

By

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The Book of Hosea

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CONTINUED:

JOSIAH:

That's cool. I wouldn't wanna face me  
either.

(no reaction)

What about billiards? More your speed?

Jesse drops his cards and breathes hard as he stands.

JESSE:

Mr. J why can't you get it? I said I'm  
good. I'm good.

**START** He walks off nearly taking out a STAFF MEMBER, 30s, that is  
approaching.

Josiah just watches him leave the room, not surprised.

STAFF MEMBER:

Hey Josiah. Let me holler at you.

JOSIAH:

What's up?

They step closer to the door where less curious ears are  
near.

The playfulness is gone from Josiah. He is now anxious.

JOSIAH:

Please tell me we figured it out.

STAFF MEMBER:

It's official man. Not gonna have the  
funds for the trip. Another community  
takes a hit because of a government  
official's incompetence. Shocker.

JOSIAH:

Ughhh shhhmmm. I had hope.

STAFF MEMBER:

Yeah I know.

JOSIAH:

What if we take some of the net from  
the b-ball tourney?

(CONTINUED)

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STAFF MEMBER:

We're already shifting things.  
Planning on splitting a percent to  
spread around.

JOSIAH:

Alright yeah. Makes sense.

He looks around the room at his kids, calm as he can.

JOSIAH:

So where's that leave us?

STAFF MEMBER:

I'll have to do the numbers, but the  
rest of our Fall-

**STOP** The conversation is suddenly disrupted by a commotion in the-

HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Josiah and his fellow employee pop out into the hall to see... ..Jesse tied up with another BOY, 15, of equal size. No punches, they go straight to the ground. Jesse manages a weak choke hold before other STAFF and fellow TEENS step in. Josiah rushes over at the same time a salt and peppered man, LEE 40s, in business casual attire arrives. Lee steps in between and goes straight for Jesse in the tone of ex military.

LEE:

I don't even wanna know what or who. I  
really don't care.

You boys are both out for a week. And Mr. Jesse, we're done with it. I suggest you do some soul searching this next week young sir. Cause next time, you are done. No more chances. You two got it?

They both obligately nod.

LEE:

I don't hear a confirmation.

The boys nod.

LEE:

Okay. Get 'em out of here.

(CONTINUED)