

Ballgame

Author: n/a
Source: Bull Durham
Category: comedy
Description: Crash gives Ebby a pitching lesson

Characters

Name: Crash Davis
Age: n/a
Race: n/a
Region: n/a
Sex: male
Description: an aging, worldly ballplayer

Name: Ebby / Nuke
Age: n/a
Race: n/a
Region: n/a
Sex: male
Description: a brash young rookie pitcher

EXT. DURHAM BASEBALL STADIUM -- SHORT TIME LATER

CLOSE ON THE ROSIN BAG on the mound. A hand picks it up.

Puffs of rosin "smoke". Nuke is on the mound.

NUKE NERVOUSLY WALKS AROUND THE MOUND -- Just before the first batter. He picks up the rosin bag. Digs a slot for his lead foot to land. And CRASH APPROACHES, in full gear, mask tipped up on his head.

CRASH

Don't try to strike everybody out.

(beat)

Strikeouts are boring. They're Fascist. Throw some ground balls, it's more Democratic.

CRASH TURNS AND HEADS TO THE PLATE and we hear the beginning of Nuke's interior monologue.

NUKE (VOICE OVER)

What's this guy know, eh? If he's so great why's he been in the minors for ten years? And if he's so hot how come Annie wants me instead of him.

CRASH TURNS AROUND HALF WAY TO THE PLATE and returns to the mound, as if he knows everything Nuke's thinking.

CRASH

And listen, meat. You don't know shit. If you want to get to the Show, you'll listen to me. She only wants you 'cause she can boss you around, got it?

(beat, complete tone change)

Relax, have a ball out here. This game's fun, okay? Fun, God damn it.

(beat)

And don't squeeze the ball so tight. It's an egg. Hold it like an egg.

CRASH SMILES -- And trots back to the plate.

NUKE'S P.O.V. The first batter steps in. Crash gives the sign for the pitch.

NUKE

Fun? What's he know about fun?

(beat)

Why's he calling for a curveball?