

Tyler - M, 16 - Smart; caring; athlete

Scene 1. Finley and Tyler sit at a large desk in the school's library for study hall.

FINLEY

Last card. What is the name of the seer who tells Odin secrets?

TYLER

Mimir!

FINLEY

Got it! I think we have this stuff pretty much memorized.

TYLER

And Montgomery's tests completely rely on our memorization of her PowerPoint presentations.

FINLEY

Exactly. That'll really help us in college.

TYLER

I'm getting the feeling that none of this is preparing us for anything.

FINLEY

Guess you'll just have to rely on that big brain of yours to get you into Cornwall University.

TYLER

I have to. Or at least, I have to try. Anything less is...I need a full-ride. Y'know?

FINLEY

What, you don't want student loans the rest of your life?

TYLER

Well, I thought about it, and I decided...I'm good.

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FINLEY

(laughs)

You sure?

TYLER

And what about you?

FINLEY

What about me?

TYLER

Miss service hours, miss honors
society, miss I-take-every-AP-class-
under-the-sun. And this?

Tyler picks up Finley's elaborately organized planner.

FINLEY

Hey!

TYLER

If I didn't know any better, I'd take
one look at this planner and say "Yep,
she's a serial killer."

Finley grabs her planner back from Tyler playfully.

FINLEY

I just like to be organized! And I
can't rely on my nonexistent
athleticism to get into my dream
school.

TYLER

No, but you could submit this planner
with your application, and I'd say
you're definitely getting in.

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Scene 2. Tyler and Derek practicing soccer.

DEREK

Damn, Tyler. I know I haven't lost my edge, guess you're just that good. Next time, I'll bring even more heat for you. Let's call it here for today.

TYLER

Awesome. I should shower soon, anyway. I'd prefer to not smell like BO at the pep rally.

DEREK

Yeah, I get it. You don't want to chase the cheerleaders away.

TYLER

(laughs)

I'm not really worried about the cheerleaders, Derek.

DEREK

You're not? Take one look at them and tell me you aren't into them. You do realize that cheerleader outfits make them objectively hot, right? Like, a five in a cheerleader skirt is a objectively an eight.

TYLER

I guess.

DEREK

You're one of the best players on the team. That comes with some perks. You can have any girl you want.

TYLER

I don't like any of the cheerleaders, though.

DEREK

What are you using your GOAT status for, then?

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TYLER

Scholarships?

DEREK

Oh god, Tyler. How have I failed you so badly?!

(beat)

Wait, you're not like...one of those.

TYLER

What?

DEREK

You know.

TYLER

I like girls, if that's what you're getting at. You really shouldn't say "one of those."

DEREK

Okay, Mr. Identity Politics. That's not even what I meant. You know I'm woke.

TYLER

Nobody says that unironically anymore.

DEREK

Ugh. Fine. Forget it. No more helpful life advice from Derek.

(beat)

Do I sound like an old man if I talk about teenagers already knowing everything?

TYLER

You're not old. And I like your advice. Mostly. There is this one girl I like.

DEREK

Who? Emily? I don't blame you, man. Dump. Truck.

TYLER

No, not Emily. Her name's Finley. We have study hall together this year, so I've really gotten to know her.

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DEREK

Are you talking about Finley Cosgrave?

TYLER

Yeah, do you know her?

DEREK

I know of her; I've never actually met her. Hasn't she been watching practices lately?

TYLER

I'm not sure. I think I saw her in the stands once or twice.

DEREK

Tyler, you don't have to act cool around me. You're fully aware that your girl is watching you play. Even if it is just at practice.

TYLER

(sheepish, stuttering)

Well, maybe.