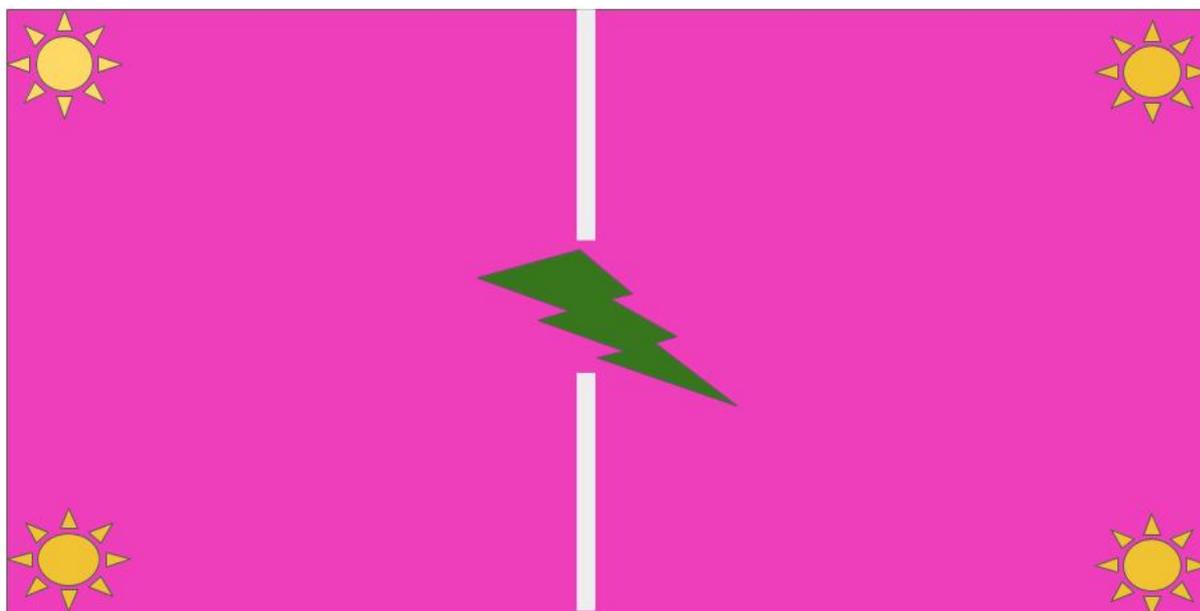


Animal Love: An Aladdin Story



from Princess Snowy

online:

<https://www.allthetests.com/fan-fiction/movies/quiz34/15068935>

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Introduction

I'm sure anyone who has seen Disney's "Aladdin" totally ships Aladdin and Jasmine, but what about Abu and Rajah? And Magic Carpet? In case any of you haven't seen the 1994 Aladdin TV series, Iago found a girlfriend named Thundra while in the rainforest, and Genie wound up dating another genie named Eden, but sadly they can't really be together until Eden loses her master who accidentally bound herself to Eden through a wish. Anyways, this story takes place while Iago and Genie were still single, and during the time between "Aladdin" and "The Return of Jafar." Genie is off to see the world, and Aladdin is moving into the palace. I hope you enjoy my story!

Chapter 1

Aladdin took a deep breath through his nose, and out through his mouth. Sometimes it was a good thing for him to just sit down and think for a while. Sighing, he reached up and ran his fingers through his hair. I'm pretty sure all the fleas are gone. he thought as he pulled his hand away. He reached down into the refreshing, cold water of the fountain he was sitting on and got himself into a better position to splash some of the water on his face. As the water ran down his neck, he quickly rubbed it away with his hands before getting up and sitting back on the side of the fountain. He sat there for a while before suddenly, feeling a stream of water hit the back of his head. Startled, Aladdin whipped around to see Jasmine grinning playfully on the other side of the fountain with her hands in the water.

"I had to get your attention." bubbled Jasmine, who continued to splash him with the cold water. Aladdin grinned and gently splashed Jasmine back.

"Well my princess, it looks like you sure got it. What do you need?" replied Aladdin, standing up.

"It really isn't much, but Father wanted to tell you something important."

"Do you know what, exactly? Am I in trouble?" Aladdin had always been afraid of being in trouble with the Sultan, mostly because he had seen a lot of drama going on with women's husbands, and he didn't want to end up being thrown back onto the streets of Agrabah again. Luckily, Jasmine seemed to notice that.

"Oh, no! Of course not. It's kind of a surprise, so I'm not really supposed to tell you."

"Oh." Aladdin's smile faded, his facial expression full of disappointment. Why does everything have to be so difficult all the time? he thought.

Jasmine took a few steps closer to Aladdin and placed her hands on his shoulders.

"But I'm sure you'll probably figure it out before then." she cooed, sensing Aladdin's sudden dismay. "It's one of your assets."

Aladdin's smile returned and he took Jasmine's hands in his. "Maybe so, but that isn't my greatest asset."

"And what is?"

"It's you, of course." replied Aladdin, before pulling Jasmine closer to himself and kissing her

"Oh, Aladdin, don't say that. You've been like a brother to Abu for all those years. You can't forget about him."

Aladdin froze.

"You're right. I guess I just got.. Uh..."

Jasmine pressed her finger to Aladdin's lips.

"Shh. It's okay. I won't let anyone know you said that."

"Thanks, Jasmine." Aladdin let go of Jasmine and she started heading towards the palace.

"I'll be inside," she told him, then walked through the palace door. Aladdin waved goodbye to her for good measure, then headed off in the direction of the marketplace.

Chapter 2

Ever since he became betrothed to Princess Jasmine, Aladdin had always found comfort in the hustling, bustling streets of Agrabah. Every day merchants and peddlers would flood the area, each and every one of them just trying to keep food on their tables. Of course, Aladdin knew almost everything about it, because he had lived there for so long. What was I thinking, saying something like that? I love Jasmine, but I can't just exclude everyone else from my life. Ugh, what is my problem these days? he scolded himself as he walked down the sandy road. Abu had been like a brother to him ever since he rescued Abu from the traveling circus, and now, he was throwing him away like smelly fertilizer? "I should spend more time with him," Aladdin told himself. He took a few more steps closer and, out of nowhere, heard shouts coming from behind him. He quickly turned around and stood there angrily when he saw Abu with a stolen apple in his hand. To make matters worse, the main guard, Razoul, was coming right around the corner, headed straight for Abu! Panicking, Aladdin frantically tried to find a way to help his friend before he wound up with only one hand instead of two. I have to stall the guard! he told himself and ran up to Abu. "Abu, no!" he shouted. A startled screech escaped Abu, and he quickly hid the apple under his tiny vest.

"Abu, what are you thinking? Do you not realize that the guard is right around the corner?" scolded Aladdin. Abu let off a guilty chortle, and nervously placed the apple back on the fruit stand. Aladdin continued to lecture him.

"It's lucky that the merchant wasn't there to catch you, Abu. Do you know what could have happened?"

Abu shrugged and flashed Aladdin a fake smile. Aladdin soon struggled to stay mad at him, especially since Abu really did seem to feel bad about trying to steal the apple. Unfortunately, Abu seemed to sense Aladdin's sudden change of demeanor and climbed up Aladdin's legs and torso and onto his shoulder. Aladdin laughed and instantly forgave Abu.

"Come on, Abu. Let's get back to the palace before the guards come back here."

Abu squawked a "Yes!" and rode on Aladdin's vest all the way back to the palace.

Chapter 3

Sultan frowned. It's been two weeks, and they still haven't changed my wardrobe. I'm so sick and tired of wearing the same sultan robes every day. he thought. Sighing, he reached into his wardrobe and pulled out some clothes and his turban and put them on. I'll have to remind them again today. He stepped out of his room and headed down the hall to the royal dining room for a quick breakfast. Realizing that the Sultan was awake, his servants quickly scrambled to get him something to eat. Sultan asked his servants:

"Where's Jasmine?"

One of them replied,

"She just came in from outside. She said something about going up to the balcony to wait for her suitor..."

Sultan nodded went over to the table and waited for his servants to serve him. While he waited, he reached for the picture frame only about a foot away from him. He easily grabbed it and stared at it for a moment. His eyes widened when he saw what was in it. It was a picture of his late wife, the Sultana. He took his finger and gently wiped away some of the dust so he could see her face better, and gently caressed it with his thumb. A small smile spread across his face as he brushed away a tear. "I'll always love you, my sweet," he whispered under his breath.

This emotional moment was short lived, however, when the royal chef entered the room with the Sultan's food. She paused for a moment when she saw the photo in the Sultan's hands. Brushing her short black hair behind her ear, the young woman gently laid her hand on Sultan's shoulder. "Can I help you in some way, your majesty?" she asked in a solemn tone. Startled, the Sultan turned around, still wiping away tears.

"Ah, yes. Would you mind having somebody place this in my room, by my bed?" he replied, holding out the picture frame. The young woman took it and studied it for a moment. "Oh, is this your-?"

Sultan interrupted her. "Yes, she is, in fact. I miss her every day."

"My humblest condolences, your highness. I assure you that I will get this into your room as soon as possible."

"Thank you." The royal chef placed the plate of food in front of the Sultan and carried the picture frame over to one of the servants. "Please be sure to put this in the Sultan's room. It is very important,"

With the plate of food sitting untouched in front of him, Sultan stared out at the window, his heart filled with sudden grief. He wished he had some way to further honor her, mostly because he never could have saved her from her sudden death. Then he realized something. Maybe I can. he told himself and raised his spoon to his lips. As he ate he thought of several different ways. I can help others. She would have wanted me to do that. She was all about compassion towards all her royal subjects. And place a statue of her right in the center of the marketplace! Yes! Yes! That's perfect!

He shot up and out of his chair, and without thinking, ran outside. He ignored his servants calling after him, asking him where he was going, and let the door slam shut behind him. He beamed as he looked around, but instead of feeling more happiness caused by his idea, he heard something that would change his life forever. It sounded like Jasmine's tiger was calling out for help. It's coming from the menagerie. he realized, and waddled off as fast as he could towards the sound.

Once he got to the menagerie, he saw Rajah pacing the ground in front of a large mound behind him. Gasping for breath, Sultan walked towards Rajah and placed his hand on Rajah's snout.

"Rajah, what is it?" he croaked, and Rajah moved away from the mound, which turned out to be another beautiful creature, an injured tiger. "By Allah," whispered Sultan and he took a step back. He asked Rajah, "How did she get here?"

Rajah let out a prusten and then a grunt in reply, and nudged the other tiger with his snout. Sultan looked around, unsure what to do. "Guards!" he called, and Razoul with two other guards came running towards him. Rajah rushed to protect the female tiger and stood in front of her with his teeth bared.

"What's the problem, your majesty?" inquired Razoul, his eyes wandering towards Rajah.

"Well, I heard a noise, and.. and..." stuttered the Sultan, pointing to the female tiger.

"And what, your highness?"

"Ah... Um... I found Rajah sitting here with this other tiger. I didn't know what to do, considering the fact that Jasmine has ever told me about seeing anything like this, and we don't know if this cat could be dangerous, or..." Razoul cut him off.

"Not to worry, my liege. We'll get it taken care of." Razoul brought his fingers to his mouth and let a shrill, high pitched whistle pierce the air around him. Instantly four other guards came running with ropes to bind around the female tiger's neck, and four more guards carrying a large cage. Rajah roared in protest, but knew that he would be unable to keep the other tiger from being put in the cage. He could do nothing but slink away and watch while keeping a close eye on the Sultan.

Chapter 4

Amira struggled and roared, but eventually succumbed to the guards due to her wounds, and allowed them to put her in the cage. She looked over at the other male tiger and the strange bearded man. To her disappointment, neither of them seemed to be taking any action of helping her escape. The metal felt cold under her paws as she felt the cage being rolled away. Where are they taking me? she asked herself.

"Well, the menagerie is right here, we might as well just take her there to get that scratch on her side fixed up," she heard one of the guards say. She recognized their voices since she had been abandoned from the palace as a cub. She still had no shame for trying to protect herself from the Sultan's evil royal vizier, Jafar. He had been trying to test some of his magic spells on her, which scared her. She had no choice, and because of that, he had her thrown out. Amira wondered if Jafar had anything to do with her capture.

Amira was shaken from her memory when she felt the cage come to a sudden halt. Where am I?" she wondered, pacing the cage. She pricked up her ears to listen to some of the voices around her.

"Well, it looks like we don't have any anesthesia. We'll just have to do it the old fashioned way instead." she heard a voice grumble.

"Are you sure that would be safe for her?"

"Hopefully she'll just have a slight concussion. She seems strong; it'll be fine." said another voice.

"But the Sultan told us not to hurt her."

"Well, yeah, of course, but we can't let it hurt US, now, can't we?"

"I guess you're right."

Amira moved towards the back of the cage when she heard the door start to open. One of the guards reached in and placed a huge slab of meat towards the opening of the cage and quickly moved away. After a few moments of waiting, Amira figured that the guards were gone, and since she hadn't eaten in days and was very hungry, she decided to go after the food. She cautiously stepped forward and took some of the food in her jaws, savoring the delicious flavor of the raw meat, blood from it dribbling slowly down her neck. Soon she licked her lips once the meat was all gone, and out of nowhere, a sharp CRACK could be heard coming from a hard object crashing down onto her head, and Amira fell to the ground as darkness surrounded her.

Chapter 5

Aladdin's feet slapped against the warm ground as he ran back towards the palace. Abu clung to his shoulder, doing his best to stay on. It seemed strange that he was struggling to hold on after years of doing the exact same thing. Almost like he had lost his touch. He hoped Aladdin wouldn't tell Jasmine or the Sultan about what he was caught doing. All he wanted was to do something interesting for a change. Abu appreciated that he didn't have to steal for food, but still, it just made life a lot less exciting.

Abu suddenly had to move closer to the left side of Aladdin's back when Aladdin busted through the palace door. Realizing what he was doing, he quickly relaxed his muscles and slowed to a walk. After only a few seconds of entering the palace, Jasmine came running towards him with a huge smile on her face. Laughing, Aladdin swooped her up in his arms and spun her around. Abu jumped off Aladdin's back and somehow managed to land on his feet, the cold marble floor chilling them. Ugh, I hate it when that happens. he grumbled to himself.

Jasmine giggled as Aladdin finally placed her gently back onto the ground and held her close to himself, with her forearms lightly resting on his shoulders.

"It's funny that you're always so happy to see me." Aladdin pointed out, smirking.

"Why shouldn't I be? Aren't I supposed to?" replied Jasmine, removing her arms from Aladdin's shoulders. Realizing his mistake, Aladdin's smile faded, and he released Jasmine from his embrace.

"I- I guess you're right. I guess I do still have a lot to learn..." he muttered, running his fingers through his hair.

"It's okay, I get it." Jasmine instantly forgave him, knowing that Aladdin was doing his best to stay close to a girl like her. Aladdin's smile returned and he took her hands.

"You know, I actually love it when you-"

Aladdin was suddenly interrupted when the Sultan came barrelling into the room.

"Aladdin, Aladdin, I have so much news for you! SO much has happened since this morning and I-" he stopped talking right in the middle of his sentence and blushed profusely.

"Am I interrupting something?" asked the Sultan. Aladdin and Jasmine both shook their heads and Aladdin let go of Jasmine's hands.

"It's okay, father," assured Jasmine. "Are you going to tell Aladdin your surprise now?"

"Ah, yes, I was just getting to that. But now there are two surprises!" Sultan announced to the two.

"Two?" Aladdin and Jasmine simultaneously echoed, exchanging glances of utter confusion. Sultan noticed this and continued,

"Yes, two. Well, the first one was that I found another magic carpet. I think it might become great friends with our original..." Sultan gestured his open hand and almost as if on cue, a pink and white striped version of Carpet zoomed into the throne room, scooped up the Sultan and sailed all around the room before flattening out on the ground.

"See? Isn't she great?" he happily asked, and hopped off the new and clearly female carpet. The Female Carpet stood up on her green tassals, almost lookign straight into Jasmine's very soul.

"She sure is," replied Aladdin, with his hand outstretched towards the Female Carpet. Jasmine crouched down to get a closer look.

"And what is the second thing?" asked Aladdin. Female Carpet straightened out, and Sultan jumped on. Stepping back towards the front, he reached out a hand to Jasmine and helped her up.

"Let me show you!" exclaimed Sultan. Abu quickly leaped onto the Female Carpet, and Aladdin followed suit just before they zipped off to the menagerie.

Chapter 6

After only mere moments the new, Female Carpet slowed to a stop towards the back of the menagerie. Chuckling in excitement, Sultan hopped off and raced toward a small tent-like structure with a giant red cross on the front of it. "Oh, it knew it would be here!" he cried and ran inside. Puzzled, Aladdin looked at Jasmine.

"Do you know anything about this?" he asked, but Jasmine only shrugged and took his hand.

"I guess there's only one way to find out," she replied. Noticing that this was probably his cue, Abu crawled up onto Aladdin's back and the trio began walking towards the building with the new carpet.

As soon as they were inside, Jasmine looked around, confused. In front of her and Aladdin was a large white curtain. Behind it were shadows of several people, and standing next to them was the silhouette of Sultan himself.

"Father?" called Jasmine, squeezing Aladdin's hand just a little tighter. Sultan's shadow stiffened, then came closer until it burst out from behind the curtain.

"Ah, yes! There you two are! So you finally decided to follow me in here, didn't you? C'mon, you simply must come see this!" Sultan beckoned for them to join him behind the curtain and pulled it back. Aladdin (with Abu still on him) and Jasmine reluctantly entered the room and very quickly noticed the sleeping tiger lying on a large tabletop.

"Oh, Father, she's beautiful." she gushed, letting go of Aladdin's hands. She started moving towards the unconscious creature, but Aladdin quickly stopped her.

"Are you sure she can be trusted?" he asked Sultan. "I wouldn't want anything happening to you or Jasmine in case it was to-" Aladdin was cut off when a deep growl escaped the tiger's throat. Aladdin jumped in front of Jasmine, and the Female Carpet stood in front of Sultan like a protective shield. The other animal medics backed away from the animal. Abu and Jasmine clung to Aladdin as the tiger stood up and looked straight at Jasmine. Why does she seem so familiar? she pondered until suddenly, her eyes widened and without hesitation, she brushed past Aladdin.

"Amira?" she gently cooed, her hand outstretched towards the tiger. The tiger began to pad closer to Jasmine, her teeth no longer bared.

"Jasmine-" whispered Aladdin. He had never seen anything like this before. He knew that Rajah had been a good friend to Jasmine, but how was he supposed to know if this one was safe? Cautiously he took a step closer as Jasmine's hand gently caressed the tiger's snout. The tiger closed her eyes and realizing that it really was her old friend, Jasmine fell to her knees and buried herself deep into Amira's fur. Jasmine's shoulders jolted up and down, in a wave of happy tears. Amira tugged Jasmine closer to her, luring her deeper in their embrace.

After a long moment of pure joy, Jasmine pulled away from Amira.

"Where have you been?" Jasmine asked, and Amira just bowed her head towards the ground. Jasmine turned towards Sultan, who stood frozen in shock. "Father, when I asked you all those years ago you didn't ever answer. What happened to her?"

Sultan twiddled his thumbs and sighed. "Jafar got rid of her." he muttered with a frown on his face.

"But why would he do that? He knew she was one of my only friends, other than Rajah! How could he have gotten rid of her like that? And why did you just let him?" Jasmine's face began to burn and she stood up. Sultan frowned and told her:

"It was a hard time then. It was only a few years after we lost your mother, and I trusted Jafar at that time when he said Amira was a nuisance to the people in the castle and was never helpful in anything."

"Father, that is nonsense! Amira never did anything like that!"

"Well, it would seem so..." Sultan put his hands behind his back and moved out from behind the female carpet. "Shall we get going?"

Jasmine stared at Amira. "Where will she sleep?"

An animal medic stepped forward. "We'll keep her here in the menagerie until we can get her stable, Princess. Not to worry."

Jasmine calmed down and returned to Aladdin's side. "Just please make sure she is safe."

Chapter 7

Jasmine stared at herself in the mirror as she softly brushed her long black hair. She felt a sudden cold breeze tingling on her bare spine, and stood up to close the balcony window. As she headed towards it, she thought she saw something blue fly past the window. Giggling, Jasmine stepped out onto the balcony. The blue thing froze, its gold tassels swinging to and fro.

"Carpet?" called Jasmine, and the blue thing came barreling towards her and stopped at her feet, standing up on its back tassels. "What are you doing here without Aladdin?" asked Jasmine. In response, Carpet turned around to reveal a slightly crumpled envelope. He tried to reach back with his tassels to grab it. He tried to twist himself backward several times but after a few moments of struggling, Jasmine smiled and gently pulled it off the back of Carpet. Carpet turned around, looking embarrassed, and hovered a few feet off the ground. Jasmine quickly tore into the envelope and peered inside. Inside the envelope was a small piece of paper, written in scratchy Arabic handwriting, was a message translated to:

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Jasmine smiled and thanked Carpet for delivering the letter. She looked down at the address written on the front of the envelope and was shocked to see how far from home Carpet must have had to fly in order to get the letter from Genie to the Palace. "We have to go show Aladdin! I'm pretty sure he went back to his old place on the streets to bring the rest of his stuff here. Do you know where it is?" exclaimed Jasmine, but Carpet just sort of slumped down in shame.

"Oh, so you don't know? Don't worry Carpet, there's no reason to be ashamed. I think I remember where it is. Let's go!" As soon as Jasmine said that, Carpet flattened himself onto the balcony ground and Jasmine hopped on, giggling softly as they lifted off into the evening sky.

Chapter 8

Aladdin sighed as he picked one of his old, raggedy pillows. "Well, it looks like this is it, Abu," he murmured. Abu let out a squeak of agreement and draped a blanket over his head and began to jump around in an effort to make Aladdin laugh. Aladdin smiled slightly, but only just turned around and hoisted his old pillows and blankets up into his arms to haul out of his old home. Now how am I gonna get this down the ladder to the ground? Abu trudged back towards Aladdin and out of the home. He murmured softly and pointed back towards the doorway. "I know Abu, I'm gonna miss it too, but we have a whole new life ahead of us. With Jasmine," he replied, reaching out a hand towards Abu. Abu climbed up and onto Aladdin's shoulder.

Aladdin dropped the pillows, figuring that they could be washed once they arrived at the palace. Just as he was about to reach down to grab one to carry down one at a time, he noticed a large mound coming toward him, speeding through the sky like a drunken NASCAR driver. As the mound came closer, Aladdin squinted and saw that it was none other than Carpet himself, and perched on top of him was Jasmine, clinging onto Carpet's sides with the grip of death itself. When the duo landed on the ledge, Jasmine quickly stepped off. "Did you have to be that rough?" she grumbled, glaring. Carpet gave Jasmine a look of pure remorse, and Jasmine relaxed and smiled. "Ugh, I just can't remain angry with you. Just be more careful next time, ok?"

Carpet straightened up and hovered next to Aladdin. "Uh, what are you two doing here?" Aladdin asked, looking confused. Jasmine held out Genie's envelope and handed it to Aladdin. "Well, we heard from genie today. It's addressed to both of us."

Aladdin smirked and opened the envelope and read it. "Wow, he seems really happy to be free, doesn't he?"

"Oh, and what do you want for freeing him, a medal?" snarked Jasmine.

"Oh, I've already got something better." flirted Aladdin, playing along with Jasmine's sarcasm.

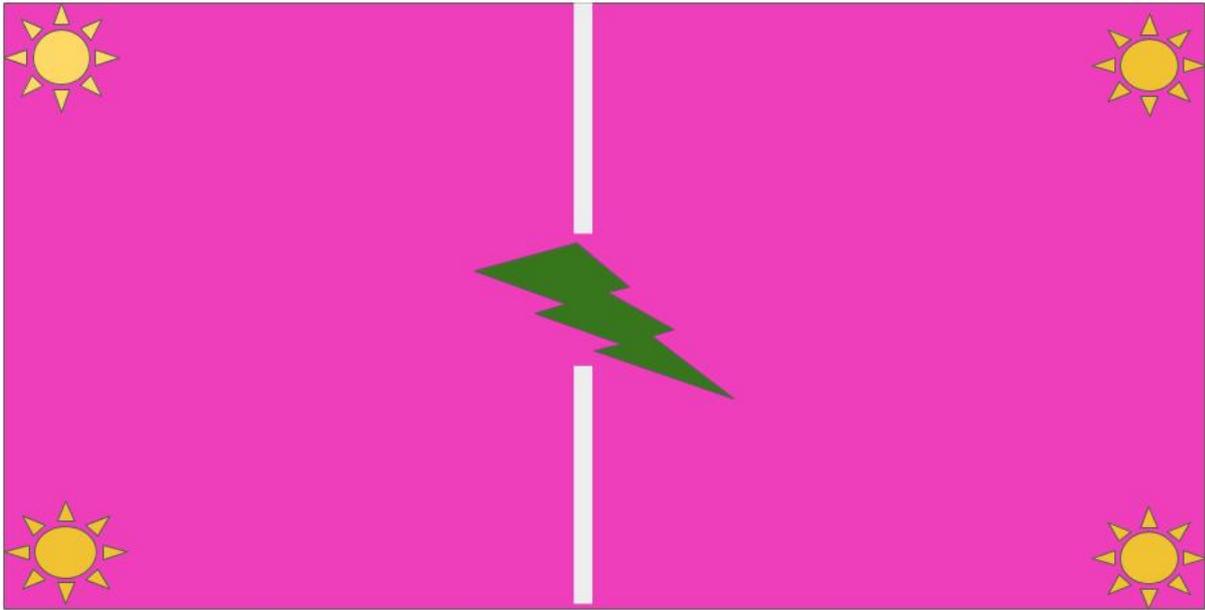
"Hm, I'm sure you do."

Aladdin took Jasmine's hands. "Yeah, and it's you." Jasmine smiled and their faces began to move closer and closer but were interrupted by a sharp squeal coming from Abu. Aladdin appeared angry for

a second, but Jasmine let go of his hands and stroked his cheek. Aladdin's expression softened, and he to Abu.

Abu pointed down to the pillows still sitting on the ground with a look of pure agitation. Ugh, I hate it when he gets like that. he thought, and picked up one of the now very dirty pillows. Jasmine giggled and ran to pick up a few. She moved towards Carpet and placed them on top of him. "Don't worry, Aladdin. We can get these cleaned up over at the palace. We should probably hurry up though, 'cause we have a huge surprise for Carpet, now, don't we?" Jasmine winked and climbed up onto Carpet.

Aladdin shrugged and went over and picked up Abu and the remaining pillows. He climbed back onto Carpet. Uh, oh. What are those two up to this time? wondered Carpet as they zoomed off back towards the palace.



Chapter 9

Carpet's yarn tingled the moment he saw her. An intense heat crawled up and down him as Aladdin and Jasmine hopped off him with Abu in tow. Carpet stood facing her, so intrigued by her stunning beauty that he couldn't think straight or even move. The suns on her corners seemed to glow in the moonlight, the bolt in her middle casting a mysterious yet friendly vibe. And unlike himself, her design was plain and simple, but to him, she was downright beautiful.

Here's what Female Carpet looks like in my imagination:

Female Carpet saw him almost immediately when Aladdin and Jasmine climbed off of him. Female Carpet saw him almost immediately when Aladdin and Jasmine climbed off of him. She tried her best not to stare back when she noticed he was looking at her, but for some reason, she couldn't help it. The two of them stood in the same kind of stupor for a while, until Female Carpet managed to snap out of it and without thinking, floated gracefully toward him. Carpet seemed to jump back in surprise, but soon realized he was making a fool of himself, and calmly and coolly hovered a few inches off the ground, letting her come to him. Once she was in front of him, he casually gestured toward the sky and flew upward. Female Carpet seemed surprised, but was happy with his suggestion and shot up with him, doing a quick front flip in the process. Carpet followed suit, and the pair sailed onward through the dark night, both of them illuminated by the moonlight and shining stars.

Jasmine smiled and watched them fly off. She clung to Aladdin's shoulder, pointing to the two dots that the pair had become in the distance. Aladdin smirked.

"Love at first flight?" he snarked flirtatiously, pulling Jasmine closer with twinkling eyes. Jasmine's muscles tingled with pleasure in the same way they always did when Aladdin acted that particular way.

"You got it." she quickly kissed Aladdin's cheek and headed off into the palace. I wonder if Rajah is still over in the menagerie? she thought out loud. Oh, well, he probably just wanted to look after Amira. He'll be back.

Or will he?

Chapter 10

The fresh scent of morning filled Abu's nostrils as he sat up on his cushion. He rubbed his eyes and yawned, reaching out for his fez. He tugged it off his holding needle, and gingerly placed it on his head before standing up and looking around. When he noticed that Aladdin was still asleep in his bed, he decided to head outside through the window to go down to the marketplace for some food. Abu always hated getting food from the palace kitchen; it always made him feel needy and weak, like he couldn't do anything for himself. Much different from his time as a street rat's best friend, to boot.

Abu carefully climbed up onto the window in Aladdin's palace sleeping quarters and lowered himself down onto a loose stone brick a couple feet below. The gray mold felt cool under his bare toes, soothing him as he cautiously scrambled down the palace walls, and down farther and farther until he reached the soft sand. He took a look around and reached into the pocket of his vest. Grinning in satisfaction, he pulled out three coins, just enough to buy himself a banana for his breakfast.

Abu began walking towards the marketplace, thinking about the day before. What was I thinking, taking that apple? I should have just asked Aladdin for some extra money. He marched on and on but suddenly felt like he was being followed. He turned around but saw nothing. Intrigued, he kept going but didn't let his guard down. He didn't want a repeat of what happened when he met Carpet. That was humiliating, to be outsmarted by such a simple rug like Carpet. Abu took a few steps farther, but as soon as he thought he was in the clear he felt a tap on his right shoulder. He quickly whipped around but then from behind him he felt something move out from inside his vest pocket. Startled, he felt around for his coins, yet to his dismay, felt nothing but a couple pieces of lint inside. Now very angry and confused, Abu searched frantically for his money, but it all had disappeared. He started to panic until he heard a distinct rustling in the tree above him, and looked up. The rustling grew louder, and something brown and fuzzy came tumbling down towards him. The last thing Abu heard was a loud screech coming from the mound, then everything went black.

Chapter 11

Aladdin's heart hammered in his chest as he burst into the palace dining hall.

"Jasmine, Abu is gone!" he cried, running towards his betrothed. Jasmine turned and ran towards him, tears streaming down her face.

"What? Abu's gone too? Rajah didn't come back last night either!"

Aladdin paused for a minute, confused. "Where was he?"

"I'm pretty sure he was still at the menagerie, but what if he ran off?"

"Have the guards found him yet?"

Jasmine shook her head, and Aladdin gathered her into his arms.

"Don't worry, we'll find them both."

...

Rajah's fur twitched as he stood up on all fours, but was still keeping an eye on the other tiger. He began to pace the room, waiting for her to come over to the bars of her cell. Could she still be asleep? he thought. Maybe I should check. He padded over to the cell and rubbed lightly on the bars with his sharp claws. A soft, painful moan escaped the cell, and very cautiously, Amira padded over to Rajah. Her eyes softened at the sight of him and greeted him with a friendly prusten. Rajah pushed his arm between the bars, and to his surprise, Amira returned the gesture with a smile in his eyes.

Chapter 12

Jasmine clung to Aladdin's arm as they stood in front of two guards and the Sultan.

"What do you mean you didn't check to make sure they were still here?" exclaimed the Sultan, his face growing hot, his hands clenched into fists at his sides.

"I-I... My utmost apologies, your Highness. It wasn't supposed to happen... I just... I just..." stammered one of the guards, panic slowly seeping more and more into his veins. He struggled to find another excuse to not checking in with the Princess's tiger, but failed to. He automatically knew there was no way out of this. Sultan just shook his head.

"Just- go. I'll figure out what to do about this later." he turned towards the two other guards and waved them towards the huge palace door. "Go find them!" he exclaimed, and both of them bowed with a "Yes, your Highness" and sped out of the palace.

Sultan hung his head in his hands as he began to pace the room. Jasmine left Aladdin's side and moved towards her father. "Father?" she squeaked quietly, catching his attention.

"Yes, dearest?"

"I think you may need to calm down. How about you go cool down while Aladdin and I go help look for Rajah and Abu."

Sultan hesitated, exchanging glances with Aladdin. "Are you sure?"

Aladdin piped in. "Uh... yeah. We can handle it."

Jasmine flashed a quick smile at Aladdin before heading towards the palace gates.

"Don't worry, Father. We'll be fine."

Sultan nodded, but shot a quick look of Be careful with her. Aladdin nodded back and ran to catch up with Jasmine.

Chapter 13

Aladdin struggled to keep up with Jasmine as they ran down the sandy road towards the main streets of Agrabah.

"Couldn't we just ask Carpet for a ride?" he asked her when she finally slowed to a walk.

"And risk distracting him from his new friend? No way!" Jasmine shook her head. Aladdin nodded and raised his eyebrows.

"Friend? Are you so sure about that?"

"What do you mean?"

"You saw how they were acting towards each other."

A sudden realization shot through Jasmine's head.

"You don't think they could be-"

"Oh, yes, definitely. It's obvious."

Jasmine moved closer to Aladdin and kissed his cheek.

"Well then, it looks like we're not the only ones."

Chapter 14

Abu's fur twitched as he started to regain consciousness. His eyes fluttered open, and a startled screech escaped him when he saw the concerned face staring at him, only mere inches from his. He doubled backward in the sand, his eyes widening.

"Who are you?" he squeaked in his high monkey voice. The other creature pointed at him, then at herself.

"Same." she murmured. "Look."

Abu took a closer look at her. She must not be able to speak many words. he thought. That's ok, neither can I. It was true though, they did look the same. By a lot. He stood up and looked around, switching to his natural monkey language.

"Where did you come from?" he asked.

"Far away," she replied, pointing towards the east. Abu nodded.

"What were you doing here?"

"I was captured, but I escaped and hid in this tree. Then you came. Sorry for knocking you out like that."

"Oh, it's okay. I'm fine, " replied Abu, suddenly noticing the glittering bracelet that sparkled on the other monkey's wrist. "What's that?"

The other monkey touched it gingerly.

"It was from my mother. She gave it to me not long before she was taken away."

"Oooh," he muttered, reaching for her furry shoulder. "I'm..."

Suddenly, two figures came barreling down the sandy road. As they came closer, Abu could tell that they were Aladdin and Jasmine.

"Abu! Where have you been?" exclaimed Aladdin, a hint of anger and worry rising in his voice. "We

Jasmine's mouth dropped open, then giggled softly.

"Looks like Abu found a friend."

Chapter 15

Author's Note: Just a quick announcement: I have this story written on Wattpad, where it is originally updated. To see the original version of this story, head to <https://www.wattpad.com/444675041-animal-love-an-a-laddin-story-no-longer-a-street!>