

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 7

A Royal Problem
Ep 710

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A ROYAL PROBLEM

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Friendship Lesson: You can never fully appreciate your sister until you've walked a mile in her hooves.

Twilight wonders if the map is broken, it's been so long since it's called on somepony. Just then, a glowing cutie mark appears over it. But to everypony's surprise, it's Starlight Glimmer's! And that's not all, it's calling her to Princess Celestia's Castle! Spike jokes that maybe the map really is broken. Very curious and a bit nervous, Starlight heads off to Canterlot to see how she can be of help.

When she arrives at the palace, it's clear that something is going on between the royal sisters. Although both are the picture of princessly politeness, there is definitely some tension. When Starlight asks if they need her help, because you know, the map sent her here and all, the sisters reluctantly admit they have been getting on each other's nerves lately. It starts small: Luna complains that Celestia always uses her hairbrush. Celestia retorts, "That's because it's mine, dear sister." The fight escalates before Starlight's eyes until both princesses are diminishing each other's contributions toward Equestria. Having heard enough, Starlight makes a bold decision: she magically switches the princesses' cutie marks!

The princesses are shocked, nopony has ever dared to do anything remotely like this to them before. But Starlight insists it's the only way to end their arguments. If they can handle their sister's duties for a day, they will prove themselves right. Both believing themselves to be correct, the princesses agree.

First, Starlight spends the day with Luna. Luna starts the day confident that her sister's duties are no big deal. All she has to do is smile, be adored by everypony and raise the sun, how hard is that? But she starts to see how much her sister deals with as diplomat squabble after diplomat squabble is followed by public appearances, luncheons, etc. To top it all off, there's the constant pressure to always be perfect in everypony's eyes.

That evening, Starlight spends time with Celestia. Celestia maintains that raising the moon is as simple as raising the sun and she doesn't even have to smile while she's doing it! But as she has to navigate the nightmares, innermost fears and dreams of all her subjects and make decision after decision all alone, she begins to understand how hard her sister works. On top of it all, she has to deal with everything alone.

The two sisters meet at the dawn, apologetic and humbled. They admit the other's job was a lot harder than they thought it would be - and it turns out both of them made some big mistakes while in the other's hooves! They immediately set to work righting each other's wrongs. Afterward, they tell each other how grateful they are for one another *and* for Starlight's bravery. Without her, they never would have seen where the other was coming from. The map obviously called her because she was the only pony in Equestria brazen enough to perform magic on the royal sisters. Starlight is relieved they feel that way and that she was able to help them. When Starlight returns to Twilight's castle and regales her with the tale, Twilight faints! "You did what??" THE END.