





Chapter 1

It was Monday. Drake was at football practice. Drake was the starting quarterback. The big game was on Friday night. Drake could hardly wait.

Coach Grant called to Drake. He said, "Come over here, Drake. I need to talk to you now."

Drake hurried over to the coach.

The coach asked, "How are you doing, Drake?"

"Fine," Drake said. But why did the coach ask him that?

"No problems here at school?" Coach Grant asked. "No. No problems, Coach," Drake said.

But that wasn't true. He did have one problem.

Coach Grant said, "I talked to Mrs. Wray today."

The coach didn't sound pleased.

Drake knew he was in trouble. Mrs. Wray was his history teacher.

Drake asked, "What did Mrs. Wray say to you?"

But Drake was sure he knew what Mrs. Wray said.

The coach said, "Mrs. Wray said you are failing history. Why didn't you tell me about it?"

Drake didn't want Coach Grant to know. But Drake knew he couldn't tell Coach Grant that.

So Drake said, "It isn't a big deal. I can improve my grade before the end of the semester." "It's a big deal to me, Drake. And it should be to you, too. I want you to improve your grade now, not later. Mrs. Wray said you have a test on Friday morning. Pass that test if you want to play on Friday night," Coach Grant said.

"I have to play on Friday night. That's our big game," Drake said.

"You don't have to play on Friday night, Drake. I can start Caleb," Coach Grant said.

Caleb was the back-up quarterback.

"But Caleb doesn't play as well as I do," Drake said.

"Caleb is passing all of his classes. You aren't passing all of your classes. Get back to practice," Coach Grant said.

Drake jogged back over to the other players. Caleb ran over to him.

Caleb asked, "What did Coach Grant say to you?"

Drake told Caleb what happened.

Caleb said, "Then you'd better study for that test and pass. Or Coach Grant won't let you play on Friday night. You need to play. I want to win. And we might not win if I have to start."

Drake thought they might not win, too. Caleb wasn't a good quarterback.

"Don't worry. I'll study. And I'll pass the test," Drake said.

Drake knew he would study. And he thought he would pass if he studied a lot. He just didn't like to study history.

Drake threw some passes to two players. Caleb threw some passes.

Drake worked hard for the rest of the practice. But he was thinking about what Coach Grant said about his test.

Coach Grant blew his whistle. All of the boys stopped what they were doing. They ran over to Coach Grant. Coach Grant said, "Time is up for today. All of you worked hard today. Study tonight. Get a lot of sleep. And be ready to work hard tomorrow."

Some of the players ran to the gym.

Coach Grant said, "Wait a minute, Drake."

Drake waited to see what the coach wanted to say.

Coach Grant said, "One more thing, Drake. I want to see your test before the game starts. Bring it to me so I'll know you passed."

"Mrs. Wray might not grade my test before the game. So I might not be able to bring it to you. Will you still let me play?" Drake asked.

"Mrs. Wray said she'll grade your test on Friday. Don't forget to bring your test to me, Drake. And don't lose it. I must see your test. And the test must have a passing grade, or you don't play," Coach Grant said.

"I'll be sure to bring it. And I'll have a passing grade," Drake said.

"Good, Drake. See you tomorrow," Coach Grant said.

Coach Grant didn't trust Drake to tell the truth about his grade. And that upset Drake. But he knew why the coach didn't trust him. And it was his fault. He was failing history. And he should have told the coach that.

Drake turned around to run to the gym. Caleb was right behind him. And Drake almost bumped into Caleb.



CARTER HIGH

Art Show Mystery Aztec Ring Mystery Drama Club Mystery The Field Trip Mystery Library Book Mystery Lucky Falcon Mystery **The Missing Test Mystery** The Secret Admirer Mystery The Secret Message Where Is Mr. Zane?

Drake has to pass Mrs. Wray's history test if he wants to play in the football game. Drake is sure he handed Mrs. Wray the test. But when Mrs. Wray realizes Drake's test is missing, Mr. Zane tells her that he saw Drake in her room. Did Drake take his test to avoid getting a failing grade, or does someone else have a stake in whether or not Drake plays?



