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MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9

Student Counsel
Ep 911

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TEASER**SC. 1 - EXT. FIELD NEAR PONYVILLE - DAY**

*

Starlight and Trixie sit on a small hill overlooking Ponyville, a picnic lunch laid out on the grass.

1 STARLIGHT
Trixie, this looks amazing. What a great idea.

2 TRIXIE
Yes, well, I figured you could use a break. I know how hard you've been working lately.

3 STARLIGHT
Thanks, but it really doesn't seem like work--

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

4 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Oops.

With that, she disappears in a POOF. Trixie <SIGHS> continues to set up the picnic: pours tea, fixes plates, etc. After a beat Starlight reappears.

5 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.

6 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.

7 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.

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

9 TRIXIE
Well--

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

10 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.

11 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.

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

Off Trixie's flat stare...

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

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

A troubled Silverstream sits in Starlight's office.

13 SILVERSTREAM
I totally respect my younger
cousins' decisions to stay
seaponies, but they've never been
on dry land, so I need to prepare
for my visit...

She pulls out a scroll.

14 SILVERSTREAM (CONT'D)
How would you 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.

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

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

Starlight SIGHS.

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

18 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.

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

As Silverstream walks out, Trixie walks in and closes the
door behind her.

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

Starlight stares at her, confused.

21 STARLIGHT
Trixie, I can't leave. It's almost
Spring Break. Twilight and the
others have already left for
Canterlot and I have to help the
students with any issues before
they head home.

Just then there's a KNOCK and Starlight's bracelet glows. She opens the door to see a line of students have gathered outside. Trixie frowns.

22 TRIXIE
I know you're busy, but I hope you haven't forgotten about the Spring Solstice Party.

Starlight just stares at her and blinks.

23 TRIXIE (CONT'D)
Maud and Mudbriar are hosting? 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.

24 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.

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

26 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.

27 TRIXIE
Good.

28 STARLIGHT
Great.

Beat.

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

Trixie rolls her eyes and goes back to marching. Starlight
hurries behind as Trixie goes over her list.

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

31 STARLIGHT
Of course he does.

32 TRIXIE
Mudbriar wants a "bouquet of
flowering sticks," whatever that
is. And Mrs. Cake promised to teach
us the secret recipe to her famous
Spring Solstice cake.

33 STARLIGHT
Couldn't we just buy one from her?

34 TRIXIE
 (with growing agitation)
We could, but then the time I spent
flattering and convincing and
bribing 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.

35 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.

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

Starlight passes the list back to Trixie who just stares.

37 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
(nervous laugh) You know, why don't
I just hang onto this?

With that, Starlight shoots Trixie a meek 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.

38 ROSE
Could it be plum blossom?

*

39 TRIXIE
I have no idea.

40 ROSE
What about-- <WHAAA!>

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

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

Trixie gives her a look.

42 TRIXIE
I thought I was getting the
flowering sticks.

Rose pulls herself together and looks at them.

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

44 TRIXIE
No one is!

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

Starlight looks down as her bracelet goes off again.

46 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.

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

Off Starlight's eye roll...

-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 Smolder and Gallus sit in a huff at each other.

48 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 turns to glare at Smolder we see his tail feathers are SINGED...

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

49 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
What do you mean Trixie already
picked up Sunburst's genuine, pre-
Equestrian, Spring Solstice
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...

50 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.

51 SILVERSTREAM
Starlight, when you're done I need
help explaining why holding your
breath under water is important...

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.

52 STARLIGHT
Wait! Mrs. Cake! You can't close.
Trixie and I need to learn the
recipe for your Spring Solstice
cake.

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

54 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!

55 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.

56 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.

57 STARLIGHT
Trixie? What are you doing here?

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

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

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

61 STARLIGHT
That's not--

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

62 SILVERSTREAM
Starlight, do you have a minute?

Starlight looks from Silverstream to Trixie and makes a decision. *

63 STARLIGHT
Actually, Silverstream, I don't. Besides it's time you headed home. I'm sure a smart, capable student like you can figure out the solution to any problem on the way, but for now the counselor's office is closed.

With a look to Trixie.

64 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 while SUNBURST, MAUD, and MUDBRIAR all look down at it.

65 SUNBURST
Gee, that cake looks really...
interesting.

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

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

67 STARLIGHT
Maybe it isn't the best looking
cake, but we made it together and
that's what counts.

Trixie brightens at this.

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

PULL WIDE to see the place has been decorated for a party--
Sunburst's chaffing dish laden with treats, Mudbriar's vase
of flowering sticks, the Mare Pole (i.e. May Pole) set up to
the side with streamers, etc.

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

As the others help themselves to the food, Trixie turns to
Starlight.

70 TRIXIE
At least with the school closed I
don't have to worry about that
bracelet summoning you back to your
office.

71 STARLIGHT
I didn't even bring it. 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.

72 TERRAMAR (O.S.)
Hello? Starlight?

A hippogiff, Terramar, rushes into the cavern.

73 MAUD
Sorry, this is a private cavern.

74 TERRAMAR
Is Starlight here? I'm looking for
Starlight?

Starlight rushes up.

75 STARLIGHT
What's wrong?

76 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

ACT TWO

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

*

Starlight stares at Terramar stunned.

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

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

79 SUNBURST
Where are your parents?

80 TERRAMAR
They're leading teams of hippogiffs
and seaponies across the land and
sea between here and Mount Arris.
They sent me to search the school.

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

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

83 STARLIGHT
She never told me about a project.

84 TRIXIE
Well, to be fair, you did close
your office the last time she came
by.

Starlight turns to Trixie, like, "Really?"

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

86 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.

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

Starlight turns to the others.

88 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...

89 MAUD
I'm not Pinkie. I should have known
the party perfection couldn't last.

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

90 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.

91 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.

92 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.

93 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Silverstream?

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

94 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Hello?

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

95 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.

96 TERRAMAR
She's not down here.

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

97 STARLIGHT
I don't see her anywhere.

98 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.

99 TERRAMAR
Well, she's not here.

100 STARLIGHT
No, she isn't. But this is--

Starlight floats up a BOOK from a nearby desk. As she flips through the pages we see images of a COCKATRICE.

101 TERRAMAR
A cockatrice?

102 STARLIGHT
That must be what her project was on.

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

He spots a MAP of Ponyville with an arrow pointing to an "X" in the Everfree Forest. He holds it up for Starlight.

103 TERRAMAR
You don't think she went into the Everfree Forest to find a Cockatrice by herself?

104 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.

105 STARLIGHT
What are you all doing here?

106 SUNBURST
We came to help.

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

Mudbriar nods to Terramar who comes rushing up.

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

The others all stare at him.

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

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

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

Starlight smiles and turns to Maud.

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

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

114 TERRAMAR
Well, come on! We can't waste any
more time. Silverstream might be in
the Everfree Forest alone.

The others <GASP> and stare in shock.

115 STARLIGHT
We think she went in to do research
on the Cockatrice.

116 SUNBURST
What?! Those things can petrify you
with their gaze. Plus they're super
elusive and solitary. Where would
we even start?

Trixie steps forward with purpose.

117 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.

118 TRIXIE
The Great and Powerful Trixie shall
lead the way!

Trixie looks left, then right, then boldly heads left. The others follow after.

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

119 TRIXIE (CONT'D)
Over here!

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.

120 MAUD
Weren't we just here?

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

122 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.

123 SUNBURST
We might need a more concrete plan.

124 TRIXIE
(huffy)
Suit yourself.

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

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

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

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

*

128 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.

129 MAUD
You complete me.

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

130 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.

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

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

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

134 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.

135 MUDBRIAR
Technically--

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

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

138 TERRAMAR
So what do we do?

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

139 SUNBURST
RUN!

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

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC. 14 - EXT. EVERFREE FOREST - RESUME

*

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

140 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.

141 STARLIGHT
Sunburst!

142 SUNBURST
<WHAAAA!>

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

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

Tentatively, Sunburst squints a peek and sees her.

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

145 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.

146 STARLIGHT
I think we're safe here. I'll get
the others.

147 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>.

148 TERRAMAR
The clucking is coming from
everywhere!

149 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.

150 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.

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

152 MAUD
I'm not leaving him.

153 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.

154 SUNBURST
Mudbriar's been turned to stone?!

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

156 TRIXIE
We have got to get out of here.

157 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.

158 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.

159 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.

160 TRIXIE
Now what?!

161 SUNBURST
If this really is a Cockatrice migration, we might have to just wait it out.

162 TERRAMAR
I can't. If Silverstream isn't in Everfree, I have to get word back to our parents and continue the search.

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

163 MAUD
And as handsome as Mudbriar is now, I should find a cure before it becomes permanent.

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

165 TRIXIE
That seems a little extreme.

166 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.

167 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.

168 MAUD
You got the hunk part right.

169 STARLIGHT
And to top it off, we've exhausted
our only lead since it looks like
Silverstream didn't come to
Everfree after all and now we have
no idea where 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.

170 TRIXIE
Has that always been here?

171 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.

172 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.

173 STARLIGHT
Silverstream, look out!

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

174 SILVERSTREAM
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.

175 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.

176 STARLIGHT
I don't understand.

177 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.

178 TERRAMAR
Silverstream, your parents are
worried sick. Why didn't you tell
anyone?

Silverstream's expression drops.

179 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.

180 SILVERSTREAM (CONT'D)
They are really 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 Sunburst appears <SLAMMING> a petrified Mudbriar against the doorway as he struggles to fit him through. 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 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 councilor
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 Solecistic! This is
Mrs. Cake's secret recipe. Who
wants a piece?

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

The whole group looks at the wonky cake with apprehension.

199 MAUD
Are you sure you didn't get the
recipe from Edith?

Trixie glares for a moment, then smiles. As the gang all
laugh and return to their celebration we...

END