

## *Flying Free*

Darkness. That was the first thing I remembered. The first time I opened my eyes, I saw bubbles in a purple liquid, scientists crowding around my tube. My name is Patronus, and this is my story.

The world was at a new age, one of wonder and creativity. Of course, that was what the humans thought. For all the animals, it was running every day from scientists hoping to experiment on us to make us better. I can't remember my life before I was caught. Finding I had wings was the first thing I could see. They let me out of the tube, bright lights flashed in my eyes.

"Come here." one of them said." My name is Scientist Elk."

He reached out and picked up my tiny body. I could feel something on my back and looked over. Tiny little buds were on them.

"It worked!" he yelped in excitement. I knew that things would not be ok.

Years later I was still there and growing bigger. Every day was more tests, more yelps of excitement, then bed. I was tired of my life. I now had wings and was almost a teenager. I flapped my wings and started to fly.

"I can fly!" I screeched with joy, then gasped at what I had said. The scientists were coming. They now knew I was not doing my best in experiments. I looked at the window and dove toward it.

"NO!" Elk yelled.

I flew into the midnight sky, I could hear crickets chirping and birds tweeting. I could smell the salty water that surrounded the island. I felt the air wisp past me. I could fly. I felt more free than ever. I put on a burst of speed then flew toward the mainland where I could see the world for myself, not on holograms.

When I got there, I nearly dropped out of the sky. White, white buildings covered a quarter of the land. The other part was the forest, where I belong. I

dropped down to the ground. There was dirt! A small chipmunk screamed and ran away .

"What?" I asked.

I frowned as I walked by. All the animals were running away. Then it started to rain. A small tree was in the middle of a clearing, it looked like a lightning bolt had hit it, the whole top had been ripped off. I crawled into it and rested my head to wait for the storm to end.

I flopped on the ground with my tiny paws and was held up by... my mother. I had no wings, and I couldn't talk.

*What is going on...* I thought. Then I woke with a start.

*Probably just a dream.* Though deep down, I was very curious.

The next day, I walked out of my tree to explore. I did not know that I could be walking to my doom.

I could see the edge of the town but paid no heed to it. I was looking for something to eat. But not like you think. I am a vegetarian. I was looking for fruit. There it was, my dream bush- blackberrys- my favorite. I licked my lips and started to eat. Just then, I heard something. A woman. I looked up to greet her when she started to scream. She thought the blackberry stains were blood. I licked my lips, probably making it worse, and ran away. The last thing I saw was the terror in her eyes, but they were not pointed at me. I stopped just in time to see the gargantuan. A real dragon.

I leapt toward the dragon and clawed its face as it tried to get to the woman. My powerful paws smacked it and the dragon fell over, wheezing. I pawed toward the woman cautiously and she did the same toward me.

"Thank you." She smiled. Then, I was caught in a net being dragged away as she fought the men in white from the lab, screaming at them.

*Back in a tube...* I sighed.

"I REALLY don't like you, you know." I frowned at elk.

"Oh, I know. I just need you for a presentation then you will be a toy for me to play with." He smirked.

I growled. I saw a syringe in his hand and he injected it into the tube's serum. The tube's water turned red and I felt a dark shadow crawl over my consciousness.

"How do you like my new experiment-it controls the mind... mwa ha ha mwa ha ha -cough. I need to work on my evil laugh."

He put a hazmat suit on and took down the barrier between him and me. I growled and leaped at him the he said'

"Stop." My paws betrayed me and stopped.

"Stay." he grabbed a red liquid and tapped it. He injected it into my heart, and a tear dropped down my muzzle and I lost control. My eyes went red.

"You are now my personal servant. You obey me. Now, stop the intruders that are coming into the lab right now."Elk reveled in his victory. In the corner, it was the woman ... with another jaguar . I sprinted at them and the woman smiled, then saw my eyes, and ran out of the way.

"Must..... Destroy..... you..... Both." My mouth said. She slowly walked toward me and then my paw grabbed her neck and suspended her above the ground. The boy jaguar growled.

"Please..."she said" my name is.... Alice and this is....." She gasped for air."your brother."

I stopped and shook my head and my eyes turned black once more.She smiled and hugged me. I grabbed her and my brother and flew away before Elk even noticed.

We got to the forest but Alice said,

"No. Don't stop here. We need to get far away. Please continue going."

So I did. I passed the tree I used to live in and the grove with many flowers. I saw the blackberry bush and the dragon that lives there waved to me.

"Well, it's totally normal to wave at me after I attack you." I stated sarcastically.

We crossed the border to the other side. The next area of the world. It was a huge lake. Bigger than ever seen before. And in the middle was an island.

"Is that..." I inquired.

"The island of dragons? Yes." Alice replied.

I stared at the massive tree in the middle of the island. Near it was a huge dragon, the queen.

"They are your family, but you will need to earn your place." Alice shivered. "You will need to battle until you yield or your competitor does. We flew down and got greeted then were pushed into a circle.

"Battle." The king commanded.

On the other side of the circle was the queen. I growled deep in my throat. She crept toward me and I did the same. Then, she lept.

I had so many bruises in a flash, and I gave her some back. It went on and on and we kept going until dark.

"YIELD!" She yelled with great intensity.

"No. I will earn my place here no matter what it takes!"

"Then you may live here. You have passed the trial welcome to your new home." She smiled and got some medicine from the healers. I did too. I smiled back at her, knowing this was where I belong.

## *The End...or... is it?*

Elk cowered in fear from a giant shadow walking towards him.

"You know where it is. TELL ME!" the shadow demanded.

"I don't know where Patronus is. She escaped three days ago." He shuddered."she is a strong one. She broke through the mind control."

The shadow crept around the edge of the wall and he was a jaguar.

"You will tell me now. WHERE IS MY DAUGHTER!"

*The End.... for real this time :)*