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MY LITTLE PONY 6

"The Crystalling, Part One"

Episode 601

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TEASER

SC. 1 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - MORNING

STARLIGHT wanders through one of the Castle's long halls,
more than a little unsure of where she's going.

*
*

1 STARLIGHT
Okay. Library... library... Where
did they put the library?

*
*
*

She reaches the end of the hall and makes a turn to reveal--
another hallway.

*
*

2 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
<SIGH> This Castle looked a lot
smaller from the outside.

*
*
*

Starlight comes to a door and yanks it open to reveal--

*

SPIKE - standing on a step stool with towel around his waist,
brushing his teeth.

*
*

3 SPIKE
 (mouth full of toothpaste)
Morning, Starlight.

*
*
*

4 STARLIGHT
Whoops!

*
*

Starlight quickly shuts the door, then talks through it.

*

5 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Sorry, Spike. I guess I'm still
trying to find my way around. You
don't happen to know where the
library is, do you?

*
*
*
*
*

Spike sticks his head out and points with his toothbrush.

*

6 SPIKE
Next door on the left.

*
*

Starlight follows Spike's gaze to an open doorway through
which SHELVES OF BOOKS are clearly visible.

*
*

7 STARLIGHT
 (embarrassed)
Oh. Thanks.

*
*
*

SC. 2 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

Starlight peeks inside to find TWILIGHT SPARKLE at a table going over a list.

8 TWILIGHT
(to herself)
...the Apples, definitely, ooh and
Ahuizotl...
(noticing Starlight)
Starlight! Good morning! Come in!

Twilight puts the list down and comes to greet Starlight.

9 STARLIGHT
Morning, Twilight. Sorry I'm late.
I got a little turned around.
I still can't believe you're
letting me stay here. As your
pupil. After everything I did.

10 TWILIGHT
Well, I'm not one to dwell on the
past and neither should you. The
castle is your home now and as far
as being my pupil goes...

Twilight rushes back to the table and levitates up the list.

11 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
I was just trying to figure out
what your first friendship lesson
should be!

Starlight joins Twilight at the table and realizes that the piece of parchment is just one of several from a small STACK.

12 STARLIGHT
(hopeful)
Oh. Well, it looks like you're
really narrowing it down.

13 TWILIGHT
Oh, these are just the As. After
this, I move on to the Bs!

Twilight points to another table behind them with TWENTY-FIVE OTHER STACKS of parchment.

Off Starlight's shock and Twilight's blush...

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT 1**SC. 3 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - LIBRARY - RESUME**

Starlight stares at the stacks and stacks of parchment as Twilight looks on.

14 STARLIGHT
I know I'm just learning about
friendship, but I didn't think
there were this many lessons for
anything. How do we chose?

Starlight shuffles through the parchment, not really paying attention to their neatly organized piles. Twilight starts to get anxious and steps forward to reorganize them.

15 TWILIGHT
Actually, maybe I should pair
things down a bit before we go
through them.

Starlight sees Twilight straightening the piles and sets down the scroll she's looking at.

16 STARLIGHT
Oh. Sure.

17 TWILIGHT
(brightening)
I'll definitely want your input
once I have my top choices.

18 STARLIGHT
Right.

Starlight take a step back, not really sure what to do with herself. Twilight notices her unease.

19 TWILIGHT
Why don't you join the others in
the throne room? They're planing
our trip to the Crystal Empire when
Shining Armor and Princess Cadance
have their baby.

20 STARLIGHT
Throne room. Got it.

Starlight walks through the doorway and turns left. After a beat she reappears from the right.

21 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Um... Which way is the throne room?

*
*

SC. 4 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - HALLWAY - DAY

*

Starlight follows PINKIE PIE as she bounces down the hall.

*

22 PINKIE PIE
You're lucky. I used to get lost
here all the time!
(then, disappointed)
Now I know my way around.

*
*
*
*
*

Pinkie bounces through an archway and into...

*

SC. 5 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - THRONE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

*

Starlight follows Pinkie in and finds the others gathered
around the map. RAINBOW DASH points to the Crystal Empire.

*
*

23 DASH
Well, I think we should leave ASAP!
I don't want to miss the
Crystalling!

*
*
*
*

24 FLUTTERSHY
But shouldn't we wait for the
invitation?

*
*
*

25 RARITY
Yes. It is my understanding that
receiving the invitation is an
integral part of the ceremony.

*
*
*
*

26 APPLEJACK
Frankly, I'm not exactly clear on
all the customs and traditions of
the Crystal Empire. Especially when
it comes to a Crystalling.

*
*
*
*
*

Starlight looks down at the map.

*

27 STARLIGHT
Um... What's a Crystalling?

*
*

28 RARITY
That's just it, Darling. Princess
Cadance and Shining Armor's baby is
due any day and we're still not
sure. The Crystal Empire was gone
for a thousand years. A lot of
their customs are a bit... murky.

*
*
*
*
*
*
*

29 APPLEJACK
We know it's got something to do
with the new baby.

30 PINKIE PIE
And a party!

31 FLUTTERSHY
And the Crystal Heart.

32 PINKIE PIE
And a party!

33 DASH
And some kind of cool, energy.

34 PINKIE PIE
And...

They all look are her.

35 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
A PARTY!!!

```
36      SPIKE (O.S.)
It's pretty simple, actually.
```

They all turn to see Spike enter.

37 SPIKE (CONT'D)
(explaining)
Twilight's done a lot of reading
and I've taken a special interest
since the Crystal Empire is my all
time favorite place... after
Ponyville, of course.

As Spike talks we PAN UP and...

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 6 - A STYLIZED SCENE

In a stylized series of shots we see a 2D rendering of what Spike describes (think: paper puppets with hinged joints).

```

38             SPIKE (V.O.)
Whenever a baby is born in the
Crystal Empire, the parents bring
it before the Crystal Heart.

```

2D versions of Cadance and Shining Armor stand in front of the CRYSTAL HEART holding their foal.

39 SPIKE

They get the purest shard of
crystal they can find, then pick a
Crystaller to present the baby to
everypony who comes.

A 2D version of Twilight takes the baby and holds it up (a la
Lion King) before a collection of other ponies (2D versions
of the Mane Six, probably).

40 SPIKE (CONT'D)

Then they all share the light and
joy they feel, feeding it into the
crystal that joins with the Heart
and increases it's power.

The 2D depictions of Cadance and Shining Armor touch horns.
Magic flows from them and from the other ponies into a small
floating crystal. The small crystal joins the Crystal Heart
and the magic glows brighter, filling the screen as we...

DISSOLVE BACK:

SC. 7 - TO THE THRONE ROOM

41 SPIKE (CONT'D)

And this is going to be a Royal
Crystalling, so pretty much the
whole Empire will show up. That
hasn't happened in a millennia.

42 APPLEJACK

Because there hasn't been a Royal
Family in the Crystal Empire for a
millennia.

43 RARITY

The entire Empire? Goodness, that
is a lot of joy and light!

Starlight looks down at the Crystal Empire on the map, then
up at Spike.

44 STARLIGHT

What do you mean it increases the
Crystal Heart's power?

45 SPIKE

(shrugs)

The energy it uses to protect the
Crystal Empire, I guess.

46 STARLIGHT

Protect it from what?

The others all look to Spike who shrugs.

47 SPIKE
I guess I didn't really pay
attention to that part.

SC. 8 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - LIBRARY - LATER

Starlight enters to find Twilight looking down at her table
once more.

48 STARLIGHT
Hey, Twilight, can I ask you
something about the Crystal Empire?

49 TWILIGHT
Funny you should mention it...

Twilight walks around the table, levitating a list in front
of her.

50 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Because I just narrowed your first
friendship lesson down to three
options and one of them is in the
Crystal Empire.

51 STARLIGHT
Really?

52 TWILIGHT
(nods, excited)
I found out that's where the first
pony you ever cared about lives!

Starlight's expression drops.

53 STARLIGHT
Sunburst?

Twilight shuffles through her parchment, not noticing
Starlight's disquiet.

54 TWILIGHT
Of course that's just one idea. We
could also go to Griffinstone.
Making friends with a Griffin is a
challenge all by itself.

55 STARLIGHT
(not listening)
Sure.

56 TWILIGHT *
Or we could help the CMCs the next *
time there's a pony who can't *
figure out why they're special... *

57 STARLIGHT *
(distracted) *
Yeah. *

Twilight finally looks up at Starlight and sees her *
uncomfortable expression. *

58 TWILIGHT *
Starlight, is something wrong? *

59 STARLIGHT *
What? Oh, no. Those all sound *
great. *

60 TWILIGHT *
I know! I guess you were right. It *
is going to be hard to chose one. *

61 STARLIGHT *
(nervous laugh) *
Yeah. *

Off Starlight's worried expression... *

SC. 9 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - DAY *

Starlight walks down another hall, clearly distraught. She *
comes to a door and opens it to reveal Spike, checking out *
his snout in a mirror. *

62 STARLIGHT *
Ugh! I am never going to find my *
way around this place! *

With that she slams the door and starts to sulk off. Spike *
sticks his head out. *

63 SPIKE *
Gee, Starlight, what's wrong? *

64 STARLIGHT *
I don't know, Spike. Twilight is *
trying really hard to find the *
perfect friendship lesson for me *
but I'm afraid she's going to pick *
the absolute worst one! *

65 SPIKE
What one is that?

*
*

66 STARLIGHT
Reuniting me with my first friend.

*
*

67 SPIKE
Sunburst, right? Why is that so
terrible?

*
*
*

Starlight <SIGHS> as we...

*

DISSOLVE TO:

*

SC. 10 - INT. COTTAGE - FLASHBACK

*

A YOUNG STARLIGHT and another pony (YOUNG SUNBURST) sit on the floor. Young Starlight levitates a wooden block over her head, while Young Sunburst looks through dozens of scrolls laid out on the floor.

*
*
*
*

68 STARLIGHT (V.O.)
When we were foals, he knew
everything there was to know about
magic.

*
*
*
*

Young Starlight tries to levitate a second block, but the first one falls onto her head.

*
*

Young Sunburst hands her one of his scrolls. She looks at it and then levitates THREE BLOCKS, spinning them in a circle.

*
*

SC. 11 - INT. COTTAGE - ANOTHER TIME

*

The two young ponies finish eating. Young Starlight tries to clear the table, but misses the sink, levitating the dishes into the wall instead, breaking them.

*
*
*

Young Sunburst rushes over and hands her a scroll that she uses to cast a spell that fixes the dishes and cleans up the whole kitchen.

*
*
*

69 STARLIGHT
He always knew just what to do.

*
*

A GROWN UP PONY enters, looks at the clean kitchen, and pats Starlight on the head. Starlight casts an admiring glance at Sunburst.

*
*
*

SC. 12 - INT. COTTAGE - ANOTHER TIME

Young Starlight and Young Sunburst sit working their way through a giant stack of books.

[NOTE: this should be the same scene as when Starlight visits Sunburst in MLP526, but from a different angle.]

70 STARLIGHT
And he was always there to help me.

Young Starlight tries to levitate a book from the bottom of the stack, causing the whole pile to wobble and fall.

As the giant stack of books falls toward Starlight, Sunburst looks to one of his scrolls and concentrates. His horn GLOWS dimly and a pillow appears beneath Starlight, cushioning her fall. The books hang in the air for a moment, then fly onto a nearby shelf, organizing themselves in a neat row.

Starlight gives Sunburst a thankful look, when suddenly his CUTIE MARK appears and an excited OLDER PONY COUPLE rush in. Laughing and smiling, they lift Sunray up and carry him out of the house.

71 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
I guess it's not surprising that he got his cutie mark in magic and went off to Celestia's school...

SC. 13 - EXT. VILLAGE - CONTINUOUS

Starlight watches from the cottage doorway as a crowd of ponies gather and excitedly congratulating the couple and Sunburst. Off Starlight's sad expression we...

END FLASHBACK

SC. 14 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - RESUME

Starlight looks to Spike, continuing...

72 STARLIGHT
But when he left...

73 SPIKE
You blamed cutie marks and stripped a whole village of theirs and when Twilight and the others stopped you, you went back in time and almost destroyed Equestria.

```

74          STARLIGHT
          (nods)
Not really stuff I'm super eager to
tell Sunburst about. I mean, he's
probably some big, important wizard
now and I can't even find my way
around Twilight's Castle.

```

```
75          SPIKE                                     *
Well, if Sunburst is that good at                 *
magic, maybe he'd appreciate your                 *
<AHEM> exploits.                                   *
```

76 STARLIGHT *

Somehow I doubt it. *

77 SPIKE *

You should talk to Twilight about *

it. I'm sure she'd want to hear *

what you have to say. *

```

78          STARLIGHT                                     *
I know, but I don't want her to                         *
think I'm not ready to learn, or                         *
that I'm not grateful for                               *
everything she's doing...                                *

```

Suddenly, Twilight shouts from another part of the Castle. *

79 TWILIGHT *

SPIKE! COME QUICK! *

SC. 15 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - DAY *

Spike and Starlight arrive just as Twilight rushes inside from a balcony, followed by a MAGICAL ARCTIC BREEZE.

The frosty wind swirls around and converges in the center of the room to form a giant, glowing, CRYSTALLINE SNOWFLAKE that floats down and unfolds in Twilight's hooves like a card.

```

80          SPIKE
It's a Crystalling invitation! They
only go out when the baby is born.

```

```

81          TWILIGHT                                     *
I know! Spike, Shining Armor's a                       *
father! I'm an Aunt!                                   *
```

Twilight turns to Starlight. *

82 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Well, this settles it. Since we're
going to the Crystal Empire, your
first friendship lesson is going to
be reuniting with Sunburst!

*
*
*
*
*

83 STARLIGHT
Great.

*
*

Off Starlight's less than excited expression we...

*

END ACT ONE

*

ACT TWO

*

SC. 16 - INT. FRIENDSHIP EXPRESS - DAY

The Mane Six all sit together as the landscape of Equestria
shoots past the windows. Dash looks over at a giant package
sitting next to Applejack.

*

84 RAINBOW DASH
Um, Applejack, what is that?

85 APPLEJACK
Oh, just a little something for the
youngin'.

She unwraps it enough for everypony to see an old-fashioned,
BASSINET.

86 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Made from genuine Sweet Apple Acres
apple trees. We make 'em for all
the Apples, and anypony related to
Twilight is practically family.

The others gather around, impressed.

87 TWILIGHT
That's pretty special, Applejack.
I'm sure the baby will love it.

88 DASH
Yeah. It's okay. I mean, it's no
Cloudsdale Mobile...

Dash pulls the cover off of a collection of MINIATURE CLOUDS
connected together by rainbows. The others OOH and AAH.

89 APPLEJACK
Yeah. I guess a mobile is nice...
(patting her bassinet)
(MORE)

*
*
*

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

As long as you have something to
lay in so you can look at it.

*
*

REVEAL - Rarity, embroidering tiny horseshoes on a blanket.

*

90 RARITY

And a fetching blanket to keep you
warm...

*
*
*

91 TWILIGHT

I'm sure Shining Armor and Princess
Cadance will love all our gifts,
but I think they're more happy
we're attending the baby's
Crystalling.

*
*
*
*
*
*

As the others nod in agreement, Starlight turns to Twilight.

*

92 STARLIGHT

Why is it so special? I know the
ponies all share their light and
love to make the Crystal Heart
stronger, but why?

*
*
*
*
*

93 TWILIGHT

The Crystal Heart is an ancient and
powerful relic. Without it's magic
the Crystal Empire would be lost to
the Frozen North.

*
*
*
*
*

94 STARLIGHT

Couldn't the pegasi just make the
cold weather go away?

*
*
*

95 TWILIGHT

The Frozen North doesn't work like
the rest of Equestria. I suppose
it's a little like the Eeverfree
Forrest that way.

*
*
*
*
*

96 PINKIE PIE

Only really, really, really,
really, really, really, really,
really, really, really, really,
really cold!

*
*
*
*
*

97 STARLIGHT

Wow. This Crystalling sounds pretty
important. I'd understand if you
wanted to wait to do a different
friendship lesson when we get back.

*
*
*
*
*

98 TWILIGHT *
Are you kidding? This trip is *
perfect. Not only do I get to see *
the baby and take part in a *
ceremony that helps maintain the *
magic of the Crystal Empire, but *
I'm starting my new pupil off with *
the most amazing friendship lesson *
ever. I can't wait! *

99 STARLIGHT *
(forced) *
Right. Me neither. *

Spike puts his claws on his hips and shoots Starlight a look. *

100 STARLIGHT (CONT'D) *
Actually, Twilight, I am a little *
worried about meeting Sunburst... *

101 TWILIGHT *
(cutting her off) *
Oh, trust me, I know what it's like *
to see old friends, but I'll be *
right there to help things along.

102 STARLIGHT *
What kind of things? *

103 TWILIGHT *
You'll see. I've broken the whole *
lesson down into a few easily *
manageable steps to ensure this *
reunion goes off without a hitch. *

Twilight pulls out a long piece of parchment that unrolls and *
hits the floor. She looks to Starlight, smiling brightly. *
Starlight smiles weakly back.

SC. 17 - EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE STATION - DAY

Steam rises as the Friendship Express pulls into the station. *
The doors slide open and ponies disembark-- Spike, Starlight *
and Twilight among them. Twilight turns to Starlight, *
referencing her list.

104 TWILIGHT *
First we'll head to Sunburst's *
house and get you two started on *
the right hoof, after that I'll *
have plenty of time to visit the *
baby before the Chrystalling. *

105 SHINING ARMOR (O.S.)
(weakly)
Twilight?

They all turn to see Shining Armor emerge from the steam. He rushes forward and embraces his sister with a desperate hug.

106 TWILIGHT
Shining Armor? I didn't know you were meeting us.

107 SHINING ARMOR
(slightly manic)
Of course I am. It's me. Right here. Here I am. Why wouldn't I come meet my sister?
(trying to joke)
Though we have met before. Am I right?

Twilight looks at her brother, noticing how frazzled he is.

108 TWILIGHT
Are you all right?

109 SHINING ARMOR
Never better! Being a father is amazing and wonderful and amazing and confusing and amazing and stressful and, um...

110 STARLIGHT
Amazing?

111 SHINING ARMOR
YES!
(suddenly introspective)
But surprising too, you know? I mean, not that you'd know. You wouldn't know, I know. You know?

Twilight, Starlight, and Spike all exchange looks.

112 SHINING ARMOR (CONT'D)
Sorry. I haven't really slept since Cadance had the baby. Come to think of it, she hasn't either. We're both pretty spent. It sure would be great to get a break...

*
*
*
*
*

Shining Armor looks expectantly at Twilight.

113 TWILIGHT *
Oh. Of course. I don't know what I *
was thinking. You two probably need *
all kinds of help! *

Twilight turns to Starlight. *

114 TWILIGHT (CONT'D) *
I'm sorry, Starlight, but I guess *
combining your first lesson with *
this visit wasn't such a good idea. *

115 STARLIGHT *
Don't be ridiculous! You're an aunt *
now. That's way more important than *
some friendship lesson. *

116 TWILIGHT *
I just wish there was a way to do *
both. *

117 SPIKE *
Maybe there is. *

Spike takes the parchment from Twilight.

118 SPIKE (CONT'D) *
You've already done the work for *
Starlight's lesson with this list. *
All we have to do is follow it. *

119 TWILIGHT *
(brightening) *
Spike, you're a genius! *

120 STARLIGHT *
(darkening) *
Yeah. Genius. *

121 TWILIGHT *
Then it's settled. Shining Armor *
and I will head straight to the *
castle and you two can head *
straight to Sunburst's. Once things *
with the baby get sorted out, I'll *
come check on your progress. *

122 SPIKE *
Aye, aye, princess. *

Spike turns on his heels and starts off then stops, realizing *
Starlight isn't following. He looks back at her. Starlight *
<SIGHS>, casts a meek smile at Twilight, then follows. *

123 TWILIGHT
All right, big brother. Let's go
see this amazing baby pony.

Twilight turns to see Shining Armor is asleep on his feet.
She nudges him awake and he looks at her, surprised.

124 SHINING ARMOR
Twilight! I am so glad you're here!

125 TWILIGHT
Me too.

With that, she picks up her suitcase and starts off. Shining
Armor shuffles after her.

SC. 18 - EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE - DAY

Spike heads down the street dragging Twilight's long list,
and Starlight, behind him.

*
*

126 SPIKE
I know you're a little worried
about this reunion, but I'm sure
Twilight's got everything covered.

*

127 STARLIGHT
Everything except how I'd rather do
absolutely anything else.

*
*

128 SPIKE
I bet she's taken that into account
too. It's all part of the lesson.
Trust the lesson.

*
*
*
*

129 STARLIGHT
(unconvinced)
Right.
(noticing something O.S.)
Hey, is that you!?

*
*
*
*

Spike looks over to see the statute commemorating his role in
saving the Crystal Empire.

130 SPIKE
Oh. Yep. It sure is. Now...
according to the list, Sunburst's
house is--

*
*
*

131 STARLIGHT
(cutting him off)
Why is there a statue of you in the
Crystal Empire?

*

One of the CRYSTAL PONIES walking by pipes up.

132 CRYSTAL PONY
Because Spike, the brave and
glorious, saved all of us from King
Sombra.

A pony going the other way chimes in.

133 CRYSTAL PONY 2
And then again during the Equestria
Games.

134 STARLIGHT
Really?

A third pony walks by.

135 CRYSTAL PONY 3
Really!
(shaking Spike's claw)
Big fan.

136 STARLIGHT
Um, when were you going to tell me
about this?

137 SPIKE
(blushing)
Oh, it's no big deal.

All three crystal ponies pop back in.

138 CRYSTAL PONIES
IT MOST CERTAINLY IS!

139 STARLIGHT
That's it. We're not going anywhere
until I get the whole story.

With that Starlight magics Twilight's list away from Spike as the other Crystal Ponies sit at his feet. They look up at the dragon expectantly. *Off Spike's flattered expression...*

*

SC. 19 - INT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - DAY

Shining Armor leads Twilight and the rest of the Mane Six up to the door of the nursery *and stops.*

*

140 SHINING ARMOR
*Before we go in, I should probably
tell you, seeing the baby might be
a bit of a shock.*

*

*

*

141 TWILIGHT *
Come on, big brother, I've met *
babies before... *

Twilight walks past Shining Armor and opens the door to... *

SC. 20 - INT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - NURSERY - DAY

Twilight enters to see Cadance cradling a TINY UNICORN in her *
hooves. CELESTIA and LUNA stand by looking on. *

142 TWILIGHT *
(continuing) *
...I expect meeting this one won't *
be any different. *

Twilight heads right over and picks up the baby. Immediately *
a FULL SET OF ALICORN WINGS pop out from the infant's back *
with a WHOOSH. *

143 TWILIGHT (CONT'D) *
(surprised) *
Of course, I could be wrong. *

SC. 21 - EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE - DAY

Spike stands in front of his statue addressing Starlight and *
what has turned into a small CROWD of adoring crystal ponies. *

144 SPIKE *
...and that's how we found the *
Crystal Heart, defeated King *
Sombra, and saved the Empire. *

The crowd breaks into spontaneous applause and cheers, *
Starlight clapping the loudest. *

145 STARLIGHT *
That is an amazing story, Spike. *

Several CRYSTAL FOALS run up. *

146 FOALS *
Tell the one about the Equestria *
Games! *

Spike shakes his head and walks over to Starlight, taking *
back Twilight's list and putting it in his pack. *

147 SPIKE *
As much as I love reliving my *
heroic deeds, Starlight and I have *
an important lesson to do by order *
of the Princess of Friendship. *

148 FOALS *
AWWWWW! *

149 STARLIGHT *
Oh, come on, Spike. I want to hear *
about the Games too. Actually... *

Starlight uses her magic to surreptitiously levitate the top *
of Twilight's list out of Spike's pack. *

150 STARLIGHT (CONT'D) *
(reading) *
...it, ah, might be an inspiring *
story that helps me work up the *
courage to meet Sunburst. *

151 SPIKE *
Well... *

He reaches for the list and sees Starlight reading along. *

152 SPIKE (CONT'D) *
Wait a minute! You're just trying *
to put off this reunion. *

Spike continues talking as he rolls the list back up. *

153 SPIKE (CONT'D) *
I understand you're nervous, but it *
says right in step three that we *
should, "deal with any fears by *
facing them and talking them out," *
not by putting things off. *

Starlight looks at Spike struggling with Twilight's list. *

154 STARLIGHT *
Ugh. Fine. Let's go get this over *
with. *

With that she walks off. Spike bunches up the rest of the *
list as he hurries to keep up. *

155 SPIKE *
Hey, wait for me! *

SC. 22 - INT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - NURSERY - RESUME

Twilight stares down at the tiny alicorn, still in shock.
Cadance walks up and gives Twilight a kiss on the cheek as
she takes the baby back.

*

156 TWILIGHT
The baby is an alicorn!?

157 CADANCE
It looks that way.

158 RARITY
But I thought alicorn wings had to
be earned by accomplishing some
great princess-worthy deed.

159 APPLEJACK
Yeah, how can you just be born with
them?

160 CELESTIA
We don't know.

They all turn to look at Celestia and Luna in shock.

161 DASH
Wait. If you two don't know, who
does?

162 LUNA
The birth of an alicorn is
something Equestria has never seen.
It's beyond even our understanding.

163 FLUTTERSHY
That's not very reassuring.

Pinkie bounces around behind Cadance and the baby.

164 PINKIE PIE
Wow, a unicorn and a pegasus! So,
she could be a super strong flyer
and have crazy baby magic.

*
*

165 DASH
Well, I know all about super strong
flying.

*
*
*

166 TWILIGHT
And I can help keep tabs on her
magic.

*
*
*

Suddenly the tiny baby snuffles and her horn GLOWS as she cuts loose with a terrific SNEEZE that sends a BOLT OF MAGICAL ENERGY out of her horn and into the floor.

*
*
*

Everyone gathers around the SMOKING HOLE in the floor to see that it extends several floors down-- other ponies on the floors below sticking their heads in and looking up.

*
*
*

167 APPLEJACK
Ah... Maybe "keeping tabs" won't be enough.

*
*
*

END ACT 2

*

ACT 3

*

SC. 23 - INT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - NURSERY - RESUME

*

Everypony stares in shock at the still smoking hole in the floor.

*
*

168 CELESTIA
It appears her magic is more powerful than that of a newborn unicorn.

*
*
*

Luna walks over toward the window and looks out.

*

ANGLE ON - Crowds of CRYSTAL PONIES gathering outside the castle.

*
*

169 LUNA
The crowds have already started to gather.

*
*
*

PAN OVER - to reveal Pinkie, also looking out while blowing up a balloon.

*
*

170 PINKIE PIE
This Crystalling is gonna be some party!

*
*
*

Worried, Cadance looks to Shining Armor who puts his hoof around her. Cadance turns to Celestia.

171 CADANCE
Do you think we should call *it* off?

*

Dash steps up.

172 DASH
Um... We've all faced a lot *worse* than baby magic.

*

173 RARITY

Indeed. I can't imagine cancelling
such beautiful and important
ceremony over something so
potentially adorable.

*

174 ALL

Yeah! Of course! Come on!

175 CELESTIA

In light of the little one's
abilities, this Crystalling might
be more important than ever.

(to Cadance)

Perhaps you should address your
subjects and remind them of that.

*
*
*
*
*
*

Cadance nods and follows Celestia and Luna out. Twilight
turns to her brother, asleep again on his feet. She jostles
him awake.

*
*
*

176 TWILIGHT

Shining Armor, do you have
everything you need for the
ceremony?

*
*
*
*

Shining Armor looks up groggily, then...

*

177 SHINING ARMOR

(waking)

Huh? Oh! NO! I still have to
interview the Honor Guards, chose
the Purity Crystal and pick a
Crystaller!

*
*
*
*
*
*

178 TWILIGHT

All right. Take it easy. Pinkie can
stay here with me and keep an eye
on the baby.

*
*
*
*

179 APPLEJACK

And we'll all help you with
everything else.

*
*
*

They all look over to see Shining Armor is asleep again.
Twilight jostles him awake again.

*
*

180 RARITY

Assuming you can stay awake long
enough to tell us how.

*
*
*

SC. 24 - EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE - SUNBURST'S HOUSE - DAY

*

Starlight walks up to a large intimidating door on a quite street. As she takes a breath, and prepares to knock, Spike finally catches up, out of breath.

181 SPIKE
Wait!

182 STARLIGHT
(startled)
What!?

Spike flips through the list.

183 SPIKE
Knocking on the door isn't the next thing on the list.

184 STARLIGHT
Seriously?

185 SPIKE
I know Twilight can be a little nitpicky, but *this is your first lesson as her pupil and it's important that we do it right.*

*
*
*

186 STARLIGHT
Fine. What's the next thing on the list?

187 SPIKE
(reading)
"Before they see each other, make sure to highlight the importance of the meeting."

188 STARLIGHT
I'm pretty sure we can skip that.

189 SPIKE
I don't know. I mean, if we skip it, the whole lesson could go south. And then you might end up taking a giant step backwards instead of forwards. Maybe you'll never be able to learn anything about friendship at all. It's almost like your whole future depends on this moment.

Starlight looks down at him with mounting angst. Spike nods.

190 SPIKE (CONT'D)
"Highlight the importance of the
meeting." Check.

He crosses the item off of the list, shaking his head.

191 SPIKE (CONT'D)
I can't believe you wanted to skip
that.

More anxious than ever, Starlight reaches up and knocks on
the door. After what seems like an eternity, the door slowly
creaks open.

192 STARLIGHT
Sunburst?

A pony (SUNBURST) wearing round spectacles emerges from the
darkened doorway.

193 SUNBURST
Yes? What can I do for you?

194 STARLIGHT
It's me. Starlight.

Sunburst squints at her.

195 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
We used to be friends?

196 SUNBURST
Of course! Starlight. My goodness
it's been a long time. *What have
you been up to?*

*
*

197 STARLIGHT
(evasive)
*Me? Oh, you know, some of this,
some of that. Different stuff.
Right now I'm sort of, Twilight
Sparkle's new pupil.*

*
*
*
*
*
*

198 SUNBURST
(taken aback)
The Princess of Friendship?

*
*
*

199 STARLIGHT
(nervous laugh)
*Yeah. That's actually kind of why
I'm here. I mean, I know you're
probably very busy.*

*
*
*
*
*

200 SUNBURST
What do you mean? *

201 STARLIGHT
Well, I figured after Magic School,
you'd go on to do important wizard
work, but...

202 SUNBURST
(equally evasive) *
Oh. No. Yes. That's me. Yep.
Important wizard. Really busy with *
lots of, ah... wizarding stuff. *

Starlight looks to Spike.

203 STARLIGHT
See? *

Sunburst stares at them for an awkward moment, then...

204 SUNBURST
Right, well... good to see you.

With that, Sunburst steps back inside and shuts the door.
Starlight stares at it, confused. *

205 SPIKE
Huh. Maybe we should have skipped *
"highlighting the importance of the
meeting" after all.

206 STARLIGHT
(brightening) *
Whelp, I guess that's that! *

Starlight turns to go, but Spike grabs her tail. *

207 SPIKE
(pleading) *
Starlight, come on! We have to at *
least explain what Twilight wants! *

Starlight stops with an exasperated <SIGH>. Spike reaches up *
and knocks on the door. After a beat the door creaks open and *
Sunburst tentatively sticks his head out again. *

Off Starlight's embarrassed expression... *

SC. 25 - EXT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - BALCONY - CONTINUOUS *

Princess Cadance steps forward, flanked by Celestia and Luna. *

208 CADANCE *
(to the crowd) *
Dearest Citizens, I'm sure you all *
know how special this Crystalling *
is, both for Shining Armor and *
myself, but also for the Crystal *
Empire... *

The crowd CHEERS as we PAN DOWN TO: *

Three SPECTATOR PONIES in deck chairs sitting at the front of *
the crowd. They all crane their necks up to see. *

209 MUSTACHE CRYSTAL PONY *
Is it starting? I can't see! *

210 STUBBORN CRYSTAL PONY *
I waited all night for these spots. *
We're not moving! *

The third spectator pony, wearing a vest covered in *
COMMEMORATIVE PINS, leans forward. *

211 PIN PONY *
Trust me, the real Crystalling *
action's gonna be right there. *

Pin Pony points toward the base of the Castle where HUGE *
CURTAINS have been draped across the arches, obscuring the *
causeway under the castle. *

SC. 26 - INT./EXT. CASTLE CAUSEWAY - SAME *

Shining Armor stands on the other side of the curtain, *
staring, glassy-eyed at the slowly spinning CRYSTAL HEART. *

Nearby, Applejack and Rainbow Dash review a group of crystal *
pony CASTLE GUARDS standing at attention. *

212 DASH *
So, just tell us who looks the most *
like Honor Guard material... *

Dash and Applejack turn to see Shining Armor in a daze. *

213 APPLEJACK *
Uh... Shining Armor? *
(beat) *
SHINING ARMOR! *

214 SHINING ARMOR *
(jolted awake) *
WHA-- I'M AWAKE! *

Shining Armor levitates ELABORATE HELMETS to two of the guards, who bow and walk out.

215 SHINING ARMOR (CONT'D)
(to Applejack and the rest)
I'm sorry, fatherhood is way more exhausting than I ever thought.

216 FLUTTERSHY
I can only imagine.

Rarity steps forward with a small black jewelry case.

217 RARITY
Now, I know choosing the crystal of purity is a very important decision, so I've gone through the trouble of arranging them in order from incredibly pure to outrageously pure.

Rarity opens the case to reveal five ABSOLUTELY IDENTICAL CRYSTAL SHARDS.

218 FLUTTERSHY
Um, Rarity? Don't they all sort of look the same?

219 RARITY
To the untrained eye, perhaps, Fluttershy. What do you think Shining Armor?

They all turn to find him dead asleep.

220 FLUTTERSHY
I hope Twilight and Pinkie are having better luck with the baby.

221 DASH
Are you kidding? It's a baby. How hard can it be?

SC. 27 - INT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - NURSERY - SAME

CLOSE - on Pinkie moving fast through the nursery, while the sound of the BABY LAUGHING can be heard.

222 PINKIE PIE
Well, at least she's having fun!

CUT WIDE TO REVEAL - the baby flying around and around the nursery, Pinkie clinging for dear life to its hooves.

Twilight gallops back and forth, shooting magic from her horn to contain the BLASTS of energy that fire from the baby's horn with every peel of laughter.

223 TWILIGHT
Pinkie hold her still!

224 PINKIE PIE
I'm tryyyyiiiiiinnng!

SC. 28 - INT. SUNBURST'S - LIBRARY - MOMENTS LATER

Starlight and Sunburst sit at a small table in Sunburst's library. Books line the walls from floor to ceiling.

225 SUNBURST
So, the Princess of Friendship
wants you and I to be friends
again?

226 STARLIGHT
I know. Weird, right?

227 SUNBURST
I don't understand. Did something
happen to you after I left for
Magic School?

228 STARLIGHT
(defensive)
What? No! I don't see what that has
to do with anything. Why would you
even ask that? I mean, did
something happen to you after you
left for magic school?

229 SUNBURST
(equally defensive)
What? Um... No. Obviously not. Like
you said, I'm a <AHM> important
wizard.

The two of them just stare at each other. PAN OVER to reveal Spike holding the list.

230 SPIKE
I'm sure there's something on
Twilight's list that can help here.
I just have to find it...

Spike lets the list drop and it unspools across the floor.
Off Starlight's and Sunburst's exasperated expressions...

SC. 29 - EXT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - DAY

The three Spectator Ponies watch with mounting excitement as
the HONOR GUARD ponies take up position on either side of the
curtained archway under the castle (think Buckingham Palace).

231 MUSTACHE CRYSTAL PONY
I think they're ready to start!

Off their rabid expressions...

SC. 30 - INT./EXT - CASTLE CAUSEWAY - SAME

Princess Cadence enters from a stairwell, followed by
Celestia and Luna. She looks to Shining Armor and the others.

232 CADANCE
Do you think we're ready to start?

233 SHINING ARMOR
Well, I chose the Honor Guard,
picked the Purity Crystal, and I
know exactly who I want to be our
Crystaller, but I still feel like
there's something missing.

234 CADANCE
The baby?

Shining Armor's look of shock is quickly allayed by
Twilight's voice.

235 TWILIGHT (O.S.)
We're here!

They all turn to see Twilight enter, casting a magical bubble
around the still flying baby-- Pinkie still hanging from the
giggling alicorn's legs.

236 PINKIE PIE
She's a really strong flyer!

Cadence cast a STREAM OF MAGIC at them, bringing the baby and
Pinkie over. Pinkie looks up at her.

237 CADANCE
You can let go now, Pinkie.

But as Pinkie let's go, the baby's expression quickly turns sour. Her lip quivers as her eyes begin to fill with tears and her horn starts to GLOW.

*
*
*

Suddenly, the baby let's out a massive WAIL and waves of MAGICAL SONIC ENERGY blast out, bursting her protective bubble, as everypony covers their ears against the noise.

*
*
*

CLOSE - on the CRYSTAL HEART as the SONIC WAVES blow past.

*

Suddenly, the Heart stops turning and after a beat-- SHATTERS INTO A MILLION PIECES.

*
*

They all stare at the broken pieces in horror as the baby's magical crying trails off.

*
*

238 APPLEJACK
I'm guessing that's gonna make it
hard to do the Crystalling.

*
*
*

Twilight looks up at the sound of distant THUNDER.

*

239 TWILIGHT
It's worse than that...

*
*

Twilight pokes her head out from behind the curtain and looks to the sky where MASSIVE STORM CLOUDS build on the horizon. Twilight ducks back inside.

*
*
*

240 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Without the Crystal Heart
protecting it from the Frozen
North, the entire city is about to
be covered in a mountain of snow!

*
*
*
*
*

Off everypony's shocked expressions we...

*

END PART 1