

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [An amazing Runescape story](#)

WizeVibez - February 25, 2015, 3:40 pm

So one of my friends irl, he's on this site, sent me these pics of this story about this guy who lived in Russia and runescape saved his life. Its a bit long but I definitely recommend you reading it!
Also if your reading this hoff, sorry I beat you to it?

The story (not mine!):

Hello, my name is Mikkell, I go by Mitch. I've been playing Runescape for 11 years now and I wanted to share my unique story about how Runescape probably saved my life. I'm using a throwaway because my girlfriend knows my main account and I've told her I haven't played in years.

I was born in a city in Russia called Nizhny Novgorod, grew up with a middle class family, everything was okay. My next door neighbor was British and their family had a son my age and we became good friends. Every time I went over to his house I saw him playing this game, Runescape. I was always pretty mesmerized by what he was doing but I didn't really know what was going on because the whole thing was in English.

I asked if there was a Russian version and he got down to explaining the very basics of the game and I learned that there was no way of playing Runescape in a non-latin based language (And to my knowledge, this is still true). So for a while I just watched because I thought it was so cool. Eventually he asked me to play even though my 8 year old self knew less English than my pets. Runescape is so addicting that my 8 year old self got past this language barrier and played intensively for the next year, getting up to level 55 in just a year (This is a big accomplishment for a 9 year old playing 2003 runescape not knowing English). With constant coaching from my friend, I ended up learning enough English playing Runescape that I could communicate with other players and that made the game a lot easier.

By the time I was ten I was playing for hours a day, and my English was obviously not perfect but I could safely say that I could "speak English." A few months later, my alcoholic father came home one night in an angry drunken rage and beat my mother to death. The police came and he's now in jail for the rest of his life. This was obviously very traumatic for me. I was an only child and now I had no parents. I was certain I would end up like my classmate that lived in an orphanage who would tell stories all the time about how they would beat him all the time and not be allowed to do anything. As horrible and insensitive as it sounds, I was probably just as upset thinking that I couldn't play Runescape anymore as I was about losing my parents. I spent the next couple weeks in some government building place with rooms for people, I honestly barely remember what place this was or why it had rooms or anything but they said I was probably going to be put in a Russian orphanage. I was crushed. Even my 10 year old self knew how terrible Russia was. I forgot how exactly but they figured out that I could read and write in English and told me that it qualified me to go to America for adoption.

So of course I was ecstatic. All I had ever heard about America was good things and all of my runescape friends were from there. So they put me on a plane and I ended up in an orphanage in South Florida where I would spend the next 8 years of my life. I never got adopted which was okay with me because they took really good care of us. I now go to college and still play Runescape to this day. (Albeit now I play old school)

So if I had never gotten into Runescape, I'd be in some dump in the middle of Russia, probably in some gang with no future and because I did, I now have a world of opportunity for me. Perhaps I continue to play because I almost feel a sense of owing my life to this game. I have over 200 days clocked in and I don't regret any of them.

TL;DR - Learned English playing Runescape, allowed me to go to America and not be part of the corrupt Russian system.

If anyone has any questions, I'd be happy to answer them. I'm not trying to cash in on some karma, this is a self post on a throwaway account, I just really wanted to get my story out there because I think its worth hearing.

Thank you.

My username is "Basic Mitch" if anyone wants to chat

Morty - February 25, 2015, 4:42 pm

That was a good read, thanks for the share OP. i wish my runescape story was as brilliant as that but sadly all runescape did for me was stop me from becoming a teen parent and drop my grades.

WizeVibez - February 25, 2015, 4:49 pm

(Feb 25, 2015 05:42 PM)Umaroth Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That was a good read, thanks for the share OP. i wish my runescape story was as brilliant as that but sadly all runescape did for me was stop me from becoming a teen parent and drop my grades.

Hey at least thats something :D and glad you liked the read! I found it pretty incredible.

Ordium - February 25, 2015, 4:52 pm

(Feb 25, 2015 04:40 PM)?Jay Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) A few months later, my alcoholic father came home one night in an angry drunken rage and beat my mother to death.

So of course I was ecstatic.

I was skimming and I caught these two sentences. Jesus fuck.

Lee Song - February 25, 2015, 4:58 pm

I actually enjoyed that. Thanks for that OP.

WizeVibez - February 25, 2015, 5:01 pm

(Feb 25, 2015 05:52 PM)Ordium Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I was skimming and I caught these two sentences. Jesus fuck.

yeah that part was kind of crazy, you should really read the whole thing though to get the full effect.

LijpeMD - February 25, 2015, 5:05 pm

That is a very interesting story, Jagex should read this lol.

Morty - February 25, 2015, 5:06 pm

tempted to add "basic mitch" see how hes going. how old is this story OP? would he still play?

iFckShadow - February 25, 2015, 5:19 pm

I tried adding him as a friend and he doesn't exist. Not sure if he changed his name or if this story is real, regardless this was a good read OP.

WizeVibez - February 25, 2015, 5:24 pm

(Feb 25, 2015 06:19 PM)Arcadex Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I tried adding him as a friend and he doesn't exist. Not sure if he changed his name or if this story is real, regardless this was a good read OP.

Glad you enjoyed the read, but yeah I just found out the story was written 10 months ago, so idk if he changed his name or what.

Elegant - February 25, 2015, 5:39 pm

This is a pretty amazing story, RuneScape has helped me a lot during my life.

Skip The Gym - February 25, 2015, 6:09 pm

Well, I started learning English because of RuneScape too, I think more people did that.

WizeVibez - February 26, 2015, 3:04 pm

(Feb 25, 2015 06:39 PM)Elegant Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) This is a pretty amazing story, RuneScape has helped me a lot during my life.

yeah same :) my mom asked how and I said I bet I know more on stocks than you do, the ge taught me that one?

Astral™ - February 27, 2015, 4:17 pm

RS got me interested in the stock market and economics in general through the GE. I've learned a lot from RS.

Davy - February 28, 2015, 5:15 am

Nice story OP, your english is very good!