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MY LITTLE PONY
Season 8

The Hearth's Warming Club
Ep 815

Teleplay Final Draft

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Teleplay 1st Draft: Brian Hohlfeld
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TEASER**SC. 1 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - GRAND HALL - DAY**

A SMALL VERSION OF THE PINK, HEART-SHAPED FIRE OF FRIENDSHIP magically hovers atop a tall fir tree festooned with ornaments and lights. Holiday decorations hang from the walls and beams, and more are in the process of being hung by- The School of Friendship FACULTY and STUDENTS. APPLEJACK, PINKY PIE, RARITY, and FLUTTERSHY work side by side with PONY STUDENTS (incidentals). Applejack runs out of garland... Only to have COZY GLOW sidle up, pushing another full box of it. *

AJ smiles and Cozy beams...Then she flies up to help Fluttershy put up the other end of a decoration.

Off to one side, working as a group, we find OCELLUS, YONA, SANDBAR, SILVERSTREAM, GALLUS, and SMOLDER. Sandbar sings a few bars of "Hearth's Warming Eve is Here Again."

1 SANDBAR
"Hearth's Warming Eve is here
again..." Come on, everybody sing!
"La la la la la..."

He's the only one singing. Ocellus sort of hums along but doesn't really know the words, and it deflates into some <NOISES>. Sandbar turns to the others to see blank stares.

2 YONA
Not everycreature celebrate same
way, you know.

Smolder holds up a Hearth's Warming doll skeptically--

3 SMOLDER
Yeah. Dragons don't do pony
holidays.

4 SPIKE (O.S.)
Sure we do!

SPIKE has come in with TWILIGHT SPARKLE and RAINBOW DASH.

5 SPIKE (CONT'D)
I LOVE Hearth's Warming Eve. It's
all about friends, and presents,
and family, and...presents!

Twilight smiles at him, then adds to the students--

6 TWILIGHT
It's also about putting aside
differences to come together - like
the Earth ponies, pegasi, and
unicorns did on the first holiday.

7 OCELLUS
Oh! Is that why you put their fire
of friendship on top of the tree?
To help us remember their unity?

Twilight nods, but as she opens her mouth to answer, Rainbow Dash zooms past, flying up to get a good look at the room.

8 RAINBOW DASH
AND 'cause it looks cool.

Silverstream hops from one foot to the other, joyful.

9 SILVERSTREAM
This is my favorite day of the
year. Not that I don't like the
other ones. Tuesdays are great!

10 YONA
Yona like any day that is start of
Winter Break.

11 GALLUS
Two whole weeks without classes.
How will Ocellus survive?

Ocellus blushes, but Twilight smiles at her.

12 TWILIGHT
I think you'll all enjoy the time
off to be home with your families.
To celebrate your own traditions.

She smiles at GALLUS as she says this, but his expression is glum and he looks away. Twilight turns to loudly address the whole student body/faculty - who look up.

13 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Attention, everycreature! School is
officially out! Happy Holidays,
and we'll see you after break.

As Apple Jack, Pinky Pie, Rarity, and Fluttershy lead the other ponies out, Twilight turns to our small group.

14 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
And for those of you traveling
outside Equestria...

15 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah, shouldn't you guys be getting
ready to go? If you miss the train,
it's a really long walk.

The students nod and start to bustle off. Twilight calls--

16 TWILIGHT
Go pack up, and we'll take you to
the station.

The Students head out, chattering excitedly among themselves -
except Gallus, the first out the door.

17 SILVERSTREAM / YONA / SANDBAR /
 SMOLDER / OCELLUS
I can't wait to see my brother! /
Train better wait for Yak. / I hope
my parents save me pie. / Hey, wait
up! / I love this time of year.

As they go, Spike picks up a large wrapped package from under
the tree and shakes it. It makes a <LOUD METALLIC SOUND>.

18 SPIKE
It's that new bowtie I wanted,
isn't it?

19 TWILIGHT
 (smiles)
You'll just have to wait and see!

20 SPIKE
I'm waiting! But in the meantime,
I'm shaking.

UP ABOVE - A SHADOW moves amid the beams and rafters, growing
bigger as it creeps along high above the hall.

BELOW - Spike continues to shake packages as Twilight and
Rainbow Dash straighten some decorations on the tree.

The SHADOW stops directly above the tree. Then, A PURPLE
POWDER is poured by an unseen hand...and spills down right
into the Fire of Friendship! The Fire momentarily BLAZES
with a <WHOOSH!>

Twilight, Rainbow, and Spike hear this, look up to see--

The Fire BLAZES--then changes color--THEN BUBBLES UP (like
putting detergent into a fountain) and forms a a STICKY
PURPLE GOO that grows and grows until <SPLAT!>. It EXPLODES
and spews PURPLE GUNK everywhere!

Twilight, Rainbow, and Spike <GASP!>. Spike's POV: A big blob of PURPLE GOO falls down toward him and we--

END TEASER.

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SC. 2 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - GRAND HALL - RESUME

RESUME: The blob of goo falls right on top of Spike and ENVELOPS HIM. He struggles to get it off.

21 SPIKE (CONT'D)
<MMMMP! MMMPPP!>

Twilight tries to "magic" the goo off of him. It takes some stretchy effort, but finally--PLOP! The goo falls to the floor and Spike recovers.

22 SPIKE (CONT'D)
Wh--what happened?

WIDER: The Hall, the decorations, and the tree are all covered in the purple gunk. The trio is stunned.

23 TWILIGHT
Everything's ruined, that's what happened!

Rainbow Dash flies up to the rafters above the tree and sees a TIPPED OVER POT with some of the powder spilling out.

24 RAINBOW DASH
And I don't think it was an accident! Somepony was up here!

Spike hears a creaking <NOISE> below and sees--

THE SHADOW moves along a far wall and disappears.

25 SPIKE
Over there!

Rainbow Dash flies down to join Twilight and Spike as they head off in the direction the Shadow went. It leads them to an OPEN WINDOW.

26 TWILIGHT
Outside!

SC. 3 - EXT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - CONTINUOUS

The trio rushes outside and look around--nothing. Then they hear a DOOR <CREAK> in the distance.

THEIR POV - ACROSS THE QUAD - a door <SLAMS> shut behind whoever has gone inside.

27 SPIKE
That's the Students' Quarters!

The trio races to follow--

SC. 4 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - STUDENT DORMS - CONTINUOUS

Twilight, Spike, and Rainbow Dash enter the MAIN HALL of the dorm, where several doors lead off to the students' rooms. But there's no sign of anyone. Rainbow Dash calls out.

28 RAINBOW DASH
Might as well give up, whoever you are! We got you cornered!

No answer.

29 TWILIGHT
Hello? Is anypony there?

30 RAINBOW DASH
I'll check the back door!

She flies off as we hear dorm room DOORS <OPEN>. Silverstream and Smolder are the first to come out.

31 SILVERSTREAM
What's happening? <GASP!> Another decorating party?

32 TWILIGHT
Has anycreature come in here?

33 SMOLDER
Well...yeah. All of us did. To pack? Like you told us to?

34 SPIKE
After that. Did you hear anything?

Silverstream and Smolder both shake their heads no. The other students start to wander out.

35 GALLUS/YONA/OCELLUS/SANDBAR
What's up? / Yona done packing! /
Is something wrong? / Whoa.

Rainbow Dash flies back in, lands next to Twilight.

36 RAINBOW DASH
The backdoor's locked. No way out!

37 TWILIGHT
But whoever did it had to have come
in here. We saw them!

38 OCELLUS
Whoever did *what*?

Twilight looks at them all and we

CUT TO:

SC. 5 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP GRAND HALL

The stunned GROUP OF STUDENTS looks at the damaged goo-covered walls and decorations.

39 SANDBAR
That... Is so not cool.

Spike walks down the line of students, in detective mode.

40 SPIKE
And whoever did it ran into your
rooms. No one came out--and all of
you are still here.

Twilight looks disappointed as she realizes--

41 TWILIGHT
I hate to say this, but...

42 RAINBOW DASH
No need. I'll say it for you.
 (to students)
One of you must have done this!
 (then, confused)
But why would any of you wanna
sabotage Hearth's Warming Eve?

43 ALL THE STUDENTS
<What?...No way!...We
wouldn't!...It wasn't me!>

44 YONA
Yak not do this. Yona offended by
accusation.

Twilight mitigates things--

45 TWILIGHT
We don't know what happened - maybe
this wasn't even on purpose. But
I want to give whoever caused this
mess a chance to tell the truth,
and explain themselves. I'll make
it easy for you. Close your eyes.

Still standing in a group, they all close their eyes.

46 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Now, if you did this, raise your
hoof. Or your claw. Or--whatever.

No one moves. Twilight <SIGHS> and turns to Spike...

47 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
C'mon, Spike. Looks like we have to-

She stops as she sees Spike has his eyes closed as well.

48 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Spike. You can open your eyes.

49 RAINBOW DASH (O.S.)
What about me?

We PULL BACK to see that Rainbow Dash has her eyes closed.

50 TWILIGHT
You ALL can.

They all open their eyes as Twilight grows serious.

51 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
But since no creature took
responsibility for this mess,
you're ALL going to have to help
clean it up before you can go home.

52 ALL THE STUDENTS
<What! No fair! Why do I have to
stay? But the holidays!>

Twilight levitates over some MOPS, BUCKETS, BROOMS, and other
cleaning equipment and places it in front of the group.

53 TWILIGHT
While you're cleaning, we'll bring
you into my office one at a time.
Since Honesty is one of the
Elements of Harmony, we want to
give you each a chance to tell us
the truth.

On "us" Twilight nods to herself, Spike, and Rainbow Dash.
Dash takes her deputizing seriously.

54 RAINBOW DASH
And once we find out who did it,
just you wait! We're gonna--we'll--
(to Twilight)
What are we gonna do exactly?

Twilight thinks for a second.

55 TWILIGHT
The guilty party won't be going
home over Hearth's Warming Break.
He--or she--will stay here for some
one-on-one friendship lessons.

The group looks at each other, worried.

56 SILVERSTREAM
But what if none of us confesses?

57 TWILIGHT
Then... <sigh> I guess there's no
holidays for anycreature. You'll
all stay over the break.

As punctuation, a glob of purple goo drops on to the floor
near the group--but they're oblivious. On their stunned faces--

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 6 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - GRAND HALL - RESUME

PLOP - a big gob of purple goo drops into a bucket.

The students use cleaning equipment to wipe and mop up as
Twilight Sparkle, Spike, and Rainbow Dash face them.

58 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
All right, let's get to the bottom
of this. Who wants to be
interviewed first?

They look at each other. Gallus steps forward, faux noble--

59 GALLUS
I'll go.
 (then, smart alecky)
Beats mop duty.

*
*
*

He cockily twirls his mop and tosses it to Smolder, who catches it with a <grunt>.

*
*

Twilight, Spike and Rainbow Dash head out, Gallus following.

As soon as they're gone, Silverstream jumps into cleaning vigorously.

60 SILVERSTREAM
Hey, I know! We can make a game
out of this! See who finishes
cleaning up first!

61 YONA
Yak win! Yak best at cleaning!
<intense cleaning noises>

Smolder throws a blob of goo into a bucket.

62 SMOLDER
Let's save time and cut through the
goo. Which one of you did it?

She glares at them.

63 OCELLUS
I would never do something this
horrible. I love Hearth's Warming
Eve! And I do NOT want to miss
going home for it.

64 SANDBAR
I didn't even know Changelings
celebrated Hearth's Warming.

65 OCELLUS
Oh yes! It's our favorite holiday!
Well, since Headmare Twilight
shared it with us last year. She
gave our hive very clear
instructions.

*

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 7 - INT. CHANGELING HIVE - FLASHBACK

Ocellus is with her FAMILY (MOM AND DAD CHANGELING and TWO SMALLER SIBLINGS), as they consult a LARGE LIST. Ocellus reads the instructions.

66 OCELLUS
 (reads)
<ahem> "Welcome to the traditions
and fun of Hearth's Warming! Here's
a guide to help you enjoy this
celebration of pony history."

The family looks at each other, smiling enthusiastically.

67 OCELLUS (CONT'D)
 "Families start the holidays by
putting the tree up!"

They look at each other, shrug and we

CUT TO:

ANOTHER ANGLE - The Changeling family HOISTS a rope and pulley that lifts a LARGE TREE off the ground...and up to the ceiling.

Hooves up and head nods all around. Well done!

68 OCELLUS (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 "Thirsty? Dive into some Holiday
Punch!"

ANOTHER ANGLE - a HUGE ROUND TUB of PUNCH. Ocellus is already swimming in it. The Siblings are perched on the sides, then DIVE in, SPLASHING happily.

69 CHANGELING FAMILY
 <LAUGHING, SPLASHING>

ANOTHER ANGLE - Ocellus reads from the list to her family.

70 OCELLUS
 "Just before bed, everypony
exchanges gifts."

WIDEN TO REVEAL: The family members stand in a circle, using their mouths to pass around WRAPPED GIFTS to each other, back and forth, over and over. Ocellus is a little confused.

71 OCELLUS (CONT'D)
 It doesn't say how long we keep
doing this...

ANOTHER ANGLE - Ocellus and her father finish <POUNDING> hammers against nails, watched by the other family members.

72 OCELLUS (V.O.)
"And to finish celebrating, you can
build a fire..."

They step back to reveal A 3-D WOODEN SCULPTURE of A FIRE, with flame-shaped pieces of wood all attached to a stand.

73 OCELLUS (V.O.)
"Light it up--"

ON the Changeling family as they hold up LAMPS to illuminate the sculpture.

74 OCELLUS (V.O.)
"And sing carols."

75 CHANGELING FAMILY
 (singing)
Carols carols carols carols.

The whole family <LAUGHS> and snuggles together.

SC. 8 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - GRAND HALL - RESUME

Ocellus smiles at the others. Sandbar gapes, tries to put this as nicely as possible. *

76 SANDBAR
You *might* have misunderstood things
just a little.

77 OCELLUS
 (shrugs)
We may not have done everything
exactly the way you do. But we made
our own traditions! And I can't
wait to do it all again this year!

78 SMOLDER
If we ever get out of here.

The group turns as they hear Gallus return with Twilight.

79 TWILIGHT
Ocellus...Your turn.

Ocellus gives a nervous wave to her classmates and goes off with Twilight. With a stone face, Gallus rejoins the group.

80 SILVERSTREAM
What happened?

81 GALLUS
What do you think happened? I told
her I didn't do it.

Smolder <SIGHS> with frustration. Silverstream goes back to
cleaning, but Yona's growing impatient.

82 YONA
<AAAHH!> Yona tired of waiting.
Yaks ALWAYS home for holidays.

83 SANDBAR
How do you celebrate Hearth's
Warming in Yakyakistan, Yona?

84 YONA
Yaks do not. Our holiday MUCH
better. Is called "Snilldar Fest."
Night before, yaks gather things to
smash, and put them in big pile.
Then in morning, we smash them. In
afternoon, we smash them again. In
evening--

85 GALLUS
So--it's just about smashing stuff.
Like all your other holidays.

86 YONA
No! How griffon get that idea? This
holiday about so much more. Last
year, for example. Most perfect
Snilldar ever.

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 9 - EXT. YAKYAKISTAN SNOWY FIELD - FLASHBACK

Yona is part of a single-file parade, following her huge
family across a snowy field. (We should notice that Yona DOES
NOT HAVE HER BRAIDS.)

87 YONA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Whole family--Grandpa Grandma Yak,
Yona's Brother Sister Mother Father
Yak--all go to woods, singing Yak
Song.

88 YAK FAMILY
 (sings)
*Yak song/yak song/not very
long/Sing again...*

They repeat the song as they head toward some trees, where huge fallen logs lie.

89 YONA (V.O.)
Youngest in family--which is Yona--
picks out perfect Smashing Log.

Yona looks back and forth between 3 or 4 identical logs, then points to one of them.

90 YONA (V.O.)
Then Yaks smash it.

With a happy battle cry, the Yaks descend on the log with their forelegs.

91 ALL YAKS
<AHHHHH!>

There's a flurry of snow, sawdust, and splinters. When it settles, the log has been destroyed.

ANOTHER ANGLE - SNOWY FIELD - LATER

The Yak family finishes building a huge SNOW FORT.

92 YONA (V.O.)
Then Yak Family build perfect snow
fort...and smash it!

They all descend on the snow fort, which immediately turns to powder. They all grin happily.

ANOTHER ANGLE - SNOWY FIELD - LATER

The family stands around a large PILE OF BROWN MOSS decorated with bows and Yak nose rings.

93 YONA (V.O.)
Then we hang perfect things on
perfect moss pile, and--

I/C HARD CUT TO FRIENDSHIP SCHOOL HALL

The others, facing Yona, all deadpan simultaneously--

94 SMOLDER/SILVERSTREAM/GALLUS/SANDBAR
You smash it.

95 YONA
What you think Yaks are,
barbarians? Moss pile is for
special family rituals. Last year,
ritual for Yona.

I/C SNOWY FIELD - FLASHBACK

Yona takes a place near the pile, the family around her doing
something we can't make out.

96 YONA (V.O.) (CONT'D)
All Yak family gather around Yona.
(nostalgic)
And braid Yona hair for first time.

The Yaks, step away to reveal Yona, now in her braids.

MATCH DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 10 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP MAIN HALL - RESUME

RESUME - Yona beams remembering this.

97 GALLUS
So to recap...your holiday is about
smashing things, and family.

98 YONA
Two most perfect things ever, put
together. Happy Snilldar Fest!

Yona happily leaps on a nearby bucket, <SMASHING IT>.
Silverstream happily leaps on a bucket as well, but can't
smash it, despite her best efforts.

99 SILVERSTREAM
Happy Snilldar to you too, Yona.
It's so cool to learn new
traditions from new friends!

100 SMOLDER
Yeah, well one of these new friends
has gotten us all in trouble. And
they better confess soon.

Ocellus comes trotting out from the other room.

101 OCELLUS
Sandbar? Sorry, but...they said
they want you to go in next.

*

Sandbar nods and trots off. Silverstream turns to Smolder.

*

102 SILVERSTREAM
Why the rush to get home, Smolder?
Like you said...Dragons don't
really have holidays, do they?

Smolder shrugs, dismissing it.

103 OCELLUS
That's so sad. You must do
something in the winter for fun.

104 SMOLDER
Well, we do have "The *Feast of
Fire*". Every dragon gets together
and tells stories. The best one
wins a pile of gemstones.

*

*

105 YONA
What story won last year?

106 SMOLDER
It was called "A Dream Come True."

107 SILVERSTREAM
C'mon, now you gotta tell it!

108 SMOLDER
Fine. Once upon a time there was
this sad little dragon...

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 11 - EXT. DRAGON LANDS - FLASHBACK

A ROCKY WILDERNESS - A small, forlorn-looking dragon, SCALES, sits under a craggy rock, trying to keep dry as rain pelts down and lightning flashes.

109 SMOLDER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Her name was Scales. She lived
alone in the wilderness, with
nothing to eat. But one night, as
she sat alone in a storm, she heard
something...

THE DRAGON LORD flies in and lands nearby. Scales is amazed, even more so when The King picks up the tiny dragon and flies off with her.

110 SMOLDER (CONT'D)
It was the Dragon Lord! Scales was
scared, but the Lord told her not
to be afraid--that he was taking
her to the palace for a great
feast.

*
*

A ROCK FORTRESS formed out of the hillside. The Dragon Lord, holding his BLOOD SCEPTER, dines with other ROYAL DRAGONS and Scales who digs into a pile of GEMSTONES in front of her.

111 SMOLDER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Scales sat with the Dragon Lord's
family and friends and had the
biggest, best dinner of gemstones
she'd ever eaten.

ANOTHER ANGLE - A DRAGON is telling a story we can't hear, all the other dragons listening enraptured. Except Scales, who has a devious look on her face.

112 SMOLDER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Then, while the dragons were
telling stories, Scales thought to
herself how wonderful it would be
if SHE were the Dragon Lord...She
saw her chance...and TOOK IT!

Scales' cute face suddenly turns to a DEMON FACE and she LUNGES at camera, filling the FRAME with FIRE!

FLAMES, TUMBLING WALLS, <BATTLE NOISES> fill the screen. A super-imposed Scales ROARS and SWIPES HER CLAWS--

113 SMOLDER (V.O.)
She conquered the castle and took
over the kingdom...

THE ROCKY WILDERNESS - The rain starts to PELT. The Dragon Lord cowers under the rocks, trying to stay dry, as a triumphant Scales standing over him with the BLOOD SCEPTER.

114 SMOLDER
...and forced the Dragon Lord to
live out in the cold just as she
used to do.

A peal of <THUNDER> and we--

CUT TO:

SC. 12 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - GRAND HALL - RESUME

RESUME: Ocellus, Yona, Gallus, and Silverstream gawk incredulously, their mouths hanging open.

115 OCELLUS
 (near tears)
That's a horrible story!

116 SMOLDER
Maybe to you. But dragons like
hearing about weak, kind creatures
getting defeated.

*
*
*

Just then, Rainbow Dash returns with Sandbar.

*

117 RAINBOW DASH
Silverstream. You're up. Let's go!

Silverstream leaves with Dash, the others turn to Sandbar.

118 SMOLDER
So, did you tell them you did it?

Sandbar gapes.

119 SANDBAR
What? No way! Why would I say that?

120 SMOLDER
You already live in Ponyville.
Staying here over break is no big
deal.

121 YONA
School of Friendship good place for
pony to have pony holiday.

*

122 SANDBAR
I'd still rather spend it with my
family at home. Oh! That reminds
me! I have the BEST holiday story
ever. It's called...
 (with great suspense)
..."The Day My Hearth's Warming
Doll Almost Fell into the Fire!"

The others <OOOOH> appreciatively. This should be good!

CUT TO:

SC. 13 - INT. SANDBAR'S HOUSE/FIREPLACE - FLASHBACK

Sandbar puts his crocheted doll in place next to the others already on the mantle above the fireplace, where a ROARING FIRE burns. His FAMILY (SISTER, MOM, DAD) watches.

123 SANDBAR
 (builds tension)
Just before we went to bed, my Mom,
my Dad, and my Sister all put our
Hearth's Warming Dolls up on the
mantle...just like we do every
year. But THIS year...

CLOSE on Sandbar's DOLL teetering on the edge of the mantle!

124 SANDBAR (CONT'D)
I put my doll too close to the
edge...and it FELL!

SC. 14 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - GRAND HALL

RESUME: The suspense is killing them.

125 OCELLUS
And?

126 SANDBAR
My doll hit the floor. But...it
could have gone in the fire!

A pause that Smolder breaks, deadpanning....

127 SMOLDER
That's a great story. And you told
it really well.

Sandbar is oblivious to her sarcasm.

128 SANDBAR
Yeah. It was a Hearth's Warming
miracle!

Rainbow Dash returns with Silverstream.

129 RAINBOW DASH
Next! Smolder, come with me. Yona,
Twilight's waiting for you.

They follow Rainbow Dash out of the room. The others watch apprehensively.

130 OCELLUS
The last two...so if neither one of
them confesses, that means...

131 SILVERSTREAM
We're never going home!

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC. 15 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - GRAND HALL - RESUME

Gallus plays it cool as Sandbar, Ocellus and Silverstream
continue to fret.

132 OCELLUS
We'll be here forever!

133 SANDBAR
Beyond forever.

134 SILVERSTREAM
But I can't miss the Three Days of
Freedom Celebration!

135 GALLUS
(dry, baiting)
How long does that last?

136 SILVERSTREAM
(earnest)
It used to be only ONE day, 'cause
it commemorated our escape from the
Storm King. But this year, we're
adding two more days of awesome!

*
*
*
*

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 16 - EXT. SEAQUESTRIA - FLASHBACK

We see what Silverstream narrates (IN STORYBOOK STILLS):
First a drawing of the Storm King terrorizing Mt. Aris.

137 SILVERSTREAM (V.O.)
We'll spend the first night in
Sequestria, thanking the ocean for
protecting us from the Storm King.

*
*

MORE STILLS: The Sea-Pony version of Silverstream, along with
other SEA-PONIES, goes through the following:

138 SILVERSTREAM (V.O.)
With sea-dancing, whale-singing,
shell-stringing... Lots of "ings."

*

SC. 17 - EXT. MT. ARIS - DAY - FLASHBACK

STILL: HIPPOGRIFFS stand around a FIRE burning on the hill-side. At the shore, Sea Ponies emerge from the sea, behind some HIPPOGRIFFS on the shore who have already transformed.

139 SILVERSTREAM
The second day will be on Mt. Aris,
with sky dancing, and a wind song
in the Harmonizing Heights to
celebrate the Storm King's defeat.

*

*

STILLS: Two Hippogriffs fly complex pattern around each other in the air as haunting <WIND MUSIC> plays.

140 SILVERSTREAM (CONT'D)
Then the third day--

SC. 18 - EXT. THE SHORE - DAY - FLASHBACK

STILL: Hippogriffs play in the surf along the shore with Sea-Ponies. QUEEN NOVO (Hippogriff version) hands out presents.

141 SILVERSTREAM
Everycreature will party together,
on land AND sea. Grandparents and
parents and sisters and cousins...
And at the end of the night, Queen
Novo is going to give out presents!

*

*

SC. 19 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - GRAND HALL - RESUME

We PULL OUT to see that Silverstream's been reading from AN ILLUSTRATED STORYBOOK.

ON GALLUS, who's been listening to this thoughtfully.

142 GALLUS
Hold on. Cousins? What are those?

143 OCELLUS
Your aunt's and uncle's children.
You know, part of your family.
(then)
Oh, you're teasing us again, right?

Before Gallus can respond, a grim-faced Yona and Smolder return--but no sign of Twilight or Rainbow Dash.

144 SANDBAR
I'm guessing neither one of you
confessed.

145 YONA
Headmare Twilight say wait here. *

146 SILVERSTREAM
Maybe they're changing their minds
about sending us home.

147 SMOLDER
Why would they? Face it. We're
stuck here.

A gloom sets over them. Ocellus starts to SNIFFLE.

148 OCELLUS
But--but--but--I HAVE to go home!

149 SILVERSTREAM
(heartbroken)
My mom makes the best kelp
fritters. *
*

Sandbar looks over at Yona, Smolder, and Gallus, who are
taking this stoically.

150 SANDBAR
How can you be so cool about this?

151 SMOLDER
We're mad. We just show it
differently.

152 SANDBAR
More like don't show it at all.

Yona casts a suspicious eye at Sandbar.

153 YONA
What pony getting at?

Silverstream has a sudden realization! *

154 SILVERSTREAM
(excited, not accusatory) *
Maybe it wasn't just one prankster.
Maybe there were three of you. And
you're trying to hide your guilt by
not being upset!

155 OCELLUS
It...Does make sense.

156 GALLUS
Guys--stop it.

Smolder glares at Ocellus.

157 SMOLDER
Or maybe whoever did it is only
pretending to be upset. To throw us
off.

158 OCELLUS
Me? But I didn't--!

159 GALLUS
Come on, let it go.

Ignoring him, they all turn to each other and go at it.

160 ALL THE STUDENTS (EXCEPT GALLUS)
<WALLA--ACCUSING and DENYING>

Suddenly, a HUGE BLOB of PURPLE GOO drops from above, landing
right in the middle of them. They stop and look up to see--

Gallus, hovering above them, a blob of goo in his claw, about
to fling it.

161 GALLUS
I SAID stop fighting! That's not
what the holidays are about. No
matter what you call them, or how
you celebrate.

The group looks at each other, momentarily shamed. Gallus
flies down to their level and lands.

162 GALLUS (CONT'D)
Do you know how lucky you all are?
With your stories about sharing,
and kindness, and getting together
with everycreature you care about.

163 OCELLUS
But...Griffons do that too, don't
they? *

164 SMOLDER
Some holiday about a moon, right?

165 GALLUS
Blue Moon Festival. The one time of
year when Griffons are nice to each
other. Well, as nice as we can be. *

SC. 20 - EXT. GRIFFONSTONE - FLASHBACK

THROUGH A WINDOW, we see GILDA and GABBY at a food-laden table along with other GRIFFONS, all sitting glumly. *

166 GALLUS (V.O.)
Families get together to eat and then complain about the food... And give each other presents they don't like... And mostly just try not to yell at each other.

167 SILVERSTREAM (V.O.)
Well, at least you get to be with your family! *

I/C - BACK IN THE HALL

168 GALLUS
No. Because I don't have a family.

I/C - BACK TO FLASHBACK

We PULL OUT from the window to see Gallus standing outside in the cold, looking in at the family with longing. He <SIGHS>.

169 SANDBAR (O.S.)
What about Grandpa Gruff?

170 GALLUS (O.S.)
That's just his name. He's not anygriff's actual grandpa.

SC. 21 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - GRAND HALL

171 GALLUS (CONT'D)
I felt like I never had a place in Griffonstone. Then I came here, and...well, met all of you.

They're surprised--they've never heard him open up like this.

172 GALLUS (CONT'D)
So I don't want to go home for break. And that's why I did it.

173 YONA
<gasp> Griffon mess up decorations?

Gallus pulls out the POT that held the magic powder.

174 GALLUS
Yeah. It was me. I put goo powder in the Fire of Friendship.

175 ALL THE STUDENTS (EXCEPT GALLUS)
<STUNNED REACTIONS>

176 OCELLUS
Why would you ruin things for us?

177 GALLUS
I didn't plan to! I just figured if
I made a mess, our teachers would
make us stay to clean up. So we'd
be together a little longer.

Smolder crosses her arms, beyond ticked.

178 SMOLDER
Well. It worked, didn't it?

Gallus, sounding sorry, continues.

179 GALLUS
Better than I thought. And when
Headmare Twilight threatened to
cancel winter break...that meant I
would get to be with all of you,
through the whole holiday! That's
why I didn't confess.

*

180 SANDBAR
So why are you admitting this now?

181 GALLUS
I hated seeing you all fighting and
blaming each other. That's the
opposite of what ALL your holidays
mean. I can't keep you from the
happiness of your homes and
families just because I feel bad.

The Group takes this in, thinking about it.

182 GALLUS (CONT'D)
I'm sorry. And don't worry, you
won't have to tell our teachers. I
will.

*

183 TWILIGHT (O.S.)
You don't have to.

They turn to see Twilight, Rainbow Dash, and Spike.

184 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
We already know.

*

Gallus is surprised.

185 RAINBOW DASH
We kinda guessed it was you.
But we wanted to give you the
chance to tell the truth.

186 TWILIGHT
I'm proud you did. And I'm glad to
see you've been paying attention in
Professor Applejack's honesty
classes.

*
*
*
*

She gives Gallus a warm smile that he manages to return.

187 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
But you're still going to have to
make amends. And stay over break
for extra friendship lessons, by
yourself.

Before Gallus can respond, Silverstream steps forward.

188 SILVERSTREAM
I'll stay with him.

Then, the rest of the students, one by one, all step forward.

189 OCELLUS
Me, too!

190 YONA
Yona stay also!

191 SANDBAR
I'm staying!

They all turn to Smolder, who hasn't spoken up.

192 SMOLDER
What? Okay, all right. I guess
pony holidays can't be that bad.

Spike nods, approving. Gallus beams as Sandbar turns to him.

193 SANDBAR
Now you can finally know what it's
like to spend Hearth's Warming with
friends who care about you.

Rainbow turns to Twilight. Sottos--

194 RAINBOW DASH
Looks like they don't really need
any extra lessons.

Twilight turns to the group.

195 TWILIGHT
Since you obviously know that
Hearth's Warming is about coming
together...I'd be honored if all of
you would join my friends as guests
at our holiday table.

*
*

196 ALL THE STUDENTS
<YAY! walla>

197 TWILIGHT
After we finish cleaning up.

The gang gets busy, going back to their cleaning equipment
and attacking the purple goo. Sandbar scrubs, thinking--

198 SANDBAR
Hey, this reminds me of another
story! The Time I Almost Spilled
Grape Juice on the White Couch.

*

199 SMOLDER
Does it have a depressing end?

200 OCELLUS
I'm not sure pony stories work that
way.

201 YONA
Gallus want Yona braid feathers?

202 GALLUS
Pass.

203 SILVERSTREAM
(sings)
Hearth's Warming Eve is here. A.
GAAAAAAAINNNN!

END EPISODE