

If Dogs Could Fly

Diego met his very first friend at the “*Bald is Beautiful*” shelter. He didn’t like the shelter very much. The lights were blinding, all of the animals looked sad, and the pets painted on the walls made the whole scene even more depressing. He was brought to a dark, cold room in the very back of the shelter, where he saw another dog! He tried running towards him, but wasn’t able to. He whimpered and whined at the restraints of his black leash, but wasn’t able to run. Once he got to the new dog at a newly chosen calmer, slower pace, he immediately wanted to play.

The new dog, whose name was Brutus, was a grayed dog, and didn’t like to play very much, but rather took Diego in as a son. Later, Diego learned that his only dream was to see the outside again. Brutus showed him how to live in the sunlight-less room. Brutus was Diego’s whole world, and vice-versa. Wherever Brutus went, Diego wouldn't be far behind. Whenever Brutus slept, which was the majority of the time, Diego would too. Eventually, the dream to see the outside again became Diego’s only goal in life, and he swore to make it come true.

Over a course of several months, many balloons were stored away in the room from ruined birthday parties that left children screaming. In the little time that Diego was there, lots of loud colored balloons were piled from floor to ceiling, until all you could see was balloons.

While Diego was jumping around trying to catch his own tail, he realized that the balloons could carry him out of the window to the great outside. He discussed the idea with Brutus, and surprisingly, he agreed! He had decided that before he kicked the bucket he would at least try to see the outside again. Plus, the fact that the balloons would not be able to carry them too high up made him feel safer about the whole idea.

As Brutus was trying to unlock the door, Diego was tying the balloons to himself. Once Brutus managed to finally unlock the door, Diego tied the balloons to Brutus as well. They swung open the door, and made a break

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for it! They bounded from their room in the back of the shelter all the way to the other side, where they saw an open window, while being chased by humans yelling things they couldn't understand. In a leap of faith, they jumped out of the window. They stayed aloft, and flew to a long deserved freedom.