

Chapter 26: Rainbow

She thought she was answering questions clearly, concisely, correctly. Apparently she was mumbling, because Amy kept asking:

“What?”

“Say that again.”

“I’m sorry, what did you say?”

“Who?”

She was pretty sure that she didn’t want to answer any of these questions, but also pretty sure that not answering them would only get her more trouble. So she took the middle road. Mumbling.

“What was that, honey?”

“I said, my Mom knows where I am.” That was a lie. “I wrote her a note.” That was true, but misleading. “I don’t know her phone number, she just got a new one.” That was a double lie. This was getting worse and worse.

“This just doesn’t sit right.”

“Listen, Amy,” Rainbow shocked herself with her sudden clarity. “If you don’t let me go soon, I’m going to miss my flight and it’s the only one leaving for the next 8 hours. Maybe, if you call ahead to the other airport, and have someone there meet my uncle who’s picking me up,” lie “then he can call my mom and clear this up. That way I don’t miss my flight and you’re still fulfilling your duty.” Where the hell did that come from?

There was no second hand on the wall clock and that, combined with the complete and awkward silence, made the minute stretch forever.

Amy opened her mouth once, then again like a fish looking for food.

Finally, after an eternity, she sighed and said, “I don’t have any

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official reason to hold you. I will be having someone waiting for you and your uncle at the gate when you land.”

“His name is John Watson, he’s tall and balding.”

Lie, lie, and lie.