

May had finally arrived, and with it comes Mothers Day.

Socks had been preparing for this event; since it was a time that he felt he could truly show appreciation to a Scarfox named Nimbus, who had supported him when he needed it most, and had acted like a parental figure to the Mini Scarfox since he arrived to the realm. He didn't quite understand why, but sometimes gentle parental love was all you needed to get by.

Socks had been hard at work preparing a picnic for the two of them, packing all kinds of tasty handmade treats into a basket and making it look presentable. He wasn't much of a cook or a baker, but he was thrilled with how everything had turned out. Tucking the picnic blanket carefully over the basket, he glanced at the clock to see how long he had before Nimbus was due to arrive. He had about ten minutes, which gave him just enough time to wrap the gift he'd gotten. Taking it out of the cupboard he hid it in, he looked at it and admired his choice. It was a necklace with a small cloud pendent, which was a fitting gift for the Cloudy Scarfox. He grinned widely as he wrapped it up neatly, finishing up with a little bow. He tucked the gift carefully into a little pouch which he wore on his hip, wanting to keep the surprise hidden for when the two of them got to their picnic destination.

Not a moment too soon, Socks heard a soft knock at the door. He opened the door, beaming up at the Scarfox who stood there. Nimbus smiled softly at the sight, leaning down and pulling Socks into a gentle hug. Socks nuzzled into Nimbus' chest - their fur was soft and warm, like how you'd imagine a cloud would feel. Nimbus pet his head gently, content smile on his face.

"Thank you for inviting me for a picnic, Socks." He said, voice soft and gentle, like a whisper. Socks grinned up at them.

"Ohhh it's gonna be SO much fun, I've planned it all out." The Mini Scarfox grinned, puffing his chest out proudly. Nimbus smiled, curiosity piquing his interest. Socks turned around and grabbed the picnic basket, almost rushing out of the door. His excitement was contagious, and Nimbus couldn't help but feel excited as well.

Socks began walking, almost skipping, towards the Hidden Garden. Nimbus smiled softly - the Hidden Garden was Socks' favourite place to go in the entire realm, so it wasn't surprising that their picnic location was going to be here. He walked along with Socks, who looked up at them and grinned, as the Mini Scarfox slid his hand into Nimbus'. Nimbus laughed quietly, looking down at the small fox. Their chest felt warm and fluffy inside, almost bursting with affection for Socks.

"Oh, I forgot to ask. What's the occasion? You seemed very excited when you invited me, so I didn't think this was something casual." He laughed softly. Socks looked up at Nimbus, tilting his head a little in visible confusion.

"It's May, right? And in May comes Mother's Day!! And...um....well. You're like my mother, if my mother wasn't female...and....stuff..." His sentence trailed off as he looked away, clearly embarrassed by saying it out loud. Nimbus paused for just a moment, before smiling and squeezing Socks' hand.

"I'm glad I can be a parent figure to you, Socks. Spending time with you is truly wonderful too...I am sure that in my past life, I had children of my own. Spending time with you....well, it brings back a memory of a feeling." Nimbus laughed softly.

"Sorry, that sounds silly, doesn't it?"

Socks shook his head violently.

"No way! I'm glad, 'cause I...well, I don't think I'm a kid, but it sure is comforting to have a parent figure and stuff." He pouted a little, still clearly embarrassed to be saying it out loud. Nimbus smiled warmly, squeezing the Mini Scarfox's hand once more. They continued walking in content silence until they reached the Hidden Garden. Wiggling his hand out of Nimbus', Socks skipped forward and started looking for an ideal place to set up their picnic. The Garden was warm, and sunlight filled the area, so Socks wanted to find somewhere that was a nice balance of warm and shaded. Nimbus smiled as they watched the Mini Scarfox dart about - it was clear that this meant a lot to him, and so he wanted it to be perfect. It was incredibly endearing to watch. Finally, Socks found a spot he was satisfied with, so he gestured Nimbus over. As Nimbus made their way over, Socks set up the picnic blanket then sat down, tail wagging slowly. Nimbus sat by him, glancing into the picnic basket out of curiosity. Socks playfully smacked Nimbus' hand.

"No peeking!! I made this all specially, so I have to do a fancy showcase!" He winked, puffing his chest out proudly. Nimbus held their hands up, laughing softly.

"Sorry, sorry, my bad. Please, show me what you've made." He smiled.

Socks nodded, reaching into the basket and pulling out a couple of sandwiches, neatly cut and prepared.

"Here we have the first star - a strawberry jam and cream sandwich! At first I was lost on what I should prepare, but then I thought a sweet sandwich would be best to convey my feelings. Of um. How...s-sweet spending time with you feels..." He trailed off once again, flustered over the cheesy line he clearly spent a long time thinking of. Nimbus clasped their hands together, smiling widely.

"Oh, they look so tasty! The thought you put into them too, far too sweet for words!" They almost sang in delight, causing Socks to grin widely, happy and relieved that he had managed to make Nimbus smile with that. He cleared his throat, reaching into the basket once more.

"For our second star, we have handmade strawberry tarts! I made the pastry myself, and the filling is a mix of cream, custard and strawberry jam!...I um. Didn't make those." He smiled sheepishly, causing Nimbus to giggle despite themselves. Blowing a raspberry at the giggle, Socks then pulled out a bottle and two glasses.

"Finally, we have rose lemonade! This is one of my favourite drinks, so I hope you like it too." He smiled at Nimbus, pouring the drinks for them both, and placing the sandwiches and tarts onto plates. Nimbus smiled softly, looking around.

"Socks, I...don't know what to say. Truly, I couldn't feel more grateful...thank you for all of this." They smiled softly. Socks looked up at them, smiling widely.

"I'm so glad you like it! You've always been here for me when I've needed it, and I wanted to give back and show you how much I appreciate you." Socks smiled softly, looking at his lap, before remembering the gift, and pulling it out of his little pouch.

"This is for you, too!" He said excitedly, as he pressed the small gift box into Nimbus' hands. Nimbus stayed still for a second, a little shocked at everything Socks had done. He unwrapped the little gift carefully, opening the box and looking at the little necklace. Jumping up, Socks took the box and took the necklace on, placing it around Nimbus' neck, before climbing into their lap and hugging them tightly.

"Happy Mothers Day, Nimbus. I hope you like everything." He smiled, nuzzling into their chest. Nimbus smiled widely, putting their arms around the Mini Fox and holding him close.

"Thank you, Socks. This means more to me than I could ever say...thank you for being a wonderful son." They smiled. Socks looked up at them, smiling widely, happy that Nimbus liked everything that he'd planned for them.

"Thank you for being my parent."