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MY LITTLE PONY 6

Gauntlet of Fire

60#

Premise by: Joanna Lewis & Kristine Songco

Premise: October 21st, 2014

GUANTLET OF FIRE

Premise by Joanna Lewis & Kristine Songco

Spike is helping Rarity, when suddenly, his scales start glowing and burning and he has the sudden urge to go to the Dragonlands. He tries to shake it off, insisting he'd rather be here with Rarity, but he can't stop his body from walking away from her. Concerned, Rarity takes Spike to Twilight, who researches Spike's condition and says this must be the "Call of the Dragon Lord". Unfortunately, the only way to stop it is to heed it. But she tells Spike not to worry; she and Rarity will accompany him, disguised as dragons of course.

At the Dragonlands, the Dragon Lord announces it is time for him to retire. (As he talks, Spike notices his daughter, Ember, sitting next to him. Rarity's a tiny bit jealous but admits that Ember's scales look lovely when the sun hits them just right.) As per tradition, all eligible dragons must compete in a gauntlet to determine the Dragon Lord successor. Spike gulps. He doesn't want to be Dragon Lord, let alone go through what looks like a very dangerous gauntlet. But the only way to stop his scales from burning is to compete. Meanwhile, Twilight and Rarity are mistaken for concession dragons and have to sell things like gems on a stick and lava nachos to the spectator dragons.

During the first obstacle Spike befriends a fellow competitor, only to discover it's actually Ember in disguise! Her father wouldn't let her participate in the gauntlet, but when she wins her father will be forced to name her his successor. Spike says if they team up they can get through the gauntlet easier but Ember's reluctant to accept his help. But eventually she comes around - especially when it comes to the last obstacle, which involves forcing another dragon to your will (similar to how all the eligible dragons were summoned to the Dragonlands). The ability to make another dragon do your bidding is a sign of a true Dragon Lord. Ember is touched when Spike selflessly volunteers to help her win. He tells her you can lead through fear and force or through friendship and loyalty. Friendship is a much more powerful motivator.

With Ember as the new Dragon Lord, Spike has earned himself a friend and a powerful dragon ally for Equestria. Twilight and Rarity couldn't be more proud of him. Plus, their lava nachos are selling like hotcakes. "Hotcakes! We should have sold those too." FADE OUT! THE END.