

## If You Don't Play, You'll Never Win

### Prologue

School is SO boring, so some people say, but I'm different. Ever since Sixth grade, I've learned that learning is almost everything. I am Sophia London, and this is my story!

### Chapter 1

In my school, I'm considered "un-cool" ever since fifth grade. The school science fair was a total disaster. This is what happened, I was going to test my volcano project. I got everything that I needed. Vinegar, pudding, wait.....what? I remember being confused, so what I did is I just added pudding instead of red dye so I added my baking soda and BOOOM! Pudding was EVERYWHERE! People were screaming and the judges looked mad. One "scientist" had pudding all over her protective glasses! She took the glasses off and there was no pudding were the glasses were supposed to be, the pudding had globbed all over her face! I realized that I had ruined my science fair. "Sophie London!" Mr. Mantell, the Principal shouted as he licked some pudding off of his hand. "Yum, what kind of pudding is this? Its delicious!"

"It's the Aladdin Mason brand" I replied quietly.

Of course, I had to clean up the mess. I got called "Pudding Monster" and "Pudding Pants" for a whole month. Until Mr. Mantle heard about it and put a stop to it! Just thinking about the entire dilemma makes me shiver. But now, here I am, made it to Sixth grade without being called "Pudding Monster" or "Pudding Pants". HOORAY!

Sixth grade is NOT easy! We talked about things like "As" what does that even mean?

"Hi Pudding Pants!" queen bee Makenzie shouted even though I was LITERALLY an inch away from her. WOW, I thought, some people don't even know they are right in front of someone.

"What do you want Makenzie?" I snapped.

“Well, Miss bossy pants” she sneered. “Tomorrow is my birthday and I want you to make pudding! How does that sound?” She patted my head and her and her friends sashayed away. Apparently, she doesn’t know it’s MY birthday tomorrow, but she let me with no choice. Sometimes, she is like the wicked witch of the west. Let me rephrase that, she IS the wicked witch of the west. Sometimes, I want to dump water on her head so she melts. “Hi Taya” , I sighed a sigh of relief. Taya is my best friend. “Don’t let them boss you around Sophe.” She said annoyed. I know she was going to say more. But her expression on her face said enough. Then her face turned angry to EXPLODING with happiness. “Happy Early Birthday Sophe!” she squealed! “How will Twelve feel? Take a guess”

“Uhhhh....” Is all I managed to say.

“Its ok Sophe, I know it’ll feel awesome!”

I rolled my eyes at her. “Okay Taya, what do you want?” I asked with enthusiasm.

“Welll.....” she smiled sheepishly.

“I was wondering if you’ll try out for the school soccer team with me tomorrow? Please.” She let out a breath.

“Slow your roll, sister!” I joked. Mom said Taya is a person full of decorum.

The next morning, I woke up, Twelve.

## Chapter 12

Taya gave me a gift at school, it was a sparkly blue and purple soccer ball, just like the one I saw at the mall with her last week. We walked to the gym to try out for soccer. We dribbled, kicked, passed, and scored. It turned out to be easier than we thought! Luckily, we both got the final spots!

The first period went by very slowly, then our teacher Ms. Cooper, said something, very inspiring during our math lesson. “ Do any of you play soccer?” I rose my hand. “Well, you’ll have to remember this. When you block the goal and someone scores a goal, you may think

soccer is kinda hard. Like in math, don't make math problems harder than they actually are. You are tougher than any math problem."

I rose my head from my desk. "I believe that all of you have the potential to do what ever you want when you grow up! Right now, math is important, it will get you a job to help support your family. Please remember what I'm saying! It will take you far!" Everyone believed her but not sure why she told us that, its as if she read the future.

As I walked out of math class, me and Taya saw Makenzie fluttering with her new presents as if she was showing them off for all to see. Gold wrapping paper was scattered all around her feet.

"You guys are SO kind, you shouldn't have!" Then she saw me and Taya standing there.

"Well if it isn't little miss bossy pants and the pudding monster!" she and her friends laughed.

"Happy Birthday looser!" said Makenzie.

"Happy Birthday." I said quietly back. "How 'bout we have a soccer game to see who is a pro at soccer?" Mad Mac said gravely.

"Fine."I said . Then she and her friends walked away.

Me and Taya exchanged high fives and walked down to the soccer field.

When Makenzie and her "helper bees" got onto the soccer field, they had glitter, jewels, and more all on their uniforms. ( Jersey's). "What?" Makenzie must have saw me starring at her.

There was only 2 of us,( Me & taya.) "Well, well, well, looks like the team LOSER is entering the soccer field!" Mad Mac said as she used a pretend microphone. ( For some WACKY reason she brought her hair brush as if the game involved popstars like Taylor swift.)

We knew we were going to lose, *but* that did not stop us at all.

" LET THE GAMES BIGEN!" said Taya. We were off.

Kicking, scoring, and WINNING!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Me and Taya WON!

45 to 56!

BOY, you should have seen Mac's face! It looked like she ate a lemon, WHOLE!

I went over to Mac and said, "If you don't play you'll never win."

The next day Mac was NICE to me!

I also learned that ...

1. I did not have to make pudding,
2. THAT WHEN YOU TRY SOMETHING, NEVER GIVE UP!
3. Be yourself,and that's how I got to the olympics.

FAST FORWARD 10 YEARS LATER.

"Sophie London shots and scores FOR TEAM U.S.A!"  
I was in the Olympics all because I followed my dreams.  
I saw Taya in the crowd holding a sign that said...

**IF YOU DON'T PLAY, YOU'LL NEVER WIN!**

*The*  
*End!*