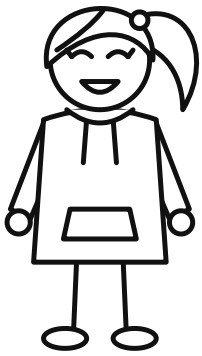
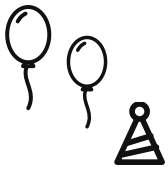
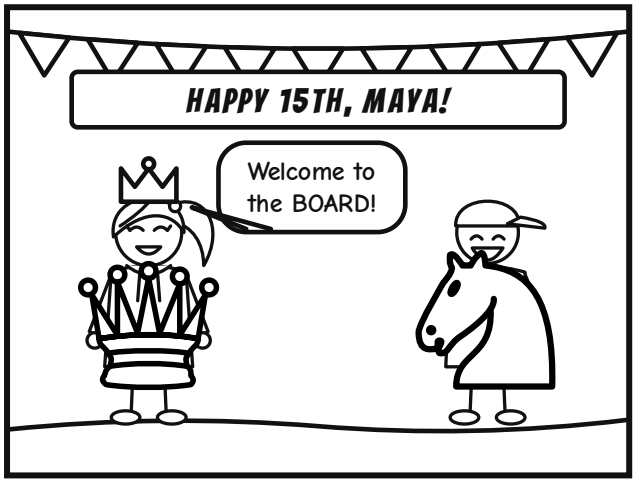
CHECKMAYA

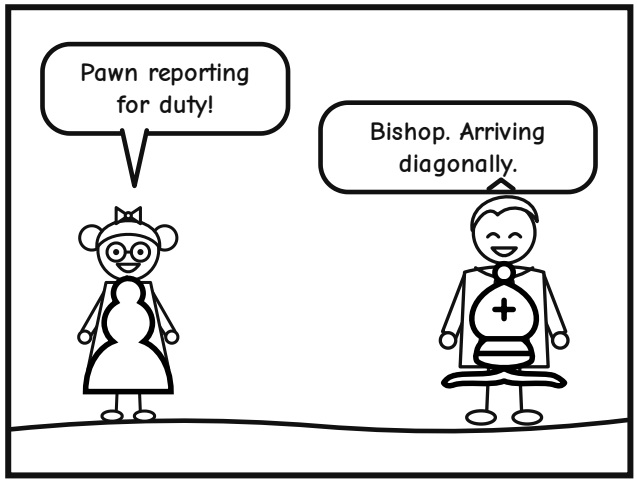
EP. 22: PARTY TIME!

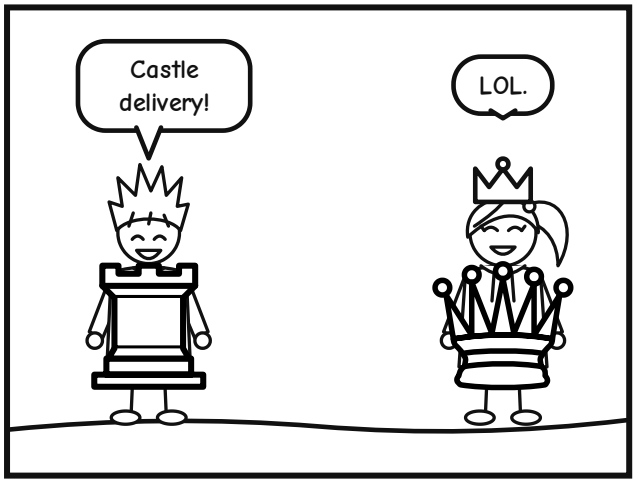


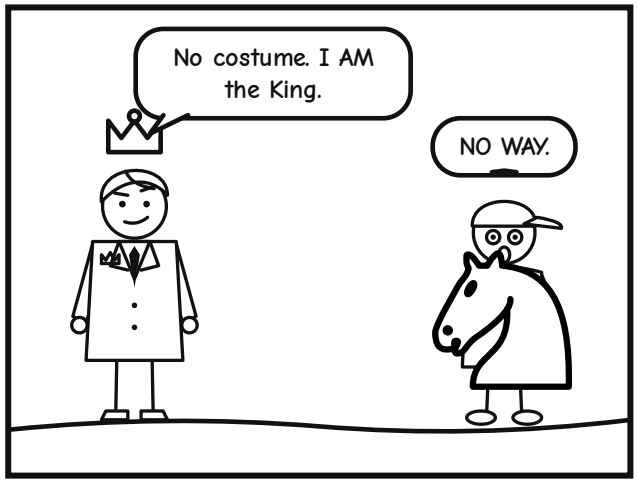
Saturday 14 November.
Maya turns FIFTEEN!

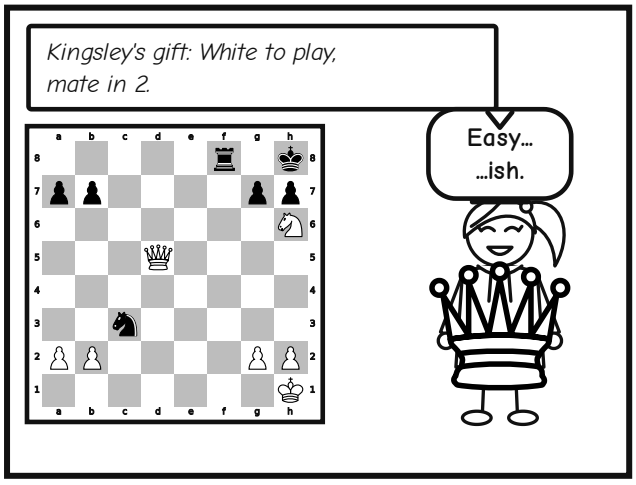


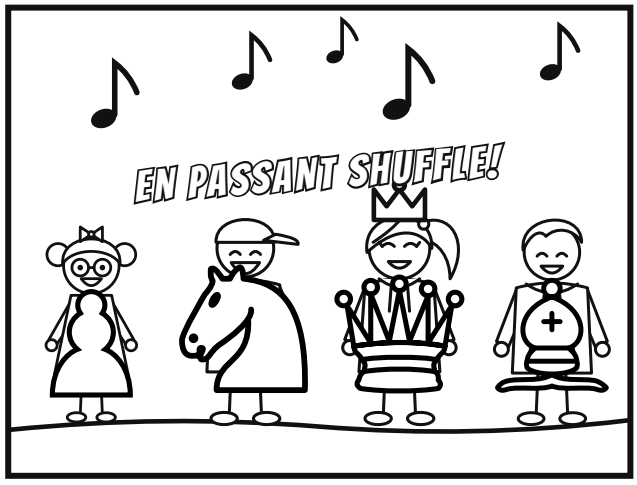


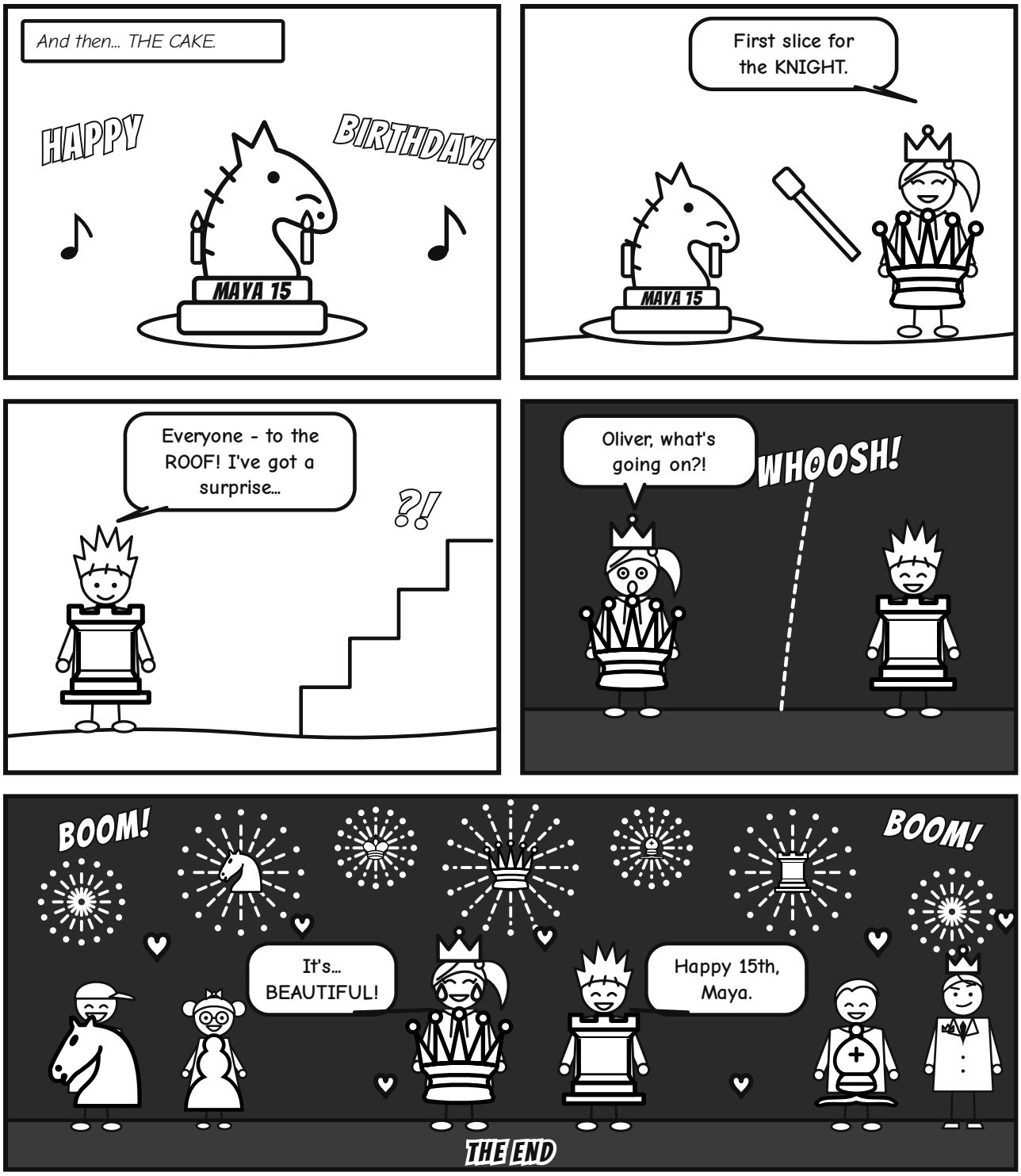












REAL CHESS CORNER

Kingsley's birthday puzzle (mate in 2): 1.Qg8+!! Rxg8 2.Nf7#. The queen jumps into the corner - and the rook has to take her. Now the black king is surrounded by its own rook and pawns, and the knight gives checkmate.

Why it's called a "smothered mate": The king is smothered by its own pieces - it has no free square to run to. Only a knight can deliver this mate, because only a knight can jump over the wall.

Lesson: When the enemy king is boxed in by its own pieces, look for a knight check. And maybe a cake shaped like one.

Happy birthday, Maya! Fifteen looks goated on you. Love from Checkmaya