

## The Basketball Gymnast

Once upon a time there was a basketball gymnast. Her name was Macana, she lived in Beverly with her parents and her twin sister, Addison. One day, her mom told her she had a basketball game and gymnastics meet both at 3:00 on Saturday. One was in Georgetown and the other was in Hamilton. She kept wondering which one to go to.

Then an idea popped into her mind. What if my twin sister played one of my sports for me?

"Mom," Macana screamed, "does Addison have any sports at 3:00 on Saturday?"

She crossed her fingers behind her back. Please don't. Please don't. Please don't she thought. Then her mom called back to her, "No."

Macana was sooooo excited. "Why did you need to know if I had any sports this Saturday at 3:00?" Addison asked her.

"I...I was just curious." Macana stuttered. Addison was getting mad. "Really?" She asked.

"No, I was just kidding." Then Macana whispered in Addison's ear. "Actually I wanted to know if you could play one of my sports for me."

"I'm telling mom, and by the way...your crazy!" Addison yelled and stomped up the stairs. Addison was halfway up the stairs when she heard sobbing. She walked down the stairs and turned around, it was Macana! "I'm sorry Macana please forgive me please." Macana was about to stomp away and say no, when Addison said she would do it. "Now will you forgive me?" Addison asked in a baby begging voice.

"I will forgive you if you promise to keep it a secret from mom and work really really hard. Now let's get to work!" Said Macana.

"Today is Wednesday," said Macana, "so we only have 4 days to get you ready for your sport." They arrived at the gym at 5:30 pm. "What sport do *you* want to do?" Macana asked Addison.

"Neither." Addison laughed.

Macana rolled her eyes and giggled. "You have to choose one."

"I will choose whichever one is easier to learn" Addison said

"Umm," Macana thought, "probably basketball."

"Ok, I'll do basketball, so how much do I have to work out?" Addison asked.

"Maybe an hour or so minutes a day, at least." Macana said. "Let's start now". "Come with me. Let's go to the elliptical first" Macana said. "Let's start with 5 minutes and do more if we need to." After 5 minutes, Macana told Addison to go onto the rowing machine for 5 minutes.

Addison kept complaining that the rowing machine was too hard! But she wasn't done yet, after the rowing machine she threw up the basketball like she was shooting a basket. After they were both done working out they went home. It was late, so they went to bed.



The next day Addison and Macana went outside and played basketball and gymnastics. Addison was shooting super high. "Shoot lower" Macana told Addison. They did that for about an hour and 15 minutes. Then they went to the gym again and went on the rowing machine and elliptical. Today they also lifted weights. They did this everyday until Saturday.

Finally Saturday came. Macana and Addison woke up early. Addison looked out her window and saw it was a beautiful sunny perfect day for basketball. She was still super nervous. She had butterflies in their stomach.

Addison secretly went upstairs to get dressed for basketball and texted her friend's mom to pick her up. Macana was disappointed she couldn't watch Addison play basketball but she told her friends mom to take lots of videos.

Macana arrived at her gymnastics meet 45 minutes early. She practiced her routine over and over until it was finally her turn.

GO MACANA! Macana looked up to see a packed crowd and Addison in the front row. Her mother looked confused. Everyone was texting Addison and Macana's mom that "Macana" made the game winning shot. Her mother was so confused and told Addison she had a lot of explaining to do after the meet. Macana did really good at her meet. She got first in states and was going on to the championship on Sunday.

When they got home they sat on the couch to talk to their mom about the switch.. They thought if they told the truth, they would be in less trouble, so they did. Their mom wasn't that mad at them and said to tell her if they were going to switch again. Macana didn't have a basketball game and gymnastics meet again at the same time until 2 years later...

Read the next book to see what happens.