

Epilogue

The music blared as the guests danced on the dance floor. Pinkie Pie had pulled out all the stops for this one. The dance floor was done up with a disco flare, flashing lights to raving music played as Pinkie passed records to the music host of the reception. The white unicorn with messy blue hair was very good at getting the guests to get up and dance. Of course the recently married couple were on the floor quite often as the guests of honor, Rarity constantly worrying about the state of Fluttershy's dress.

"Ugh, it's hard to believe what passes for recreational music these days." Octavia groaned over her wine glass. "It's nothing more than a loud ruckus to flashing lights." She sipped the red liquid gracefully.

"Oh lighten up a little 'Tavi, it's a party!" Soarin grinned as he looked up from his plate filled with apple desserts, "After all if the couple are enjoying it you should too!" His grin was big and goofy.

"Perhaps." Octavia gave a soft sigh before smiling looking at Soarin, "How do you always know just what to say to cheer me up?"

"I dunno, just natural charm I guess." Soarin grinned before sticking his face back into his plate, happily munching away. Octavia couldn't help but chuckle at the display before turning to look back at the dance floor. Certainly the music wasn't to her taste but it really did look like the other ponies were having a great time dancing to the music. The sight at least reminded her that having fun was truly the most important part, even if she didn't like the screeching that white unicorn was playing.

"Hey sis!" Pinkie said bouncing over the table wearing one of her fancier party dresses, "I'm so glad you could make it! You really made that scene in the church like two hundred percent more amazing!" She threw her hooves into the air, "It just added to the emotions! I think I cried two oceans worth during that wedding! It was just so beautiful!" Pinkie's eyes sparkled happily as she spoke.

"Well thank you sis." Octavia chuckled, "I'm glad that I was able to make it better, and that I had the free time to do so." She nodded.

"Well it was really worth it! And thank you for being able to make it too Mr. Soarin! Dash really appreciated you being here." Pinkie grinned happily.

"No problem! Between Dash being a new member and Octavia playing, there was no way I was going to miss this!" Soarin grinned.

The current song ended as the ponies on the dance floor let out an applause to their DJ. Fluttershy wiped some sweat from her forehead before letting Dash know she was going to sit down for the next song. Dash nodded as she watched her new wife head towards the buffet table. Rainbow then turned her attention to the opposite room, where two certain ponies were sitting that she wanted to talk to.

“...I don’t know how she does it, but this cake is heavenly.” A pretty blonde haired white mare dressed in a rather attractive pink dress mused as she devoured her third slice of cake that evening, “It’s like she figured out the science behind making the perfect cake and uses it to hypnotize her clients into buying more.”

“I’m sure she’s not that devious.” Lance rolled his eyes at his hypnotized nurse, “She just makes a lot of treats and knows how to overload them with sugar.”

“But that’s just it!” Soft Cure said looking up at Lance with stars in her eyes, “It doesn’t taste OVERLY sweet! It’s like she found the perfect balance of sweet to the dough of the cake!”

“Hey, you two.” Rainbow huffed walking up to their table, both of them turning their attention to the dressed up rainbow pony before them, “I need a word with both of you.”

Soft Cure slinked back in her chair trying to make herself seem small as Lance showed his usual lack of fear at the display of toughness from Rainbow Dash.

“We’re listening.” Lance grunted.

“I know no one else here knows about your past with Fluttershy. Only me, her and you two. However, that doesn’t mean I’ve forgiven you for what you’ve done to her even though she has.” Rainbow glared heavily at the two, showing her obvious hatred for her new ‘father in-law’, a title she despised that he had.

“And? We already know this. What is your point?” Lance grunted again, not amused by Rainbow’s brash nature right now.

“My POINT is, that if I ever find some much as a hair out of place on Fluttershy because of either of your hooves that things will get messy and quickly.” Rainbow turned her head to see her new wife across the room, sipping at a cup of punch, “But only until you do so. Fluttershy loves you and I’ll never understand why, but that means I only have to tolerate you because of her. I won’t deck you in the face, FOR HER, so long as you don’t lay a hoof on her.”

“I think we can handle that. Right Soft Cure?” Lance turned his head to look at the frightened nurse, who quickly nodded her head in response. “There. We’ll tolerate you as long as you tolerate us.” Lance held out his hoof for Dash, “May we continue our existences with a mutual dislike.”

Rainbow Dash growled at his words before quickly taking his hoof and shaking it, before letting go and shaking it like there was grime on it. She then turned around and headed back to go hang out with her wife.

“...That girl is frightening when she’s angry.” Soft Cure shuddered, “Ugh... when did I become so spineless?” She groaned shoving cake into her mouth, “I swear there was a time I wouldn’t have been frightened by that.”

“Times change.” Lance shrugged looking over at Soft Cure, “I assume you were frightened because you had no intention of fighting her today.”

“...That’s probably true.” Soft Cure mumbled softly chewing at the cake in her mouth, “I’m good at confrontation when I’m ready to confront somepony, but not if I have no desire.” She sighed softly.

The song shifted once again, the ponies clapping. The DJ announced that the next song was a special song for just the newlywed couple. The happy couple made their way onto the stage as the slow song began to play, the two dancing slowly to the beats.

“They truly do make a lovely couple.” Celestia commented before chuckling softly, “Though I must admit my surprise. I had no idea two of the bearers of the elements of harmony would take their lives together a step further like this.”

“Yeah, I didn’t see it coming either.” Twilight smiled, watching them. “Honestly... I don’t know much about love, but even I can see that they truly love each other.”

“Have you learned anything from all this?” Celestia asked a little amused.

“...I think I have Princess.” Twilight smiled, “I’ve learned that love is truly a beautiful thing. It brings out the most joyful times in a pony’s life and can let them have some truly amazing journeys in their future. Both of them are going to help each other to achieve their dreams because of their love.”

“Does this mean I’m going to see my student with a new colt or marefriend?” Celestia chuckled softly, causing Twilight to break out in a blush.

“Ugh... I-if you need me to for my advanced studies C-Celestia... b-but that’s awfully embarrassing.” Twilight looked around unsettled, suddenly very nervous at the idea that she’d be forced to go on dates.

“No worries my student, I would never force you to find love.” Twilight let out a sigh of relief, “Love is something you should find on your own to make you happy. Never forget that.”

"I won't princess." Twilight smiled happily now, watching her friends lovingly dance away. "It's a shame Princess Luna couldn't come."

"Well, she had to remain behind to continue royal duties in my absence." Celestia nodded slowly, before her face grew slowly more serious as she turned to look at her student. "Twilight, there is a serious matter that I need to discuss with you though."

"What is it princess?" Twilight looked up at her teacher, blinking a little confused at the shift of tone.

"Well, the truth is... is that since my arrival, something has felt off. Like something is wrong with Ponyville." Celestia spoke quietly and gravely, a small shiver went down Twilight's spine. She didn't like the way the princess had worded that. She carefully spared a glance at the happy couple dancing, before looking up at her teacher.

"What is it?" Twilight asked cautiously.

"I'm not sure... and honestly, that is what scares me right now." Celestia's words bore a heavy weight to them.

No pony knew at that moment that the happiness and joy they were experiencing would be so fleeting. But, that is a tale for another time.

-The End-