

MY LITTLE PONY
Episode 425 / 403-425
"Twilight's Kingdom" Part 1
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EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE - ESTABLISHING - DAY

EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE CASTLE - AT THE SAME TIME

SPIKE

Seems like only yesterday I was saving
this place from being totally
destroyed.

(then)

Hey, you guys remember that?

RAINBOW DASH

You only mentioned it about 15 times
on the train here.

RARITY

(pointedly to RD)

Yes, and we never hear a peep out of
you about *your* exploits.

RAINBOW DASH

Point taken.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT

I'm glad you all wanted to come, but
I don't think it's going to be that
exciting. I pretty much just have to
smile and wave as the dignitaries
arrive.

RARITY

Yes, but you get to smile and wave like
a princess.

APPLEJACK

How exactly is that different than
smiling and waving like, not a
princess?

PRINCESS TWILIGHT

It isn't.

FLUTTERSHY

What's wrong, Twilight?

PINKIE PIE

Why the loooonnnng face?

PRINCESS TWILIGHT

I've just been feeling a little unsure
about things lately. It doesn't seem
that my new role as a princess equates
to all that much.

APPLEJACK

That's just silly. You've got a real
important role in Equestria.

FLUTTERSHY

Princess Celestia wouldn't have asked you to come today if she didn't think so.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT

I guess you're right.

RARITY

Of course we are.

(then)

Now hurry along. You don't want to risk having that important role diminished because you're tardy for your regal meet and greet.

EXT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - SOON AFTER

FLASH SENTRY (O.S.)

The Duke and Duchess of Mare-tonia.

INT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - AT THE SAME TIME

SPIKE

That was it?! Princess Celestia had you come all the way to the Crystal Empire just to do that?!

Twilight slumps. Her friends shoot Spike a look.

SPIKE (CONT'D)

I mean, whoa, really regal and important! <NERVOUS LAUGH>

INT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - LATER

DIGNITARY

Your highness.

(then)

Thank you for understanding our desire to keep the number of those privy to these confidential discussions to a minimum.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT

Of course.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT (CONT'D)

Is there anything else I can do to assist with their visit?

PRINCESS CADANCE

I'm sorry, Twilight, but their visit is already over.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT

Oh.

PRINCESS LUNA

Something wrong?

PRINCESS TWILIGHT

I guess I just don't really understand
why I'm here. Couldn't one of the
Royal Guard have unfurled the banner?

PRINCESS CELESTIA

Having all four of us in the Empire to
greet them lets the dignitaries know
that their visit is considered an
important one.

PRINCESS CADANCE

Plus, it gives me an opportunity to
see my favorite sister-in-law.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT

And I'm happy to see you. All of you.

PRINCESS CADANCE

But...

PRINCESS TWILIGHT

But, I... it's just that Princess Luna
raises the moon. Princess Celestia
raises the sun.

(then, to Cadance)

You protect the Crystal Empire. And
all I seem to do is... smile and wave.

MUSIC UP as...

Princess Twilight begins to SING.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT (CONT'D)

*It isn't that I'm ungrateful
For all the things
that I have earned/
For all the journeys I have taken
All the lessons I have learned*

*But I wonder where I'm going now
What my role is meant to be/
I don't know how to travel
To a future that I can't see*

*I have my wings
I wear this crown
I'm a Princess this is true/
But it is still unclear to me
Just what I'm meant to do*

I want to have a purpose

*Want to do all that I can/
I want to make a contribution
Want to feel part of the plan*

PRINCESS CELESTIA
*Your destiny's uncertain
And that's sometimes hard to take
But it will become much clearer
With every new choice you make*

PRINCESS CADANCE
*Patience is never easy
I understand you wanting more
I know how hard it is to wait
To spread your wings and soar*

PRINCESS LUNA
*But you stand here for a reason
You are gifted and you are strong
That crown's upon your head
Because you belong*

CELESTIA/LUNA/CADANCE
*Know that your time
is coming soon/
As the sun rises
So does the moon/
As love finds a place
in every heart/
You are a princess
You'll play your part*

PRINCESS LUNA
*We understand you wanting more
A chance to shine
A chance to soar*

PRINCESS CADANCE/ PRINCESS CELESTIA
PRINCESS LUNA
*Soon will come the day it turns
around/Know that your time
is coming soon/
As the sun rises
So does the moon/
As love finds a place
in every heart/
You are a princess
You'll play your part*

PRINCESS CELESTIA
*You are a princess
You'll play your part*

END SONG

PRINCESS CELESTIA (CONT'D)
Your time will come.

EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE - LATER

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CANTERLOT - NIGHT

UNICORN

Very sorry. You came out of nowhere.

CLOAKED FIGURE

Is he friend or is he foe, the pony wonders.

CLOAKED FIGURE (CONT'D)

I can assure you. I am no "friend".

CLOAKED FIGURE (CONT'D)

I am Lord Tirek. And I will take what should have been mine long ago.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE CASTLE - AT THE SAME TIME

PRINCESS LUNA

Sister, are you alright?

PRINCESS CELESTIA

I've just had the most terrible dream.

PRINCESS LUNA

Why do you think I'm here?

(then)

You know as well as I that this was not a dream, but a vision.

PRINCESS CELESTIA

Then we haven't much time. The stronger he becomes, the more we are all in danger.

INT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE CASTLE - SOON AFTER

PRINCESS CELESTIA

Tirek and his brother Scorpan came here from a distant land, intent on stealing Equestrian magic. But Scorpan soon came to appreciate the ways of Equestria, even befriending a young unicorn wizard.

PRINCESS LUNA

Scorpan urged his brother to abandon their plans. When Tirek refused,

Scorpan alerted us to Tirek's intentions.

PRINCESS CELESTIA
Scorpan returned to his own land, and Tirek was sent to Tartarus for his crimes.

(then, grave)
But it appears he has found a way to escape.

PRINCESS LUNA
We believe it happened when Cerberus left his post at the gates.

TWILIGHT
But that was a long time ago. Why is he just now starting to steal magic?

PRINCESS CELESTIA
His time in Tartarus left him very weak. He has just now gained enough strength to use his dark powers.

PRINCESS LUNA
But with each passing moment, he grows stronger still.

PRINCESS CADANCE
And I know just the Princess who could stop him.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
Yes. I'll find him and--

PRINCESS CELESTIA
No, Twilight, I'm afraid I must call on another to stop Tirek.

PRINCESS CELESTIA (CONT'D)
Discord.

AJ/RV/PP/RD/SPIKE
(utter shock)
DISCORD?!

EXT. PONYVILLE - DAY

APPLEJACK
As in Discord, Discord?

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
Yes.

FLUTTERSHY
I don't think it's that big of a surprise. He can be very helpful.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT

He can sense when there is a magical imbalance. The next time Tirek steals magic, Discord will be able to track him down.

RAINBOW DASH

So what are you supposed to do in the meantime?

PRINCESS TWILIGHT

<SIGH> Nothing.
Unless of course one of you needs me to smile and wave.

SPIKE

Where are you going?

PRINCESS TWILIGHT

To the Castle of the Two Sisters. I'm not really needed anywhere else. Might as well catch up on some of my reading.

RAINBOW DASH

Want some company?

APPLEJACK

It has been awhile since we've visited the castle. Might be fun.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT

Maybe I could use a little company right now.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS - SOON AFTER

RAINBOW DASH

I still can't believe we had to give back the Elements.

RARITY

It had to be done or the Tree of Harmony wouldn't have survived.

FLUTTERSHY

But Twilight was right. Even without the Elements, our friendship is as strong as ever.

APPLEJACK

I just hope another "friend" of ours never makes us sorry we had to give them up.

DISCORD (O.S.)
You're talking about me, I presume?

APPLEJACK
How'd you guess?

DISCORD
My ears were burning.

RAINBOW DASH
What are you even doing here, Discord?

DISCORD
Just a bit of light reading before I
head off on my *extremely* important
mission.
(then)
I suppose you all know that I've been
tapped to capture a certain Tartarus
escapee.

SPIKE
Big deal.

DISCORD
You're right, Spike, it is a "big
deal". Seems I possess a magic that
gives me quite an important role in
Equestria.
(then)
Maybe they should make me an Alicorn
Princess.

RAINBOW DASH
In your dreams.

DISCORD
Oh I never dream of such things. Ask
Princess Luna.

APPLEJACK
Don't you have a creepy
magic-stealing villain to track down?

DISCORD
Yes, yes, yes, of course. It's just
that I couldn't help but notice that
Twilight hasn't opened this little
chest of hers.

DISCORD (CONT'D)
It got me thinking. What if what's
locked inside is something that could
help her prove her royal worth?

DISCORD (CONT'D)

I only bring it up because she said she's been feeling like her role as a princess doesn't equate to much.

PINKIE PIE

Wait a minute! How do you know she said she was feeling like that?

DISCORD

Oh, my. Is eavesdropping not the way you're supposed to find out what your best pals are up to?

(then, laying it on thick)

Woe is me. Will I ever learn the intricate nuances of being a good friend?

DISCORD (CONT'D)

Well, in any case, I suppose now is as good a time as any for me to make my exit.

APPLEJACK

And good riddance--

DISCORD

Oopsey doopsey, I almost left with the little journal you all have been keeping. What a fascinating read. Haven't you girls just learned so much?

DISCORD (CONT'D)

I've bookmarked a few of the more "interesting" passages. You really should take a look.

DISCORD (CONT'D)

We're still on for tea later aren't we, Fluttershy?

FLUTTERSHY

I wouldn't miss it.

DISCORD

(sing-song)

I'll bring the cucumber sandwiches.

APPLEJACK

Sometimes I think the "reformed" Discord is more obnoxious than the "before he was reformed" Discord.

RARITY

Indeed.

FLUTTERSHY
(to Twilight)
But he could be right, couldn't he?
What if there is something important
in that chest?

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
There's only one way to find out.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. LIBRARY OF THE TWO SISTERS - LATER

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
Anything?

PRINCESS TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
There must be something in this
library that can help me figure out
how to open it.
The answer is in one of these books.
I just know it.

EXT. ANOTHER PART OF EQUESTRIA - AT THE SAME TIME

DISCORD
Tirek, I presume.

TIREK
(weakly)
Discord. You're... free?

DISCORD
As a bird.

TIREK
I commend you on your escape.

DISCORD
I'm afraid the feeling isn't mutual.

TIREK
(weakly)
I should have known you would want to
have Equestria all to yourself.

DISCORD
Oh, I'm not doing this for me. I'm
doing it for my friends.
(then)
Just between the two of us, it's
mostly for Fluttershy.

TIREK
Fluttershy? You're not saying
you're friends with... Ponies?

DISCORD

Surprise!

TIREK

I am surprised that someone with your intellect does not see this "friendship" is but a new form of imprisonment. Clearly you've had to abandon your true nature to stay in their good graces.

DISCORD

(mouth full of cake)

I have done nothing of the sort.

TIREK

Please. I have seen this before.

(then)

But he was always weak-minded. You are Discord. You are legend. You cannot fall into the same trap that claimed my brother.

TIREK (CONT'D)

Help me to grow strong and be rewarded with something far greater than "friendship" -- freedom.

TIREK (CONT'D)

Once I have stripped these ponies of their magic, nothing would give me greater pleasure than to see their world turned upside down. Who better to do so than the master of chaos himself?

TIREK (CONT'D)

Join me, Discord, and reclaim your greatness.

(then, pointed)

Unless, of course, "pony errand boy" is the role you've always wanted to play in this world?

INT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS - LATER

PRINCESS TWILIGHT

I think I've found something!

PRINCESS TWILIGHT

I've been reading our journal and there's something interesting about the sections that Discord bookmarked.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT (CONT'D)

...Applejack, do you remember when you had to tell everypony that the

tonic Granny bought from the
Flim-Flam brothers didn't really
work?

APPLEJACK
How could I forget? It was one of the
hardest things I've ever had to do...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PONYVILLE POOL - FLASHBACK - EPISODE 421

APPLEJACK
I hate to disappoint everypony, but
there's no way Granny could have made
that dive because this tonic is a
fake.

BACK TO:

INT. LIBRARY OF THE TWO SISTERS - NOW

APPLEJACK
But in that moment, I knew had to be
honest. I just knew it.
(then)
But what that's got to do with opening
the chest?

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
(explaining)
Reading through the Journal we've
kept together, I've found that each of
you has had to face a situation where
living up to the Element of Harmony
you represent wasn't easy.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Fluttershy, it was when you realized
that the way to show kindness to the
Breezies was by forcing them to leave
your home.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. FLUTTERSHY'S COTTAGE - FLASHBACK - EPISODE 416

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. LIBRARY OF THE TWO SISTERS - NOW

FLUTTERSHY
The looks on their poor little faces.
(then, sure of herself)

But I knew that as difficult as it was,
pushing them away was the kindest
thing I could do.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
Rarity, even after Suri took
advantage of your generosity at
Fashion Week in Manehattan, you
didn't let it cause you to abandon
your generous spirit.

INT. GRAND MAJESTIC THEATER - FLASHBACK - EPISODE 408

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. LIBRARY OF THE TWO SISTERS - NOW

RARITY
I simply couldn't have lived with
myself if I didn't do something
special for the friends who have
always been so generous to me.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
Rainbow Dash, you had the chance to
fly with the Wonderbolts at the
Equestria Games but instead you chose
to compete with your friends.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. RAINBOW FALLS - FLASHBACK - EPISODE 410

BACK TO:

INT. LIBRARY OF THE TWO SISTERS - NOW

RAINBOW DASH
Sure. But being loyal to my friends
was way more important.

PINKIE PIE
My turn! My turn!

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
(to Pinkie Pie)
Pinkie Pie, you realized that seeing
your friend laugh was more important
than proving you were a better party
planner than Cheese Sandwich.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PONYVILLE - TOWN SQUARE - FLASHBACK - EPISODE 409

BACK TO:

INT. LIBRARY OF THE TWO SISTERS - NOW

RAINBOW DASH
Best party I've ever had.

RARITY
It's clear we've all had our moments to shine, Twilight, but I'm with Applejack. What does any of this have to do with the opening the chest?

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
All of you had tough choices to make, but when you made the right one and embraced your Element, it helped somepony else make the right choice too.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Each of you received something from the pony whose life you helped change...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PONYVILLE POOL - FLASHBACK - EPISODE 421

SILVER SHILL
I'd like you to have it. As a reminder of how you helped me finally see the truth.

INT. LIBRARY OF THE TWO SISTERS - NOW

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
I know it sounds crazy, but maybe there's something special about those objects that would lead us to the location of the keys.
(then)
The chest is connected to the Tree of Harmony, the Tree is connected to the Elements, and the Elements are connected to all of us. There must be a connection!

PRINCESS TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
I hate to admit it, but maybe Discord was trying to be a good friend after all.

EXT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS - TREE OF HARMONY - SOON AFTER

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
(re: the objects)
I don't see anything on them that
would give us a clue as to where the
keys might be. They're just
ordinary, everyday objects.

PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Come on, Boneless! Give us that key!

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
I don't think that's going to work.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
There's still one key missing.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
The key that represents the Element of
Magic. My Element.

FLUTTERSHY
Oh but I'm sure that if we've gotten
our keys, you have too, Twilight.

RARITY
Think Twilight, when have you
completed a difficult magical task
and in doing so encouraged another
pony to do the same?

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
I haven't. If I had, I would have
written about it in the Journal.

SPIKE
Don't worry, Twilight, I'm sure
you'll get your key eventually--

SPIKE (CONT'D)
What's it say?

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
That I'm needed in Canterlot at once.

EXT. APPALOOSA - AT THE SAME TIME

DISCORD
Looks like there's a new sheriff in
town.

INT. CANTERLOT CASTLE - LATER

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
I came as quickly as I could.
(then)
Is something wrong? Is it Tirek?

PRINCESS CELESTIA
I am afraid I put too much trust in
Discord and the effect that
friendship would have upon him.

PRINCESS LUNA
Discord has betrayed the ponies of
Equestria and joined forces with
Tirek.

PRINCESS TWILIGHT
How could he do this? I thought our
friendship meant something to him.
I thought he had changed.

PRINCESS CELESTIA
Tirek has stolen enough magic that he
now has the strength to steal flight
as well. Without Pegasi to control
weather there will be no rain in
Equestria. There is word he has gone
after earth ponies as well. Without
their strength they will not be able
to tend the land.

PRINCESS LUNA
Ponies will no longer be in control of
their world. That power will belong
solely to Tirek.

PRINCESS CELESTIA
There is no doubt that Tirek is after
alicorn magic. With Discord by his
side we will not be able to stop him
from taking it.

PRINCESS LUNA
Once it is in his possession his power
will now have no bounds and all hope will
be lost.

PRINCESS CELESTIA
But there is one solution.

PRINCESS CELESTIA (CONT'D)
It is only by making this sacrifice
that Equestria and the lands beyond it
might be saved. We must rid ourselves
of our magic before Tirek has the
chance to steal it from us.

FADE TO BLACK

END PART I