

"How in Equestria am I supposed to deal with being this bored all winter?" Rainbow Dash paced around her bedroom making strained faces at nothing in particular. "I've already read all of my Daring Do books three times over and the next one isn't due out until summer. Think Rainbow Dash, think!" She stopped in her tracks seeing the corner of a magazine that had been carefully stashed under her mattress. "I really hope my friends didn't see that when they were over. Tank being gone is hard enough, imagine if they saw that. I might be able to run damage control on almost destroying half of Cloudsdale but my reputation after that..." She trailed off. Pausing for a few moments, she glanced around and allowed herself a small smile. With her trademark speed Rainbow Dash her mattress and removed her guilty pleasure. "I am going to be up all night with this aren't I? It... it has just been so long. Tomorrow though I have *got* to find a new book series or *something*. I can't make this a habit... again."

The next morning was brisk but pleasant one for the middle of winter. Twilight was in her study looking over the scientific journals and periodicals that had just been delivered. She was particularly interested in the new edition of the journal *Neighture*. She'd hoped to get it last week, but was forced to request a new copy after the first somehow got lost in the mail -- yet again. Flipping it open, she saw a name she recognized. Alphabert Equine. That pony that was getting ready to make his name synonymous with cutting-edge physics. "Special... relativity?" she said to herself aloud. "This should be interesting, I've never heard of that." Spike walked by the room a few minutes later to see Twilight hastily scrawled on her chalkboard. Whatever she was working on, he knew better than to bother her. He thought about what chores he'd likely be assigned and decided he would take the initiative and go back to bed. [INSERT RD ENTERING SOMEHOW HERE]

"Uuh, I don't know Rainbow, Twilight looks awful busy right now. Is it important?"

"Of course it's important, *I'm* here. Everypony is always excited to see me"