



Spring 5-3-2023

## A New Era

Bridget Dietz  
bdietz@poets.whittier.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://poetcommons.whittier.edu/scholars>

 Part of the [Film Production Commons](#), and the [Screenwriting Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Dietz, B. (2023). A New Era. Retrieved from <https://poetcommons.whittier.edu/scholars/29>

This Visual Works is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Scholarship & Research at Poet Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Whittier Scholars Program by an authorized administrator of Poet Commons. For more information, please contact [library@whittier.edu](mailto:library@whittier.edu).

A New Era

By: [Bridget Dietz](#)

FADE IN:

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD-NIGHT

BEGIN MONTAGE

The scoreboard shows that it's the fourth quarter with a first down and two minutes left with the ball on the home team who is losing 24-30. The center hikes the ball to the quarterback who throws it to Cameron Taylor, 17. Cameron catches the ball and starts to run with it. She is ten yards from the end zone when a player from the opposing team knocks her down. She lies there in pain as players and coaches crowd around her.

END MONTAGE

CUT TO:

2 YEARS LATER

INT. MEGAN'S KITCHEN-AFTERNOON

Cameron (19) is standing in her best friend Megan's kitchen telling her about how depressed she is.

CAMERON

I don't know, it was getting harder to get out of bed every day. I'd just lay there and think what's the point of going to school?

MEGAN

It's okay to take a break.

CAMERON

I know, but I feel like I'm going backwards living with my Mom.

(looks down at phone and sees a missed call)

MEGAN

Is that him again?

CAMERON

Yeah.

MEGAN

You haven't called him back yet?

CAMERON

No. I don't really know what to say. Or if I should even do it.

MEGAN

I think you should. It might be good for you to talk to him.

CAMERON

I don't know. I don't wanna disappoint him.

MEGAN

You're overthinking this, you know he'll be happy to hear from you. And you know you want to do it anyway.

CAMERON

Yeah, you're right. I guess I'll give him a call tonight.

CUT TO:

INT: CAMERON'S HOUSE-EVENING

Cameron walks into the house after coming home from Megan's. Her mom is on the couch reading the Bible.

MOM

Hi, honey, where were you?

CAMERON

Megan's

MOM

I can't believe you still hang out with that girl.

CAMERON

Give me a break Mom, she's the only friend I have right now.

MOM

(sighs)

Alright. Pasta sound okay?

CAMERON

Sure.

Cameron goes to her room and shuts the door. She sits down on her bed and looks at her phone. She looks up and sees a shelf of trophies, medals, and pictures of herself when she was on the football team. She then gets up from her bed and goes to leave her room to go tell her mom about 'him' and when she starts walking to the kitchen, she hears her mom listening to Christian music. She turns around and goes back into her room and shuts the door. She grabs her phone on the bed, unlocks it and puts it up to her ear.

CAMERON

Coach?

CUT TO:

INT: JOHN'S OFFICE-DAY

Cameron sits in JOHN HARRISON'S office.

JOHN

I'm glad you called me back. It's really great to hear from you.

CAMERON

Thank you.

JOHN

So, what's up, I heard you dropped out of school.

CAMERON

Yeah.

JOHN

Why?

CAMERON

I don't know. I just realized it wasn't for me. At least not right now.

JOHN

I get that. So, what are you doing now?

CAMERON

Back living with mom. Trying to figure out what to do next.

JOHN

What if you came back and coached?

CAMERON

What?

JOHN

Yeah, we're down a coach this season. Why not?

CAMERON

I don't know, coach...

DEREK MACK (late 40s) approaches Cameron and John.

DEREK

John, I... Well, well, well, look what the cat dragged in.

JOHN

Cameron stopped by for a visit since she's back in town now.

DEREK

What, you couldn't handle college after your little *incident*.

JOHN

She's just figuring her life out, that's all. That's why I've asked her to come be a coach for the team. I was thinking she could

coach the half-backs and running backs and I could switch you to special teams.

DEREK

Why? She doesn't know how to coach and who's gonna take her seriously?

JOHN

I do. We need a new coach anyway, so why not take what's right in front of us.

Derek storms out of the room shaking his head and muttering something under his breath.

JOHN

So what do you say, Cam? You wanna coach?

CAMERON

I don't know, can I think about it for a while?

JOHN

Sure, take a couple days.

CAMERON

Thanks, coach.

CUT TO:

INT. CAMERON'S HOUSE- EVENING

CAMERON walks into the house and drops her keys on the table by the door. She goes into the kitchen and sees her mom with a boy her age.

MOM

Oh good, you're home!

CAMERON

Yeah. Who's this?

MOM

You don't know who this is? This is AJ from church, remember? You guys used to go to Youth Group together back in high school?

AJ

Yeah, I used to be in a lot of the skits, and I sang in the choir.

CAMERON

(Extends hands out for a handshake)

Oh, yeah. Hey man, what's up?

MOM

Cameron! Be a lady!

CAMERON

Sorry, mom.

MOM

(sighs)

Why don't you come help me set the table for dinner. AJ, please make yourself comfortable.

AJ nods and walks over to the living room and sits down on the couch and grabs the Bible that is set on the coffee table. Cameron sees him do this as she gets the plates out of the cabinet and shakes her head. Her mom gets the placemats, utensils, and candles out of the drawers.

CUT TO:

Cameron and her mom begin setting the table.

CAMERON

(whispering)

What's he doing here?

MOM

I invited him for dinner.

CAMERON

Why? You know I think he's annoying.

MOM

Shhhh. I ran into him the other day at church and now that you're home, I figured it might be time for you to re-explore your faith and what better way to do that than to have a nice Christian boy to walk alongside you in your faith journey. Who knows, he may even become your husband in a few years.

CAMERON

What! Are you crazy?

MOM

Cameron, it's time you met someone to spend your life with. I was already engaged to your dad when I was your age. It's in God's plan for you.

CAMERON

(Mumbles)

If God was real, Dad would still be alive.

MOM

What was that?

CAMERON

Nothing.

MOM

C'mon, help me put the food on the table.

CAMERON

(Sighs and follows mom)

CUT TO:

INT. DINING ROOM-EVENING

Cameron, her mom, and AJ are sitting down for dinner.

MOM

So, AJ why don't you tell Cameron what you've been up to the last few years.

AJ

Yes, ma'am. I've been studying at an online Bible college, but I've also been working at Starbucks on the side and I'm still involved with the Young Disciples group on Sundays, I'm just an adult leader now.

MOM

That's nice. Isn't it Cameron?

CAMERON

Yeah, sure.

MOM

So, AJ, you're single right?

CAMERON

Mom!

MOM

What, I just want to know!

AJ

No, it's okay. To answer your question, yes, I am. I feel like it's hard to find a woman these days with good Christian values, ya know? Someone who holds God at the center of their entire life ya know, that's what I really look for as I go on this journey of finding a wife.

CAMERON rolls her eyes. Her mom notices and gives her a dirty look and then turns back to AJ.

MOM

I've been saying that for years. There are barely any women out there anymore with good Christian values. But the best thing I can do is make sure Cameron has these values instilled in her so that she can become the best wife, mother, and daughter of God she can be.

AJ

Well, you're doing a great job, Mrs. Taylor. Cameron is a lovely young lady. And while we're on the



topic, I must say that this dinner is spectacular!

MOM

Thank you, AJ, that means so much! I think you and Cameron would make a great couple. You guys should see about going out sometime.

CAMERON

Alright, I'm down. You wanna go to a Rams game sometime? They suck this year so tickets are only like 20 bucks a pop for decent seats.

AJ

No, that's okay. I don't tell this to very many people but I don't really like football. I just say I do so that my dad doesn't keep calling me a F-A-G. I'm more into theater.

MOM

I understand. I don't get it either, all the rough housing and violence of it is just so unnecessary to try and get a stupid ball onto the other side of the field.

Cameron is becoming increasingly more uncomfortable.

AJ

Exactly. Also, why does it have to be played on Sunday? That's supposed to be God's day.

MOM

Yup, it sure is.

Cameron is visibly getting more frustrated.

CUT TO:

Dinner finally ends and Cameron and her mom are standing in the foyer as AJ is about to leave.

AJ

Well, Mrs. Taylor, thank you for inviting me into your lovely home for a delicious dinner.

MOM

Anytime, AJ. Thank you for coming, you're welcome back anytime.

AJ

It would be a pleasure. And Cameron, it was great seeing you again. I hope we can talk more soon. Perhaps dinner with just the two of us.

CAMERON

(Sarcastically)  
Yeah, definitely.

AJ  
I better get going. I hope you  
ladies have a nice rest of your  
night.

MOM  
You too. Drive safe.

AJ leaves and Mom shuts the door behind him then turns to  
Cameron.

MOM  
That went well, don't you think?

CAMERON  
Shrugs.  
I guess. I'm gonna go to my room.

MOM  
Okay. Come back to the living room  
at 9 and we'll pray together.  
Cameron goes to her room and closes the door behind her.  
She pulls her phone out of her pocket and sits down on her  
bed. She unlocks it and goes to her messages. She opens a  
new message and goes to the body of the text where she  
types the words, 'I'll do it'.

CUT TO:

EXT. HERBERT HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT- AFTERNOON  
Cameron is sitting in her car in the parking lot of Herbert  
High School before practice.

BEGIN FLASHBACK:

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD-NIGHT  
The ball is at the 20 yard line. The ball snaps and the  
quarterback passes it to Cameron. Cameron starts to run  
with the ball and keeps going until she reaches the  
endzone. The crowd cheers and her teammates gather around  
her in the endzone and hug her.

END FLASHBACK

She smirks and gets out of her car and begins to walk  
towards the field. As she approaches the field, she hears a  
voice in her head.

DREW (V.O)  
...she doesn't know how to coach.  
Who is going to take her  
seriously?...it's probably best  
you got hurt...Football is a man's  
game...You don't belong here.

Cameron shakes her head and approaches the team on the  
field. John is at the front talking.

JOHN

Alright, I have a big announcement to make. There has been a change in the coaching staff this season. I'd like everyone to meet Coach Taylor.

The entire team turns around and looks at Cameron as she gives a small wave.

JOHN

Coach Taylor was the first female football player to play on the team at Herbert high school a few years back and agreed to coach the team.

Close up of some of the players. DEVIN PETERSON, a short, stocky kid smirks and gives a nod. NICK MURPHY, 17, a tall buff kid shakes his head, swears.

JOHN

I know she'll make a great edition to the team-

TYLER HAMILTON, 17, skinny, clothes are worn out, walks up to the team not in uniform. Derek speaks up

DEREK

Hamilton! Why are you late again!

TYLER

Sorry, coach, I just got done picking up...

DEREK

I'm sick and tired of your excuses. Go suit up, you're gonna run like hell today!

TYLER

But, coach- I

DEREK

I don't have time for your bullshit today. Go change. And if you're late one more time, there's gonna be some serious consequences!

Tyler heads towards the locker room. The team looks back at John.

JOHN

Alright, we have a scrimmage on Friday so let's get to work!

The team breaks.

CUT TO:

BEGIN MONTAGE:

The team is doing tackling and passing drills and they are clearly struggling. They keep having to start drills over because some of the players are starting to look fatigued and aren't finishing the workouts. They look exhausted and frustrated and they are constantly drinking water. Some of the players are yelling at Cameron who looks frustrated and she is constantly writing down notes and drawing graphics in her playbook.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD-LATER THAT AFTERNOON

It is the end of practice and the running backs are gathered in front of Cameron as she gives her final remarks for the day.

CAMERON

Okay, guys, great work today. We just need to work on a few things, but we'll get there. Go get some rest and I'll see you all again tomorrow.

Practice is dismissed and all the players get up to leave. Some of them are mumbling and Cameron assumes that it's about her. She lets out a sigh and begins to walk off the field towards the parking lot. ALEX WHITTMAN jogs up to her.

ALEX

Rough first day, huh?

CAMERON

(huffs)

Worse for them, than for me.

ALEX

Don't worry, they'll get better. I'm Coach Whittman, by the way. You can call me Alex though. I coach running backs.

CAMERON

I'm Cameron.

ALEX

I know. It's nice to finally meet you. So, where are you headed right now?

CAMERON

Home to eat and listen to my mother talk about our Lord and Savior.

ALEX

(Chuckles)

Sounds like fun. I'm in the mood for some coffee. Want to grab a cup?

CAMERON  
Sounds good.

ALEX  
(Chuckles)  
Alright!

CUT TO:

EXT. STARBUCKS- LATER THAT AFTERNOON  
Cameron is sitting at a table outside of Starbucks. Alex comes over with two drinks in his hands and sets them down on the table before sitting down. CAMERON hands him a few bills.

ALEX  
(Holds up a hand and shakes his head)  
No worries. This one's on me.  
CAMERON  
Thank you.

ALEX  
(nods)  
No problem.  
(Takes a sip)  
So, John's told me a lot about you.

CAMERON  
Oh, yeah?  
(Takes a sip)

ALEX  
Yeah. Told me you were a beast.  
CAMERON  
I don't know about that.

ALEX  
Oh, c'mon. You were the first girl at this school to play football. You gotta admit that's pretty impressive.

CAMERON  
Well, until it ended.

ALEX  
Oh yeah. I remember that night.

CAMERON  
What do you mean?

ALEX  
I was there that night coaching on the other team. One of my first games actually.

CAMERON  
Wow.

ALEX  
(nods)

CAMERON

Football kept me sane, ya know?  
And now that that part of my  
life's over, I feel like I have to  
figure out a new life because the  
one I had is over. And it's hard.  
Feel like I can't get out of bed  
most days.

ALEX

I understand.

CAMERON

Really?

ALEX

Yeah...

(Takes a sip)

I've been playing football for as  
long as I can remember. Even  
played division 1 in college and  
when my career ended, I had a hard  
time trying to figure out what to  
do next.

CAMERON

Damn. How'd you cope?

ALEX

Became a high school teacher. I  
figured it'd give me the  
opportunity to coach. Kinda a  
desperate attempt to still be a  
part of the sport.

CAMERON

Do you like teaching?

ALEX

It's alright. Pays the bills.  
Definitely didn't think I'd ever  
be back in high school, but ya  
know, it is what it is.

CAMERON

I don't think anyone does.

ALEX

(Chuckles)

Yeah.

Both of them sit in silence for a moment.

ALEX

Maybe there's a different position  
you could play? or maybe if this  
goes well, you can coach for them.

CAMERON

I don't know

ALEX

Yeah. Isn't there a WFL team in  
Fullerton? Like CaliWar or  
something? Maybe you can contact

them and see what it takes. It doesn't hurt to at least look into it. I mean... who knows what might happen?

CAMERON

Yeah. I don't know how Derek would feel about it though if he found out. He's always hated me for some reason.

ALEX

Why do you care what he thinks? He just acts like that because he's a jerk who's afraid of everyone being better than him, especially women.

CAMERON

(Laughs)

That makes a lot of sense.

ALEX

I'm serious. He's a lot smaller of a person than you think. So don't let him get to you.

CAMERON

Thanks, I appreciate it.

Alex smiles and gives Cameron a small pat on the arm.

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY- DAY

The next day, Cameron goes to John's office to pick something up. When she approaches the locker room, she sees a bulletin board of demeaning pictures and words about women's football players, such as 'bitch,' 'dyke' 'get lost' 'you aren't wanted here.' CAMERON flashes back to her past when something similar was written on her locker in high school. She stiffens then seems resolved. John comes up behind her.

JOHN

I'll take care of this.

CAMERON

No. I got this.

CUT TO:

CAMERON'S ROOM-NIGHT

Cameron sits at her computer and types "Caliwar" into the search bar on google. She sees notices on there for tryouts and jobs and clicks on 'Contact Us'

CUT TO:

EXT. BUS STOP/SIDEWALK-DAY

TYLER is waiting for the bus. TWO GANG members, TYREK, late twenties, dressed all in black, tattoo sleeves and DAUNTE late twenties, dressed all in black, wearing a black beanie, drive up in a car next to the curb, bass blasting.

TYREK

Lookie what we have here!

DAUNTE

Hey, bro, we can give you a ride.  
Hop in.

Tyler smiles, but is uneasy.

TYLER

Nah, I'm good. Thanks.

DAUNTE

I don't think you understand what I'm saying, bro. Come on, get in the car. Time for you to take a ride with us. Join up.

Tyler hesitates. Looks trapped. This isn't the first time he's had the same conversation.

TYREK

Yeah, bro..what's wrong? What's your problem? You don't like our car...maybe you don't like..us?

The conversation is turning ugly. Tyler can see the bus in the near distance.

TYLER

(smiles, uncomfortable)  
No, bro. Nothing like that. Hey, there's my bus.

Bus pulls up just in time behind the TWO GANG members' car, they are forced to move ahead.

DUANTE

(nods, chuckles)  
Okay, sure. Right.



Tyler has won this round. One GANG MEMBER hangs out the window as they leave as Tyler gets onto the bus.

TYREK

Hey, Tyler. We know where you live! You can run, but you can't hide.

Tyler can hear laughter over the loud music of the radio in the distance as they drive away.

INT. WEIGHT ROOM

NICK, and DEVIN are working out in the weight room and talking about Cameron.

NICK

Honestly, what'd you think of that Cameron chick? Do you actually think she's qualified to coach?

DEVIN

No, but I sent her a message today if you know what I mean.

NICK

No.

DEVIN

I meant that I was trying to...

NICK

No, I knew what you meant. I just mean never say that again.

Devin shakes his head.

NICK

Seriously. Do you actually think this girl's qualified to coach?

DEVIN

What makes you say that?

NICK

Coach Derek seemed pretty pissed off during practice.

DEVIN

Yeah, what else is new? Where the hell is Tyler?

NICK

I don't know...late again. But what if he's right. I mean, have you ever seen a chick play football? I mean, what does she know about it and what if her being a coach costs me a D1 scholarship.

Tyler walks in.

TYLER

Hey guys.

NICK

dude, seriously, why the fuck are you always late.

TYLER

Man, I'm sorry, the bus was late.

NICK

Whatever, let's just start our workout.

They begin lifting weights.

TYLER

So did I miss anything from practice?

NICK

There's a new coach. It's a girl.

TYLER

You say it like it's a bad thing.

NICK

Yeah, well, I sure as hell don't trust her.

DEVIN

You gotta admit though bro, she's pretty fire.

NICK

I don't have time to focus on that bro, I got other shit I gotta worry about.

TYLER

But, you're saying if you didn't, you'd tackle that.

NICK

I don't know. Look, all's I'm saying I don't know if Coach made the right move hiring this chick, alright? Seriously, if she causes us more damage this season, we're screwed. I can't afford to have that happen.

TYLER

Whatever makes you happy, man.

NICK

Just saying, football is for men.  
Period.

CUT TO:

Cameron and John walk by the weight room as the boys are talking. They pause and begin to look frustrated, then suddenly Cameron begins to smirk.

CAMERON

I have an idea.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD-FOLLOWING AFTERNOON

The team is gathered on the field with Cameron standing at the front along with a few players from Caliwar.

CAMERON

Good afternoon.

ALL

(Mumbling)

Good afternoon.

CAMERON

It's come to my attention that some of you don't think that girls can play football. The players stare at her blankly and Nick nods and does a half smirk.

CAMERON

Well, I'd like you to meet XXXXX.  
They play for Caliwar, a  
professional women's football team  
in Fullerton, and I've invited  
them here today to show you that  
your thoughts about women playing  
football may not be correct. So,  
ladies, do your thing.

BEGIN MONTAGE

Montage of CaliWar players competing against the team and humbling the guys. The guys are struggling, but we can see they are learning A LOT from the CaliWar players, too. We see Nick gradually warming up to the CaliWar players after picking up some new tricks and improving his skills as well. The early scoffing and cockiness that began the scrimmage from Cameron's team turns into profound respect by the end. Cameron is studying her players intently throughout so that she can identify everyone's strengths and weaknesses and smiles as she watches her team warm up to and then improve under the skillful coaching of the Caliwar players.

END MONTAGE

CUT TO:

After the workout the team is gathered in front of Cameron and the CaliWar players.

CAMERON

Alright guys, good effort today.  
Make sure you all say thank you to  
our guests.

Some of the players mumble a 'thank you' while most of them get up silently to leave.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAMERON'S ROOM-NIGHT

Cameron sits at her desk and starts researching different workout methods that are unique. She comes across a tug-of-war exercise that she thought could look useful. She takes a piece of paper and starts writing down ways to incorporate this into practice.

CUT TO:

EXT: FOOTBALL FIELD- AFTERNOON

The team is gathered in the center of the field in front of Cameron.

CAMERON

Alright, since you all had a  
pretty intense workout yesterday,  
I figured we'd do a fun exercise  
today to build teamwork. I want  
everyone to get into four teams of  
ten.

The team gets up and splits into four groups of ten. One of the coaches hands each team a long piece of rope.

CAMERON

We're going to have four tug-of-  
war competitions.

NICK

Why, what are we dogs?  
Some players snicker.

CAMERON

Well, if that's what you think,  
then maybe you should go sit in  
the corner until you learn how to  
be a good boy.

The team goes quiet.

CAMERON

Now, are we done making jokes?  
Players nod.

CAMERON

Alright, then, let's get to work.

BEGIN MONTAGE

The team competes in tug-of-war competitions. Teams are being eliminated until two teams remain. Nick and Devin are one team and Tyler is on the other team. Tyler and his team win the competition and celebrate the win.

END MONTAGE

CUT TO:

INT: LOCKER ROOM-DAY

Devin is changing out of his pads and appears visibly annoyed.

NICK

What's your deal?

DEVIN

Just pissed off. I could've fucking won that comp if I wasn't placed with a bunch of liabilities.

NICK

Dude, it was just a drill, relax.

DEVIN

Whatever, I'll see you tomorrow.

A piece of paper drops from Nick's backpack. Devin picks it up and looks at it—sees an F at the top of Nick's math test. Shows Nick.

DEVIN

(laughs)

Nice!

Nick, pissed off, grabs the test from Devin's hand, crumples it up and throws it in the trash and walks out of the room.

DEVIN

(yells after Nick)

Well, EXCUSE ME!

(soto)

Guys got no sense of humor.

CUT TO:

INT. DEVIN'S HOUSE-NIGHT

(what does the house look like?) Devin arrives home. He opens the door and walks in.

DEVIN

Grandma, I'm home.

He drops his backpack by the front door and heads into the kitchen.

CUT TO:

INT. NICK'S HOUSE-NIGHT

Nick walks into the kitchen where his mom is cooking dinner.

NICK

Hey, mom.

NICK'S MOM

How'd you do on that test?

NICK

Um...

NICK'S MOM

Nick?

NICK

Not so great.

NICK'S MOM

Your father's not gonna be too happy to hear about that.

NICK

(pauses, swallows)

I know.

NICK'S MOM

So, what are you gonna do about it?

NICK

I'll go talk to my teacher tomorrow.

Nick's dad enters the room. Overhears the last. Suddenly the atmosphere in the room turns chilly, strained.

NICK'S DAD

Why do you need to talk to your teacher?

A quick glance passes between NICK and his MOM.

NICK's MOM

(smiles)

He just needs to figure out his classes  
for next term...Can I get you something,  
hon? Dinner should be ready soon?

NICK'S DAD grabs a beer from the fridge,  
turns to leave. Takes a second to look  
between his son and his wife. Both smile  
back, they look happy, innocent.

NICK'S DAD

I'm good. Call me when it's ready.

NICK's MOM nods and smiles. NICK's DAD  
leaves the kitchen, but not totally  
convinced something else isn't going on with  
NICK he should know.

NICK'S MOM

(to Nick, almost a  
whisper)

Okay. Go get cleaned up for  
dinner...Remember, we expect more  
from you, Nick.

NICK finally takes a breath. Nods and leaves  
the kitchen.

CUT TO:

INT. FOOTBALL OFFICE-AFTERNOON

Cameron is sitting in the football office. In her hand are  
the progress report grades of her team. She notices that  
Tyler has an A average, while Nick is facing possible  
academic suspension—he's got all C's, D's and an F in Math.  
CAMERON notices Tyler as he walks by.

CAMERON

Hey Tyler, can I talk to you for  
a minute.

Tyler walks in and sits down.

CAMERON

You did really well yesterday with the tug-of-war exercise. I'm impressed.

TYLER

Thanks, coach.

CAMERON

I notice that you always come late to practice though. Can I ask why?

TYLER

Just got a lot of things going on right now.

Begin Montage of Tyler's life (bus rides, ditching the gang members who want him to recruit, live in a tough neighborhood, takes care of grandma, sister, works two menial jobs—one before the other after school/practice, studies late at night, he prays to his mom and promises her he'll do good in school—will take care of grandma and sister.

End montage

CAMERON

I looked at your grades, they're pretty good.

TYLER

Yeah, I take the city bus to work, so I'm able to get my homework done then. I also just really like school.

CAMERON

(Nods)

Well, listen, I know you're close with Nick. I was looking at his grades earlier and he seems to be having a hard time in school. Think you can maybe work with him in study hall starting this week sometime? He really needs your help. I really need your help.

Flashout and see Tyler going to bed at 12 midnight and getting up at 5am.

TYLER



(sighs)  
Yes, coach.

CUT TO:

INT: CAMERON'S HOUSE- NIGHT  
Cameron is sitting on her couch watching TV When her phone rings. She gets up and starts walking away as she answers the phone.

JOHN  
Cameron?

CAMERON  
Coach? Is everything okay?

JOHN  
Tyler's in the hospital.

CAMERON  
What? How? I thought him and Nick were going home together after practice.

JOHN  
They were. But a few gang members that live near Tyler's neighborhood came out and tried to jump them and Tyler and Nick fought them off, but Tyler got hurt.

CAMERON  
Is he gonna be okay?

JOHN  
His grandmother says he's in stable condition and should be released tomorrow morning. They're just keeping him overnight for observation.

CAMERON  
Shit. I can't believe this. I told Tyler he needed to tutor Nick at school, not at home. This is all my fault.

JOHN  
No, it's not. Trust me, it's not. You didn't know. Neither did they.

CAMERON  
You sure Tyler is okay?

JOHN

Positive. Just don't know if he'll be able to play the rest of the season.

CAMERON

Okay, I guess I'll talk to them when they come back to school.  
Goodnight.

Cameron hangs up and takes a deep breath.

CUT TO:

INT. LOCKER ROOM-DAY

Cameron is sitting in the office when she sees Nick walk into the locker room and saying hi to his friends, there are bruises on his face, neck, and arms. Cameron gets up and walks towards him.

CAMERON

Nick! What the hell is wrong with you?

NICK

What?

CAMERON

What happened? You started a gang war!

NICK

Well, I-

CAMERON

You do realize you could've gotten way more hurt than you actually did? You could be lying in a hospital bed next to your teammate right now! What were you thinking?

NICK

Thinking? I didn't have time to think...

CAMERON

That's your problem, you don't THINK.

NICK

(she hit a nerve)

What??? Are you calling me  
stupid? Well I'm NOT, okay.  
[deleted dialogue here] You  
Don't know how shitty I've  
felt since last night! I  
don't need you making me feel  
worse! Plus, he's gonna be  
released from the hospital  
sometime today so I don't  
understand why you're coming  
for me!

Everyone in the locker room stopped what they were doing  
and started staring at Cameron and Nick.

CAMERON

You put one of your teammates in  
danger. [deleted dialogue here]

NICK

ME??? What about..

CAMERON

Yes, YOU! Taking some  
time on the bench will give  
you some time to THINK about  
what you did!

NICK

(Slams his helmet on the  
ground)

FUCK THIS! IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS  
BENEFITING FROM YOU FUCKING  
COACHING ME ANYWAY!

Nick Storms out. CAMERON'S phone rings. She looks after  
NICK and picks it up.

CAMERON

Tyler? Are you okay?  
Tell me what happened?

CAMERON's face changes from concerned to thoughtful, to  
downcast. She looks toward the door where NICK just exited.  
CU on her pained face as she hangs up the phone.

CAMERON  
(to self)  
Shit.

The phone call wakes up the PLAYERS still shocked from NICK's exit. All begin asking CAMERON how Tyler is.

CAMERON  
(smiles)  
He's good! Should be home  
Later tonight.

CUT TO:

INT: CAMERON'S ROOM-NIGHT

Cameron sits on her bed looking devastated. She takes out her phone and calls Megan.

MEGAN  
(On the phone)  
Hey, I was just thinking about  
you! How are-

CAMERON  
I don't think I can do this  
anymore.

MEGAN  
What? What do you mean?

CAMERON  
I just... I think this was a  
mistake. It's all just getting to  
be too much. I think I should step  
down.

MEGAN  
You can't do that!

CAMERON  
I really screwed up...I don't think  
I have what it takes to be a  
coach.

MEGAN  
Cameron- listen to me! I can't  
remember the last time I've seen  
you this happy! You have to keep  
going with this! Maybe coaching  
and working with athletes is what  
you were meant to do with your  
life, and you won't know if you

quit now. It's like your dad  
always said, you can't quit the  
team in the middle of the season.  
Do you really wanna let the team  
down like that?

CAMERON

You're right.

MEGAN

Make it right, dude.

CUT TO:

EXT-NICK'S HOUSE-NIGHT

Cameron approaches Nick's front door and knocks on it. Nick  
answers.

NICK

What do you want?

CAMERON

Can I just come in and talk?

NICK

I have nothing to say.

CAMERON

You don't have to.

Nick opens the door wider.

NICK

Whatever.

Cameron steps inside and Nick shuts the door.

CAMERON

Look I was wrong to assume that-  
what's on your face?

NICK

Nothing. Don't worry about it?

CAMERON

That mark wasn't there before.  
What's going on, Nick?

NICK

Nothing, okay. I'm fine. Can you  
just drop it, please?

CAMERON

Look, I was wrong to assume that  
it was your fault Tyler got hurt  
last night. You guys didn't know  
that was going to happen. You  
shouldn't be punished for hanging  
out with your teammate.

NICK

We were supposed to drive home,  
but my dad took my car away  
yesterday.

CAMERON

Can I ask why?

NICK

I can't get my grades up in math  
and it doesn't look good to scouts  
if my grades are shit.

CAMERON

Your parents are pretty hard on  
you.

NICK

(Nods, somewhat defensive)

They just care a lot about me.

CAMERON

Then why do you have more marks  
on your face than you did at  
school, fighting a gang?

Nick looks at her. Cameron looks back—she understands.  
Softens.

CAMERON

I'm sorry Nick. About all of it.

NICK

Yeah...Me, too.

The two of them pause for a beat or two. Silence. Nothing  
more needs to be said.

CAMERON

Nick, I'd like to help?

Nick touches a fresh bruise. Shakes his head.

NICK

It's really not a big deal and  
I'll be out of the house in a few

months anyway, so I won't have to deal with it anymore.

Cameron stares at him.

NICK

If you don't tell anyone, it might help me start to trust you a little more.

CAMERON

I don't like it. But okay, fine. We'll do it your way this time. If it happens again, I'm gonna have to say something.

NICK

(Nods)

Okay.

CAMERON

Goodnight, Nick.

NICK

Night, Coach.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD

BEGIN MONTAGE

Nick and Tyler return to the team and the team begins to improve. During practice, the players are finishing their drills and improving on how fast they run. Cameron is gaining more confidence and players on the team are beginning to trust her more, especially Nick. Nick's grades are improving with Tyler's help. We see Nick also helping Tyler's grandma with some chores.

The team is also winning a lot more games and we see the headlines of the school newspaper talking about the winning streak. Alex is supporting her and Derek is still resentful/jealous of Cameron and John is pleased with the outcomes.

CUT TO:

INT. LOCKER ROOM-NIGHT

It's halftime and the team is currently losing. They walk into the locker room with sad looks on their faces and their heads hung low. They all go over to their lockers and a few of them take a seat on the bench. Cameron looks

around the room at all their faces and stands up in front of them.

CAMERON

Alright, so the numbers on the scoreboard aren't exactly what we want them to be. But there's still time for us to own this game!

The team stays silent.

CAMERON

Look guys, I've seen a lot of change in you guys these last few weeks. A lot of growth. You have what it takes to win this game and show the other team and our school what we're made of!

The team is still silent but some of them have lifted their heads and look more hopeful. Nick stands up and goes over to where Cameron is standing.

NICK

Coach is right. We CAN go out there and win this fuckin thing and show those motherfuckers that we're better than they are.

The team starts to cheer up and gain more confidence. There are nods and smiles from the players who are beginning to talk to each other. Nick and Cameron smile at each other.

NICK

LET'S FUCKING GO!

The team yells and holds up their helmets as they walk out of the locker room.

CUT TO:

END MONTAGE

CUT TO:

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD-NIGHT

It's the fourth quarter of the final game of the season and the team is down by 6 points. The team takes a time out when there are 45 seconds left and the ball is 4th and goal. They all gather around John and Cameron.

NICK

I think it'd be safe if we just kicked a field goal.

DEVIN

Are you kidding me, dude? Don't you want to win?

NICK

Last time I tried that, the ball got picked off and returned for a



touchdown. I don't feel very  
confident right now.

CAMERON

Devin's right, I think you need to  
go for it. That was one play one  
time. It might happen again or it  
might not.

NICK

But coach, I-

CAMERON

Hey, I believe in you.

Nick nods and the team breaks and runs over to the line of  
scrimmage to get into position. The ball snaps and Nick  
turns to throw it to Devin who is being blocked by two  
other players. He then turns to see Tyler wide open in the  
end zone. He throws the ball and Tyler catches it. The  
crowd cheers and the players go crazy in the end zone and  
on the sidelines. In CU we see various people we've met (or  
heard about) in the script cheering: NICK's MOM & DAD,  
Caliwar players, etc. The crowd is still cheering as the  
kicker kicks a good extra point. The rest of the team runs  
onto the field to celebrate. Cameron is standing on the  
sidelines looking around with a smile on her face when two  
players come over and pour gatorade on her. Nick, Devin,  
and Tyler run over to pick her up and carry her to the  
middle of the field where the rest of the team is.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

Cameron is in the endzone when she catches a pass. Her  
teammates run over to her and lift her into the air.

END FLASHBACK

Cameron is still on the players' shoulders when JOHN makes  
eye contact with her. He smiles and nods at her. He looks  
at DEREK and DEREK begrudgingly does the same.

CUT TO:

CREDITS

Pictures of locker room celebration.

FADE OUT: