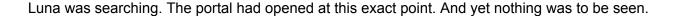
## ~~~ Everfree Forest~~~



"Where are you creature, where are you..."

~~~Sam~~~

"THUMP."

"And she fainted." Sighing I picked up Jack and placed her back on my back again. 'Well I better get going I guess.'

"Excuse me miss..."

"Zecora."

"Well then miss Zecora can you point me to the closest town."

"The path at your hooves leads to the place that you seek, just keep walking till you leave the forest bleak."

Heading in the direction that she had pointed out I lose myself in my thoughts. 'She called Jack my daughter... I mean she's not my daughter, but why did it feel so... Right? Seriously I must be losing my mind. Wouldn't be surprised really, we only lost our body's yesterday. Now that I think about it Jack has been acting pretty childish, not to mention clingy. No, no Jack is a friend not a daughter.'

Looking back at the peacefully sleeping filly on my back I could only wonder what it would be like to have a daughter.

"What's going on in your head Jack..."

Seeing the edge of the forest approaching I nuzzled Jack trying to wake her up.

"Uh five more minutes mom"

Seeing no harm in it, and hiding the tiny thrill that went through me when she called me "mom" I let her sleep for a little while longer.

Stepping out of the forest I was floored by what I saw. Nestled between the forest another farther off was a little town. But more surprising was all the little splashes of color walking around, some were even flying through the air moving clouds around!

"D'awww that's a cute one you got there!"

"Gah!" Good lord that's pink!

"WaitIdon'tknowyouAndifIdon'tknowyouthatmeansthatyournewhereandifyournewherethenIhaven' tthrownyouapartyandifIhaven'tthrownyouapartythenyoumustnothavemanyfriendsandifyoudon'tha veanyfriendsthenyouwillbesadandnoonelikestobesadthenIneedtothrowyouapartysothatyouwillha velotsandlotsoffriendsandbehappy!Doyouandyourdaughterlikecakeright!Sillyme!Duhyoulikecake! Whodosntlikecake!" And with that she was gone, leaving a pink cloud in her place."

I could only stare in shock at the spot where the pink terror had been up until a few seconds ago. Did she even breathe?! How can someone talk that fast?! Still trying to understand what had just been said to me, I didn't notice that Jack was waking up.

~~~EverFree~~~

She was getting closer, she could feel it. The strange magic from that bygone age left a very distinct trail that she could follow. Worrying yet, the edge of the forest was coming up. It it had made it to ponyville then things could be dire indeed.

"You can't hide from me..."

~~~Jack~~~

There. The breathing deepens, the heart beats faster, the brain fires, and you are dragged forth into the world of the living, catching on your way out of the realm of dreams glimpses of that one beautiful moment when everything is right with the world. That is, unless you're turned into a girl stuffed in a four year old body and chucked into another world. Then it's not quite so beautiful, but hey, keeps things interesting! Never a dull moment and all that jazz.

Never the less, I was not a morning person, never was never will be. That's why I, instead of waking up, decided to roll over and go back to sleep. However unlike normal days, I wasn't in my nice comfy cabin. Instead I was laying on my former girlfriends back.

"THUMP."

Well that was a lackluster way to start a day I guess. Wait, I'm surprised Sam hasn't said something by now or helped me up. Glancing up I noticed the most amusing, if slightly odd,

expression on her face. Her mouth was hanging open,her eye was twitching and she had this completely lost and confused look, as if she had just seen six-legged llama.

Oh my god, that's priceless! No! I must hold it in. "Hehe" I giggled. Whoops, guess that plan was bust. Unable to help myself any longer, I burst out in a fit of giggles. Shoving a hoof in front of my mouth, well muzzle now, I couldn't believe what I just did. I did NOT just giggle.

Fortunately this was exactly what was needed to snap Sam out of her trance. "Oh you're awake... Why are you clamping your mouth shut?"

"Oh, no reason" at least nothing that you need to know about, I added silently to myself.

"So... Where are we now Sam?" Looking around I spotted a forest behind us, guessing that was the one that where we woke up. Wait weren't we at that other zebra's place? How did I.. Wait those mask! That's how! Creepy voodoo mask making me faint.

Let's see houses, other pony like creatures walking around using magic and flying... 'MAGIC!? FLIGHT?! Sweet aunt Jemima on a blueberry pie what is going on?! Has the world gone mad!? Wait... I'm currently a talking GIRL zebra, that ship has long since sailed. You know what I'm going to shut up before I end up breaking my mind.'

"We are currently in a place called 'ponyville' looking for one Twilight Sparkle. Odd name."

Suddenly I felt really nervous for some reason, pawing at the ground, I asked "Sam can I ask you something?"

"You know you can Jack" she said bending down and nuzzling my side, electing a giggle from me before I could stop it.

"Ok, can you carry me again?"

Judging from the look of shock on her face, this was the last thing she was expecting me to ask. Slowly a smile started to slide across her face, and she seem ecstatic for some reason. That was creepy, I started to doubt myself about this.

"Certainly Jack, certainly."

Picking me up by the scruff of my neck she deposited me off on what was rapidly becoming my favorite comfort zone. Curling up again I felt at peace as I listened to her breathing. Falling victim to that realm of shadows known as dreams, we moved on.

~~~everfree~~~

Following the trail to the edge of the forest, Luna felt her heart drop. It was too late, it had already made it to ponyville. Steeling herself for what she was about to do, she teleported away.

## ~~~Ponyville~~~

You know that feeling you get when you first wake up after a bad dream? You know, the one where you lay under your covers and keep your eyes closed while searching for the little clues that tell you that it wasn't real. For example, when I woke up I smelled jambalaya. Sam loves to make jambalaya in the morning, don't ask me why, I have no idea why. Anyway I smelled jambalaya and tea leaves, I heard sam talking to someone, and inwardly I sighed in relief. Of course this is where the similarities end, because when I opened my eyes I was still a little zebra filly.