

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9
The Beginning of the End, Part I & II
EP 901 & 902
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THE BEGINNING OF THE END, PART I & II

Beats:

ACT ONE**• SC 1 - INT. CELESTIA'S CASTLE**

- Twilight and the M6 are summoned by Celestia and Luna who reveal there has been such a remarkable period of Harmony that they have decided it's time to retire. Discord appears out of nowhere super "shocked:" Who will take over, who will run Equestria, who will sit on the thrones? Everyone does a take to the M6. Discord, "Oh." Off Twilight's look of actual shock... **END TEASER**

• SC 2 - INT. CELESTIA'S CASTLE – RESUME

- The princesses explain that they have some things to take care of, but when they are done it will be time for TS and her friends to take on the role they were meant for—they have the utmost confidence in her and hope she has the same in herself. Discord, over the top, "I'm absolutely sure she does..." Off TS's uncertain look...

• SC 3 - EXT. CASTLE – LATER

- TS: "I am totally not confident about this." Discord pops in, "That's what I thought... I was being sarcastic before." He pops out and the rest of the M6 try to reassure TS. Sure, it's a ton of responsibility but they're ready. TS wonders what they'll do if something major happens and the princesses aren't there to help. RD, "They literally almost never help." PP, "And we always win. Like the time with..." and she lists all the villains they've defeated (who also happened to be the villains Grogar soon gathers). Finally, TS agrees and hopes she can get right with this. Spike, "Of course you will! You got this. I mean, I can't imagine a single villain we can't defeat." CUT TO:

• SC 4 - EXT. EVIL LOCATIONS – VARIOUS

- Sombra is resurrected
- Chrysalis is plucked from the forest
- Tirek and Cozy disappear from Tartarus

• SC 5 - INT. EVIL LAIR

- The villains all appear and think Sombra is in charge, but he's just as clueless as they are about why they're there. Grogar appears and tells them it is because they are integral to his plan... evil laugh.

ACT TWO**• SC 6 - INT. EVIL LAIR – RESUME**

- The villains are impressed. Some exposition re Grogar, Father of Monsters, etc. He tells them he's been watching Equestria for a long time and he's seen all of them defeated by the power of friendship. He's brought them here because the only way to defeat the ponies is to work together.
- Sombra balks. Friendship isn't his jam. He can handle things on his own. Grogar thought he might say this and offers him a deal. Sombra can go take his shot; he'll even send him wherever he wants to go, if he wins, they can all go. But when he's defeated, Sombra will do whatever Grogar says from then on. Sombra agrees and Grogar whisks him away. He tells the others they had better figure out how to work together because he has zero faith in Sombra. With that, he vanishes and the other villains stare at each other awkwardly.

- **SC 7 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP**

- Twilight's therapy session with Starlight. TS knows this is what Celestia has been grooming her for, but it's still hard to accept. She doesn't feel ready, up to the task, etc. Starlight offers helpful advice, then PAN to Discord nodding in agreement. He's just dropping in to double check on how TS is dealing with the MASSIVE responsibility bomb Celestia just dropped on her head. Not good, it seems. Starlight dismisses him. TS is just worrying to worry. She's faced so many things over the years and handled them all. Now her being in charge will just be official. What's the worst that could happen?

- **SC 8 - EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE**

- Panic in the streets as Sombra marches in. Guards rush up trying to defend the city, but Sombra uses his magic to manipulate their minds—turning them to his side. Things don't look good.
- Soon he is in the castle, threatening the royal family; Cadance just manages to send off a magic scroll before a BLAST from Sombra's horn encases them in black crystal.

- **SC 9 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE – LATER**

- TS gets word that shit is going down in the CE and when everypony says they need to go tell the princesses, she's all, "Nope. They are busy getting ready to retire. Besides, we're supposed to be in charge now. We need to handle it. And I know how." Discord claps, "Good for you."

ACT THREE

- **SC 10 - INT. CAVE OF HARMONY**

- The others are concerned. How will they defeat a big bad like Sombra on their own? TS reminds them of what they told her. They've done it before, but just to be safe they'll take the Elements. With their power, they'll be able to handle anything Sombra throws at them. There's some doubt and someone reminds TS what happened before with the Everfree Forest, etc. TS assures them that they'll bring the Elements back long before anything bad happens. Besides, the Pillars planted the tree to protect Equestria and as long as it stands, they have nothing to worry about.

- **SC 11 - EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE**

- The gang show up in the CE and things definitely look bad. The ponies are enslaved, the guards are all mean/possessed, and the crystal heart is gone. TS realizes if things are this bad already, her family must be in trouble.

- **SC 12 - INT. CRYSTAL CASTLE – THRONE ROOM**

- They rush to the throne room where Sombra has made himself at home. TS's family are encased in crystal and he twirls the Heart on his hoof. He's been expecting the ponies to show up and tries to use his mind powers on TS. For a brief second we see her worst fear – failing to defeat him without the help of the Princesses – but the vision quickly fades as she and the rest of the M6 use the Elements to make short work of him—much to Sombra's surprise.
- It is so easy and complete that a shocked Sombra turns tail and flees. His defeat is so complete (the family is rescued, the Crystal Ponies are returned to normal, etc.) that the girls are all, wow, he's a push over. As long as we have the Elements, we don't even need to follow/chase/worry about him.

- Discord is impressed, “Gee, I guess you guys really do got this,” and leaves.
- **SC 13 - INT. CAVE OF HARMONY**
 - The M6 return to the tree and put the elements back and that’s when we reveal that Sombra has followed them. With one massive blast, he utterly and completely destroys the tree!

END PART ONE

ACT FOUR

- **“PREVIOUSLY ON”**
- **SC 14 - INT. CAVE OF HARMONY**
 - Resume on Sombra having just destroyed the tree. There is a short magical battle, but Twilight and the girls have lost their confidence/mojo. They’re in shock at the destruction of the tree – not something they ever expected. The tables have completely turned and now Sombra makes short work of them.
 - He leaves them to dwell on the loss of their much vaunted power and goes to conquer all of Equestria, but not before rubbing it in by explaining that he plans to start with their home town!
 - They may be outclassed, but the girls can’t stand by and do nothing with Ponyville under attack. They head out to try their best.
- **SC 15 - EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF PONYVILLE – VARIOUS**
 - As they make their way to town, they find a path of mind control left in Sombra’s wake (similar to what we saw in the Crystal Empire):
 - At Sweet Apple acres, Granny, Apple Bloom and Big Mac are all resigned to their fate (clearly under Sombra’s influence as well). They encourage AJ to give up. Unsettled, the gang keep going.
 - Outside Fluttershy’s cottage, her animal friends (now possessed by Sombra) try to stop them. Twilight freezes them with magic, but Fluttershy wants to help them. Twilight offers their best course of action is to continue to town and stop Sombra.
- **SC 16 - EXT. PONYVILLE – VARIOUS**
 - All of Ponyville is under Sombra’s control! Every citizen is despondent and unable to take action – their fear of Sombra’s power is too great. The girls try to free them from Sombra’s grip, but without success.
 - Distraught over how the loss of the Tree and the Elements has apparently sapped their power, Twilight worries this is only the start. She revisits how the Tree always protected Equestria as the Pillars intended, but without it, all sorts of bad things might happen.
 - Pinkie: “You mean, like the Everfree Forest taking over the town?” They all look and see that that is exactly what’s happening!

ACT FIVE

- **SC 17 - EXT. EVERFREE FOREST**
 - The gang tries their best against the forest, but with little success. It looks as though the town will be overrun when... out of the sky, bursting through the clouds come Celestia and Luna **BLASTING** at the forest with their magic and driving it back!

- Starswirl appears and explains that he and the other Pillars felt it when the tree was destroyed. He alerted the Princesses and enlisted their aide. Long before he and the Pillars planted the Tree, he kept the Everfree Forest under control and he'll do so again. He casts a big-time spell that returns the forest to normal.
- **SC 18 - EXT. PONYVILLE**
 - Unfortunately, even with Starswirl and the Princesses help, they can't manage to return the citizens of Ponyville to normal. They learn Sombra has made his way to Canterlot and from there he will take over all of Equestria.
 - Twilight is distraught. How are she and her friends supposed to take over protection of Equestria if not even all of their combined powers can defeat Sombra.
 - Discord appears, mock-disappointed. He was really pulling for Twilight and her friends, but if they truly need his help, he's prepared to pitch in. Everyone agrees with Discord's help they should prevail.
- **SC 19 - INT. CANTERLOT – THRONE ROOM**
 - They make their way through a Sombra occupied Canterlot to the throne room where they face off against him and his minions (i.e. possessed guards).
 - Discord turns Sombra's attack into pudding or something and then monologues about how Twilight was supposed to take over and he really thought she'd be able to, but now that he thinks about it, the Princess of Friendship can still take credit for the win since she made friends with him. Technically, he's better friends with Fluttershy, but it still counts. Upon hearing that, Sombra unleashes a massive BLAST at Fluttershy! Not thinking, Discord leaps to shield his friend and takes the full brunt of the hit. Off everyone's shock as it looks like Sombra has taken out Discord!

ACT SIX

- **SC 20 - INT. CANTERLOT – THRONE ROOM – RESUME**
 - Resuming on everyone's shock that the Lord of Chaos could be defeated. It really does seem like all hope is lost. Twilight despairs, but with Discord's "last breaths" (i.e., Pony version of this) he rallies the troops – reminding them that the power of the Elements is inside them, etc. (similar to what we have now).
 - With renewed confidence, the M6 turn to face Sombra who attempts to BLAST them into oblivion, but his attack is stopped short by their renewed powers.
 - Celestia tells Sombra to surrender, but he refuses. When he tries to double down on his magical attack, Celestia, Luna, and Starswirl add their powers to those of the renewed M6. It is too much for Sombra and with a MASSIVE flash of friendship magic, he's defeated – vanishing, blasted to smoke, etc.
- **SC 21 - INT. CELESTIA'S CASTLE – LATER**
 - Post mortem. Even though Twilight is totally ready to take over, the Princesses had such a "blast" coming to the rescue at the Everfree Forest and then helping to defeat Sombra that they realized they're not quite ready to retire. Twilight admits that the whole "taking over" thing was a little overwhelming, and even if she's ready (which she's still not 100% on board with), she's super relieved to hear the Princesses will be staying.
 - Discord pops up, totally fine now, but very disappointed. "You mean even after my pretending to fake almost die and giving the most incredible 'the power is

inside you' speech ever you still don't think you're ready!? Ugh. I don't know why I even bother!" He vanishes and everyone agrees – Discord has the strangest ideas on how to be encouraging.

- **SC 22 - INT. EVIL LAIR**

- Comedy beat of the remaining villains trying to be friends – they're doing trust falls, team building exercises, etc. When Grogar bursts in and demands to know what they're doing. Cozy explains that they're doing their best to learn friendship. Grogar shakes his head. "That's not what I meant."
- With a surge of magic, he resurrects Sombra (again). Now that he's been defeated it's time to honor their deal. Sombra falls in line, but the others are confused. If Grogar didn't mean they needed to learn about friendship, what's his plan?
- Grogar explains his plan is about working together and they don't have to be friends for that – merely allies. He'll teach them how to work together to defeat the power of friendship and when they do that, Equestria will be at their mercy! Evil laugh and...

END