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MY LITTLE PONY

Season III - Premises

"Journey to the Crystal Kingdom"

"The Royal Treatment"

"Too Many Pinkie Pies"

Premises by

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JOURNEY TO THE CRYSTAL KINGDOM

Twilight has been Princess Celestia's pupil for quite some time now and is preparing to go before the Princess and take a test to assess her progress. Twilight is more than a little nervous, but is afraid to ask for help from her Ponyville friends. Every time they see her, they tell her how confident they are that she is going to ace the exam. Asking for their help would mean revealing that she doubts herself. If she doesn't believe in her abilities, why should they? To make matters worse, Twilight has been having a terrible recurring nightmare that is disrupting her sleep. In it she finds herself facing a dragon, but has lost her magic and cannot do anything to defeat it. Unable to get a good night's rest, she can barely focus on her studies, which is only making her doubt herself more. Spike suggests that Twilight speak to Princess Luna about her bad dreams, as this would certainly be an area of expertise for the Princess who once had the moniker Nightmare Moon. But Twilight is reluctant to go to Luna with a problem that she thinks the Princess would consider so trivial. Instead, she'll just find ways to avoid going to sleep. A task that proves impossible when, at every turn, Spike is doing things that make her sleepy (i.e. humming lullabies, brewing go-to-sleep tea, dimming the lights).

Twilight realizes her nightmares aren't going to end and she's never going to be able to prepare for her test until she finds a way to get rid of them. She goes to Princess Luna who informs her that the only solution is to go to sleep. In her dreams she needs to reach the magical Crystal Kingdom and her nightmares will disappear. Princess Luna explains that the Crystal Kingdom is the light-filled sanctuary where ponies can go to live out happy, wonderful dreams. Twilight falls sound asleep and once again finds herself back in her nightmare. But this time, she notices the bright light of the Crystal Kingdom in the distance and starts to make her way towards it.

As Twilight travels through the frightening terrain of her nightmare, she runs into dream versions of her Ponyville friends, each of whom is in peril because they are facing something they fear and are unable to deal with it. Twilight is able to help them overcome these fears and when she does so, they join her on her journey to the Crystal Kingdom. Twilight and her Ponyville friends finally make it to the Crystal Kingdom and Twilight's friends all go inside. But just as Twilight is about to enter, the dragon that had been appearing in her earlier nightmares appears and blocks her path. Once again, Twilight discovers that she has been stripped of her magic. She sees her friends inside the Crystal Kingdom and realizes that the only way to get past the dragon is to ask for their help. The Ponyville ponies immediately come to her aid and together they defeat the dragon. Twilight is now able to enter the Crystal Kingdom.

When Twilight wakes up, she realizes that while she has defeated the dragon in her dreams, she still has a problem she needs to deal with in the real world. She goes to her friends and tells them that she has doubts about being able to do well on her upcoming test and that she could use their help getting ready for it.

The Ponyville Ponies immediately agree to help her. They are happy that Twilight has the confidence in them to ask that they assist her in getting ready for something so important. Having finally faced her fear, Twilight goes to sleep and dreams of being with her friends in the Crystal Kingdom. The next day, well-rested and prepared, she aces her test.

THE ROYAL TREATMENT

Twilight is looking forward to her first visit to see Shining Armor and Princess Cadence since their wedding. She's eager for her friends to come along, but no one is too keen on accompanying her. Princess Cadence and Shining Armor haven't exactly taken up residence in the most hospitable of places. After expelling Queen Chrysalis and her changelings, they were asked to take over her kingdom -- a frozen tundra at the northern most part of Equestria. Rarity is the one Ponyville Pony willing to make the journey. Frozen tundra or no frozen tundra, it is an opportunity to rub noses with royalty. Plus, she has the most delightful freezing weather frock she hasn't been able to wear in Ponyville.

As Twilight and Rarity travel to Princess Cadence's new kingdom, Twilight expresses her excitement about having fun with her old foalsitter. She thinks it will be just like old times. But Rarity doesn't think this will be the case. Princess Cadence has her own kingdom now and lots of royal responsibilities. She isn't going to be the same mare with whom Twilight once played hopscotch. Twilight and Rarity arrive in the frozen north and are amazed to find that Princess Cadence and Shining Armor have created a veritable Shangri-La. Their combined magic has created a lush paradise in the middle of the snowy, blustery landscape. Twilight is eager to spend time with Princess Cadence but soon finds that she is indeed busy with new royal responsibilities. So much so that Twilight has to actually schedule a lunch with her. Seeing the pomp and circumstance that now surrounds her beloved foalsitter, Twilight starts to worry that Rarity might have been right. Princess Cadence is a big-time Princess now. The last thing Twilight wants is to be Princess Cadence's embarrassingly simple sister-in-law.

Rarity tells Twilight not to worry; she will help her friend become more regal. Rarity puts Twilight through the royalty ringer and Twilight emerges on the other side a changed pony. But when she goes to have her lunch with Princess Cadence, we see that Twilight has made a big mistake. The Princess is surprised by Twilight's new royal attire and attitude. She leaves the lunch disappointed, thinking Twilight has changed and that the two may not have as much in common as she thought. Twilight is devastated. All she wanted was to renew her bond with her foalsitter and instead she's pushed her away.

Rarity feels bad for having encouraged Twilight to change who she was and agrees to help her show Princess Cadence that Twilight is the same pony she once knew. The two arrange for an audience with Princess Cadence, but this time Twilight acts like herself and uses their one-on-one time to have fun with her sister-in-law, not try and impress

her. Princess Cadence is thankful that Twilight has come to her senses and asks that Twilight spend the rest of her visit by her side. Turns out she's been eager to have someone around who doesn't put her on a pedestal, but treats her like the sweet, fun-loving, and unassuming mare she is.

TOO MANY PINKIE PIES

Pinkie Pie loves having fun with her friends. The only problem is that sometimes Pinkie Pie has to choose between friends and activities. There's so much fun to be had and not enough Pinkie Pie to enjoy it. What if she's been making the wrong choices? When Pinkie Pie mentions her predicament to Twilight, Twilight jokingly tells her she should just make more Pinkie Pies. Pinkie thinks this a great idea and remembers a story she once heard as a filly. Legend has it that there is a pond deep in the Everfree Forest that has the power to make a pony's reflection come to life.

Sure enough, the legend is true and when Pinkie Pie stares into the pond, her reflection comes to life and joins her on the shore. Pinkie Pie is thrilled. Now that there are two of her, she won't have to choose to only do one fun thing at a time. Pinkie Pie sends her reflection off to a barn-raising with Applejack and her family while she hangs out with Rainbow Dash. She then meets up with her reflection who tells her every little detail about the barn-raising. (Though she noticeably focuses on the things she got to do, not the ponies with whom she got to do them.) It's almost like the real Pinkie Pie was there herself. Pinkie Pie decides that having one extra Pinkie Pie is good, but having more Pinkie Pies would be even better. Pinkie Pie returns to the pond, this time making a dozen more Pinkie Pies. She now has enough Pinkie Pies to do everything she could ever want to do. Things are going great until she realizes that she's created so many replicas of herself, all of her opportunities for fun with her friends are being taken by her fun-seeking doppelgangers. Pinkie Pie goes to Twilight and tells her she's made a big mistake. But then another Pinkie Pie shows up and tells Pinkie Pie that she's made a big mistake. Then yet another Pinkie Pie shows up...

Twilight needs to help the real Pinkie Pie get rid of her reflections, but which one is the real Pinkie Pie? Twilight devises a plan to figure it out. The Pinkie Pies will be asked to do something really boring and whomever can do it for the longest time so that she can stay in Ponyville with her friends is the real Pinkie Pie. Twilight knows that the real Pinkie Pie doesn't just care about having fun; she cares about being with her friends and would do anything to be with them, even something as boring as watching paint dry. Twilight's plan is successful as one by one the Pinkie Pie reflections can't ward off their boredom and try to do something more fun instead. As soon as they do... Poof! Twilight casts a spell and they disappear back into the pond. Only the real Pinkie Pie continues to watch the paint dry. Twilight and Pinkie Pie are thrilled that Twilight's plan worked. But when Twilight asks Pinkie Pie if she wants to go find something fun to do together, Pinkie Pie decides to pass. Today might be a good day to choose to just stay at home.