



# **MY LITTLE PONY EQUESTRIA GIRLS STARSWIRLED**

Part 4: Backstage Do Not Pass  
#416-240

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**EXT. SMALL STAGE - DAY**

...As The Dazzlings play, Sunset is shocked:

SUNSET SHIMMER

But The Dazzlings weren't playing  
Starswirl the last time I checked!

Pinkie Pie studies the festival flyer/map.

PINKIE PIE

They're a last minute addition...

SCI TWI

This is definitely suspicious.

RAINBOW DASH

They lost their voices! They gotta  
be using magic!

RARITY

That, or auto-tune.

RAINBOW DASH

They wouldn't!

In tableau, they sing an <AUTO-TUNED THREE PART HARMONY>.

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

Wait what am I talking about of  
course they would.

SUNSET SHIMMER

We have to get backstage...

FLUTTERSHY

But how? Our backstage passes are  
only good for Day 2 and you're not  
VIP. I mean to me you are a very  
important person, but technically  
you're not. I'm sorry.

SUNSET SHIMMER

It just so happens I have exclusive  
access to a secret entrance.

RAINBOW DASH

You do?! Way to hold out on us.  
Where is it?!

SUNSET SHIMMER

Through that guy's heart.

ANGLE ON stoic Security Guard, making a small child <CRY>.

BEGIN MONTAGE:

- Sunset walks up to the guard with two baskets of fries. She offers one to him but he sticks up his nose.
- ANOTHER DAY: She tries again with churros. No dice.
- ANOTHER DAY: She tries again, this time with two shaved ices. His frown softens-- he takes one.

SECURITY GUARD  
Ehhh it's a cheat day.

SUNSET SHIMMER  
Nothing like music to bring people  
together, huh? I don't know about  
you but nothing beats... Jazz?

Security Guard <SCOFFS>.

- ANOTHER DAY:

SUNSET SHIMMER (CONT'D)  
Country?

- ANOTHER:

SUNSET SHIMMER (CONT'D)  
EDM. No, ska!

- ANOTHER:

SUNSET SHIMMER (CONT'D)  
Neo-Soul!

- FINALLY:

SUNSET SHIMMER (CONT'D)  
Pop!?!  
(without waiting for an  
answer)  
I GIVE UP!!!

Sunset collapses, defeated.

SECURITY GUARD  
Actually... I consider myself a bit  
of a pop aficionado. Gave song-  
writing a try myself back in the  
day!

SUNSET SHIMMER  
No. You?!

SECURITY GUARD

Yes! Have a real appreciation for the stuff. If I had to say, my favorite band is PostCrush.

SUNSET SHIMMER

Same here! It's an under-appreciated one but to me their best song is-

SUNSET SHIMMER (CONT'D)

"Chaotica"!

SECURITY GUARD

"Chaotica"!

★

- From a distance, the Mane 6 watch with raised eyebrows as Sunset and the Security Guard share a belly laugh.

- A sincere moment between them: Security Guard is <WEEPING> while Sunset puts a hand on his shoulder.

SECURITY GUARD (CONT'D)

I spend so much time trying to keep people out, I never make an effort to let people in.

SUNSET SHIMMER

That's okay, let it out. If you don't mind me asking, what's your name?

SECURITY GUARD

Guy... Guy Tuff.

SUNSET SHIMMER

Who *is* Guy? Who's the Guy-  
(hand on his heart)  
In *here*?

SECURITY GUARD

(<SNIFFLING>, epiphany)

An *artist*!

(then)

I wouldn't normally do this, but ya seem like a good kid... you wanna go backstage?

Sunset grins.

#### EXT. BACKSTAGE - LATER

Sunset runs backstage just as The Dazzlings pack up their instruments. She hides behind some AMP CASES as they go into the GREEN ROOM. Coast clear, she creeps out to follow them.

**INT. GREEN ROOM - BACKSTAGE - LATER**

ADAGIO, ARIA, and SONATA chill out post-show.

ADAGIO

I think the loop is really working-

SUNSET SHIMMER (O.S.)

Aha! So it is you!

The <DOOR OPENS> and Sunset BURSTS in. Adagio looks like she smells something bad.

ADAGIO

You?! What are you doing here?

SUNSET SHIMMER

Sorry not sorry, but it's time to take this track off repeat.

ADAGIO

What are you talking about?

SUNSET SHIMMER

You just admitted it: You're the ones causing the time loop-!

ADAGIO

I have no idea what you're talking about, and clearly neither do you. We were talking about looping a vocal track. Why would we create a time loop?

SUNSET SHIMMER

Deny it all you want, you can't fool me. You couldn't stand it, could you? When your voices were taken away, the last semblance of your power was too. Without the perfection of your musical magic, you were bound to make a mistake on-stage. But with the Time Twirler, you had a second chance-- in fact it gave you infinite do-overs until you got your perfect performance here at Starswirl.

The Dazzlings stare at Sunset-- then <BURST INTO LAUGHTER>.

ADAGIO

Not to be mean, but... seriously? I don't know anything about a Time Twirler, and as far as we know, this is the first and only time we've played Starswirl.

On Sunset, losing confidence.

SUNSET SHIMMER

But... but the lyrics to your song... *"Over and over, every day is the same?"*

ADAGIO

That's about being stuck here in the human realm, never able to return home to Equestria. You know Sunset, we did make a mistake. But that mistake was manipulating all of Canterlot High with magic. We have to accept that we did that and we're paying the price for it. We can't go back and make things perfect. But we do have a second chance. It isn't a do-over, though... it's learning from our mistake and making better decisions going forward.

(hand on SS' shoulder)

You of all people should know that.

Sunset bites her lip. Has she made a mistake somewhere along the way?

ADAGIO (CONT'D)

That's why we're here, giving it our all. Just The Dazzlings, plain and simple. No tricks, no magic.

ARIA

Unless you count the magic of auto-tune!

ADAGIO

Which I don't.

SUNSET SHIMMER

Thanks Adagio. I can't believe I... had a lesson to learn from you, of all people. No offense.

ADAGIO

None taken. You've got a lot to learn, so I'm really not surprised.

Sunset shakes her head, exasperated but grateful.

**EXT. SMALL STAGE - DUSK**

The sun's beginning to set as Sunset walks, lost in thought.

RAINBOW DASH (O.S.)

Sunset! There you are!

The Mane 6 run over, stoked, but she's mentally elsewhere.

SUNSET SHIMMER

Hey guys...

PINKIE PIE

Where've you been all day? We woke up and you were gone. It's almost PostCrush time!

SUNSET SHIMMER

I feel like I've made a mistake somewhere in all this, but I don't know what it is.

PINKIE PIE

The only mistake would be not getting a decent spot for PostCrush, right? So let's go!

Pinkie grabs Sunset's hand, trying to drag her, but Sunset stays rooted, waving her off.

SUNSET SHIMMER

I'm actually gonna skip it... Just go on ahead without me, don't worry about it.

Sunset walks on when suddenly Rainbow Dash gets in her face.

RAINBOW DASH

What's your deal, Sunset?!

SUNSET SHIMMER

Huh?

She shakes out of it to see Sci Twi and the others comforting a TEARY-EYED Pinkie Pie.

PINKIE PIE

... You- you've been avoiding me  
all day...

SUNSET SHIMMER

Pinkie, you don't understand. It's  
complicated-

PINKIE PIE

I understand perfectly! All I  
wanted to do was see our favorite  
band together, me and you... But  
clearly that's more important to me  
than it is to you-!

SUNSET SHIMMER

No, it was important to me-!

PINKIE PIE

I'm done with this. Festival? More  
like- like- like- SHMESTIVAL!

Pinkie storms off. Sci Twi eyes Sunset, who deflates.

SCI TWI

You really hurt her feelings. She  
just wanted to hang out with you.

On Sunset, processing: she was so focused on having her  
perfect experience, she hurt her best friend's feelings  
without even meaning to, and ruined it for both of them.

SUNSET SHIMMER

I think I know what my mistake is.

**END PART 4**