

The beautiful Princess Emma of Amherst Village traveled to the Village of Trees to visit some of her family. It was a lovely late summer day, perfect for the princess to practice her dives into the blue lake.

Her mermaid friends told her the week before, that when she dives, she needs to keep her legs closer together. Dive after dive, she took. Then at last, she just knew it was an absolutely perfect dive. It was almost a silent splash into the water.

All the animals watching her cheered! "Beautiful", "That's perfect", "Hooray"!

As she pulled herself up out of the water, she spotted something sparkling on the edge of the grass. "O No" she cried. "Something terrible has happened. I feel that this is a bit of good magic that has gone terribly wrong!" It was a dragonfly's wing that was just laying there, all by itself.

She called for me, "Pappy Raccoon, please come help. We must find a way to make this right. A dragonfly has lost his wing". I told her that I know that in the River of Stones we should find the "special" stones that have powers. We quickly searched and found a few. The Princess dipped each rock in the water

to determine if they had the special color patterns that she knew were needed to make things right.

Princess Emma, then placed the stones in a circle around the wing. "O Pappy Raccoon, there is nothing else we can do, except wait for the return of the dragonfly. The sun went down and all the forest animals went to bed, hoping and praying the dragonfly will return and find his wing by morning.

The next morning, even before breakfast, every one came back to the spot. But the wing was still laying there, surrounded by the stones that glowed in

in morning sun. The dragonfly did not return.

Princess Emma turned to her friends and with tears in her eyes, she told us that she must return back to her village now because the children were to start school tomorrow and she must make preparations.

The rest of the animals and I, assured the princess that we will keep a close watch on her stones and wing. Doofloopy, the dog told her, "We will never let you down, Princess Emma!"

It was late in the afternoon, and I just finished eating a few, well maybe a lot of big ripe tomatoes that were growing nearby. I laid on my back under a bush, watching the wing and the stones but then my eye lids got so very, very heavy.



I woke up to cheers from the happiest dragon fly I have ever seen. "My wing, My wing, O thank you, thank you so much, thank you, you saved my wing". "No" I said, "it was the princess Emma from Amherst. She knew exactly what to do to help you recover your wing. She wanted to wait for you but she needed to prepare the children for school"

"What happened", I asked. The dragonfly sat down and told Doofloppy and I of his traumatic experience.

"My cousins and I were flying, laughing and having fun going to flower to flower here in the Village of Trees. Then these Yellow Coat Bees started chasing me. I flew this way, then that way, trying every maneuver I knew to get away. Then all I had left was to fly straight up into the sky, higher and higher. I never flew that high in my life. I landed on a big fluffy cloud. No bees around me but I was way too exhausted to fly back home.

Then a little pixie fairy landed next to me. "Don't be afraid" she said, "I will get you home. Did you know that Dragonflies use to be pixie fairy's like me too, a long,

long time ago. Back then there was much more evil in the world and it was our job to help bring peace and love to everyone on earth. Finally, there was more love than evil on earth. So there was no need for so as many pixie fairies. Wanting to sound like they were a fearful bunch, they began calling themselves Dragonflys."





As the pixie was telling me this, the cloud we were sitting on started to turn darker and darker.

The the very moment she waved her wand to send me back to the ground, the biggest flash of light and loudest crash of sound filled me to the core. I was in the makings of a thunderstorm.

The next thing I remember is being on the ground. I saw my wing fly off behind me. I tried to get to it but with only one wing missing, I could only fly forward. So I flew in a big, huge circle, all the way around the world.

It was a very long trip but thanks to Princess Emma, I made my way back and have found my wing. Please Mr. Raccoon, please tell Miss Emma how very grateful I am that she knew how to use her imagination to help me.

I'd stick around here, but in my travels I found the most peaceful spot on earth. I am going back there now. It is so beautiful there. Good bye my friends and remember to thank the Princess for me."

The Dragonfly flew away. Doofloopy, the dog and I knowing that all was good, snuggled up for a peaceful nap.

The Princess knew that this had to be good magic that went terribly wrong and she was right!

By the way, All the children were well prepared for their first school day.



One thing we all know for sure is that  
Princess Emma is sure someone special!

The End

**Rick Piccinino**  
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## BONUS TIME

Can you answer these questions?

Doofloopy, the dog needs help finding a special stone. Which one of these stones do you think it is?



Pappy Raccoon needs help is deciding if he should eat and then take a nap, or take a nap, then have something to eat? Such a BIG decision!

Should the Fairy and Princess Emma go on an adventure together to visit the Dragonfly at his new home?

If you answered these questions then your Bonus Prize is a Big Smile. Do you know, a smile is a little bit of love that comes out from deep within you.

Did you find some love?