

**Olivia - F, 14 - Enthusiastic; youthful; naïve**

Derek and Olivia practicing outside on the soccer field.

DEREK  
Eyes on the prize, Olivia.

OLIVIA  
Oh, I see the prize, Derek.

Hard kick and swoosh of a soccer net.

DEREK  
Freaking aces. Great job, phenom!

OLIVIA  
Well, I did get some good coaching.

DEREK  
That footwork though. Sheesh. It's been a while since I've seen such fast feet. So why haven't you scored yet in a game?

OLIVIA  
I dunno.

DEREK  
Too much pressure?

OLIVIA  
Ha! I eat pressure for breakfast.

DEREK  
(laughs)  
That's right. You did kill in the tryouts. In fact, in the last four years, I've only seen two other freshmen land a varsity spot.  
(beat)  
Wait a second. I see it.

OLIVIA  
What? What do you see?

DEREK  
I saw it right there on your face.

OLIVIA

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Complete and utter confusion?

DEREK

No. When I said that "I've only seen two other freshmen," your face got all scrunchy.

OLIVIA

I did not scrunch my face.

DEREK

Yes, you did. It's the other girls, right?

OLIVIA

I don't know what you're talking about.

DEREK

Are they...bullying you?

OLIVIA

Don't be so dramatic. They're not mean girls.

DEREK

Then? Spill it, phenom. You should be putting goals on the scoreboard.

OLIVIA

Ughhh. Fine. I don't like to complain. It's an honor just to be on the field with the varsity team.

DEREK

But?

OLIVIA

Okay. So. You know this team has been working together for a couple of years. I think...I'm just invisible to them.

DEREK

I see you.

OLIVIA

Thanks.

DEREK

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You're talented. Yes, you are a freshman, but that also makes you special.

OLIVIA

Right. Fresh face but totally undeserving of their plays.

DEREK

Nope. Screw them. You don't need them.

OLIVIA

Uh, soccer is kind of a team sport. "Team" being the important word.

DEREK

Yes, but a striker doesn't need their friendship or camaraderie. Strikers just need goals. And if I'm being honest, I think they're jealous. They know you're going to surpass all of their talents combined.

OLIVIA

You really think I'm talented?

DEREK

The best I've ever seen, phenom. You just need to strike.