

Kagehina Week

Von Nitschieh

Kapitel 4: Games/Matches

"Hey, what are you guys doing?"

Nishinoya bounced into place next to Tanaka, dragging Azumane with him. The buzzcut quickly put his index finger to his own lips, gesturing to the two arrivals to be quiet. His eyes were fixed on a certain pair of kouhais right in front of him who were... actually just staring at each other.

"Staring contest. I'm the referee."

Nishinoya's eyes basically sparkled with excitement at those news. He nodded once.

"Got it. Rules?"

Tanaka didn't look away while he explained:

"Whoever looks or laughs first loses."

Nishinoya nodded again, twice this time.

"I see. Blinking?"

"Allowed."

More nodding. Nishinoya suddenly realised that he had also fixed his gaze on the two freshmen. He had also started to hold onto Azumane's sleeve out of excitement.

"Penalty?"

"Winner decides."

"Oh, good one."

Azumane watched the second years who by now seemed just as concentrated as the contenders, but soon he joined his teammates in setting up the net. Nishinoya had only reluctantly let go of his sleeve.

The four teenage boys kept staring in silence until the libero asked:

"But isn't it kind of unfair? Shouyou laughs much more often and he's always intimidated when Kageyama stares at him..."

He could basically see Hinata's urge to properly defend himself radiate out of his body but the wing spiker didn't waver. Tanaka chuckled.

"He actually set up the rules."

Nishinoya turned towards Tanaka for a second to show his confusion before he concentrated back on the duo.

"He did?"

"Yeah, I guess Kageyama provoked him..."

"Probably..."

The four boys sat together in silence for a few more minutes. At some time Sawamura shouted over to them to get ready for practice but neither moved a muscle. Soon they could hear the other ones get ready because the sound of bouncing balls filled the whole gym. Still, Hinata and Kageyama kept going.

Nishinoya nudged Tanaka with his elbow to get his attention and whispered:

"I'm impressed that Shouyou's still in."

Tanaka nodded curtly and was about to answer when suddenly they could hear Yamaguchi's voice close to them:

"Tsukki, that was too high."

And while Nishinoya and Tanaka heard Yamaguchi run closer they could only watch how the volleyball hit Kageyama in the back of his head, very similar to Hinata's serve from their first official match.

The impact of the ball caused the setter to stumble forwards, his eyes wide, right into Hinata. With a yelp Kageyama crushed into him and they unceremoniously landed on the ground.

Suddenly the whole gym was quiet, save for the ball that had hit Kageyama and was now bouncing off. Everyone stared at the freshmen duo, lying on top of each other, their lips pressed together after the fall.

Tanaka was the first one to react; he started laughing loudly and rolled all over the floor while Kageyama and Hinata scrambled to their feet with flushed faces. They took two deep breaths and then the redhead blurted out "Please excuse us!", before dragging Kageyama off towards the lockers outside.

When the door had closed, Nishinoya looked at Tanaka and simply stated:

"I'd say it's a tie."

