

**THE EQUESTRIA GIRLS
BETTER TOGETHER SERIES
CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE**

**"All The World's Off-Stage"
Short #403-040**

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SET UP

INT. AUDITORIUM - SIDE STAGE - DAY

SUNSET SHIMMER is controlling the action backstage with her HEADSET and CLIPBOARD for DAZZLED! She CUES the CUTIE MARK CRUSADERS onto stage - each carrying a SHOVEL and wearing a HEAD LAMP.

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*

1 SUNSET SHIMMER
Go! Go! And.... Go!

INT. AUDITORIUM - CENTER STAGE - COAL MINE SET

The Crusaders perform a STOMP-BALLET piece "*Sweet Child o' Mines*," which in no way infringes on existing IP. Their head lamps weave as the shovels slam the stage.

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INT. AUDITORIUM - SIDE STAGE - INTERCUT

Sunset taps her pencil on her clipboard, timing...

2 SUNSET SHIMMER
Ten seconds to set change. Stage crew ready?

*

Sunset points to SNIPS & SNAILS holding a complete mess of PULLEYS AND LINES. Despite struggling like flies in a spider web, they nod.

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*
*

3 SUNSET SHIMMER (CONT'D)
In five, four, three, PYRO and...

ON STAGE - SMOKE CANNONS fire!

4 SUNSET SHIMMER (CONT'D)
Bring in Shiny City!!

*

The dancers LEAP to a crescendo as the SHINY CITY BACK WALL begins to move. Sunset watches, proudly nodding. The set CREAKS LOUDLY AND PAINFULLY. Sunset's smile turns into a dubious look.

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*

WIDE: the set is barely moving, <CREAKING> in the otherwise silent auditorium. The CMCs stop and stare. Snips & Snails STRUGGLE with the weight. The set comes to a FULL STOP halfway across. Snips & Snails collapse. Sunset Shimmer blows her bangs, then walks to center stage, her <FOOTSTEPS> echoing. For the first time we realize the AUDIENCE is EMPTY.

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5 SUNSET SHIMMER (CONT'D)

Everyone take five!

(to Snips & Snails)

Guys, the effect is ruined if we
don't get the set across stage in
time with the dancers.

*
*
*

6 SNIPS

But their moves-- they're bustin'
em too fast for us!

*
*

7 SNAILS

(inside a pile of lines)

Did we mention it's very, very
heavy?

*
*
*

In the audience, TWILIGHT SPARKLE, PINKIE PIE, and MICRO
CHIPS all pitch in to help!

*

8 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Don't worry Sunset, I've got an
idea!

*
*

9 PINKIE PIE

I could help! I could help!

*

10 MICRO CHIPS

Surely brains, not brawn, are the
secret formula for backstage
success!

*

As Sunset thinks it over, THREE OPTIONS APPEAR: Twilight,
Pinkie Pie, and Micro Chips.

*
*

ENDING A: TWILIGHT SPARKLE

INT. AUDITORIUM - LATER

Sunset looks at the half-way stuck set.

*

11 SUNSET SHIMMER

Thanks for offering to help,
Twilight. Your gem powers of
levitation will make moving this
set a cinch! Ready...?

*
*
*

Sunset looks around. There's no one there.

12 SUNSET SHIMMER (CONT'D)

Twilight...?

*

<WHIRRRRRRRRR>. Sunset reacts to something RUNNING OVER HER FOOT! We PAN DOWN to a CIRCULAR VACUUM-STYLE ROBOT pattering on stage. Sunset looks over and sees Twilight, in safety glasses, following it with a remote. *

13 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
This is the perfect chance to test my robotics club project! *

The robot BUMPS the set a couple times, worrying Sunset. *

INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY *

Sunset, nervous, taps her pencil on her clipboard, timing as, *Sweet Child O' Mines* playing in the background. *

14 SUNSET SHIMMER
And... Bring in Shiny City!! *

The little robot <WHIRRS> over to the set wall and <BUMPS> it repeatedly like broken Roomba. Sunset raises an eyebrow to TS, who grins, then presses a RED BUTTON on the remote. The robot UNFOLDS into a small, HUMANOID ROBOT and MOONWALKS across the stage. It grabs the ropes from Snips and Snails, pulling the set in time with the dancers. *

15 SUNSET SHIMMER (CONT'D)
Twilight! That was amazing! *

16 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
It gets better... *

Twilight punches remote and the ROBOT dances the robot with SNIPS & SNAILS. Sunset and Twilight laugh. *

IRIS OUT. *

ENDING B: PINKIE PIE

INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY *

Pinky Pie inflates balloons with a helium tank. <SSSSSSStttt>... *

17 SUNSET SHIMMER
Pinkie Pie! What are these? *

18 PINKIE PIE
Party balloons! Aren't they just perfect?! Here, take this. *

She ties the balloon off and hands it to Sunset. Beat. *

19 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D) *
Now, isn't that better? *

20 SUNSET SHIMMER *
I don't have time for balloons. *

21 PINKIE PIE *
There's always time for balloons! *
And actually, they're for the set. *

22 SUNSET SHIMMER *
But the set is WAY too heavy. *

23 PINKIE PIE *
Exactly! *

INT. AUDITORIUM - SIDE STAGE - INTERCUT

Sweet Child O' Mines playing in the background. Sunset points *
at Pinkie Pie. *

24 SUNSET SHIMMER *
Bring in Shiny City!! *

Pinkie Pie TURNS ON A FAN! It blows on... the Shiny City *
backdrop MADE OUT OF BALLOONS! (Or, balloons pulling the *
backdrop a la *Up* if better for production.) *

The balloon set gracefully floats across the stage. *

25 PINKIE PIE *
Balloons can do anything! *

26 SUNSET SHIMMER *
Including... float away! *

The set starts to FLOAT AWAY! Snips & Snails grab it, barely *
able to stay on their feet... Until they float up with it. *

27 SNIPS *
Don't tell me I have to be *Peter* *
Pan! *

*Snips is referring to the public domain character from the *
1902 book, *The Little White Bird*. (eh? Eh????) *

ENDING C: MICRO CHIPS *

INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY

Micro Chips inspects the ropes and pulleys on stage, then proudly adjusts his glasses.

28 MICRO CHIPS

While simple machines do provide a mechanical advantage by multiplying force against a single load-- i.e., this set-- I'm afraid the net loss of force due to friction in the opposite vector has not been overcome.

29 SUNSET SHIMMER

...That also, I too... was thinking.

Micro Chips TUGS on one of the lines.

30 SUNSET SHIMMER (CONT'D)

I'm not sure you'll be able to move that giant, heavy set on your own.

Micro Chips FLEXES his non-existent bicep.

31 MICRO CHIPS

All we need is the right training regime!

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

BULK BICEPS is PUMPING IRON on a BENCH PRESS, as Sunset and Micro Chips watch.

32 BULK BICEPS

yeah! yeAH! yEAH! YEAH!

33 SUNSET SHIMMER

This is your plan? Get huge?

34 MICRO CHIPS

Free weights are great...

35 BULK BICEPS

YEAH THEY ARE!!

36 MICRO CHIPS

...but I just read a study in *Insane Lats Magazine* that BATTLE ROPES are the only way to make your shirt uncomfortably tight for the summer.

Bulk JUMPS up from the bench, grabs Micro Chips by the shirt. *

37 BULK BICEPS
GIMMIE THOSE BATTLE ROPES!!! *

INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY *

Sunset, nervous, taps her pencil on her clipboard, timing as, *
Sweet Child O' Mines playing in the background. *

38 SUNSET SHIMMER
And... Bring in Shiny City!! *

Micro Chips is standing next to Bulk Biceps with a STOPWATCH. *

39 MICROCHIPS
GO! Hustle, hustle, hustle!

40 BULK BICEPS
Hut hut hut hut!

Bulk Biceps RIPS at the "battle ropes," (The stage-hand *
ropes), sending the set CRUISING across the stage in perfect *
timing! Sunset grins, giving Micro Chips and Bulk a thumbs- *
up.

41 BULK BICEPS (CONT'D)
OH YEAH! *

42 MICRO CHIPS
Victory! The day is won! *

43 BULK BICEPS
WHO ELSE WANTS SOME!?? *

Bulk Biceps turns to Snips and Snails, who bust out a pose- *
off, flexing at one another. *

44 SNIPS
Hrrrrphhh! *

45 SNAILS
Nugh. Nugh. Nugh. Nugh. *

46 BULK BICEPS
GRAHHHHH! *

IRIS OUT. *