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MY LITTLE PONY 6

"Gauntlet of Fire"

Episode 605

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TEASER

SC. 1 - INT. CAVE - DAY

SPIKE helps RARITY (who's wearing a stylish miner's helmet) as she hunts for gems.

1 SPIKE
Thanks for letting me tag along
today, Rarity.

2 RARITY
Thank you for spending your day off
helping me search for gem stones.

3 SPIKE
There's nowhere else I'd rather be!

4 RARITY
I'm so excited for my fall line.
Remember, I only need the amethyst
ones. Amethyst is the new lavender!

5 SPIKE
I think I found one!

Spike hands Rarity a stone.

6 RARITY
Oh no, dear. This is a sapphire.
Easily mistaken in this light. It's
so dark it's a wonder we can see at
all! What I wouldn't give for a
lantern.

As Rarity turns back to her work, there's an O.S. GLOW.

7 RARITY (CONT'D)
Oh Spikey-wikey! You found one!
You're brilliant, darling. Thank
you.

Spike <GROANS> in discomfort. Rarity turns to see Spike
didn't find a lantern, he became one! His scales are glowing!

8 RARITY (CONT'D)
Goodness! You really are brilliant!

9 SPIKE
I don't feel so good...

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES**ACT 1****SC. 2 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - THRONE ROOM- DAY**

TWILIGHT, PRINCESS LUNA, and PRINCESS CELESTIA are gathered at the table, a plate of crumpets in front of them.

10 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I'm so glad you two could visit!

11 PRINCESS LUNA
Of course. You've done a wonderful job with the castle.

12 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Thanks! My friends helped me decorate. But I made those crumpets on my own.

Princess Luna and Princess Celestia politely smile and bite the crumpets but clearly they're not great. Twilight takes a bite of her own, then immediately spits it out.

13 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
Maybe I should have had Pinkie help.

Just then, Rarity bursts in with the still GLOWING Spike.

14 RARITY
Twilight! Help! Something's wrong with Spike!

15 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Spike! What's wrong?

16 SPIKE
I don't know! <GROANS> It's like my scales are burning!

Princess Celestia steps over, intrigued.

17 PRINCESS CELESTIA
I've never seen anything like this.

Suddenly, Spike sits upright and starts <EATING> the gems from Rarity's pack, almost zombie like.

18 SPIKE
Must eat gems...
(then, snapping out of it)
Don't let me eat any more gems!

19 RARITY
But if you're hungry you should
eat. It might make you feel better.
What's that saying? Feed a cold,
starve a fever... although I'm not
exactly sure which this is...

20 SPIKE
That's the thing. I'm not hungry,
but it's like I have this urge to
eat! The last time I ate too much,
I turned into that big scary dragon
and I don't want to put you in
danger!

Princess Luna's eyes suddenly light up:

21 PRINCESS LUNA
I think I've seen something like
this before. Long ago, when I was
still imprisoned in the moon, the
night sky lit up with what looked
like shooting stars. Only they were
dragons glowing just like this!
Curious, I watched as they all
headed to the Dragonlands and
gathered around their leader, the
Dragon Lord.

22 PRINCESS CELESTIA
It sounds like some sort of
summoning magic.

23 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Spike, do you feel like you're
being called to the Dragonlands?

24 SPIKE (O.S.)
I don't know.

REVEAL Spike keeps walking into a closed door.

25 SPIKE (CONT'D)
Are the Dragonlands this way?

Then Spike goes zombie like again.

26 SPIKE (CONT'D)
Must eat gems and go to the
Dragonlands.

27 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
So this *is* the call of the Dragon
Lord.

28 RARITY
But what could the Dragon Lord
possibly want with our Spike?

29 PRINCESS CELESTIA
I don't know.

30 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
How do we make it stop?

31 PRINCESS LUNA
The only way to end a summons like
this is to heed it. Spike must
journey to the Dragonlands and see
what's expected of him.

32 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
(to Spike)
Well, you're not going alone. I'm
going too.

33 RARITY
Count me in!

34 PRINCESS CELESTIA
I would be very careful. The
Dragonlands are particularly
dangerous for ponies. It would be
wise to be discreet.

35 RARITY
We've got that covered. I still
have our old dragon costume!

36 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I think we might want something a
little more practical this time.

CUT TO:

SC. 3 - EXT. DRAGONLANDS - DAY

ON Spike sitting on a rock. Under him are two sets of eye
holes. From inside the rock we hear:

37 RARITY (O.S.)
Well, this disguise isn't
flattering in the slightest!

38 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (O.S.)
SHHH! It's not supposed to be
flattering, it's supposed to blend
in! And talking rocks don't blend
in anywhere!

PULL OUT to reveal: The Dragonlands, a rocky barren terrain carved out to look like an arena. Around them, several other glowing DRAGONS are gathered, some of them eating gems and getting bigger, including GARBLE and his friends (from "Dragon Quest"). They spot Spike.

39 GARBLE
What are you doing here? You know
we were summoned by the *Dragon*
Lord, not the Pony Lord.

40 SPIKE
Um ponies have princesses, not
lords! And it's nice to see you
too, Garble!

41 GARBLE
I didn't say it was nice to see
you. It's not. I don't like you.
Was I not clear about that?

Just then, the DRAGON LORD, TORCH, (a hulking, armor clad dragon with a deep booming voice) appears on a dais at the front of the arena. He holds a scepter with a large red stone. It glows like the dragons.

42 TORCH
Dragons of Equestria! Hear me!

Every Dragon falls silent. Garble pushes Spike off and sits on it. A concerned Spike looks down at his "rock".

43 SPIKE
(whispers)
Hey this is my rock.

44 GARBLE
Oh really? Then why aren't you
sitting on it?

45 DRAGON #1
Heh heh. Good one, Garble.

SC. 4 - INT. ROCK COSTUME - CONTINUOUS

Twilight and Rarity get a little crunched. They try not to make any noise.

SC. 5 - EXT. DRAGONLANDS - CONTINUOUS

Next to Dragon Lord Torch stands a teenage girl dragon, EMBER. Her scales are sapphire and glint beautifully in the light.

46 TORCH
I have been Dragon Lord for longer
than many of you can remember. But
now it is time for me to step down.

ON The other dragons: Some <GRUMBLE> and <MOAN>. Others look ferociously like this is the opportunity they've been waiting for. ON Spike, clearly smitten.

47 SPIKE
Who is that?

48 GARBLE
It's the dragon lord, dummy.

49 SPIKE
No, next to the dragon lord.

50 GARBLE
That's his daughter, Ember. I
wouldn't even look at her if I were
you. Unless you want Torch to eat
you. He doesn't let any dragon near
her.

51 SPIKE
(sad)
Oh. But it's so hard to look away.
She's beautiful.

Garble gives him a dismissive look and hops off the rock to go be with cooler dragons. We hear an O.S. <SIGH OF RELIEF> from Twilight and Rarity.

SC. 6 - INT. ROCK COSTUME - CONTINUOUS

Rarity peeks out, <HUFFS> and whispers:

52 RARITY
She's alright I guess. If you like
that sort of thing.

Twilight looks at her and teases:

53 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
If I didn't know any better I'd say
you were jealous?

54 RARITY
Don't be ridiculous.

55 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Well I think she's lovely.

56 RARITY
I guess her scales do sparkle like
sapphires when the sun hits them
just right.

SC. 7 - EXT. DRAGONLANDS - CONTINUOUS

The Dragon Lord continues:

57 TORCH
This is why I have summoned you. To
compete for my throne. The next
Dragon Lord will be the winner of
the Gauntlet of Fire!

SC. 8 - INT. ROCK COSTUME - CONTINUOUS

Rarity and Twilight watch intently:

58 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
That explains Spike's urge to eat.
It was to bulk up before competing!

SC. 9 - EXT. DRAGONLANDS - CONTINUOUS

Torch holds up his scepter and continues:

59 TORCH
Whoever has the strength and
fortitude to retrieve this
Bloodstone Scepter from the heart
of the Flamecano will be crowned
Lord of the Dragons!

Torch points to an ominous looking volcano in the middle of a treacherous sea. The sea lies east of their current location and is below a steep cliff.

SC. 10 - INT. ROCK COSTUME - CONTINUOUS

60 RARITY
That Dragon Lord Torch is rather
scary, but he has exquisite taste
in scepters!

61 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Look, it's glowing the same way the
other dragons are! That must be how
he's controlling them!

SC. 11 - EXT. DRAGONLANDS - CONTINUOUS

Torch continues:

62 TORCH
I must warn you, the Gauntlet is
dangerous. Only the fiercest,
strongest most determined dragons
will be able to finish. Now go
prepare yourselves! We will gather
at the cliff when the sun is at
it's peak!

The other dragons <BATTLE CRY> and scurry to make
preparations, including Ember. But then Torch stops her.

63 TORCH (CONT'D)
Not you, my daughter.

64 EMBER
Why not?

65 TORCH
Because I forbid it.

66 EMBER
You don't think I can do it.

A stoic Torch says nothing. Ember stares at her father
defiantly, then storms away.

ON: Spike. He whispers to the Twilight/Rarity rock.

67 SPIKE
I don't want to go through that
gauntlet! The biggest, scariest
dragon I've ever seen is calling it
dangerous. Besides, I don't even
want to be Dragon Lord.

68 RARITY
You can't be. I'd miss you too much!

69 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Maybe if you ask nicely, Torch will release you from the competition.

Spike <GULPS> and timidly approaches Lord Torch.

70 SPIKE
Um, Your Mightiness? Sorry to bother you, but I was wondering if I could maybe not participate in the Gauntlet? I mean, I don't really stand a chance, look at me.

71 TORCH
You are runtish. And you don't even have wings. Wait a second, you're that dragon who abandoned his own kind to frolic with ponies. No wonder you're so small. I could crush you with my pinky claw!

Torch throws his head back and <LAUGHS>.

72 SPIKE
Yes, ha ha. I am. Soo... about that whole not-doing-the-gauntlet-thing?

73 TORCH
Yes, little dragon. I release you. You wouldn't last five seconds anyway.

74 SPIKE
Thank you!

Torch waves his scepter and Spike's scales stop glowing. Happy, Spike heads back to tell Rarity and Twilight, but he passes Garble and a few other DRAGONS.

75 DRAGON #1
When I become Dragon Lord, I will make burps an official greeting.

76 DRAGON #2
Ha, you? Please. When I'm Dragon Lord, I will pillage Equestria for all their pillows! Why should those ponies be comfortable while we sleep on rocks?!

77 GARBLE
I agree. Except for the part where
you become Dragon Lord since it
will obviously be me! When I'm in
charge we will raid Equestria for
pillows, gems, anything we want!
And if anypony gets in our way...

Garble lets out a gust of fire breath. Spike looks horrified
and heads back to the Twilight/Rarity rock in a daze.

78 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (O.S.)
Spike! You're not glowing anymore.
Does that mean he let you go?

79 RARITY (O.S.)
We can go home! Thank goodness! I
can not wait to get out of this
disguise. I don't do well in earth
tones. I'm more of a summer!

80 SPIKE
You two can go home if you want.
I'm going to stay and compete.

Off Rarity's and Twilight's shocked expressions...

END ACT 1

ACT 2

SC. 12 - EXT. DRAGONLANDS - LATER THAT DAY

Spike is standing outside the Twilight/Rarity rock when he's
suddenly yanked inside.

SC. 13 - INT. ROCK COSTUME - CONTINUOUS

Twilight and Rarity sit Spike down. It's a tight squeeze.

81 RARITY
What do you mean you're going to
compete? The Dragon Lord let you
go! We can just go back to
Ponyville safe and sound.

82 SPIKE
I want to, believe me. But the
other competitors have horrible
plans for Equestria if they win!
(MORE)

SPIKE (CONT'D)

I can't let that happen. So
somehow, I have to win.

83 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
But then you'd be the Dragon Lord?
Wouldn't you have to stay here?

Spike sadly nods.

84 SPIKE
I can't think of any other way to
protect you and the rest of our
friends.

Twilight and Rarity get a little misty.

85 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
This is the bravest thing you've
ever done, Spike.

86 RARITY
Well, if you're staying to compete,
then we're staying to cheer you on.

87 SPIKE
Really? I mean, but how will you
blend in?

88 RARITY
You just leave that to me, darling!

CUT TO:

SC. 14 - EXT. THE SEA - LATER THAT DAY

Twilight and Rarity, disguised as a pile of seaweed and
driftwood, wave furtively up to:

SC. 15 - EXT. THE CLIFF OVER THE SEA - CONTINUOUS

Spike, who stands with the other competing dragons (several
wearing armor). Torch stands in front of all the dragons.

89 TORCH
Dragons! Your first challenge is to
fly across the Serpent Sea to
Flamecano Island.

90 GARBLE
Everydragon should just go home
now, because I already beat you in
my mind.

He points to Spike.

91 GARBLE (CONT'D)
You? HAAAAHA! What are you doing
here? You can't even fly!

The other dragons all <LAUGH> at Spike, but he looks super determined. Torch hurls his scepter like a discus across the Sea and deep into the Flamecano. Then he notices Spike.

92 TORCH
I thought you were going back to
your precious ponies.

93 SPIKE
I decided to compete. I am a
dragon, after all.

94 TORCH
Very well, little dragon. Let the
Gauntlet begin!

The Dragon Lord <ROARS>, breathing a huge blast of fire. Garble and the other dragons <ROAR> and take to the sky. Spike takes a deep breath and jumps off the cliff into the sea below.

SC. 16 - INT. SERPENT SEA - CONTINUOUS

Spike swims toward the Flamecano. The Twilight/Rarity seaweed driftwood follows him.

95 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
You can do it Spike!

96 RARITY
Yes you can! You just need a little
more power.

Suddenly, SEA SERPENTS (the size of submarines) emerge from the waves and spit huge geysers of water! Spike, Rarity and Twilight <SCREAM> as they're pushed forward by the geysers.

97 RARITY (CONT'D)
Well maybe not that much power.

But the Sea Serpents don't even notice Spike. Their geysers are shooting way up, knocking dragons out of the sky!

98 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Keep going Spike, they're not
looking for a swimming dragon!

Spike swims as fast as he can, but he's clearly tiring.

99 RARITY
You can do it! You're almost there.

Just as Spike nears the shore, a helmeted dragon falls from sky right in front of him. Unconscious, the dragon sinks below the surface. Spike looks at how close he is but then dives down. A beat. No dragon emerges.

100 RARITY (CONT'D)
SPIKE!

101 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
We have to do something!

Just then, Spike crests the water holding the other dragon. Rarity and Twilight help pull the other dragon onto their driftwood pile and together they get it to shore.

SC. 17 - EXT. FLAMECANO ISLAND - BEACH - CONTINUOUS

Spike pulls the dragon up onto the beach. Rarity and Twilight do a funny sideways crabwalk up the beach and then plop down nearby. All of them are winded and exhausted. Spike looks down at the other dragon.

102 SPIKE
Hey, are you okay!

Spike removes the dragon's helmet to REVEAL it's Ember. Spike <GASPS>. Ember <COUGHS> up some water. She realizes she doesn't have her helmet on:

103 EMBER
What do you think you're doing?

104 RARITY (FROM INSIDE COSTUME)
Only saving your life!

105 EMBER
Did that seaweed just talk?

Spike runs and gets in between Ember and the pony's seaweed pile.

106 SPIKE
NO!

Ember pushes past Spike and lifts up the seaweed, revealing Twilight and Rarity. They look scared.

107 SPIKE (CONT'D)
You leave them alone! They're my
friends, not your snack!

108 EMBER
Relax. I don't even like pony, I'm
a gem-etarian. Besides, I have a
Gauntlet to win.

109 SPIKE
Oh. I didn't realize you were
competing. I thought your dad said--

110 EMBER
I know what my father said! But
he's wrong. I'm not some little
delicate thing he has to protect. I
am a strong and ferocious dragon.

She looks at Spike as if daring him to contradict her.

111 SPIKE
No argument here.

112 EMBER
Good. Because I'm going to win and
become the new Dragon Lord!

113 GARBLE (O.S.)
...Did you see that? I was awesome!
I made it through!

Spike looks around for Garble.

114 DRAGON #2 (O.S.)
Yeah, we all did.

115 GARBLE (O.S.)
I made it through better.

Spike spots Garble and the other dragons flying toward them.

116 SPIKE
(to Twilight and Rarity)
Quick, hide!

Ember <GASPS> and quickly dons her helmet. Twilight and
Rarity dive back into their disguise as Garble and the other
dragons land, winded but in high spirits. Garble sees Spike.

117 GARBLE
You?

118 SPIKE
Yeah, yeah, you can't believe I
made it this far.

119 GARBLE
I didn't say that. But I was going
to. Who's your little friend?

As Garble rounds on Ember, she shoots Spike a pleading look.

120 SPIKE
Oh, that's just my old neighbor...
Bolthamburger.

121 DRAGON #2
Does anyone else smell pony?

The dragons sniff the air. One sniffs Twilight and Rarity's seaweed pile. Spike looks worried until Ember steps forward and points at him.

122 EMBER
(deep voiced)
It's probably this little one. He
spends so much time with ponies, he
even smells like them.

123 DRAGONS
Haha! / He totally smells like
pony! / Like flowers and cupcakes.

Suddenly there's a big CRASH behind them. They look up to see SLINGTAILS at the top of the Flamecano using their tails to hurl massive boulders at the incoming dragons.

124 SPIKE
Are those--?

125 EMBER
Slingtails.

126 GARBLE
I'm off. I've wasted enough time
making small talk with you two. Get
it? Because you're too small to win
this.

127 DRAGON #1
Haha! I got it.

With that, Garble and the other dragons leap into the sky. Once in the air, Garble pushes Dragon #1 out of the way.

128 DRAGON #1 (CONT'D)
Hey!

129 GARBLE
It's every dragon for themselves!

BACK ON Spike and Ember. Ember removes her helmet.

130 EMBER
I don't get it. Why did you cover
for me? You could have had one less
competitor to beat.

131 SPIKE
That wouldn't have been nice.
Besides, I could ask you the same
question. You could have told those
dragons about my friends.

132 EMBER
Yeah well, you did save me. So, now
we're even.

CRASH! Spike and Ember look up at the Flamecano and watch as
Garble and the others dodge the boulders.

133 EMBER (CONT'D)
I'll never make it through that.

134 SPIKE
We could always climb...

Spike tries to climb the Flamecano but the surface is too
hard. His claws can't dig into the rock. He just slides down.

135 SPIKE (CONT'D)
Never mind.

Spike spots a big branch nearby and gets an idea.

136 SPIKE (CONT'D)
Hey, what if we work together? You
fly me up there, and I'll take care
of the boulders.

Spike picks the branch up and swings it around.

137 EMBER
I don't know...

138 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (O.S.)
Spike!

139 SPIKE
Excuse me for a sec...

Spike walks up to a nearby seaweed pile.

140 SPIKE (CONT'D)
Yeah?

141 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (O.S.)
No, over here.

A tree shakes its branches. Spike walks over to it. Twilight and Rarity pop their heads out of the trunk.

142 RARITY
How do you like my latest creation?
The silhouette is much more
slimming than the last one.

143 SPIKE
You're the prettiest tree I've ever
seen. Is that why you called me
over?

144 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
No. Are you sure it's a good idea
to team up with Ember?

145 RARITY
I'm with Twilight, dear. You don't
know her too well and dragons
aren't very trustworthy. Other than
you, of course.

146 SPIKE
She could have turned you guys in
to the other dragons, but she
didn't. I think we can trust her.

147 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Okay, if you say so...

148 EMBER (O.S.)
Spike?

Spike returns to Ember.

149 EMBER (CONT'D)
Let's do it. I help you, you help
me. It's the only way we'll make it
up there.

150 SPIKE
Really? Great! It's a deal.

Spike and Ember shake on it.

151 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Good luck. We'll meet you at the
top.

SC. 18 - EXT. FLAMECANO - SKY - MOMENTS LATER

Ember is flying with Spike on her back. Spike bats incoming boulders out of the air and shouts warnings.

152 SPIKE
Pull up, there's one on your tail!
Look out! To your right! I got this
one! Now dive!

They deftly make it through the Slingtail's boulders. Around them, other dragons are being knocked out of the sky. Ember looks down and notices a tree magically going up the volcano.

153 EMBER
Is that your friends?

154 SPIKE
Yup. Rarity is the best at making
costumes.

Suddenly Garble, who's made it to the top, hurls a boulder at Ember and Spike before heading inside. Spike knocks it away.

155 EMBER
Ugh! That dragon is the worst! We
cannot let him win.

They land on the top of the Flamecano.

156 SPIKE
We made it!

Spike hugs Ember. Ember looks confused.

157 EMBER
What are you doing?

158 SPIKE
It's called a "hug."

159 EMBER
Dragons don't do hugs.

160 SPIKE
Right.
(letting go)
What do we do now?

161 EMBER
I think we go through there.

Ember points to a couple of dragons going into a tunnel. We hear a CRASH, <YELP>, and a cloud of smoke comes out. Both Ember and Spike look nervous. The Twilight and Rarity tree approaches.

162 RARITY
You're going in there?!

163 SPIKE
<GULP> We have to.

164 EMBER
Listen, Trike--

165 SPIKE
(correcting)
Spike.

166 EMBER
Whatever. We wouldn't have made it this far without working together. So I guess, if you want to, we can keep doing it.

167 SPIKE
Really?

168 EMBER
Just until we get to the end of the tunnel.

169 SPIKE
Sounds good to me!

170 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
We'll be right behind you.

171 RARITY
Not in this we won't. A tree inside a volcano is bit too suspicious. You two head in, I'll only be a second...

Spike and Ember brace themselves and head into...

SC. 19 - INT. FLAMECANO - TUNNEL - MOMENTS LATER**MONTAGE:**

- Spike squeezes through tight spaces between stalagmites and stalactites, then claws some of them down so that Ember can get through. As they go, there are a few dragons who are stuck or struggling, including Garble. He glares at them as they get to...

- A section of the tunnel blocked by a spinning "fire blade". Ember and Spike have to time it just right. Ember tumbles through, but Spike hesitates. From the other side, Ember grabs Spike and pulls him through safely. Garble watches them help each other and again, glares at them.

- A section of the tunnel that's filled with thick smoke. No dragon can see where they're going. Garble is lost and <COUGHING>. Ember starts <COUGHING> but Spike pulls her down to the ground with him and they crawl under the smoke. Garble catches a glimpse of them. His nostrils flare. Other dragons are stomping around them and Ember pulls Spike out of the way. They get to the end of the tunnel.

SC. 20 - INT. FLAMECANO - CAVERN - CONTINUOUS

Ember and Spike emerge from the other end of the tunnel, into a large cavern which is full of lava-filled craters. They're greeted by two stalagmites. One of them jumps up and down.

172 RARITY
You made it! Oh, we were so
worried.

173 SPIKE
About us? Pssh. That tunnel was
cake.

Spike collapses on the floor. Twilight <LAUGHS>.

174 EMBER
Wait, how did you two get through?

175 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
(slyly)
Oh, we ponies have our ways.

176 RARITY
We fell through a trap door and
landed here.

Suddenly the crater nearest to them starts rumbling.

177 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Uh oh. Lava geyser! Run!

Spike, Ember, and Twilight run but Rarity trips and rolls in circles on the floor in her stalagmite costume. Spike stops.

178 SPIKE
Rarity!

He runs back as the crater explodes! He grabs Rarity and rolls her to safety, just as the spewing lava lands right where Rarity was. A <PANTING> Spike and Rarity join Twilight and Ember on the other end of the lava geyser cavern.

179 EMBER
I don't get it. Why do you risk everything to save those ponies? And why do they put themselves in so much danger just to support you?

180 SPIKE
That's just what friends do. Don't you have anyone who looks out for you?

181 EMBER
Not really. Besides you.

Spike looks touched for a moment.

182 EMBER (CONT'D)
And that was only because we had a deal. Which I guess is over now.

183 SPIKE
What?

184 EMBER
We made it through the tunnel. We're close to the scepter and there can only be one winner, so... it's every dragon for themselves.

185 SPIKE
Oh. But I thought we were becoming friends.

186 EMBER
Friends? Maybe if we were in ponyland but dragons don't do friendship.

Ember takes off, leaving Spike speechless.

END ACT 2**ACT 3****SC. 21 - INT. FLAMECANO - CONTINUOUS**

Spike, along with stalagmite Rarity and Twilight, make their way down a narrow path.

187 SPIKE
I can't believe Ember ditched me.

188 RARITY
You're better off. She was only looking out for herself. She's just like all the other dragons.

189 SPIKE
She's not though. I know it. She saved me, even when she didn't have to. I don't care what she says. That makes us friends.

190 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Friendship isn't exactly "the dragon way".

191 SPIKE
Well, it's my way.

Spike thinks he sees SOMETHING MOVE, but when he looks again, it's gone. They round a corner, wandering through a seemingly identical corridor of the maze-like caverns inside the Flamecano.

192 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Is it just me or have we seen this crevice three times already?

193 SPIKE
It's kind of hard to tell. They all look the same.

194 RARITY
We're obviously hopelessly lost!

195 SPIKE
I don't think so.

Spike heads to an archway that leads out of the maze and the others follow.

196 RARITY
Oh, Spikey-wikey, you're a genius!

197 SPIKE
Yep. It looks like we made it!

Spike points to the Bloodstone Scepter lodged in a giant rock made of hardened lava.

198 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Well, we almost made it.

PULL OUT TO REVEAL the scepter is all the way across a stone bridge and that extends over a deep gorge.

199 SPIKE
We're so close! I can't believe I'm the first dragon to make it this far.

200 GARBLE
You're not.

Suddenly Garble lands on the bridge in front of him. Twilight and Rarity hide in their costume.

201 GARBLE (CONT'D)
And I am not losing to a puny pony-loving dragon like you!

With that, Garble picks Spike up and holds him over the gorge.

202 RARITY
<GASP> We have to do something!

203 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Or not... Look!

Suddenly Ember swoops in, grabs Spike, and carries him to safety on the Bloodstone Scepter side of the bridge.

204 SPIKE
Ember! I thought it was every dragon for themselves. Why did you save me?

205 EMBER
That's what friends do. I heard what you said.

206 SPIKE
About crevices looking the same?

207 EMBER
No! About being friends. And... I
am. I mean, we are. Ugh, please
don't make me talk about my
feelings.

Spike beams. From the other side of the bridge, we hear the
stalagmites go:

208 TWILIGHT SPARKLE/RARITY
Aww.

209 GARBLE
What the--?

Garble "unmasks" the ponies.

210 EMBER
Spike! Get the scepter!

Before Garble can get to the ponies, Ember tackles him. They
wrestle mid-air.

211 SPIKE
But I don't want to be Dragon Lord.
You should be the one to get it!

212 EMBER
I'm kind of in the middle of
something!

213 GARBLE
Yeah! A fight! With me! I'm sick
and tired of you two helping each
other! Dragons don't do helping!

214 EMBER
This dragon does!

Twilight notices some dragon shadows starting to come down
the corridor.

215 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Spike, hurry! If you don't take it,
another dragon will!

Spike runs to the scepter and pulls it out of the lava. It
glows. WIDE SHOT - the light from the scepter washes over the
cavern.

SC. 22 - EXT. FLAMECANO - CONTINUOUS

The scepter light spills out of the flamecano and over the other dragons. They look up in awe.

SC. 23 - INT. FLAMECANO - CAVERN - CONTINUOUS

Spike points the scepter at Garble.

216 SPIKE
Leave her alone!

Garble's scales glow and he stops fighting Ember.

217 GARBLE
Yes, Dragon Lord Spike.

218 SPIKE
Uh, now go home. And give every dragon you see on the way a hug. Don't tell them why.

219 GARBLE
Aww, but that'll be super embarrassing!

220 SPIKE
I command you to do it!

Garble flies off in a trance. Spike helps Ember up.

221 EMBER
"Dragon Lord Spike". Has a nice ring to it.

Spike gives the scepter to Ember.

222 SPIKE
Dragon Lord Ember sounds a lot better.

223 EMBER
What? No. You're the Dragon Lord now.

224 SPIKE
The Dragon Lord is whoever brings the scepter back to your father. Besides, I know you'll make a great leader. I was just doing this to protect the ponies, but I know you'll protect them just as well as I would have.

225 EMBER
Are you sure about this?

226 SPIKE
Absolutely. Besides, my home is in
Equestria with my friends.

227 EMBER
Well, you'll have at least one
friend here, too.

Off of Ember giving Spike a hug we DISSOLVE TO...

SC. 24 - EXT. DRAGONLANDS - LATER

Ember flies to Torch's throne and presents the scepter.

228 TORCH
Ember? You?

229 EMBER
I know you didn't think I could do
it, but I did.

There's a tense beat as Ember braces herself for her father's
wrath. But...

230 TORCH
It's not that I thought you
couldn't do it. I was worried
something would happen to you. I
know what's in that gauntlet--it's
dangerous!

231 EMBER
Yeah, you could have gone easy on
the boulders... and the fire
blades...

232 TORCH
But you made it. And I've never
been more proud. I should have
realized I raised you to be strong.
Strong enough to win, and strong
enough to lead.

Torch turns to the crowd of dragons.

233 TORCH (CONT'D)
Dragons, hear me! I present to you
our new Dragon Lord... Ember!

Torch moves his crown from his head to Ember's. The dragons erupt in cheers and fire breath.

SC. 25 - EXT. HILL - SAME

Spike and Twilight watch the crowning ceremony.

234 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
You did good, Spike. You put your
trust in the right dragon. With
Ember as Dragon Lord the ponies
will be safe. You've earned
yourself a powerful ally.

235 SPIKE
More like I gained a new friend.

236 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Speaking of friends, where's
Rarity?

237 RARITY (O.S.)
Over here!

REVEAL Rarity dressed as a stylish bush.

238 RARITY (CONT'D)
You know, I've really come around
to this whole camouflaging idea.
It's never been done before. I
daresay, it could be the latest
trend!

Spike and Twilight <LAUGH>. As they head home we...

END.