

Tara Strong (w/ Twilight)
As Recorded
February 1, 2017
P.O.R.
(takes 1-54)

As Recorded (AS/RD. Starlight)
February 15, 2017
@ D.R.
(takes 55-94)

As Recorded
March 1, 2017
@ D.R.'s.
(takes 95-218)

As Recorded (SMOLDER)
MARCH 15, 2017
@ D+R's
(takes 219-224)

Premise:	Kaita Mpambara
Outline:	Kaita Mpambara
Teleplay 1st Draft:	Kaita Mpambara
Teleplay 2nd Draft:	Kaita Mpambara
Teleplay Final Draft:	Kaita Mpambara

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Teleplay 2nd Draft:	November 30, 2016
Teleplay Final Draft:	December 9, 2016
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Locked Script V2:	January 10, 2017

Distribution:

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TEASER

SC. 1 - EXT. PRINCESS CELESTIA'S CASTLE - ESTABLISHING - DAY

PUSH IN as we hear TWILIGHT inside:

1 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Princess Celestia, I have an idea
for your Onesversary!

1 2 (4)
↓ ↓ ↓

SC. 2 - INT. PRINCESS CELESTIA'S CASTLE - THRONE ROOM - CONT.

TWILIGHT beams at PRINCESS CELESTIA, who stands on the dais.
SPIKE stands next to Twilight, holding a BASKET. Celestia
cocks her head, slightly amused.

105 (106)
↓ ↓

2 CELESTIA
My...Onesversary?

3 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
The one thousand one hundred
eleventh year anniversary of when
you first raised the sun.

(2)
↓ ↓

105 (106)
↓ ↓

4 SPIKE
Good thing Pinkie Pie reminded us,
or we woulda forgot to celebrate!

5 CELESTIA
You're not the only ones. (then)
What did you have in mind?

6 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
To commemorate your first sunrise,
I've written a play. We'd like to
perform it at my School of
Friendship. (hopeful) If you don't
mind...

1 2 (3)
↓ ↓ ↓

Celestia surprises Twilight and Spike by giving an excited
prance like a young filly.

105 (106)
↓ ↓

7 CELESTIA
Mind?! Of course not. I think a
play is a fantastic idea!

Spike's jaw is still open. He sottoms to a shocked Twilight--

8 SPIKE
Did she just...Prance?

Celestia notices their surprise, and covers, regal again.

105 106
9 CELESTIA
Forgive me for getting so excited.
It's just...

Twilight watches as Celestia gazes wistfully out a window, remembering...

10 CELESTIA (CONT'D)
When I was a filly, my friends
often put on plays. It was so
wonderful; everypony coming
together to create a magical
experience to share with others...

— (then, to Twilight)
I've always believed theatre brings
out the best in us, and forges a
special bond of friendship.

Twilight is surprised at this revelation, and intrigued!

11 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I didn't know you used to act.

12 CELESTIA
(shakes her head)
Oh, not me. I was always too busy
with my magic lessons to be part of
any plays myself.
(wistful)
But still, it's something I always
wished I could experience.

13 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
(getting an idea)
And you still can! Princess
Celestia... We would be honored if
you would be the star of our play

Celestia looks surprised. Spike whips his head to Twilight
in shock--

14 SPIKE
WE WOULD?!

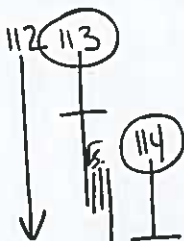
END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SC. 3 - INT. PRINCESS CELESTIA'S CASTLE - DAY - RESUME

Spike is still looking at Twilight in astonishment. But
Celestia's eyes are shining with hope.



15 CELESTIA
You want me to star in your play?

16 SPIKE
(to Twilight)
Yeah, when did that happen exactly?

17 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
(to Celestia)
If you'll excuse us for a second...

Twilight floats Spike over to a corner of the room and puts her head near his in conference. This is all STAGE-WHISPERED:

18 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
(sotto)
Don't you see, Spike? It's perfect!
Princess Celestia has always wanted
to be in a play, and this one's
about her!



19 SPIKE
(sotto)
I guess... But how are we supposed
to give her directions? She's the
ruler of Equestria!

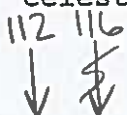
20 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
(sotto)
She's also our friend. Celestia's
always kind to everypony. So if we
have a chance to finally do
something for her, we should!



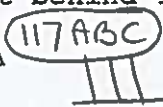
20A Spike considers this.

21 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
(sotto)
C'mon, how many times has Celestia
helped us? Guided us. Been a warm
calming voice over our shoulder--

Celestia pokes her head right behind Twilight's shoulder.



22 CELESTIA
Twilight?



23 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
<startle> (then) I mean, yes
Princess Celestia?



112 116
↓ ↓

24 CELESTIA
Your invitation is very kind. But
are you certain it's wise? I have
no acting experience at all.

25 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Experience? Pssh! You'll be playing
yourself. And we'll all help you.
Please? It'd mean so much to the
students if you were in our show.

5 6 7
| | |

Celestia takes this in - and then beams, truly excited.

112 116
| |

26 CELESTIA
Well, if you're sure...

Twilight nods hard, then nudges Spike who also nods.

27 CELESTIA (CONT'D)
Then I would be delighted to join
your theatre troupe!

SC. 4 EXT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL - OUTDOOR THEATRE - DAY

PINKIE PIE happily <BLASTS> herself out of a confetti cannon!

119
↓

28 PINKIE PIE
Confetti is ready! Hee hee!

122 123
| |

Pinkie reaches maximum altitude up in the air, then pulls out
an umbrella to float gently back toward the ground in a cloud
of confetti, landing on a flat set piece that APPLEJACK is
painting. (The set piece rests on the stage of an outdoor
theatre, on the grounds of Twilight's School of Friendship.)
Applejack spits the paintbrush out and frowns at Pinkie.

29 APPLEJACK
Wormy applecores, Pinkie! How many
times have I told ya to keep your
special effects away from my sets?

55 56
↓ ↓

119 124 125
| | |

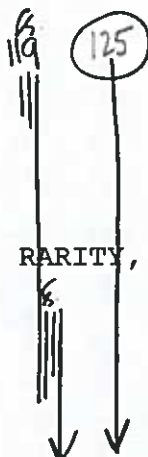
30 PINKIE PIE
Three hundred twenty seven. Ooh!
Unless you just DID. Then it's
three hundred twenty eight!

Applejack rolls her eyes. NEARBY, STARLIGHT GLIMMER flips
through a script with FLUTTERSHY.

31 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
I can't believe you've memorized
your lines already, Fluttershy.

55 56
| |

Fluttershy smiles - "it's nothing".



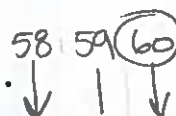
32 FLUTTERSHY
Once you get past terrifying,
paralyzing stage fright, the rest
is easy. Now I just hope Princess
Celestia says we can do our play.

RARITY, sewing costumes, speaks up--

33 RARITY
As soon as she sees these fabulous
costumes I'm making, all she'll be
able to say is 'brava!'

RAINBOW DASH is hanging lights above. She calls down,
pointing at who she sees approaching --

34 RAINBOW DASH
Heads up! Here comes our answer.



Twilight runs up to the stage, Spike riding along.

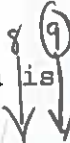
35 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Wonderful news, everypony!



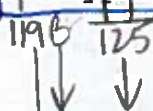
36 APPLEJACK
Yeeha! We get to put on our show?



37 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Even better. Princess Celestia is
going to be our star!



Everypony's jaw drops. Spike nods.



38 SPIKE
Yeah, that's how I felt too.

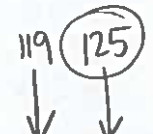
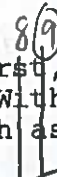


39 RAINBOW DASH
Celestia? ~~Is going to be~~ starring
In our play? This is huge!



As Rainbow Dash gapes, Twilight waves a hoof -- no big deal!

40 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
She was a little nervous at first,
but I told her not to worry. With
us helping, it'll all go smooth as--



41 RARITY
SILK!

Rarity hurls aside the costume she was working on, and dives
head-first into a TRUNK of fabric, tossing swatches and
swathes aside in a frantic search for the perfect one.

119 (125)

42 RARITY (CONT'D)
I simply must find the silk! If Celestia is going to be in our play, none of my old costume ideas will do! We have to take everything up to the next level!

43 PINKIE PIE
Yeah! Forget my regular party cannon. For princess-size effects, we're gonna need "Big Bertha!"

Pinkie rushes off-screen... Then comes back, trying to wheel a GIGANTIC 890 CALIBER CONFETTI CANNON on stage, only to have it get stuck half-way in the wings due to its massive size!

44 APPLEJACK
PINKIE!

119 (125)

45 PINKIE PIE
Three hundred and twenty-nine!!!

46 RAINBOW DASH
Our play is gonna be AMAZING! I gotta go tell everypony I know! And even the ones I don't!

Rainbow Dash zooms off into the sky, creating a <SONIC RAINBOOM> in her excited wake. Applejack shakes her head.

47 APPLEJACK
Why in tarnation are y'all gettin' so star-struck? We've met Princess Celestia before. Plenty-a times.

48 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Those were formal things - galas, world-saving. This is different. Imagine doing sweaty warm-ups with a princess. Blowing your nose in front of a princess. Sitting around just...talking with a princess.

49 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I'm a princess. You talk to me.

50 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
That's different. You're not a PRINCESS princess.

Twilight raises a sardonic eyebrow.

51 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 ...Thanks.
 (then, to her friends)
 Celestia wants to experience the
 special friendship that theatre
 ponies have. To give her that, you
 just need to be yourselves.

11 A B (12)

120 (125)

52 FLUTTERSHY
 You...you really think so?

53 APPLEJACK
 Aw, quit frettin'. It's only a
 coupla pals gettin' together and
 puttin' on a Onesversary play.
 What could go wrong?

67 (68)

SC. 5 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL - OUTDOOR THEATRE - NEXT DAY

Twilight and Spike sit in DIRECTOR chairs, looking at the
 fully completed theatre stage. Spike is dressed like an old-
 timey DIRECTOR - riding pants, beret. Into a MEGAPHONE:

129 (130) 131

54 SPIKE
 Places, everypony. We're here to
 rehearse "A New Day in Equestria!"

Twilight (COUGHS). Spike rolls his eyes.

131

55 SPIKE (CONT'D)
 Directed by, written by, and
 produced by Twilight Sparkle.

Twilight smiles. Uses her magic to open the script.

56 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 Page 1, Act 1, Scene 1. ACTION!

14 A B

The curtains open, and Fluttershy begins narrating.

129 (131)

57 FLUTTERSHY
 Once upon a time, before Celestia,
 Equestria was suffering terrible
 hardship.

Twilight's students, GALLUS, YONA, SMOLDER, OCELLUS and
 SILVERSTREAM (all dressed as unicorns) And SANDBAR (dressed
 as STARSWIRL THE BEARDED) come sadly trudging onto the stage.

58 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
 Raising the sun every morning was
 so hard, it took five great
 sorcerers plus Starswirl the
 Bearded to do it.

↓ ↓

58A

95BCD

220 221 ABCD

The six young actors form a circle on stage and strain their faces, concentrating with all their might.

BACKSTAGE: Pinkie Pie pulls a switch.

ONSTAGE: A TRAP DOOR opens in the stage, and up through the trap door rises a tall pole, on top of which spins "The Sun" (a shiny Disco Ball).

59A

122 ABC

96ABC

129 131

59 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
And every day, the unicorns helping Starswirl would use so much magic, they lost their powers... Forever!

The five "unicorns" around "Starswirl" (over-acting a little) all faint dramatically.

132

60 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
Things looked bleak. Soon, Equestria would lose all its magic-users! Then, the land would be covered in darkness for eternity.

133

BACKSTAGE: Pinkie flips the switch again, and "The Sun" drops back down below the stage.

IN THE DARK AUDIENCE, Twilight giddily whispers to Spike:

61 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Even I can't believe how good my play is. The sets, the props, the outfits, they're all great!

15 16

Spike points to Celestia, stepping majestically on stage.

129 131

62 SPIKE
And here comes the best part.

133

136 B

137 AB

138 BC

63 FLUTTERSHY
But then, a student named Celestia discovered she had the power to raise the sun herself - without draining her magic!

133

Celestia stands on stage, looking regal and...does nothing.

There's a long silence as everyone looks at her. Twilight prompts her kindly.

64 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Um...that's your cue, Celestia.

15 16

Celestia looks surprised, then nods--

129 (133)

65 CELESTIA
Oh! Right! Of course. <ahem>
(then, super-quiet)
It's time for a new day in
Equestria.

Twilight and Spike look at each other.

66 SPIKE
Um. What?

67 CELESTIA
I said...
(super-quiet)
It's time for a new day in
Equestria.

Twilight's jaw drops. She covers and cheerleads:

68 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
And your delivery was...great. But
maybe you should try it a tiny bit
louder. For the ponies in the back
row.

15 (16)

129 133

69 CELESTIA
Ah, yes. My Royal Canterlot Voice.
Thank you for the reminder,
Twilight.
(super loud)
IT'S TIME FOR A NEW DAY IN
EQUESTRIA!!!!

(135) (13)

All the "collapsed" students on stage jump up, covering their
ears in surprise. Celestia looks around, embarrassed.

70 CELESTIA (CONT'D)
Oh goodness, this theatre does have
strong acoustics. My apologies. I'm
still learning to "hone my craft."

71 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
No, no you're doing...fine. Why
don't we try it just one more time.
Just like you're talking to me.

15 (16)

129

72 CELESTIA
(flat, emotionless)
It's time for a new day in
Equestria.

(135)

73 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
One more time. A bit more energy.

15 16 (17)

129/135

74 CELESTIA
(near-hyperactive)
It's time for a new day in
Equestria!

ANGLE ON THE WINGS-- Applejack, Pinkie, Starlight, and Rarity
are watching, AGHAST at how bad this is.

75 CELESTIA (CONT'D)
Um...How was that?

Applejack steps forward to offer her opinion--

76 APPLEJACK
Honestly...?

69 ABC 70
|||

Twilight <TELEPORTS> on stage to cover Applejack's mouth with
a wing.

77 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Great! Wow! It's hard to believe
you've never done this before!
Let's move on to the dance number.

15 16
|

SC. 6 - EXT. THEATRE STAGE - LATER

ON SPIKE, holding his megaphone as he choreographs the
student "unicorns" OS. Music <VAMPS> behind him.

139 140

78 SPIKE
Again! Step, buck, leap touch...
Again! Step, buck, leap touch...
Got it? Going on. Five, six,
seven, eight!

142
|

REVEAL: As happy <MUSIC> plays, Celestia and the six student
"unicorns" stand in a line on stage, and DANCE in
choreography (this can be as simple as a kickline).

140

79 CELESTIA
(awful acting)
Come ON, StarsWIRL! Throw OFF that
musty HAT, and let's have A dance!

Celestia grabs "Starswirl's" hat in her teeth and playfully
tosses it off-stage.

Unfortunately, the hat lands on Pinkie's LEVER backstage...
which opens the theatre's TRAP-DOOR!

Twilight's students ALL plummet through the trap-door!

80
<YELL>

ACTORS

98 ABC
|||

219 ABC
|||

80A 99 ABCD 100 ABC <CRASHHHH!!!> 224 ABC
 REVEAL: The actors are in a comical heap - okay but not happy. <RECOVERY GROANS>.

Celestia looks down through the hole in the floor, concerned, and calls to Twilight, who is watching backstage (with Starlight, AJ, PP and Rarity).

139 140 141
 81 CELESTIA
 Oh dear. I think we have a problem.

Applejack leans over and whispers to Twilight.

82 APPLEJACK
 Yeah. Our lead actress is a disaster.

Twilight, who knows it's true, looks suitably horrified.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 7 - EXT. THEATRE - BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

Twilight paces in worry in front of Starlight, Rarity, Pinkie, Fluttershy, Applejack and Spike.

83 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 What are we gonna do? If I tell Celestia she's terrible, it'll hurt her feelings. And I'll be a bad friend. But if I keep her in the show, she'll be the laughingstock of Equestria. And I'll be a worse friend!

84 APPLEJACK
 Ya need to tell Celestia the truth, Twilight.

85 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 Any other suggestions?

86 SPIKE
 Why don't we just cancel the show?

87 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Real suggestions?

144 (145)
↓ ↓

88 SPIKE
No, think about it. Right now, most of Equestria doesn't even know we're doing a Onesversary play. If we shut it down-

89 RARITY
No pony will ever miss it!

90 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
So they'll never find out Princess Celestia is a bad actress.

77
↓

(79)
↓

144 (145)
↓ ↓

91 FLUTTERSHY
And she won't be embarrassed.

92 PINKIE PIE
It's the perfect plan!

Just then, Rainbow Dash comes ZOOMING IN!

93 RAINBOW DASH
Alright! I just finished telling everypony to come to our play!

77
↓

(79)
↓

94 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
You...did?

19
↓

(19A B)
↓

(79)
↓

95 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah! You shoulda seen how excited they got when they found out Celestia was in it! They said they'd tell their friends, and then their friends'd tell their friends! Everypony in Equestria is gonna see this thing!

77
↓

Rainbow notices all the other ponies looking at each other.

96 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Uh...did I miss something?

18
↓

(19)
↓

97 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Just a bright light of hope being snuffed. But that's okay. If we can't cancel the show, I know what I have to do.

77
↓

78⁵
↓

(80)
↓

98 APPLEJACK
Be honest with Celestia and give the lead role to somepony else?

99 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Not a chance.

18
↓

19
↓

(20)
↓

Applejack shakes her head in disbelief--

100 APPLEJACK
Twilight, you know truth is a huge
part of friendship.

101 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
And so is making another pony's
dreams come true! Look, I promised
Celestia that this time she could
be a part of the play instead of
just watching it. And I plan to
keep that promise.

102 FLUTTERSHY
But...How?

SC. 8 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - HALLWAY - NEXT DAY

Twilight, Spike and Celestia walk through the school.

103 CELESTIA
You want to give me acting lessons?

104 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
No ho ho! More like, a special
workshop with other actors. To...
Take your performance from good to
flawless!

105 CELESTIA
Thank you so much, Twilight! This
is what I always knew theatre must
be about. That special stage pony
bond of shared trust and honesty.

Twilight and Spike glance at each other, guiltily.

106 SPIKE
Yeah. That's what it is.

Twilight quickly pushes open the door to her classroom -
where ON STAGE and RASPBERRY BERET (two members of a pony
acting troupe called The Method Mares, from Ep. 517) are.
Spike glances at Twilight. She looks away guiltily.

107 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Princess Celestia-- meet Method
Mare performers On Stage and
Raspberry Beret.

SC. 9 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

As the others walk in, ON STAGE and RASPBERRY BERET bow to Celestia.

151 (152)

108 ON STAGE
A pleasure, your majesty.

She nods gratefully to them.

109 CELESTIA
The pleasure is all mine! If there's anything I can do to become a better Equestrian thespian I will. What do you have planned?

110 ON STAGE
I thought we'd make it up as we go along... Otherwise known as (jazz hooves)
"Improv!"

111 RASPBERRY BERET
YES, and...We can start as soon as we get out of this box!

154 155 156 (157)

Instantly the Method Mares surround Celestia and pantomime placing their hooves on an imaginary glass box that's holding them all trapped. Celestia simply walks outside the "Prison" and looks at the Method Mares, confused.

112 CELESTIA
What box?

(153) (153)

152 ABCD Spike face-palms. Twilight grimaces. This won't be easy.

SC. 10 - MONTAGE I/C EXT. STAGE / INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

1. ONSTAGE: An increasingly-stressed-out Twilight walks up to Starlight and the Mane 5, working on the sets/props. The sun-disco ball is SMASHED inside the trapdoor, where the wizards fell on it.

113 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
How's it going over here?

26 27 (28)

114 RAINBOW DASH
That sun will never rise again.

82 (83)

115 PINKIE PIE
That's why I have something even better!

158 (164)

Pinkie produces a huge, BEAUTIFUL YELLOW BALLOON on a string.

158 164 165

116 RARITY
It's the perfect substitute!

A bird flies by and accidentally POPS the balloon with its beak! All the ponies (especially Twilight) look distraught as the balloon <TSEEEEEEEWS> its way down to the floor.

117 RARITY (CONT'D)
It was the perfect substitute.

Twilight <SIGHS> heavily and turns to go.

2. INT. CLASSROOM - A frazzled Twilight marches up to Spike.

118 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Please give me something to be happy about.

Spike (depressed) points to On Stage, who is giving instructions to both Raspberry Beret and Celestia.

158 165

119 ON STAGE
Let's try visualization! You're skiing!

Raspberry Beret weaves back and forth as if slaloming on a slope. Does a little hop over a mogul.

120 RASPBERRY BERET
Whoo! Oh, it's so snowy today!
Brrr...I'm getting chilly!

Celestia looks at her quizzically.

121 CELESTIA
Should I get you a blanket?

On Stage takes over, sitting in a chair. She motions Celestia to get on another chair.

158

Alt

122 ON STAGE
Alllll aboard! The Ponyville
Express is leaving the station!
<CHUGGA CHUGGA WOO WOO!>

170

On Stage pretends to pull an imaginary train whistle.

165

123 CELESTIA
It is?
(moves to the window)
I don't see anything.

Raspberry Beret takes over again, drooping her head and swaying, emoting furiously.

158 (165)

124 RASPBERRY BERET
Let's be weeping willows in the
wind! We are strong in adversity,
yet supple as we bow to fate.

On Stage notices Celestia is just standing still.

125 ON STAGE
Well? What do you feel?

Everyone leans in, hopeful, as Celestia closes her eyes and
concentrates-- And then...

126 CELESTIA
Nothing.

169 AB

Twilight slumps.

127 CELESTIA (CONT'D)
Oh! The classroom floor under my
hooves. Does that count?

Twilight slumps further.

3. ONSTAGE: A near-defeated Twilight walks up to see her
friends working on yet another sun. She gives Pinkie a
pleading look.

128 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Do I want to know?

31

Pinkie nods and throws the switch and opens the trap door.
Up rises a pole, and on top of the pole: A GIANT MARSHMALLOW!

158 (165)

129 PINKIE PIE
Wait for it...

<FWOOM!> The Marshmallow "magically" ignites in FLAME.

Applejack races in with a bucket of water on her back and
bucks it up to SPLASH ON THE MARSHMALLOW, putting it out.
She does a slow-burn-glare to Pinkie.

130 APPLEJACK
PINKIE PIE...

84 (85) ABC

158 (165)

131 PINKIE PIE
Whaaaat? It's realistic! The sun's
just like a burning marshmallow.

REVEAL a DRIPPING Twilight (soaked from AJ's bucket) as she
stares into space, nearing an eye-twitching breaking point.

131A 36 37
4. CLASSROOM: A worn down and put-upon Twilight trudges toward Spike and On Stage. All three of them stare at Celestia, who is making a series of bizarre incomprehensible gestures in front Raspberry Beret.

132 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
What are they doing now?

133 SPIKE
The simplest acting exercise they could think of: A game of Charades.

Raspberry Beret tries her best to guess what Celestia is acting out.

134 RASPBERRY BERET
A puppy! A duck-billed platypus! Antidisestablishmentarianism! Oh, I give up! What?!

135 CELESTIA
My love for Equestria and all the ponies in it! (Notices Twilight)
Twilight, you felt what I was emoting, didn't you?

Twilight uses her last ounce of energy to force a smile.

136 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
...Yeah!

Spike leans over to On Stage.

137 SPIKE
Now that's the best acting we've seen all day.

SC. 11 - EXT. THEATRE - BACKSTAGE - PERFORMANCE NIGHT

Twilight, clearly at the end of her rope, addresses Spike, Starlight, Fluttershy, Applejack, Rainbow Dash and Rarity.

138 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Ok. I tried, and tried, and tried. But we have to face facts. We can't make Celestia an actress. So there's only one thing to do.

139 APPLEJACK
Tell her the truth? Finally?

140 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
No.

171 172
11

141

✓APPLEJACK / RARITY / SPIKE /
FLUTTERSHY / ✓RAINBOW DASH / ✓STARLIGHT

<groan>

88A B C D

Twilight magically conjures a script.

142

TWILIGHT SPARKL

I've re-written the script to give
Celestia a "more artistic" part.
With no lines.

38 39
↓ ↓

172 173 174
↓ ↓ ↓

143

PINKIE PIE (O.S.)

And to make sure the show's a hit,
I've whipped up the biggest,
bestest, flashiest fake sun ever!

Everyone looks up to the catwalk, sees Pinkie has taped
together a HUGE BALL OF GLOWING (almost radio-active looking)
FIREWORKS (which dangles from the backdrop by a rope) and the
fuse on the main firework is LIT!

144

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Pinkie, that looks...unsafe.

38 39
↓ ↓
175
↓

172 173 174
↓ ↓ ↓

145

PINKIE PIE

Why would untested magic fireworks
that I bought in a back-alley from
Trixie at midnight be unsafe?

Twilight TAKES in horror, but before she can say anything--

<SHOOM!!> The fireworks ERUPT, BLASTING off the stage and
carrying the backdrop with them as they EXPLODE over the
horizon! Twilight takes in the ruination of the set. Her
eyes get big, she shakes... And then the eruption comes...

146

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

AAAAAAAAAAHHH!!! I CAN'T TAKE IT
ANYMORE!! IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A
SIMPLE PLAY! JUST ONE SIMPLE PLAY!
AND THEN EVERYTHING GOES WRONG!
FROM THE STAGE, TO THE PROPS, RIGHT
DOWN TO THE WORST LEAD ACTRESS IN
EQUESTRIA!

38 39
↓ ↓
175
↓

Twilight suddenly notices everyone's staring at something
behind her.

Twilight turns to sees CELESTIA standing behind her, a look
of hurt and betrayal on her face. It's clear she heard the
whole thing.

ON TWILIGHT'S horror...

END OF ACT TWOACT THREESC. 12 - EXT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT - RESUME

The Mane 5, Starlight and Spike watch awkwardly as a deeply hurt Celestia confronts Twilight.

176 177
↓ ↓

147 CELESTIA
Twilight. If you honestly felt I was a bad actress, why didn't you tell me?

185
↓

148 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Princess Celestia, I'm so sorry. I didn't mean to insult your acting. It's just...I got so stressed...

40 41
↓ ↓

Twilight bows her head in shame.

149 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
But that's no excuse for what I said. You have every right to be upset with me.

176 177 178
↓ ↓ ↓

150 CELESTIA
I'm not upset because you insulted my acting.

185
↓

151 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
(hopeful)
You're not?

40 41
↓ ↓

176 178
↓ ↓

152 CELESTIA
I'm upset because...In all the time we've known each other, I thought I'd taught you about the importance of friendship, trust, and honesty.

185
↓

Celestia turns and flies away into the night sky.

153 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Celestia! Wait!

40 41
↓ ↓

Twilight starts to fly after Celestia, but Pinkie Pie grabs Twilight's hind legs.

176 178
↓ ↓

154 PINKIE PIE
No! You can't fly away now! Look!

Pinkie points to a small gap in the curtain.

153A 42 43
↓ ↓

Looking through it, the ponies can see a large audience sitting in front of the stage, waiting for the show to start.

176 (178)
↓ ↓

155 FLUTTERSHY
Ponies are taking their seats for the show!

156 RAINBOW DASH
Standing room only! Did I do a good job advertising this thing or what?

89 (90)
|

Rainbow Dash notices everypony frowning at her.

157 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Sorry.

158 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
We can't put on a show with no lead actress.

Applejack takes charge and tells Twilight--

159 APPLEJACK
You go find Celestia. We'll figure a way to stall 'til ya get back.

91
|

159A (44)
|

Twilight nods and takes off flying as fast as she can.

Spike looks at all the remaining ponies and jerks a thumb at the audience outside the curtain.

176 178
| |

160 SPIKE
Good luck. No pony's gonna volunteer to try to tame that!

179 (180)
|

The ponies look at him, thoughtful.

(178)
|

161 RARITY
No PONY indeed.

181 ABC 182 AB
| | | |

161A Spike gulps. 183 ABC (184 AB)
| | | |

SC. 13 - EXT. THEATER STAGE - NIGHT

Spike tiptoes timidly out onto the stage, surveys the crowd.

162 SPIKE
So...Who likes juggling?

(186) ABC (187) ABCD (188) ABC
| | | | |

Spike pulls a series of bowling pins out from behind his back and commences a (kind of lame) juggling act. No response from the audience. It's gonna be a long night.

SC. 14 - EXT. THE SKIES OVER EQUESTRIA - NIGHT

Twilight catches up with Celestia soaring through the clouds.

163 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Princess Celestia! Please wait!
Can we talk?

45 46
↓ ↓

189 190
↓ ↓

164 CELESTIA
I'm afraid I haven't much to say,
Twilight.

165 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Alright then, just listen. You've
guided me since I was a filly.
You've given me knowledge, and
advice, and friendship. Just
once... I wanted to be able to give
something back to you.

45 46
↓ ↓

Celestia looks at Twilight, surprised and moved by this.

Twilight hangs her head and continues--

166 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
I know what I did was wrong. I
should've told you the truth. But
I promised you could be in our
play! I had to make it work.
Nothing would make me feel worse
than knowing I disappointed you.

45 46
↓ ↓

Celestia lands on a cloud. Twilight follows suit.

189 190
↓ ↓

167 CELESTIA
You really mean that?

168 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Of course! I look up to you more
than anypony I've ever met. I'd
hate to let you down... Like I did.

45 46
↓ ↓

Celestia sighs. There's no way she can stay angry at her
favorite pupil after that.

189 191
↓ ↓

169 CELESTIA
You had good intentions, Twilight.
But you know that the truth is
always better than a well-meant
lie. Didn't Applejack remind you?

168A

189 191 192
↓ ↓ ↓

170 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
About a hundred times. And now,
because I didn't listen to her,
I've ruined your whole Onesversary.

171 CELESTIA
Well, I don't know about that.
Isn't there an old saying, "The
show must go on"? There may be a
way for us to save the play yet.

172 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
But how? I mean, if I'm being
completely honest...
(Celestia nods - go ahead)
You're not an actress.

173 CELESTIA
(Grinning) No, but I am a princess.

45 46 47
↓ ↓ ↓

45 46
↓ ↓

193
↓

SC. 15 - EXT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

Spike retreats backstage, dodging a hail of FRUIT that's
being thrown by the audience.

174 AUDIENCE 194AB 195 196
<BOOOS!> || | ↓

Spike bites into a thrown tomato.

175 SPIKE
Good news, free food. Bad news?
This play is officially a disaster.

176 CELESTIA (O.S.)
Fortunately, I know a thing or two
about how to deal with those.

197 198
↓ ↓

201AB 202
|| ↓

Spike, Starlight, Rarity, Fluttershy, Pinkie, Rainbow Dash
and Applejack all look up to see Twilight returning with
Celestia! They float down to the stage from up above, ready
to save the day.

177 STARLIGHT GLIMMER 92AB
You came back! 92AB
↓ ↓

All the ponies rush towards Celestia happily!

178 CELESTIA
Yes. But let's celebrate later.
Right now, we have a show to do!

197 198
↓ ↓

197 198 199

179 RARITY
But how? The audience is about to
riot! We have no backdrop! And
our lead actress is...!

Rarity freezes. The ponies all look at each other awkwardly.
No one wants to say anything unkind. Celestia nods, it's ok.

180 CELESTIA
No longer in that role.

181 CELESTIA (CONT'D)
(Royal Canterlot Voice)
Rarity, Applejack, Pinkie Pie,
Twilight, go calm the audience.
Let them know the play will start
in just a minute.

The selected ponies race to follow her command as Celestia
clearly takes charge, a ruler in her new stage domain.

182 CELESTIA (CONT'D)
Rainbow Dash, bring us some clouds
and place them behind the stage.

Rainbow Dash does this instantly at blinding speed. The
clouds form a new BACKDROP for the stage.

183 CELESTIA (CONT'D)
There. That's our new backdrop.
Starlight, do you have a copy of
the script?

Starlight levitates one over. Celestia gives it to Spike.

184 CELESTIA (CONT'D)
Spike, you narrate the play.
Fluttershy will be our new lead.

Spike nods, but Fluttershy starts to quake and get small.

185 FLUTTERSHY
Oh my. Me? Playing you? While
you watch me playing you? I think
my stage fright is coming back...

Celestia puts a reassuring hoof on Fluttershy's shoulder.

186 CELESTIA
Visualize with me. You're a
Princess. Regal, commanding,
confident. Feel the rising sun's
warmth. Equestria needs you.

200

With each word, Fluttershy straightens, "becoming" more of the Princess that Celestia commands her to be. She's ready!

SC. 16 - EXT. THEATRE STAGE - SOON - NIGHT

The curtains open, and Spike begins narrating.

205 (206)

187 SPIKE
Once upon a time, before Celestia,
Equestria was suffering terrible
hardship. Raising the sun every
morning was so hard that it took
five Unicorn Sorcerers plus
Starswirl the Bearded to do it.

Twilight's students in their "unicorn wizard" costumes (still limping, bandaged and bedraggled from their earlier fall through the trap door) come trudging onto the stage.

THE AUDIENCE LAUGHS at the bedraggled wizards.

203

(204)

188 AUDIENCE MEMBER
You call those great sorcerers?

A B

189 AUDIENCE
<LAUGHTER>

SC. 17 - EXT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

Twilight panics to Celestia--

190 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Oh no. Hecklers! What should we do?

48 A B

205 206

191 CELESTIA
(calls to Spike)
Spike! Do some improv!

207 A B

SC. 18 - EXT. THEATRE STAGE - NIGHT

So Spike drops the script and goes off book--

192 SPIKE
yes And...raising the sun each day was
super-draining. But you can see
that for yourselves, right? I mean
do these guys look beat up or what?

208 A B possible add on.

<CHUCKLES> from the audience.

Sandbar (or rather "Starswirl") happens to walk through a puff of cloud that's floating around on stage. The grey cloud gets stuck in his long brown beard.

205 207

193 SPIKE (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Look! Starswirl is so stressed
he's already going grey!

<LAUGHTER> from the audience Fluttershy walks out on stage
wearing gold horseshoes and a crown.

194 SPIKE (O.S.) (CONT'D)
But that's ok. Because it turns
out, Celestia had the special power
to raise the sun all by herself!

195 FLUTTERSHY
It's time for a new day in Equestria!

Fluttershy's voice rings out boldly and...nothing happens!

SC. 19 - EXT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

Twilight gapes, sweating bullets as she realizes--

196 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
In all the commotion we forgot we
don't have a sun! What do we do?

197 CELESTIA
We play charades.

Celestia makes eye contact with Fluttershy and STRIKES a
DRAMATIC POSE. Fluttershy gets the hint and strikes the same
pose. Then Celestia closes her eyes, concentrates...

AND THE AUDIENCE <OOHS AND AHHHS> as THE REAL SUN comes
rising up over the horizon!

The Method Mares (in the front row) are deeply impressed.

198 ON STAGE
Goodness! I had no idea this
production would have such
elaborate special effects!

As everypony in the audience <CHEERS WILDLY> the sun gives
off a BRIGHT FLASH and we cut to:

SC. 20 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL - OUTDOOR THEATRE - LATER

The show has ended. The audience has left. And Celestia,
Spike, Starlight and the Mane Six are cleaning up a large
array of flowers that have been thrown onto the stage.

213 (24)

6

199 CELESTIA
Judging by how many flowers the audience threw, it seems our play was a success.

200 FLUTTERSHY
I just feel bad you never got a chance to actually be in it.

215

201 CELESTIA
(smiles)
You shouldn't. I never felt I had to be on stage to be part of the show. All I ever wanted was to share an honest bond of creativity, artistry, and happiness with my friends. And that's exactly what I got to do.

213

215

202 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Thank you for saving our play, Princess Celestia.

51 52 (53)

203 CELESTIA
You're welcome, Twilight. But from now on, none of you will have to call me "Princess" anymore.

204 SPIKE
We don't?

206 ABCDEF Ait

205 CELESTIA
No. I had so much fun tonight I've decided to give up my crown, step down from the throne, and devote all of my time to the theatre!

207

Everyone stares at Celestia, slack-jawed.

206 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (51) 52
You...what?

213 215

207 CELESTIA
Gotcha.
(then, smiles)
Maybe I'm not such a bad actress after all.

208 AB

207A

54 93 94 95

As the friends share a good <LAUGH>, we pull back and FADE OUT!

THE END.