

## Football 35

### Chapter 35 Birthday

[General Pov]

Early in the morning, the sun was peaking over the Florida skyline saying hello to a new day. Birds could be seen slowly soaring in the sky embracing the morning breeze as they sang their songs. On this fine morning, a young boy around the age of six could be seen standing on a balcony looking far off into the distance. This scene was quite the oddity a young boy being up early at six am in the morning.

The boy had on a pair of black shorts and a tank top. looking closely at the boy you could notice that in fact, he wasn't looking in any particular direction almost as if there was a screen in front of him.

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[Rakim Pov]

'Good morning Eva can I see my status' I inwardly asked Eva as I had gotten a notification that the system was done with its sleep. It's one of the main reasons I woke up so early in the morning. Today is my sixth birthday and this one feels different from every other one I've ever had in my past life. I'm actually excited about this one which is weird for me since it used to be just another day for me.

[right away] She responded in a tired voice as if she had just awoken from a deep sleep but still pulled up my status screen.

[FOOTBALL SINGULARITY SYSTEM

USER: Rakim Rex

AGE: 6yrs

TALENT ASSESSMENT: Grade- B

Singularity Points: 1100

Position: RM, LM

(Evaluation: A boy with a lot of potential for becoming a professional soccer player, who possesses a lot of talent)

USER MENU

[ USER STATS]

[ SINGULARITY MISSIONS]

[ SYSTEM SHOP (locked)]

[ SYSTEM LOTTERY (locked)]

[ SNOOPING TOOL (locked)]

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Hmm seems like the user menu I could only sigh at how bare it still looked with all the locked tabs. I hope I can open some of the looked tabs at the Nike camp since it is supposed to be one of the best training events for young talents.

'Please open up my stats menu' I asked her once again as the only new thing on my status is my age which I could have figured out myself. Eva quickly complied with my request not bothering to speak up as she pulled up the next screen.

[ USER STATS]

>Physical Fitness: C

>Football Technique: C+

>Game Intelligence: E+

->Mental Ability: S

->X-Factors:?

'wow my physical stats have jumped by leaps and bounds' I commented as I looked at my now C+ plus physical stats. Guess sacrificing my beauty sleep for training with Lisa is was worth it, I mean the stats are speaking for themselves.

'Of course, they would go up, all you did for the past three months was hone your body,' Eva spoke up again which surprised me as she has been quite silent for a while. It's not like she is wrong though I've been pushing myself hard so that I could amaze everyone once I could finally play a match. Before I could even speak Eva pulled up my physical stats breakdown as if she had read my mind or something.

[ USER STATS ]

>Physical Fitness (Av. Rating: C)

Balance and Coordination: C

Speed: B (70)

Agility: C + (67)

Strength: D+ (57)

Stamina: C+ (68)

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'Dang With these stats I might as well be a track star' I mused to myself feeling giddy about how all the hard work had paid off. I was especially happy about my speed and agility increases since I focused a lot of attention on that during training. Now I really am ready for the Nike camp, it's time to make a name for myself.

[Congrats Host for managing to gain an average C grade in physical stats] Eva commented bringing me out of my daydream of dominating the training camp. Now that I think about it this is the first time she has ever praised me for anything something is fishy about this situation. I feel like she is trying to set me up for something and I got my answer the next second as a system notification rang out.

[Ding Singularity Mission has been activated]

!SINGULARITY MISSION!: Grand Stage!

#Task 1 Chosen one: Impress three scouts from one of the major five leagues. (0/3)

#Task 2 Killer instinct: Score more than ten goals (0/10)

#Task 3 Not on my level: Score 3 goals after passing past five defenders (0/3)

(Note: The Singularity can not be ignored)

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Rewards:

> Unlock shop function

> 10x energy-boosting drink

> 1000 SP

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'Well this is not that bad, you almost had me scared Eva' I told her as I was expecting some extremely hard mission since she was acting weird about it. The rewards are worth it too I get to unlock a system function which will undoubtedly boost my training progress.

[Why would you be scared I would never hurt you, host] She said in a light voice sounding like an innocent angel. Listening to her voice I almost would have believed her if it wasn't for the fact that she had threatened to lock the system for years on my earlier mission.

'Okay, so why is there no punishment for this mission,' I asked her hoping to understand why she was being so generous with this mission. I've never known her to be generous I mean she has supported me a lot but she has never been this kind.

[The reason for there not being a punishment is a birthday gift from me, well actually it is to test the host's motivation to be the best] she said with a proud voice which caused my mouth to twitch a little. So it's not really a gift but just another test to confirm my mental fortitude to be the best.

"(Sigh) I'm just gonna do some yoga to temper my mental state" I spoke out loud as I went back inside to get my yoga mat in an attempt to clear my mind. I think I will just do a LeBron when I go to the bike camp and wear my Adidas boots.

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[1 hour later]

"Happy Birthday To You, Happy Birthday To You, Happy Birthday dear Rakim Happy Birthday To You," I heard Emma, Lisa and Ben sing as I came down the stairs towards the dining room. Looking at Lisa's hands she was carrying a white glazed cake that seemed to be my favourite red velvet flavour. On the cake, there was a picture of a tiger holding a football with six lit candles.

"Quickly blow them out and make a wish," Emma said before I could even say anything seemingly more excited than me. Looking at her excited face I closed my eyes and thought of a wish to make. A moment later I blew out all the candles at once making everyone clap as if I had completed an impossible task.

"What did you wish for," Lisa and Emma asked me simultaneously like little children wanting to know a secrete. I might as well tell them it's not like it's a profound wish since anything I could want I'm able to achieve with the system.

"I wished for a baby tiger," I told the both of them with a straight face without losing a beat. The looks on Lisa's and Ben's faces are to die for they looked like they had heard that big foot lived next door or something. Emma was the exact opposite though she seemed excited about the prospect of getting a pet tiger. She was talking about how she could take it to school on pet days or take it on walks in the neighbourhood. This further caused Ben's mouth to twitch causing him to interrupt her before she could get ahead of herself.



"Emm, Maybe a tiger is a little too much for a first pet how about a cat it's close enough to a tiger" He tried to placate me and Emma not knowing the effect his words caused in my head. Emma hearing her dad's voice remained happy as we would still be getting a pet just that it would be a lot smaller. I on the other hand felt like the earth stopped spinning and my thought process suddenly stopped almost as if I had a glitch.

"Blasphemy, how can you compare a tiger with a cat, it's like comparing a sports car with a Kia" I exclaimed loudly in an effort to defend the honour and prestige of the king of the jungle. Ben and Lisa seemed shocked by my words but judging by Ben's face he seemed to agree with my statement.

"How about a dog then?" He asked again trying to negotiate with me. If only he knew that a dog was my actual goal because who in their right mind would get a child a pet tiger? So the next best thing is a man's best friend.

"Now your talking," I told him with a bright smile as Lisa pulled me to a chair so we could finally have breakfast. Ignoring Ben's stunned look because I so easily accepted his offer I started loading my plate with bacon and waffles. This is one of the few times I've seen Lisa prepare unhealthy food for us. She really takes being health conscious to the next level, we only get to eat whatever we want once a week or on special occasions.

"I feel like I just got played" I heard Ben mutter as he sat down at the table to join us. This caused both Emma and me to start laughing knowing our plan had worked. We both wanted a pet dog but we knew that our parents wouldn't just get us a pet. So we decided that I would ask for some outrageous pet for my birthday and Emma would fan the flames.

We did have a long discussion on what pet we wanted almost to the point of getting into our first fight. She wanted to get a pony so that she could go horseback riding around the lake I on the other hand wanted a dog which is a lot more fun to hang out with. The only way I ended up convincing her is by telling her how she could cuddle with a dog in her bed. That seemed to have won her over making her do a one-eighty and immediately agree.

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"Are you ready for the camp in two days?" Ben asked me as we had just finished dinner and Lisa had left the room to get some kind of present she had prepared.

"Yes I feel more than ready, By the way, is there a dress code?" I answered him with confidence and asked the question that was on my mind. Listening to my words he seemed to think for a while before shaking his head.

"No there shouldn't be a dress code at least it wasn't mentioned in any of the forms" He stated looking curious as to why I had asked him.

"I'm thinking of doing a Lebron and showing up with my Adidas boots" I answered him with a smile on my face. Hearing what I said his mouth visibly twitched as he massaged the bridge of his nose.

"Why would you want to do that?" He asked me sounding slightly exasperated by my earlier answer. Emma on the side had stopped paying attention to us as she was typing to her friends on her iPhone 1.

"To stand out and no one would even think of a kid doing at a Nike event," I told him feeling proud at my idea which only caused him to sigh. Just as he was about to put his two cents into the conversation Lisa walked in holding three colourfully wrapped boxes.

"Here open your presents son," She said with a beaming smile on her face. What left me stunned though is that this is the first time she has called me son directly. The only other time she called me son was back on the boat when she said she'd be my mom. Before she could hand me the present in her hands I embraced her in a warm hug.

"Thanks, Mom," I said slightly blushing as I took the present from her hand and began opening them. Whilst I was focused on destroying the wrapping paper I did not notice the beautiful smile that had formed on Lisa's face.