmm, how about just plain Sting?
Nah, Sting is a TERRIBLE name for
someone! Sting stinks. You can do
better Vinnie. Think!

CONNIE

THIS REALLY HURTS VINNIE BUT I THINK
IT'S WORKING!! I CAN FEEL MY DNA
CHANGING!!! OW! DANG IT! OW! OW!

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CONNIE'S BEDROOM

Connie's room is decorated with all kinds of comic book posters, from "The Adventures of Human Garbage," to the grotesque "ManSpider," to the geriatric tales of "Bold Lady." A dejected Connie enters with Vinnie. She's covered in red welts.

CONNIE

I'm never going to get any
superpowers.

VINNIE

Hey! I got it! Sure you're not
Scorpion Girl, or Catkid, or the
Human Hammer, but you know what
superhero you are?

CONNIE

(frustrated)

Yeah, I'm not super, I'm not a hero,
I'm the not-a-superhero with-
absolutely-no-powers-AT-ALL
superhero.

VINNIE

Exactly! Don't you get it? You're
Normal Girl.

CONNIE

What?

VINNIE

Normal Girl. You have the powers of a
regular, everyday, normal girl.

CONNIE
 (likes the sound of
 it.)
 Normal Girl...Normal Girl.

VINNIE
 Normal Girl is lightning quick, she
 can run twice as fast as a kid half
 her speed.

CONNIE
 That's good. Normal Girl has the
 power of time. She can guess what
 time it is within a two hour window
 every time. Try me.

VINNIE
 What time is it?

CONNIE
 2:30

Vinnie looks at his watch.

VINNIE
 It's 4:25. Great job Normal Girl!

CONNIE
 Normal Girl... I can get used to
 this. You know, until I get my real
 powers.

VINNIE
 Right of course, yeah yeah yeah yeah
 yeah.

Vinnie starts digging through his backpack.

CONNIE
 I'll need a costume.

VINNIE
 Way ahead of you.

Vinnie produces a marker and starts to draw on Connie's gray
 t-shirt. We don't see what he's drawn until stepping away
 from Connie.

VINNIE (cont'd)
 Voila! Now you're Normal Girl.

It's a poorly drawn N and G inside a diamond shape. Connie
 looks down at the design.

CONNIE

So normal. I'm going to need a sidekick.

VINNIE

I'll be your sidekick.

CONNIE

Hmmmmmm, yeah, geez, huh, not so sure that's a great idea, but you know what? You can be president of the sidekick search committee...

VINNIE

Okay, my name's on the shortlist though.

CONNIE

Can you stay over tonight?

Vinnie walks over and opens Connie's bedroom window. He screams at the top of his lungs.

VINNIE

MOOOOOOOOOOM!!!!

Short beat.

VINNIE'S MOM (WAY OFF SCREEN)

YEAAAAAAAH???

VINNIE

CAN I STAY AT CONNIE'S!!!!!!

VINNIE'S MOM (O.S.)

SUUUUUUUREE!!

VINNIE

THANKS!! LOVE YOU!!!!

Vinnie slams the window shut.

VINNIE'S MOM (O.S. BARELY AUDIBLE)

LOVE YOU TOO!!!

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CONNIE'S HOUSE

Establishing shot of the house, as we see a time lapse of the sun setting behind Connie's house and eventually coming back up in the morning.

INT. CONNIE'S BEDROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

Connie is in a sleeping bag on the ground. She groggily wakes up to the sound of Vinnie loudly chomping on something.

CONNIE

What. are. you. eating?

VINNIE

Iceberg lettuce wrapped in romaine
lettuce wrapped in butter lettuce.
Want some?

CONNIE

Umm, no thanks.

VINNIE

Have you happened to look outside
today?

CONNIE

HUHHH?

VINNIE

Good, don't.

CONNIE

What? What's outside? What is it?

VINNIE

It's nothing. Forget I said it. Go
back to sleep until tomorrow.

Connie gets out of her sleeping bag. She and Vinnie walk over to his window. It's covered by a Venetian blind.

VINNIE (cont'd)

Okay Connie, I have to warn you, once
you look outside there is no
unlooking. You won't be able to
simply go back in time and not look
out the window. Wait, have you
finished your time machine?

CONNIE

It's almost done, waiting on some
parts.

VINNIE

Okay, until those parts come in,
there is no going back. Are you sure
you want to do this?

CONNIE

I'm sure.

VINNIE

Okie dokey.

EXT. CONNIE'S BEDROOM WINDOW

Angle looking in: Vinnie pulls the blinds open. Their eyes widen and jaws drop as they look at the spectacle across the street.

EXT. TRIPLETS' FRONT YARD

Across the street from Connie's house is the home of NED, TED, and BED JR., the Lennox Triplets. They are having the party to end all parties in their front yard.

EXT. CONNIE'S BEDROOM WINDOW

Vinnie pulls two pairs of binoculars out of his backpack, hands one to Connie. They survey the party.

CONNIE

A bouncy house.

VINNIE

Pies.

CONNIE

A bouncy castle.

VINNIE

Cotton candy.

CONNIE

Is that a bouncy apartment complex? I don't get it. The triplets' birthday isn't for another 4 months. Is it a going away party? Are they moving? Is today some secret holiday?

VINNIE

I checked. Today is national corn on the cob appreciation day.

They scan the party.

CONNIE

Not an ear of corn in sight.

VINNIE

Not an ear of corn in sight.

CONNIE

I mean you not being invited I understand. But me? It just doesn't make any sense.

VINNIE

Hmm. Well, I took the liberty of doing some investigating while you were asleep.

EXT. TRIPLET'S FRONT GATE

We see what Vinnie is talking about as he describes it. RUBY, a rotund female friend of the Triplets, is standing near a velvet rope, in front of a gate, holding a clipboard. She's basically a bouncer.

VINNIE (O.S.)

The party is invitation only, the one entrance to the party is being guarded by a Ruby "Gator" Gutierrez.

CONNIE (O.S.)

Gator? GULP

VINNIE (O.S.)

She is holding a clipboard, I have no idea what is on the clipboard, or if it is simply her weapon of choice. Just this morning, she ate 6 hamburgers, 10 hot dogs, and I lost count on the churros. The way in which she devoured them leads me to believe she would do the same to any kid who tries to get into the party without an invitation.

INT. CONNIE'S BEDROOM

Connie's face grows red, she walks around the room acting out.

CONNIE

Dang it!!

She knocks over a life-size action figure. Vinnie tries to act angry as well even though it's against his nature.

VINNIE

SHOOT!

He picks the life size action figure back up and dusts it off.

CONNIE

We have to get into that party!!!

VINNIE

Hey! What happened to those cloaks of invisibility you were working on?

CONNIE

I made a bunch, they worked really really well... and now I can't find 'em.

VINNIE

Good job making them good and stuff though.

CONNIE

(defeated)

I'm only eleven and my life is over. Might as well go into a nursing home for girls who can't get into parties.

VINNIE

Connie, you may not know how to get into the party, but you know who does know? Normal Girl.

CONNIE

Hmm.

(beat)

I do have a pretty normal idea. So normal it just may work. C'mon, not my sidekick. Let's go!

EXT. TRIPLET'S FRONT GATE

Connie and Vinnie walk right up to RUBY. Connie's plan snaps into action.

CONNIE

Cough cough what's that behind you?
Cough cough.

Ruby does not avert her gaze from Connie and Vinnie.

CONNIE (cont'd)

Cough cough cough seriously behind you cough cough cough.

Connie points behind Ruby and nudges Vinnie

VINNIE

Cough cough cough cough. Double cough.

Ruby grabs Vinnie and Connie by the scruffs of their necks and hurls them in the air until...

EXT. CONNIE'S FRONT YARD

They crash down with a thud in Connie's front yard.

CONNIE

Are we in the party?

VINNIE

No. We are not in the party. That was your normal idea? Coughing and pointing?

CONNIE

Yeah so? Your idea was to go along with my idea, and how'd that work out for ya?

VINNIE

Good point. We will not go gentle into this good afternoon. What other normal ideas you got?

CONNIE

We're going to need a large coat.

Vinnie digs in his backpack, he pulls out a large trench coat.

VINNIE

Will this work?

CONNIE

Whoa, yeah, that should work.

VINNIE

It's a very nice backpack.

CONNIE

With this coat, we can pull off the normalest trick in the book. The ole trenchcoat two-fer-one. She won't let a couple of kids into the party, but she has to let in one tall adult.

EXT. TRIPLET'S FRONT GATE

Connie is standing on Vinnie's shoulders, but they are not wearing the trench coat, instead Connie is carrying a neatly folded trench coat. They approach Ruby.

CONNIE

One normal adult for the party please.

VINNIE

And as a sign of our respect, we -- I mean I, one adult person, present you with this gift of a trench coat.

RUBY

You guys did this all wrong.

CONNIE

As we are one single tall adult and you are a fat child you HAVE to do what we say!!

RUBY

Yeah, I don't think so, but I will take the trench coat.

CONNIE

You know you're not as stupid as you look. If you were as stupid as you look, you'd be really really really really stup--

CUT TO:

EXT. CONNIE'S FRONT YARD

Connie and Vinnie land once again in Connie's front yard.

VINNIE

I'm sorry Normal Girl. I guess we'll have to get our cotton candy like everyone else, through the mail.

CONNIE

Hold on. Hold on. Hold on. Hold on... Yep, I think I have an idea, hold on, hold on, hold on, hold, hoooooollllld, yep, definitely an idea...we go to the Eagle's nest.

VINNIE
 (gasps)
 The Bald Eagle????

EXT. TREEHOUSE

Wide shot of a treehouse labeled "Eagle's Nest" as Vinnie and Connie enter through a hatch.

INT. TREEHOUSE

Connie and Vinnie walk through a beaded curtain into an extremely tranquil setting. Different totems from across the spiritual spectrum hang all around. And in the corner, sitting in a beautifully manicured nest is EAGLE, a bald eagle with an **extreme** comb over. His eyes are closed as he chants his mantra.

EAGLE
 Ohmmmmm ohmmmmm ohmmmmm...

CONNIE
 Shhh... he's meditating, it's very dangerous to interrupt someone while they're meditating.

A small record player plays the album "Noises of the Rain Forest." Vinnie picks up the album cover.

VINNIE
 (whispers)
 I love this album.

Bald Eagle senses a disturbance, he slowly opens his eyes and sees Connie and Vinnie. This startles him!

EAGLE
 AAHHHHHHH!!!!

Eagle chaotically flies all over the treehouse knocking stuff over and FREAKING OUT!! He is anything but zen!

EAGLE (cont'd)
 SQUAWK SQUAWK SQUAWK SQUAWK!!

CONNIE
 Bald Eagle, it's okay, we're sorry we're sorry. Calm down calm down, it's me Connie.

VINNIE
THIS IS MY REGULAR VOICE TELLING YOU
TO CALM DOWN BALD EAGLE!!!

Eagle lands back in his nest and tries to calm himself. He uses his talons to re-comb his comb over, then picks up a can of hair spray and sprays his hair into place.

EAGLE
I am not bald.

CONNIE
Oh right obviously, there is a lot
going on up there. Right Vinnie?

VINNIE
Totes.

EAGLE
You should never interrupt a
meditating eagle. Especially an eagle
with a luscious, full head of hair.
Didn't your parents teach you
anything?

(deep breath)
So, what do you want today a palm
reading a head massage?

VINNIE
Ooh ooh, head massage.

CONNIE
No no no. We're here because there's
a huge party across the street and we
weren't invited, and we really really
really want to go.

EAGLE
Ah yes, I see. You came to the right
place. Not getting invited to parties
is one of my many expertise. Have you
tried coughing and pointing?

CONNIE
Yep.

VINNIE
Disaster.

EAGLE
HMMMM. Whenever one wants something
in life, first they must visualize
having that thing. Close your eyes...

They close their eyes. A thought bubble pops up over each of
their heads. We can see what they're visualizing.

THOUGHT BUBBLE - EXT. TRIPLET'S PARTY

In Connie's bubble, Connie is sitting on a bouncy version of the iron throne as the Triplets bounce around her.

THOUGHT BUBBLE - EXT. TRIPLET'S PARTY

In Vinnie's bubble, Vinnie holds a giant cone of cotton candy and approaches the Triplets.

VINNIE

Excuse me, are there eggs in this cotton candy?

TRIPLET

No, we made it vegan just for you?

VINNIE

Of course you did.

Vinnie goes to town on the cotton candy, getting an instant high.

VINNIE (cont'd)

(full mouth)

Yum. Vegan.

INT. TREEHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Eagle continues.

EAGLE

Okay, now clear your mind. Drag your thoughts into the thought garbage.

Vinnie and Connie drag their thoughts to a computer trash icon in their thought bubbles. We hear that satisfying trash sound. The bubbles disappear.

EAGLE (cont'd)

Your thought bubbles should now be gone. Good. Now imagine yourself inside the party, and as you're visualizing yourself inside the party, the answer to *how* you got inside the party will present itself.

We go tight on Connie and Vinnie's faces, we no longer see their bubbles.

EAGLE (cont'd)
 Okay, now open your eyes...How did
 you get into the party?

Connie and Vinnie look at each other. Then look at Eagle.

EXT. DAYTIME SKY

Connie and Vinnie are in the talons of Eagle. His combover
 flapping in the wind.

EAGLE
 I don't normally do this, it's
 against Eagle code.

VINNIE
 Thanks Eagle it means a lot to us.

EAGLE
 Alright, we're right above the party,
 best of luck.

Eagle releases Connie and Vinnie from his talons. They hold
 hands and skydive their way down to the party.

CONNIE
 This is it. My life is about to be
 complete. After this party, I'm
 probably going to be really popular,
 and you'll still be you, so we may
 not see each other as much anymore.

VINNIE
 Right. I get it. - Aim for the bouncy
 castle, softer landing!

CONNIE
 Good call.

They expertly skydive directly to the bouncy castle, where
 several kids are bouncing.

They hit the bouncy castle so hard they immediately bounce
 right out of the party... Vinnie sticks out his tongue and
 gets in one lick of someone's cotton candy before soaring
 away.

VINNIE
 WOOOOORTH IT!!!

CONNIE
 NOOOOOOOOO!!

and back into...

EXT. CONNIE'S FRONT YARD

Connie and Vinnie land with a thud onto Connie's front lawn.

CONNIE

I guess we just weren't meant to ever enjoy life. Everyone who was at the party will be best friends with each other, and we'll be on the outside looking in, like always.

VINNIE

Hey, I thought we had a pretty good day. Sure we didn't get into the party, but we nearly pulled off the ole trench coat two-fer, we flew through the sky in the talons of a Bald Eagle.

Just then, Eagle flies over.

EAGLE

I'M NOT BALD!!!

VINNIE

SORRY!! -- And I got to hang out with my best friend all day. We had more fun in one day than any of those lame-o's in the party will have all month! And best of all, you did all of it as Normal Girl!

CONNIE

Yeah you're right! That was a good day.

Connie kicks back, puts her hands behind her head, and relaxes as dusk settles in.

CONNIE (cont'd)

Normal Girl and her trusty sidekick...

Connie looks around, looking for anybody but Vinnie. She spots Ruby, shakes her head "no," Looks at a topiary in her front yard, shakes her head "no."

CONNIE (cont'd)

...and her trusty sidekick Vinnie I guess.

VINNIE

Really?

CONNIE

Yeah, for now, until I get my real powers, then I'll need a real sidekick...Normal Girl and her sidekick Vinnie.

VINNIE

How about Normal Girl and her sidekick Vinnie Vegan?

CONNIE

Oh yeah Vinnie Vegan. What are your powers?

VINNIE

(mumbles to himself)
Putting up with you.

CONNIE

What's that?

VINNIE

I said I can talk to trees...sure the trees can't talk back, but I can talk to trees.

CONNIE

Whoa, that's good. What else?

VINNIE

I got this backpack.

CONNIE

Normal Girl and Vinnie Vegan with the Very Nice Backpack.

The sun sets behind Connie's house. Normal Girl and Vinnie Vegan laugh as they reflect on their day, discuss Vinnie's powers, and think about the normal adventures to come.

the end