

# CHAPTER 11

## ‘TUESDAY’

A bright orange sun crept over the horizon illuminating the early morning frost upon countless green lawns. It was the breaking of day, the first early light of dawn. The front door opened to Hoagie- who stepped out into the morning chill, with two plastic garbage bags filled with his very own Super Dog collector’s memorabil’. P.J. followed close behind in order to handle his doggy biz, he rushed onto the front lawn, lifted a rear leg and took an early morning whiz- he did!

Hoagie made his way down the walkway, past the blue S.U.V. parked within the driveway and over to a large brown garbage bin, which sat next to an identical green one. **“There’s no need for these toys anymore P-J .....It’s time for me to grow up and become the man of the house now- somebody has to do it”**, he reasoned- as he raised the garbage bin lid.

*[Suddenly]* P.J. began to ‘BA’ ‘BA’ ‘BARK’ out at Hoagie- in protest!

**“NO P.J.! .....Don’t try and stop me- I have to do it! .....It’s time for me to grow-up and get rid of these silly things .....Time for some adult reality”**

P.J. rushed forward and attacked one of the bags within Hoagie’s hands! He locked his teeth onto it, ‘TA’ ‘TA’ ‘TUGGED’ and ‘GA’ ‘GA’ ‘GROWLED’ like a mad dog- he did! **“WHATS WRONG WITH YOU P.J. LET GO! .....THERE’S JUST STUPID TOYS!”**.

Seconds later- P.J. released the bag and raced over to the green recycling bin, where he began to 'CA' 'CA' 'CLIMB' and 'SCRA' 'SCRA' 'SCRATCH' his nails against it! "OH'HHH! .....You want me to put the stuff in there .....I guess your right- there are recyclable things in here .....Plastic .....Cardboard .....Paper and metals .....Good Boy- we've got to save the planet! .....If we don't do it- who else is gonna do it right .....", he sang out- as he shut the brown bin's lid. He tossed both bags into the green recycling bin and 'WA' 'WA' 'WIPED' his hands together. ".....And now- time for a cup of sugarless coffee", he tooted- before he headed back for the door. "Maybe just one or two spoonfuls until I get use to the taste".

P.J. followed behind him with his head held proudly to the sky. He knew that recycling today would save the planet tomorrow for his future pups- he did!

.....**SAVE THE PLANET!!!**

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*Two hours later.....*

Hoagie and Cindy walked the halls of Saint Mary's Elementary- along with other energetic children walking to and fro, here and there, in and out, every darn-diddly where. It was like a miniature stockroom floor- it was! Adult-sized shoes many of the kids did sport, which 'SCRA' 'SCRA' 'SCRAPED' across the tiled floors as if they were clowns on a basketball court. Some even wore colorful gloves covering their hands and wrists- they did!

"Look at them! .....Everyone looks- SILLY!", wailed out Hoagie.

"YO! .....Isn't it crazy how fast a fashion trend catches on around this place .....One minute folks are laughing behind your back- and next thing ..... They're copying your style .....It's- BONKERS YO!", exclaimed Cindy- as she eyeballed all the Alexis wannabees around them.

"It's- SILLY! .....Some little girl kicks a lucky popfly that soars into the clouds .....BIG DEAL! .....The ball obviously got caught in a jet stream that sucked it upwards into the atmosphere ..... Happens to bird all the time- I read up on it", he reasoned- as he demonstrated the laws of physic with his hands.

"The girl just got skills Hoag- face it!" she sang.

"HEY- HOAG'MAN!", called a voice to from the rear- that caused them both to stop walking and spin around to the presence of Louis. He leaned against a locker within a small group of boys, all wearing coolio shades. He proceeded to 'WA' 'WA' 'WAIVE' Hoagie over.

"What do you think that dork wants ....He better pay up, cause I got a mean pair of claws on me", wailed out Cindy- as she 'RA' 'RA' 'ROLLED' her sleeves up.

"Just wait here Cind ....I'll go and see what he wants", replied Hoagie- before he quickly 'STA' 'STA' 'STEPPED' off without another word and made his way over to the High Minister of Cool.

Cindy watched as Louis lowered his shades and his mouth began to dance, while periodically glancing in her direction- with a devious eye 'DA' 'DA' 'DARTING' glance. Soon Hoagie also looked back toward Cindy- for a brief moments' gaze, before he turned back around and said something to Louis- that instantly caused his eyes to fill with a joyous glaze. He 'LA' 'LA'

'LAUGHED' and gave Hoagie's shoulder a good slap, before they did the cool kid handshake- with 'WA' 'WA' 'WIGGLING' fingers and a double high-five hand slap. Hoagie knew it well-he did!

Cindy 'SHA' 'SHA' 'SHOOK' her head at the sight with pure disgust, because she knew that Louis was a rat-one kid that you could never ever trust. Hoagie soon-after made his way back with a wide Kooly'aid smile that stretched from ear to ear, with an air of newfound confidence and a message in which she just could not wait to hear.

Louis stuck out his right sneaker and tripped a boy who 'SCA' 'SCA' 'SCOOTED' past in a pair of over-sized sports cleats, causing the nearby cool kids to 'LA' 'LA' 'LAUGH' out as the poor kid performed amazing floor crashing gymnastic feats! The kid laid flat upon his face- as if he were a hallway floor mat, his textbooks landed around him- along with a small wiffle ball bat.

Louis and the other cool kids stepped over the fallen boy and 'STRA' 'STRA' 'STRUTTED' away, as the other kids quickly scrambled to clear a path- because if they didn't they knew that there'd be Hell to pay.

**"So what did the loser want?"**, questioned Cindy- as Hoagie stepped up.

**"They asked for another bet- double or nothing"**, he replied.

**"Kickball?"**

**"No .....Dodge ball"**

**"That's even better! ...What did you tell 'em Hoag?"**

**"I told them .....Sure"**

**"YO-YO- YO! .....That's what I'm talkin' 'bout Hoag .....Your finally coming up out of that shell and showin' yourself .....Just because they think that they're all coolio and stuff- don't make them better athletes than us .....We can take 'em gee....."**, exclaimed Cindy. **".....And what do we get when we win?"**

**"IF- we win ....They have to buy us a slice if pizza along with the soda and chips"**

**"YO- pizza- soda- and chips! .....Pizza- soda- and chips!"**, she sang out- while doing a happy dance.

**"But even if we don't win- what's important is that we had fun .....Right!"**

**"YO- that's loser talk gee! .....We're not going to lose- especially with our new big boot wearing secret weapon!"**

**"Those stupid big boots may get her lucky at kickball, but this is dodge ball we're talking about her Cind! .....That little girl can get herself hurt if she's not careful!"**, he wailed.

**"We're not going to lose Hoag- so I don't wanna hear any more loser talk gee .....Only thing I lose is homework .....The only thing you need to worry about is getting yourself a bib so that you don't get pizza sauce all over your clothes Gee .....Because we're gonna serve them Foolios up something real proper .....You .....Me .....And Alexis! .....That's real!"**.

Hoagie glanced to his left in the direction of the boys restroom. **"Look Cind- I need to use the restroom so I'll just catch up with you back in class-okay"**.

*Moments later.....*

Hoagie stood alone inside of the empty restroom 'SPA' 'SPA' 'SPLASHING' cold water from the sink into his face. Seconds later- he shut the sink off and dried his hands upon his sweater.

[*Suddenly*] The restroom door pushed open to his rear with a- 'WHOOSH!' Hoagie watched in the mirror before him as Louis strolled into the door followed by Big George, Mike P- and Stuart. They all wore their cool kid shades and walked their cool kid struts.

"**HOAG'MAN!**", tooted out Louis- as he 'STA' 'STA' 'STEPPED' toward him. Hoagie spun around to face them, just as they surrounded him and stopped.

"**I was just telling the guys here how you agreed to help us win my money back .....And how I think you'd be a good candidate for cool kid status- am I right?**", chimed Louis- as they all stared at Hoagie like a hungry pack of wolves. They made him feel really really uncomfortable- they did!

"**Ya-ya- yeah!**", stuttered Hoagie- as he gulped in hard.

"**Yeah, that's right Hoag'man! .....Ditch the losers and join the real winners at this school!**", spoke Big George- as he towered over Hoagie's left-side like a building.

"**Yeah- Hoag'man!**", tooted Mike P- as he 'PA' 'PA' 'PATTED' Hoagie across the back from the right-side.

"**You want in Hoag'man .....All you gotta do is make sure we win today .....I want to make Cindy look so- STUPID- that nobody will ever want her on their team ever again! .....GOT IT!**", instructed Louis.

"**Ga-ga -got it!**", stuttered Hoagie.

"**Yeah! .....Cause that little big shoe'd tutu wearing girl got the whole school laughing at us man! .....And we don't like it Hoag'man!**", informed Mike P.

"**Bu-bu- bu- but .....What if she wants to play with us?**", questioned Hoagie.

"**You just don't pick her up- It's that simple**", replied Louis.

"**And after I do this .....I get to hang with you guys-right?**", asked Hoagie. He wanted things nice and clear he did!

"**Of course my Boy! .....Got a fresh pair of shades right here with your name on 'em!**", tooted Louis, as he pulled an extra pair of shades from out of his back pocket and 'WA' 'WA' 'WAIVED' them in front of Hoagie's eager face.

Hoagie's face lit up brighter than Christmas lights- it did! "**I'LL DO IT!**", exclaimed Hoagie- as he reached his left hand out for the shades; yet his excited fingers could touch the shades, Louis swiftly pulled them back!

"**Good-good- that's what I like ta hear Dog! ..... Because- if there's anything I hate more than losing .....It's losing to a team with girls on it! .... GIRLS! ....IT'S EMBARRASSING!**", wailed Louis- as he unfolded the shades and handed them to Hoagie, who stood there like an anxious dog awaiting a doggy treat.

"**Try 'em on Dog!**", sang Louis- as Hoagie took them into his hands like a bar of solid gold. Hoagie couldn't believe his luck! In the palms of his eager hands he actually held a pair of coolio shades!

Hoagie slid the shades over his eyes- instantly feeling the spirit of coolio shine its grace down upon him. It was as if the world had become ten times cooler- it was! He then swiftly turned around to check himself out in the mirror! Instead of four cool kids standing within the mirror's reflection, there now stood five!

**"Lookin' good there Hoag'man!"**, tooted Mike P.

**"Cooler than ice cream!"**, sang out Big George.

**"Don't let us down now! We're counting on you!"**, chimed Louis.

**"I won't guys! .....I swear!"**, promised Hoagie.

Louis reached forward and gently removed the shades from right off of Hoagie's eyes, leaving him with no more than a coolio memory.

**"I'll just hold these for you until the game is over"**, informed Louis- as he placed them back into his pocket.

[*Suddenly*] A loud school bell did *'RING' 'ALING' 'LING'* signaling the beginning of the school day! **"See ya at lunch Dog!"**, chimed Louis- before he turned around and walked away. The rest of his crew did follow behind, doing that cool cool strut of theirs- that they so loved to do. Seconds later- the restroom door closed with a- *'THUD'*-, leaving Hoagie behind alone.

Hoagie spun back around and silently stared at himself within the mirror's reflective shine. **"Time to be my own man .....Right dad!"**, whispered Hoagie.