

Football 74

Chapter 74 Try Out 4

Friday came in a flash, today we would be playing a game during training, and I would find out what team I made. I'm fairly sure that I made the middle school team with how well I've been performing. But that's for later right now I'm going to focus on my new favourite hobby, teasing a certain blonde.

"Psst is that a bug in your hair?" I whispered into Lexi's ear as she was engrossed in the book that she was reading. My voice was like an electric current travelling through her whole body judging by the slight shiver. The next moment however her surprised look was replaced with a glare with annoyance written all over it.

"Why do you always do that?" she finally whispered after a long moment of glaring at me. Her puzzled expression reminds me of a baby cat that's been wronged almost causing me to tease her more. However, remembering that we were still in class I refrained from my impulse since I wasn't sure if she could answer the teacher's question if called out.

"Do what? there really is a bug in your hair," I told her with a calm expression as I turned my gaze towards the blackboard just in time to hear the math teacher go through some type of formula.

Whilst I was channelling my inner scholar, I felt a light gust of wind to my side and heard someone ruffling. Looking to the side I was met with the sight of Lexi frantically combing her hair using her fingers. It seems like my acting level is a little too strong and she actually believed my bluff.

"Haha, sometimes you are just too gullible, ya know," I finally told her with a slight chuckle before she could get the attention of the teacher and get herself into trouble. My comment did the trick, but it was already too late for her hair which went from wavy to a little frizzy now.

"I'm not talking to you anymore," she said in a huff before she swung her fist at me which I manage to just barely dodge by moving my face away. However, she still managed to hit my chest causing me to lose balance and fall off my chair.

[Bang]

Looking around the room from the ground I was met with puzzled gazes from the teacher and some of my classmates. However, unlike the concerned look, I was getting from everyone my best friend was the first one to burst out laughing. Sighing at his antics I quickly got up from the ground whilst scratching the back of my head embarrassed at the situation.

"Mr Rex, what happened there?" The old math teacher asked me with a slight frown as he pointed his teaching stick in my direction.

"Emm, I'm sorry Mr. Miller I was just too fascinated with the equation and was a little clumsy," I told him with a wry smile on my face as I attempted to get back to my chair. A quick glance at Lexi I could tell she felt bad for getting me into trouble just by the look of sorry she was sending my way.

"Oh, is that so come and answer this question then," He spoke up as he pointed towards the question he was just about to explain. Nodding at his words I got up from the chair I had just sat back down on and made my way to the front of the classroom. I felt like I was doing the walk of shame or something similar with the gloating looks I was getting from some boys.

"Hmmm let's see what we have here, oh that's a lot of numbers," I started subconsciously saying as I picked up the chalk from the stand. The question wasn't all too hard, and Mum had covered this with me when she tutored me during the summer. However, Dad did say that building suspense is the most important skill when performing in front of a crowd.

"If you don't know the answer just meet me for detention when school is over," I heard Mr. Miller angrily grumble seemingly impatient at the fact I was wasting his time. Not being flustered by his words I continued to rub my non-existent beard whilst glaring at the question in front of me.

"Don't worry sir the answer just came to me, $4,824$ divided by 12 is 402 I'm sure of it," I answered the question with an unsure smile whilst reassuringly nodding as if I was trying to convince myself instead of the teacher. At my action I watched his mouth twitch slightly but due to his surprise at my answer, he didn't seem to be able to form the right words.

"Sir don't believe him he's just guessing," I heard Reece say with a smug smile on his face as if he had just solved some major mystery. The way he was looking at the teacher waiting to be praised almost made me want to pity him. The longer the teacher didn't answer him, his smug smile slowly morphed into an unsure frown.

"Sigh the answer is correct boy, I'm quite impressed you can go and sit down do remain on the chair," he told me with a satisfied smile similar to that of when Ben realised, he could get me to join him on some of his riskier outdoor activities. Similar to the look of when that one Jedi master found the future Sith lord I was getting a similar look from Mr. Miller.

"It's quite troublesome to deal with injured kids," I heard him mumble just as I had taken a few steps causing me to almost trip over myself. Brushing off whatever was going through my head I quickly made my way back to my seat. Sitting down I was met with a fist bump from Liam and Lexi who struck out her tongue.

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"Good afternoon, Gentlemen You have shed a lot of sweat throughout the week now it's time to show us what you are made of, have fun eagles on three," Coach Baker held one of his now Iconic speeches just after we finished our regular warm-up. He has a certain charisma about him that always seems to have a way to fire us up even if we were just having a regular possession drill. Heck, he made a normal game of rondo seem like the Battle of Athens raising the intensity of the whole drill.

"EAGLE'S!!!" With that shout, we all went towards our 7v7 pitches to get ready for the match that we would be playing. Tugging on my red bib I quickly got set in position in the midfield. Since we only have six outfield positions, we had to adjust and chose positions that best suit us.

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[Red team]

GK: Mike

CB: Jake, CB: James

Lm: Rakim, CM: Ryan, RM: Ben

ST: Max

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[Green Team]

GK: Bruce

CB: Henrik, CB: Jon

CM: Reece, CM: Finn

ST: Tom, ST: Blake

Looking at their makeshift formation I felt a sense of excitement well up within me. All the kids I'm playing with are in sixth grade so they should be much better than those a year or two older than me. Throughout the try-out, we were moved into groups based on our skill level until the final 28 remained.

Apparently, Coach Baker wants to develop an A and a B team for the Niner side league. out of the last twenty-eight kids, two starting lineups would be formed, and each team would gain five subs. Just being better than someone else isn't enough to get into the A team at least so I've heard. If someone is better than you at your position, you are likely to get sent to the B team unless you are just as good at another position.

It's quite ruthless but the intense atmosphere is oddly motivating since it reminds us to keep improving. Since the moment we slack off coach will have no problem finding someone ready to take our position. I don't really have to worry about this though as my goal is far above just being a regular team school

footballer. After all, if I can't even maintain my position in the team once I get it, I might as well never leave for Europe.

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[Fweet]

With the sound of the whistle that signalled the start of the battle on the green field, the red team striker passed the ball back to his midfielder kicking off the game.

Max the Red team's striker dashed towards the opponent's half without waiting to see what his teammate would do. Ryan who received the ball took a few steps forward before he sent a high through ball towards the opponent's box. However, before the speedy max could even think of touching it, the ball was fished out of the air by one of the tall defenders of the green team who goes by the name of Henrik.

Although his hair seems to cover his vision after heading the ball forward. It didn't stop him for a single second from dashing to the ball's landing position and bringing it under his control. Just like the biking warriors he seems to resemble in looks, his following actions are decisive as he didn't choose to hold onto the ball but instead sent it forward.

Just like an arrow the ball whisked along the ground taking a slight hop but arrived with pinpoint precision at its destination. Blake who suddenly found himself in possession of the ball took a moment before performing a one-eighty turn and stormed towards the red team's box.

Dribbling through the middle with a bit of gusto he headed straight towards Ryan, who seemed to be getting ready to snatch the ball off him. Keeping his cool as Ryan charged towards him, he performed a sudden stop as they were two yards away from each other and passed the ball to his left. The ball rolled a few yards before being picked up by Tom, causing Rayn to change course like a raging bull and run after him.

Tom didn't mind the chase as he simply accelerated his dribble heading straight towards the box. Looking at Jake coming to close him down he performed a quick feint to the left before chopping the ball to his right and successfully entering the opponent's box.

Not bothering with the defenders to his side he deftly created a bit of separation through a short burst of speed. Seeing his opportunity arrive before him he showed no hesitation before the goal unleashing a thunderous shot.