

"The Fuck Bums" by: Aaron Hertzog

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD

A rag tag group of kids mingle around until their COACH approaches, and blows his whistle.

COACH

Ok kids, gather round. Now, today's the last game of the season and it's a very important one for us. We still have not won a game this year, and our sponsor, Peterson's Pizza, said they're not gonna continue to fund us if we put up a goose egg in the win column. You guys don't wanna go back to not having a sponsor, do you?

ALL THE KIDS

No, Coach.

COACH

Now, we've got everything we need right here to go from a rag tag group of so and so's to a winning team. Do you believe me?

ALL THE KIDS

No, Coach.

COACH

Hey - get it together! Do you guys remember what they called us before we were the Peterson's Pizza Pirates?

AARON

Officially we were known as "Region Three".

COACH

But what was our nickname with the other teams in the league?

KURTIS

They called us the Fuck Bums.

COACH

Correct. Now, you don't want to go back to being Fuck Bums, do you?

ALL THE KIDS

No, Coach.

COACH

So, let's get out there and win one, for cryin' out loud. Now, when I took over as your coach...

JON

And, why again did you come on as coach of the Fuck Bums half way through the season?

COACH

You know that I was sentenced by a judge to perform community service.

AARON

And, why again were you sentenced by a judge to perform community service, and coach this team, at that point still known as the Fuck Bums?

COACH

You know that I was sentenced by a judge to perform community service because I crashed my potato chip delivery truck into an old folks home because I was high on heroin.

KURTIS

And why did you...

COACH

You know I was driving a potato chip delivery truck while high on heroin because I fell into a deep depression after a career ending baseball injury ended my shot at the majors!

KURTIS

Yeah, we know.

AARON

We just like to hear you say it.

JON

You're a real Fuck Bum, coach.

COACH

I'm not a Fuck Bum. I'm the centerpiece in a classic zeroes to heroes redemption story.

JON

What do you mean, coach?

COACH

Well, we've got a down-on-his-luck coach who can probably learn just as much from his team as they can learn from him. We've got you -

Points to KID ONE, he's wearing glasses

AARON

Me?

COACH

Yeah, you're obviously a nerd. Let's develop some kind of trick play to confuse the other team.

AARON

It's baseball, my calculations tell me there's not really "plays."

COACH

Ok, you!

Points to the catcher.

COACH

Tubby catcher. You're obviously the comic relief. How many hilarious pranks have you played on the other teams to throw them off their game?

EVAN

Pranks are the lowest form of comedy.

COACH

Ok how about you.

He points to another kid, who has a full on beard.

COACH

We picked you up half way through the season after I caught you smoking cigarettes and bullying the rest of the team by asking them all if they masturbate.

ZACH K.

If they say yes, I call them gross losers - if they say no, I call 'em repressed weirdos. They can't win!

COACH

You should be our best player!

ZACH K.

The smoking kind of kills my athletic ability, and I got into bullying to hide how weak I actually am.

COACH

Ok we got you.

LEANNE

Me?

COACH

Yeah, you're the kid from the right side of the tracks that got moved to our team after a district rezoning. Maybe YOU should be our best player.

LEANNE

Honestly, I kinda gave up after I became a Fuck Bum.

LEANNE leaves.

COACH

How about you!

ZACH G.

Woof.

COACH

There's nothing in the rules that says...ah fuck it.

AARON

Maybe we're not cut out to be Pirates.

KURTIS

Yeah, maybe we're just a bunch of Fuck Bum losers.

The coach stands in silence for a moment. He realizes something.

COACH

Maybe we don't want to be Pirates!  
We are who we are! You're not a  
nerd, you're not tubby, I'm not a  
heroin addict.

ALL THE KIDS

Yes you are, coach!

COACH

Ok, I am a heroin addict. But we're  
not losers...we're *Fuck Bums!*

The team look at each other puzzled. They thought Fuck Bums  
was an insult.

COACH

(inspirational speech moment)  
You see, we may not win every game,  
but we got each others back. Fuck  
Bums for life! I may be a failed  
former baseball player slash potato  
chip delivery driver and heroin  
junkie but I'm proud of what I am.  
Fuck Bums for life!

AARON

And I may have ran to third base  
the one time I accidentally hit the  
ball...but I still hit it!

THE WHOLE TEAM

Fuck Bums for life!

JON

Sure I cup my junk and cower in  
fear every time the ball is hit to  
me...but that's just because there  
are more important things in life  
than baseball...like the health of  
my dick.

THE WHOLE TEAM

Fuck Bums for life!

KURTIS

Sure I may not "know what baseball  
is."

A beat. That's all he has. Everybody shrugs.

THE WHOLE TEAM  
Fuck Bums for life!

The team huddles up and starts chanting "Fuck, Fuck, Fuck, Fuck...Gooooooooooooo Bums" and end in a freeze frame. The coach recaps things in a voice over style.

COACH  
I learned a lot coaching those Fuck Bums that summer. I learned that a few weeks of practice can't turn a bunch of losers into champions, but that those losers can become friends. I learned to be proud of who you are, no matter what, even if you're a cruddy old Fuck Bum. Most of all, I learned you're not allowed to drive a potato chip delivery truck while high on heroin. You get in trouble for that.