

Summary of Super Pony World (2016) :: The Zraos Simulation

Context for Pre-Super Pony World albums (Twilight, Horse Friends, & Control Freaks)

Note: All of the events of Starship Ponyville and Super Pony World assume the canon of MLP:FiM Seasons 1-9 are *true*. In addendum, due to growing conflicts, Celestia and Luna step back in as assistant princesses to Twilight.

IMPORTANT – ANYTHING WITH A ~~STRIKETHROUGH~~ IS SPOILER STUFF THAT PEOPLE WHO HAVE ONLY CONSUMED PUBLICLY AVAILABLE MUSIC, VIDEOS, AND WRITTEN CONTENT DO NOT KNOW OF.

~~Ten thousand years into the past, Discord's Equestria was conquered by Celestia and Luna. A third alicorn sibling of the princesses is never recognized in the accounts of this history, the alicorn Spectre. His likeness was erased from history by Celestia. Spectre was born with a crooked horn, something that frightened a very early Equestria, as if it were a curse. His lack of aid during the retaking of Equestria by the princesses also caused the populace to mock him. He grew angry and cynical and began to lash out at the kingdom. He began to make threats of violence and promises to retake the power for himself. In a hasty effort to quell this, Celestia attempted to assassinate him. Thinking Spectre was dead, Celestia rushed to tell Luna. However, Spectre lived and escaped, using a forbidden magic to teleport to a planet far away from Equestria. From then on, his disappearance would trouble the sisters for thousands of years to come.~~

2030 - Post-coronation of Twilight Sparkle, Equestria begins to see the rise in magic technologies, an industry that allows for non-unicorns to use the power of magic by harnessing Sor-packets (the particles that make up magic). Most technology is always met with suspicion and superstition in Equestria, but Adaptive Magic Channeling Devices (AMCD's) are met with the most wide-spread criticism in Equestria's history. Riots break out.

March 27th, 2030 - Vylet is born in Southeast Canterlot. His mother and brother begin working at an AMCD company known as RISE Industries.

June 30th, 2034 - Celestia partners with AMCD company, PegaSystems, to begin construction of a large starship for the alleged purposes of space exploration and colonization. The Equestrian populace is severely superstitious regarding space. They've long protested the idea of exploring it as they believe that the monsters the world has dealt with in times past come from there. Celestia keeps the project a secret from the world. It is called Starship Ponyville, codename Project Banshee. ~~The ulterior motive, however, is that Celestia sees the opportunity to search for Spectre after thousands of years. With the development of technologies capable of long range space travel, her plans to hunt him down come to fruition. Luna additionally becomes tasked with searching the dreams of ponies across Equestria to recruit as potential starship crew.~~

April 19th, 2037 - The Sor Reactor Incident – During a routine test of equipment, an explosion occurs at RISE Industries causing Vylet's mother and brother to be killed. From hereon, Vylet (now 7), becomes distant from his father and generally reclusive. He is enrolled in online courses and begins to teach himself things such as computer engineering and chemistry. He has very few friends, his closest being Crimson, the daughter of another employee at RISE Industries.

May 10th, 2048 - EQNN interviews a former representative for Celestia, Alice Featherwing. She had defected from the Starship Ponyville program out of fear of being ridiculed should she have been found out to be working on it. She announces on the live EQNN newscast that Celestia had been leading a covert operation to create a starship and explore space. All Royal Equestrian Officials deny these claims, but Equestrians begin to protest.

~~May 13th, 2048 – after making her first public appearance in a long time the day prior, Celestia allocates military personnel from the Royal Canterlot Military and assigns them to operate as a fake terrorist organization known as the Black Hoof. Their mission is to cause public panic and move attention away from the claims made about Starship Ponyville~~

May 21st, 2048 - The Manehattan Bombings – The terrorist organization known as the Black Hoof carry out various bombings throughout the city of Manehattan. No casualties occur. The Black Hoof subsequently broadcast a manifesto that claims to seek the dismantlement of the Equestrian Royal Monarchy.

May 23rd, 2048 - The Equestrian Civil War Begins – Civilians that sympathize with the declared manifesto of The Black Hoof join to create a real terrorist organization. War breaks out between the Black Hoof Separatists and the Royal Equestrian Military.

Super Pony World 1: The Zraos Simulation

Throughout the years, Vylet had become a prodigy of computers and sciences. He is given a prototype AMCD by his friend Crimson, who stole it from RISE Industries in the hopes that Vylet could do something with it. With years and years of knowledge and experience, Vylet quickly begins to use the AMCD to execute an idea he had had since he first became interested in computers: the concept of a consciousness hosted simulation. Vylet had grown afraid and cynical of the outside world over the years, and with the Equestrian Civil War now affecting major cities across the world, he wanted more than ever to escape it.

October 5, 2048

After months of research, experimentation, and development, and with the magic from the AMCD, Vylet is able to create a simulation that uses the hosts' consciousnesses as a means to create an RPG-oriented game. He finds that around 1 month in the simulation will only come out to 1.7 seconds in the real world.

[Songs: The Start Button is Overrated, Press Off & One Up!]

The clock reads "4:29pm". Without any appropriate tests or trials, Vylet initiates the consciousness link between himself and the simulation. The AMCD's implementation is what allows for this to occur. However, the initial consciousness link creates a displacement of entropy and a lifeform within the simulation becomes created - separate from the NPC's of the created simulation, the AI Rayna is born from the consciousness link.

Upon entering the simulation, Rayna helps wake Vylet up and asks about where she is, who she is, and why. Vylet can only answer that they are inside of a simulation. However, Rayna explains that she can see outside of the simulation, into Vylet's bedroom. Through this, Vylet discovers that Rayna has achieved true sentience and is, for all intents and purposes, a real living being that exists within the virtual world. Rayna is small, like a fairy, and tends to float around and observe the world in aid to Vylet.

[Songs: Flying Kites and Something Normal & Kingdom Finality]

Vylet and Rayna discover that the simulation created the Kingdom of Zraos, a fictional world that reflects the technological blend of a medieval and modern Equestria. They

spawn on a series of floating islands and Vylet notices that he is not able to fly like he can in real life. Physics in the simulation require the use of an obtained item.

They decide to try and explore the islands in search for a way down to land. They meet The Aviator who tells them a little bit about the world below. The Aviator takes them down in an airship and they arrive in an expansive field. The towers of a city is faintly seen in the distance. Vylet and Rayna start on their way to the city.

[Songs: Dragon Riders, Kapow!, Everglade, Knock Knock]

Along the way, they are stopped by the Dragon Riders, a ruthless gang of beast tamer bandits. Their leader, Vinshal Udo, demands Vylet hand over his watch (The AMCD), as it appears to be of value. Vylet fights them barehoof while Rayna helps him to make quick decisions such as when and where to evade, where to hit, etc. Through this, Vylet learns that Rayna is hyper-perceptive and analytical.

Vylet defeats Vinshal Udo after knocking him off of his dragon. The Dragon Riders flee and Vylet sets Vinshal's dragon free.

They continue towards the city and begin to talk and bond. Rayna learns a lot about life in the real world, and Vylet learns more about how her mind works. Due to Vylet's dry sense of humor, Rayna attempts to reciprocate it. Vylet learns through their interactions that Rayna is not naturally capable of expressing emotions, but instead has thusly learned from sensing Vylet's emotions even if he cannot express them.

Come across the Everglade. In the Everglade, various unusual creatures intrigue Vylet and Rayna. They become entranced by a colourful moth that causes Vylet to fall asleep. Instead of dreaming, however, Vylet begins to have visions of the future. He perceives this from within his room and hears a newscast coming from his dad's room talking about a Canterlot bombing. Although time is practically frozen in the real world as Vylet traverses the simulation, the vision is of a newscast that eventually airs on November 25th.

Upon waking up from the vision, Rayna tends to Vylet's dizziness and they rest for a while. They find a small cottage in the Everglade. There, the tenants provide shelter and food for the night.

[Songs: Interlude, Ego Guideline Club & Lily's Shop]

About a week later in simulation time, they arrive at the city. They find out that the city was

previously ransacked by a huge militia of Dragon Riders that were fended off by the Ego Guideline Club, a street racing gang. Vylet asks around for the place of operations for the Ego Guideline Club. After a while, they discover that they are based out of a bar downtown.

They make their way to the bar and are confronted by several members of the gang. Vylet nervously asks how they were able to fight them all off and why they were attacking in the first place. Their leader, Zyrsath, says that he would only answer the questions if Vylet were to beat him in a race.

Outside the bar, Vylet and Zyrsath prepare for a street race. Again, Rayna helps Vylet make the right moves and decisions to quickly win the race. As a result, Vylet begins to find a newfound confidence in himself, surprised at what he can accomplish. Rayna begins to understand the gravity of her hyper-observant nature.

Zyrsath explains that to fight off the Dragon Riders, they used a special sword that belonged to the blacksmith and shopkeeper in town, Lily. She had infused it with magic to make it eternally frozen, which is highly affective against dragons. He also explains that the Dragon Riders have been stealing things from around the world and bringing them to a dormant volcano as a sort of ritual sacrifice. The world of Zraos has been suffering at the hands of the Dragon Riders almost constantly since the volcano's last eruption. Whispers tell of a great demon that lives within it, threatening a fiery doom to their world should he not be appeased.

Later, Vylet and Rayna find Lily and tell her of their need for her Sword of Eternal Frost, with Zyrsath's blessing. Lily haggles them down and asks them to clean her shop in exchange for the blade. They reluctantly carry out this task.

[Songs: Arcade Runway, Mr. Whiskers, Solitary Domino]

Now knowing their quest to seek the demon of Zraos and to stop the Dragon Riders, Vylet and Rayna begin to search across the land for ways to become stronger and to hunt Dragon Riders and their allies. Along the way, Vylet and Rayna continue to bond with each other and become good friends.

[Songs: Destined a Fatal Flaw]

Over a month later, after training, exploring, and hunting, Vylet and Rayna come back to the city where they are joined by Zyrsath and the others of the Ego Guideline Club. They

congratulate the duo on defeating many Dragon Riders and making their world a better place.

In the evening, Vylet and Rayna set out to a hill outside the city and lay there watching the stars. Vylet begins to realize the finality of the simulation and that when their quest was over, the real world awaited them. He begins to cry and Rayna is for the most part puzzled by his emotions. Her empathy with him causes her to cry as well, even if she doesn't understand why she's crying. Vylet realizes that Rayna has a sort of blind empathy, and sees that Rayna has slowly been developing emotions as their journey has continued.

Vylet tells Rayna about why he created the simulation and how she came to be, and that he would do anything to protect her. Rayna asks if she'll ever see him again when the simulation ends. Vylet says that the simulation is accessible from an external means, only that it cannot be experienced the same way by a lack of the consciousness link. Rayna asks about the war in the real world. Vylet tells her about it, realizing he now feels less afraid of the world outside as he was before. However, the simulation has caused him to feel more important and more powerful than he had ever dreamed of. He wondered how it would affect his life in Equestria.

[Songs: Her Majesty, World 8, S'all Good, Rayna's Song]

Their journey continues as it had. In the process, they defeat one of the most prominent leaders of the Dragon Riders, the one who is only called "Her Majesty". Vinshal Udo, the overseer of the Dragon Riders, sets a bounty on Vylet's head.

[Songs: Return & Victory in Canterlot]

Vylet has another vision of the future. This time he sees an EQNN newscast announcing that the Equestrian Civil War has ended with the capture of Feather Light, the acting leader of the Black Hoof.

[Songs: Little Dreams]

Two and a half months have passed in simulation time. Vylet and Rayna have grown to overcome most of the Dragon Riders and decide to begin making their way to the volcano where the Dragon Riders frequently bring their loot.

Vylet and Rayna take a short break and go back to the Sky Islands and meet again with the Aviator. They talk about what had happened since they arrived in the simulation and The

Aviator reveals his name: Asliyah. He expresses cynicism with the world of Zraos and says that he would want to have a kingdom of his own one day. He has guided travelers down to the mainland for so long that he wishes it was all he could ever do.

Vylet expresses that he wishes he could be stronger when he returns to “where [he’s] from”. Asliyah expresses that he seems to have already become more brave than when they first arrived. Vylet tells him that things are not so great back home and that he doesn’t know how to deal with it, saying that despite everything he learned in Zraos, he feels that no ambitions could come to fruition and that he would be as if he was a newborn already swearing away his unborn life to a status quo out of his control. Asliyah tells him to deal with his home the same way he’s dealt with the simulation and that their worlds may not be so far apart. Asliyah subsequently gifts Vylet the power of flight, trusting that he is strong enough to use his wings.

[Songs: Song of Home, Remember the Day When the World Fell Apart?, The Replacer, I am Brave... & Malignancy]

Rayna asks if he’s her father, since he created her. He says no and that he could never see it that way. Rayna says that every source she’s checked online has yielded complicated results for what it means to be a parent, as it seems only to mean that one organism creates another organism. Vylet tells Rayna about his mother and that he knows he had one but can’t remember her face. He tells her that she died when he was very young and that he can only remember going to see the ocean with her and part of a song she would hum to him when he was very little. He describes the words she sang:

“This is now the kingdom we’ve made
Upon all of our sins to our grave
Although we’ve all come out shortchanged
It’s only the beginning
Only the beginning
Just the mere beginning
Of the world we’ve made”

Rayna says she wishes he could meet her. She asks what it means to love someone else. Vylet doesn’t answer and gets lost in thought about it.

[Songs: The Great Unknown & The Butterfly]

Three months have passed and Vylet and Rayna have finally discovered the location of the

of the volcano and begin to make their way there. On the way, they stop by every other place they spent their time. The Sky Islands, The Everglade, The City, and elsewhere, to see the friends they made one last time.

On the path to the volcano, Vylet and Rayna talk about their uncertain fate. Vylet tells her that he will find a way to bring her back with him to the real world. He answers her question from weeks before about love. He tells her that love is a great unknown until you realize you have it, and that love can be anything friendship and beyond. Rayna begins to experience fear, at the thought of not existing. She feels it would be like abandonment and that she would be left with nothing. Vylet assures her that he will love her and protect her no matter what.

[Songs: Zraos' Kingdom]

Finally at the volcano, for the first and only time, they fly to the top and peer inside. Inside, there is a cavern with a narrow platform. They land on the platform and face a pony that stands on hind legs. He announces that he, himself is Zraos, the Half Dragon. Vylet draws the Sword of Eternal Frost and Rayna prepares to help. Zraos carries a Blade of Fire.

They duel along the platform for some time until Vylet manages to strike Zraos with the sword. Zraos descends from the platform down the cave below. Vylet and Rayna leap off and glide down to the dark chamber, but Zraos had disappeared. After searching for him, they come across another chamber after hearing strange sounds coming from down a passageway. Upon entering the chamber, several torches light up around them, revealing an enormous spider on the cave ceiling. Zraos took the form of the spider and begins to engage them with his fangs and web traps. Vylet uses the torches to light the webs ablaze and causes the chamber to collapse.

They fall down to an underground arena, where thousands of Dragon Riders watch Vylet and Rayna fall onto a stone platform, surrounded by a seemingly endless pit. They quickly attempt to recover from the fall and begin to hear the sound of crumbling rocks and spewing fire. Zraos emerges from below the platform as a large, red dragon. The Dragon Riders cheer and the fight continues.

After over an hour, the duel eventually ends with Vylet overcoming Zraos and cutting his head off. The Dragon Riders disperse and a hallway lights up at the end of the arena revealing a brilliant white void.

Rayna holds onto Vylet as he walks towards the light. She asks if it's goodbye. Vylet makes

smiles at her and says nothing. With no hesitation, he heads into the void.

October 5, 2048

The clock still reads 4:29pm. Vylet jolts awake in his desk back in Equestria. His central computer monitor lights up and Rayna begins jokingly nagging at him for imprisoning her in his monitor. Vylet laughs with relief to see Rayna in the real world. He tells her that he's going to use the AMCD watch as a host for her consciousness and self. He spends about a half hour finding her associated files and transfers her to the AMCD. She disappears from the monitor and pops up as a multi-dimensional hologram projecting from the AMCD. She is able to fly around Vylet within a certain proximity. She quickly observes that there is an envelope sitting on his bed behind him. It contains a Royal Equestrian Seal. Inside is an invitation to meet with Princess Luna about a "Project Banshee".

October 7, 2048

Shortly after midnight, Vylet and Rayna set out to meet with Luna at the Castle. When they meet, Luna shows a confidentiality agreement, which Vylet signs for himself and for Rayna.. She proceeds to explain that he has been invited to join the Starship Ponyville Recruitment Program. She explains the details of the expedition and of its planned march in 2051. Luna tells Vylet that she had been searching the dreams of ponies in Equestria but found that when she was in his dream, time stopped passing. She came to watch part of the Super Pony World Zraos simulation and learn about Vylet's skills and interests and believed he would be a good fit for the starship. Vylet and Rayna both agree to join and are told to wait for further instructions.

What follows is the events of Starship Ponyville I: Mystic Acoustics and Starship Ponyville II: Homeward. In addendum, the story will continue further with Super Pony World: Fairytails and Starship Ponyville III: Promise Complex.