



CARTER HIGH
CHRONICLES

THE
Easy Way



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Chapter 1

Laine was at her locker. Tess was there too. Tess was her best friend. And they had the same locker.

Tess was waiting for Laine to get her history book. Then they were going to class. They were in the same history class. It was their last class of the day. Miss Brent was their teacher.

Laine saw Ben walk by. He was in her science class.

Laine said, “Ben is cute. I would like to date him. Do you think he might ask me for a date?”

Tess said, “Not any time soon. He just started dating someone new. But he might ask you later.”

Laine was still looking at Ben.

Tess said, “Come on, Laine. We need to get to class. Miss Brent always starts class on time. And you know what she does to kids who are late.”

Miss Brent made them stay after school for 30 minutes. And they had to work on their history.

Laine got her book. And the girls went to class.

They quickly went to their desks. They didn’t get to sit near each other. Laine sat on one side the room. And Tess sat on the other.

The bell rang.

Miss Brent said, “Open your books.”

Laine didn’t want to open her book. But she did.

She liked Miss Brent OK. But she did not like history.

Laine looked over at the next row. She saw Griff. He was looking at her.

Laine tried to keep her mind on history. But she did not try very hard.

Laine looked at Griff five or six more times. And he was always looking at her. She wished he would stop looking at her.

Laine was glad to hear the bell. She liked school OK. But she was glad when school was over.

She wanted to go home and shoot some baskets.

Laine and Tess started to walk to their locker.

Laine said, "I don't have a lot of homework. How about you?"

"Just in math," Tess said.

Laine said, "Good. Come over to my house. We can shoot some baskets."

Tess said, "I can't right now. Maybe later. I am going to the track to run some. Do you want to run with me?"

Laine said, "Not me. I want to be on the basketball team. Not the track team. And it isn't fun just to run. Come home with me. And shoot baskets with me."

"I need to run," Tess said.

"Why?" Laine asked.

"To get in shape for basketball. Practice starts next week. Come to the track with me. We can run now. And shoot baskets later," Tess said.

"Running will not help me shoot baskets better," Laine said.

Tess said, "Sure it will. It will get you in better shape."

"You can get in better shape that way. I don't need to. You go on and run. I am going home," Laine said.

“At times I don’t think you care about playing basketball,” Tess said.

That surprised Laine. How could Tess say that?

Laine said, “Sure I do. I spend a lot of time shooting baskets at home. And that is why I am so good at it.”

Laine had been the highest scorer on the team last year. Tess had been on the team too. But not on the starting team.

“There is more to playing basketball than shooting baskets,” Tess said.

Laine laughed. She said, “Not when you shoot baskets as well as I do.”



Chapter 2

It was the first day of basketball practice. Laine was in the gym. Tess was there too. Laine was ready to shoot baskets. But she knew she had to wait.

“I can hardly wait for the first game,” Laine said.

Tess laughed. She said, “Not so fast, Laine. We have a lot of work to do before then.”

“I don’t want to think about that,” Laine said.

Laine did not like to practice. She just wanted to play in the games.

“Do you think we will both make the

starting team?" Tess asked.

Laine looked to see who else was there. She saw Val and Deb. They were in her history class. She knew most of the other girls too.

"I think we will," Laine said. She was sure she would.

Tess said, "I think you will too. And I think Deb will. But I am not sure about Val and me."

Coach Yates blew her whistle. Then she said, "We have a lot to do today. So we need to get started."

Laine was ready.

Coach Yates had a sheet of paper in her hand. She said, "You should have signed up last week. So all of your names should be on this list."

She called out the names. And all of the girls were on the list.

Coach Yates said, "All of you need

to be able to shoot well. From the free throw line. And from all over the court. You need to know how to dribble. How to pass. And how to guard the other team.”

Laine said, “I wish Coach Yates would stop talking. And let us play.”

But only Tess could hear what Laine said.

Coach Yates said, “You need to be in good shape to win. So you need to run some on your own.”

Laine did not like to run. So she didn’t plan to run on her own.

Coach Yates said, “Don’t forget this. You need to have good teamwork. That is what makes a winning team. And I know all of you want to win.”

All the girls yelled as loudly as they could.

Coach Yates said, “We will start all of our practices with running drills. Then



do stretches.”

Laine was ready to play. Not to do drills and exercises.

She did the drills and exercises. But she was tired after she did them.