

“Magic Monday”

Animation Beatsheet By Ed Valentine

D1 – September 18, 2015

SONG CONCEPT

Life gets crazy busy – but slowing down to take time for a friend can make a manic day a whole lot better.

VISUAL CONCEPT

With some light references to the Bangles’ “Manic Monday” video (spinning clocks, ripping calendar pages), we track the beginning of a busy morning for Twilight and Sunset Shimmer in split screen – until they join together in full screen at the end. (The Rainbooms also cameo in full screen shots - perhaps in 80’s style outfits - with Twilight and Sunset taking the leads.)

STORY BEATS:

1. Fade in on two separate clocks in split screen (one an old-fashioned alarm clock with bells, the other an alarm on a smartphone). Both of them go off – a jarring noise - and the song begins.
2. Twilight wakes in her bedroom on one side of the split screen, while Sunset Shimmer wakes up in her own room on the other side of the split. Both are in their PJs and both are frantic: jolted awake by her clock, a bleary Twilight leaps out of bed and falls in a tangle of bedclothes on the floor – while a bleary Sunset Shimmer, awakened from a dream, leaps up as if fighting off ninjas. They both sigh and shut off their alarms.
3. In full-screen, a shot of the Rainbooms as a group, looking to cam and singing in a field. (See the “Manic Monday” video for a reference – and perhaps the girls are dressed in outfits that are an homage to the 80’s: big-brimmed hats, fingerless gloves, numerous jelly bracelets, leg warmers, etc.)
4. Suddenly, a bunch of clocks spin across the screen like some kind of nightmare. When the clocks clear, in split screen again Twilight and Sunset are looking into their separate bathroom mirrors. Both of their hairdos are comically messy. Quick comic cuts as they try to get hairbrushes through their unruly locks – but they both only end up making things worse: think “Bride of Frankenstein,” worst frizz ever, mullets, impossible tangles.
5. Twilight’s hand rips Calendar pages rip off in fast succession – but all the pages are Mondays! When the pages clear, both girls are trying to find outfits to wear. On Twilight’s side of the split screen, Spike playfully runs off with her outfit, and Twilight has to chase him to get it back. Meanwhile, a smartly-dressed Sunset Shimmer admires herself in a full-length mirror with a “*Hey, girl – you look GOOD!*” nod - but on her way out the door, she catches her coat on a nail and it unravels into a pile of yarn.
6. Another full-screen shot of the Rainbooms again singing as a group. Perhaps they do some 80’s dance moves against some 80’s style cuts and backgrounds (neon zig-zags against white backdrops, colourful cubes to dance on, aerobics-style dancing, etc.)

7. Again in split-screen, Twilight and Sunset try to get to school – but the second they step out of their houses, it starts to rain! They’re both soaked, hair dripping. To add insult to injury, Twilight steps in a puddle and drops all her books in the water. Sunset Shimmer hesitates for a second – and when she does, her bus passes her, splashing her with water as it zooms away.
8. Images of rainclouds and bad weather fill the screen, along with more spinning clocks and calendars. Then in split screen, Twilight and Sunset trudge through the streets under a grey sky with their clothes and hair sopping wet. Everyone they pass seems to be moving frantically fast in super-speedy motion, accentuating how slowly both girls are moving today. (The other kids are moving so fast it’s like a video game – again, see “Manic Monday” for possible reference.) Both girls are really bummed: this day is turning out to be terrible.
9. Still in split screen, the camera tracks the two girls from behind as they arrive at Canterlot High under foreboding clouds. (The steps of the school are ahead.) Looking bedraggled and lost in their own worlds, the girls walk up the same steps on separate sides, in parallel paths.
10. Twilight and Sunset suddenly notice each other — and they’re overjoyed to see each other! (NOTE: the split screen dissolves here, and the video is in full screen from here on.) The girls hug and share a laugh at how messy they look... and a burst of magical energy shoots forth! A rainbow appears in the sky and the skies become sunny and beautiful as the energy of their friendship makes everything brighter. They walk arm in arm through the school doors, their regular appearances and hairstyles restored.
11. As Twilight and Sunset walk through the halls, they’re happy to be together - and the magical energy of their friendship changes everything around them as they pass by. Wilted flowers in a planter come to life and bloom... a bickering Snips and Snails stop fighting, burst into tears, and share a hug... Derpy’s dropped stack of books magically restack and levitate back into her hands.
12. In the cafeteria, other kids appear in extra-fast motion - but no matter how frantic all the others appear, Twilight and Sunset are a calm island in the middle the madness. They sit together, both happy to share a peaceful moment with a friend.
13. Cut to the 80’s Rainbooms, who appear as a group once more to finish the song as we... *fade to black.*