

## Football 300

### Chapter 300 Contract Talks

Just after I finished talking with Dad and was ready to go to bed the familiar notification of the system resounded in my head. It would have been fine if this had been after a match but he had done much in the past week. Other than promotional activities for Titan-Fit he had been busy doing resistance training in hopes of boosting his strength and endurance stats.

[Ding; Congratulation to the host on completing the mission: Operation Pheonix]

[Ding: Operation Pheonix: Rais Your Player Value to 20 Million or above

Duration: 2 Months

Current Value: 20.2M

Rewards: ??? calculating]

[Ding: Rewards for Operation Phoenix have been calculated.

Claim reward: Yes/No]

He stared at the glowing text in his mind, feeling the familiar rush of anticipation. Completing a long singularity mission is always more rewarding than whenever he gets a random surprise mission. Something about the duration and difficulty of the mission makes the rewards all the more valuable.

"I wasn't expecting to raise my value to 20 million that quick," After all it should be quite hard to do such a feat in 1.5 months especially after spending a few weeks in the youth team's. Even though I've had a good strings of games and the Derby definitely gave me some cred it shouldn't have been this much, at least not so quick.

{To be honest I didn't expect you to achieve it so quickly either, in fact I expected you to fail since the SPFL doesn't have much commercial value on the global stage.} Eva commented also sounding intrigued even though she probably knew the answer on how he had achieved this.

"Doesn't really matter how, lets just claim the reward and see what I've earned," I muttered no longer hesitating and directly pressed the confirm button.

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[Claiming reward...]

[Ding: Player value 10 Million, commercial value x2]

[Ding: Reward for Operation Phoenix—unlocked!]

## Singularity Skill: Midas touch

- A skill granted after recognising the host commercial aptitude beyond his skills on the field. (Able to see a 1-10 grading on future deals success rate after paying Sp) Prices may vary depending on magnitude of the deal ...

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"Is that a disclaimer notice," I questioned not at all expecting to see something like that in a system skill. After all this is the type of shit you expect to see in a company's ad before being scammed by falls premisses.

Not a second later after voicing my confusion Eva's voice hummed in my mind, cool and matter-of-fact. {It's not a disclaimer. It's a reality check. Your commercial success isn't guaranteed just because you've got this skill. You still need to play the game right, choosing the best deal for you at the moment or goals you want to achieve. Just because a deal might be profitable doesn't mean it is the best decision for you as a person to accept it.}

"Guess that makes sense if you put it that way," I commented easily seeing her point as I probably wouldn't sign with Neik even if they offered me a King James level life time deal. Not that I think about it I should probably start thinking about what brands I want to work with long-term in the future.

Especially when it comes to a boots brand's, as the wrong choice can end careers. Lonzo Ball is a perfect example he wore an untested sneakers when he joined the NBA just to support his family but it ended up costing him dearly. The shoe didn't have the needed ankle support for the high intensity competition level that is the NBA and ended up injured.

Despite recovering from his injury's his potential has been drastically reduced and he will probably never live up to Lavars proclamations. That is half the reason I didn't bother getting my dad to make our own shoes since there are already established brands out there and there were other ways to contribute to the family. Thinking about this the Midas touch skill is definitely worth it, because it will help me gauge a brands interest in investing in me.

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[Date: 29/04/2019, Location: London]

Lisa Rex sat in the sleek, glass-walled conference room, a large Tottenham Hotspur logo dominating the space behind the club's representatives. She'd grown used to these meetings of multiple clubs vying for Rakim's signature, each claiming to be the perfect fit for her son's future. Every time she heard this she wondered where these people where when she was looking for a club for him to join after he recovered from the shooting.

Despite holding no fondness for these people she still heard them out but made sure to make things hard for them during negotiations. Even though she majored in sports science at Columbia she still studied Business law and the following elective. According to her parents a Rex's knows how to wield the law no matter what field of business they pursue.

Across the table, Tottenham's head of recruitment leaned forward, his tone confident. "We see Rakim as a key figure in our squad's future. His pace, creativity, and ability to break through defences—he's exactly what we're looking for." He paused, letting his words sink in but Lisa could already tell what they were really after. "And with the brand power he's developing, we believe Tottenham is the perfect club to help him become a global star."

Lisa kept her expression neutral, already used to clubs wanting to take advantage of her son's recent commercial power. Half the talks are about how their organisation can give him the visibility he needs to reach the next level. Listing out various levels or promotional activities and promising media activities without ever mentioning his role in their team.

Tottenham had resources, yes, and the Premier League was undeniably one of the biggest stages in football. But would they provide Rakim with the freedom to flourish as a player, and if they did would that be best for him given his tender age? If she was being honest she was simply paying the big clubs lip service without actually taking their offers seriously.

Her aim is for those medium level clubs, which is half the reason she flew all the way to London to meet the spurs. After all despite being one of the 6 giants of the premier league there are really only 4 teams that fight for trophy's in the Premier league each year. Maybe its the Kane curse but the club hasn't won a trophy for 15 years since the ace striker first joined them.

It would be understandable if they didn't win the Premier league given its competitive nature. However not even a league cup, or an FA cup in 15 years is simply ridiculous for a team claiming to be part of the top 6. The only cups they seem to be able to win are international friendly tournaments like the Korean Peace Cup or the Vodacom Challenge in South Africa.

As the meeting continued, Lisa kept her cool, occasionally nodding as the Tottenham representatives laid out their vision for Rakim. Her mind, however, was already moving ahead. She knew these pitches inside out, and while Tottenham's offer had its merits, she couldn't shake the nagging feeling that it lacked depth when it came to Rakim's growth as a player.

Once the Tottenham recruiter finished, Lisa spoke up, her voice calm but commanding. "I appreciate the opportunity and your interest in Rakim," she began, her words measured. "But I need to know, beyond just brand visibility, what plans do you have for his development? Rakim is more than just a marketable asset. He's a footballer with ambitions on and off the pitch."

The man on the other side hesitated for a second, clearly not expecting the shift in tone. "Of course, we fully recognize his potential as a player. Our coaching staff is prepared to invest time and energy into nurturing his talents. He'll be learning from some of the best in the game. And naturally, the Premier League will push him to new heights."

Lisa pressed her lips together, seeing through the scripted answer. "I'll consider your offer," she said diplomatically, before standing to shake hands. After a firm handshake, she made her way out of the building, the crisp London air mirroring her disappointment.