

- 1 TREY: Hey, if you start the relationship out with low
2 expectations, then the only way to go is up.
3 SETH: What relationship?!
- 4 TREY: The one Chelsea and I are going to have.
5 SETH: You are unbelievable!
6 TREY: I know.
7 SETH: It *wasn't* a compliment.
8 TREY: Maybe not to you. That's why you need to change your
9 shirt. Like I said, you can't handle being the mangy mutt.
10 SETH: (*Sighs heavily.*) Look. Just give me a shirt — a clean one
11 — to borrow, OK?

Locker Room Smack

(3 Guys)

CHARACTERS:

Chad: Basketball player who wants to quit after he sees the other team.

Vince: Basketball player who also wants to throw in the towel; afraid of being embarrassed.

Hunter: Basketball player who also is intimidated but tries to be optimistic; temporary captain.

SETTING:

Locker room before the big game. Star player is out. Other team has some very intimidating players; they look like giants. The guys are very dejected and ready to give up. Hunter takes his new role as temporary captain seriously and tries to rally the team.

1 VINCE: We might as well hand over the trophy now.
 2 CHAD: For real. Did you see those guys as they got off the bus?
 3 VINCE: They're giants! Real live giants!
 4 HUNTER: One of them actually hit his head on the roof! The
 5 roof of the bus! Do you *know* how tall that is?
 6 VINCE: It's gotta be close to eight feet!
 7 HUNTER: Come on, there's no way the guy was eight feet tall!
 8 CHAD: Well, a good six feet then! The guy was taller than my
 9 dad! Have you seen my dad? They didn't call him "Flag
 10 Pole" in high school for nothing.
 11 VINCE: So where'd you get your height from? Your mom? Or
 12 your little sister?
 13 CHAD: Funny. I just haven't had my growth spurt yet. It's
 14 coming. Believe me, it's coming.
 15 HUNTER: Well, if you could get that to come — like right now —
 16 that'd be great!
 17 CHAD: No one's supposed to be that tall at our age. It's unnatural.
 18 CHAD: Yeah. These guys must have all flunked a couple of grades!
 19 VINCE: Really. There's no way they're supposed to be in middle
 20 school.
 21 HUNTER: Coach needs to check their records. The school
 22 probably brought their high school — or college — team to
 23 beat us!
 24 CHAD: You think maybe they're taking steroids or something?
 25 HUNTER: Steroids don't make you taller — just more muscular.
 26 VINCE: Well, they've got that going on, too. Did you see the
 27 guns on number twenty-three? He's going to pulverize us!
 28 CHAD: Number three was pretty ripped, too. He was practically
 29 splitting out the front of his jersey. Like the Hulk.
 30 VINCE: (*Groaning.*) We are so dead.
 31 HUNTER: Maybe we can just let them all foul out.
 32 CHAD: You think we could survive a foul by one of them? We'll
 33 lose our whole team to injuries!
 34 VINCE: Chad's right. We haven't got a chance! Especially not
 35 without Rick!

1 CHAD: I can't believe he hurt his ankle this week! *This week!*
 2 HUNTER: Coach said he's out for the rest of the season.
 3 CHAD: After tonight, we'll *all* be out for the season.
 4 VINCE: Maybe we should just save ourselves the embarrassment
 5 and quit now.
 6 HUNTER: Come on. We might be small, but we're not quitters.
 7 VINCE: I am *not* small. I may not be gargantuan like those apes,
 8 but I am not small!
 9 CHAD: My girlfriend is going to be out there. I don't want to look
 10 like a fool in front of her.
 11 HUNTER: (*Trying to ease the situation*) Why should tonight be any
 12 different?
 13 CHAD: Very funny. The only reason you don't care as much is
 14 because you warm the bench half the time anyway. You'll
 15 be safe sitting on the sidelines!
 16 HUNTER: I do not! Who made three baskets last game?
 17 VINCE: Ooooh! Three whole baskets? Wow! We should've
 18 dedicated the game ball to you!
 19 HUNTER: It's not my job to take the shots — it's yours! I'm
 20 supposed to block.
 21 CHAD: Well, good luck with that tonight! I want to see you try
 22 to block one of those animals!
 23 VINCE: We're going to be the laughingstock of the whole school
 24 after this.
 25 HUNTER: Come on. Maybe they're tall and dumb. Maybe they
 26 can't even dribble with those big long legs.
 27 CHAD: Now you're dreaming.
 28 HUNTER: Think about giraffes. All tall and clumsy. Maybe
 29 they've all got two left feet.
 30 VINCE: So what if they do? They'll still be able to push right
 31 past us!
 32 CHAD: Yeah, call me crazy, but *I'm* not getting in their way.
 33 HUNTER: So we'll go around them. We'll be fast and quick —
 34 like bees buzzing around their heads.
 35 VINCE: (*Shaking his head in disbelief*) You're going to end up like

1 a bug smashed on a car windshield.
 2 HUNTER: Listen. Every team has to have a weakness. What if
 3 they can't even shoot the ball?
 4 VINCE: They don't need to shoot; they can just stand there and
 5 drop it in.
 6 CHAD: I bet they could just play three players and still beat us.
 7 VINCE: With their hands tied behind their backs.
 8 HUNTER: If Rick were here, he wouldn't be letting you talk like
 9 this.
 10 CHAD: Well, Rick's not here, is he?
 11 HUNTER: You're just letting them get in your head. We all are.
 12 We need to focus on the positive instead of panicking.
 13 VINCE: What positive?
 14 HUNTER: Well, for one, we are undefeated this season.
 15 CHAD: Big whoop. We've only played two games.
 16 HUNTER: And won them both.
 17 VINCE: One team didn't even have uniforms. I think it was the
 18 school's first year to even have a basketball team.
 19 CHAD: I'd hardly call that a huge victory, Hunter.
 20 HUNTER: But our last game was close. Remember that?
 21 CHAD: Yeah. And we had Rick! Our captain. Our star player.
 22 Without him, we wouldn't even be able to win against a
 23 normal, non-giant-sized team!
 24 HUNTER: That's not true! You guys know it takes more than
 25 one person to make a winning team. We all have a role. A
 26 responsibility. We just have to work together —
 27 VINCE: Is this your idea of a pep talk? *(Pause)* Wait a minute!
 28 Did coach make you captain?
 29 HUNTER: *(Looking down like he doesn't want to tell them)* Well, he
 30 might have said something about temporary —
 31 VINCE: You? Captain?! That's not fair! I've been playing ball two
 32 more years than you!
 33 CHAD: *(To VINCE)* And I've been playing two more years than
 34 you! *(To HUNTER)* Why would coach make you captain?
 35 HUNTER: Hey! What's wrong with me being captain? I might not

1 have played ball as long as either of you, but I'm just as
 2 good a ball player.
 3 VINCE: You wish! You can't even slam-dunk!
 4 CHAD: I can dribble circles around you!
 5 HUNTER: Well, maybe being a captain is about more than
 6 playing ball!
 7 VINCE: Maybe, if you're captain of the chess club or the swim
 8 team, but being captain of this team means it's *all* about
 9 playing ball.
 10 CHAD: You have to live, eat, and breathe basketball to be a
 11 captain.
 12 HUNTER: Really? Is that why you were ready to quit a minute
 13 ago? Because you live, eat, and breathe basketball?
 14 CHAD: I was just caught up in the fear ... but fear makes a
 15 player great! Did you know that? Huh, Mr. Captain? Did you
 16 know that?
 17 VINCE: ... and I was just trying to pump us up ... get us ready
 18 for the big game!
 19 HUNTER: You call that pumping us up? Weren't you the one that
 20 wanted to hand over the win? Without even trying?
 21 VINCE: It was just a figure of speech. I was hoping you guys
 22 would get mad! Become the fighters that I know you can be!
 23 HUNTER: Yeah, right. Don't even try to be motivational now! If
 24 you were temporary captain, we would've quit fifteen
 25 minutes ago.
 26 CHAD: Really, Vince. You're so full of bull. You took one look at
 27 those guys and came running in here like a dog with his tail
 28 in between his legs.
 29 HUNTER: That's it! *(Says this loudly as if he's just gotten an idea.)*
 30 VINCE: What? What's it?
 31 HUNTER: They're so tall; we'll just run in between their legs!
 32 VINCE: *(Laughing)* What is that saying? The bigger you are, the
 33 harder you fall?
 34 CHAD: Then we're in for one heck of an earthquake if one of
 35 those dudes hits the ground!

1 HUNTER: We just need a strategy.
 2 VINCE: (*Teasing*) And quitting isn't a strategy?
 3 HUNTER and CHAD: *No!*
 4 VINCE: Just kidding. I'm willing to go get pulverized if you guys are.
 5 HUNTER: So what else have we got? We need some secret
 6 weapons! An ace in the hole!
 7 CHAD: My girlfriend's pretty hot; I can have her try to distract
 8 them!
 9 VINCE: Awesome! Just don't let her distract *you!*
 10 HUNTER: We could douse ourselves in really strong body spray.
 11 They'll be gagging so much, they won't be able to play!
 12 CHAD: Killer! What else have we got?
 13 VINCE: When they're sitting on the bench, I'll distract them and
 14 you sneak under their chairs and tie their shoelaces
 15 together!
 16 CHAD: No way! They'd kill me if they saw me!
 17 VINCE: Glue on the soles of their shoes?
 18 HUNTER: Or maybe on the basketball! We'll never get to touch
 19 it anyway!
 20 CHAD: I know! We'll turn the heat up in the gym! Bodies that
 21 big are sure to get hot quick. They'll be passing out in no
 22 time!
 23 VINCE: Sure, after they've sweated a river for us to drown in!
 24 HUNTER: Maybe we can reduce the oxygen in the room — the
 25 air's got to be thinner way up where they are!
 26 CHAD: I say we pants them! Can you imagine those guys with
 27 their shorts around their ankles?
 28 VINCE: Uh, no. Thank goodness. But I can imagine what your
 29 face would look like if you so much as went near their
 30 pants.
 31 CHAD: Good point.
 32 HUNTER: I've got it! What about their academic records?
 33 There's no way those monster jocks have the required
 34 GPAs to play! We just need to call their school and get
 35 them disqualified!

1 VINCE: We don't have time! Didn't you just hear the buzzer? It's
 2 time for us to take the gym and warm up!
 3 CHAD: (*Getting serious*) Well, guys. (*Pats them on the back.*) It's
 4 been nice knowing you.
 5 VINCE: I'll really miss you guys. Tell my family that I love them.
 6 HUNTER: What makes you think we'll survive?
 7 VINCE: Well, they'll obviously go after me.
 8 CHAD: You? Why?
 9 VINCE: Star player. You know. Take out the leader and the rest
 10 will fall.
 11 CHAD: Star player? *Leader?* Since when did you become either
 12 one of those?
 13 VINCE: (*Patting him on the back*) Come on, dude. You know it's true.
 14 CHAD: It is not! Who got MVP last year? Oh yeah. That's right.
 15 Me! If they're going to take anyone out, it's going to be me!
 16 HUNTER: You? What about me? I'm the captain —
 17 CHAD: *Temporary* captain —
 18 HUNTER: They're going to zero in and demolish me. Without a
 19 captain, the team is sure to fall apart! (*The three guys walk*
 20 *off still arguing — "yeah, right." "Well, we'll just see won't we?"*)