Dare You

by andlat

The Costume Box
2022

Chapter 1

Dare You

"Dude, dare you to sign up for dance." That was how it began. Bobby and Davis loved daring each other to do just about everything and this was only the latest example. Once Bobby dared Davis back, they were set.

The teacher, having heard from her student aide that the boys had dared each other to take her class, knew she could not outright make them drop it and sign up for the main gym class, but she could make them regret the decision. While the girls took modern dance under the tutelage of her student aide, Mrs. Duquesne took the boys under her wing. She would teach them ballet and only ballet. When she saw them in their normal gym uniforms, she insisted they buy dance belts, tights, leotards, and slippers. Both boys were reluctant, but neither wanted to admit defeat before his best friend did. Mrs. Duquesne admired their dedication, but each boy smirked at the other's efforts to pirouette and plié that she knew they were still in it as a joke. So, she upped the ante, preparing them to perform a pas de deux at the end of semester recital. She presented them with the ballet dresses they would wear, insisting they wear them everyday to get familiar with them. Still, the boys stayed in the class. They never missed even a single day. She almost wondered if they were genuinely into it, but then Bobby would ask Davis if he was gonna quit yet and she doubled down.

The day of the recital came and even with the girls swarmed

around them, doing their makeup and fixing their hair, the boys remained steadfast. Neither of them could believe that his best friend was still in this. A whole semester of daily ballet had made even the oblivious pair realize they moved with a downright feminine grace. They were both terrified that they might be stuck as ballerinas forever, but the dare was more important. Surely he'll admit defeat, they both thought as they stood in the wings, counting down the minutes before their grand debut as the school's prima ballerinas.