

Football 205

Chapter 205 205 Pundits & More

Gary Neville interjected, clearly unimpressed. "You can't be serious, Micah. Burke's actions might have been shrewd from a purely business perspective, but using a tragic event like Rakim's shooting for leverage is beyond the pale. It's unethical and shows a complete lack of respect for the player and his family."

Micah Richards shrugged. "I get that, Gary, but let's not kid ourselves. Football is a business, and agents are always looking for an edge. What Burke did was wrong, no doubt, but it's not like he's the first to play dirty in this industry."

Thierry Henry nodded thoughtfully. "True, Micah, but there's a line. Exploiting a young player's trauma for financial gain crosses that line." This discussion instantly created a heated argument between the pundits that only stopped when Kelly intervened.

"For those just tuning in for our midweek board cast where we are discussing the footballers of tomorrow, let's hear more of this discussion after the break," She stated with a smile putting a stop to the discussion before it could escalate further. Following her queue the Director switch to broadcasting adverts allowing them to relax.

"Guys let's shift the topic from CAA Stellar they're a big part of English football, and we've slammed one of their agents enough," The director told them with a slightly worried look not willing to offend the biggest sports agency in the country. Hearing his words all the pundits simply nodded not bothering to argue with the man.

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[24/09/2018, time: 23:30 Day Before]

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[Ding Situational training complete,]

[Grade: A

Speed: B+

Flair: S

Dribble completion: 87/100

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"That's cool and all but when are you gonna let me out of here, I love the training but it's getting a little boring now," Rakim exclaimed after looking at the review of my last training session hoping this would be over. Ever since dislocating Toby's arm and passing out, he's been here at this stadium.

After what felt like hours of waiting for Eva to say something and calling out to her what met me was a robotic system voice. For some reason, she disappeared the moment he got pulled into this place. Allowing me to simulate different game situations was the only saving grace.

{Hi stranger, nice to know I've been missed,} Just as Rakim thought the system would begin another game or training session Eva's calm voice appeared all around him. Hearing her calm voice brought a smile to his lips letting him know he wasn't stuck in limbo.

"Yeah I missed you but why were you gone in the first place?" He responded as he took a seat on the grass so he could catch his breath.

{I was put in time out for using your A-Grade Vitality elixir, to help your body heal better after your surgery,} She replied as her figure appeared in front of him causing all the stationary figures to disintegrate into pixels. The Camp Nou stadium slowly faded away leaving only a plain grass field.

Rakim frowned upon hearing her explanation but he didn't hold it against her. After all, she was punished for helping him recover and it's not like she doesn't have his best interest at heart. Eva is probably the one with the most invested in his future practically laying the road map for him step by step.

"so how long have I been asleep, time passes much slower here," Rakim asked reminiscing on all the different training the system had him do. It mainly focussed on his mental ability to read the game, ball control and change of pace dribbling.

Eva beamed him a smile as she answered, {In the real world, you've been in a coma for seven days. But here you've utilized that time efficiently. Your mental acuity and ball control have improved significantly, Rakim.}

Rakim sighed, as he used a bobble to tie his hair back so it wouldn't get in his face. "Seven days... It feels like I've been here for months. What happens now?"

Eva's expression softened {You've made incredible progress, Rakim. But it's time for you to wake up and face the real world. I have to warn you that some of your stats will be lower, that's until you complete your rehabilitation.}

Rakim nodded, feeling ready to rejoin the real world and already expecting the pain he would feel. At least the Elixir that she used will aid his recovery faster and if he followed a proper regiment he should be fine. He does look forward to translating some of the stuff he worked on here to the real world.

Especially the set piece he worked on should translate nicely with his playing style which is prone to receiving fouls. He learned that the hard way during the under-17 World Cup and playing against under-21-year-olds with ACE Academy. Due to him being too slippery on the ball and having a high acceleration speed, defenders opted to foul him when they couldn't take him on.

"let me see my stats then before I wake up," He requested eager to get things moving so he could start a new chapter in his life.

He wasn't at all worried over having to overcome a gunshot injury having dealt with plenty of that in his past life. Not having scars as a reminder that he is alive always made him feel like he lived an illusion. All he knew was how to survive in fights and recover from various injuries he received in the line of duty.

Even then recovering was his own problem, since if he didn't recover fast enough the next conflict would cost him his life. His new life always had a sense of disillusion as he lived what was seemingly the perfect

life. Now he not only managed to save his big sister who was the catalyst to his new life but he also gets a reminder that his life is real.

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[FOOTBALL SINGULARITY SYSTEM]

USER: Rakim Rex

AGE: 15yrs

TALENT ASSESSMENT: Grade - B -> (S)

Singularity Points: 12080

Position: Winger

(Evaluation: A wounded wunderkind who has fallen from the radar of major teams who doubt his potential after his injury)

[USER STATS: Under 23 Grade]

>Physical Fitness: C- -> (A)

Balance and Coordination: -C -> (S)

Speed: D (52) -> (B++)

Agility: C- (64) -> (A+)

Strength: C - (66) -> (C+)

Stamina: C (75) -> (C+)

>Football Technique: A -> S

>Game Intelligence: B+ -> A

>Mental Ability: S+

>Singularity Skills: MR ShowTime: Grade B

-(Enter the singularity state easier when putting on a show as you get by players without releasing the ball or being stopped. 'Hint chaining skill moves in crowded areas could activate this,)

Limitation: Must be in a highly focussed state, Activate's 1 time during a game, and Cool down 48hrs.

Pro's: Boost player's agility, Speed And Technique by a single grade.

*Bronze Level Goal Sense (Passive)

-A skill that gives the host a 20% probability to locate an area that gives him a high chance of scoring a goal.

-The skill is limited to off-the-ball movement, meaning the host cannot be in possession of the ball for the skill to activate.

*Eagle King's View (Passive)

-A skill that widens the host's field of vision, giving him a more accurate view of the ongoing on the pitch.

-Nothing will escape the host's vision when in possession of the ball or when moving off the ball.

*Silver Level Comeback Kid (Passive)

-A skill that gives the host a 20% boost in stats whenever your team is losing by more than 3 goals

-Skill's Duration 12 minutes

-Cooldown 1 Day

USER MENU

[SINGULARITY MISSIONS: 3]

[SYSTEM SHOP (Open)]

[SYSTEM LOTTERY (Open)]

[SNOOPING TOOL (locked)]

"Dang when you said some of my stats might be lower, you weren't kidding, practically all of the Important ones have dropped drastically," He exclaimed trying his best not to be depressed that all his hard work had been reset to a state almost as bad when he made the jump from under 16 to 23.

The difference in skill between the two grades is a huge chasm that every player eventually has to cross. It just so happens that he managed to cross it earlier than his peers. Despite feeling like you're playing the best football in your life up till then the reality is rather harsh.

You are at the bottom of the barrel in the next grade until you raise your skill level appropriately. Luckily age also plays a factor in how quickly you manage to raise your skills. Usually, the younger you are the more rapid your development if you follow a proper regimen.