

Redheart's Love

Chapter 1 (A Brilliant Plan)

“You sure about this, Finn?” Rainbow Dash asked worriedly, hovering above a grassy field on the outskirts of Ponyville. She took a few practice swings with a baseball bat she was holding, trying to get a good feel for the sports equipment. She made a few more heavy swings, slicing the bat through the air with surprising power before noticing that her friend hadn't responded to her yet.

“Hey, Casanova!” Rainbow shouted as she turned around to face the tall, bipedal creature that called himself a *human*.

“You hear me?”

Finn was too preoccupied with the old book in his hand to notice Rainbow calling him. It was an extremely rare title since printing for it stopped over four decades ago, making it borderline impossible to find.

However, with a little determination and some friendly help, he finally found it. It was in almost perfect condition, minus a few small scuff marks on the front and what appeared to be a small tea stain on a couple pages. It seemed like an interesting story, but it wasn't really for him, it was for somepony very spe—

“Hey, fuckface!” Rainbow Dash shouted directly into Finn's ear.

Finn yelped and jumped back in shock, nearly dropping the book in the process.

Rainbow instantly bursted into a fit of laughter at Finn's expense, causing the human to groan and roll his eyes.

“Very funny, Dash,” Finn deadpanned, putting the book into one of the inner pockets of his jacket before any more shenanigans caused him to lose it for good.

As far as he knew, he had one of a few copies left in existence. If something happened to it, he would have to travel for weeks or even months to find another one. Twilight helped him find the one he currently had, but even with her help it was a struggle that ended up costing him almost all the bits he had to his name, which wasn't very much, but still. The thought of coming as far as he did just to lose the book he searched endlessly for was a little more than annoying.

Finn appreciated everything Rainbow had done to help him so far, but he couldn't help the soft “Jerk...” that escaped his lips.

“Hey, I'm not the jerk here, fucker!” Rainbow shouted defensively, waving the bat she had in his face. “I called you, like, five times, but you were too busy making out with that lame book!”

Finn sighed and rubbed his eyes. “I'm sorry, Dash. I didn't mean to call you a jerk,” Finn said, dropping his hand back down to his side before looking towards her with a more somber expression. “I'm just a little on edge, you know? This could be my last chance.”

“To tap that sweet Redheart plot?” Rainbow teased with a toothy grin.

Finn chuckled and shook his head. “She does have a nice butt, but it's so much more than that. It's hard to explain, but ever since we first met all those months ago, I knew she was... *special*.”

Rainbow instantly groaned in disgust, letting her head and forehooves go limp in the air as Finn started to proclaim his love for the white earth pony mare for the fifth time that day.

“When I first arrived in Equestria, I felt so lonely and out of place...” Finn continued as he stared off into the distant town of Ponyville, not hearing Rainbow's groan.

He looked directly at the off-white hospital where Nurse Redheart worked, which happened to be the closest building to them.

“I was scared about being in this new world, but that all changed when Twilight told me I should go in for a checkup at the hospital. Redheart was the first one to see me, and the moment I looked into her beautiful, sapphire-blue eyes... All my fears seemed to just melt away. I felt so comfortable talking to her, like I had known her my whole life. There's something there, I just know it. Something blooming that runs through both of us. I can feel it deep inside my—”

Suddenly, Rainbow shoved her hoof into Finn's mouth, stopping him mid-sentence.

“Yeah, yeah, I get it! I've heard it a million times already! She's got a gorgeous white coat and beautiful pink mane that drives you crazy and you just want to take her home and play doctor with her all night.”

“If moor van faat!” Finn mumbled though Rainbow's hoof.

Rainbow just rolled her eyes.

“Sweet Celestia, you're hopeless,” Rainbow said, taking her hoof out of Finn's mouth and wiping it on her chest. “Listen. I understand, okay? You don't have to go through the whole sappy speech again! But...”

She paused for a brief moment, holding up the bat as if she was going to take another swing.

“Are you sure you want to do it this way? I mean, I'm not complaining or anything. I love getting to smack you around, but I kinda feel like this one might be going too far.”

“It's the only way I know how to spend time with her,” Finn admitted sadly. “I have no idea where she lives or how else to reach her.”

“Yeah, I've lived here a long time and I've never seen her outside of the hospital,” Rainbow added, rubbing the back of her hoof under her chin as if she was in deep thought. “I think she just lives in the hospital or something, but there has to be a better way. I don't think a bat to the face is really the best idea. Something just tells me we're going about this the wrong way.”

“Hey, if you got any other ideas, I'm more than willing to try them,” Finn said.

“Well... we could, umm,” Rainbow said, scratching the top of her head as she pondered to herself. After a while of silence, she simply shrugged. “Yeah. I got nothing.”

Finn sighed deeply, but nodded his head in understanding. “This seems to be the only way. Besides, we've done this a lot and I've come out just fine, so why are you worried about me now all of a sudden?”

“Yeah, but I've never hit you in the head with a fucking bat!” Rainbow half-shouted, waving the bat around. “I'm just worried about causing some serious damage.”

Finn laughed at Rainbow's concerns, waving a dismissive hand at her. “Don't worry Rainbow, I'll be fine! All you have to do is just hit me hard enough to knock me out for a little while, then drag me to the hospital. Plus, this isn't the first time I've been knocked out. I've survived plenty of hits on the head when I was younger, so don't worry!”

“You were hit in the head a lot as a foal? Wow, what a shock,” Rainbow deadpanned, resting the bat over her shoulder. “Here's my question, though: How come you still haven't asked Redheart out yet? I've sent you into that hospital like... I can't even remember how many times.”

“I know,” Finn said, sighing sadly. “It's just... I get so nervous when I actually want to ask her out. I mess up or can't get the words out, or she has to leave to take care of other patients before I can even say it. I feel so confident when I'm talking with her about random shit, but as soon as I try to pop the question, I lose all my nerve.”

Finn looked over at the hospital one last time, placing his hand over the book that was still in his jacket before taking a deep breath. Furrowing his brow with determination, he reached into his pants pocket and pulled out a long strip of thick cloth.

“That changes today,” Finn added proudly, wrapping the blindfold around his head, covering his eyes. He then pumped a fist into the air as he took on a more determined and dramatic stance.

“Today is the day that I confess everything to her!”

“Riiiiiiiiight...” Rainbow sang sarcastically, shaking her head at Finn before bringing the bat up to bear in a swinging position. “You ready, Romeo?”

“Yes, Rainbow... I’m more than ready!” Finn said, standing up straight with his arms at his sides. “I’m ready to confront the mare of my dreams! The mare that has so easily stolen my heart with her overwhelming beauty and grace! The mare that clouds my vision even now as I stand here with a blindfold over my eyes! This will be the day I tell her exactly how I feel and ask h—”

In the middle of his speech, Finn heard a groan of disgust and a loud crack before darkness took him completely.