

Learning To Fly

by savine_snape

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Chapter 1 of 1

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Severus Snape hid behind the bushes that surrounded the run down play area at the top of Spinner's End transfixed by the red-headed beauty swinging gently back and forth on one of the two undamaged swings. Her long lustrous hair wafted around her as she swung. She didn't appear to have a care in the world as she gained momentum and slowly worked the swing higher and higher; in the blink of an eye she let go and flew, giggling with a sweet soft laugh, until she landed gracefully on the dry dirty ground a few feet from the swing.

"I know you're there watching me Sev. Come and have a go."

Her face lit up with a warm smile. Severus hadn't seen many smiles like hers in his short life. His father was either working all day at the mill or passed out through drink after ranting and raving at his mum. He couldn't even remember his mum smiling. She had only grimaced when he had first demonstrated magic. She rarely smiled when his father was about, and if she did smile, it was a forced one which failed to compare to the brilliant easy smile that played across Lily's face every time she saw him.

"Come out and play, please. Tunia doesn't want to play with me anymore, please, Sev."

Sighing, Severus rose from his knees, dusted off the dirt and made his way over to where Lily stood.

"Come on, Sev. Let's see who can get their swing to go the highest before jumping off and flying to the ground."

"I'm not sure, Lily; I've never done anything like it before..." Severus hesitated, watching his only friend closely.

"Oh, Sev, it's easy, you just close your eyes and let go," Lily giggled as she spun Severus around on the spot.

"Say you'll try. For me"

"Alright, but I want it noted that I'm not sure it will work."

"Come on, Sev, it'll be fun."

Severus and Lily both jumped onto their chosen swing and started to move back and forth, gaining speed and height. When they could go no higher, Lily let go and sailed gracefully through the air setting down almost on the other side of the playground.

"Come on, Sev, let your fear go, and jump."

"I don't know, Lily. I'm swinging awfully high."

"You'll be fine, Sev. Just empty your mind and think of a bird flying freely across the sky."

Taking a deep breath, Severus swung back a forth a couple more times and then let go.

It was amazing. There was no fear, just sheer unbound joy as he sailed effortlessly across the dusty ground. His landing was not as graceful as Lily's, but he'd done it. He'd let go and flown. A smile erupted across his dirty face, and his dark eyes danced with glee. He forgot what his father had said; magic wasn't evil. How could it be evil when it made him feel this good inside?

Covering the short distance between himself and Lily, Severus placed a gentle kiss on her cheek before pulling her back to the swing.

"Come on, Lily, let's do it again, and this time I bet I can fly farther than you!"

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