



The Gamma Awakening

Ben Tumbleson



Benji stands by his school locker, his medium-length dark brown hair falling over his hazel eyes. He adjusts his tight black long-sleeve shirt and grey joggers, looking like an ordinary handsome teenager ready for the day's field trip.



The yellow school bus pulls up to the massive, gleaming cooling towers of the Apex Nuclear Research Facility. Benji looks out the window with curiosity, unaware that this scientific marvel will soon change his life forever.



Inside the facility, Benji and his classmates walk across a high-tech catwalk overlooking the core. The air hums with electricity, and the glowing green light of the gamma reactor reflects in Benji's hazel eyes.



Suddenly, a siren blares and red lights flash throughout the chamber as a containment seal fails. While others run for the exit, Benji spots a technician trapped near the core and rushes toward the danger zone.



Just as Benji reaches the technician, a massive burst of emerald gamma radiation erupts from the reactor. The blinding light engulfs Benji, his silhouette flickering as the energy surges through his slim, athletic frame.



Hours later, Benji wakes up in the facility's infirmary, feeling a strange heat coursing through his veins. He looks at his hands, which are trembling with an uncontrollable, hidden power that feels like a ticking time bomb.



That night, while walking alone through a quiet park, Benji's heart begins to race and a shadow of anger bubbles up from within. His eyes flash a brilliant, unnatural green, and the ground beneath his black boots begins to crack.



The transformation takes hold as Benji's muscles swell and tear through his black shirt with incredible force. His handsome face contorts with pain and rage, his skin deepening into a vibrant, powerful shade of emerald green.



A massive, towering Hulk now stands where the young man once was, a mountain of pure muscle and raw strength. He lets out a thunderous roar that shakes the very trees, his hazel eyes now glowing with radioactive fury.



Under the pale moonlight, the Hulk leaps high into the air, clearing buildings in a single bound. Benji's life as a normal student is over, and his journey as the world's newest and most powerful hero has just begun.