

Fluttershy's Log - Date(?) with Rainbow Dash

Yesterday Rainbow Dash had the strangest question for me. She came to visit me at my cabin and started stumbling over her words before I could even say hello. Her cheeks turned rosy and she started to stutter, but eventually she came out with her question: "Do you want to go somewhere tomorrow?"

I didn't understand her question at first, so I accepted it without a second thought. She started to stumble over her words again and looked at me like she was surprised. "I- I thought you would say no. I didn't really think you would say yes," she replied. At this point I was pretty confused; why wouldn't I want to spend time with Rainbow? We have leisurely (and sometimes not so leisurely) glides together all the time from here to Cloudsdale.

"So, uh- What should we do tomorrow, then?" Rainbow was looking at the ground at this point, tapping at my floor bashfully. I had never seen her act like this, and it was starting to make me nervous. I began to mimic her behavior. I stuttered out a weak response, recommending that we go for another fly to Cloudsdale. "That's- Not really what I'm talking about. Do you maybe want to—" she paused and shook her head, her eyes tightly closed, "Go on a picnic? Just the two of us?"

I didn't understand why Rainbow was having such a hard time asking me this at first, but before I could reply she placed her hoof on mine, still looking at the ground. I realized then what she was asking me and backed away, startled at the thought of it. She kept her hoof where mine was, and I saw a tear drop to the floor. Her voice was shaky now. "Oh, I understand. I- I'm sorry I asked," She slowly slid her hoof back towards her and began to gradually back away. "I hope that," she stopped and inhaled deeply, letting out a large, shaky breath, "I hope that we can still be friends."

She turned around and slowly started walking away. I was speechless; completely and utterly surprised. She looked back at me for a moment, obviously holding back tears in her eyes. I had to look away, and I could feel tears welling up in my own eyes. I didn't want to have a relationship with Rainbow Dash, I was sure of it. But, I also couldn't stand seeing my friend, who is usually so strong, be so affected by this. I had to give her a chance. So, I let out a squeaky whimper of a call to her. It got her attention, her head rising up, but she couldn't understand my mumbling. I tried one more time to call to her, but it was just another squeak. She hung her head back down and began to canter off again.

"Rainbow Dash," I whispered quietly, trying my best to build up the courage to talk louder. She didn't hear me. "Rainbow," I tried once more, still to no avail. Finally, I let out an exasperated gasp and trotted after her, stepping in front of her in my yard. She looked up at me, her head still hanging low, her teary eyes glistening in the sun. I breathed a quick sigh to prepare myself. "Rainbow, I would love to go on a picnic with you tomorrow," I placed my hoof on hers and nuzzled her, lifting her head up with mine, then looked directly into her eyes. "I mean, um-" I could feel myself choking up a bit, but I swallowed back my fear, "Everything's worth trying, right?"

She smiled at me, then pulled her hoof out from under mine. "It's okay, Fluttershy," she said, tears still in her eyes, but a smile also on her face, "You don't have to do something that you don't want to just for me. I- I understand, okay?" She stepped forward and nuzzled into

my mane. "You're a great friend. I'm glad for that friendship, and I don't need anything else from you if it means it might hurt that," she pulled back and started to leave again. "Maybe we can go for another leisurely glide to Cloudsdale again soon," she said, looking forward as she walked away.

"I'd like that, Rainbow Dash, I really would," I looked back at her as she was leaving, seeing the tear stains on my mane. "And I think I would have liked that Picnic, too..."