**Chapter 4: The first strike**

*My patience is wearing thin,* thought the Shadow, still many miles from its destination, *this creature has worn my patience to its final strand… very well, I believe it is time the Pack had a little… hunting…* And as the Shadow said this, ten columns of its own being began to extend to the ground, as each column hit the ground, they began to materialize, creating ten wolf shaped shadow creatures, pitch black save for the blood red eyes they sported. *Go, find the pegasus, and kill him and anything else that gets in your way,* said the Shadow, the lead creature responded by lifting its head and letting out a blood curdling, almost demonic howl that was soon accompanied by the other nine. The creatures then turned, sinking into the ground while doing so, and shot off toward the direction of the unsuspecting town…

Back in Ponyville, Twilight Sparkle had gathered everypony to the town hall where they all waited in anticipation for what message the unicorn had for them. “Ponies of Ponyville, I am sure you all know of what happened here yesterday, and I know you all know of the new pegasus that we met because of that incident…” when she said this, a low murmur spread out among the listening ponies, but then she continued, “I understand that you all have mixed feelings about him...” “How can we trust him?!” yelled one of the ponies in the crowd. “And what reason do you have to make you think he can’t be?” Twilight shot back, in response, the pony tilted her head to her right, where the town square was still under repair because of the crash. “That crash was not his fault, and if he hadn’t gotten here, he wouldn’t have warned us of what is to come” when she said this, a wave of confusion washed over the crowd, Twilight then continued, “Yesterday, we received information from him of the return of a being known as the Shadow. This creature is a being of mass chaos and destruction that will stop at nothing until it consumes all of Equestria, we have six days until the Shadow reaches Ponyville, so that’s six days we have to prepare. Princess Celestia herself decided it would be wisest to evacuate Ponyville and take temporary residence in Canterlot so as to not risk any unnecessary casualties”. This caused a long moment of silence among the crowd, until one pony finally asked, “So what do you plan to do with this Shadow? And how does that pegasus know so much about it?”…. As Twilight went on to explain more about the subject, Static watched from a distant cloud, lost in his thoughts, *I really hope we can prepare before the Shadow gets here, and maybe… just maybe… if this all works out and the Shadow is defeated, they will all see that they don’t have to be afraid of me.* Static sighed and slumped on the cloud he was on, he liked this town, it was quiet for the most part, the ponies seemed nice enough, and he had already managed to make six friends, seven including Spike. As he went through his thoughts, a sudden gust of wind caught his attention, he looked up to see Rainbow Dash gathering clouds together, slowly covering the town as a low rumble of thunder could be heard from the soon to be rainfall. He watched her as she swooped this way and that, herding the clouds with ease as she looped and spun through the air, *she’s a great flier,* thought Static as he rested on the cloud. Rainbow Dash then flew up to the cloud where he was, and was somewhat surprised since she didn’t expect anypony to be there, “Oh heya Static” she said happily, “Sup Rainbow” replied Static, “Not much, just setting up the clouds for the rain, we were a little off schedule last time and overdue for some rain”. Static nodded, then playfully asked, “Well then I guess you need this?” he pointed to the cloud that was under him to show what he meant and she laughed, “If you don’t mind yeah” Static chuckled, feeling a little devious, and gripped the cloud with his forelegs, “Well then come get it” and at that he took off with the cloud, “What the? Hey you! Get back here!” said a surprised Rainbow Dash who immediately laughed and gave chase. They spent the next few minutes flying fast through the air, laughing as they did. Static looked behind him at one point, and didn’t see Rainbow behind him, he immediately halted, *did I really lose her that easily?* He thought, then he felt a force behind him knock him off the cloud, he immediately flapped his wings to regain his composure and looked behind him to see the smug cyan pegasus standing on the cloud. “Got it” she said, and immediately took the cloud to the last spot in the sky…

Meanwhile, at the town hall, Twilight had just finished her announcement, staying quiet as the other ponies murmured amongst themselves over what they had just heard. Twilight then looked to the sky and saw rain was beginning to fall, looked back to the crowd for final instructions, “It is beginning to rain everypony, we will have three days of preparations for the evacuation, so go on home and take only what you need”. She then dismissed the crowd and headed to her tree home. Two of the young fillies in the crowd, Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle, were talking about what they had just heard, “So what do you think of this Shadow thing Scoots? It sounds kind of scary if you ask me” said Sweetie Belle, Scootaloo replied with a snort, “You kidding? If that thing knew any better, it wouldn’t show itself anywhere near here, especially with Rainbow Dash here, she would give that thing what’s comin’ to it!” her eyes gleamed as she spoke of her idol. Sweetie Belle merely shrugged her shoulders then went on to change the subject, “Are you still going to Appleblooms house for the sleepover? Rarity said I could still go”, Scootaloo replied with a nod of her head, “Yep I’m still goin, you know nothing can stop a Cutiemark Crusaders meeting! Just let me grab my scooter real quick and we’ll go together”. At that, Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle scurried off to a distant tree where Scootaloos scooter was leaned against it. She grabbed the scooter and began to ride off when she noticed something peculiar next to her. Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle looked closer and saw what looked like a very dark shadow on the ground, “That’s strange” said Sweetie Belle, “the sun isn’t even out, how can there be a shadow on the ground?”. Scootaloo shrugged and looked at it closer, if she didn’t know any better, she would’ve said she saw it moving, suddenly, the two fillies jerked their heads back in fear as a pair of red eyes suddenly opened, and the shadow rose from the ground and took the shape of a dark snarling wolf. The fillies shouted out in fear and began to run the other way, but more of the wolf-like shadows appeared, their hearts sank as they finally realized… they were surrounded…

Rainbow Dash and Static had stopped at a nearby overhang so as to stay out of the rain and decided to pass the time by talking. “…And ever since then, I’ve had a love of speed, racing, and winning” finished Rainbow Dash as she finished telling the time that she had received her cutiemark. “Wow” said Static, “A sonic rainboom as a filly? For somepony that age to be able to fly that fast… it’s amazing! You’re definitely the fastest flier I’ve ever met” he was clearly impressed by her story, and his admiration caused Rainbow to blush, *Dangit Rainbow, pull yourself together! You’re acting like some sort of girly girl!* Thought Rainbow Dash to herself, so she quickly decided to change the subject, “So Static, you’re supposed to be the all-powerful controller of lightning, besides turning into a lightning bolt and crashing into towns, what else can you do?” Static chuckled at the playful banter, but before he could reply, the two pegasi heard two loud, fear filled screams not far from them. Quickly alarmed, they both shot off toward the cause of the noise, Rainbow Dash gasped as she saw Sweetie Belle and Scootaloo huddled in fear as these strange wolf creatures that surrounded them closed in, low growls and occasional snaps could be heard from the predators. “Wh-what are those things!” stammered Rainbow Dash, she looked to her side and was surprised to see Static getting into a fighting position, preparing to charge. “Hunters” he replied, “made from the Shadow itself” he then took a step toward them, “Wait, what are you doing now?!” Rainbow asked, “you wanted to know what else I can do… you’re about to see” was all the stallion said before he charged with a battle cry. As he ran, sparks of electricity trailed him, forming a barrier over his head as he lowered it and sped up. Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle then yelled as the closest hunter leaped toward them, claws extended and teeth bared. The two fillies closed their eyes from what was about to come next, but instead, they heard the battle cry of somepony and they opened their eyes to see Static charged head first into the side of the attacker, a blast of lightning shooting it far from the others as it landed with a thud. On looking ponies gasped as more gathered to watch the spectacle, one being Rarity who shouted for Sweetie Belle as she saw her little sister. Static then stood protectively over the young fillies glaring at the hunters as he asked, “You two okay?” they could only respond with a few short nods before the pack of hunters began to close in again, Static responded by lowering his head again and glaring at them as the electricity crackling from his body became more intense, “Leave the fillies alone” demanded Static in a low, threatening tone, “It’s me you’re after, so let’s get this over with”. In response, another hunter leaped at him snarling, Static was ready and retaliated by ducking under the creature and then bucking it in the underside as it sailed over him, bombarding it with a full charge of electricity causing it to hit the ground head first and lay there twitching. One of the hunters then howled, and in unison, every hunter jumped at Static. The pegasus made a split second move and scooped up the two fillies and tossed them toward safety, where they were caught by Rarity and Rainbow Dash and ushered to the other ponies. Rainbow Dash looked back again and could only see a pile of writhing and snarling hunters, knowing Static was somewhere underneath, “Static!” she yelled and immediately ran toward him, she stopped when she heard a slight buzzing noise. The buzzing then turned into crackling, then almost immediately, bolts of lightning shot out in different directions of the pile, until suddenly a small explosion erupted from inside the pile. The hunters were flung in different directions as Static could be seen hovering just above the ground, his body emanated massive energy as lightning shot out of him in high intensity, his silver irises were replaced by a light, sky blue glow that crackled with energy. Many of the ponies gaped in awe at the spectacle they witnessed, including Rainbow Dash who could only mutter one word… “Woah”. The hunters had regained their composure and charged back at the stallion, which was unwise on their behalf, for whichever one got too close, he would blast them with a high voltage bolt sending them reeling on the ground. Finally, when Static seemed to have enough of the hunters’ persistence, he rose slightly, raising his forehooves in the air, then brought them to the ground with tremendous force, letting out a huge ring of energy from his body and blasting away the shadowy creatures, each disintegrating as they hit the ground. Whatever hunters could still be seen scattered away in fear and retreated back to where they came. When the dust settled, the observing ponies opened their eyes to see Static standing with his back to them, glaring in the direction where the last few hunters escaped. He slowly turned to face the others, a solemn look on his face, he walked toward the crowd, and they didn’t cower away, he then asked finally, “Are the fillies safe?”. In response to his question, Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle rushed forward, each tightly hugging the stallion one to each leg, both tearfully thanking him over and over again. Rarity also walked forward, a look of deep relief and gratitude on her face, she also lightly hugged Static whispering, “Thank you for saving my dear sister and her friend, we are in your debt”. Rather surprised by the three ponies, Static merely stood their dumbfounded until he sheepishly said, “It was nothing… really… I couldn’t just stand there and do nothing”. Rarity slowly nodded her head in understanding, gathered the two fillies, and thanked him again before turning to take the two home. Next to approach Static was Rainbow Dash, wearing a wide smile on her face as she did. “That was… sooo awesome!” she exclaimed, “I was for sure you were tough, but that was just insane! The way you took out those hunters!”. Static laughed at her excitement and they both began to walk toward the town, where Static stopped in front of the crowd. For a while, both sides merely stood there to look at one another, until suddenly, smiles came across the ponies’ faces, as they all began to show their gratitude toward the stallion with cheers or beating their hooves on the ground. Static looked out among the crowd, then to Rainbow Dash who looked back at him, the look on her face he couldn’t quite decipher… pride perhaps? He looked back to the crowd again and smiled, and in response to the cheers, he put one hoof ahead of him and humbly lowered his head in a bow. Soon the crowd dispersed, and Static walked with Rainbow Dash and they took off back to Cloudsdale and out of the rain. “Well it seems you’ve proved yourself to Ponyville” said Rainbow Dash as they flew toward the floating city. “Well” said Static, “I couldn’t just stand there and do nothing, something had to be done, plus I wanted to show everypony that I can be trusted”. Rainbow smiled at Static, then flew closer to gently brush next to his strong frame, “Well you’ve definitely shown me” she said gently, making Static blush severely, making Rainbow Dash giggle. *Well,* thought Static as he continued to soar with Rainbow Dash, *I can’t explain why, but right now, hearing her say that, I feel like I just made the biggest accomplishment of my life, let’s just hope it gets better from now on…* and with these thoughts in his head, he spent the rest of that afternoon with who he thought to be the best pony he had ever met, and he felt he couldn’t ask for anything better…

**Quite an epic battle scene if you ask me, but my opinion doesn’t matter, cus im the author, the opinion lies within you! Tell me what you all think! This tall Mexican loves to hear what you all have to say! Next chapter will be here when I upload it (duh) so sit tight!**