

Episode 10: Soccer – Community Inclusion

Settings: Outdoor soccer field

Characters: Announcer, Esteban, Ana, Boy 1, Boy 2, Coach

Intro music (same for each episode) fades up and under narration

Announcer: You are listening to the latest edition of *Un Nuevo Amanecer Para Ana Y Su Familia*. Join us each week as we travel with the Chávez family through the ups and downs of raising a child with a disability in a sometimes unfriendly world. Ana, who has cerebral palsy, is in middle school now and fitting in. Her siblings have always been supportive of her, but they find themselves continually educating their peers about disabilities. Today, Ana's older brother, Esteban, is at soccer practice – he is a star on the championship team. Will anyone believe his sister can participate in a sport, too?

(Music transitions up and out)

Esteban

Narrates: *(speaking directly to the radio audience)* My sister Ana might just be the coolest person I know. I mean, I can compete in soccer, but I play games once a week – she has challenges every day. Sometimes she can't get her wheelchair through the door...she has to work hard to hold a pencil on days when she's really tired...And she's on the honor roll...*(chuckles)* that's more than I can say! You might not believe it, but she's taught me a few things about soccer...and other things...

(Music fades up and out again)

Boy 1: *(shouting)* Esteban – kick it over here!

Boy 2: *(shouting)* Over here, Esteban!

Esteban: *(laughs)* Hold on, I'm coming.

Ana: *(thicker speech - excited)* Esteban! Esteban!

Boy 1: What? Whoa, Dude, who's that retard? Should she be out here?

Ana: Esteban!...Kick it to me!

Boy 2: Yeah, won't she get hurt? Hey, retard, get off the field!

Esteban: *(angry)* What did you say? What did you call my sister?

Boy 2: I didn't mean nothing...but she is a retard, isn't she?

Esteban: You're going to pay for that!

(Scuffle sounds as fight ensues)

Coach: Boys! Boys! What's going on? *(scuffling/grunting ends as boys pulled apart)*

(Huffing and puffing)

Esteban: *(catching breath)* He....he...called my sister Ana a bad name.

Coach: Well, Esteban...Do you want to play in the next game? I will suspend you both! Now...should she really be out here? Esteban, I'm sorry, but there really is no place for her on the field.

Esteban: But, look, coach. All the other brothers and sisters are out here. They're kicking the ball, learning to play. It's not fair!

Coach: Juan shouldn't have used that word. Wouldn't she get hurt? How can she play?

Esteban: *(confident/defiant)* She can play. I'll show you. We've been practicing at home. I wired this switch up to her power wheelchair – she just hits the switch and well...it's a power kick...*(to Ana)* Ana, come over here! *(pause)* Steady. Here's the ball – now show them what you can do! *(to the crowd)* Watch out everyone – I tell you, she's a kicker!

(Sound effect – kicking of ball)

Boy 1: Wow!

Boy 2: Whoa, how did she do that?

Esteban: I told you. She's a natural...*(cocky)* just like her brother.

Boy 1: Do it again!

(Sound effect – kicking of ball)

Coach: *(whistles)* Well, I'll be...I must say, I wouldn't have believed it if I hadn't seen it with my own eyes...

Esteban: Did you know the fastest competitor in the Boston Marathon uses a wheelchair?

Coach: *(incredulous)* I didn't know that...hey, maybe she could help us out in practice...

Esteban: *(excited)* I've got an idea. She could help the goalie with penalty kicks...Or...what about our shooting drills? She can kick the ball from the side of the box?

Coach: Sounds good...*(to team)* Everybody, listen up! New routine today. Ana and Esteban are going to show us how it's done...

(Music fades in and up – same music in each episode)

Announcer: The people in the life of the Chávez family seem to be learning one by one that Ana is capable and when you focus on her abilities instead of her disability, she can accomplish great things. What will our Ana tackle next? Join us next week – same time – for the next edition of *Un Nuevo Amanecer Para Ana Y Su Familia*.

(Music fades up and out)