

Production:
Devon Cody
Jim Miller
Denny Lu
Mike Myhre
Zoe Borroz
Nicole Dubuc
Josh Haber
Jada McDermott

Discovery Family:
Linda Shima Tsuno
Beth Mohammed

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 8

School Raze Part I
Ep 825

Outline by: Nicole Dubuc

Hasbro Studios:
Stephen Davis
Kathy Page
Meghan McCarthy
Eliza Hart
Leslie Wishnevski
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: March 14th, 2017
Outline: March 29th, 2017

SCHOOL RAZE PART I

Outline by Nicole Dubuc

Logline: When magic starts failing in Equestria, the Mane 6 journey to Tartarus to try to find a solution – leaving a scheming Cozy Glow in charge of the school.

TEASER**SC. 1 – EXT. / INT. TWILIGHT’S SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - DAY**

COZY GLOW greets MUFFINS and takes in the school mail. Along the way to the Headmare’s office she picks up litter, gives directions to a lost STUDENT, offers some homework help to SILVERSTREAM, and brings FLUTTERSHY some flowers. It’s clear she’s well-known and liked throughout the school – and if something needs doing, she’s on it.

When Cozy reaches TWILIGHT’S OFFICE, the alicorn princess thanks Cozy for the mail, before realizing she forgot to tell her students to meet her outside for a field trip today. *“Already took care of it,”* Cozy smiles, helpfully. *“I’ve also color-coded your class schedule by friendship element for the next month, and reordered supplies for the friendship-bracelet making assignment. I hope that’s okay...”* Twilight thanks Cozy, who has become her right-hoof pony. *“I don’t know what I’d do without your help.”* Cozy blushes. It’s like Twilight taught her: *“That’s what friendship’s all about!”* Cozy takes the outgoing mail and reminds Twilight she’s running late for an appointment with Rarity. Twilight nods and hurries off, so she doesn’t see Cozy add a letter to the pile – one with NEIGHSAY’S EEA logo sealing it.

SC. 2 – EXT. CLOUDSDALE – SAME TIME

RAINBOW DASH and STARLIGHT GLIMMER are leading a few students (GALLUS, YONA, OCELLUS, and a few PONIES) on a field trip up in the clouds. Yona is nervous about being so high up, but Starlight reassures her, saying, “I cast a spell that will let us all walk on the clouds without being pegasi.” Gallus dares Yona to take a peek over the edge, and the Yak screws up her courage enough to peer out and enjoy the view. But her joy is cut short when the cloud underneath her suddenly GIVES WAY and she FALLS THROUGH!

END TEASER**MAIN TITLES****ACT ONE****SC. 3 – EXT. CLOUDSDALE - RESUME**

All the students and Starlight fall through the clouds! Dash, Gallus and Ocellus dive to save Yona and the other non-fliers, while Starlight quickly magics herself to safety. On firm ground once again, everypony wonders what happened. Starlight doesn’t understand herself...It’s like her spell FAILED. But that’s never happened before!

SC. 4 – INT. TWILIGHT’S OFFICE – SOON

Rainbow Dash and Starlight burst into Twilight’s office with their story. Cozy Glow is helping file, but she listens in as the duo explain what just happened. Twilight frowns and agrees this situation requires research. But it’s nothing to be concerned about yet. That’s when the book she’s magic-ing off a shelf falls to the floor. Twilight gapes – she... Didn’t drop that book. *“Let me guess. Your magic failed?”* Starlight says dryly. Twilight, flustered, has to admit that maybe there is something to be concerned about. There’s a THUMP at the door and RARITY whimpers. FLUTTERSHY pushes the door open as Rarity rubs her nose in pain. Fluttershy explains – Rarity’s magic wouldn’t open the door. And that’s what they’ve come to Twilight about. *“Maybe there’s A LOT to be concerned about,”* Twilight amends. She tells the others to gather Spike and the rest of their friends at her castle for an emergency meeting. They’ll get to the bottom of this.

As the others leave, Cozy Glow meekly interjects – she doesn’t know nearly as much as Twilight, but... Wasn’t there a creature that ate magic? Tir-someone? *“Tirek,”* Twilight says grimly. Cozy may be on to something. But that will have to wait, because Spike rushes in with a scroll he just got from Celestia – Twilight and her friends have been summoned to an emergency meeting in Canterlot!

SC. 5 – INT. CELESTIA’S THRONE ROOM -- LATER

The MANE 6, Starlight, and SPIKE face CELESTIA and LUNA and share their grave news - all of them have tales of magic problems – spells failing, magic potions losing their magic. APPLEJACK exclaims that the Zap Apple trees didn’t even bloom on schedule! The princess sisters share a worried look – things are as they feared: magic is disappearing all across Equestria, not just in Ponyville. CADANCE arrives as well, with the same tidings from the Crystal Empire. For now, the Crystal Heart seems safe, but if magic continues to drain away, who knows what will happen.

STARSWIRL enters, apologizing for being late. Unable to reliably use magical means of travel, he had to take the train (but now he has appreciation for public transportation!). He’s never encountered a magic problem like this before, but his research shows that if magic truly is leaving Equestria, it will first manifest in spells failing, then creatures losing their magic abilities, then finally magical talismans losing their power. But why is this happening, and how? Twilight mentions the possibility of Tirek. If he has somehow found a way to eat the world’s magic from his prison in Tartarus, or broken out, he could be responsible.

The gathered magicians agree that it’s a possibility worth checking out. Twilight and her friends volunteer to go to Tartarus to investigate – if Tirek is indeed the culprit, she’ll need lots of backup.

SC. 6 – INT. TWILIGHT’S SCHOOL – TWILIGHT’S OFFICE – SOON

Twilight and her friends prepare to leave on their adventure. Cozy has packed them all lunches, but she’s shocked to learn that Twilight will be leaving Starlight behind to watch over the school. Cozy prompts Twilight – shouldn’t Starlight go too? After all, she’s one of the strongest unicorns there is! Twilight says that with magic failing, nopony can rely

on magical strength. She'll feel better with Starlight there, and Cozy to help, just as she would with Twilight. Cozy nods and promises to be a wonderful aide to Starlight. In fact, she'll start right now, if Starlight wants! *"Just follow me! We need to bring some school supplies out of storage,"* Cozy smiles, and Starlight follows. Twilight looks relieved that the school will be taken care of while she's gone.

SC. 7 – EXT. PONYVILLE – SOON

Twilight, Spike, and the rest of the MANE 6 begin their journey to Tartarus, meeting at the HOT AIR BALLOON. Unfortunately, it's not inflated, and the UNICORN in charge of that says his magic isn't working! PINKIE PIE tries valiantly to blow the deflated thing up (*"it's just like a giiiiiant party balloon!"*) But her attempts leave her wheezing. Twilight says her magic might work, but she wants to save her spells as long as she can – they might need them in Tartarus, and she's doesn't want to waste any just in case. Looks like this is going to be a non-magical trip on hoof. Applejack shrugs, Rainbow Dash says she was planning on flying anyway...But Rarity is not amused.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 8 – INT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL – MAIN HALL – NEXT MORNING

Cozy Glow calls all the students to an assembly and reassures them – Twilight might be gone, but she's left Cozy in charge to follow her lesson plans. The students murmur to themselves, and Gallus says loudly that he thought Starlight was going to be the temporary Headmare. Cozy says she was, but Starlight must have changed her mind, because she left a note. Cozy reads it aloud to the students: *"I realize Twilight needs my help more than you, and I know Cozy will make sure things run smoothly."*

To that point, Cozy begins to follow Twilight's plans, which involves splitting the students in three groups with corresponding badges – Green, Red and Blue. The non-pony students aren't thrilled to learn that they're in different groups (in sets of 2), and the students begin to murmur – what do the groups mean? Cozy says it's just to keep them more manageable – they'll each have classes at different times, and meals at different times. Blues will eat with blues. Greens will study with greens. And reds should follow her for the first class of the day. The new non-pony students (or YOUNG SIX) aren't thrilled to be split up. But they promise they'll figure out a way to hang out with each other.

SC. 9 – EXT. NEAR TARTARUS – SAME TIME

The Mane 6 and Spike aren't having a very good journey. It's amazing what you take for granted when you have magic at your disposal... The snacks have spoiled, the bugs are biting, and the weather isn't cooperating, the clouds bursting into a rainstorm. SPIKE tells Rarity that despite all that, her mane looks as beautiful as ever. A suspicious Twilight turns to Rarity – yeah, it does. Is she using magic? Rarity blushes, *"Perhaps the teensiest bit. What?! We can't be TOTAL savages!"* Twilight rolls her eyes.

But slowly, the gang finds a way to adapt to their magic-less trip. Applejack offers Granny's mud-mixture to stop the bugs from biting, Fluttershy finds food to eat along the way, and though Rainbow Dash can't seem to move the larger storm clouds, she does manage to snag a small cloud to float low above their heads so they're not rained on.

SC. 10 – INT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP – SAME TIME

There's unrest in the hallways. The different student groups are growing suspicious of each other. A Blue student says loudly to a Red that he heard Headmare Cozy Glow say Blues are smarter than Reds. A Green student says that the Headmare told her that Greens are the best at friendship.

The only students unaffected by this are the Young Six, who, as they pass each other in the hallway, share info – *“pop quiz in class today, be ready!”* and *“meet you all tonight for midnight study hour!”* Cozy Glow watches this with a frown and tries to remind the Young Six that their new groups are designed to help them make new friends across the school. The Y6 shrug – that's cool. But that doesn't mean ditching your old friends. As they share a fist bump and walk off, Cozy glares.

SC. 11 – EXT. TARTARUS – SAME TIME

The Mane 6 arrive at their destination and discover the door sealing Tartarus is still intact. Good news – Tirek must still be inside. Bad news? They need magic to open the door. Twilight tells the others that's why she was saving hers. But she hopes it's enough... She uses her magic and starts to open the door. Suddenly, the spell wavers! But the other ponies circle around Twilight, offering her support, and with a final gasp of magic, their friendship colors glow and give Twilight the final boost her spell needs to work. They're in!

SC. 12 – INT. TARTARUS – CONTINUOUS

...Where they're confronted by a hissing COCKATRICE! It must have been freed when the magical bindings holding the creatures failed! Twilight tries to create a shield, but the last of their group's magic was used on the door – they're without any power! The Cockatrice's glare will turn them to stone! Pinkie Pie bounces in place, *“I don't feel like stone. Unless it's really bouncy stone...”* Fluttershy, readying her stare, suddenly realizes, the creature must have lost its magic too. The Cockatrice nods dejectedly. In fact, all the scary creatures in Tartarus seem to have felt the same effects of the rest of Equestria. Without their magic, they're rendered harmless or incompetent. It's actually kind of sad. Twilight frowns – they'd better go find Tirek.

SC. 13 – INT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL – CATACOMBS – NIGHT

The Young Six meet up for snacks and a study session – the only time they have out of their “groups” to hang with each other. The catacombs under the school are the perfect spot to share stories about the day. Ocellus confesses that she's been having trouble with her magical transformations lately. So when they hear hoof-falls, and she tries to change shape to hide, she turns into an incongruous palm tree. *“I was trying to be a rock,”* she explains. The others peer out to see who could be coming.

Oddly, it's Cozy Glow...Leaving the catacombs. But what would she be doing down here in the middle of the night? SMOLDER's eyes narrow – they're checking this out. The Young Six follow Cozy back up into the school...

SC. 14 – INT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL – MAIN HALL – CONTINUOUS

But before they can confront Cozy, NEIGHSAY steps out of the darkness. Cozy simpers to him, *"Oh, I'm so glad you came! Those terrible creatures were chasing me!"* The Young Six look around for the terrible creatures, before realizing that Cozy was talking about them! Neighsay nods – it's just as he suspected. This is why schools should be pony-only. He uses his magical seal to CHAIN the students together taking them prisoner! The students protest to Cozy, but she just shakes her head sadly. *"You just don't understand friendship."*

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC. 15 – INT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL – STUDENT DORMS – RESUME

Neighsay leads the chained-up students to their dorms, telling them to wait there until their guardians can be summoned to take them home. (NOTE: Cozy Glow is not with him.) Sandbar shockingly denounces his friends and says he wants out. *"I don't want anything to do with creatures that plot to take down our Headmare! You were right from the beginning, Chancellor Neighsay. I see that now!"* The other Young Six are shocked, but Neighsay smiles – he knows everypony will come to their senses someday, as Sandbar just did. Sandbar is allowed to go free, while the others are locked, up, heartsick at the betrayal.

SC. 16 – EXT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL – SOON

But as soon as Sandbar is out of Neighsay's sight, he gallops to Sweet Apple Acres and tosses pebbles at APPLE BLOOM's window to wake her up. She sleepily asks what's going on, and he says he needs the CMCs' help... *"I think Cozy Glow is bad news, and my friends are in trouble."*

SC. 17 – INT. TARTARUS – SAME TIME

Meanwhile, the Mane 6 and Spike have their own troubles. CERBERUS, the guard to Tirek's prison, is distracted, his three heads all doing different things – scratching, barking, sleeping, etc. And when all heads finally turn their eyes to focus on one thing, it's Cerberus' tail. He begins whirling in circles, snapping at his own tail and nearly trampling the ponies. Fluttershy manages to calm the "giant puppy" down so the gang can pass to Tirek's "cell."

But Tirek looks weaker than ever. He too, has sensed the disappearance of magic, but it's clear he's not behind it. "Do you know who is?" Twilight demands. Tirek tries to do a little "Quid pro quo, Clarice" – saying he'll tell them if they let him out. But Rainbow Dash doesn't have patience for that. *"How about you tell us, or you'll be stuck in here*

forever because nopony has magic to open the door to get out?!" The others pause. That... Isn't something they really considered. They're just as stuck as Tirek. *"So the little pegasus's plan worked after all,"* Tirek smiles. *"Little pegasus? Which little pegasus?"* Applejack demands. Tirek says he never met her – they were only pen pals. She had so many questions about draining magic from Equestria. *"I was lonely and bored. So I pointed her in the right direction. I suppose now Cozy will never visit like she promised."* COZY?! The Mane 6 gape. Could he be talking about COZY GLOW?! Tirek nods. Twilight realizes she's left the wolf guarding the sheep. She has to warn the students, and Celestia! She tells Spike to send a message, but his scroll-sending magic won't work. This...Is bad.

SC. 18 – INT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL – SAME TIME

Every student greets Cozy Glow with a smile. *"Headmare Cozy Glow! I made this friendship bracelet for you!"* Cozy smiles and thanks the student, *"That is so generous. You're such a good friend."* A student trips, and Cozy is there to help her up. *"Thanks, Headmare Cozy Glow."* *"What's friendship for?"* Cozy dimples. She compliments every pony around, and then tells them to go to the dining hall – she's ordered in cupcakes for every student! The student body cheers and Cozy smiles, then trots off to...

SC. 19 – INT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL – CATACOMBS – CONTINUOUS

Cozy crosses deep into the catacombs, to a six-sided magic circle, studded with Twilight's creature artifacts (Helm of Yksler, etc.). In the middle of a circle, a giant magic vortex swirls, and trapped inside, like a fish in an aquarium, is Starlight Glimmer. Cozy smiles to Starlight. *"Enjoying yourself in there? I'm sorry I had to push you in. But what else could I do? You were going to ruin all my plans,"* Cozy simpers. Then she smiles wickedly, *"You know, you ponies got it wrong. Friendship isn't magic. Friendship is power. When those alicorn princesses don't have their spells to fall back on anymore, the best friend will rule this land. And there's no better friend than me. Cozy Glow. The EMPRESS of FRIENDSHIP!"* She laughs in full villain style.

PULL BACK to reveal the CMCs and Sandbar, who have snuck down to investigate, hiding as they eavesdrop on her plan. *gulp*

END PART ONE