

Sorrow

and

Harmony

Story, Leon and his father by:

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Based in the My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic universe

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My heart was pounding like a drum in anticipation of what it would feel like;

I close my eyes, the sounds and smells creating a vision of wonder in my mind, imagining what it would soon be like to soar above the clouds.

Abnormally calm; the blue sky seemed to stretch on without end, the meadow singing in color as the flowers of spring where in full bloom, barely a breeze to cool the blazing sun, as the sweet yet earthy aroma of the various plants envelop my senses.

Slow at first, then faster and faster I ran the wind in my mane, the sun on my face, the scent of sweet grass carried on the breeze. My heart was racing, my legs refused to slow, breaking the wind as they took me faster and faster through the lush green meadow. Without fear, I shot into the heavens like a bird taking flight. Today was the day I would finally do it, I would finally fly.

Without warning my wings gave out, a rush of fear hit as gravity crashed down, sending me plummeting to the earth. Suddenly a shadow below eclipsed me from out of nowhere my daddy appeared below, catching and bringing me safely back to the ground.

I was disappointed, so ashamed of myself I couldn't even look daddy in the eye. I failed, I failed myself, my race and most of all, my father, and the only pony I really ever look up to nor wanted to make proud.

I sighed sadly as tears formed around my eyes, as both sadness and anger towards myself took hold. Everyone in my class could fly, why did I have to be different, why did my wings have to be so stubborn?

A light nudge awoke me from my thoughts. He nuzzled me gently with his muzzle.

"Son, your just not ready yet is all, there's no reason to be upset, you'll fly soon enough, don't get upset over something you can't change."

I knew what he said was true, turning my head I simply nodded not sure of the words right to speak. I turned to him, looking him right in the eye, he towered over me. Bigger than life, I guess is how most children view a parent.

He' s always there for me, always the protector, always to teaching me the ways of the world and to be the best Pegasus I can be.

Daddy is tall, even for a Pegasus, his body blue—velvet like the midnight sky, his mane a blaze with an array of oranges, yellows, and reds like a flame, wild and free.

Although I have not been around very long, I knew my daddy is a brave, adventurous, kind hearted stallion I wanted to imitate and even hope to be like one day, he was my hero if ever there was one.

With another light nudge, my daddy did the one thing that he seemed to excel at, give me hope and cheering me up with his carefully chosen words.

“You’ ll fly soon enough son, and I bet you’ ll be faster than a Wonderbolt one day.”

With that thought I smiled, the pain was still there, but being consumed by dreams of tomorrow, as his kind words seeped into my mind.

To relieve tension, was my guess, he gave me an even harder nudge and bounced away, racing down the meadow. Without thinking I chased after, my fear washed aside, clear for the moment and free to enjoy the beautiful spring day with my daddy.

We raced, played and enjoyed the day to its fullest until dusk came, the fading light over the mountains is breathtaking, and an array of yellows, oranges, pinks and blues set the heavens ablaze in one of the most beautiful wonders of our world, sun set.

In the audience of the sky we drifted to sleep under Luna’ s breathtaking night, the stars seemed to shin brighter that night than ever, somehow Luna must have known what an important night this would be the rest of my life.

—The Joys of Childhood—

Like most Pegasus ponies my age, I love the Wonderbolts, aside from my father they are the one thing I love the most. They are the greatest fliers in the lands, each one of them strong hearted, kind, daring, and true. What more could a young colt hope to be?

Though I loved the Wonderbolts, only heard rumors at school and the ponies in town, a few newspaper clippings that lay in a book under my bed, and a poster I found in the attic, hidden on the back of my door held my dreams in check. I had never really seen them in action, only watched as Rainbow Dash, another local Pegasus pony, would practice to join them and I was sit watching, dreaming of what it would be like to fly, and join her in the skies. Only through her air show style performance could I imagine what seeing the Wonderbolts in person would be like.

I cheered her on time and time again, but in my daily life I hide my dreams away. I fear being teased even farther at school, and by so called friends at home, “How could you be a Wonderbolt if you can’ t fly” they would surely mock. Due to my wings being so stubborn I was an outcast at school, most days are filled with teasing, mockery and tears, the old question arose in my mind, why did founts have to be so cruel?

On occasion I would make a few friends, a few that, like myself, were teased for not developing or fitting in with everypony else. Scootaloo another young Pegasus pony, Sweetiebell a unicorn pony and sister to Rarity a beautiful fashion designer in Ponyville and Apple Bloom sister to Applejack a local farmer, and the most honorable pony in Ponyville, other than my father of course. Together we had many adventures, played almost every day, but even they didn’ t know of the passion I had for the Wonderbolts, I’ m not sure even Scootaloo would understand, but like most secrets, non can be held forever.

Parents seem to have a magical power for finding out what you don’ t want any pony to know, and my father was no exception.

Early one morning, before school, I heard a knock at my bedroom door, still sleepy and in bed not wanting to escape the warm, comfortable embrace of the sheets I simply shouted in a groggy ton, "Come in!" Daddy stepped in, shutting the door behind him with a creek, as he entered my room. My eyes grew wide as he looks back to the door, I knew what he saw, fearing even he wouldn't understand I hid under my blanket, preparing for the tears of hurt from what daddy would surely say.

"So that's where my old poster went!" My ears shot up out of the blanket in response, his tone and words where not what I was expecting at all, I slowly poked my head out of the blanket.

"You're poster?" Where the only words to come to mind as I still held fears of what was to come. Daddy looked back to me smiling, a slight tilt to his head at the question.

"How do you think it got in the attic?"

At that we both laugh, the tension was fading, yet the fear still remained in the back of my mind.

Daddy walks over, and sat on the bed next to me. After a moment of hesitation and looking me right in the eyes, he cuddled me in a hug, lifting me from my bed and holding me closely in his embrace warm and strong, along with his words, washing all my fears away.

"Son, all you had to do was ask. You know, there's something I was going to give to you when you got older, but seeing the same love in your eyes I had, maybe now's the right time.

He let go gently put me back onto my soft bed. Got up, opened the door and walked out of the room.

I look to the door an expression of confusion and questions painting my face, I hear daddy rummage through some stuff in his bedroom that adjoined mine, seconds later a pair of goggles flew, I jump slightly as they land on the bed in front of me. I look down taking them into my hooves holding them to see what they were, still with the blur of sleep in my eyes.

Daddy stepped back in with a bag on his side; I look up not sure what to do.

“Those are for you son, I got them from the Wonderbolts when I was about your age, I think you’ re old enough to take care of them. They are pretty old so treat them gently alright?”

I simply nod lifting the goggles closer to my eyes, my vision starting to clear, seeing for the first real time what I had in hove. I almost jumped out of bed, as my ears shoot back in excitement; they are exactly like the ones on the poster, with a bright yellow band, hove crafted for the Wonderbolts with their signature bolt logo on the sides. I was in heaven, for the first time I had real proof that the Wonderbolts where in fact real, till this time they were so larger than life sometimes it was hard to believe they were not make-believe.

The look daddy gave me was that of pure joy, he knew his gift meant something to me, and put his hopes to rest of if it was the right time and yet the surprises were still to come as he reached around to the bag he wore, grabbing two small slips of paper, throwing them gently to my reach. My eyes grew wider then I thought possible when I turned them over. He sat back down on the bed, his voice genial; he didn’ t need to ask but did none the less.

“Would you like to join me, want to see them for real?”

Before I could respond with words, I leapt into his, hugging him tightly, caught off guard by my sudden affection he wrapped his arms around me holding me tight. No words where needed now, as we both understood the answer fully.

He looks down, tears of joy run down my face as this is the truest act of kindness daddy has ever expressed, he brought a hove to my face wiping a tear away, speaking lightly into my ear,

“There’ s no need to hide who you are, I love you son, I’ ll never stop loving you, be who you are, and never let that go.”

I look up into the strong, caring eyes of the truest friend I would ever have,
“I love you daddy.”

In his eyes I could tell those few words hit a cord inside him I have never seen before, he shed a tear, the emotion building to the point where even he

couldn't contain it and why try, we both understood the importance of that moment, why ruin it with misplaced pride?

Why pretend I'm not happy being who I am? And in the wisdom of daddy's words "Why not dream, they can't come true if you don't try"

His words that day shaded all others to follow, I will never let go of them, my heart was unlocked, my dreams free to grow and sorrow like I wish to one day. Even at school when the others would tease me for not being able to fly I would think back to daddy's words and the gift he gave me wearing them proudly atop my head, not letting the words of others take that dream away.

–The Wonderboltness–

Two months passed by and we were finally on our way, we left Ponyville early so we could explore the wondrous Equestrian capital, Canterlot before the air show. As we boarded the train my excitement grew, talking to all the different ponies, a lot of them going to see the air show themselves. It was a wonderful ponynerd time, chatting about the Wonderbolts, what tricks they would do, what it would be like to meet one of them and sharing our dreams with one another. Dad simple sat in his seat letting me enjoy my first real time away from home. He took a lot of joy in looking out the window, thoughts no drought filling his mind as he seemed to look past the scenery, more like through it entirely.

The train ride was so much fun, but as Canterlot came into view, everyone looked on in amazement at the greatest city in our land.

The weather was perfect today, the city in full bloom as finally we pulled into the station, the glow of the white stone on the bright sun as trumpets sounded the trains arrival, something I will always remember.

Full of life, Canterlot was very different from Ponyville, the streets where lined with shops, homes, lush green trees and beautiful flowers of all colors, the city was in a constant buzz of activity, from music and dancers to the delightful smell of the different foods and standing proudly over the entire city was Canterlot Castle, the home and center of Princess Celestia' s rule. My senses were overwhelmed; I had never experienced anything like this before.

After several hours of taking in the sights, smells, foods and simply in bliss being there with my father trumpets sound throughout the city letting the ponies know the air show, the event I have been waiting for all my life was soon beginning.

Me and Dad made our way to Canterlot Stadium, a white stoned colossal building with an open roof. As we entered showing our tickets to the gate keeper guards we were greeted by the grand fields, cheering fan ponies and trumpets blowing as a small race for young pony' s before the main show started. As they moved through the course I could only imagine the

excitement, and rush going through each ponies mind, something I had longed to experience myself, as I looked on I gave a soft sigh, feeling a nudge, I knew dad wanted me to follow him. As we moved up the steps to our seats, I looked back seeing the racers, and field getting smaller and smaller. Finally we arrived after what seemed like forever, the now look like insects, moving around a track made by a stick carved into the dirt. I looked on, my ears lowered in sadness; I wanted so much to see them, to be a part of them. The race was concluded with an orange Pegasus pony with a green mane won the race and was awarded by a nice trophy from Princess Celestia, daddy looks down at me seeing my gaze fixed of the Princess,

“You know son that could be you one day, but don’ t get too caught up, she’ s my girl after all.” He said with a boyish joking smile on his face, we both laugh, not something we had normally talked about but came up from time to time. I was still young, but I was starting to notice things about to other gender I didn’ t care about before. It still felt silly to me but right some how.

The young filly now holding the trophy looks familiar somehow, I can’ t put a hove to what or how, but before my mind can be taken to explanation I feel another soft nudge as the trumpets sound once more in the deep.

The announcer came on,

“Mane’ s and gentle Colts, please rise as we welcome the stars of tonight’ s show, brought to you by our beloved Princess Luna, give it up for…… The…… WONDERBOLTS!

On queue flying over the announcers head like jets came the Wonderbolts, at long last I finally got to see them, I watch on in pure ecstasy, as they shoot from the ground blazing a white smoke trail behind them like a bullet, performing a trick I had only dreamed of seeing, as the team flew up right in front of me, they created their signature logo, meeting in the center, bounding off each other with an explosion of light and sound like a firework. My eyes glistened in amazement as the sparks of their feat and dreams coming true filled my young eyes.

Dad looked on, but it wasn't the show he was watching, but his gaze seemed to fall onto me. As much as I enjoyed the performance, he seemed to enjoy the sight of me experiencing it, taking in what he could.

After an hour or so of being in pure heaven and experiencing the greatest day of my life to that point, the air show came to its conclusion with Princess Luna joining the Wonderbolts in costume and formation, bringing about the night with an exposing of fireworks, and cheering unlike anything I could have imagined.

The show was now over, nothing more to do but collect our things and make our way back home, but I look up to the sky one last time seeing the Wonderbolts flying over head, in formation flying to where ever they were going, one of them looks back at me, brakes formation and flies towards me. At this point I didn't know what else to do, so I hide behind daddy.

"Hi, my names Spit Fire, don't be afraid, what's your name kid?"

I was frozen in amazement, until now the Wonderbolts were little more then a dream that was being projected so everyone else could see, when she spoke reality hit me like a brick. They were real, they have a voice, and one I speaking to me.

"You alright kid?" She spoke with concern, I stood frozen, my mind overwhelmed by thoughts.

Several seconds pass by, I remain silent, I'm normally a sky foal, but never this bad, I was too young to speak in her mind I guess, so she began to move off with her ears lowered, her efforts in vain.

"Wait!" I finally broke through my mental barrier and shouted, "My name is Leon... Leon, Heart

Spit fire turned back to me, she removed her goggles exposing her lovely orange eyes, and pushed back her hood revealing her lovely face to me. She was beautiful, with a yellow coat, and a yellow and orange mane that only enhanced her other features. Yes I'm a young colt but I can still appreciate a beautiful mane can't I? Spit Fire broke my starring like a stallion in spring.

"Nice to meet you Leon, did you enjoy the show?"

I started rambling on and on, unable to contain my excitement. To her I sound like every other fan pony she had talked to I' m sure, until she noticed the goggles I was wearing, and stopped me mid sentence.

"Hey kid, those are just like mine" , she removed hers holding them onto the hooves, "Where did ya get them?" She asked curiously.

I turned to dad, "My dad gave them to me, he' s the best." I said with an innocent smile. She looked to my dad, placing the goggles back onto her head with the snap of the band.

"A pleasure to meet you sir" , she flew over shacking his hove politely, "I didn' t catch your name?"

Dad didn' t reply right away, seeming to be thinking of how to respond.

"My name... is Starchaser, always a pleasure to meet a Wonderbolt."

She stared at dad for a long silent moment, a puzzled look upon her face, "I swear I' ve seen you before, have we..." she was cut off.

"No miss, I' m just a simple pony from Ponyvile, I don' t get to see places like this nor ponies like you very often."

She turned back to me, I was a little shocked as to what had happened, in all the time together I had never know dad to do something like that. Spit fire turns back to me smiling, and pulls out a piece of paper and pen, no idea where she was keeping them. With her mount she quickly writes something down.

"Catch kid." She said in a mumble having the pen still in her mouth, using her strong lungs propels it over to me. I watched on, time seemed to slow as the paper made its way into my waiting hooves.

Raising the paper to my eyes, it was a photo of Spit Fire with a signature and message on it.

"Leon, keep your dreams alive, and never let go."

Spitfire

She gave my dad a quick nod, and waved goodbye, "See you around kid."

I shouted to her as she flew farther away, "Goodbye, I want to be like you someday." In response Spitfire blew a kiss to me, melting my heart and igniting my passion and dreams.

As she moved off with the other Wonderbolts they all seemed to look back for a moment and all moved away to where ever they were going. I look to dad, seeing something I had never seen from him before, seems like he wanted to follow them for some reason, a look of loss and sadness took hold of this normally cheerful happy stallion.

Holding the photo like a treasure, I turned to dad, "Why did you lie to her dad?" His ears drop in response, "I' d rather not get into it right now son, there will be time for explanations later."

This was something I had never seen before, my dad lied, he lied to one of the greatest and heroic fliers in Equestria, I couldn' t help wonder what he was hiding, and why he would do such a thing. Until now I had never once questioned my dad nor thought I ever would. This day was an eye opener to me; every pony has secrets even ones as nodal and good as my dad.

"Let' s go son, we need to be heading back before the train leaves."

Slowly I follow him, questions arose, answers trying to place themselves like a puzzle. As we make our way back through the streets of Canterlot, the lanterns glow shinning off the white buildings seemed to reflect and struggle and thoughts of whatever my dad was thinking at the time. On occasion he' d look back at me, still holding Spitfire' s photo in my mouth like it was sown to my face, he would smile, his eyes fixed on mine, until he realized I was watching to, I would smile and he would turn back away. This went on until we finally arrived back at the train station.

Back on the train the ponies were silent, except a few youngsters like myself to exited by the day' s events to go to sleep, this day was simply the best day of my life, no one in class would believe me, and you know what? I didn' t really care, I know it was real, and from that day on my dreams to push

forward like the train I sit in, towards my dreams to fly and one day fly with the Wonderbolts.

This was something I wanted, something I needed, but first I needed to fly. With thoughts of dreams coming true dancing in my mind, I fell asleep under the protection of my dad, dreaming of tomorrow and never looking back again.....

—Dreams and

As Princess Celestia rose the sun, the light of dawn broke the darkness, awaking me in a glow of warm light. Dad was already awake, or maybe he never went to bed? He was still starrng out at the landscape the train window provided, his eyes widen as a familiar sight appears on the horizon, the tower of the Ponyville town hall was first to be seen towering over the rest of the sleepy little town. It was early; school didn' t even start for an hour or so.

“Good morning son, were almost home” . He spoke with a smile.

The train awoke with activity, and excitement, gathering their belongings, and getting ready to disembark the train.

I turned to my dad holding a piece of paper in his mouth, it was the photo of spitfire, he held it for a short time gazing at her words, and smiles letting me take it back into my grasp.

“Try not to loss this son.”

The train blew its horn as it roared into the station, steam covering the spectators as the train came to a stop.

As we got off the train the morning sun greeted us, bright and true, we moved off saying our goodbye to the other ponies we met on the train, going about our lives once again, moving together down the streets of Ponyville to school. Shops where just opening, Rainbow dash was up early as usual clearing the morning clouds to let the sun shine through. Dad tossed me my school bag as the bell rang letting me know class was beginning soon. I gave my dad a good hug, “have a good day at school son” , I replied in a similar fashion as we both parted ways going about our normal day.

Dad' s is a talented carpenter pony in Ponyville, creating most of the items in our house with his bear hooves, along with many around town. He ran a shop in town where he' d make all kinds of things for the ponies.

That day at school was like most others, full of fun activities, learning new things, and being teased to the point of crying because of my wings, it wasn' t

their mocking tone or misplaced cruelty, but the fact that they were right that hurt so much. But today was different because we had a new teacher, Twilight Sparkle. She had asked to teach ponies about history and the school thought it was a wonderful idea. We sat most ponies getting antsy and not paying attention, I loved the stories she told to us, but today nothing could keep my mind on track, I have just had not dough the best day of my life, "I met a WONDERBOLT!" I shouted in my mind, how many ponies get to do that? Not many I assure you. Today I had to try, I have to fly, I just have to!

The bell rang for recess like any other day the ponies would go about doing their own things excluding me completely, but it didn' t matter, I was determined to fly, even if it took me away from school.

I spent the entire time trying without luck to break into the sky, then the bell rang again, recess was over, but my goal had not been achieved, so I did the only thing I thought about the entire day sitting in class, getting away and practicing until I fly like the others, so I ran away.

No one seemed to notice my absences, for no one came looking for me, after making a break for the meadow, time and the weather were finally on my side, today was the day, I will fly, I have to!

I ran and jumped, flapping my wings about one hundred times before I heard a voice above, "You know, everyone in Ponyville is looking for you Leon," Rainbow Dash said from the sky, "What are you doing way out here?"

I looked at her, for some reason I felt at ease when she spoke to me, I had been her cheering section many times so I guess in my mind she was a pony I could trust. Hesitantly I spoke up, "I... I just want to fly like you Dashie" Raindow scowled a bit at the nick name, "I see pinkie' s name has gotten around, anyways, why are you all the way out here?"

"This is the only place where no one teases me about my wings, I love this place,"

Rainbow Dash flew down landing next to me, she took a look at me, taking one of my wings into the hooves, "I don' t see anything wrong kid, I think you just

need to develop them a little more, you' ll fly soon trust me." She said with a confident smirk.

"Well be careful kid, I need to get back to the orchard AJ' s expecting me." I looked up as she took off. "You' re not going to tell on me are you?" I looked to the ground waiting for the wrong response. "Na, I didn' t see nothing, catch ya later kid." As she flew off towards Sweet Apple Acers, I let off a sigh of relief; I was safe for the time being, now to get back to work!

For the next few hours I didn' t halt for a moment, I needed to fly, today! A few times I have gotten off the ground but not very far before I fell down once again. I had scratches, bumps and dirt all over, but it didn' t matter. I was getting close, I could taste it, I was getting better and better at taking off and figured out a way to get into the sky, there' s a river that runs through the meadow with a ramp at the end of a downhill slop, and if I did fall the water, though looking a bit rough, would surely feel better then the hard ground.

"I took off running faster than I had ever gone before, the wind in my mane felt so good, as I ran towards the river, coming to the slop I picked up a lot more speed running way faster than I thought I could, at the end the ramp waited for me to achieve my first dream. My heart pounded as I ran up the ramp and leapt into the sky, it worked! I flapped my wings and away I flew for the first time ever. "I did it!" I shouted at the sun. Suddenly my wings gave way once again sending me crashing into a tree in the center of the river, I was trapped! I didn' t know what to do, so I yelled out with all my might. "Help! Someone please help me!"

Hours seemed to go by, it was getting dark, I yelled for help until I couldn' t speak, with a crack the branch I clung to for what seemed forever began to break, I was scared, I didn' t know what was going to happen, and there was no one for miles to save me. Tears flow like the river itself as the branch gave way and I fell helplessly into the river, the powerful current easily sweeping me down stream, I tried to yell, screaming between the water splashing into my mouth. Suddenly a shadow cut through the trees on the shoreline, and jumped into the water, full of fear I screamed as the figure grabbed me pulling me back to shore, upstream a pony with a cowpony hat stood swinging a rope throwing it around me, the figure holding onto me sounded familiar but I was

too far away to understand, darkness started to take me as we got to shore, the rope suddenly snapped and the pony the jumped into save me yelled, another flying pony grabbed me, the pony in the water let go, they all yelled words I couldn' t understand as I blacked out.....

–The Cost of a Dream–

Leon……are you awake?, Can you hear me?……

Leon, you need to wake up…… Leon……

He…….get back……strength……hard……ahead

Poor…….littleguy…… Hey Twi…… Spells?……coun' t you……

“Shhhhh, look everypony, his eyes are opening, Leon can you hear us?”

The little colt awoke in a blur, looking around confused, he was lying on a hospital bed, his right wing had been hurt, he had been unconscious for days, the ponies around him could only wait, hope and pray for his recovery.

Rainbow Dash, Rarity, Fluttershy, Twilight, Applejack, Applebloom, Sweetie Bell, Scootaloo, Pinkie, spike and the doctor stood over the little hurt pony.

“Wha……What happened? Where am I?”

The doctor stood over him with a look of pity, collecting the words he needed.

“Little one, you have been in the hospital for days now, we are very happy to see you awake.”

The doctor pulled Applejack, and Rainbow Dash to the side, “I..I don' t know how to tell him this, he' s far too young.” Rainbow Dash spoke up under the sad tone, “Well it' s not going to change anything is it? We can tell him later, let him rest up?”

Twilight pulled a book from a nearby cart, and sat next to Leon, “You' ll be out of here soon little guy, we just need to make sure your alright, now just sit back and relax I' ll keep you company ok?” Leon simply nodded still unsure of his situation.

“That just ante fair, how could this happen, Applejack started, “The little feller needs to know, better to get it out in the open, let the healin start Lickitysplit, we are only prolonging the harvest here.”

The doctor took note of both ponies and came to a decision. "Twilight, thank you for keeping him company, but I think he deserves to know don't you?"

Twilight simply nodded her head as her ears dropped in sadness, "What's going on Dashie? Where's dad? Why am I here?"

"The time for answers will come soon enough young one, for now you must know how much your father loved you, it pains me deeply to tell you," the doctor started to cry, "Your father is gone Leon, I don't have the words to express how I feel for you right now, but know your father is in a better place, Celestia will see to that." Leon looked to the doctor as tears began to run down his little face, "Your lieing!" Leon shouted from his bed, "Your making it up,!" the doctor could no longer contain himself, and broke down crying, as did most other ponies in the room, Applejack walked over the Leon, and sat on the bed beside him, "I'm so sorry sugercube, we tried everything we could to save you both, he simply didn't..." she was cut off, "Get away from me!" Leon pushed Applejack almost off the bed, "Your lying, I don't believe you! This isn't funny, where's my dad!?" Rainbow Dash with tears flowing down her cheeks confronted Leon, "Leon! We are not lying to you; we would never lie about something this painful, ever!" Leon looked her straight in the eye, her tone finally reaching Leon's heart, he tries to be strong not wanting to show weakness in from of his friends. Twilight intervened, "Leon this is something you will need your friends to help you overcome, let us help you, times like this its more than ok the cry." Leon simply turns over in his bed, as tears start to flow, The doctor regained control enough to wave the other ponies out of the room, "If you need anything Leon, just ask and we will be here, ok?" Leon ignored him, fading back to sleep. Through the night he would toss and turn, playing out what happened in the river in his mind over and over, "Who pulled me from the water? Who held me in place? Where's dad?"

That night Rainbow Dash decided to visit Leon to see how he was doing, hours had passed since their fight and she simply wanted to be there for him now.

"Try not to keep him up, he's got a long road ahead, don't want to push him to hard. "Sure thing doc." They said in the dark of the room as Rainbow closed the door behind her. She brought a few things, a board game, a few Daring books, a few toys she found and some food for him to eat. She didn't

know how to approach Leon at first, but simply decided to go with her normal approach, not wanting him to feel uncomfortable. "Hey Leon" with no reply she gently poked him with her hove, slowly Leon began to stir away, she greeted him with a smile and gave him a rainbow chip cookie. "eat up kid, we have a lot to do tonight, don't want you getting board now do we?" Leon took the cookie, not sure what she had planned, but his mind was so full of questions, and figuring out what happened he could use the distraction. As little Leon lay in bed Rainbow set up the board game, the little colt knew it well from school, Rainbow tried to go easy on him but her lust for winning got the best of her time and time again, quickly he began to lose interest falling back into his blanket, "O come on I didn't win that badly... Fine how about a story?" Leon looked to her, "What, what happened Dashie, why are ponies teasing me about dad being gone, it hurts really bad and will not go away." Rainbow dash looked him in the eye, "I'm sorry buddy, we are not trying to hurt you, we all are worried about you, and want to help." Leon turned away from Rainbow dash, tears forming again, "I want to see daddy, why won't he come?" Rainbow dash was in tears now, the poor little colt just couldn't accept that his father was gone. The room well silent as Leon drifted back to sleep, his pillow wet with tears. Rainbow dash stayed at his side the entire night, never leaving him. May times that night she would look down to him seeing a smile, knowing he was dreaming about being with his dad, something she knew he would never experience again.

Meanwhile in town Twilight and the others tried their best to put together what had happened, Applejack took them to the place where the accident happened, where Leon fell in and where his father was lost, there along the river bank Pinkie found a pair of goggles, she knew what these where, every pony in town seen Leon wondering around with them at one point of another, even she was helpless under the emotion of what this meant to Leon. She tried to crack a joke, but now was far from the time or place.

What they figured was that Leon's father jumped into save his son, a Pegasus can't fly out of water it makes their wings useless, when the rope broke he threw Leon as high as he could to Rainbow Dash, and was taken by the river. No one ever found him, no one really knows what happened, or why a little colt needed to go through such a painful experience so young in his life.

That morning Pinkie and the others bounced in, they all see Rainbow Dash sound asleep, her head lying on Leon's bed, "Rainbow, you've been here all night?" Asked Fluttershy, Rainbow awoke to all her friends surrounding her and Leon, she blushed a bit looking back to the little colt, "Hi guys, em... the little guy has had a rough night, I just wanted to help." None of the ponies had ever seen this kind of compassion from Rainbow Dash before, she was a kind hearted pony but had different ways of showing it, they all simply smile at her not saying a word. Pinkie moves over the Leon, beginning to awaken to the talking around him. "Hi, Leon, are you feeling better today?" Asked Pinkie, Leon simply looked her in the eye and nodded "Emm.." she was brought back to her senses when Leon noticed the goggles on her head, "O, here Leon I think these belong to you." She took the goggles off, placing them on the bed in front of him, Leon looked at them for a great while, finally taking them into his hooves. He inspected them to see if they were indeed his, and began to place it on his head, when out of nowhere a piece of paper dislodges from inside and falls to the wooden floor, he had not noticed anything inside before, maybe the river or the fall knocked it loose.

Applejack grabbed the paper from the floor setting it on the bed so Leon could see it, and what he saw shocked him to say the least, the piece of paper was a photo, a photo of a Wonderbolt, his father. He looked on and everything started to fall into place, the fact that he had a pair of goggles from the Wonderbolts, his reaction to Spitfire at the air show, his want to fly off with them. For the first time Leon really knew his father, he was not only the greatest father he could have ever asked for, but he was one of the greatest fliers in Equestria, loved by ponies all over the world. The two things he loved in life were now one, but in putting this together he also realized that his father would have given his life without thinking, that's the bravery of a Wonderbolt and why they are loved around the world. Leon dropped the goggles, they hit the soft bedding as he realized for the first real time that his beloved father was truly gone, no one in the room spoke a word but Leon, words that would live in their hearts forever, "I miss you, daddy." Leon couldn't hide his feelings anymore breaking down into tears, he loved his daddy more than anything in his life, the thought of never seeing him again, and the pain he felt would never really go away.

Rainbow embraced Leon in a hug like his father used to do, letting the little colt cry until he fell back asleep.

Rainbow Dash volunteered to look after Leon from then on, but she could never let go of the fact that all this little colt wanted to do was fly with his daddy, and for that he lost the one thing he cared about the most. Why did life have to be so cruel to such a sweet little pony, and what about her dream? Would she end up in a similar place?

Her dough' s grew, she vowed to not let Leon' s story die, and to see to it Ponyville never forgets his father and that one day Leon would fly.

Will be continued with Part 2– Learning to live again

