

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 7
To Change a Changeling
Ep 719
Premise by: Kevin Lappin
Outline by: Kevin Lappin

Distribution:

Production:
Devon Cody
Joanna Lewis
Kristine Songco
Jim Miller
Denny Lu
Tim Stuby
Zoe Borroz

Discovery Family:
Linda Shima Tsuno
Beth Mohammed

Hasbro Studios:
Stephen Davis
Kathy Page
Meghan McCarthy
Eliza Hart
Gabriel Monje
Daniel Barnes
Finn Arnesen
Nina Scales
Graham Stephen
Tyla Bucher
Loretta Masters
Narae Song
Bill Cheungcp
Molly Shaffer
Emily Thompson
Rachelle Little
Kristen Riley
Michael Kelly

Hasbro Brand:
Jamie Cipolla
Yusun Hwang
Kevin Evans
Andrea Ehret
Samantha Lomow
Gretchen Forrest
Kristen Riley
Katherine Padilla
Brian Chapman

Premise: April 25th, 2016
Outline: May 6th, 2016

TO CHANGE A CHANGELING

Outline by Kevin Lappin

*Friendship lesson: It's up to you to define who you are.***TEASER****SC. 1 – EXT. CHANGELING HIVE – DAY**

STARLIGHT GLIMMER and TRIxie are on their way to the changeling hive. Trixie wonders aloud why Thorax asked her to come. Starlight: “He didn’t. He asked me to come. Then I asked you to come with me.” Trixie, ignoring her, speculates: “He probably wants me to perform my magic for the changelings. I am in high demand, you know.” Starlight shows Trixie a bag they’re bringing and reminds her that Thorax asked for some more magically charmed seeds that will grow without sunlight underground in the hive. They approach the hive and comment that it does look much nicer than the last time they were here. Just then they’re met by a menacing DARK CHANGELING! Trixie: “Well, Starlight, Thorax asked for you, so I’ll just be on my way...” She tries using a transporting spell, but it doesn’t work. The changeling advances towards Starlight and Trixie who SCREAM!

END TEASER**ACT ONE****SC. 2 – EXT. CHANGELING HIVE – MOMENTS LATER**

The changeling comes closer to a terrified Starlight and Trixie. Trixie desperately tries to use every spell she knows to escape, but nothing works. “Our magic must not work here yet!” Starlight: “Or *yours* doesn’t...” Starlight uses magic (to Trixie’s annoyance) to hurl rocks at the changeling, who easily sidesteps them and says, “I’m starving. I haven’t fed off a pony in a long time.” Just then THORAX appears and yells: “Pharynx, stop it!” Pharynx, who sounds a little like Jason Statham, says they are trespassers. “Surely you’re going to let me eat their love.” Thorax tells him they don’t do that anymore, then apologizes to Starlight and Trixie. He introduces Pharynx to them. “I see you’ve met my older brother.” Starlight and Trixie are surprised. Starlight: “Brother? (looks closer) Oh, yeah, you guys have the same... nothing.”

SC. 3 – INT. CHANGELING HIVE – TUNNELS/COMMON AREA – LATER

Thorax leads Starlight and Trixie through the new hive. The dark, creepy tunnels and ragged caverns from Chrysalis’ reign are being turned into beautiful, colorful spaces with trees and flowers, and happy changelings move about, smiling and greeting each other. Starlight and Trixie are amazed at all the changes that have happened under Thorax’s leadership. Thorax says the only small problem is that some of the plants from the last batch of charmed seeds he got from Starlight have been dying, and points out various clumps of withered flora. Starlight is a little confused by this since she charmed the seeds

themselves and they should have no problem growing without sunlight down in the hive. Trixie (playfully): “It’s not your fault. You’re not very good at magic.”

SC. 4 – INT. CHANGELING HIVE –CAVERN UNDER THRONE ROOM – CONTINUOUS

They’ve made their way to the room that’s under the throne room, which seems to have more dying plants than the other sections. [NOTE: This room can look exactly like the throne room just without the throne] Trixie isn’t interested in the dying plants. “You say there’s only one small problem, but a few brown plants didn’t scare the rainbows out of us when we first got here.” Thorax explains that in order for a changeling to change, they must accept love in their life, and Pharynx hasn’t taken that step. There was a group of renegade changelings refusing to transform, but Thorax was eventually able to convince them thanks to some advice from Ember. Pharynx is the lone holdout.

Just then, a group of changelings approach, angry about Pharynx. They heard about how he threatened Starlight and Trixie, and are fed up with his behavior. “This is the last straw! We’re trying to change our reputations, and he’s going to undermine all our work!” They want Thorax to either jail Pharynx or banish him from the hive. Thorax refuses, saying he won’t give up on his brother. Starlight offers to help; she knows what it’s like to have to learn lessons of love and friendship, so maybe she can convince Pharynx to open up. Thorax: “Really? You would do that?” Trixie: “Thorax, if there’s anypony who can help your brother... it’s me. And with Starlight helping, it might take slightly longer, but I guarantee you we can do it!” Starlight rolls her eyes, but Thorax is thankful. While they help his brother, he can focus on planting the new seeds.

SC. 5 – INT. CHANGELING TUNNEL – A LITTLE LATER

Starlight and Trixie make their way down a tunnel, a little lost in the hive as they look for Pharynx’s room. Starlight knocks on a door, and a changeling opens it. Starlight: “Oops, sorry. We’re looking for Pharynx.” Changeling: “Nope. Wrong tunnel.” Starlight asks a passing changeling where Pharynx’s room is, and he points at the door they just left. They knock again, and a different changeling answers, who also tells them Pharynx isn’t there. They’re about to leave again when suddenly Starlight realizes something and knocks on the door yet again. “Pharynx, I know it’s you.” The changeling answers and transforms Pharynx before their eyes. Starlight and Trixie enter into a door-to-door salesman/religious style presentation. “Hello, sir. Have you opened your heart and accepted love and friendship in your life?” They continue the presentation, periodically using magic to conjure props and add flair making their case. They’re really working for it, until Pharynx abruptly cuts them off. “I’m not interested,” and slams the door in their faces. Starlight and Trixie are exhausted and crestfallen. Starlight: “That didn’t go so well. Time for Plan B, I guess.” Trixie: “And that is?” Starlight: “Figure out a Plan B.”

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 6 – INT. CHANGELING HIVE – TUNNEL – LATER

Thorax is overseeing a group of changelings fixing a section of the hive. He's assertive as he coordinates the removal of dead plants and works on a section of the tunnel wall himself. He plucks one last dead, dry stick, out and steps back to admire his handiwork. Nothing but beautiful flowers left. Thorax smiles and confidently tells the others, "If we keep working together, we'll have the hive cleaned up in no time." He steps out of the tunnel into the cavern under the throne room and sees it's overwhelmed with dead plants and flowers. "Oh boy."

SC. 7 – INT. CHANGELING HIVE – COMMON AREA – A LITTLE LATER

Pharynx walks through the hive, scowling and growling at other changelings, most of who scurry out of his way. Starlight and Trixie watch him. "We came on too strong at first. We need to show him the benefits, not just tell him."

A passing changeling smiles at Pharynx and says, "Hi, Pharynx. How are you?" Pharynx is immediately suspicious. "Why do you want to know?" The changeling is taken aback. Pharynx continues pressing, asking what the changeling's angle is, what he's looking to gain from the information he would get if Pharynx did, in fact, answer "how he's doing." Starlight and Trixie arrive, having heard part of the exchange. They explain the other changeling was just being polite, and being interested in another's well-being is how one shows friendship and compassion. Starlight tells him that she and Trixie often ask each other how they're doing. Trixie: "Even when I don't really care I'll ask, because that's how nice I am." They have the changeling ask them how they're doing. "How are you?" Starlight: "Been having some difficulties lately, but otherwise not too bad." The changeling reassures Starlight and moves on. Starlight turns to Pharynx: "See? I already feel much better." Pharynx: "And I know to keep doing what I'm doing because it annoys you. You just revealed a weakness." He walks off. Trixie says they'll have to change their tact if they want to get past Pharynx's paranoia. Starlight: "Plan C?"

SC. 8 – EXT. CHANGELING HIVE – A LITTLE LATER

They catch up to Pharynx as he exits the hive. Trixie tries to be casual and cool with Pharynx, saying she knows how annoying it can be when random passersby start talking to you. She tells a long-winded story about how she always got annoyed at having to make small talk with fans after her magic shows, but eventually came to realize that a lot of them had interesting things to say. Pharynx: "I hope they were more interesting than this story." He transforms into Trixie and does an impression of her telling the story. Starlight stifles a laugh; Trixie isn't amused. Then Pharynx transforms into Starlight, and does an impression of Starlight doing the "open your heart to love" presentation. Now Trixie laughs. The two ponies begin squabbling about who is to blame for failing to get through to Pharynx. Pharynx transforms back into his natural form and laughs. Starlight: "Argh! He turned the friendship lesson around on us!"

Suddenly, Pharynx tells them to be quiet. Starlight (whispers): "What are we doing out here?" Pharynx (whispers): "Hunting." Up ahead in the brush, a mother bunny is nuzzling with her babies. Pharynx: "Their love is making me strong." Starlight and Trixie whisper/freak out as they try and tell him changelings don't need to do that anymore. Then Starlight says, "Wait, why are we whispering?" and begins talking at a normal volume, scaring the bunnies off. Trixie says if he's hungry, he can share her sandwich. Pharynx eats it and admits it was pretty good. "You should have led with this lesson."

Starlight and Trixie are happy that they're finally making progress with Pharynx. Then Trixie realizes the other half of the sandwich is missing. "Did you steal my half?" Pharynx says no. Trixie says only her half had mustard, and Pharynx has mustard on his mouth. Pharynx licks it off, and says, "No, I don't," leaving Starlight and Trixie exasperated.

SC. 9 – INT. CHANGELING HIVE – CAVERN UNDER THRONE ROOM – SAME TIME

Meanwhile, Thorax and some changelings have cleaned out the throne room and have just finished planting the seeds. "Okay, now water them and let's get this place back to being beautiful!" The changelings fly up into the air with watering cans and pour water all over the throne room. Almost immediately the flowers/plants/vines/etc. start growing. It's magnificent. The changelings cheer! And then, almost as quickly, all of them die. The changelings all groan. They don't notice that in all their work, the dirt and rocks of the cavern have become unstable.

SC. 10 – INT. CHANGELING HIVE – LATER

Starlight and Trixie follow Pharynx back through the hive. He's getting very angry with them. He sees a changeling take another changeling's robe, and storms over. "You're going to let him do that?" The changeling says, "Yes. I'm giving it to him. He saw it, said he liked it, so I'm giving it to him." Pharynx: "Without putting up a fight?!" The changeling is confused. "Why would I fight him when I don't want it anymore?" Pharynx grabs it, and the changeling says he can't take the robe. Pharynx: "Why not? You said you don't want it." The other changeling pipes up: "He's giving it to me!" Pharynx: "Then fight me for it."

A group of changelings have formed around them. They begin yelling about how Pharynx's behavior won't be tolerated by the hive anymore. Starlight and Trixie tell Pharynx the changelings have all wanted Pharynx gone for a long time now, but Thorax has stuck his neck on the line for him. If Pharynx won't listen to what Starlight and Trixie are telling him, won't he at least change for his brother's sake? Pharynx says, "I didn't ask him to do that," and if everyone feels that way, then he'll leave. He flies off.

Starlight and Trixie start to go after him when the hive begins to shake and they hear a rumbling sound. Starlight says it's coming from the throne room. "Isn't that where Thorax is?"

SC. 11 – INT. CHANGELING HIVE –CAVERN UNDER THRONE ROOM – SAME TIME

Thorax and some other changelings had started ripping out the new dead plants when the shaking and rumbling started. Dirt begins falling from the ceiling. Thorax yells: "The room is collapsing!"

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE**SC. 12 – INT. CHANGELING HIVE – CAVERN UNDER THRONE ROOM – MOMENTS LATER**

Thorax yells out: “It’s collapsing! Evacuate!” Thorax makes sure he’s last out, and gets hit by a falling rock, injuring his wing. Starlight and Trixie appear at the tunnel entrance and call out to him. Thorax yells at them to get away when suddenly the ground beneath him gives away. Thorax barely gets his front hooves on the edge and dangles over a deep crevice. Trixie yells at him to fly out, but his wing is too injured. Starlight tries using magic to lift Thorax, but nothing happens. Starlight begins panicking: “Magic doesn’t work here!” Trixie scoffs. “Maybe your fancy ‘real magic’ doesn’t, but--” POOF, a handkerchief comes out of her sleeve, getting longer and longer until it reaches Thorax. He wraps his front legs around it and starts climbing like a rope, just as the edge crumbles. Thorax begins falling as more and more and more handkerchief comes out of Trixie’s sleeve. It’s endless. Trixie begins panicking: “I’m too good at this trick!” Suddenly a black blur WHOOSHES past them and a moment later, Pharynx comes flying up the crevice, carrying Thorax to safety just before the ceiling collapses.

SC. 13 – INT. CHANGELING HIVE – TUNNEL/CAVERN – CONTINUOUS

The smoke clears. Once they take stock that everyone is safe, Starlight and Trixie turn to Pharynx, ecstatic. Starlight: “You came back! We knew you could do it! We knew underneath that rough and tumble exterior, you had the ability to love and care for others.” Thorax, Trixie, and Starlight wonder why he hasn’t made the change yet. Pharynx clearly cares about his brother - that’s why he came back. Pharynx says it’s because he’s been fighting it! Why should he want to change? He’s spent years cultivating who he is, and just because he loves his brother doesn’t mean he’s going to start playing hopscotch with kids, or stop being rough around the edges. Thorax says, “But being my brother is as much a part of you as all the other stuff. It doesn’t have to be an ‘either/or.’ It’s an ‘and.’”

Just then some changelings interrupt, telling Thorax they have something to show him. The wall leading up to the throne room has split in half, revealing a large, black rock. Thorax: “It’s a dark stone!” Trixie: “A what what?” Thorax explains the dark stone is what Chrysalis’s throne was made of. It prevented magic from being used in the hive when Chrysalis was in charge. He assumed it was destroyed when the ponies defeated Chrysalis, but if there was still some hidden in the wall below, it would explain why the charmed seeds weren’t growing. Starlight says it also explains why she couldn’t use her magic in here. Thorax says that since all the plant roots were keeping the structural integrity of the tunnels and chambers in tact, the entire hive is in danger as long as the rock remains. Some changelings fly down and attempt to move the dark stone, but it won’t budge.

Suddenly, there’s another rumbling. Panic sets in as they realize the entire hive is beginning to fall apart. Pharynx asks Thorax and the ponies if they trust him. Thorax says of course he does. “Good.” He hovers above, and soon the orderly evacuation turns to arguing and shoving as changelings try to save themselves first. Starlight realizes Pharynx is feasting on their love. The changelings in the room begin yelling. “He tricked us!” But Thorax says no. “He’s not going to hurt us. He’s going to save us!” Pharynx uses his newfound strength to lift the dark stone and throw it down the deep chasm. The chasm

closes up, and the flowers and plants come to life, stabilizing the hive! They all celebrate. Then a blinding light flashes, off everyone looking up we CUT TO:

SC. 14 – INT. CHANGELING HIVE – THRONE ROOM– LATER

Thorax sits on his throne. Starlight and Trixie are there. Thorax says he is waiting for his brother to claim his new place in the hive – at his right hand. Pharynx enters... now changed but not exactly like the others. He's got the new design but his coloring is a charcoal, with some sharper angles than everyone else. There is murmuring among the changelings. Pharynx says, "What? I can have love in my heart and still look tough." Then Trixie asks if they're finally ready to see her magic show. Starlight: "What are you talking about?" Trixie: "Uh, the magic show that was the reason Thorax summoned us here in the first place? Duh." Starlight: "No one's here to see your magic show!" Pharynx: "That's not being a supportive friend, Starlight. Trixie, I would love to see your magic show." And as Trixie starts, we fade out.

END OF EPISODE