

BOY 1 SIDES: Read for Boy 2

START >>> 006 **BOY 2**
You were supposed to catch it,
Titus!

007 **BOY 1**
How am I supposed to catch it when
you throw like a chicken! You'll
never be a gladiator.

BOY 2 SIGHS, FRUSTRATED.

008 **BOY 2**
Let's try again...Where's the ball?

YOUNG NICHOLAS (10) RUNS TOWARD THEM.

009 **YOUNG NICHOLAS**
Hey! Is this yours?

010 **BOY 1**
Yeah. Give it here.

BOY 1 snatches the ball.

011 **YOUNG NICHOLAS**
Can I play too?

012 **BOY 2**
(suspiciously)
Aren't you the son of that
merchant? The one with ships and
farmland? Go play with your own
ball!

013 **YOUNG NICHOLAS**
But I saw you playing and... It
looks like fun.

014 **BOY 1**
(whispering to Boy 2)
We shouldn't let him play with us.

015 **YOUNG NICHOLAS**
Come on! Just one game. I'm agile!

016 **BOY 2**
That doesn't matter. You're one of
those... *Christ-followers*...

017 **BOY 1**
My uncle says all those Christians
are like lost sheep, following a
silly shepherd.

BOY 1 MAKES A MOCKINGLY "BAAAA". BOY 2 LAUGHS.

018 YOUNG NICHOLAS
What does that have to do with
playing ball?

019 BOY 2
Everything! My father says you
Christians are nothing but trouble.
You always anger the gods because
you believe in just one god.

020 BOY 1
And everyone knows there are many
powerful gods on Mount Olympus and
in the temples!

021 YOUNG NICHOLAS
But... Jesus, our Lord, lived here
in the world, with people like us.

022 BOY 2
(scoffs)
Your god lived here? And then what?

023 YOUNG NICHOLAS
Well... he died for us.

024 BOY 2
Died? What kind of god dies?

025 YOUNG NICHOLAS
Jesus is God, but He is also a Man.

026 BOY 1
A man can't be a god.

BOY 2 pushes YOUNG NICHOLAS slightly.

027 BOY 2
Keep your strange stories to
yourself.

028 YOUNG NICHOLAS
But it's true! My father says -

BOY 2 SHOVES NICHOLAS, WHO STUMBLES.

029 BOY 2
Then take your man-god and see if
he protects you.

<<< END

THE BOYS PUNCH HIM. YOUNG NICHOLAS GRUNTS.