

LEGENDS 59

Chapter 59 No Chance for Debut in Sight... Again

****10th February 2020****

The aftermath of the Porto team's victory over their bitter rivals could be felt during the training session even after having a whole rest day.

The players were bubbling and their morale was high and this was clearly displayed in their attitudes as they trained harder than usual.

Even the special scrimmage format training session that the head manager had been making them do for the last few weeks was done with more enthusiasm today than ever and the wingers who were the focal point of this training session performed like superstars all through the duration of the training session.

There was just one person at the training ground who wasn't caught up in the enthusiasm along with the other team members. Jason didn't have any negative emotions because his team had won and he was in fact, quite happy for them, but he wasn't happy about his lack of involvement in the first team or in any matches for that matter.

If the coach didn't have plans to put him on the first team for the time being, then he should at least let him have some game time with the reserve team, but even that door was closed to him and he had been stuck on the training grounds for more than two weeks without any game time despite performing very well in training.

Players that he performed better than at training were getting game time and he was getting absolutely nothing. He had not been able to get even a whiff of professional football all this while and this was quite frankly, very frustrating, thus it was hard for him to be especially enthusiastic during training.

Jason was naturally a very patient person, especially in his past life, but that was because he knew that back then, he didn't have enough ability to warrant an outburst, even if he was the one being short-changed.

But things were different now, he could see that he had the ability to at least guarantee himself some playing time, yet he was still not being chosen by the manager to be added to the line-up.

So he wasn't in the correct frame of mind to be enthusiastic about the team's victory, but despite that, he did not skimp out on training as hard as possible because he knew that hard work would never disappoint him.

Working hard was his ticket into the team and despite how things didn't seem to be working out correctly, reducing his training would not help him change anything, so why would he stop working hard at training and bettering himself?

****12 February 2020****

The senior squad's training pitch at the CTFD Portogaia was currently filled with players undergoing various training drills in preparation for the Taca de Portugal match later in the day.

Suddenly the head manager arrived with his two assistant coaches and called for the players to gather around as he wanted to announce the line-up for the upcoming game.

"The players in the line-up for today's game are Diogo Costa, Diogo Leite, Chancel Mbemba..." the assistant coach, Vitor Bruno began speaking as soon as the last player arrived at the gathering of players.

The players listened eagerly to hear if they would be chosen by the manager for the game and the younger players listened more eagerly as this was a cup game and was usually a stage for the younger players.

Jason who was among the crowd of players listening eagerly for their names listened more eagerly than ever, but as more names were called and his still hadn't been called, his heart beat faster and faster while hoping against hope that he wouldn't be passed over yet again, yet unfortunately that didn't seem to be the case.

"Joao Mario, Vitor Ferreira, Fabio Silva, and Ze Luis," the assistant coach finished calling the names of the players in the line-up.

"For those that didn't make the line-up, don't give up and work harder during training and you'll soon get your chance..." Vitor Bruno was giving a motivational speech to the other players on the team who weren't selected for the line-up but Jason was no longer listening.

Or rather he didn't have the heart to listen to such words that had the opposite of their intended effect on him, and the only reason why he hadn't stormed off was that he still had enough emotional control to not show his displeasure on his face, but every time he wasn't selected on the line-up it was getting increasingly harder to keep his displeasure from showing on his face.

As soon as the assistant coach finished his speech, Jason walked off to go and continue his individual attention, doing his best to not pay any attention to the younger players on the team who had been chosen for the team's line-up.

He feared that seeing the joyous looks on their face might cause him to lose hold of his emotions that were currently stretched taut, but as he continued his individual training, his mind could not help going back to the line-up selection despite how hard he tried not to think about it.

Some of the younger teammates that he always tore up in training somehow managed to make it to the line-up while he who was capable of making those players no different from scarecrows was somehow skipped over.

It was absolutely maddening and his emotions swirled faster and faster until he couldn't take it any longer and had to stop the agility drill he was currently going through.

He straight-off walked off the pitch after, not even saying a word to the trainer who was helping him with the drill or any of the other players who were still training.

He went to wash up and threw his training equipment into his locker before moving to the car park in the training center, his objective being to leave this place as soon as possible.

Team training was already over at this point so there was no problem with his actions, but even if there were, he wouldn't have cared.

Jason jumped into his car and slammed on the accelerator as he drove out of the training complex's grounds, doing a drift as he got onto the main road.

From there on, he just kept on driving.