MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9

Student Counsel
Ep 911

Teleplay Final Draft

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TEASER

SC. 1 - EXT. FIELD NEAR PONYVILLE - DAY

Trixie leads Starlight up a small hill overlooking Ponyville to a picnic lunch laid out on the grass.

1 TRIXIE
I know how hard you've been working lately, so I figured you could use a break.

2 STARLIGHT
Trixie, this looks amazing. But my job doesn't really seem like work--

Suddenly, a bracelet around Starlight's wrist GLOWS. She looks at it like a watch.

3 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Oop! Speaking of...

With that, she disappears in a POOF. Trixie <SIGHS> sits down at the picnic: pours tea, fixes plates, etc. After a beat Starlight reappears.

4 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Sure, being counselor for the students at Twilight's School of Friendship is demanding, but... One sec.

Again, her bracelet GLOWS and again she vanishes. Trixie takes a bite of sandwich--chewing slowly. Starlight reappears.

5 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
What was I saying? Oh. Right. Being able to use the experiences of my checkered past to help young students feels pretty great. Oooh! Yum. <CHEWING> Thanmks...

Starlight starts in on the plate of food and cup of tea that Trixie's set out for her.

6 TRIXIE
Of course I feel nothing but admiration for the work you do, but it is a little all-consuming and I miss spending time with you.

7 STARLIGHT
What are you talking about? We're spending time right now.

8 TRIXIE
Well--

Trixie's interrupted as Starlight's bracelet goes off again. Starlight looks at it and takes a quick bite of sandwich.

9 STARLIGHT
(mouth full)
Hold vat fought...

And she's gone again. Trixie rolls her eyes and takes a few more bites of food until Starlight BAMFS back.

10 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Sorry. I cast a spell on the door to my office so this bracelet glows whenever there's a knock. Yona is having the worst time with her braids lately.

Starlight takes a sip of tea, then.

11 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Anyway, what were you saying?

Off Trixie's flat stare...

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

<u>ACT ONE</u>

SC. 2 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - STARLIGHT'S OFFICE - DAY

A troubled Silverstream sits in Starlight's office.

12 SILVERSTREAM
I <u>totally</u> respect my younger cousins' decisions to stay seaponies, but they've never been on dry land. Preparing for a visit with them is almost as much work as the research assignment Headmare Twilight gave me on Hazardous Fauna of the Everfree Forest! *

She pulls out a scroll.

13 SILVERSTREAM (CONT'D)
How would <u>you</u> describe a shower to creatures who live in water? So far I've got warm and steamy... Actually, steam has water in it...

Silverstream shakes her head and crosses "steamy" off her list. Starlight looks at her.

14 STARLIGHT
Silverstream, there are a lot of students who want to see me today.

15 SILVERSTREAM
I just need a few shower adjectives-- that don't rely on the wet part.

Starlight SIGHS.

16 STARLIGHT
Well, there's clean, relaxing, um--

17 SILVERSTREAM
Relaxing? I don't know. A nap's relaxing too. Warm and clean are okay-- Wow. I have to give this some more thought.

With that Silverstream stands and heads out. Starlight follows.

18 STARLIGHT
Oh. Okay. Well, I'm here to help. My door's always open.

As Silverstream walks out, Trixie walks in, closing the door on the GROUP OF STUDENTS waiting to get in.

19 TRIXIE
Except for today, of course. If we leave now we can finish everything before sundown.

Starlight stares at her, confused.

20 STARLIGHT
Trixie, I can't leave. It's almost Spring Break. Twilight and the others have already left to celebrate the Spring Solstice in Canterlot and I have to help the students with any issues before <u>they</u> head home for the holiday. *

Just then there's a KNOCK and Starlight's bracelet GLOWS. She opens the door to see the line of students waiting expectantly. Trixie frowns.

21 TRIXIE
I know you're busy, but I hope you haven't forgotten about the Spring Sols-tastic.

Starlight just stares at her and blinks.

22 TRIXIE (CONT'D)
The party Maud and Mudbriar are throwing? Sunburst is coming to town? You and I promised to make the cake?

Starlight does a take to the line of students at her door, then back to Trixie, with a nervous LAUGH.

23 STARLIGHT
PFFFT! How could I possibly forget about that?!

Off Trixie and the first STUDENT in line sharing a dubious look...

SC. 3 - EXT. PONYVILLE - LATER

Trixie marches through town floating a to-do scroll in front of her. Starlight hurries to keep up.

24 TRIXIE
Nopony is saying your job isn't important, but plans you make with your friends are important too.

25 STARLIGHT
I know. I'm sorry. I shouldn't have forgotten. Obviously I need to be available to my students, but that doesn't mean I can't help with all the things we have to do.

Trixie stops and looks at Starlight.

26 TRIXIE
Good.

27 STARLIGHT
Great.

Beat.

28 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
So... what are all the things we have to do?

Trixie grits her teeth and goes back to marching. Starlight hurries behind as Trixie goes over her list.

29 TRIXIE
Maud needs streamers for the decorations. Sunburst wants us to pick up a genuine, pre-Equestrian, Spring Solstice chaffing dish from *
the antique shop...

30 STARLIGHT
Of course he does.

31 TRIXIE
Mudbriar wants a "bouquet of flowering sticks," whatever that is. And I thought we were both *
looking forward to Mrs. Cake *
teaching us the secret recipe to *
her famous Spring Solstice cake. *

32 STARLIGHT
Oh, I totally am, but could just *
buy a cake from her, right? *

33 TRIXIE
(with growing agitation)
We could, but then we'd miss out on *
baking together. Plus the time I *
spent flattering and convincing and begging her to share the recipe would be for nothing, *and* we promised to make a cake not buy a cake and the great and powerful Trixie KEEPS HER PROMISES!

Starlight stares at her for a moment blinking.

34 STARLIGHT
Ooookaaay. Why don't we just split up these jobs. (taking the list) I'll get the streamers and the chaffing dish. You--

Suddenly, Starlight's bracelet GLOWS. Trixie glares at her.

35 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
--get started on those sticks and I'll be right back.

Starlight starts to pass the list back, but Trixie's stare makes her think better of it.

36 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
(nervous laugh) You know, why don't I just hang onto this. Wouldn't want to forget the things I just said I'd take care of... because I am totally going to take care of them...

With that, Starlight shoots Trixie a sheepish smile and vanishes as we...

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 4 - EXT. PONYVILLE - FLOWER SHOP - LATER

Trixie stands in front of a confused ROSE who holds up various long-stemmed flowers.

37 ROSE
Could it be plum blossom?

38 TRIXIE
I have no idea.

39 ROSE
What about-- <WHAAA!>

Suddenly, Starlight BAMFS in, startling ROSE who drops her hoof-ful of flowers.

40 STARLIGHT
Whoops! Sorry Rose, but I need a bouquet of flowering sticks, stat!

Trixie gives her a look.

41 TRIXIE
I thought I was getting the flowering sticks.

Rose pulls herself together and looks at them.

42 ROSE
I'm still not exactly sure what they are.

43 TRIXIE
No one is!

44 STARLIGHT
Right. Got it. You get the sticks, I'll get the streamers--

Starlight looks down as her bracelet goes off again.

45 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
--right after I take care of what I am sure is an even smaller student problem than the last one.

With a meek, apologetic smile she vanishes again.

Trixie frowns as she turns back to Rose who's holding a flower, a stick, and some glue. She gives Trixie a "What do you think?" look. As Trixie SIGHS we...

START MONTAGE

In a series of quick scenes we watch as Starlight bounces back and forth between...

- INT. STARLIGHT'S OFFICE - where Silverstream references another list.

46 SILVERSTREAM
I think I have the shower thing under control, but I can't figure out how to describe a towel...

Off Starlight's expression of strained patience...

-INT. PARTY SUPPLY SHOP - Starlight finishes her shopping, her hoofs full of streamers, when her bracelet goes off. Instantly she dumps the streamers onto the SHOPKEEP and vanishes. Off the befuddled shopkeep...

-INT. STARLIGHT'S OFFICE - where Gallus sits holding a book and staring in a huff at Smolder trying to look innocent.

47 STARLIGHT
Now Smolder, I understand the school can be a bit drafty, but that doesn't mean you can breath fire anywhere you want.

As Gallus opens his book to reveal it's only a cover - the pages have all been reduced to ASH...

-INT. ANTIQUE SHOP - Starlight stares at the SHOPKEEPER, confused.

48 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
What do you mean Trixie already picked up Sunburst's genuine, pre-Equestrian, Equine-ox chaffing dish? That was my job... I think. (pulling out the list) Wait. Was it?

As the Shopkeeper shrugs, Starlight's bracelet goes off again. With a GRIMACE, she vanishes.

-INT. STARLIGHT'S OFFICE - Starlight stares as Ocellus changes into one creature after another. Finally...

49 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Ocellus, it's perfectly normal for a changeling to struggle with identity issues, but--

Suddenly, Silverstream opens the door and sticks her head in.

50 SILVERSTREAM
Counsellor Starlight? When you're done I need some synonyms for the word "dry" -- or really just help explaining the concept...

Starlight SIGHS and looks at the clock as we **END MONTAGE.**

SC. 5 - EXT. SUGARECUBE CORNER - NIGHT

A harried Starlight POOFS in front of the shop just as MRS. CAKE turns her OPEN sign to CLOSED.

51 STARLIGHT
Wait! Mrs. Cake! You can't close. Trixie and I need to learn the recipe for your Equine-ox cake.

52 MRS. CAKE
Oh, it's fine, dear. Trixie was already here. I told her everything she needs to know.

53 STARLIGHT
What? NO! The Great and Powerful Trixie might keep her promises, but the busy and distracted Starlight sure doesn't. I promised to help her today and I haven't done a single thing!

54 MRS. CAKE
That does sound hard, dear, and I'm not sure quite how to tell you this, but... your hoof is glowing.

Starlight looks down at her bracelet, dejected.

55 STARLIGHT
Of course it is.

SC. 6 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - STARLIGHT'S OFFICE - SOON AFTER

Starlight POOFS into her office expecting to find another distraught student only to find a distraught Trixie.

56 STARLIGHT
Trixie? What are you doing here?

57 TRIXIE
It's the one place I knew I could find you.

58 STARLIGHT
I am sooo sorry about today. I'm just so--

59 TRIXIE
Busy. I know. Obviously your students are more important than your friends.

60 STARLIGHT
That's not--

Starlight is interrupted by a KNOCK as once again, Silverstream sticks her head in.

61 SILVERSTREAM
Starlight, do you have a minute?

Starlight looks from Silverstream to Trixie and makes a decision.

62 STARLIGHT
Actually, Silverstream, I don't. Besides I need to lock up the school for the holiday and it's time you caught the train home. I'm * sure a smart, capable student like you can figure out the solution to any problem over the break, but for now... The counselor's office is closed.

With a look to Trixie, Starlight removes her bracelet and puts it in her desk.

63 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
I have a cake to bake.

Off Trixie's widening smile...

SC. 7 - INT. - MAUD'S CAVE - NIGHT

Starlight and Trixie set a WONKY LOOKING CAKE down on a table with a <THUD>. SUNBURST, MAUD, and MUDBRIAR all look down at it. Sunburst reaches out and touches a peak of frosting, then pulls his hoof back with a <YELP> of pain. *

64 SUNBURST
Is this cake supposed to be so sharp? (off Trixie's look) I mean, it looks really... interesting. *

65 MUDBRIAR
Technically, it's not symmetrical or aesthetically pleasing.

Trixie grits her teeth, but Starlight puts a hoof on her shoulder.

66 STARLIGHT
Maybe it's not the best cake, but we made it together and that's what counts. *

Trixie brightens at this.

67 MAUD
I'm glad you brought it, and everything else.

PULL WIDE to see the place has been set up for a party-- Sunburst's chaffing dish laden with treats, Mudbriar's vase of flowering sticks, the streamers and other decoration, etc.

68 MAUD (CONT'D)
(flat)
I'm very excited. This is going to be the most perfect party ever.

Trixie turns to Starlight as the others help themselves to the food.

69 TRIXIE
And with all of your students home for the holiday, I won't have to worry about you being summoned to your office in the middle of it.

70 STARLIGHT
(nods) Nothing is going to take me away from this party.

Suddenly, a voice (TERRAMAR) comes from one of the passages leading out of the cave.

71 TERRAMAR (O.S.)
Hello? Starlight!?

A hippogiff, Terramar, rushes into the cavern.

72 MAUD
Sorry, this is a private cavern.

73 TERRAMAR
(panicked) Is Starlight here? I was told she'd be here...

Starlight rushes up.

74 STARLIGHT
What's wrong?

75 TERRAMAR
I'm Terramar, Silverstream's brother. I've been looking all over for you. Silverstream is missing.

Off Starlight's look of horror we...

END ACT ONE

<u>ACT TWO</u>

SC. 8 - INT. - MAUD'S CAVE - RESUME

Starlight stares at Terramar stunned.

76 STARLIGHT
I don't understand. Silverstream didn't come home?

77 TERRAMAR
(nods)
I was supposed to meet her at the Mount Aris train station, but she never showed up.

78 SUNBURST
It's a long way between Ponyville and Mount Aris. She could be anywhere. *

79 TERRAMAR
Our parents are leading teams of hippogiffs and seaponies, searching the land and sea between here and our home. They sent me to check the school. *

80 STARLIGHT
But the school's closed. All the students are gone.

81 TERRAMAR
Are you sure? I know she had a big project due for Twilight. Do you think she might have stayed to finish it?

82 STARLIGHT
She never told me about a project.

83 TRIXIE
Well, to be fair, you closed your office the last time she came by.

Starlight turns to Trixie, like, "Really?"

84 TERRAMAR
(horrified)
What kind of counselor turns away a student with a problem?

85 TRIXIE
(defending Starlight)
The kind with too much on her plate. Starlight has always gone out of her way for her students. And I mean, ALWAYS.

86 STARLIGHT
Except apparently when it matters. This is all my fault.

Starlight turns to the others.

87 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
You all go back to the party. Terramar and I will check the school. (to Terramar) We'll find your sister.

Terramar nods. Starlight takes his hoof and the two of them vanish. As Trixie looks on, concerned...

88 MAUD
I should have known it couldn't last. Party perfection is more of a Pinkie thing.

Mudbriar pulls out one of the "flowering sticks" from its vase. The flowers all fall off.

89 MUDBRIAR
I wasn't going to say anything, but these flowers are just glued on so, technically it wasn't perfect already.

The others just stare at him.

90 MUDBRIAR (CONT'D)
But that's probably not important.

SC. 9 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - VARIOUS - SOON AFTER

Starlight and Terramar POOF in at the school's courtyard.

91 STARLIGHT
You check the grounds and I'll look inside!

Terramar nods and runs off as Starlight BAMFS through a series of school interiors:

HER OFFICE: Starlight looks under her desk.

92 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Silverstream?

PINKIE'S CLASSROOM: Starlight sticks her head into the confetti cannon.

93 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Hello?

THE LIBRARY: Starlight gallops back and forth through the stacks.

94 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Anybody?!

Finally, she reappears in the courtyard just as Terramar (in seapony form) pops up out of the stream running through campus.

95 TERRAMAR
She's not down here.

With a FLASH, he transforms back into a hippogriff and joins Starlight.

96 STARLIGHT
I don't see her anywhere.

97 TERRAMAR
Did you check her room?

Starlight's eyes go wide as she teleports them both to...

SC. 10 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - DORMS - CONTINUOUS

Starlight and Terramar pop into the dorms next to Silverstream's bed.

98 STARLIGHT
(disappointed)
Well, she's not here.

99 TERRAMAR
No, she isn't. But look at this--

Terramar picks up an open BOOK from Silverstream's desk. As he flips through the pages we see images of a COCKATRICE.

100 STARLIGHT
A cockatrice?

Starlight looks over at the desk-- stacks of paper with more cockatrice pictures, anatomical diagrams, etc.

101 TERRAMAR
Could that be what her project was on?

He spots a MAP of Ponyville. A picture of a cockatrice has been drawn next to an arrow pointing to an "X" in the Everfree Forest. He holds it up for Starlight.

102 TERRAMAR (CONT'D)
You don't think she went into the Everfree Forest to find a Cockatrice by herself?

103 STARLIGHT
I don't know, but I'm going to find out!

Panicked, Starlight vanishes. Off a concerned Terramar rushing out...

SC. 11 - EXT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - CONTINUOUS

Starlight appears and races toward the Everfree Forest, immediately CRASHING into Trixie and the rest of her friends.

104 STARLIGHT
What are you all doing here?

105 SUNBURST
We came to help.

106 TRIXIE
We couldn't let you handle this alone.

Mudbriar nods to Terramar who comes rushing up.

107 MUDBRIAR
Technically, she wasn't alone...

The others all stare at him.

108 MUDBRIAR (CONT'D)
...but we wanted to help anyway.

109 STARLIGHT
Thanks, all of you, but the students are my responsibility. I'm the one who didn't do my job when it actually mattered.

110 TRIXIE
I might share a bit of the blame for pressuring you into leaving work early.

Starlight smiles and turns to Maud.

111 STARLIGHT
But I don't want to ruin your party.

112 MAUD
We can still have a party. A search party.

113 TERRAMAR
Can we talk about all this later? Silverstream might be in the Everfree Forest alone.

The others <GASP> and stare in shock.

114 STARLIGHT
We think she went in to do research on Cockatrices.

115 SUNBURST
What?! The gaze of the cockatrice is known to petrify any who dare to cross its path! And the reptilian birds are elusive and solitary. Where would we even start?

Trixie steps forward with purpose.

116 TRIXIE
I have a lot of experience telling ponies that I have experience with the dangerous creatures of Everfree Forest. Follow me!

With that, Trixie charges into the forest. The others share a quick look of concern, then race after her.

SC. 12 - EXT. EVERFREE FOREST - VARIOUS - DAY

Trixie gallops down the dense, forest path and the others rush to follow. At a FORK by a CROOKED TREE she glances back. She looks left, then right, then...

117 TRIXIE
The great and directionally astute Trixie says we go left!

Trixie boldly heads left and the others follow after.

The path opens onto a WILLOWY GROVE. Trixie peers across at another path and charges toward it.

118 TRIXIE (CONT'D)
This way!

As the others try to keep up, Trixie takes a right and ends up back at... the CROOKED TREE from before.

Trixie studies the paths as the others finally catch up.

119 MAUD
Weren't we just here?

120 STARLIGHT
Trixie, do have any idea how to find a Cockatrice?

121 TRIXIE
No. But usually when there's a dangerous creature in the forest I don't want to meet, this is how I meet them.

122 SUNBURST
We might need a more concrete plan.

123 TRIXIE
(huffy)
Suit yourself.

Terramar pulls out the book and papers from Silverstream's desk.

124 TERRAMAR
According to Silverstream's research... (reads) *the Cockatrice prefers rocky terrain and ample shade*.

125 TRIXIE
Rocks and shade. (SARCASTIC) I can't imagine where we'll find that in a forest.

126 MAUD
Actually rocks aren't the most hospitable environment for shade trees.

127 MUDBRIAR
Technically, pine trees like Pinus Cembra or Pinus Sylvestris can grow from narrow crevices or cracks in a rocky rhizosphere.

Maud stares at Mudbriar, giving him the faintest smile.

128 MAUD
You complete me.

Starlight looks from the two of them toward some trees in the distance.

129 STARLIGHT
There's some pine trees over there!

Starlight rushes off and the others follow.

SC. 13 - EXT. EVERFREE FOREST - ROCKY CLEARING - CONTINUOUS

Starlight, Trixie, and the rest climb up a rocky knoll and peer down into the clearing where a GROUP OF COCKATRICE <CLUCK> and <HISS> at each other.

130 STARLIGHT
(whispered to Sunburst)
I thought you said they were solitary.

131 SUNBURST
(whispered)
They are! This must be some kind of migration.

132 TERRAMAR
At least there's no sign of Silverstream. I can't imagine getting caught in the middle of that flock.

133 TRIXIE
It's lucky we're all over here and they're all over there.

Suddenly, a <CLUCKING> comes from off screen. We PAN over to reveal three curious Cockatrice waddling up behind the group who all freeze and go instantly pale.

134 MUDBRIAR
Technically--

135 TRIXIE
(cutting him off)
Don't. Even. Say it.

136 STARLIGHT
(measured, intense)
Whatever you do don't look at them. Their gaze can turn you to stone.

137 TERRAMAR
So what do we do?

With that, the three Cockatrice <HISS> threateningly at the group.

138 SUNBURST
RUN!

As the Cockatrice attack the whole gang shut their eyes and run off in different directions as we...

END ACT TWO

<u>ACT THREE</u>

SC. 14 - EXT. EVERFREE FOREST - RESUME

Sunburst gallops through the dense underbrush, his eyes shut tight, and SLAMS into a tree.

139 SUNBURST
<OOHF!>

Shaking it off, but still not opening his eyes, he backs into a bush and ducks down as Starlight BAMFS in next to him.

140 STARLIGHT
Sunburst!

141 SUNBURST
<WHAAAA!>

Panicked, Sunburst immediately shoots a BLAST of magic at the sound which Starlight luckily dodges.

142 STARLIGHT
<AHHH!> Stop! It's me!

Tentatively, Sunburst squints a peek and sees her.

143 SUNBURST
Starlight! I'm so sorry. We have to get out of here.

144 STARLIGHT
I know. Hang on.

With that, she POOFS them both away.

SC. 15 - EXT. EVERFREE FOREST - CROOKED TREE - CONTINUOUS

Starlight and Sunburst reappear and cautiously scan the area.

145 STARLIGHT
We can't leave. Silverstream might still be in the forest. Stay here. I'll get the others.

146 SUNBURST
Be careful!

Starlight vanishes.

SC. 16 - EXT. EVERFREE FOREST - WILLOWY GROVE - CONTINUOUS

Trixie and Terramar stand back to back, their eyes shut tight as a few of the Cockatrice close in <CLUCKING>.

147 TERRAMAR
The clucking is coming from everywhere!

148 TRIXIE
The Great and Powerful Trixie fears no cluck!

With that, Trixie throws down a SMOKE GLOBE. In the billowing haze she grabs Terramar by the claw and pulls him with her as they race right into...

STARLIGHT who POOFS right in front of them.

149 STARLIGHT
Come on!

As the Cockatrice <HISS> their way through the smoke screen, Trixie and Terramar grab Starlight's hoofs and she BAMFS them all away.

SC. 17 - EXT. EVERFREE FOREST - ROCKY CLEARING

Maud stands by a small pile of rocks, bucking them one after another in a barrage at a <HISSING> collection of Cockatrice.

Starlight appears beside her and reaches for her hoof.

150 STARLIGHT
Maud, you've got to get out of here.

151 MAUD
I'm not leaving him.

152 STARLIGHT
Who--?

Starlight turns and SLAMS right into the PETRIFIED form of Mudbriar, knocking him over. He lands on the ground with a <THUD>. Starlight stares in shock.

Maud depletes her pile of rocks and has to shut her eyes as the Cockatrice advance. Shutting her eyes as well, Starlight grabs for Maud and the prone, petrified Mudbriar as she POOFS them back to...

SC. 18 - EXT. EVERFREE FOREST - CROOKED FORK - CONTINUOUS

The three of them appear next to Trixie, Sunburst, and Terramar who stare at Mudbriar's petrified body.

153 SUNBURST
Mudbriar's been turned to stone?!

154 MAUD
I didn't think I could love him any more.

155 TRIXIE
We have got to get out of here.

156 TERRAMAR
But we haven't found Silverstream, we can't leave yet.

Suddenly, the entire flock of Cockatrice appear, <HISSING> and flapping their wings as they make their way down the forest path toward them.

157 STARLIGHT
Well, we can't stay here. Come on!

With that, Starlight FLOATS Mudbriar in front of her and takes off through the trees, the others right behind.

SC. 19 - EXT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS - CONTINUOUS

The group bursts out of the forest to find themselves in front of the Castle.

158 STARLIGHT
This way!

As the Cockatrice flap behind them, the entire gang race through the wooden doors, shutting them behind them.

SC. 20 - INT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS - COURTYARD - CONTINUOUS

A harried Trixie leans her back against the doors, looking wildly at the others.

159 TRIXIE
Now what?!

160 SUNBURST
Let's hope Silverstream found a good place to hide. There could be hundreds more Cockatrices on the way. *
(MORE)

SUNBURST (CONT'D)
If this really is a migration it'll take a full lunar cycle to complete. *

161 TERRAMAR
(panicked) I have to get word back to our parents that Silverstream could be surrounded by those terrifying bird!

Maud puts a hoof on the stone Mudbriar "statue."

162 MAUD
And as handsome as Mudbriar is now, we should probably catch one of them to turn him back to normal. *

163 STARLIGHT
UGH! This is all my fault. I'm never taking time off from my counseling duties again!

164 TRIXIE
That seems a little extreme.

165 STARLIGHT
Really? If I hadn't galloped off to a holiday celebration, Silverstream would be safe with her family and you'd all be enjoying Maud's party.

Starlight peers through a crack in the door at the flock of Cockatrice still outside.

166 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Instead my student is missing, we're surrounded by a flock of petrifying chicken-snakes, and Maud's boyfriend was turned into a hunk of rock!

Maud touches her hoof to Mudbriar's petrified form again.

167 MAUD
You got the hunk part right.

168 STARLIGHT
And to top it off, we have no idea if Silverstream even came to Everfree at all, but I have no idea where else to look!

Distraught, Starlight hovers in the courtyard as the gang all give her empathetic looks. The student's Treehouse (from ep. 903) looms behind her. Trixie points at it.

169 TRIXIE
Has that always been here?

170 STARLIGHT
What? (turns around) Oh. That's the students' Treehouse. Apparently it grew from the Tree of Harmony--

Suddenly, a LIGHT goes on in one of the windows. Starlight's eyes go wide.

171 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Of course! That should have been the first place we looked!

With that, Starlight rushes inside, the others following after.

SC. 21 - INT. TREE HOUSE - SILVERSTREAM'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Starlight and Terramar rush in to find Silverstream sitting at a desk writing on a scroll. On a small stool next to her sits a LIVE COCKATRICE!

Starlight immediately covers her eyes with her hoof and powers up her horn.

172 STARLIGHT
Silverstream, look out!

The Cockatrice looks up and <HISSES> as Silverstream turns.

173 SILVERSTREAM
Counsellor Starlight, no! Wait!

Silverstream jumps between them and gives the cockatrice a scratch under her beak and the creature settles down.

Starlight hazards a peek and sees the Cockatrice nuzzling Silverstream under her wing.

174 SILVERSTREAM (CONT'D)
This is Edith. She's helping me with my project.

Starlight gapes as the rest of the group starts to file in - Sunburst tries to help Maud get Mudbriar through the door.

175 STARLIGHT
I don't understand.

176 SILVERSTREAM
After you encouraged me to solve my own problem I decided to get my project done before I left. That way I could really focus on my family during my visit. The school was closed so I came here.

177 TERRAMAR
Why didn't you tell anyone?! Mom and dad are worried sick!

Silverstream's expression drops.

178 SILVERSTREAM
Oh, no. I'm so sorry. Once Edith volunteered to help I guess I lost track of time. Cockatrice are really friendly if you know how to interact with them.

She gives Edith another scratch under her beak and the creature <COOS> like a dove.

179 SUNBURST
I can't believe you figured out how to trigger her nesting response.

180 SILVERSTREAM
They are <u>really</u> fascinating creatures. Did you know that they migrate to the Everfree Forest once a year! Can you imagine what would happen if you stumbled on a whole flock of these?

Just then Maud finally gets the petrified Mudbriar inside and he <SLAMS> down onto the floor. Starlight turns to Silverstream.

181 STARLIGHT
I have a few ideas.

Off Silverstream's look of shock...

TIME CUT TO:

SC. 22 - INT. MAUD'S CAVE - LATER

Back in the cavern, the group all gather around Mudbriar, who's returned to his less petrified self. Silverstream looks up at him, apologetically.

182 SILVERSTREAM
I'm sorry you got turned to stone looking for me, but I'm glad Edith was able to turn you back.

Sunburst turns to Trixie.

183 SUNBURST
(under his breath) How do you tell the difference?

PAN OVER to reveal Maud standing next to them.

184 MAUD
I have mixed feelings about it.

185 MUDBRIAR
Technically I will always be a stick pony, but the experience has given me an even deeper appreciation for the density and permanence of rock. * *

He looks to Maud who swoons - i.e. blinks stoically.

186 MAUD
(flat) Swoon.

Terramar walks up to Starlight.

187 TERRAMAR
Silverstream and I should get going, but I wanted to thank you for everything you did to help find her.

188 STARLIGHT
I just wish I hadn't abandoned her in the first place.

189 TRIXIE
Starlight, you didn't abandon her.

190 STARLIGHT
I might as well have. And even though it turned out all right, things could have been a lot worse.

191 SUNBURST
You can't be expected to supervise your students every second of every day.

192 STARLIGHT
I'm not so sure.

193 SILVERSTREAM
I like that you're always available, but it kind of makes it okay to come to you with stuff that maybe isn't super important.

194 TRIXIE
Of course being a school counsellor is a big responsibility, but always being at work isn't fair to anypony.

Starlight considers. She turns to Silverstream.

195 STARLIGHT
Do you think if I had set times to see me it might help you decide what you really need to talk about?

Silverstream nods and gives her a sheepish smile.

196 SILVERSTREAM
To be honest, you really weren't very helpful with the other stuff anyway.

197 STARLIGHT
Wait. Wha--

Trixie interrupts before Starlight can continue, and rushes over to the cake.

198 TRIXIE
Happy Spring Sols-tastic, everypony! Who wants a piece of Mrs. Cake's famous--

Trixie goes to cut the cake, but as she tries to slice into it, the KNIFE BREAKS!

199 SUNBURST
Petrified dessert?

As Trixie glares we PAN to reveal Maud, plate at the ready.

200 MAUD
You had me at petrified.

As the gang all laugh and return to their celebration we...

END