

RED

*gasping but defiant*

Right, sis.. this is it !But if we have to, we go down fighting  
.Right !?No surrender.

GINGER

Right on,bro..Bring it on. OK. Who's first ? You're all big  
heroes, aren't you when it's 25 to 1 !OK, who wants a piece of  
me ?

*greys move in*

*R & G ju-kar-do the first few easily-they fly through the  
air\comedy faces as knocked out.*

*Ki & Sky dive-bomb greys at crucial moments to help R & G.*

SKY

*to Ki*

I've got to be careful.You know .*indicates her tummy* .We must  
think of the little ones.

KI

Of course. Go up on to that tree there out of harm's way. It's  
only sensible.

SKY

I feel so helpless. I wish there was something more we could do  
to help Red and Ginger to even things up.

KI

*pulling wing across face like a superhero's cape*

That's it. I think this is a job for SuperKi. See you soon, my  
love.. very soon.

*he touches wing very briefly with Sky and then zooms off like a  
red and blue rocket off past sign showing 'Scotland'.*

*five more greys go down to R & G's moves. But R & G are  
taking a few now with their aerial support missing .Sky still*

*gives them the odd warning of rear\sneaky attacks. They thank her when they can.*

POWER

*seeing Ki zoom away  
to R & G*

I see that feather-brained 'friend' *sarcastic* of yours has deserted you. Coward !

GINGER

You take that back ! Ki is more of a man and a faithful friend than you'll ever be, Power. What about the brave general(*sarcastic*) coming and fighting here instead of hiding behind your men ?

POWER*sarcastic but wounded by the comment*

Oooh !

Right, no more Mr Nice Guy. Greys, rush them on the count of 3.

1-----2-----

RED

*pointing*

Hey ! Behind you ! What's that in the sky ? Is it a plane ? No, it's a bird !  
Incoming !

*a blue and red dot starts in the distance, coming out of the sun getting bigger and bigger. It's Ki coming at speed. Sonic boom !*

KI

*Pardon me ! as if he's let one off !*

*Ki nods his head and winks at audience .Twinkle of a smile.His hair feathers are swept back into a Superman-style look by the wind.*

POWER *viewed from face on*

*cockily\Ki a rapidly enlarging dot behind*  
What. You expect me to fall for the oldest trick in the book and  
look behind meeeeeee !

*Ki has speared into Power's bottom cheek .audience pricked in  
bottom through seats .Power turns to reveal impaled Ki*

KI

*pulling his beak clear by pushing on staggering Power's bottom  
with his feet ,then*

Never make me the 'butt' of one of your jokes, Power .'Cos I'm  
back and I've brought a few friends with me.

*he points towards Scotland and some nearby trees and suddenly  
an approaching rush and roar can be heard.  
Reds riding red deer and steering them with their antlers are the  
first to break through the edge of the forest*

GINGER

*to Red*

Quick ! Now's our chance !

*they attack the distracted greys, flattening lots of  
them.wuss\wimpy Power hobbles around ,incapacitated.The  
approaching reds fire nuts ,conkers ,acorns and pine cones from  
ivy catapults on deers' antlers at the backs of the greys who are  
definitely rattled and almost leaderless.*

GREYS cowering

Ouch ! Ow ! Hey !

*R & G, with renewed strength ,knock out a few more greys .deer  
close enough now to butt greys up the bum.more reds ,armed  
with branch golf clubs hit nuts at greys.one whistles and 4 greys  
turn round.they are all hit on the forehead and fall comically to  
the ground,knocked out.*

SCOTTISH RED *after impact*

Fore ! Whoops !*not really* sorry Better late than never, I  
suppose !

*a couple of greys start to run away .a red using a conkers and  
ivy bolas trips them up and they bang heads and are knocked  
out.*

*A very tall red runs up and joins R & G*

REDWOOD  
*very politely*

Hello there. Redwood's the name and big, bad grey bashing's my  
game.

*he bashes a line of greys coming at him with a rotating arm and  
fist combination .hits first one on chin so hard that the force  
from that knocks him into others behind at head level.5 KOs !  
Redwood picks up fallen tree-trunk; butts some in stomach.  
Some jump and then laugh at him thinking they're safe .They  
then land on the moving caber and a buzz-saw noise sounds as  
their undercarriages get a good scraping ! The greys'  
expressions go from mirth to horror very quickly.*

RED

I'm Red and this is Ginger. Nice to have you on the team,  
Redwood.

*some greys try to run off ,but are caught in snares by their  
ankles and hang helplessly from whippy trees .A whistle to get  
attention is heard .A rattled Power turns and he gets two nuts up  
his nostrils from golfing reds.*

GOLFERS  
*to Ki & Sky*

Now that is what is known in golf as a double bogey.

*Ki ,impressed, nods to Sky*

POWER

*snorts out the 2 balls like a footballer with no hanky one after another ,then with an evil snarl in his voice and picking up a thick tree branch and limping towards Ginger*  
Well,at least I can take you out.No problem.Girl power .Ha !

*takes branch to one side to whack Ginger with.Sky swoops down,much to Ki's alarm ,and lands quickly and quietly behind Power. She taps his back with her beak.*

SKY

Reach for the sky !

*Power starts to lift branch up to sky. Then ,seeing Sky over his shoulder, swings round and aims clumsy swish at her. She dodges it nimbly and flies to Ki.*

GINGER

Attack a pregnant lady, would you ?!

*G then really lays into Power-a foot to his paunch doubles him up.she breaks branch in two with karate chop-oosh\hee-yagh sounds etc .Power sees he's beaten and sounds retreat*

POWER

Retreat. Retreat ! We're beaten.

RED

*tapping his head  
and hand to mouth\shouting*  
Good to hear you're finally using some of your grey matter,  
Power !

KI

Yeh,Power. Butt out !  
Ki-ya !  
*martial art kicks his rear very hard*

SKY to Ki ,*half scolding\half laughing*  
Enough with the 'butt' jokes, Ki.

KI *smiling*  
But...OK.

*conkers,nuts and pine-cones rain down on the fleeing greys.  
Then Ki and Sky peck at a few bums .Deer butt them too .Greys  
wake up knocked out ones as they go and free ensnared ones  
with big bumps on ground as they all run off a beaten  
,demoralised shambles .Power, looking back, grimacing  
and cursing angrily ,shakes his fist and then trips up and limps  
off painfully last of all.*

GINGER

Now I see where the phrase 'Scotland the Brave' comes from ,  
because there were some brave-hearts out there today.

REDWOOD

Three cheers for Red and Ginger!

GINGER

*pointing*  
And Ki and Sky.

SCOTTISH REDS

*increasing in loudness*  
Hip hip- hooray ! (x3)

*followed by whoops and general over the top self congratulation  
.Redwood hugs Ginger a bit longer than others .Ginger thinks  
nothing of it and Red doesn't see this.*

*Scottish reception*

*Red and Ginger ride along on deer, surrounded by Scottish reds on foot. tall Redwood stands out from rest at front of followers. Ki and Sky fly alongside R & G as they process up tree-lined avenue. They get a ticker-tape style welcome from reds in adjacent trees, with multi-coloured leaves being used instead of tape. spectacular aerial views of. R & G look a bit bewildered at first but then start to wave at their onlookers. By the time they get to Scottish reds H.Q. ,Red is standing on his deer's back waving furiously Ginger, half amused\half embarrassed, is trying to get him to sit down. As they dismount, Ki and Sky perform a daring fly-towards each other manoeuvre ,missing each other by millimetres and then looping up to draw 'R' and 'G' in the sky using white cloud .Cheers re-double for the pair as Redwood steps forward to lead R & G up to very distinguished ,elderly looking, greying red who has a small bird of prey perched on his arm.*

*He stands up from his wooden throne*

REDWOOD

Father, may I present Red and Ginger.

ELDERLY RED

*shaking their hands in turn and in a Scottish accent*

Welcome to Scotland, Red...Ginger.

We have heard many things about you and your journey through Grey Britain. It must have taken a lot of bravery to set out and complete such a mission.

RED

It did have its moments. Forgive me, Sir .But may I ask who you are ?

ELDERLY RED

*a la James Bond*

The name's James.. King James.

*he responds to a cough from a regal looking lady squirrel who steps forward with a 3 thistle crown on.*

KING JAMES

Oh, sorry. And this is Queen Anne.

*Red bows and Ginger tries a curtsy after starting a bow.*

ANNE

Now, now you two. None of that bowing and scraping. My husband and I are new millennium royals. Shake me by the hand.

*R & G shake hands with Queen*

ANNE

Very pleased to meet you both.  
*to G.*

Well done, Ginger ! You're a credit to Squirrel sisters everywhere.

GINGER

Thank you, Your Majesty.

ANNE

You can call me ma'am, if you want. We're trying to break down the barriers in the noughties.

RED

*whispering to G. .tittering*  
The noughties ?

GINGER

*hissing*  
The years 2000 to 2009. You know swinging sixties, 90s...noughties.

RED

Oh right, got ya .



GINGER

Excuse my brother, Ma'am. His heart is in the the right place.  
But I'm not sure about his brain sometimes.

ANNE

*taking G. to one side  
and indicating James*

He's just the same.

JAMES

*knowing he's being talked about, gives Anne a hard stare .She  
waves a little wave back nervously.*

Now, you two. You've arrived at a very exciting time of the  
year. It's our annual Highlands Games tomorrow. It's lots of fun  
and we hope you'll watch it with us and be our guests of honour.

RED

Thanks very much, King James.

JAMES

Please call me K.J.. It's got a modern feel to it. Anne thinks it's a  
bit over the top But I like it.

RED

K.J. ? King J.. Oh right, gotcha. Very street .  
Anyway, we'd love to get on down at the Games with you.  
Wouldn't we, sis. ?

GINGER

*shaking her head*  
'Get on down'? Yes, we'd love to come. Thank you.

*Highland Games  
mid-morning*

*Redwood leads R & G, Ki and Sky to King and Queen .All around ,there is much activity as the reds prepare for their Highland Games day.*

KING

Have you slept well, both of you?

RED

*patting a passing caber being carried by 4 reds lengthways  
Like a log ,K.J...like a log.*

ANNE

And you, my dear?

GINGER

Yes. That was the best night's sleep I've had for ages. No keeping half an eye open for Power and his cronies.

REDWOOD

They shouldn't worry us up here. They are big and powerful but we have strength in numbers in this land and we've become highly organised at defending ourselves, if we have to. Anyway, enough of this kind of talk. On to the competition.

*fanfare on hollowed out branches with holes and tree bark trumpet shaped ends*

KING

*rising up and standing on his throne*

It is with great pleasure that I declare these Highland Games open. Let the games begin !

*a roar goes up from the assembled reds. Ki and Sky settle down gently on the King and Queen's fists. His usual bird of prey is on a stand by his throne. The King and Queen nod favourably at the birds at this move and prepare to watch the competition .King*

*strokes his bird of prey a bit with his other hand to reassure him.*

*squirrels play hollowed out branch and haggis skin bagpipes as dancers do a Highland fling over some crossed branches. One bagpipe over-inflates with comedy bottom noises, bursts and bangs.*

*Offender and bagpipe quickly removed from scene. Main party titter a bit.*

*Drum roll on a tree-trunk. Then a presenter announces loudly through*

*a stiff bark megaphone*

ANNOUNCER

Competitors for the tossing the caber event this way please.

*in a boxing M.C. style voice*

*Let's get ready to trundle !*

*Redwood and some others reds assemble*

*One gets in a crouch position to lift. But can't budge caber. Whole screen fills with his agonised, sweating face. The caber eventually falls back on him. The crowd oohs. All that can be seen of him are his flailing arms and legs beneath the trunk. He is quickly rescued and staggers around saying he is OK. Flying cabers circle his head as he is sat down under a tree. He looks up at the trunk. We see his view from below. He starts to cower, thinking it's another caber. Then he sighs with relief.*

*After a few more successful attempts and polite applause, Redwood steps up for his turn.*

KING

*shouting across the arena , rather losing his royal poise*

*Show 'em what you're made of, son ! Go K.J. Junior !*

*pointing to himself, WWF style Who's the daddy !?*

*Ki goes to speak. Then doesn't. Knowing smile with Sky.*

QUEEN

Now,now,James dear. No favouratism.

*KING regaining his poise*

Sorry,dearest.Couldn't help myself.But if you can't support your own children,who can you ?

*Queen pats him on back of hand lovingly and leaves her hand there.King*

*takes and holds hers.Ki and Sky flutter their wings a little and Sky beckons Ki over using her eyelash as a finger.close-up of this.He puts his wing\arm round her.Her belly is a bit bigger than before.*

*Redwood crouches and takes the strain. EUUUUGH !  
He raises it and looks pleased with himself. He catches Ginger's eye and holds her gaze.She looks back and then realises she's looking at him for too long with some strange new feelings inside her and turns away.Red sees this.*

RED

*to his sister*

*tapping his nose knowingly*

Ay.Ay.Someone's got an admirer.

GINGER

You'd better zip that lip before I give you a fat one, baby brother.

RED

Ooooh!

*singing*

Redwood and Ginger sitting in a tree,

K-I-S-S-I-N-G !

First came love.

*now fighting Ginger off*

Then came marriage,

Then along came baby,

In a baby carriage.

*starts singing it again but G puts her hand over his mouth. You can still hear the muffled rhythm of the song however as R carries on undeterred at his most annoying best.*

*Redwood gets distracted by all this, forgets the weight he's carrying momentarily and pitches forward with the caber. He recovers for an instant and then slips on a wet patch of turf and is suddenly out of control. Red can see Redwood and caber careering towards them, but can't tell the unsighted G and can't lever her hand away. He points frantically behind her, with a muffled 'Behind you !Behind you !!'*

GINGER

*mimicking her brother's 'behind you ! x2'*

It might have worked on that pea-brain Power. But it won't work on me !

*With a superhuman effort, Red drags his sister and himself out of the way at the very last moment. Redwood is now headed for his mother and father and behind them the main stand, made of crossed branches full of increasingly anxious reds.*

QUEEN

Gangway ! Women and children first !  
*she dashes off sideways*

KING

*puts hand up to on-rushing Redwood like a very distinguished traffic cop*

As your King and father, I command you to stop.  
*sees it's hopeless and dives along the ground out of the way*  
How undignified !

*Ki and Sky scatter too, skywards. Redwood now careers towards the grandstand. All the crowd there scatter to both outside edges. He cuts the stand cleanly in two sending*

*squirrels flying through the air and comes to a halt in amongst  
all the middle of the debris.  
His mum ,dad, R & G rush to see if he is OK.G gets there first.*

GINGER

Redwood !Are you hurt anywhere ?

RED

I'm sure she'll kiss it better !

GINGER

One more wise-crack like that and I'll crack you one, Red.

RED

Just joking, sis..

REDWOOD

I feel such a fool.

GINGER

Don't worry. Red's been feeling that way since the day he was  
born !

RED

Hey !

KING

*helping Redwood slowly to his feet*

Remember the family motto 'Upum et Atum', son. Right,back  
to the games.

*nodding at Ginger and nudging his son*

You could do a lot worse.Good child-bearing hips.

REDWOOD

*embarrassed*

Dad !

*Ginger hears this, turns away and we see her smile a bit, but nobody else does.*

## *Highland Games 2*

REDWOOD

*changing the subject quickly*

Hey look ! It's my brother Hairy's turn in the hammer throwing.  
Let's see how he does.

*A smaller version of Redwood, Hairy is putting some sticky tree sap on his hands for extra grip*

HAIRY

Hammer time !

*He tries to fling some of sap off his hands .But it stays put.*

*Oh well. Here goes.*

*He steps into the circle .He puts his finger in his mouth and holds it up to test wind direction .He then realises he has got a very bad taste in his mouth. Spits 2\3 times to try and get rid of it without success.*

Now I shouldn't have done that ! Yeuk !  
*concentrating again.*

Right. Three turns and away we go.

*He spins round 3 times and then goes to let go. The sap sticks him and his hammer together .The hammer exits stage right ,followed by his arms stretching and then Hairy gets carried airborne into a nearby clump of trees.*

Whoa !

GINGER

Does that count ?

RED

Don't see why not.

*At the judges' desk, 4 judges hand the results of the marks to a runner. He takes the scores to the score board squirrels. They hang down from horizontal tree branches by their feet and register the score by curving their limbs and tails into numbers.*  
9.7,8.9,9.2,9.6

*Hairy prises apart some bushy foliage and asks himself*

HAIRY

How did I do ?

*spotting his scores*

Hey , not bad.If I stick at it, I might become a Highland hero yet.

‘Stick’. Oh. *he titters.*

KING

Oh look. It's the haggis hurling next. That's one of my favourite events.

*All the competitors are pummeling their haggises to get them in just the right shape for throwing .Some very farty ,burpy noises come from the haggises.*

GINGER

Excuse me your Kingliness.

*meets the slightly disapproving eye of the King*

I mean K.J .But what exactly is in those haggis bag thingies ?

KING *shaking his head*

You don't want to know, my dear. You don't want to know.

GINGER

Oh right.

*There is a mass haggis shot putt and Red , just arriving on the scene.*



RED

Yo, sis. Whassup ?!

*a wayward haggis splats him right in the face.*

*Ginger laughs.*

*Suddenly R's tongue comes out of the mess and eats it all up like  
a hand going quickly round a clock.*

Mmmm! Delicious. That's offally good food.

GINGER

Offal ?! Oh like tubes and entrails and stuff. Oh pukesville. How  
can you eat such stuff ?

*RED patting his belly*

Going down !Top grub that. Beautiful. Any seconds ?

HG3

*The Royal party plus R,G,Ki and Sky move over to the pillow  
fight. There is a raised caber to wrap your legs  
round. Competitors try and knock each other off into the water in  
the wooden container below. They watch a contest going on.*

*To King and Queen*

GINGER

This looks great fun, your Highnesses. May I have your  
permission to have a go ?

KING

But of course.

*Ginger moves forward for her go*

RED

*moving forward too*

Great minds think alike, sis.

GINGER

Yeh,but what about you,bro. ?

RED

*as he climbs on and takes a pillow with his sister*

We'll see.We'll see !

*They give each other some hefty whacks  
and both nearly topple in on a couple of occasions.*

Ha !Woh !

QUEEN

Bravo,Ginger.

*to King*

She's like the daughter I've always wanted.

HAIRY

C'mon Red.Do it for the boys !

RED

Take that !

*whacks Ginger really hard and she goes off log seemingly.Red  
celebrates by waving his pillow about.Ginger does a full 360 on  
log and comes up from underneath to knock the unsuspecting  
Red off and into the water*

GINGER

What ! Another bath for you,Red !That's three in the past week  
and you've only ever had four in your life !

RED

*spits out a plume of water*

That's not true.I'm at least into double figures by now !

*He jumps out and shakes himself dry from head to brush.*

GINGER

One to the girls,I think,bro.

RED

*seeing the Tug of War arena*

You were lucky.Now we'll see who's the best.

GINGER

Anything a boy can do...

RED

Yeh,yeh.

*R,G and lots of other squirrels inc.Redwood and Hairy join up for a male v female Tug of war.A fat lady squirrel is on the end of the line for the girls..*

KING

Take the strain !And may the best man...woman....squirrel win !

*There is a very strenuously contested tug with the marker going backwards and forwards several times as each side gets the upperhand.*

*Close up of strain on R &G's faces.G & Redwood catch each other's eye and smile a bit before getting back quickly to battle of the sexes.*

KING

I declare the contest a tie !

*Red and his team drop their rope to go and complain*

RED

No way,KJ.We...

*With nothing to pull against suddenly, the girls' team goes flying backwards comically and end up in a big, long heap. They look like some big totem pole viewed from above.  
The boys have a bit of a laugh especially Red.*

REDWOOD

*running over to G.*

Are you OK ?

GINGER

I think so .I've got a bit of a bruise on my bum here but *starts to show him then covers up..oh, too much detail but thank you for asking.*

*to Red*

Red !You did that on purpose. Wait till I get my paws on you.

QUEEN

Now, now, dear. I'm sure it was just an accident.

RED *taking cover behind and talking over Queen's shoulder*  
That's right. But a very funny accident !

*Ginger fumes powerlessly.*

hg4

*trying to change the subject*

QUEEN

What about showing us your own special skills, my dear?

I've heard you are the Queen of Kung fu.. the Princess of  
Kapower.

*waving her arms about weakly in a sort of martial arts type way*

I'm sure everyone would love to see you in action.

REDWOOD *excited*

Yeh. I know I would !.....er....wouldn't the rest of you ?

*Cheers of encouragement all around*

RED

Go on sis. .Go Ginger Ninja.

GINGER

*looking uncertainly at Queen and King*  
Oh.OK then. If you really want me to.

*King shows his approval and Queen nods head and gives thumbs-up*

GINGER

Right.Let's get it on. Ju-kar-do a go-go !.Red, give us a hand,will you ?

RED

Right you are.

*to the tune of 'Everybody was a kung-fu fighting' ,Ginger does an amazing cross between a ten-rated floor routine in gymnastics and a smashing power-packed display of a combination of the most spectacular moves in martial arts-kicks, punches ,spins etc to the music.*

*Heugh !Red provides wooden blocks and branches for her to break at various points. He is knocked over by the force at times. Redwood's gape gets bigger as performance goes on. His pupils go from round to heart shaped .G. lands to tumultuous applause and nonchalantly closes Redwood's mouth with her index finger as she goes past as he follows her every move. The squirrel scorers fire nuts from springy branches to show a ten out ten score on a mud board.*

GINGER

Beat that ,bro.. Big sister is watching you!

RED *genuinely*

Nobody could beat that. That was amazing.

GINGER

*taken aback*

Do you really mean it ?

*Red nods*

Thanks.

Now what about you doing your high-bar routine ? It'll knock 'em dead.

RED

Do you reckon ? I haven't practised recently .Are you sure ?

KING

Go ahead, my boy.

RED

Ok. Swing time !

*To the Robbie Williams version of 'Let Me Entertain You', Red does a brilliant bar routine using a horizontal branch after jumping down to it from an adjacent tree. He does 360s, releases, one-arms, one-clawers, back feet ,front feet circles and twists backwards and forwards before landing perfectly to deafening cheers and applause.*

*He too gets 10\10 from the scorers this time using their tails.*

*Ginger rushes forward and the two of them hug.*

*Then other squirrels rush forward and carry the duo on their shoulders to the tune of 'For they are jolly good fellows'.*

*The volume goes down on music a bit as R catches sight of some lady squirrels waving the ends of their fingers at him and tittering.*

RED to Ginger

I think I'm going to like it up here.

GINGER

*Catching Redwood's eye and holding his gaze this time*

Me too . Me too.

*They push and shove each other playfully with big grins on their faces .Ki and Sky hover above touching wing-tips.  
The screen blackens from the outside to a small dot in middle. R & G are the last to disappear into the blackness waving to audience. Short pause. Red suddenly opens hole again with his paw and sticks head out*

RED *to audience*  
Fooled ya !

GINGER  
Red. Get back in here !

*Ginger's paw reaches from inside and grabs Red's head back in to the darkness  
In the darkness ,just voices*

RED  
I can see I'm going to have to have a word with that Redwood about you !

GINGER  
You wouldn't dare ! *worriedly* You wouldn't.. would you ?

RED  
*Singing*  
Ginger and Redwood sitting in a tree,  
K-I-S-S

*Sound of smack round the head*

RED  
Ow ! That hurt...

KI

*sticking his head out of black hole*  
I knew it couldn't last !  
All that brotherly, sisterly love. Ha !  
*His head goes back into the darkness*  
Now , now Red.. steady Ginger !  
*Sounds of a mini-scuffle breaking out*

THE END