

THE TWINNER TAKES IT ALL (WORKING TITLE)

Written by

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INT. MINIVAN - DAY

Generic pop music plays from the car speaker while MOM - caring but hands-off - nods her head and drives. In the back, CARTER GOOD - athletic, wearing a school uniform - is also jamming while THOMAS GOOD - identical to his brother, wirey, wearing an intricately planned ensemble that only barely meets dress-code requirements - stares out the window.

THOMAS

High school's gonna be different.

CARTER

You've only said that six billion times. There'll be slight differences but it's still gonna be like middle school.

THOMAS

Except I'm gonna be popular, you just watch.

CARTER

That's really not how popularity works.

THOMAS

Only a popular kid would say that.

CARTER

I'm wasn't that popular!

The car next to them honks. NATE CASTLE - "Baby"-era Bieber do, braces - waves from it.

NATE

Carter! Hey!

Carter waves back and turns back to his brother, embarrassed.

CARTER

I have no clue who that was.

Thomas gestures "see?".

CARTER (CONT'D)

Okay but, still, it's not that simple. Popularity is a gradual thing. You're either born for it or you're not. I just don't know if you're cut out.

MOM

Don't listen to your brother,  
Thomas. I'm sure the kids will all  
love you!

Carter holds up his valedictorian ring.

CARTER

I will swallow my valedictorian  
ring if you achieve this  
*fantastical* level of popularity  
you're so sure of.

THOMAS

Deal.

They shake hands.

MOM

God help Ignatius High.

EXT. IGNATIUS HIGH ENTRANCE - DAY

The Ignatius High sign is front and center amidst a floral arrangement. Hanging above the school's doorway is a banner that reads "WELCOME FRESHMEN! GOD IS ALWAYS WATCHING OVER YOU. ALWAYS." Students loiter around, socializing.

The Goods and their mom roll up in their worn minivan. Mom turns around as the door slides open.

MOM

Okay, boys, best of luck! Carter,  
don't work yourself too hard and  
Thomas-

Pause.

MOM (CONT'D)

Just - try to make some friends,  
honey.

Carter struts out of the car. Thomas remains.

THOMAS

Could you drive me to the corner?  
This isn't how I want to make my  
entrance.

MOM

Thomas, you don't need a-

THOMAS

Please?

MOM

I've got to get to work.

THOMAS

Mom please! Not at a time like this!

She lets out an exasperated sigh and closes the minivan door.

Carter spots a PRETTY GIRL waving at him flirtatiously. He beams and waves back, only to realize she's waving at the HUNKY GUY behind him, who walks up and starts making out with her excessively in front of everyone. Carter makes a confused expression and backs up to turn around. He steps on the expensive sneakers of BOBBY KENDALL - senior, intimidating, full of himself - who stops dead. Carter looks at the senior's shoes.

CARTER

Sorry about that, Bro. Hey! Nice-

The senior shoves him over on the ground. He looks up amazed.

CARTER (CONT'D)

(disheartened)

-shoes... Wait, I know you! You're Bobby Kendall! Dude, you kick major ass at football.

BOBBY

I know. And you're the shitstain freshman who got dirt on Yeezys. I don't know who you are and I don't care. I know you're face - I don't like it - and you're on my shit list.

CARTER

I don't see any dirt-

BOBBY

Hey. Shut the fuck up. Shit list.

Bobby stares down Carter as he butts his shoulder and walks past. Carter walks towards the door and runs into a girl. Her unicorn frappuccino flies into the air and lands on him.

CARTER

Yup. Not surprised.

INT. VAN - DAY

Three sophomores are hot-boxing. JANE - mannish, chilled out - is hitting a bong. ED - kinda crusty, outspoken - is on his phone. DEE - pretty, peppy - looks out the window and notices Thomas exiting his mom's car.

DEE

Look at how pent up that kid looks.  
Man, I'd hate to be a Freshman  
again.

Jane let's out a puff of smoke.

JANE

I know a way to fix that.

DEE

Should I invite him in?

JANE

Do, if you want, but make it fast.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Thomas fidgets with his hands as he walks towards the school. He passes by the van. The doors open and smoke rushes out. Dee hops out and puts her arm around Thomas. He doesn't know how to react.

DEE

Come on!

THOMAS

What?

DEE

The smoke's escaping! Let's go!

They jump into the van.

INT. VAN - DAY

Thomas is truly baffled by the situation. Jane and Dee look at him expectantly. There's a deafening silence. Ed looks up from his phone.

ED

(to Thomas)  
Who're you?

THOMAS

Thomas Good. No, wait, Tom Good.

JANE

Is it Thomas Good or Tom Good?

DEE

Yeah! It's your first day, what d'you wanna be called?

THOMAS

Is it that obvious that I'm a freshman?

They all burst out laughing.

JANE

You're adorable! I'm just gonna call you Good. My name is Jane. This is Ed. And your new best friend here is Dee. D'you want a hit?

THOMAS

What's that?

JANE

A hit. Have you ever smoked before?

THOMAS

You mean weed?

The sophomores laugh.

DEE

I LOVE the way you say "weed".

THOMAS

Is it a good idea to do it before school?

ED

No, it's a great idea! I wish I'd smoked before my first day.

JANE

This is too good.

DEE

I'll help you, honey!

Dee grabs the bong and packs it. She crawls over to Thomas.

DEE (CONT'D)  
I'll light it and everything. Just  
suck it in when I tell you to.

He complies. Dee lights it for him.

DEE (CONT'D)  
Okay... Now!

Thomas lasts 3 seconds before he starts coughing  
uncontrollably.

DEE (CONT'D)  
Oh shit. Did you swallow it?\

INT. HEALTH CLASS - DAY

COACH BONONI - Short, gruff, and egotistical - paces in front  
of a class of freshman boys. Carter and Bieber-wannabe Nate  
are amongst them.

BONONI  
Right. Freshman boys are always the  
rowdiest bunch. Tryna show off and  
pick on the weak. Well, I'm all for  
survival of the fittest but I'm  
also a team player. I almost  
competed in Olympic rowing back in  
my day, y'know. But there was a mix-  
up and they switched my urine  
sample with some cheater...  
Anyways, while there's nothing I  
love more in the morning than the  
smell of dodgeball, too many kids  
got hospitalized last year so the  
school is making me start the year  
with the health portion of this  
class.

The class groans.

BONONI (CONT'D)  
At least until you *make friends*  
like the little ladies you are.

Bononi walks to the dry-erase board and uncaps a marker. He  
writes in big letters "WEAR CONDOMS".

BONONI (CONT'D)  
Lesson 1: use condoms or you'll  
die.

Nate's hand shoots up.

BONONI (CONT'D)

Yeah.

NATE

Would using two condoms be more effective?

BONONI

(not sarcastically)

Sure, I don't see why double bagging would ever be a problem.

Carter nods and thoughtfully takes notes.

The doors open. Everyone looks. Thomas strolls in looking infinitely more relaxed.

THOMAS

Is this Freshman gym two?

BONONI

Yes?

THOMAS

Oh. Sweet. I thought it was gonna be in an actual gym. I'm in this class!

BONONI

Oh, you are, are you? And you think it's just dandy to show up 30 late?

THOMAS

(oblivious to tone)

I mean, it's the first day right? I was making connections.

BONONI

(Sarcastic)

Oh, well in that case, why show up at all? You can take the rest of class off!

THOMAS

Hey! Thanks so much! That's awesome-

BONONI

And I'll see you in my office after school for detention.

THOMAS

Uhh, I'm pretty sure you can't give detention for one tardy.

BONONI  
I can if I'm a dean.

THOMAS  
You dick!

Everyone laughs. Nate is amongst them.

NATE  
What a badass!

CARTER  
(flabbergasted)  
Nate!

NATE  
Who're you?

Carter sulks.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Posters hang from the walls above lockers, saying things like "Sobriety keeps you with God. Drugs hand deliver you to Satan" and "S.E.X: Satan's Evil Xylophone.

The bell rings and the halls fill with students. Carter wanders out of a class, looking at his printed out schedule. He's now wearing a new school sweater. Bobby and Dee walk together, holding hands, and spot him. Dee gets excited.

DEE  
What's good, Good?! How's the day  
going?

She hugs him tight. Carter is confused but happy, until he sees Bobby.

CARTER  
Uh. Hi. Nice to meet you?

DEE  
What? You don't remember me? From  
the van this morning? How high are  
you?

CARTER  
What?

DEE  
Oh my god you're baked. It's weird  
though, you don't look it.

BOBBY

Dee, this is the fuck that ruined my Yeezys this morning. How d'you know him?

DEE

Oh, relax, Bobby. They don't look any different. And this little guy's my buddy. He's under my protection.

Dee wraps her arm around Carter.

BOBBY

Fine. Sorry for that shit earlier.

CARTER

Oh, don't even sweat! My feeling aren't hurt that easily.

BOBBY

Right.

DEE

Come have lunch with us!

CARTER

That'd be awesome.

They start walking down the hall.

DEE

(to Carter)

Oh my god, this'll be the best lunch you've ever tasted! I'm so excited! Wait, what was your first name again?

CARTER

Carter. And yours?

DEE

I'm Dee. What happened to your cute outfit?

CARTER

Frappuccino.

Thomas walks with Jane and Ed in the opposite direction. They stop when they see the others.

BOBBY

What the shit?

THOMAS  
Dee?

DEE  
Good?

CARTER  
Thomas?

THOMAS  
Carter?

There's a pause while everyone looks from Thomas to Carter.

ED  
There's two of you.

THOMAS  
(vexed)  
He's my twin.

DEE  
Ohh! Twins! That's so cool!

JANE  
So who smoked with us?

CARTER  
Huh?

THOMAS  
That was me.

Thomas snickers.

CARTER  
(surprised and impressed)  
You smoked weed? Already?!

DEE  
Oh my god, he says it like that  
too!

BOBBY  
(pointing at Carter)  
So that means it's YOU who's the  
shitstain! And you don't even know  
Dee! So that means-

JANE  
Bobby, chill the fuck out, okay?

Bobby cowers.

DEE  
(to Thomas)  
So you're Good!

THOMAS  
Yeah.

DEE  
I could tell.

Dee hugs Thomas and his mood brightens.

ED  
Can we please get some food  
already?

They all start walking towards the caf. Carter and Thomas  
remain.

CARTER  
Is it cool if I tag along with your  
friends?

THOMAS  
You never let me tag along last  
year.

CARTER  
That was different-

THOMAS  
Where's your ring?

CARTER  
Um-

THOMAS  
Eat it.

CARTER  
What?

THOMAS  
Eat it and you can hang out with  
the cool kids.

CARTER  
You're not gonna actually make me-

DEE  
(calling back)  
Good, you coming?

THOMAS

(to Dee)

Just a sec!

(to Carter)

Eat it.

CARTER

Fine, fine.

He eyes the ring.

CARTER (CONT'D)

Fucking high school.

Carter takes the ring from his pocket. He hesitates before shoving it in his mouth. He painfully swallows.

END.