

## Football 64

### Chapter 64 No Place Like Home

"Just ignore them or they won't stop annoying you for a while," I heard Emma say as she pulled me into a small huddle so the two of them couldn't overhear. Deciding to trust her I just nodded at her words, after all, I'd only known the two of them for three months and she's had 9 years of experience.

"So, what is your favourite dance for the competition?" deciding to trust her judgment I promptly changed the subject. She seemed slightly taken aback by my questions but didn't seem to mind it as she started promptly talking about distinctive styles of dance.

"I personally like contemporary as that's what I'm best at, but we have been doing a lot of hip-hop lately which is fun, especially with all the flips." She replied as she started going into the ins and outs of her dancing preference. Looking at her excited face I couldn't bring myself to say that I did not even know there were that many dance styles.

"Are you doing a lot of contemporary in the competition next weekend?" I asked her now genuinely curious since from what I had gathered she will only be dancing in the group performance. Every team has a group performance, a solo, and two duets. Since she is the youngest in her dance troupe, she must work hard to keep up with older kids, so she gets fewer chances to try-out for solos and duets.

"Yeah, I'm only in the group performance dance but I've been doing extra practising with my captain, so it won't be long before I'll get my first solo," she answers me sounding excited about her improvements.

"Hey, don't ignore us" I heard mum exclaim as she quickly sat down on one of the chairs with a slight pout on her face. It's moments like this that show me where Emma gets her overly childish moments from.

"Then stop being weird," Is all Emma says not showing a hint of remorse at her mother's attempt at looking hurt.

"Anyways you said something about gators?" I interrupted mum before she can have the chance to drag on this argument that is developing between them. I don't know why but Emma will take any chance to argue with mum.

"Yeah, there a quite a few here in Florida, it might as well be their country at this point." dad chimed in probably wanting to avoid listening to another argument between the female half of the family.

"Oh, really then maybe we'll stay away from the water," I commented thinking about the fact that I would probably lose the fight with a gator in the water. That only earned a chuckle from mum as she is well aware of my aversion to messing with wildlife. It's not like I'm scared of them but why would I mess with them if they don't mess with me. I wouldn't mind having a Tiger as a pet though, but mum was against the Idea saying something like it wouldn't be fair to the other kids who only get to have regular cats. Her reasoning made sense to me so I settled for just getting a dog since I don't like normal cats.

"You don't have to worry about that there shouldn't be any gators in the lake it's a good spot to fish though." dad said looking as if he was talking from experience, which is probably true since he looks like someone who loves nature.

"Just don't go too deep into the forest because there are some wild animals in the forest," mum said as she pulled out a bag of marshmallows from the cupboard at the side.

We spent the rest of the night as a family just enjoying each other's company and talking about all sorts of things. We made smoors as we listened to Ben tell all sorts of stories about his adventures when he lived like he had nine lives. Apparently, he and his friends lived for the little thrills from snowboarding to

parachuting, so he had a lot of amazing adventures to tell. Some were so absurd that mum had to stop him from telling us just in case we get the idea to try them. After a fun night, we ended up going to bed for the night since unlike me they did not have a nap earlier.

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The next morning, my body felt quite refreshed after a good night of rest. Quickly going through my morning routine of stretching I made my way to the bathroom for a shower. It did not take long for the cold water to hit my body instantly washing any lingering tiredness.

'Hey Eva, you have been rather silent what you up too?' I asked since she hasn't really said anything after I received the rewards for the missions.

[oh, hello I was just taking a nap] She instantly replied without batting an eye as if she really had just woken up.

'You have been doing that a lot you know,'

[you have been doing the same thing for quite a while, so I've been getting bored,] She replied sounding like a little kid who was complaining about watching a cartoon they'd already watched.

'it's not really my fault I've been through a lot in the past few months, so training is all I've been able to do,' I told her as I got out of the shower and started to dry myself off.

[I Know it's not your fault but you should hurry up and break your limits so you can step out of the skill realm of youth players into the armature level.] she said slightly excited at the probability of me improving my skills as a player.

'What are the requirements for me to step into the realm of an armature player,' I asked her since she has mentioned the different classes between players before but never actually gave me the requirements I had to achieve.

[It should be showing up any moment now,] Is all she said totally confusing me as to what she was referring to.

[Ding]: conditions met for the Main Mission]

[Singularity Main Mission Generating]

[Ding]

! Wonderkid!

#Task 1 New Kid: Join any type of football team (0/1)

#Task 2 Real contender: reach the Knockout stage in a competition (0/1)

#Task 3 Goal Machine: Win a Golden Boot (0/1)

#Task 4 Shark in a pond: Have 3 of your physical stats reach the S Rank (0/3)

#Task 5 7 Wonders: Create Unforgettable Goals in one season (0/7)

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Rewards:

1) > 1000 SP

2) > 5,000 SP

3) > 20,000 Sp

4) > Lottery Draw, upgrade to armature level 5) > A Random Player Specific Skills

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'Dang those are some mouth-watering rewards, makes me want to hurry up and complete them,' I commented after having a look through the system pop-up. It was just earlier today that I was thinking of a way to scam a bunch of Sp from the system and here it was presented to me on a silver platter.

[Congratulation for triggering the system's main quest more tasks will show up once you unlock certain conditions,] Eva chimed in sounding more excited about the fact that I unlocked the main quest of the system.

'Yeah, this gives me a goal to work towards for the foreseeable future, oh and is three S rank stats the requirement to meet the armature level?' I asked Eva since this whole quest was triggered due to the conversation we were having.

[Affirmative host you can reach the armature level by having 3 of your physical stats reach the S rank or by simply growing to the age of 16] she promptly answered sounding like a teacher who was proudly answering a student who was asking the right questions.

'So, I can either become good enough to reach the next level or simply wait to grow a couple of years older,' I inwardly commented after realising that I could reach the next level by simply growing up but if I wanted to the reward, I better start training.

'Alright let's go get some breakfast to start of the day right,' I comment after I finished changing into a new change of clothes. I was dawning a navy tracksuit that matched my sliders as I promptly made my way down the stairs

"Hi son you are up early," I heard dad say from behind the kitchen countertop where he was drinking his morning tea whilst reading the paper.

"Yeah, I couldn't really sleep since I slept during the day," I answered him as I made my way over to grab a bowl for my muesli. It didn't take long for me to prepare a bowl with some strawberries and bananas cut into it.

"Are You working today?" I asked him as I started to slowly enjoy my breakfast. There's just something about breakfast that makes me enjoy it even more.

"Yeah, I've got a marketing meeting for our back-to-school launch in August," he said as he took a sip of his tea before refocusing on his paper again.

"Oh alright, talking about school's can you send me the information on the school's football program, so I know what to look forward too," I asked him since the faster I join the team I'll be able to tick off one of the missions and gain some much-needed Sp.

"Of course, I will have mama send you them since she's the one that did the research on the team," He promptly answered before refocusing on his paper it seems something interesting is going on in the news.

"Talking about mom where is she?" I asked him as I took a look at the clock that was showing it was 10 am. Around this time she would usually be up and about either making breakfast for us or chasing Emma out of bed.

"Oh, she went out to meet her uncle William's," dad said as he finished drinking his tea. It seems he was just about to leave for work any moment.

We continued talking from time to time as we had our breakfast until mom came back home. Judging by the female business suit she was wearing she must have had an important meeting. She told us that she was looking at gym spaces she was going to book for her training sessions with LeBron. She seemed quite excited about it, saying that she was thinking of opening her own gym specialised for one-on-one clients so she wouldn't have to go gym hunting every time she gets a client.

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"Let's get going we are already late" Emma said as she dragged me out of the house in a hurry to get away from mom who was nagging her. She had slept in today and mom has been nagging her about getting a proper breakfast but for some reason she is in a rush.

"Why are you rushing anyways it's not like we have a time schedule," I asked her as I continued to follow after her not daring to risk her anger since she seems to be ready for a fight.

"It's because we are going to meet someone and we are late," Is all she said as she continued to drag me down the street ignoring mom who was shouting for us to come back. Not bothering to ask any more questions I just followed after her making sure not to run past her since I don't know the way.

We continued down the block for what felt like three minutes until we reached a playground where two people seemed to be waiting for us on the swings. Not knowing who they were I was slightly apprehensive about approaching them, but Emma was the opposite as she confidently strode towards them.



The two of them seemed to be siblings with the older of the two being a girl with black wavy hair. The brunette has a white complexion that accentuated her hazel eyes which were guarded by her red glasses. The boy standing next to her had a lot of similarities with her which further confirmed my conjecture of them being related. He was a head smaller than the girl with his hair cut into what looks like a mohawk with red thunderbolts going through his hair.

I could already tell that this boy is used to getting into a lot of trouble just by the annoyed look he was giving the girl. He looked like he was forced to come here with her and was looking for the slightest opportunity to cause trouble for the girl.

"Hi Jenna, sorry we are late," Emma said as we got closer to them as she went in for a hug leaving me and the boy to just awkwardly stand there.

"It's alright I know how lazy you can be sometimes," the girl said with a bright smile as she patted Emma's head like a mother hen who was used to the troubles her chicks would cause. Her actions caused Emma's cheeks to glow a slight red due to her feeling embarrassed.

"It's not my fault I was having an amazing dream about dancing at nationals," She could only sheepishly answer in an effort to defend her actions.

"Who are you?" The mohawk boy suddenly exclaimed as he started glaring at me as if doing that would get him the answers faster. My brows inadvertently wrinkled after hearing his words, not knowing why the brat decided to end my blissful role as a bystander.

"Never mind that why are there worms in your hair?"