

SUTTON
I think Youngblood's still drunk.

Chadwick looks at Sutton, stink eyed.

SUTTON (CONT'D)
Water intoxication.

Youngblood pulls himself together and stumbles over from the group. He leans on his stick to keep from falling over. Youngblood stick handles the puck and shoots at rapid speed. One by one, he scores four for four.

Bulldogs cheer, mostly in relief. There's no question Youngblood got SKILLS, but he's in no mood to celebrate. Sutton looks at an expressionless Chadwick, waiting for him to concede.

CHADWICK
Hit the showers!

Bulldogs tap Youngblood with their sticks as they head off the ice. Suddenly, his stomach begins to turn. Youngblood feels something coming up, leans over the boards and BARFS.

59

INT. FIRSTONTARIO CENTRE, HALLWAY, OFFICE - DAY

59

Youngblood struts down the hall in sweats, psyched up, ready for Chadwick. He slows overhearing a passionate conversation from inside the office. The door is ajar. Youngblood peeks in unnoticed --

→
START Sc. 2

JESSIE
Do you think I don't understand how important this decision is?

CHADWICK
So when are you going to make up your mind?

JESSIE
When I get my SAT results.

CHADWICK
Even with the scholarship and the grants. Four years at an American College will cost a lot of money, then what?

JESSIE
That was honest.

Sides by Breakdown Services - Actors Access

CHADWICK

It's the truth.

JESSIE

I can respect that. Doesn't mean I have to like it. What do you mean, then what?

CHADWICK

(with reason)

Look Jess. You're smart, you're a gifted athlete, and you're eighteen. This isn't just about hockey. What kind of life do you want for yourself? Does it make sense to go to the states -- just to play backup behind a senior goaltender? You got your academic interests at University of Toronto, a great scholarship offer and they want you to be the number one starter.

Continue here

Jessie takes in her dad's reasoning. But Chadwick is distracted by some movement in the hall.

CHADWICK (CONT'D)

Who's out there?

Jessie turns to see --

Youngblood poke his head in. He's surprised to see Jessie.

YOUNGBLOOD

I was hoping we could talk coach?

JESSIE

It's okay, dad, I got a paper to write anyway.

Jessie rises to go. She kisses her dad on the cheek and grabs her backpack.

Youngblood waits in the hall with this new insight, when Jessie steps out of the office.

JESSIE (CONT'D)

(whispers)

Maybe that prick will play you in Peterborough.

YOUNGBLOOD

Thanks.



Jessie wants to laugh, and keeps walking.

^{What?} CHADWICK (O.C.)
What's that, Youngblood?

YOUNGBLOOD
Oh.. uh.. Nothing, Coach.

Youngblood enters the office, still processing that Jessie is Chadwick's daughter.

CHADWICK
Have a seat.

Youngblood closes the door and sits. He glances at a photo of Jessie in Goal for the Hamilton Jr. Sabres on the desk.

YOUNGBLOOD
Your daughter is a goalie?

CHADWICK
Sharp observation Youngblood.

YOUNGBLOOD
Is she any good?

Chadwick takes offense. But his response is more complimentary defending his daughter.

Describe

CHADWICK
Jessie won gold with the U-18 Canadian National Team, and set a league record for most wins with the U-20 Jr. Sabres this year. She's got scholarship offers from Canadian and NCAA division one schools. Yeah, she's pretty good.

Youngblood looks at another photo; Chadwick in a Bruins jersey holding 9-year-old Jessie in his arms.

CHADWICK (CONT'D)
You want to talk about your ice-time.

Chadwick is ahead of him and it throws Youngblood off. He hadn't anticipated, but experience does that.

YOUNGBLOOD
I need to play, Coach. I got a lot riding on this and...

CHADWICK

I'm sorry, you want to coach the team? How about I just pack up, retire to Florida and die.

YOUNGBLOOD

C'mon, Coach.

Chadwick pulls out his car key...

CHADWICK

And here's my car keys, you want them, too?

YOUNGBLOOD

We both know Sutton needs a winger who can keep pace and feed him the puck. You don't have anybody like me on this team.

CHADWICK

Everyone on this team earns what they get, Youngblood.

YOUNGBLOOD

Then let me earn it?

CHADWICK

Goal!
You know how many guys come through this league, score a bunch of fancy goals and disappear when the competition gets tough?

YOUNGBLOOD

I'm not going back to Southfield.

There's desperation in Youngblood's voice and Chadwick sees the kid is serious.

YOUNGBLOOD (CONT'D)

I want you to doubt me, Coach. It's been that way my whole life. But if you put me on the ice in Peterborough, you have a better chance to win.

Youngblood heads out and leaves it with Chadwick to decide.

"SPIRIT IN THE SKY" BY NORMAN GREENBAUM comes in.

Youngblood is ready to go, but stuck on the bench again. He exchanges a look with Chadwick, who turns his attention back to the game. Frustrated, Youngblood just stewes in it.

Racki skates into the Bulldogs zone with the puck, passes across ice to Torres who rifles a one-timer that beats Suzuki on the blocker side. The PETES SCORE!

Youngblood looks on, pissed, while Racki and his Petes celebrate the goal.

SCOREBOARD: **BULLDOGS 0 - PETES 2**

← END Sc. 2

65

INT. PETERBOROUGH MEMORIAL, ARENA - 2ND PERIOD - NIGHT 65

ON THE BENCH Sutton sits next to Youngblood who is itching to go, watching the play on the ice.

A PETES POWER FORWARD nails **PETROZZA (18)**, and the Bulldogs winger lands hard. Petrozza peels himself off the ice, holding his shoulder which looks widely out of place. He slides onto the bench where ERVIN looks him over.

ERVIN
Lift your arm.

PETROZZA
I'm good to go! Just a scratch.

Petrozza grits his teeth. He can barely lift his arm an inch and it's disgusting. Ervin looks to Chadwick, shakes his head and helps Petrozza to the dressing room.

CHADWICK
(without looking)
...Youngblood. Take left wing on
Sutton's line.

Youngblood's eyes flick to Chadwick.

SUTTON
I'll keep an eye on him coach.

Coach nods. Sutton turns to Youngblood.

SUTTON (CONT'D)
After one shift all the nerves will
fade, you'll be feeling it.

Youngblood ignores him, stands at attention, a ready soldier. On the fly he jumps mongoose-fast over the boards. Sutton jumps on the ice, too.

Sides by Breakdown Services - Actors Access

Sides by Breakdown Services - Actors Access