

HEY, WATER BOY!

by Ken Bradbury



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“Hey! Hurry up!” “Get over here!”
“Bring the water! Make it quick!”
“Need a football! Bring it to me! Whatsa matter? Are you sick?”

Of all the great football positions, of all the big names
that they use
Of all the folks you see out playing, I’m the one who
totes the juice.
I haul the water, fling the fluid, carry liquid to the
crew.
I bring the water to the players, and buddy I can tote
the brew!

Oh sure, there’s jerks who call me names
And make a joke of what I do...
But when you’re thirsty, you big sucker, I’m the one
who rescues you.
They call me “Juice Man,” sometimes “Quacky,”
Acting like I’m just their slave.
But when their tongues are dry and hanging, Buddy,
you best say my name.

Just once I'd like to see 'em try to play a game without my job.

Just once I'd like to see 'em dry and thirsty, beggin' me for just a drop.

"Come on, big boy, beg me for it! Want some water, quarterback?"

"Then get down on your knees and beg me. Hurry up, or you'll get sacked."

The running back thinks he's the coolest, muscles bulgin' from his pads.

The tackles usually act the cruelest, half a brain and smellin' bad.

The ends look down on me like towers, I can hardly see their face.

And linemen walk around like grizzlies. I throw the water in their cage.

And even coaches, they're the worst now, order me around like kings

But if they'd try to do without me, they'd wake up and see some things.

Last night while I was sleepin' soundly, I had me a dream, I guess.

The score was tied, and time was close, and my own team was in a mess.

Our quarterback was on his crutches, injured by the girls who cheer.

He'd sprained himself real bad because he'd hurt his legs by watchin' theirs.

Our halfback too, was in a pickle, seems he'd broke a thing or two
Tryin' to get the perfect angle for the television crew.
Our center was a bit off-center, havin' hit his head too often.
Our ends had ended all their fancy dancin' and were on the sidelines coughin'.

The coach he looked right down the line to find someone to win the game
But no one looked like they could find the strength all tired and sore and lame.
He just about threw in the towel and told the refs we're out of luck
When I stepped up and said, "Hey coach man, don't give in, man. Don't give up."
"I can do it, Mr. Coach man, Give me just a chance to try."
And then a ittsy-bitsy tear came drippin' from that poor old coach man's eye.
"Do you think that you can do?" coach man asked stooped down real low.
"Just give that football to me, mister. Then stand back and let me go!"

The fans all stood in silent wonder as the speaker called my name.
No one could believe that me, the water boy was in the game.
They hiked the ball and I just faded back into the end zone grass.



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