

Houshou and D'Soul are twin brothers born into a mediocre pegasus family, except D'Soul was born a unicorn. Their mother's side of the family had been a mixed pegasi and unicorn family, so it wasn't hard to understand where it came from. They moved to Ponyville shortly after Princess Twilight's coronation for D'Soul. As the two grew older, D'Soul or D' for short as he preferred to be called, spent more and more time at the local library; especially after Princess Twilight moved into the castle within the Everfree Forest.

One bright and clear morning D' was reading a book on the balcony above the road enjoying the warm spring sunshine. His brown fur quickly warming up in the morning light; when suddenly something crashed into the side of the building. D' looked up and saw the back half of a reddish-brown pegasus with a two colored dark teal and blue mane sticking out of the foliage. He instantly recognized who it was by the cutie mark on the flank facing; a third eye stared back at him, seemingly winking at him as the pegasus struggled to free himself from the tree.

Chuckling to himself as he watched his brother struggle for a moment before he used his magic to help pull Houshou out of the tree coughing and sputtering. "Thanks bro" he said as he pulled a couple branches out of his mane. "Need anything before I take off?"

Looking back at his book on the balcony floor, "Nope..." he paused a moment as a thought crossed his mind.

"Alright then, I'll see you round!" Houshou spread his wings wide in preparation to take flight.

"Wait" D' called out to his twin, who stopped in mid-flight and turned to face his younger brother. "What," hesitation ringing out in his voice, "why do you practice something that could seriously hurt you?"

Houshou landed and sat back tilting his head as if pondering where this question had come from. "I enjoy the thrill of flight. I imagine it's something like with you and your magic. I've seen your eyes and seen you smile when you are practicing your magic spells."

D' glared at his older brother, Houshou had seen that look plenty of times. It seemed he hadn't given the answer his younger brother wanted. "My magic does make me smile, but I cannot be hurt by practicing it beyond a spell going wrong" his arrogance and annoyance at his older brother clearly there in his voice.

Houshou tried to stifle a giggle as a memory of his younger brother causing a small explosion and accidentally changed the color of his mane to a ridiculously bright yellow and orange for a week, but quickly coughed it away. "As I said, it's the thrill of flight that I enjoy. I want to be better, so I practice."

"Care to explain to me what you mean by that. The thrill of flight, I mean." D' walked back over to his book, causing Houshou to see the cover for the first time. It was a book about flight and how non-pegasi had tried to imitate this throughout history.

"D," Houshou walked over and sat next to his brother. "Does it bother you that much that we're not the same?" D' looked away not wanting to show his brother the pain that the truth of those words truly held. "Anything to see you smile, brother" Houshou wrapped his younger brother under his wing as he hugged him.

"Now, how do I explain the thrill of flight?" He pondered this question a moment while pacing back and forth on the balcony. Suddenly he jumped up on the ledge, balancing on the edge. "You know how when everything is really dark, so dark that you can't see your hoof in

front of your face? Where the smallest noise is transformed into a scary nightmare and the thought that somepony or monster is waiting just beyond your sight to scare you and your heart begins to beat so fast that you begin to sweat." He turned around to face his younger brother who nodded knowing the feeling.

"Now imagine that same feeling, but you are falling towards the earth, getting faster and faster with each passing moment." He leaped down from the railing to provide visual emphasis to his meaning. Just like the darkness there's this feeling of fear that, this is it. I'm going to die." He swallowed and shook his head, "but then when the light's turned on, you realize that the strange noise you had been hearing was just some toy that had been knocked over and there's this feeling of relief that washes over you." His brother slowly nodded again as he listened to his brother. "When I open my wings, it's the same feeling of relief. I can feel the power I have over flight course through my body. The excitement and thrill bringing joy to my heart, laughing in the face of danger, and to be free, making the sky the literal limit!" his voice ringing out with passion D' had only heard a few times prior.

"The exhilaration of acceleration as I fall to the earth sends my heart all in flutter. The wind rushes by my ears and blows throw my mane, taking a deep breath and smiling; I close my eyes and open my wings." He imitated this motion as he spoke it. "The change in direction sends a strange feeling of heaviness into my hooves as I pull out of falling and into flying in a direction of my choice. The excitement and thrill of flight so endearing that my heart is flooded with a joy and passion that I can't wait to do it again!"

Looking down the older brother realizes that his brother had lost what sentimentality there was to his eyes. They grew cold and dark and glared at him with a fire-like hate. "I'm sure you could find a spell for flight in the library. Come-on, I'll help you look." He moved to go inside the Library.

"Don't bother, the spell is right here" his brother picked up the book he had been reading. "However, there's a side note written in here from Princess Twilight saying that the spell requires a lot of power and drains the caster for quite some time. She also adds that flying to high will cause the spell to fail. I've already tried casting the spell but it's beyond my abilities."

Thinking for a moment, Houshou had an epiphany. He quickly slid underneath his brother and jumped up on the railing. "What are you doing brother?" D' nearly yelled at him in surprise.

"I got an idea, but we need to go talk to the Princess." He spread his wings and took off towards the castle in the Everfree Forest carrying his brother.

Upon arrival they found the Princess in the library section, where she was known to be found constantly reading a book. Houshou explained to her his idea. She agreed it would be simple and helped him with it.

A few moments later D' was strapped with his own pair of mechanical wings he could control with a simple spell. "These are a pegasus invention for pegasi who break their wings and can't fly anymore. This mechanical contraption is grafted into the pegasi's body where their wings would have been. With this, and a simple spell to control it, you should be able experience flight like a pegasus." The Princes had explained to them. The mechanical contraption moved awkwardly as D' tried flexing his new wings. Houshou watched his brother as he figured out how to work the strange new contraption.

Looking over the edge of the cloud they both stood on, D' swallowed hard uncertainty that this would work beginning to perspire on his forehead. They were several hundred feet above the ground and the height was slightly dizzying to one who wasn't constantly above it. "Ready?" Houshou asked his younger twin.

"No, but let's do th..." D's response was cut short as his brother shoved him off the cloud, than taking a deep breath; he jumped after him giggling with excitement. Today was going to be good day.