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MY LITTLE PONY IV

"Princess Twilight"

Parts 1 & 2

Episodes 401 & 402

Outline by

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“Princess Twilight – Part I”

TEASER

FADE IN:

1) EXT. CANTERLOT – DAY

APPLEJACK, PINKIE PIE, RARITY, FLUTTERSHY, and SPIKE look on as RAINBOW DASH gives Twilight some flying pointers. It is not going well. We learn that Twilight is especially nervous about getting things right with her new wings because she will be participating in the upcoming Summer Sun Celebration in Canterlot. Now that she is a Princess, she will have a more regal role to play. Twilight’s friends have just assured her that she is going to do just fine when she fails to properly extend her wings and is sent plummeting to the ground. She lands with a thud as we...

END TEASER

ACT I

FADE IN:

CLOSE ON – A STAINED GLASS WINDOW

It depicts Twilight’s coronation. Her Princess crown is on her head. Her wings are outstretched. We WIDEN TO REVEAL:

2) INT. CANTERLOT TOWER – SOON AFTER

APPLEJACK, PINKIE PIE, RARITY, FLUTTERSHY, RAINBOW DASH, and SPIKE admire the stained glass window. TWILIGHT reminds them that she wouldn’t even be a Princess if it weren’t for the friendships she developed with each and every one of them. Twilight tells her friends that she is honored to play a part in the upcoming Sun Celebration and wants to fulfill her new duties as a Princess but can’t help but be a little disappointed that she won’t get to celebrate with her friends who already have big plans back in Ponyville. Pinkie Pie suggests that Princess Twilight create a duplicate of herself so that she can be in both places at once. The others shoot her a surprised look. “Kidding!” Pinkie Pie replies.

Applejack tells Twilight that she can tell her friend is a little worried about things with her friends changing now that she’s a Princess, but that her worries are unfounded. These friends share a connection like no other. “Exhibit A,” she says gesturing to the stained-glass window that depicts them using the Elements of Harmony to defeat

Nightmare Moon. “We’re united by the Elements of Harmony,” she reminds Twilight. “No crown and new pair of wings is gonna change that,” she adds. The other Ponyville Ponies agree.

3) EXT. TRAIN STATION – SOON AFTER

Twilight says goodbye to her friends as they board the train headed back to Ponyville, promising to send her detailed updates about their celebration at home. It will be just like she’s there in the flesh. They remind her that she’ll be returning to Ponyville just as soon as the Summer Sun Celebration is over. Rarity reminds her that they have already have an appointment in the books to make some more “Princessy upgrades” to her home at the Golden Oak Library.

As the train begins to leave the station, Twilight comments to Spike that she can’t help it; she already feels like she’s missing something. Just then, he BURPS up a scroll. Twilight reads it aloud: “Dear Princess Twilight, You aren’t missing anything. Signed, Applejack.” But as Twilight watches her friends laughing it up in their train car as it heads back to Ponyville, she doesn’t look so sure. DISSOLVE TO:

4) EXT. CANTERLOT TOWER – DUSK

Spike looks on as Twilight practices levitating off the ground using her wings. Princess Celestia approaches and commends her for her efforts. Princess Celestia tells Twilight that she is so pleased that she’ll be a part of the Summer Sun Celebration. We learn that it is no longer a celebration of Luna’s banishment to the moon but of the sisters’ happy reunion. Twilight tells Princess Celestia she only hopes she won’t do anything to mess things up. Fulfilling her duties as a Princess is very important to her. Princess Celestia assures her that everything will be fine.

Just then, Spike burps up a scroll. A beat. Twilight’s gaze drifts from Princess Twilight to the scroll. Princess Celestia smiles and asks Twilight if she wants to see who has sent it to her. Twilight eagerly unfurls the scroll. She giggles a little to herself as she reads it over. “News from Ponyville, I presume?” Princess Celestia asks. Princess Twilight quickly gets serious again. “It’s nothing,” Twilight says. “Better get back to practicing for my part,” she adds as she uses her magic to roll up the scroll.

5) INT. CANTERLOT TOWER – LATER THAT NIGHT

Twilight can’t sleep and sits by the window staring up at the moon. Spike is already in bed and encourages Twilight to get some rest. She has a big day tomorrow. Twilight agrees to go to bed soon, but continues to look out the window. DISSOLVE TO:

6) INT. CANTERLOT TOWER – EARLY MORNING

Twilight has fallen asleep with her head on the windowsill. She groggily opens her eyes just as the sun starts to rise and the moon starts to set. Twilight notices something strange. The moon and sun do not seem to be moving. They both hang in the sky, parallel to one another. Twilight rubs her eyes and takes another look. Sure enough the two celestial bodies appear to be stuck.

Twilight quickly rouses Spike from his slumber and informs him that something is wrong. She tosses the still groggy Spike on her back and heads out the door.

7) EXT. CANTERLOT – SOON AFTER

Twilight exits the tower to find several confused Canterlot citizens have gathered. The sky has been split in half. On one side the moon hangs in the sky and it is dark. On the other side is the sun and it is daytime.

A ROYAL GUARD races up to Twilight and urges her to come with him. Twilight follows and is shocked when the Guard reveals that he has an explanation for the strange occurrence in the sky – Princess Celestia and Princess Twilight are missing!

END ACT I

ACT II

8) INT. CANTERLOT CASTLE – THRONE ROOM – A MOMENT LATER

A pair of ROYAL GUARDS brief Twilight. They have looked everywhere but Princess Celestia and Princess Luna are nowhere to be found. Their absence is surely the cause of the moon and sun being stuck in the sky. The guards ask Princess Twilight what she wants them to do. “What I want you to do?” a confused Twilight responds.

The guards remind her that they are Royal Guards and with Princess Luna and Princess Celestia missing and Princess Cadance securing the Crystal Empire, they need someone “royal” to give them their orders. Twilight is letting this sink in when another member of the Royal Guard bursts in with word from Ponyville. There is trouble with the Everfree Forest.

Twilight snaps out of her daze and tells the other Guards that they are to let everyone know that the Summer Sun Celebration has been postponed, but to keep Princess Celestia and Princess Luna’s disappearance under wraps as best they can. News of their absence would cause a panic and that’s the last thing they need at a moment like this.

Twilight takes off with Spike running behind her. “Where are you going?” the Royal Guards ask. Twilight doesn’t answer as she races out the door.

9) INT. CATHEDRAL OF HARMONY – A MOMENT LATER

Twilight retrieves the Elements of Harmony. She informs Spike that she and her friends will no doubt need to harness the power of the Elements once again to save the day.

10) EXT. CATHEDRAL OF HARMONY – CONTINUOUS

Twilight and Spike quickly exit the Cathedral. Twilight worries that she and Spike will have missed the train to Ponyville. Spike reminds her that there is another way for them to get to Ponyville. “You can fly now, remember?” Twilight sheepishly replies, “Oh, right,” as she extends her wings and takes flight with Spike holding on for dear life.

10) INT. FLUTTERSHY’S COTTAGE – AT THE SAME TIME

Crammed with so many animals Fluttershy can barely move. She offers assurances to the frightened creatures. Everything is going to be fine. She pushes through the throng of birds, rabbits, squirrels, etc. to take a peek out the window. Through it she can see tentacle-like vines coming from the Everfree Forest and spreading out into Ponyville. She lets out a little scream as a vine twists around her cabin and blocks her view.

11) EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES – AT THE SAME TIME

Applejack reacts as giant weeds begin popping up everywhere. No amount of pulling will get rid of them. The rest of the Apple family tries to lend a hoof, but to no avail.

12) EXT. EVERFREE FOREST/EXT. PONYVILLE – AT THE SAME TIME

Rain clouds move into Ponyville from the Everfree Forest. Rainbow Dash tries everything in her power to move them away but they won’t budge. She just barely avoids being hit by a bolt lighting. Frustrated, she gives a cloud a kick, and then winces in pain. The rain cloud hasn’t moved an inch.

13) EXT. PONYVILLE TOWN SQUARE – A MOMENT LATER

Total chaos as Ponyville citizens try to avoid getting caught in the ever-expanding and seemingly sentient foliage of the Everfree Forest. With the Pegasus no longer in control of the weather, lightning crackles, then snow falls, then rain, then crazy winds.

Applejack, Rainbow Dash, Pinkie Pie, and Rarity have gathered to assess the situation. Rarity shows her friends that her magic appears to be on the fritz. Earth Ponies, Pegasus, and Unicorns alike seem to have lost control of their surroundings. It seems to be a direct result of the expansion of the Everfree Forest. If it continues to grow, the

problem no doubt extend beyond Ponyville and into all of Equestria. Off their concerned faces we...

END ACT II

ACT III

14) EXT. PONYVILLE – SOON AFTER

Rainbow Dash, Applejack, Rarity, Fluttershy, and Pinkie Pie do what they can to help their fellow Ponyville Ponies escape the snaking vines, fast growing weeds, and stampede of scared animals that is overtaking their town.

Twilight drops down from the sky and makes an awkward landing in front of her friends. Applejack jokes that it turns out that Twilight was missing something in Ponyville after all. Twilight quickly explains that Princess Celestia and Princess Luna are missing. Something or someone is behind this she adds, distributing the Elements of Harmony, and she and her friends are going to join forces once again to put an end to it. “Just like old times,” Rainbow Dash says offering Twilight a “hoof bump”.

As Twilight looks around at the chaos being caused by the growing Everfree Forest, she starts to get a pretty good feeling about who is responsible and tells her friends she is going to summon the culprit to make things right. There is a loud POP! Standing before them is none other than DISCORD. “You rang?” he says with a smirk.

Twilight accuses Discord of taking Princess Celestia and Princess Luna and causing the Everfree Forest to run wild. Discord can’t believe what he is hearing. While he does adore what they’ve done with the place, he can’t take responsibility. He’s reformed, don’t they remember? The Ponyville Ponies don’t believe him for a minute.

MUSIC UP as Discord breaks into a SONG about being innocent of this terrible crime and his disbelief that he would be accused of something so heinous. The ponies aren’t buying it and constantly chime in to remind him of his villainous past.

The song comes to an end just as Zecora arrives on the scene. The zebra reveals that the Everfree Forest has become too wild and dangerous even for her and that she has been forced to flee. Twilight threatens Discord with the Elements of Harmony if he doesn’t return Celestia and Luna and make things right.

MUSIC UP as Discord starts to sing about his innocence again. Zecora quickly cuts him off and comes to his defense. Discord did not take Princess Celestia and Princess Luna. “To find the answers that you seek, into this cauldron take a peek,” Zecora tells Twilight as she mixes up a strange brew.

As the steam from the boiling cauldron rises up around her, there is a FLASH of LIGHT and Twilight finds her self in...

15) INT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS – NIGHT

Twilight looks around, confused. Just as she pieces together where she is, she sees Princess Luna. She calls out to her and is shocked when Luna glares and tells her that things will never return to the way they were. Equestria is hers! As Luna says this, she suddenly transforms in to Nightmare Moon!

She fires a blast of magic that Twilight assumes is meant for her. Twilight dives out of the way but it turns out that the blast was intended for Princess Celestia who was standing right behind her. Princess Celestia uses her magic to deflect that of Nightmare Moon. Twilight helplessly calls for the sisters to stop fighting as their blasts of magic destroy the castle around them and we...

FADE TO BLACK

END PART I

“Princess Twilight – Part II”

ACT IV

16) INT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS – NIGHT

Twilight tries to get the attention of Princess Celestia and Princess Luna but her efforts are in vain. They continue to fight their epic battle. Finally, nearly defeated, Princess Celestia tells her sister that she has given her no choice. Princess Luna reacts as Celestia produces the Elements of Harmony and harnessing their power, uses them to banish Luna to the moon. There is another FLASH of LIGHT and Twilight is back in...

17) EXT. PONYVILLE TOWN SQUARE – NOW

Twilight emerges from the steam more confused than ever. It's clear now that what she has seen is not something that is happening now, but an event from the past. But what does it have to do with their current predicament? Zecora encourages her to look a little deeper. Rainbow Dash tells Twilight to be quick about it. The Everfree Forest is getting wilder by the minute and Ponyville is in real jeopardy.

As her friends rush off to provide assistance to their fellow Ponyville citizens, Twilight peers back into the cauldron. There is another FLASH of LIGHT and Twilight finds herself in...

18) EXT. PONYVILLE – NIGHT - THE PAST

Ponyville citizens emerge from their homes and react to the fact that the moon still hangs in the sky. We HEAR Luna's eerie LAUGHTER and Celestia's pleas for her sister to lower the moon so that she may raise the sun. Another FLASH and we are in...

19) EXT. EVERFREE FOREST – DAY – THE PAST

Discord howls with laughter as Princess Celestia and Princess Luna tell him that his reign of terror in Equestria is over. He then reacts in horror as they reveal the Elements of Harmony and use them to turn him into stone. Another FLASH takes us to...

20) EXT. EVERFREE FOREST – DAY – THE PAST

A young Celestia and Luna play in the forest together. Twilight follows them and their game of chase leads them to an enormous glowing tree that they refer to as the TREE of HARMONY. Twilight reacts when she sees that along with the Cutie Marks of Celestia and Luna, her own Cutie Mark is emblazoned upon its trunk. She is even more surprised to discover that hanging from its branches are the ELEMENTS of HARMONY. Another FLASH and Twilight returns to...

21) EXT. PONYVILLE – TOWN SQUARE – THE PRESENT

As they fend off wild sentient vegetation in the background, Twilight's friends ask her what she's learned. Twilight tells them that she thinks she knows what she must do to restore order to the Everfree Forest – return the Elements of Harmony.

END ACT IV

ACT V**22) EXT. PONYVILLE – TOWN SQUARE – SOON AFTER**

Twilight explains that she thinks that for some reason the Tree of Harmony needs the Elements back. To save the day, Twilight and her friends must go into what is now clearly the most dangerous place in all of Equestria and deliver the Elements to the Tree of Harmony. As terrifying as it is sure to be, Applejack, Rarity, Rainbow Dash, Pinkie Pie, and Fluttershy all agree to Twilight's plan. Fluttershy tells her "good friend" Discord that while they are gone, he is to stay behind and do his best to keep the other Ponyville Ponies safe from harm.

Discord reluctantly agrees to do his part. As proof he is on board with this plan, he zaps a pair of vines that are holding Snips and Snails by the ankles in mid-air. The two

plummet and hit the ground with a thud. Fluttershy shoots Discord a look. “What? I was saving them from those terrible vines,” he responds with a smile.

23) EXT. EVERFREE FOREST – SOON AFTER

Our “Mane 6” dodge, weave, and hack at the ever-growing foliage as they trek through the forest. Twilight comments that this is where it all began for them. Their search for the Elements of Harmony is what brought them all together. But before the girls get a chance to reminisce further, they are suddenly set upon by a pack of Timberwolves. The Timberwolves seem even more rabid than usual as they go after our heroines. (NOTE: We can go with another Everfree Forest creature or invent one we’ve never seen before.)

The girls fight off their attackers but Twilight is the victim of several close calls. She still hasn’t mastered the whole “wings” thing yet and her efforts to fly are completely awkward and seem to only get her into trouble.

Tragedy averted, our heroines begin anew their journey to the Tree of Harmony. But after a few feet, Applejack stops. She’s realized something. With Princess Celestia and Princess Luna missing and Princess Cadance responsible for the Crystal Empire, Twilight is the only Princess left. Twilight doesn’t get what Applejack is getting at, but Rarity does. She points out that Twilight just barely avoided becoming Timberwolf food. If something were to happen to Twilight too, there wouldn’t be a Princess remaining who can lead the citizens of Equestria through what will certainly be a major crisis.

Twilight’s friends agree that she should return to Ponyville. They will take her Element and deliver it to the Tree of Harmony. Princess Twilight’s role in Equestria is more important than theirs, she must be kept out of harms way. Twilight protests but her friends won’t take no for an answer. A somber Twilight hands over her Element and she and Spike head back to Ponyville as Twilight’s friends disappear deeper into the forest.

24) EXT. PONYVILLE – SOON AFTER

Discord isn’t doing a particularly good job of fending off the rampant foliage and Everfree wildlife. Instead, he’s got a bucket of popcorn and is enjoying the show as Ponyville citizens run around in terror. Upon seeing Twilight and Spike approaching, he tosses aside the popcorn and zaps a handful of vines to release a terrified Dr. Whooves from their thorny grasp. Discord then realizes that Twilight is alone. She explains that her friends have gone on without her and that they all decided that it was in the best interest of Equestria for her to stay behind.

Discord feigns sympathy for Twilight. “Cheer up, Princess Twilight. So your friends are going off without you. So you’re royalty now with royal obligations and they are but common citizens. No need to be so glum. You’ll always have the Elements of Harmony

to unite you,” he says. “Oh. Wait. Once they get rid of the Elements that won’t be true anymore will it?” he adds, suppressing a devilish grin.

Discord reads the disappointment in Twilight’s eyes and can’t help but continue. “I’m just surprised you agreed to their plan. I never thought you’d be the kind of pony who would think she was better than everypony else,” he says. Twilight protests. She doesn’t think she’s better than anypony. “Oh, yes, why ever would I assume you think that?” he asks with a smirk. “All you did was agree to keep your Princess-self out of harm’s way while your pals thrust themselves right into it,” Discord adds. “I’m sure you’ll all just be the best of friends again once they return from the terrifying, yet deeply bonding experience they are having without you.”

Twilight spins on her heels and starts heading back toward the Everfree Forest. Spike chases after her. He tells her Discord is reformed, but he’s not that reformed. He’s just trying to get under Twilight’s skin. “Well, it’s working!” Twilight responds.

25) EXT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS – AT THE SAME TIME

Applejack, Rarity, Rainbow Dash, Pinkie Pie, and Fluttershy arrive at the ruins of the Castle of the Two Sisters. The wild of the forest has strangely not taken it over, as if some sort of force field were protecting it. As they make their way through the rubble, Applejack asks if anyone has considered what they plan on doing to defeat Discord if he decides to drop the whole reformed act and wreak more havoc on Equestria? Or if some other evil creature like the Changeling Queen decides to prey on its citizens? Once they return the Elements to the Tree of Harmony, Equestria will be without its primary means of defense.

The Ponyville Ponies begin to worry that they may be solving one problem, but creating a whole new one. Maybe there is another way to tame the forest that doesn’t require handing over the Elements. Maybe they should try to look into some other options. But what if it turns out there isn’t another option and the Everfree Forest spreads beyond Ponyville while they’ve been wasting time looking for one? Rarity comments that she certainly doesn’t feel comfortable making the call. With the clock ticking before Ponyville is completely consumed by the Everfree Forest and the fate of the rest of Equestria in the balance, who among them should ultimately be the one to make this important decision? Rainbow Dash volunteers but her friends do not agree.

26) EXT. EVERFREE FOREST – AT THE SAME TIME

Twilight is lost. The forest has grown so thick that she can’t figure out which way to go to reach her friends. She and Spike can hear the sounds of the rabid Everfree creatures starting to surround them. Twilight is now away from her friends and in grave danger. She is going to fail to fulfill her duties as a Princess of Equestria and her friends will continue to believe that she considered herself more important than they are. As the

rabid magical creatures and seemingly sentient vegetation of the Everfree Forest closes in around her we...

END ACT V

ACT VI

27) EXT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS – SOON AFTER

The Ponyville Ponies are still debating if they should go forward or head back when Spike suddenly rushes up to them, out of breath. He informs them that he has just narrowly escaped being overcome by the forest and its creatures and that Twilight is in real danger. She needs their help.

28) EXT. EVERFREE FOREST – A MOMENT LATER

The Ponyville Ponies fight off every Everfree Forest creature and plant imaginable to extract Princess Twilight and bring her to the safety of the...

29) EXT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS – CONTINUOUS

Exhausted, Princess Twilight, Spike, and the Ponyville Ponies take refuge in the rubble of the castle. Her friends express how glad they are that Twilight is with them. Equestria needs its newest Princess now more than ever. Twilight protests that she's just the same as her friends. There isn't anything special about her. But her friends disagree. They convey their concerns over giving up the Elements of Harmony when it will mean potentially making Equestria susceptible to other kinds of attack. They could try to find another way to stop the forest, but if their search is in vain, Ponyville could end up completely destroyed before they get the Elements back to the Tree of Harmony. They look to Twilight to tell them what to do and will respect the final decision of a Princess.

Twilight looks at her friends who await her decision. Whether she likes it or not, she is a Princess now and things are different. She tells her friends that she has made her decision.

30) EXT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS – DAY

Princess Twilight leads her friends to the location of the Tree of Harmony. They discover that it has been almost completely overtaken by strange vines. Whatever light and magic had resided inside it has been almost completely squeezed out by the snake-like plant. Even worse, trapped in the same evil vines, unable to speak, and suspended in mid-air are Princess Luna and Princess Celestia!

Our heroines produce their Elements and Twilight and are about to give them over to the Tree of Harmony when suddenly...

Venus Flytrap-like flowers with snapping jaws appear on the black vines and shoot out at Twilight and her friends. The girls fight off the snapping flowers, while protecting their elements, until finally Twilight is able to use her magic to return them to the branches of the Tree of Harmony.

The tree begins to glow. The vines that were choking the life out of it and holding Princess Celestia and Princess Luna captive are suddenly turned to dust. The tree glows even more brightly and Twilight and her friends look around to see the Everfree Forest growing more calm.

31) EXT. PONYVILLE – AT THE SAME TIME

The vines that had taken over retract back into the Everfree forest. A Pegasus takes to the sky and is able to move the storm clouds away. Discord pouts.

32) EXT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS – AT THE SAME TIME

A beam of light travels through the Elements that hang from the Tree of Harmony's branches and form a SPARKLING CRYSTAL RAINBOW! Twilight and her friends react as the rainbow encircles them. The friends begin to glow much like the Tree of Harmony.

The trunk of the tree opens and a GOLDEN CHEST emerges. The chest opens and the sparkling Crystal Rainbow shoots into it. The top of the chest slams shut and the light of the Crystal Rainbow shoots through the keyholes of the 6 LOCKS that now secure it. There is a FLASH of RAINBOW COLORED LIGHT and we...

DISSOLVE TO:

33) EXT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS – A MOMENT LATER

As our heroines recover from the experience of this magical event, Princess Luna and Princess Celestia thank them for coming to their aid. Celestia then explains that the chest that came out of the Tree of Harmony is meant for Twilight. Twilight and her friends are no longer connected to the Elements of Harmony, but they are forever bound by friendship. In fact, it is only through her relationships with her friends that Twilight will be able to find the keys that will unlock the chest. "Let the Rainbow be your guide on this new journey," Celestia adds cryptically.

34) EXT. PONYVILLE – SOON AFTER

Twilight and her friends return to Ponyville where clean up has begun. Discord applauds the girls on a job well done. Too bad they had to get rid of the Elements of Harmony to win the day. Fluttershy tells Discord not to even think about it. For the moment, Discord seems to respond to her threatening tone. Though he does have a confession to make. He produces Zecora's cauldron and encourages Twilight to take a look.

As the steam from the boiling cauldron rises up around her, there is a FLASH of LIGHT and Twilight finds her self in...

35) EXT. EVERFREE FOREST – DAY – THE PAST

Twilight sees Discord moments before Celestia and Luna defeat him with the Elements of Harmony. Right as he is being turned to stone, he drops a black seed into the Everfree Forest. The tiniest snake-like sprout pops up next to the Tree of Harmony. A FLASH of LIGHT and Twilight returns to...

36) EXT. PONYVILLE – THE PRESENT

Twilight shoots Discord an angry look. “Oops,” he responds. He explains that he’d really intended for his little to plant to take over 1000s of moons ago but that the Tree of Harmony kept it from growing up big and strong for much longer than he thought it would be able to. Twilight points out that this was all information they could have used earlier in the day. Say, the moment the Everfree Forest started growing out of control. “And rob you of a valuable lesson about being a Princess? What kind of friend would I be?” Discord answers with a sly smile. Off Twilight’s irritated look we DISSOLVE TO:

37) INT. GOLDEN OAK LIBRARY – LATER THAT NIGHT

Twilight tucks in an exhausted Spike. He looks at the Golden Chest and asks her what she thinks she’s going to find when she finally gets all the keys she needs to open it. Twilight tells him that she has no idea what the future holds for her as a Princess, but she’s certain her Ponyville friends will continue to be an important part of her journey.

THE END