Toon It Up: Big Bro Calling

By: Firingwall

Commission done for Knight-BIshop of DeviantArt

"Are you sure? ...no, there's no way he can know where we are, right? ...he's talked with Ashley? Did he talk with ... no ... no, okay. Just ... just make sure no one tells him anything. I can't have him find us. After all the trouble to start over ... I can't put my children through that right. Things are ... different right now and the last thing they need is their father back."

Alice watched quietly from the doorway, not saying a single word. The young girl just listened to her mother on the phone in the kitchen.

"As long as he doesn't know where we are, it's fine... for now. I just don't want my poor girls getting hurt. ...yes, I said girls. It's a long story but it doesn't matter. What matters is-"

"Hey sis, boop alert!" A gloved finger poked Alice on the nose, making her own cute Boop sound effect. The grade schooler snapped attention, face to face with a green mouse toon around her age. The mouse smiled and Alice smiled back, though a little forced.

The two sisters continued their stroll into their favorite park, walking hand and hand. It was only a short distance from their house and with Henrietta in charge, no harm would come to the two. After all, who would want to mess with a toon, even a little girl toon?

Henrietta looked at her human sister and frowned. "Oh dearie! Is everything okay? You look glum, Alice!"

"Oh... it's nuthin'," Alice replied, forcing her smile to be more natural. Alice was young, not even ten. Yet, she knew something was up. Sure, things had been hectic at their house since Henry's big change into Henrietta, but the fun and joy of a toon kid had really lightened their mom's spirit.

Now though, things had gone downhill after that call, and the two had to leave mommy alone for a little bit. "Just thinkin' 'bout stuff."

The green mouse looked curious. "Whatcha thinkin' about?"

"Ummm... about... about racing you up the jungle gym!"

Henrietta's eyes lit up. "No way, Jose~. You can't beat the Spectacular Mouse Gal!"

The two of them ran, charging past kids, parents, and bicyclists towards the playground. They both had big smiles, but still, Alice felt worried. Her mom wasn't doing well. She wished she could help her somehow... but how?

They reached the jungle gym and Henrietta hopped up, latching on and starting to shimmy up. Alice grabbed onto the ladder and reached up for the next bar but stopped. Her left wrist... it was empty!

"Oh! The bracelet!" Alice gasped.

"Hmm?" Henrietta looked back curiously. "Oh, you didn't eat yours yet?"

Alice shook her head. "N-no. It was a gift from you after you... changed. It's important! I gotta find it!"

Henrietta nodded. "Alrighty! I'll be here at the top of the world!" She continued her ascent up the moderately "tall" piece of equipment for children.

Alice dropped down and looked around, brushing her very long hair out of her face. The candy bracelet wasn't around the jungle gym or in the woodchip padding around the play area. Leaving, it was not on the sidewalk or near the benches surrounding the playground.

Her heart racing, Alice hurried off, retracing her steps and keeping her head down. *Gotta find it, gotta find it!*

Bonk. With her eyes on the ground though, there was a slight issue. She didn't exactly see where she was going.

Alice stumbled back after colliding with something metal, rubbing her head. "Oh no, oh dear! I'm so so sorry! I didn't see ya in time to warn ya!"

The young girl looked up. She had run straight into an ice cream cart. Part of her instantly felt hungry seeing it, but that faded when she saw who was pushing it. There was a tall, pink, toony dog girl.

Alice was surprised, but not shocked. After living with a toon sister for a while, seeing another toon didn't phase her much. She politely bowed. "I'm sorry! I wasn't looking where I was going. I'm on a super important mission right now. I gotta find something sis' gave me."

"Something important?" The pink dog scratched her chin. "OH!" A lightbulb appeared above her head as her floppy ears perked up. "Something like this?"

She reached behind her back and revealed a bright yellow candy bracelet. Alice lit up. "OH! That's it! Thank you, thank you!"

She hurried over and took it back, placing it on her wrist. She smiled and sighed, happy to be back with it. Her wrist seemed so empty without it.

As long as he doesn't know where we are, it's fine... for now.

And just like that, all of her positivity deflated. Alice sighed, hunched forward. Why did that have to come back? She was just feeling so happy again.

"Mmm? Is something wrong, sweetie?" The pink dog knelt down. "You're looking so glum right now. I thought finding your bracelet would be a happy booster."

Alice bit her bottom lip, looking into the dog's eyes. Her toon's eyes were so warm and kind. She felt calmer looking into them. Maybe... maybe talking with her would make things better? It was better than keeping everything to herself.

The pink toon nodded. "I understand. Life's ruff sometimes." She sighed, "I've seen it all before with tons of peoples. Oooooh, it's doubly sad to see kids so glum and down too! I wish I could help somehow."

Alice lit up, excitement coursing through as hope returned to her. "M-m-maybe you can! Oh-oh, maybe you can hit daddy with a mallet or drop him in one of those toon hole thingies and make him disappear forever!"

The dog giggled. "Oh, wonderful ideas, no doubt! I'm personally attached to the mallet idea myself." Her attitude dropped a little. "However, I don't think they're good solutions in the long run for dealing with a jerk like your dad."

"Oh..." And there went the brief flickers of hope within the young girl. "W-well... do you have any ideas?"

The pupper frowned. "No. I got nuthin' either. Nuthin' practical or cheap either." She sighed again, "If only stuff like this could be settled with a thrown pie or silly explosion."

Alice sank lower. "I... I just wanna help my mom and lil' sister, no matter what. I just wanna do something to help and protect them."

The dog's ears perked. "Protect them?"

"Mhm! I don't want them to get hurt!"

The dog nodded, scratching her chin. "Well... I suppose there is sumthing. May not be the best idea and might not be popular... but it is something."

Alice looked up again, her heart racing harder. "N-no! I want to do it! Anything to help mommie and sis, I'll do it!"

"Well, okie-dokie, I got sumthing!" The toon opened a latch on her cart and reached a paw in. Then she reached with two...and then her whole body besides her tail and legs, which waggled and wagged eagerly.

POP! She resurfaced, holding in her mitts a hat. It was a green baseball cap with foam steer horns on its sides. There was a bright "#1" logo on its center.

She gently dusted it off and handed Alice the cap. "Here you are! Not as sweet as the bracelet there, but whatcha gonna do? You'll need to be #1 to do what you want to do."

Alice took the cap and looked it over. It looked so goofy with the silly horns attached but in a cute kind of way. She eagerly donned the hat, finding that it fit almost perfectly.

Adjusting it, she asked, "How do I lo-" However, looking back, there was a slight breeze, and the dog and her cart were gone.

Alice's eyes widened, her heart racing with joy. It was just like in all of those movies or books. Was that dog her fairy godmother, an angel, or maybe something else?

Either way, she eyed her hat, looking at the bottom of its rim. So... does it do anything now or later? She looked at her arms and legs. She shook them all one at a time. She didn't feel any stronger, faster, or anything.

"Humph, I was hopin' for **sumthing**," she snorted, putting her hands on her hips. The snort was gruffer than usual, her nose twitching and looking a bit wider than before.

She shook her head. Maybe it takes some time or she'll figure it out later. She had to get back to her sister anyway, hoping the little mouse hadn't scuttled all the way to the top of the jungle gym and tried climbing the flagpole on it.

She sighed. Miss Doggy wouldn't lie, right? Hat's gotta do sumthing! But what would it-

"Pass it here!" "Stop him!" "Kick it to me! I'm open!" "No way, Tommy!" "What out! They're gonna get the ball!"

Alice turned to her right. There was a nice, wide-open field where some kids had set up their own makeshift soccer field, using their backpacks for goalposts. Everyone was rushing around, passing the ball and trying to kick it past the goalie.

She watched them pass and kick for a minute. Her foot jittered, unconsciously tapping with each kick of the ball. That seemed like a lot of fun. She didn't do sports at her old school. Far too rough and not all that fun, especially compared to dress-up and her dolls.

But, just watching a little bit, it did intrigue her in a way she never felt before. She smiled. I wonder if I could join? ...no, I couldn't. I'm not dressed for it.

There was a strong breeze that rushed by, everyone flinching and covering her eyes. Once it passed, Alice opened her eyes and looked down. Strange, she could've sworn she had on her favorite outdoor dress today and not the blue t-shirt and dark shorts combo she actually had on.

But what did she know? She wasn't much into fashion. Just toss on whatever fit and wasn't dirty... too dirty anyways.

She shook her head again. Ooof, my head feels fuzzy. Wonder what that was ab-

Bonk. She looked back down (was the ground farther away now?) "Hey! Girl with the hat! Kick it our way!"

The soccer ball had rolled up to her foot, which trembled. She looked between the ball and the other kids, who waved eagerly, trying to signal to her where to kick the ball. A small smile formed. *Maybe... maybe I can impress them and they'll let me join?*

Alice took a deep breath and leaned her foot back. And then, with all her might, kicked the ball!

Foosh! The ball went flying. Not towards the kids, but over the kids. WAY over the kids. Really high and really far, the ball going over into the distance away and causing everyone to go chase after it.

Alice stood there, her foot lowering and letting out a small clop. Her cheeks warmed. *Oh boy... that... that went too far, didn't it?*

She looked at her foot, acting all innocent like the big, red-furred clopper didn't do anything wrong. She frowned. Maybe she kicked the ball with the wrong part of her two-toed hoof? Maybe she should've used less power?

She shrugged, and then smiled, making a **clop** with both her hooves. *Oh well, if I can do dat, I'm probably waaaaay too advanced and strong for dem lil' guys. Whatcha gonna do?*

Alice snorted with amusement, brushing some of her long locks behind her head. She brushed a few more back, putting it over her ears. Hair was always a nuisance, getting in her face when she tried something. She needed to remember to get it cut short again.

She brushed back the last of shoulder-length hair back and headed back. *Right, little mouse sister.* Trouble could be already brewin' without her watching the tyke.

She reached the playground quickly, moving faster and making bigger strides than usual. She stretched a little, smiling to herself. Heh, so fast. Gotta love a growth spurt, man~. Heh, maybe I should go out for track or sumthing when school starts!

Alice shook her head again, huffing, "Yeesh, my head is all silly today. Maybe I'm around Henrietta too much?"

She twitched, her ears especially twitching as a light coating of red came to them. *Right right, where is lil'sis? Oh, she better not-*

"Damn it! Throw the damn ball at me, not away from me!" Bonk. Bonk.

Alice's ears twitched, growing longer and quite bovine. Bap. She looked down to her right side. There was a basketball. She snorted, her nose bigger as well, "Again with the **balls bappin' me taday.**"

"Hey, toss it our way!" Sure enough, to the right of her, down the rock path was a basketball court with a bunch of teens playing together.

This feels familiar... whateves! She leaned down and grabbed the ball, a tad large and unwieldy in her small hands. She huffed and snorted again, standing up tall (a little taller than a 12-year-old who ran past a second later).

The players, a bit of a distance away, waved their hands, urging her to toss this way. Her grip tightened on the ball and she aimed... but then her eye caught something. Behind all of those guys was the basketball hoop. *Hmm... heh, why not?*

She grinned, her chompers glinting under the sunlight, and tightened her grip on the ball. She bent her knees and sprung up, flinging the ball with both hands. The ball soared over the players, across the court, and **fwoosh**!

Straight through the hoop without hitting the rim. The players' jaws dropped as Alice laughed, looking at her big, red mitts. She chuckled and wiggled her digits at them, the sun also glinting off her mini hoof digits. "All in the wrists, guys."

"Holy crap! What a shot!" "I want that kid on my team." "Hey, I want the lil' guy on my team!" "No way, I saw him first. I want a guy like that on my team!"

Alice chuckled. Always good to be appreciated. They worked so hard on getting into such good shape. Alice couldn't wait to tell Lily and Mr. Stuffles about her shot.

They shook their head. Why were they thinking about Henrietta's dolls? Really needed to spend a little less time doing tea parties with her and spend more time staying in shape and being ready for tryouts once school started.

She huffed again, rubbing her forehead as she left (the players disappointed she was blowing them off). My brain is all funky today. Feels like everything is all screwy and off. Huh, maybe I should stop coloring and doing push-ups all night long?

She chuckled, clenching a hand into a fist and feeling her arm. But, I do like da results so far. Biceps are startin' to get swole already~."

As she pondered a better schedule (maybe less drawing & workouts and more cartoons & protein shakes~), she realized she had walked too far. Looking back, the playground was way behind her now! Oof, she was getting far too distracted and caught up in her mind about stuff. Her baby sister probably was upset they weren't around to play like they promised.

Ugh... gotta focus, broette. Alice frowned. Keep gettin' distracted. Just gotta go back-

"Fumble! Try again from where you were." The whistle kid stated, all of the other grumblings but nodding.

Alice smiled. She didn't really care much for football... possibly. She both remembered watching some games on TV and not. Again, those dang late nights catching up with her and fuzzing up her noggin.

Either way, she loved the look of that. So much power and physicality needed in it. Sounded like their kind of game. Maybe it could replace jump roping and hop-scotch since they were getting stale and sounding kind of dull.

"Ugh, I'm okay, but..." Alice's ears twitched. As the pile of teens separated, one of them still sat on the ground, rubbing his knee.

"Gees Ken! Maybe you should sit down for a bit? We got this." One of his teammates said, looking at him and the others, who nodded.

"No way!" Ken shook his head. "We're so close to winning! You'll be down somebody. We can't just give up now."

Alice nodded. Yeah, that did sound bad. So close to victory, but yet, it's almost out of reach.

"Yeah, well, where are we gonna get another kid to volunteer and-"

Something twitched within Alice. "Hey! Need 'nother player? I'm game!"

Everyone turned to look at Alice, who smiled confidently. Alice didn't know where that outburst came from, but something was pulling them in hard now. They couldn't turn down an opportunity like this! This finally looked like the kind of game they wanted in on.

A few of their would-be teammates walked over, carefully checking Alice out. "I dunno, dude," one of them said, "You're a bit too small and thin."

Alice gasped. They felt as if they had been stabbed in the heart. "Too short? **Humph!** I'm only an inch or two shorter than you, bros!" The fourteen-year-old stood on their hooves' tips as best they could, now matching the group in height. "Plus, sure, my biceps need **sum boostin'**, and my core ain't totally ripped.

"However, you guys ain't gonna regret takin' me in!" Alice snorted, their nose positively bovine and big now.

The teens looked at each other, a few shrugging and another nodding. The lead teen said, "Alright, I guess we can give you a chance. Ken, rest up. Rookie here wants to fill in."

Ken looked at Alice suspiciously, but ultimately nodded and limped past them to a spot to sit. Alice smiled and took off their cap, the horns staying behind, firm and solid. They ran a hand through their shortish, messy black locks and tossed Ken their cap. "Hold onto this for a sec, 'kay? I'm gonna win ya a game."

"Got 'em!" "No, no you don't." The teen had grabbed onto Alice, wrapping his arms around them, but that didn't stop them. Not one bit.

Alice snorted, steam cartoonishly blowing out, and pushed on towards the makeshift endzone, their body now another shirt size bigger. The other player was dragged along the ground, all the way to the line before letting go.

"TOUCHDOWN!" The whistle teen yelled, blowing his whistle. Alice's heart pumped harder, their body shaking with excitement. They raised the ball high and spiked it into the ground with a big **THUMP**.

Alice did it. They really did it. They scored the winning touchdown. A surge of pride rose within them. Of course they did. They were pretty awesome, right? They were used to being the clutch player or MVP in a team. They were used to being a champion, a real winner.

Still, the surge of joy and pride flowed over within. Alice rose their head up high and bellowed out a heavy, but happy cry, "MOOOOOOOOO."

With that bellow, his face stretched forward as his head morphed. Lowering it, he now had the mug of red toony bull.

Not that anyone noticed. All of his new teammates rushed over (Ken limping though) and cheered. "Hell yeah, man!" "You were awesome!" "You gotta play with us again!" "What school do you go to? You gotta join the football team!"

Alice chuckled, his tail swaying happily behind him. He loved his adoring fans and all the cheers. Made a bull like him feel appreciated and loved. Maybe he should join the team at his new school. Be a shame to let all his strength go to waste, especially if he could be #1~.

Alice twitched. Strength. #1. He looked to Ken, finding the cap he was wearing earlier. The cap... the cap that the pink dog gave him. No horns on it.

He looked down at himself. His jersey, his sweat shorts, his red fur, his fit and tough body. *Wait a minute...*

"Umm, listen, bros, been a blast 'nd all, but dis bull has to bounce. Maybe I'll see y'all around when school starts, 'kay?" Everyone nodded, and the bull took off.

He charged for the first place that came to mind, the public restroom. He came up to the building and rushed into the men's room without thought or hesitation. No one was around thankfully, so he could spend time with the mirror.

Alice blushed. He did not see the young girl that should've been there in the reflection. He saw a young, jockish red bull toon. At least almost six feet tall and with a body frame that was nearly double his original frame. He was fit, his form befitting that of the older, jock teenager he had become. The only familiar sight was the candy bracelet, still hanging on.

"Whoa, I'm like Henry, but bigger!" Alice remarked. He looked at his arms and felt his stomach, noting the muscles in them. He clenched his hand into a fist and flexed, watching his biceps bulge. Not as big as any older, muscle-bound toon, but there was room to grow.

Alice shook his head, but that thought didn't leave him. Still was plenty of room for him to continue bulking up as he got older. *Well, guess that explains where mah noggin's been. It's toony and older now.*

He looked back in the mirror, his arm still raised and held high. He looked so big and strong now, so powerful. So big and powerful... powerful enough to protect.

A lightbulb appeared above his head (guess he would have to get used to stuff like that now). He smiled. This... this is what he asked for... right?

He flexed his other arm and pushed out his chest. Yeah! This is what I want! He grinned. Mah old man ain't gonna push my mom, sis, or me around anymore! Ah like to see that grump jerk try it now!

The toon smirked, stroking his chin. Also, he had to admit, the power and feel of this... it wasn't all that bad, was it? It was kind of fun to be all grown up! He looked pretty cool too! Cows were cool.

No. **Bulls** were cool, and he was a bull now.

Adam laughed, that swell of pride and confidence hitting him. "Heh, if things are gonna be like this, maybe I should join the football team, maybe soccer and volleyball too! Ha! I could probably do them all!"

"AAAAALLLLIIIIIIICCCCCCCCCEEEE! It's playtime! Henrietta wants to play!" A loud, scratchy sound boomed from outside, making him jump.

He quickly left the bathroom and looked off into the distance. At the top of the jungle gym, he could spy his younger sister with a megaphone. A lot of parents and other park goers were urging her to come down.

Adam smacked his forehead. "Dang bro, keep your head in da game! Baby sis still needs attention. Enough muggin' to the mirror 'nd actually watch her!"

He hurried back to the playground, concern but excitement filling him. Like when his older brother first changed, things were going to be different for the family. A new kind of different this time, but one where they would be safer at least.

Would this change last as his new sister's had? Would it eventually fade? He didn't know but for now, he couldn't wait to see what his new, stronger life would bring.

THE END?