

7th grade

By Gary Soto

Teresa's point of view

By Olivia Brown

What elective should I take?" Teresa asked her best friend Maria. School was starting today and Teresa was glad! She couldn't wait to see Victor.

She'd had a thing for him ever since they had met in catechism class ●

"I'm taking French," Maria replied.

"I guess I'll take it too." Teresa and Maria talked for a little bit longer and then headed to home room. Victor was there. He sat a few rows back from her. Teresa decided that she was going to play hard to get. She wasn't going to look at him at all. She didn't want him thinking that he liked her. While Teresa was reading her novel, Victor's eyes were set on her back. She could feel it.

After home room, Teresa talked to Mrs. Mark about ballet. She'd had a passion for ballet for a while. While talking, she realized that Victor hadn't left the classroom yet. That's strange, she thought. As she was going to leave, Victor came rushing toward her.

"Hi, Victor," Teresa suddenly said.

"Yeah, that's me," He replied. Seriously? That's all he had to say? Teresa decided to just shake it off.

After home room, Teresa had social studies. In her opinion, it was the easiest class. Next, she had science and then English. And then finally, lunch. Teresa and Maria grabbed their sack lunches and went outside. Teresa was hoping that she'd see Victor outside. She didn't see him anywhere. Bummer.

She had probably been eating for five minutes when she spotted him. He was sitting on a bench doing his math homework. The bell rang and they locked eyes. She could feel her face grow hot. Off to French class she went.

"*Bonjour!*" Spoke their teacher, Mr. Bueller. He was rather on the fat side with a bald head and a gray beard.

Class was probably half way over when Victor totally impressed Teresa. Mr. Bueller had asked the class if anyone knew French. Victor's hand shot right up. He spoke perfectly. Teresa was impressed! Class continued and Victor remained red the rest of the time. Teresa wondered why he was so embarrassed.

When the bell for 5th period rang, Teresa decided that she'd comfort him.

"I didn't know that you spoke French," Teresa exclaimed. "That was cool!" Victor and Mr. Bueller kept glancing at each other. Was that supposed to be some boy code?

"Yeah, well, I picked up a few things from movies and books and stuff like that," said Victor.

"Will you help me with French sometime?" Teresa wondered ehere she got the courage to ask that.

"Sure, anytime," Victor replied.

"I won't be bothering you, will I?"

"Oh, no, I like being bothered." He was so sweet. The kids walked out of the classroom together and talked. Teresa stopped at her reading classroom.

"*Bonjour!*" Said Teresa.

"Yeah, right, *bonjour*," he replied. And for the first time, Teresa wondered if Victor liked her back.