

Distribution:

Production:

Devon Cody
Meghan McCarthy
Josh Haber
Jim Miller
Denny Lu
Lesley Crawford
Claire Bartleman

The HUB:

Linda Shima Tsuno
Wayne Winstead

Hasbro Studios:

Stephen Davis
Kathy Page
Brian Lenard
Gabriel Monje
Daniel Barnes
Finn Arnesen
Nina Scales

Hasbro Brand:

Jamie Cipolla
Yusun Hwang
Husuk Jung
Andrea Ehret
Marissa Mansolillo
Samantha Lomow
Gretchen Forrest
Kristen Riley
Katherine Padilla
Brain Chapman

MY LITTLE PONY 6

A Glimmer of an Idea

613

Premise by: Dave Rapp

A GLIMMER OF AN IDEA

Outline by Dave Rapp

TEASER**1) INT. TOWN SQUARE – DAY**

Starlight rushes through town, talking to herself about how impressed Twilight is going to be with her latest assignment. She charges through the open air market, knocking past carts and stalls, accidentally bumping into package laden ponies, etc.—shouting apologies over her shoulder as she goes. Meanwhile, Twilight tells Spike how proud she is of Starlight. She really seems to be excelling at her friendship lessons. Spike agrees, but points out his concern that Starlight seems a little over-eager when it comes to impressing her teacher, sometimes to the exclusion of all else. Flattered, Twilight thinks there's nothing wrong with her student being enthusiastic about the learning process. Suddenly, Starlight appears, out of breath, as she proudly presents Twilight with her just completed friendship lesson. The ink's still wet on the parchment. Twilight's surprised. This wasn't due for another week. Starlight beams with pride that she was able to turn it in so early. Her pride fades when Twilight turns Starlight around and points out the havoc she caused running through the town square. Starlight sees ponies picking themselves up, dusting themselves off, and generally putting things back together after Starlight's rampage. Twilight tells Starlight she thinks she has an idea for a new lesson...

ACT ONE**2) INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE – THRONE ROOM – DAY**

Twilight tells Starlight that the new friendship lesson is about seeing things through another pony's eyes. While Twilight values Starlight's sincere excitement about learning, everything she does should always be tempered by empathy and a desire to see things from another pony's point of view. And while reading is generally Twilight's go to for learning, she feels the best way to learn about empathy is through interacting with other ponies. That's why, while Twilight spends the day with Celestia in Canterlot, she'd like Starlight to pick one pony in Ponyville and learn their life story in order to better understand and share their feelings. At the end of the day, when Twilight returns, Starlight should give her a report on what she's learned.

Starlight starts to exit, but stops in the hallway, realizing she forgot to ask Twilight if the report should be oral or written. As she heads back in, she pauses in the doorway. She overhears Twilight and Spike talking. Twilight admits to Spike that she's worried that this lesson may prove frustrating for Starlight since taking other ponies' feelings into account is something that is relatively new for her student.

3) EXT. TOWN SQUARE – LATER

Starlight can't get Twilight's words of concern out of her head. Worried that she's going to let Twilight down, Starlight vows to knock this assignment out of the park. If she's supposed to interview a pony and report back to Twilight, then she'll just have to pick the most interesting pony in all of Ponyville! The problem is Starlight can't decide on which pony to interview... until she realizes – why interview one pony, when she can interview every pony! She'll be an empathizing machine! This will really impress Twilight. When she sees Granny Smith sitting by herself at a cafe, Starlight figures if she's going to interview every pony, she might as well start with her. Starlight approaches Granny Smith and asks to hear her life story. Granny's more than happy to comply.

TIME CUT TO:**4) EXT. MARKET – LATER**

Time has passed and Granny is still just talking about the day she first came to Ponyville. Starlight excuses herself for a moment and steps away. She's worried that this interview is taking far longer than she thought. If this is any indication of what's ahead of her, then interviewing every pony in town is going to take forever. There's got to be a faster, more efficient way of doing this.

5) INT. TWILIGHT'S LIBRARY - LATER

Spike hears a commotion coming from the library. He enters and sees Starlight, mid-spell. Before he can even ask what's going on, she finishes the spell. Starlight looks at Spike -- her eyes go wide and we zoom into her head. We see flashes and snippets of Spike's life (Spike hatching from an Egg to see Twilight, Spike saving Applejack from a giant timberwolf, Spike battling Mane-iac, etc.) The scenes move faster and faster until they're light trails -- a la a spaceship jumping to light speed. We zoom back out of Starlight's eyes. She has an "I know kung-fu moment" a la the Matrix. Starlight: "Whoa." Spike starts to protest, "Starlight, you can't..." But Starlight cuts him off continuing what he was going to say, "...cast a spell from the Special Section of Twilight's library to do an even better job with the lesson because Twilight doesn't want to be impressed she just wants me to learn?" Spike, "Um... Yeah. That."

END ACT ONE**ACT TWO****INT. TWILIGHT'S LIBRARY - RESUME**

Armed with all of his knowledge, Starlight lists every possible objection Spike can think of and shoots down each one: Spike: "Maybe we should-" Starlight: "-Contact Twilight? Why? She gave me an assignment and I'm doing it." Spike: "Yeah, but, this spell-" Starlight: "-Is just going to make me even better at empathizing and isn't that the point?" Spike: "But what if-" Starlight: "-Something goes wrong? Well, the counter spell is right here on the next page." When Starlight asks if Spike has any other concerns or protests, Spike sighs and admits that even if he did, Starlight would already know what they were.

6) EXT. MARKET – LATER

Starlight runs back to the market and sees Granny Smith still sitting at the cafe. She asks to continue the interview. As Granny starts to speak, we zoom in on Starlight's eyes again. Like before, we see flashes and snippets of Granny's life (Granny Smith arriving in Ponyville as a filly, diving off the high dive, dancing with a cane, etc.) The scenes go faster and faster until they're light trails again. We zoom back out of her eyes. Starlight thanks Granny for her time. She got everything she needs. Granny's confused. She didn't even have a chance to tell her about -- Starlight jumps in and finishes Granny's sentence. Off of Granny's confused look, Starlight quickly covers, explaining that it's what Granny didn't say spoke volumes. After Starlight leaves, Granny thinks about that and is even more confused.

7) EXT. TOWN SQUARE – LATER

Starlight runs from pony to pony. She stares at each for a second and her eyes grow wide as she absorbs their life story. She then thanks the pony and runs to the next. Suddenly, she spots Spike and calls him over. As he's about to voice his concerns, she cuts him off. She knows he's worried about her using the spell, but it couldn't be going any better. In fact, she learned some truly amazing things about Granny. As she starts to tell him a few facts about her, without realizing it, she briefly slips into Granny's speech patterns and mannerisms. Starlight's confident that Twilight will be impressed and proud of her.

8) EXT. SCHOOL HOUSE – LATER

Starlight runs up to the school as class is ending. As each student leaves, Starlight stares at them and absorbs their life stories. Starlight's pleased and thinks she'll be finished with her assignment in no time.

Scootaloo sees Starlight and tries to strike up a conversation with her. Starlight jumps in and cuts her off. She knows Scootaloo was going to ask her about something that happened last week. When Starlight begins to answer her, she slips into Spike's speech pattern and starts talking about how she had to send a message to Celestia with her magic fire. Scootaloo's confused. Doesn't Spike do that? Starlight gets concerned. Yes, that's what Spike did last week. Not her. Why did she say that? She shakes her head, trying to clear it. When she again tries to talk about something that she did last week, she slips into the mannerism and speech pattern of Bulk Biceps and starts to

recount one of his memories. She stops herself and shakes her head again. Starlight realizes something weird is going on. She better take another look at that spell book.

9) INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - LATER

As Starlight races through the castle, her eyes grow wide with every pony she passes. She's forced to look at the ground as she runs – and bumps into Rarity. As soon as she makes eye contact with her, her eyes grow wide. She immediately starts acting and talking like Rarity to Rarity. Rarity thinks there's something strange and different about Starlight. She doesn't know what it is – but she absolutely loves it! Keep it up. Starlight excuses herself and runs off. As she passes Pinkie Pie, Starlight's eyes grow wide. When Pinkie asks if she's okay, Starlight answers her back as Pinkie Pie saying she's better than just “okay.” She's downright happy-splendiferously-terrifically-fabulously okay. And then she grabs Pinkie's party cannon and fires it. She shakes her head. She needs to get to the library. Now.

ACT THREE

10) INT. TWILIGHT'S LIBRARY – LATER

When Starlight races into library, she's surprised to see Spike is already there, holding the spell book. This time Spike cuts her off before she can even speak. He knows why she's there -- because she's in some serious trouble. Starlight tries to downplay her situation, until she slips into the speech and mannerisms of a few different ponies. She sheepishly admits Spike may be right.

Starlight quickly flips the book open to the page with the counter spell. As her horn begins to glow and Starlight starts to read the spell, she stops and her eyes grow wide. Suddenly, she starts talking like Fluttershy. She's confused. She didn't see Fluttershy earlier. Why is this happening now? Just then, they see Fluttershy walking past the entrance of the library with Angel. Suddenly, Starlight's eyes grow wide again and she starts speaking like Rainbow Dash. When Spike looks out the window and spots Rainbow Dash, high up in the sky, bursting clouds, he begins to panic. Things are getting worse. Now Starlight doesn't even need to be looking at a pony in the eye to absorb their history. When Spike suggests they talk to Twilight about this, Starlight suddenly realizes that Twilight is probably back and rushes off to give her the report.

11) INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE – OUTSIDE OF THE THRONE ROOM – DAY

Spike follows Starlight to the throne room, trying to convince her to come clean. Starlight, (looking completely frazzled a la Twilight from “Lesson Zero”) fights to keep it together. Starlight admits she overheard Twilight and Spike earlier. She knows Twilight has doubts about her completing this assignment and telling Twilight she screwed up, would only confirm those doubts. She'll give the report, impress Twilight and then they'll find a way to undo this spell.

12) INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE – THRONE ROOM – DAY

Before Starlight begins her report, she tells Twilight that instead of just talking with one pony, she's learned about every pony in town. Twilight's impressed. Starlight beams with pride and begins her report. Things are going well until she begins to slip into other pony's voices. As Twilight begins to wonder what's happening, Starlight's eyes go wide. We zoom in on her eyes. We see flashes and snippets of Twilight's life – Celestia sending Twilight to Ponyville, Twilight transforming into an Alicorn, Twilight worrying she's letting Celestia down, etc. We end on the scene of Twilight from the teaser, saying how proud she is of Starlight.

Starlight's shocked with the knowledge she's gained from Twilight. She's been trying so hard to make Twilight proud of her; she never realized Twilight already was. Feeling guilty, Starlight confesses to Twilight that she used a spell to help her on the assignment. Twilight admits she noticed Starlight wasn't acting like herself. Spike gives the spell book to Twilight and she immediately flips to the counter spell. With an extra bright glow of Twilight's horn, we zoom into Starlight's wide eyes as a hundred images go flashing in reverse **until the long trials of light suck** back up and we pop out of Starlight's head and see her eyes are back to their normal size. Twilight feels for Starlight. She explains that the object of all the friendship lessons she's been given, isn't for Starlight to impress her.

What's important is for Starlight to learn from the lessons. With a sheepish look to Spike, Starlight admits she might have heard something like that somewhere.

With the history of everypony now gone from her head, Starlight asks if she can do the lesson again. But this time, she'll do it the way she should have -- by talking. Twilight thinks this is a great idea.

13) EXT. CAFE – LATER

Starlight is sitting with Granny Smith again. She'd like to hear more about her life story. She's in no hurry -- go ahead and take her time. As Granny Smith begins to talk, Starlight sits in rapt attention.

END