

The Field

Written by

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**EXT. DAY. AN OPEN FIELD.**

It is a sunny day.

We see shots of the ball being kicked around and the children are having a good time. The boys are getting rough with the ball. High challenges and kicks are common.

We see a boy cycling down the road and reaching the gates of the field. He slowly locks his cycle to the gate and enters the field. He then sits on a nearby ledge. Everything he does seems to be clumsy and he fails to complete the simplest of tasks quickly.

The boy is visibly nervous and is shaking a little. The audience doesn't know this but he is new to the locality and this is his first time in the field.

The new kid ponders his thoughts for a moment before mustering up some courage. He gets up and heads towards the crowd of boys.

**NEW KID**

(Stammering a bit) Hey..  
um... can I uh... play  
some..

**BOY 1**

(interrupting him)-  
football with us?

**NEW KID**

Yeah-h.

**BOY 1**

Are you new here?

**NEW KID**

Yeah-h.

**BOY 1**

(thinking for a moment and  
looking at him, almost  
examining him, almost  
rating him as if he is a  
product) OK, come on then.

The new kid becomes really excited and a smile appears on his face for the first time today. Boy 1 and the new kid start moving towards the other kids who are looking on at the two of them. There a few whispers and murmurs which catches the attention of the boy.

The boys then take turns turns choosing the players for the teams.

**BOY 1 (CONT'D)**

I'll take him.  
(pointing at one of the boys)

**TALL KID**

thinking for a moment at the remaining options) I'll take him.

The new kid is the only guy left. Both the boys look at each other slowly.

**TALL KID (CONT'D)**

(sighing) Okay, I'll take the new guy but when Kartik comes he is in my team and the new guy goes to yours. Deal?

**BOY 1**

Deal.

The boy set out onto the field and the game begins.

The new kid quickly settles in well and makes a few good passes. Everything is going well. Too well. This seems to good to be true.

He then shoots at goal and misses badly.

A few of the kids snicker at him and then murmur amongst themselves. The new kid becomes really nervous and starts playing conservatively.

He becomes really nervous and starts shaking again. The whispers of the other boys continues in his ears. It feels like he is alone in a vast field.

A few minutes pass and the new kid slowly begins to regain some amount of confidence. Maybe, just maybe, things are picking up again.

BAM! One of the boys tackles the new kid to the floor. The new kid is clearly in some pain as he clutches his knee. His elbow is also bruised.

**TALL KID**

(Sarcastically) Are you okay? I didn't mean to do that.

(MORE)

TALL KID (CONT'D)  
 (Begins to laugh with  
 others behind his back)

Boy 1 is also laughing but eventually offers a hand to the new kid. The new kid gets up and dusts off the dirt from his elbows and knees. He is at rock bottom.

He starts playing again but the way he runs suddenly becomes really awkward. He doesn't know why but he cannot run or even walk properly now. The fall seems to have injured him.

The new kid now begins to doubt even himself and his ability to do such a simple thing as playing. The tall kid begins to mimic the way the new kid runs and this generates a few laughs.

The murmurs and laughs in the background continues to become louder and louder. It begins to become unbearable.

**UNKNOWN VOICE**

(off-camera)

Have you seen the way he runs?

**UNKNOWN VOICE 2**

(off-camera)

My dog can shoot a ball better

**UNKNOWN VOICE 3**

(off-camera)

Does he think he can just suddenly  
 come and play with us?

Suddenly, another boy arrives on a cycle. This boy is really athletic and seems to be really popular with all the other kids.

The way the athletic kid arrives with his cycle is totally different from the way the new kid arrived. There is some flair and pomp in the way the athletic kid arrives that was lacking in the new kid.

The other kids go and greet the athletic kid. The new kid is left behind on his own. After some Hi's! and Sup macha's!, the boys begin to gossip amongst each other.

We can hear a words and phrases but no discernible as we listening from the point of the new kid.

The new kid watches the other kids talk and chat as if they have been friends for a thousand years. The new kid feels left out and just rolls the ball on the floor, left alone in his thoughts.

After a few minutes of chatting, the game finally resumes in what has been an eternity for the new kid. He feels really left out and alone in this moment.

The athletic boy immediately controls the game and scores a goal within his first minutes of play. Its a spectacular finish into the bottom corner.

The boys on his team gather round him and celebrate. After celebrating his goal, he notices the new kid and starts smiling.

When play restarts, the athletic boy get the ball and humiliates the new kid with a few slick moves and passes.

The athletic boy then mouths something towards the others, along the lines of:

**ATHLETIC BOY**

Who is this fellow da?

The athletic then continues talking while laughing.

The athletic boy clearly insults the new kid but it is inaudible to the audience. The athletic boy and the other boys start laughing.

The new kid stands in a corner, all alone. Suddenly the whispers and murmurs come back to haunt the new kid.

This time, it is louder than ever and now we cannot hear anything else. The noise takes over the audio. The new kid closes his ears but the sound is still audible.

The new kid is having a panic attack. Everyone is laughing at him. He is all alone.

Suddenly, we hear a THUMP!

We suddenly cut and see that the new kid is still sitting on the ledge. Everything that has happened so far, was his imagination. He has been too afraid to ask the other boys if he can play. In that time, he has envisioned all the negative outcomes of him asking the boys if he can play with them.

The new kid looks down and sees the ball at his feet. The THUMP! was due to the ball hitting his feet.

The first boy, who initially asked the new kid to play in his vision, comes and asks for the ball.

**BOY 1**

(Looking backwards at the other boys and grinning )

(MORE)

BOY 1 (CONT'D)

Yeah, I'm getting the ball (Looking  
at the new kid) Can I have the  
ball?

The new kid is still nervous but kicks the ball over to the first boy.

The first boy turns back to return to his friends but sees the new kid all alone, visibly nervous and afraid. He looks at the boy again and repeats a haunting dialogue from the beginning of the story.

**BOY 1** (CONT'D)

Hey... Um... Do you want to play  
with us?

The camera turns back to the new boy and the scene cuts to black. The audience is left to wonder if the boy musters up enough courage to play or lets his inner fears dominate him.

Text reading an inspirational message of not letting your internal fear control your life plays on the screen.

Credits roll.

THE END