

Big Fun to be Had by Everyone

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Big Fun to be Had by Everyone

by [centigrade_baby](#)

Summary

Jade and Ruby throw a parade.

Notes

For GCU Bingo - Pride Parade prompt.
Post TLG.

Title is from Le Freak by Chic

Hayden's phone buzzed with an incoming message. "I need to go, the kids need me," he preempted any concern with a wave of his hand. "Nothing's wrong, they just need my help with something," he stood up. "Before I go, I was instructed to give you this," he pulled something out of his short pocket and placed it on the table. "See you all later," with a wave he walked away.

Jackie, along with Ilya and Shane stayed on the deck enjoying the perfect summer day. Like the napping Amber, Anya and Jeff were also asleep. Though they were in a puddle of pet fur in the middle of a pool of sun. The three older children were over at Willa and Andrew's house. Jade and Ruby had slept over and Arthur had joined them earlier this morning.

The envelope was addressed to Ilya and Shane, their names written in assorted colours in a little kid's handwriting. Ilya grabbed the envelope and said, "Hmm, look Hayden even wrote our names in crayon." He winked at Jackie before opening the envelope and pulled out a folded piece of paper.

Ilya And Shane's Pride Parade it said in bright pink. They both threw Jackie a questioning glance.

"It's an invitation," explained Jackie as Ilya and Shane continued to look at the paper together.

What: *A Pride Parade*

When: *1 pm*

Where: *Willa and Andrew's driveway*

Please wear rainbow colours.

"The writing is very neat," said Ilya with a slight smirk, "I don't think Hayden wrote this."

Jackie laughed. "We printed this part out. The kids wanted to design the card and make it look professional," she made quotation marks with her hand. "Arthur's job was to decorate it."

"He did an excellent job," enthused Shane while Ilya nodded in agreement. They took in the carefully traced letters in different coloured crayons, the rainbow that covered half the page, and what they assumed was a parade full of colourful characters.

"We're going to put this up in the fridge. A masterpiece like this must be on display," added Ilya. Shane nodded in agreement.

Jackie gave them both a soft look, "I'm sure you have questions, but first let me explain how this came about." She took a sip of her drink, as if to prepare herself to tell a tale. "Our local library started a Drag Queen Reading Hour about a year ago. Every other week someone comes and reads a book, and the kids love it. It's all Ruby, Jade and Arthur talk about for the rest of the day."

Shane had not heard of such a thing, but it sounded interesting.

“Anyway,” continued Jackie, “this month the library has had Pride month events, some of the events were geared to kids their age. It has been really awesome. We were also here for the Centaur’s Pride game since it was against the Voyageurs. That along with what they learned about Pride month caused some sort of realization in their mind. And here we are, your own Pride parade

She took a sip of her drink as if to fortify herself. Ilya guessed with the ideas Ruby and Jade concocted she had to do that often. “The twins are older now; their plans are more involved.”

“So, they decided to throw us a pride parade?” asked Shane. “Have they ever been to one?”

“No, but we did go to a couple of family Pride events earlier this month, so, they have an idea. More importantly they feel that it’s their duty to throw you a parade because they’re the ones that performed your real wedding ceremony.”

“Well, it’s true,” Ilya agreed, “that was the real one. We have the rings upstairs.” He pulled Shane into him and planted a loud smooch on him. “I’d marry you all over again, Hollander.”

Shane looked at Jackie and said, “Continue with this story, please.”

“Hey, you didn’t say if you’d marry me again,” came the aggrieved cry.

With a wink to Jackie, Shane patted Ilya’s leg, “Yes Ilya, I’d marry you again, maybe,” and burst out laughing and the affronted pout on his husband’s lips before leaning in to give him a kiss on the cheek.

“You’re both so cute.” Jackie said, enjoying how they did not hide how in love they were. “My job is to keep you here until the appointed time and then we’ll head over and start the parade. Andrew and Willa’s parents, Hayden, I and Amber will be the spectators, or as Ruby calls them the *people watching on the sidewalk*. Both of you will be in the parade with the kids.” She turned and motioned to the still snuggled up pets, “They were hoping they’d participate, but we talked them out of it.”

“Jeff will stay here, but Anya can come. She’s great around people.” Shane said, giving the pets a fond look. Jeff was great, and leash trained, but Shane knew he’d be very unhappy in the middle of this parade, small as it was.

“Then after the parade we will have snacks, and entertainment. I’m letting you know the kids came up with the entertainment. Hayden is helping set that up.”

Ilya opened his mouth, Jackie laughed and said, “Yeah, Hayden.”

“I guess we should at least plan out rainbow clothes while we wait. C’mon Ilya, let’s go prepare for our very own Pride Parade.”

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Wearing their rainbow colours, Centaur tie dye shirts that Harris had them all make during a team get together Shane and Ilya waited for direction. Anya was calmly sitting beside them. "Look behind you," instructed Shane. There on the deck were rainbow covered tables, plastic containers filled with snacks and a couple of coolers. There were also decorations that they could not make out.

They turned to face the kids, "If this is not the smallest parade then it sure is the most vibrant one." Shane pointed to the spectacle in front of them. The children were wearing gauzy faerie wings along with the most eclectic bright clothes, it looked like they had used all their play clothes. A real Pride parade had nothing on this event. Were those Mardi Gras beads on some of the kids?

Stuffed toys of all types and sizes were in red wagons. Jade, who also had a plastic sword hanging from her waist was pulling one. Ruby, who wore a pirate eye patch like a headband, was pulling the other. Arthur, with his own paper necklaces along with the beads was carrying a pillow with two plastic rings on it. "What are the plastic rings for?" Ilya asked Shane quietly. He didn't want to disrupt the children with questions. They were busy getting in place. "Don't know. Maybe they're recreating the wedding?" Shane and Ilya shared a look and shrugged. "That's a lot of stuffed animals. Do you see the elephant?" Ilya casually pointed. "It's like a whole zoo of animals," agreed Shane. "Let's make sure Anya doesn't want to play with one."

"Andrew's foam finger is nice," said Ilya, looking at the fidgety little boy who had what looked like clothes from three different cartoon characters.

"Yeah, and Willa at the front with a basket of flower petals is a nice touch." She was wearing what looked like a combination of a baseball and hockey uniform accessorized with many bead necklaces.

Hayden went to the front of the parade, "Ruby and Jade, it's time." As one they walked towards Ilya and Shane with two construction paper necklaces. "We made these for you," they said as Shane and Ilya bent down, allowing Ruby to place the necklaces around their necks and Jade placed candy bracelets on their wrists. "You can eat those later," she whispered.

After giving each girl a hug and a quiet thank you they stood up.

"Where are our wings?" asked Ilya.

"Yeah," piped in Shane, "can't be at a parade this beautiful without faerie wings."

Jackie turned to Hayden, "It's a good thing we got extra, and in assorted sizes." Hayden walked up to Shane and Ilya, "Here you go. They'll go well with your shirts," and burst out laughing.

Hayden went back to the side and clapped his hands. "Once the music starts, the parade will begin. Ilya and Shane, just so you know, the path is walking down the driveway, do a loop in front and come back up here. The kids know the way. Leave Anya with me if you want so she can lie in the shade." With that he walked back to take his spot as spectator.

The adults picked up a roll of paper that was by their feet. They unrolled it; Shane took a deep breath. **Happy Pride Shane and Ilya** it read in big letters. It was also full of colour, rainbows, hearts, and a myriad of other drawings. They both knew they'd be taking it back with them.

"Ilya," whispered Shane.

"I know," answered Ilya.

The music started; the parade had begun.

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