

Football 156

Chapter 156 Tension

"Yo little shit, didn't I tell you to stay away from Stacy?" A tall and muscular boy wearing the distinct letterman jacket of the football team exclaimed. With a sharp jawline and dirty blond shoulder-length hair, he embodies the looks of Jock.

Following is a posy of three boys with him for backup as they face off with a group of younger boys. His name is Bradly Stones the Quarterback of the middle school football team. He is an exceptionally talented athlete for his age group, but his attitude tends to get in his way and like his last name suggests he constantly tries to prove he has the hardest stones.

"It's not my fault if she wants to talk to someone with more than two brain cells," Max one of the younger boys snarkily replied to the older boy without a hint of fear on his face. His words further riled up the older boy who seemed to be the leader of his group.

The tension between the two groups seemed poised for eruption with each second that passed between them. The air crackled with animosity as the two groups glared at each other, each side unwilling to back down. The younger boys, standing their ground, seemed unfazed by the imposing presence of the football team.

Channelling all their inner defiance towards the boy's football team that always looked down on them gave them courage. Max, in particular, maintained a cocky demeanour that irked the leader of the football squad even more. Already having a personality that loved to cause trouble this situation was no different. The fact that the older boy's friend who is a girl started talking to him was just an added bonus.

Yes, the main reason for this particular conflict is due to the jealousy of the older boy who couldn't muster the courage to ask out his friend. adding to the fact that the only reason Stacy ended up talking

to Max in the first place wasn't because of his charm but due to her having a crush on one of his brothers. So, a misunderstanding has led to a tension-filled confrontation of pride and teenage angst.

The leader took a step forward, closing the distance between them having now to exert effort to look down on the younger boy. He was doing his best to remain calm since he never faced such a situation where someone younger in school dared to talk back to him. "You've got a big mouth, punk. Maybe I should teach you a lesson about respect," he threatened, clenching his fists.

"Yeah, dude is getting a little too cocky for my liking," One of his lackeys said from the side with an eager look in his eyes.

From his words and threatening actions, one could easily discern that he was looking forward to excreting his pent-up strength. With the boy being a Linebacker one of the biggest boys on the team his intimidating words were far more effective. Added to the fact that the other two lackeys also started glaring at the younger boys it was safe to say they were intimidated.

Max's friends shuffled nervously behind him, sensing the tension escalating to another level they hadn't expected. It seems that they had only expected to be there for moral support and not having to actually enter a physical confrontation. Now that things had taken a turn a few had the thought of running away but their slightly shaking legs didn't allow them to move.

Despite his earlier bravado, Max couldn't deny a twinge of anxiety that started to creep in. However, he refused to show any sign of weakness after all there are too many witnesses here that would step in if things turned physical. Since the Dean himself was attending this party along with all their parents he doubted that this bonehead would dare to hit him.

"If Stacy wants to talk to me, that's none of your business it's not like she likes you anyway," he retorted defiantly letting a mocking smile grace his face not willing to back down in the slightest. Just as the

tension was reaching a high point only moments away from one of the boys throwing the first punch they were interrupted.

"You boys want to have some fun or do you want to continue playing with yourselves?" All the boys simultaneously turned their heads in the direction of the voice. As if choreographed all of the boy's mouths opened wide upon gazing at the group of girls that had interrupted their argument.

Stacy, a confident brunette with sparkling auburn eyes, led the girls. Most of the girls were part of the Oak Tree Academy cheer squad from the middle school to grade 4 years. Like a game of follow the leader every one of them followed her heels as Stacy as she led them towards the golf course.

Seeing the movements of the group most of the boy's teammates joined them out of curiosity. Even Rakim and his group noticed the odd movements of their teammates and subconsciously joined them. In a matter of moments, they reached a large campfire where a lot of students could be seen gathered around it. Most of them were high school freshmen and sophomores of the different clubs.

Most of them were split into smaller groups as they conversed with their friends and teammates. Surprisingly most of the kids here are quite calm and were simply content on enjoying spending time with their friends. Only a few rowdy kids could be found who occasionally took sips from a flask hidden in their jackets.

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"You good bro?" Rakim asked Max as soon as he walked over with his group joining the larger one.

He had seen the tension developing when the boys were having a standoff but didn't have the chance to cheek on his friend earlier. After all, It's not like he could suddenly end the conversation with the dean to maybe jump in on a fight. Luckily things didn't develop into anything major and just as it looked like it was going to, they were interrupted by a group of girls.

After seeing that his friend was okay, he was content just enjoying the night at his table, but Emma and the girls had other ideas. They seemed to recognise the girl who led Max and his group out and decided to be nosy. Liam and Rakim didn't have much of a choice but to join the girls as they were dragged by their arm's.

"You know me I attract people who are mentally unstable," Max casually replied loud enough for those around us to hear. His words struck a chord with the blond boy he had been arguing with as he sent a glare our way.

"That gay might have a thing for you, look at the intense look he is giving you," Liam commented from the side as he animatedly shuddered his shoulder as he pointed to the Jock.

A moment of silence hung in the air with no one speaking seemingly letting his words sink in. However, that silence was quickly broken when the light giggle from Stacy at the side sounded followed by her friends. The boy's face quickly turned bright red as he promptly averted and stopped gazing in our direction.

"I'm not gay," The flustered boy exclaimed with indignation after calming down as he stared at Max with even more intensity. Liam the one who had poked fun at him with his insinuation was completely forgotten.

"It's okay I believe you," Max answered him with an understanding smile sending a knowing look his way. Everyone who saw his expression seemed to suddenly understand something as they subconsciously sent the same knowing look towards Brad.

"What's there to believe I'm really not Gay," he explained further in an attempt to clarify the misunderstanding that had been created by Max's words. However, his frantic need to clarify his orientation only further put it into question in the minds of those around him.

"No need to say more we understand bro, after all, we live in Florida" One of Brad's friends who is a bit slow suddenly said as he placed a comforting hand on his shoulder. His genuine gaze that said he would stand up for his friend no matter what only served to further infuriate Brad.