

***Overcoming the Odds :
The Remarkable Rise***

Of

Josh Earling

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Thanks to my dad and mum and to my precious sister
for their endless support and advice.

And every aspiring and professional footballer.



Chapter 1

The Beginning Of Josh Earling Journey

One clear summer morning in Paris, an exceptional baby was born on a special day.

The infant was born for greatness on the day France won the World Cup; despite being born into poverty, there was something special about the child.

As Josh Earling grew up, his parents bought him a football and football boots because they knew he would become one of the best players ever because he loved playing so much .



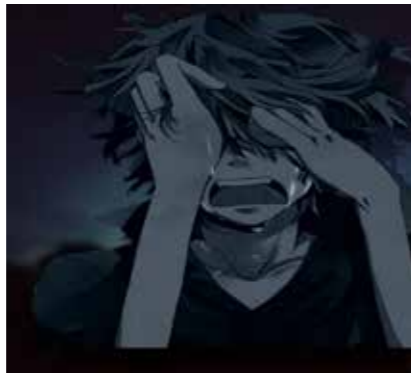
Chapter 2

The Power Of Passion

Two years later, the little toddler loved listening, watching matches, and kicking a ball. When Josh learned to walk, he also liked running around the garden. Soon it was his fifth birthday, and he was in for a special treat from his father. His father gave him his first football

shirt, an AS Monaco number 7. Josh was very happy and wore it to a football match with his father.

As he grew, he worked on his stamina and skills with the help of his father. Then he started to play a few matches with his close friends and mostly won matches in his back garden. After Josh turned six, he began to develop an interest in this player Mbappe who he looked up to and wanted to be like.



Chapter 3

Battle Against bullying

One morning, John Earling, Josh's father, heard him crying for some reason, and was confused because he seemed to be excited the previous night before bedtime. He asked Josh what was wrong and Josh told him about the bully at his school who kept on taking his things and saying horrible things about him. During football practice, the bully would slide tackle him really hard and other teammates always said he was the worst player, even though it was their fault they kept losing. They all kept laughing and making jokes about him. Strangely, the coach seemed to support their actions as he never cautioned them, which made Josh sad and he felt like he might not be what he was destined to be after all.

John gave Josh some advice: he whispered in his ear, "Don't let this bully bring you down because one day you will be as good as Mbappe and win the world cup. If he tries to slap you, turn the other cheek and stay focused."

So John helped Josh get ready for school on time so that he wouldn't get his first strike (detention) .

While at school, he was about to get his book for English, when Jedediah the bully and his friends came crashing in, making fun of Josh.

They called him Josh Justice because he would always tell them to stop picking on the other little children. Then the bell rang and it was lesson time for the six graders. So Josh ran to class so he doesn't have to do extra time out in maths after school with the head teacher.

At lunch Josh was sitting by himself, when Jedediah and his friends purposely pushed Josh to make him spill his lunch. However, Josh caught his food on his tray. **AND EVERY ONE WAS AMAZED, ESPECIALLY THE HEAD COOK.** Then Jedediah fell over a mop and his food landed on the top of the head teacher's head! **SPLAAASH PLUMM!** which made her very upset. She called him out and he was in detention for a week and even missed most football matches, even though it wasn't really his fault.



Chapter 4

The Turning point

On another lovely sunny day, it was hometime and afterschool clubs. Josh was going for his after school football club and was searching for his socks, only to find his football socks in the recycle bin. Josh knew it was Jedediah and his friends who had put them there after he got laughed at.

On the field, the coach made the players run two laps around the field and usually he would say, “If you don't run two laps you won't play in the match and will run two more laps!” so most people would run really fast so they could play in the match, but some just did it as an exercise, to keep them fit and healthy .

Then it was match time! Jedediah was separated from Josh. Josh's team won because at the last minute, one of the players tackled Josh hard and scored a banger in the penalty, but then the referee said the goal didn't count!

So Josh's team won and they celebrated.

Finally, the after school clubs were over and it was time to go home. He went as fast as he could so he was not late for dinner. For dinner Josh's mom prepared macaroni and cheese - Josh's favourite.

He was elated and was proud of himself.



Chapter 5

Josh`s Triumph Over His Bully

As time went on, Josh kept on training and he was chosen to play in a competition with another school: St Paul Cathedral School. Meanwhile Jedidiah and his two friends were planning how to bring down Josh so that he would not take part in the match.

Unfortunately for them, Jedidiah fell over his friend's foot and couldn't really play because he was badly hurt and so was his friend.

Both of them were in pain and the coach asked them to be on the side, hoping they would get better.

During the match, it seemed it was going to be a draw, when, all of a sudden in the last minute, Josh gave a good strike and scored the goal. The team and the coach were exhilarated as they held him up high in the air shouting, 'JOSH JUSTICE!!THE GREATEST OF ALL TIME!!.

Victory! Josh was very proud, so was the coach and players.

But do you know who wasn't happy - Jedediah. He wasn't happy because he was usually praised for his tackles and shots.

So Jedediah hatched a plan to finish Josh`s dreams for once and for all.



Chapter 6

The Road Map To Josh Success

On the day of parents evening at the end of term, while Jedediah was hatching his plan, his parents had heard all about his misbehaviour at school and were coming to sort things out. Josh's parents were also coming. Then the school inspector came and addressed everyone. Jedediah realised that when one or two children behaved inappropriately, it would be attributed to the school's closure and certainly attract journalists.

Jedediah was very worried about what the headteacher said. His parents made him apologise to every person whom he had bullied, especially his classmates.

They both ran into each other in the toilet, Josh thought he was going to be humiliated by Jedediah as usual but Jedediah wanted to tell Josh sorry secretly, which he did. Josh forgave him and they shook hands. It was already the end of the term and no-one knew what to expect from Jedediah only to be hopeful that he had changed.

Jedediah felt a sense of relief and gratitude as he reflected on the positive changes that had taken place since his apology.

He was proud of Josh's accomplishments and happy to see their friendship restored. As he watched Josh excel in his soccer career, Jedediah knew that forgiveness and second chances were powerful forces for good. He was grateful for the lessons he had learnt and the opportunity to make amends.

In the end, Jedediah realised that true victory was not just about winning on the field, but also about growing as a person and making amends for past mistakes.

Josh was excited to join a football team when he got bigger. Paris Saint-Germain, which produces the greatest players in the nation, was his ideal squad. With his father's encouragement, he started training hard. His father had always told him to watch footage of professional football players in order to gain confidence and improve his ability to play fast, passionately and cooperatively. Eventually, Josh was able to get past his worry and fears.

He started applying to different clubs, but his ideal squad never got back to him. His football dreams appeared to be somewhat hazy. John Earling continued to communicate with other football instructors in an effort to promote his son's desire, and as he continued to practise, he gained more endurance and speed.

He had a positive outlook and was prepared to overcome any challenges. Coach Francois from his previous school called him. Josh was given an opportunity to play on trial, and when he saw how talented he was, the coach worked hard to make sure Josh

joined a prestigious team. Two weeks before classes began, someone called him. It was coach Francois congratulating him on his acceptance to PSG under-11.

He was elated and that was how his football career started growing and his nickname **JOSH JUSTICE: GREATEST OF ALL TIME** was on every spectator's lips.

We hope that you and your family and friends enjoy the book that you have created.

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SWITCHED ON!

A baby was born for greatness and to show off young skills. But as he grows, he is brought down by the school bully.

Will he be able to overcome his fears and become the champion of football?