

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 8
School Raze Part II
Ep 826
Outline by: Josh Haber

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

Discovery Family:
Linda Shima Tsuno
Beth Mohammed

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 II

Outline by Josh Haber

TEASER**PREVIOUSLY ON MLP...**

In a series of shots we see: Celestia's emergency summit, "Magic is fading from Equestria;" The Y6 being imprisoned by Chancellor Neighsay; Sandbar enlisting the aide of the CMCs; Twilight and the M6 getting trapped in Tartarus; and Starlight trapped in the magic-draining portal as Cozy Glow monologues her diabolical plan.

END TEASER**MAIN TITLES****ACT ONE****SC. 1 - EXT. TARTARUS – DAY**

Resume on the M6 in Tartarus. As they brainstorm ways to get home, we recap their situation—magic is fading from Equestria, they used the last of theirs to get here, etc. But after questioning Tirek, they realized the whole Tartarus thing was a wild goose chase set up by Cozy Glow and now they are trapped. Why? Because it takes magic to get in and out of a magical prison and they used all of theirs just getting in! Then they realize that there still might be some magic left in this prison – in the prisoners. The M6 had enough left to gain entry, maybe the baddies have enough to get out. The only thing they have to do is convince these mad-cap villains and monsters to chip in and help. Applejack points out that's easier said than done.

SC. 2 - INT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL – HEADMARE'S OFFICE – DAY

Back at the school, Cozy Glow skips toward Twilight's office—now *her* office—and is surprised to see Chancellor Neighsay sitting at the desk. Taking it in stride, she thanks Neighsay for taking care of the disruptive non-ponies (i.e., they Y6), but since Twilight left her in charge of the school she's happy to take over from here. Neighsay laughs and declares that Twilight leaving a foal in charge of the school is just another in a long list of mistakes the "Princess" of Friendship has made with regards to her institution of higher learning. He informs her that he'll be taking over and intends to make changes to Twilight's plans (not realizing that the most recent ones are, in fact, Cozy Glow's). Finally he can run the School of Friendship the way it should be run! Cozy Glow pays him lip service, but is clearly not pleased.

SC. 3 - INT. CATACOMBS – DAY

Meanwhile, Sandbar and the CMCs are still in the catacombs where we left them in Part I. They stare at Starlight trapped in the portal. Unable to communicate verbally across the magical barrier, Starlight is still able to confirm that Cozy Glow is indeed responsible and that this very portal is what is draining all the magic from Equestria. Sandbar and the others want to free Starlight, but have no idea how. With Starlight trapped and the M6 gone, Sandbar suggests their only chance to get help is to free their friends (the Y6) from Neighsay's prison. The CMCs point out that they don't know how to do that either. They don't even know how to get back to the school from these catacombs, much less to the dorms where the Y6 are being held. In response, the crystalline, root-like walls of the catacombs glow and a passageway leading up opens before them. As they all head up, Sandbar tells them he's glad that at least the Tree of Harmony is still on their side.

SC. 4 - INT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL – DORMS – DAY

The Y6 sit around in their room fretting. Gallus points out that it was smart for Sandbar to pretend to turn on them, but Ocellus worries that he might still be found out. Smolder assures them he'll be fine. He's a pony. Neighsay will believe anything he says—except maybe that non-ponies can be good. “Or that ponies can be bad,” says a voice from behind them. They all turn to see Sandbar as he and the CMCs arrive via a secret entrance to the catacombs. Sandbar tells them he's there to break them out. He explains that they figured out what's going on and how Cozy Glow is behind it. They all decide to go to Neighsay to convince him that Cozy Glow is the villain. Even if he doesn't believe them, they can take him to the portal where Starlight is trapped and he will have to put a stop to Cozy Glow's plans.

SC. 5 - INT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL – MAIN HALL – DAY

Neighsay gives a speech to the entire student body on the irresponsible behavior of their current Headmare. Abandoning her school in a time of crises is inexcusable. He tells them he'll be assuming her responsibilities, as he no doubt should have from the start. As he starts to describe exactly how he plans to dismantle Twilight's ridiculous organization of the school, “I mean, why are you separated into groups? What purpose does that even serve?” Cozy Glow, who has been standing beside him, cuts him off with an applause. In a “Friends, Romans, Countryponies” speech of her own, she quickly convinces the student body that Neighsay wants to destroy everything Twilight worked so hard to build and she for one doesn't want to see him do that. She turns to the rest of the students and tells them that if they truly care about Twilight and her school, they'll join her and stop Neighsay. She riles the crowd up enough to drag Neighsay away to be locked up in the Headmare's office – but not before taking away his EEA medallion, explaining that Twilight's school isn't under EEA control, and since Twilight left her in charge, neither is she.

As Neighsay is carted off, we PAN TO the Y6 and the CMCs observing from the shadows. Sandbar, “Guess we need a new plan.”

END ACT ONE**ACT TWO****SC. 6 - INT. SCHOOL – HEADMARE’S OFFICE – RESUME**

Cozy Glow has the students chain Neighsay to the desk, then ushers them out. Alone, Neighsay asks her why she’s doing all this. Wasn’t she the pony who kept writing him about wanting the EEA to take over the school? Cozy laughs and tosses his EEA medallion aside. She doesn’t care about the EEA. She only summoned him to get rid of the one group of friends in the school that she couldn’t manipulate. She’s honestly grateful he had the non-ponies locked up, but she can’t have him in charge. That would defeat the whole purpose of getting rid of the M6. She needs free reign to fully take control of the school—and that’s just the start. Ponies think magic is so great, but once it’s all gone from Equestria everypony will see what real power is and they all will bow before her, the Empress of Friendship!

SC. 7 - INT. SCHOOL – OUTSIDE HEADMARE’S OFFICE – MOMENTS LATER

As a self-satisfied Cozy Glow leaves the office, she’s immediately beset by the CMCs who can’t believe a foal their age is running the whole school! It seems like only yesterday that they were mentoring her and now she’s in charge. They realize that Cozy is just holding down the fort until Twilight gets back, but ask if there’s anything they can do to help out. Maybe she would reconsider letting them into the school – you know if, for some crazy reason, she were to stay in charge. Cozy Glow smiles and admits there’s probably a few things she can think of for them to do. As she leads them off, Apple Bloom casts a gaze back at the Y6 sneaking into the Headmare’s office—the CMC’s diversion was a success!

SC. 8 - INT. TWILIGHT’S SCHOOL – HEADMARE’S OFFICE – CONTINUOUS

The Y6 sneak in and Neighsay immediately asks if they’ve come to gloat. Without wasting time, they unchain him and explain that they’ve come to break him out. Neighsay is stunned that they’re helping him after the way he treated them, but they explain they’re kind of short on allies right now and figured after dealing with Cozy, he might be willing to team up. Neighsay can’t believe how wrong he was about them or that the true villain is a pony. They all game plan and decide that somepony has to alert Celestia and Luna about Cozy and her plans. Neighsay volunteers. He retrieves his amulet and explains that if it still contains magic, he can use it to fast travel to Canterlot. With difficulty, Neighsay is able to activate the amulet and vanishes. Silverstream hopes he made it. Gallus hopes they can trust him. Sandbar reassures them. Everything will be fine. They only need to hold out until the M6 get back, “and they’re probably on their way right now.”

SC. 9 - EXT. TARTARUS – DAY

Back in Tartarus we reveal the M6 are nowhere near on their way. Even if they manage to convince the baddies to chip in their remaining magic, their plan might not work. Regardless, they have to try. We see each of them operating in their element (trust, laughter, etc.) to convince Cerberus, the Cockatrice, and ultimately even Tirek to participate. Twilight, Fluttershy, and Rarity are each able to convince a Cerberus head. Dash and Applejack convince the Cockatrice. Pinkie takes on Tirek and after a blitzkrieg of tea parties, balloons, confetti, and cupcakes manicures (the supplies for which she pulls from her hair or from off screen because Pinkie transcends magic), she lays it down: “Look, either you’re stuck here for eternity, or you’re stuck here for eternity with US!” Tirek submits. The M6 are hopeful – maybe this will work after all.

SC. 10 - INT. SCHOOL – HALLWAY – DAY

Cozy leads the CMCs down the hallway as the girls continue trying to keep her busy. Cozy leads them to the janitorial closet (because INT. CLOSET is best reused location) and explains that what she really needs help with is getting on top of all the cleaning, but the supplies are inside. The CMCs, glad that they still have her fooled, are more than happy to oblige. Unfortunately, the second they are inside, Cozy closes the door and locks them in with a CLICK. She tells them through the door that she knows a diversion when she sees one. Looks like she needs to go check on her prisoners.

SC. 11 - INT. CATACOMBS - SAME

As the Y6 descends into the catacombs, Yona asks why they aren’t just going to confront Cozy Glow. Sandbar explains that they have one more prisoner to free. “There’s another prisoner?” Sandbar reveals the portal where Starlight is trapped. They try to talk to her, but she still can’t speak through the portal. The gang is stumped until Gallus breaks out the books he’s been carting around and explains that he read about something like this. He explains the nature of the spell and how Cozy is using it to off-gas all the magic in Equestria to another dimension. Off the others’ shock, “What? I read! Finals are coming up, you know.” He tells them the best way to break the spell is to remove the artifacts—then he backtracks, “Well, maybe not the *best* way. I mean, it could cause a magical feedback loop and blow up the entire school.” Just then a voice comes from behind them, “Blowing up the School of Friendship doesn’t sound very friendly.” The all turn to see Cozy with the rest of the student body, all clearly under her sway.

END ACT TWO**ACT THREE****SC. 12 - EXT. TARTARUS – DAY**

Back in Tartarus the M6 combine the remaining magic of the bad guys to get out (which will be similar to how the M6 combined their remaining magic to get in). When it’s

complete the M6 vanish and the bad guys are left alone to mope—Tirek admitting that he kind of misses all the excitement of having the ponies there.

SC. 13 - EXT. EQUESTRIA – CONTINUOUS

The M6 appear outside of the entrance to Tartarus and cheer, “WE DID IT!” Then look out at the road in front of them that extends off into the distance toward the horizon. Rarity, “Now all we have to do is walk back.” Wha-waaa.

SC. 14 - INT. CATACOMBS – SAME

Back in the catacombs, the Y6 try to get Cozy to confess, but Cozy easily shifts the blame to them. She turns to her minions, “They’re obviously trying to rob Equestria of magic and now are going to blow up the School of Friendship to cover their tracks. Get them!” The other students move to grab the Y6 and in the ensuing struggle, Gallus gets shoved into the portal. The rest of Y6 immediately dive after—grabbing onto him and one another in a chain. As they try to pull themselves out of the portal, Cozy walks up smug, “Well, well, well. Guess your friendship isn’t so magical after all.”

With that, she gives them a shove and they all tumble into the portal—but then suddenly freeze. The crystal catacombs start to pulse and glow as the Y6 levitate over the portal and start to glow themselves—the same color as the artifact from their various lands. Some of the other students notice the familiar color scheme, “It’s just like the Elements of Harmony,” “Their friendship saved them, just like the Mane Six!” Gallus looks down at Cozy, “Guess our friendship is pretty magical after all.” He turns to the others and tells them to grab the artifacts. Smolder, “Didn’t you say that could blow up the school?” Gallus explains that if they don’t try, magic could drain out of Equestria for good. Sandbar, “I guess you weren’t kidding about final exams.”

With no other choice they grab the artifacts and the glow intensifies as the magical feedback loop starts. But just as the well of magic start to overflow, the crystal walls grow around the students and over the portal—containing the explosion. With a FLASH OF LIGHT we follow the ensuing implosion as it travels inward along the root system to the TREE OF HARMONY, which explodes in a massive blast the erupts out of the Castle of the Two Sisters and showers magic over Equestria.

Back in the catacombs the students all break out of their protective crystal cocoons. Starlight breaks out of where the portal used to be* (or not, see below). Cozy Glow looks around in a rage. She starts to vamp about how the Y6 just ruined everything! Magic was the only thing holding her back, the only thing that ever held her back, and if she could have just rid Equestria of it, her friendship abilities would have allowed her to rule over everypony! The rest of the students all look at her and realize she’s been manipulating them. Cozy backtracks, trying to finagle out of it, “But we’re all friends, right?” With a FLASH the Mane Six appear (grateful magic has returned and they didn’t have to actually walk back). Twilight tells Cozy that what she calls friendship is just

manipulation. If she knew what real friendship was, she'd have all the magic she could want. Cozy doesn't buy it and tries to escape, but her former minions stop her.

SC. 15 - INT. SCHOOL – HALLWAY – DAY

Twilight walks through the halls with Celestia, Luna, and Neighsay. Neighsay apologizes to Twilight for failing to understand that true friendship applies to everypony—everyONE. He doesn't know what the future of Equestria will hold without the Tree of Harmony, but he assures Twilight that if the EEA can help her in any way, all she needs to do is ask. Celestia points out that without the Tree or the Elements, they are all headed into unknown territory. Just then the Y6 rush up to tell Twilight that they returned the artifacts to their display in the school and to ask if given everything that's happened they are officially graduated from the School of Friendship. Twilight laughs and explains that even though they're off to a great start, their education will take more than one semester. Just then the CMCs break out of the nearby closet and ask what they missed. "Where's Cozy Glow? Is everypony alright? Etc." The others all laugh and assure them that all is well. As for Cozy Glow, Luna assures them all that she is somewhere safe.

FADE OUT

BEAT

FADE IN

SC. 16 - EXT. TARTARUS – DAY

Tirek sits in his cell still moping when a voice comes from off screen. "Hiya pen pal. Guess now we can be friends for real." Tirek turns to see Cozy Glow smiling diabolically at him from the next cell.

CUT TO BLACK

END SEASON 8!

** We had an idea regarding Starlight and thought we'd float it to everyone: What if she doesn't make it out of the portal and everyone has no idea what happened to her? In addition to the "Return of the Tree," (or perhaps as part of it) we could do a kind of "Search for Starlight" arc in Season 9. Of course we'd have to be very careful to ensure that it doesn't seem like she bites the dust here – probably with a tag, though it's not like we have a shortage of tags for this episode – but we thought we'd see what people think.*