

NEVER FORGET OUR BIRTHDAYS

By Brian Fishbach - Submitted for Top Story! Weekly for September 14, 2014.

News Story: It's the 13th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, and millions of people are shamed for celebrating their birthday on this day.

Characters (5): Doctor, Ludacris, George, Evan, Esther, Maureen.

Background image: Never forget 9/11.

SITTING IN A SEMI-CIRCLE IN CHAIRS IN A REHAB FACILITY

DOCTOR

Just remember, it's all of your birthdays today, so be open about your feelings, and try to be happy. You first.

GEORGE

Dejected.

My name is George, and today, September 11th, is my birthday.

(ALL)

Happy birthday, George!

GEORGE

When people ask me what my birthday is, I don't even tell them that it's September 11th anymore. It just ruins the mood. So I just say that I'm born on the 254th day of the year.

(ALL)

Awwwww....

MAUREEN

But George, what do you say when it's a leap year?

GEORGE

I tell them---

Pauses to wipe tears, and then gets hysterical.
That I'm born on day 255!

(ALL)

Louder and even more shocked.

AWWWWW!

DOCTOR

Thank you, George. Who's next?

EVAN

Hi, I'm Evan, and today, September 11th, is my birthday.

ALL

Happy birthday, Evan!

EVAN

I try to tell people, statistically, 19 million people celebrate their birthday today, so stop calling the tragedy by just the day that it happened. This is Ludacris!

LUDACRIS

It's okay, Evan. I can introduce myself. You all probably have seen me before. My name is Ludacris, I am a professional rapper. But feel free to call me by my real name, Christopher Bridges. Oh and today, September 11th is my birthday.

(ALL)

Happy birthday, Ludacris!

LUDACRIS

I really don't like how September 11th is called Patriot Day. I'm from the 404, A-T-L. We don't like the Patriots, we like the Atlanta Falcons. Fuck Tom Brady!

(ALL)

Yeah!!

DOCTOR

Okay settle down, Luda. You, ma'am, please introduce yourself.

ESTHER

My name is Esther, and my son, who is not here right now, was born on September 11th, 2001.

DOCTOR

And where is your son now, Esther?

ESTHER

He's at home, studying for his Bar Mitzvah.

(ALL)

Awww.

ESTHER

But the day he was born, nobody called my phone to congratulate me on becoming a mother.

ALL

AWWWWW!

DOCTOR

Well tell your son, happy 13th birthday, and mazel tov on his Bar Mitzvah. Okay, and now you.

MAUREEN

My name is Maureen.

ALL

Happy birthday, Maureen!

MAUREEN

Well, not exactly. Unlike all of you, I'm not born on September 11th.

People get angry body language.

LUDACRIS

Why the fuck are you here?

MAUREEN

You see, I'm born on February 29th---leap day, and it only comes every four years. I'm 28 years old, but technically, I'm only 7.

DOCTOR

Maureen, this is a club for 9/11 birthdays ONLY. If you want support for you leap-year February 29th March 1st whatever you freaks are, you can start your own group.

Maureen cries and gets up and leaves.

DOCTOR

Okay, and now we know each other, time to sing our happy place song.

ALL

Happy birthday to us! Happy
Birthday to us! Happy birthday to
us! This day fuck-ing sucks!