

## Chapter 12

### *The Skybox Rocks!*



As Danny walked into the luxurious skybox, he was surprised to find Rocky Austin already there.

“Rocky, this is the young man I spoke to you about. I’d like you to meet Danny Dollar and his friends.”

“Mr. Austin, you have no idea how much this means to me. I know every thing about you! I know where you were born: Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. I know what college you went to: Indiana University. I even know your birthday: July 31st,” Danny said joyfully.

“You know more about me than my Ma and Pa,” Mr. Austin replied.

“These are my friends Noogie and Benjamin,” Danny said.

“It’s very nice to meet ya’ll,” Mr. Austin stated with a twang.

“Excuse me,”

“Yes, um, is it Noogie?” Mr. Austin asked.

“Yep, that’s me. Can I ask you a question? How did you get rich enough to buy a basketball team?”

“Well, I wasn’t always rich. As a kid, I worked odd jobs to earn money and buy the things I wanted, like a nice pair of cowboy boots. After working my way through college, I created a very successful company that I sold for a lot of money. I took that money and created another company that I sold for even more money. I used that money to invest into some other projects. That’s called...”

“DIVERISFYING!” Danny screamed out.

“Very impressive Danny, you must know a lot about finance.”

“Yeah, I’ve got skills. I have a very *diverse portfolio*\* of stocks, bonds, and *mutual funds*\*\*,” Danny said proudly.

“You do, huh? You seem a ‘lil young to know so much about finances,” Mr. Austin said in surprise.

“Finance is my thing. My goal is to be a millionaire and own my own basketball team just like you! And I’m gonna do it!”

“I reckon you will Danny. You know if you really want to see how a business is run, you can come by my office and I’ll give you a tour. Here’s my phone number. You have your Ma or Pa give me a call, and we’ll set something up. In the meantime, the game is about to start and my Mustangs are about to stampede on them Ballers,” Mr. Austin boasted.

“Oh yeah?! The Ballers are gonna mop up the floor with your Mustangs.”

“You wanna trash talk, kid? I can tangle with the best of them.”

“Well then bring it, Mr. Austin,” Danny yelled.

“You know what Danny, I’ve got a better idea, how’s about a ‘lil wager?”

*\*Diverse portfolio – A wide variety of investments*

*\*\*Mutual Funds – When an investment company takes money from a group of investors and invests it in a variety of stocks and bonds.*

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### **Danny’s DID YOU KNOW?**

What exactly is the stock market? The word stock means supplies, like you have a stock of snacks in your pantry. The word market is a place where things are bought and sold. The stock market is not a place. It’s simply a term used for the business of buying and selling stock.