

As Recorded
February 20, 2018
D. Dick Rogers
Tara & Diana (takes 1-14)
As Recorded
February 26, 2018
D. Dick Rogers
(takes 15-51)

**MY LITTLE PONY
EQUESTRIA GIRLS
BATCH 3 6x7**

**Starswirl Part 4
"Backstage Do Not Pass"
#416-240**

Written by
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EXT. SMALL STAGE - DAY

OPEN ON: The DAZZLINGS, performing the end of their song, a cappella.

1 ADAGIO
Every day is the same.

2 ARIA/SONATA
(backing)
Over and over. Over and Over.

The song ends. Adagio pouts into the mic.

3 ADAGIO
That song's called "Enjoy Your
Misery, Human Scum."

WATCHING FROM BEHIND THE CROWD, Sunset throws up her hands at that. The other MANE 7 huddle up with her.

4 SUNSET SHIMMER
Seriously...?!

5 RARITY
The chord progression is rather
trite.

6 SUNSET SHIMMER
(correcting her)
And the Dazzlings are behind the
time loop!

7 RARITY
(sotto, under her hat)
Still no excuse for lazy songwriting.

8 RAINBOW DASH
So what are we going to do?

Sunset studies the festival flyer/map.

9 SUNSET SHIMMER
New mission... we have to get
backstage...

10 SCI TWI
Our backstage passes are only good
for Day 2 and you're not a VIP.

Sunset slumps. ~~Pinkie Pie~~ pats her on the back.

11 PINKIE PIE
You're a V important P to me.

15 (16)

12 SUNSET SHIMMER

They key is getting past... HIM.

12A 22 ANGLE ON-- The SECURITY GUARD, as he blocks BACKSTAGE ACCESS to 2 SUPERFANS, who both cry. The guard picks his nose, unfazed. WHIP PAN to RD, FS, and RY-- they're intimidated.

17ABC

13 RD/FS/RV

Yikes. / He's terrible! / Oh my.

PULL BACK as PINKIE PIE pops in front of them, determined.

14 PINKIE PIE

(cracking her knuckles)

The weak shall crumble before me. I got this!

Pinkie Pie cracks her knuckles. Sunset intercepts her.

18

15 SUNSET SHIMMER

If you want to help, let me come up with a plan. No distractions, no detours no...

(watching PP go)

...walking off while I'm talking to you. <SIGH>. Typical.

19

(20)

ANGLE ON Pinkie, all up in Security Guard's face, studying him with a magnifying glass. He remains stoic.

16 PINKIE PIE

Last summer, weren't you working at the ummmmmmm...?

(19)

She waits for him to fill in the blank. The guard is confused. So are Sunset and the others.

17 SECURITY GUARD

(curious)

Cat Food Convention...?

18 PINKIE PIE

(overlapping)

--Cat Food Convention! That's right! You were the guy who ummm...

She gestures with her arms... "come on, talk!"

19 SECURITY GUARD

I got FIRED...!

(AB)

ON SUNSET, mortified.

15 (19)

20 SUNSET SHIMMER
Ergh, if she blows this thing I'll
have to start all over tomorrow-!

21 PINKIE PIE
(scratching her head)
Because... what happened again...?

Mad, the guard begins stepping to Pinkie. She backs off.

4

22 SECURITY GUARD
I tried taking a kitten home with
me, alright? But that's "against
the rules."

23 PINKIE PIE
Was it an orange cat?

24 SECURITY GUARD
TUXEDO! ASK ME HER NAME, SEE WHAT
HAPPENS!

24A 34 24 25
The others all shake their head NO in unison, Pinkie steps
back in line with them, leans against Sunset coolly, and--

25 PINKIE PIE
Wha--

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. FESTIVAL GROUNDS - LATER

The Guard escorts the Mane 7 out the festival gate where
Sunset has been kicked out before. As he SNIPS their
wristbands... Pinkie frowns.

26 (27)

26 PINKIE PIE
I guess I don't got this.

(26) 4

27 SUNSET SHIMMER
You don't... but together, we do--
for a time looper, today's failure
is tomorrow's success...

Off Sunset's knowing smile...

CUT TO:

EDGAR-WRIGHT-ESQUE QUICK SHOTS OF A NEW DAY:

IN THE RV: <POSTCRUSH ALARM>. Sunset's eyes open. OUTSIDE:

26 (27)

28 RAINBOW DASH
Starswirl Day 1!

She <THWACKS> Sunset. AT THE MAIN GATE: <SPLAT> goes Sunset's boot in the mud! CLOSE ON WRISTBANDS: <BEEP>! Scanned.

EXT. SMALL STAGE - LATER

28A (28)

ANGLE ON-- The SECURITY GUARD, as he blocks BACKSTAGE ACCESS to 2 SUPERFANS who both cry. The guard picks his nose, unfazed.

But this time, when he looks up, his heart skips a beat.

SLOW-MOTION with <SENTIMENTAL MUSIC>: Sunset Shimmer approaches, carrying a wicker basket with pillows and fabric.

28B (28)

The guard's lower lip trembles. His eyes quiver with tears.

IN THE BASKET is a TUXEDO KITTEN.

29 (30)

29 SUNSET SHIMMER
Say hello to Hattie the Kitty-Cat.

Fluttershy and Pinkie watch from afar, nodding to each other in satisfaction. Behind them, the other Mane 7 are impressed.

29A (31)

The guard cuddles the kitten, who <MEOWS> and licks his nose.

30 SUNSET SHIMMER (CONT'D)
If you spend all your time keeping people out, how are you ever going to let anybody in...?
(then)
...To your heart.

A SINGLE TEAR rolls down his cheek as Pinkie Pie runs over.

31 SECURITY GUARD
...Go ahead and go backstage. The both'a you's.

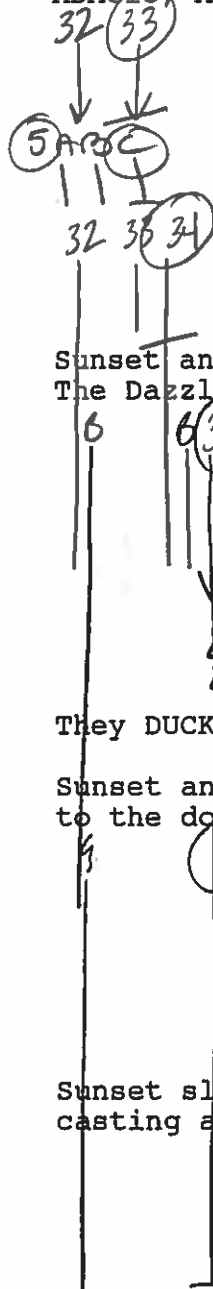
32 PINKIE PIE
(totally unexpected)
Really?! Wow! Thank you!
(sotto)
Great Idea, Sunset...!

33 SUNSET SHIMMER
(impressed, taking note)
We came up with it together.

EXT. BACKSTAGE - LATER

Sunset and Pinkie arrive backstage just as The Dazzlings pack up their instruments. They duck behind some AMP CASES.

ADAGIO, ARIA, and SONATA load instruments onto a TOUR BUS.



34 SONATA

That was our best show yet!

35 ARIA

The loop is really working.

36 ADAGIO

Of course it's working, it was my idea.

Sunset and Pinkie make eye contact: THEY'RE SO BUSTED!
The Dazzlings finish loading the dark, ominous tour bus.

37 SUNSET SHIMMER

I bet they're hiding the Time Twirler somewhere in their tour bus.

38 PINKIE PIE

Nice thinking!! Also-- they have a tour bus?!

They DUCK as the Dazzlings exit the bus and head off.

Sunset and Pinkie "sneakily" back around the corner, sliding to the door. Sunset opens it carefully, peeks in. All clear.

39 SUNSET SHIMMER

Stay here and stand guard. If you see anyone coming, sound the alarm!

40 PINKIE PIE

You got it!

Sunset slips into the bus as Pinkie gets into character, casting a wary eye over the backstage landscape.

41 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)

No one's gonna get by me. No way.
No how. Nuh-uh. Nope. Na na na na.

INT. THE DAZZLING'S TOUR BUS - LATER

Sunset searches the tour bus: in the bunks, under the table--

EXT. FESTIVAL GROUNDS - SAME

Walking through the grounds, the Dazzlings suddenly stop.

37 38 39

42 ADAGIO

...Did one of you remember to take
the bread out of the toaster?

6AB 7AB

43 ARIA

It's not my job to not start fires.

With a <SIGH>, they turn and walk back the other way...

INT. THE DAZZLING'S TOUR BUS - SAME

Sunset creeps SILENTLY through the SILENT tour bus SILENTLY.
Suddenly <TOAST POPS OUT> of the toaster.

37

39

44 SUNSET SHIMMER

Who leaves toast in the toaster,
honestly...?!

EXT. THE DAZZLING'S TOUR BUS - SAME

Pinkie Pie scours the view from her post with pure grit.

45 PINKIE PIE

Keeping watch, that's what I...
<SNIFF> <SNIFF>. What's that smell?
(then)
<BIG SNIFF>. Could it be...?

PP spots THE CRAFT SERVICES TABLE! And the crown jewel: a
steaming hot plate of Puffed Pastry's churros! She <GULPS>.

46 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)

Puffed Pastry's exclusive Star-
crusted Cinnamon-dipped Churros!
(really torn about this)
Now's probably not the best time to
go get one. On the other hand, if I
get TWO, then Sunset could have one
with me. NO! I WILL NOT GIVE IN!

She quivers, shaking, sweating, resisting..

INT. THE DAZZLING'S TOUR BUS - LATER

Sunset climbs on the table, balancing on tip-toes opening a
cabinet when she is startled by the <DOOR OPENING> and--

42 43

47 ADAGIO

Don't even think about eating our toast, Sunset Shimmer.

Adagio, Sonata, and Aria are staring at her, having just boarded the bus. Sunset glances out the window and sees Pinkie Pie at the churro cart, then <SIGHS>.

48 SUNSET SHIMMER

I was wrong... this is the worst possible time for churros.

49 ADAGIO

What are you doing on our bus?!

Sunset launches into the offensive.

50 SUNSET SHIMMER

Sorry not sorry, Adagio, but it's time to take this track off repeat. I heard you admit the time loop was "your idea."

51 ADAGIO

Time loop? What--? We looped a vocal track.

The Dazzlings <BURST INTO LAUGHTER> Defiant, Sunset touches Adagio's arm, reacting to an EMPATHY FLASH that we don't see... Sunset deflates, confused...

52 SUNSET SHIMMER

You're telling the truth? But your song... "Over and over, every day is the same..."

53 ADAGIO

That's about being stuck in this miserable human world with no magic or hope of returning to Equestria.

54 ARIA

And BT-dubs? If there's Equestrian Magic afoot around here, we call dibbs!

55 SUNSET SHIMMER

I thought if anyone would want to be able to redo the day and fix their mistakes, it's you three.

56 ADAGIO

Our mistake was manipulating Canterlot High School with magic.
(MORE)

51A

50 51

46

43

9 A B C

42 43

43

10 A B C 11 A B 12 13 AIT

44 45 A B

42 (43)

ADAGIO (CONT'D)

And we're paying the price for
it... our magic.

57 SONATA

(trying to be helpful)

Unless you count the magic of vocal
processing!

58 ADAGIO

(putting her in her place)

Which I don't. What I'm saying is--
we already get a do-over with every
new day. It's called living life.

59 SONATA

You should try it sometime.

Sunset fumes, turning red from holding in frustration.

60 SUNSET SHIMMER

...I can't.

61 ARIA

Poor Sunset Shimmer... are you mad?

62 SUNSET SHIMMER

I don't get a new day, okay?! I get
this day-- FOREVER. Nothing
changes. I can't tell you how SICK
I am of Pinkie Pie running off to
get churros! I HATE CHURROS!

Suddenly, Sunset sees PINKIE in the doorway. She blanches.

63 PINKIE PIE

... Oh. I-- just wanted to say the
Dazzlings are back, but I see you see
they see you seeing them and you've
seen me too and so... see ya.

(through tears)

Cool tour bus!

64 SUNSET SHIMMER

No, Pinkie, I didn't mean it--!

--but she's already gone. Adagio gives her a pitiful look.

65 ADAGIO

If the day's always the same, maybe
you're the one who needs to change.

On Sunset, crestfallen... FADE OUT.

END PART 4