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MY LITTLE PONY IV
'Untitled/Twilight's Kingdom'
Episode 425/426
Written by: Meghan McCarthy

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TWILIGHT is irritated when she and SPIKE find DISCORD in the Castle of the Two Sisters reading through the Journal that she and her friends have been keeping. By briefly recapping the past key episodes, Discord reveals that Twilight is the only one who hasn't faced a problem in which she had to prove that she still embodies her Element of Harmony. And, isn't it strange how her friends have all received an object upon facing these challenges? Who knows what could happen if there were *six* such objects at their disposal. He gestures to the CHEST that Twilight received from the Tree of Harmony and its SIX LOCKS. Twilight pretends that she isn't bothered by the fact that she hasn't faced such a challenge. She insists that she's learned her "Lesson Zero" about trying to force a situation so that she can get what she wants. But deep down it does bother her. As she departs the castle with Spike, she reveals that she struggles with the fact that she is a Princess, but still doesn't know what her role in Equestria is supposed to be. Perhaps the answer lies in whatever is in the chest. The one she still can't open because she's the only one who doesn't have a key. Argh!

Discord, pleased to have caused a bit of discomfort for Twilight, continues to flip through the journal, but his reading is interrupted by the unexpected arrival of TIREK, a centaur with bull-like horns that give him the ability to perform dark magic. He reveals that even Tartarus could not hold him and that now he will get his revenge by usurping the one who sent him there, Princess Celestia. Of course to overthrow a powerful Alicorn he'll need the help of an Alicorn. He's certain Celestia's sister Nightmare Moon can help him once he frees her from the moon. Discord reveals he's missed a lot since he's been away. Nightmare Moon isn't Nightmare Moon anymore and she isn't about to risk her relationship with her sister to help him. But there is a new Alicorn in town. One who might be a bit unsure of herself, and perhaps a little easier to manipulate. Tirek tells Discord that because Discord is such a "good friend," he'll of course share the spoils of his victory if Discord gives him a hand with his evil plans. Discord is more than happy to lend a cloven hoof. Tirek gives Discord a TBD object that represents their bond of "friendship."

Tirek wants proof that Twilight does in fact have the powerful magic he'll need to usurp Celestia and become ruler of Equestria. With Discord's help, he causes numerous problems in Ponyville. And with Discord's encouragement, Twilight solves them all with her magic. (One such problem may result in the destruction of the Golden Oaks Library.) Discord goads her along by pointing out that any one of these strange occurrences could be the opportunity she's been looking for to prove she embodies the Element of Magic. Despite her friends' insistence that they can help her with this mysterious outbreak of inexplicable trouble in Ponyville, Twilight, moved by Discord's argument, becomes increasingly eager to face these challenges alone using her magic.

Having seen Twilight in action, Tirek is satisfied that she has the magical power that, combined with his own, will be enough to carry out his revenge on Celestia. Not only that, but by seeing Twilight use her magic to keep her friends out of harm's way, he has also discovered the means by which he can manipulate her into doing his bidding.

Discord creates another situation in which Twilight chooses to go it alone with her magic, leaving her friends behind. With Twilight out of the way and with Discord's assistance, Tirek is able to take her friends prisoner, locking them up in the Castle of the Two Sisters. Fluttershy is shocked that Discord has betrayed his friends this way. Discord points out that he has a better, more powerful friend now, Tirek. But, as it turns out, Tirek doesn't actually want to share any of that power with Discord. He's just been using him and imprisons Discord with the rest of Twilight's friends. Discord laments that Friendship totally isn't Magic.

Twilight finds out about her friends and comes to the Castle of the Two Sisters ready to do battle with Tirek and save them. The two face-off in an epic magic battle. But Twilight soon realizes that they are too evenly matched. She can never defeat him and their fight could rage on until who knows when. Tirek tells Twilight that this can all be over quickly. He will release her friends and not harm them in exchange for one thing -- her magic.

Twilight considers this for a moment and then her EPIPHANY RAINBOW suddenly appears. Despite her friends protests, she agrees to the exchange. Tirek agrees to let Twilight first cast a spell that will make this a binding contract so that Tirek cannot go back on his promise not to hurt Twilight's friends once he has Twilight's magic. Much to everyone's surprise, she asks that Tirek release Discord as well. Discord is shocked that Twilight would ask for this after the way he betrayed her.

Tirek releases Twilight's friends, insisting that victory is his. With his magic combined with Twilight's he can usurp Celestia and get his revenge on her for imprisoning him. Because of Twilight's spell, her friends will remain unharmed, but he can't say that Equestria under his rule will be a particularly fun place to live. He merely laughs when Discord tells him that he will never rule Equestria.

Discord suddenly makes all of the objects our Mane 6 have acquired over the course of the season appear along with the chest. He gives Twilight the object Tirek gave him at the beginning. Because of Twilight, he knows what true friendship looks like and will never be tempted to betray his true friends again. Suddenly, all 6 objects turn into KEYS! Twilight and her friends use them to unlock the chest. It opens and unleashes a GIANT EPIPHANY RAINBOW that swirls around the Mane 6 and then goes after Tirek. He tries to fight it off with his newly acquired magic but it is no use. Twilight explains that his magic is no match for the most powerful magic of all -- The Magic of Friendship!

She thought that in order to get her key she was supposed to prove that she would never turn her back on magic, but she realized that, wait for it. Friendship is Magic!! Only by never turning her back on the kindness, generosity, laughter, loyalty, and honesty of her friends can she keep Equestria safe from those who would try to harm it.

Tirek is defeated by the power of the epiphany rainbow and Twilight's magic is returned to her. Twilight and her friends are rejoicing when suddenly, the ground beneath them begins to shake.

The Castle of the Two Sisters rises up into the clouds, magically transforming into a beautiful new castle that is held aloft by the swirling Epiphany Rainbow. PRINCESS CELESTIA appears and reveals that this castle will now belong to Princess Twilight. She will take on the mantle of the Princess of Friendship, and with the help of her Ponyville friends, she will spread the Magic of Friendship across all of Equestria. The castle will be where Twilight will now live, but Ponyville, the place where her journey began, will always be her home.

A Musical Number in Twilight's Castle in the Sky takes us to.

The End.