

Early★Reader

The Coach, the Shoes and the Football

Raj lives with his evil stepdad and stepbrothers, who make him do all the chores. But when there's a chance to win a place on famous football coach Peter Prince's summer camp, maybe Raj will get his happy ending after all!

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Book Band
Gold

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The Coach, the Shoes and the Football

By
Katie Dale

Illustrated by
Ellie O'Shea

The Coach, the Shoes & the Football Katie Dale

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'The Coach, the Shoes and the Football'

An original concept by Katie Dale

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Illustrated by Ellie O'Shea

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Chapter 1

“Have you finished mopping the kitchen floor yet?” Raj’s stepfather, Terry, called from upstairs.

“Just finished!” Raj replied, wiping his brow. It had taken ages.

“Good,” Terry replied. “Then take out the rubbish, do the washing up, and put your stepbrothers to bed. I’m having a bath.”





Raj's heart sank.

It was bad enough having an awful stepdad,
but his stepbrothers were even worse.

Raj really missed his mum.

Luke and Damon were both jumping on
their beds.

"Bedtime!" Raj said.

"I'm not sleepy!" Luke cried.

"Me neither!" Damon laughed.

"Please stop bouncing and get into bed,"
Raj begged.

"Only if you read me a story!" Luke cried,
grabbing a book and knocking over his glass
of water.

“Yeah, read him Cinderella!” agreed Damon.

“While you’re cleaning my trainers.”

Raj narrowed his eyes. “Why should I clean your shoes?”

“Because if you don’t, I’ll keep bouncing and you’ll get into trouble with Dad,”

Damon said, grinning.

“Fine,” Raj sighed as he grabbed a cloth.

“Why Cinderella?”

“Because it’s like us!” Damon said,

grinning. “You’re Cinder-Raj!”

Luke giggled and Raj gritted his teeth.

He wished he was Cinderella, but he didn’t have a fairy godmother – just a hairy godfather called Dan. And there was no such thing as a happy ending. Not for Raj, anyway.

“You look tired, Raj,” his teacher, Miss Brooks, said the next day. “Bet you’re looking forward to the summer holidays!”

Raj’s heart sank. Six weeks with his horrible stepfamily? He couldn’t think of anything worse.

