

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9
Princess Bucket List
EP 913
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PRINCESS BUCKET LIST

Premise by Gail Simone

TWILIGHT SPARKLE and her friends are facing off against a threat to Ponyville (either a creature or a comical spell-gone-wrong), when suddenly PRINCESS CELESTIA and PRINCESS LUNA show up to join their ranks. The MANE SIX are surprised as the princesses take over, like a pair of action heroes, to deal with the threat. RAINBOW DASH asides to SPIKE – she doesn't get it; after eight seasons of adventures, the princesses suddenly decide to start showing up to deal with minor things?

Twilight asks what brought the sisters there, and Celestia admits that she and Luna had so much fun fighting the Everfree Forest together (episode 902), they realized how much they've been missing out on by needing to rule Equestria all the time. They have a whole "bucket list" of non-royal things they want to do. Twilight and her friends are eager to give the sisters time to bond outside of the palace, and as Twilight offers to watch Canterlot, Celestia thanks her – they'd love a week off. (Twilight was thinking a DAY, but, uh okay...) As a possible comedy runner, we can cut back to Twilight and her friends throughout, as they try to fill the princess' roles– perhaps over their heads overseeing the planning of the Grand Galloping Gala (just the prep, so we don't have a cast of thousands to deal with).

The two sisters get to work packing – but it's clear that they already have some different ideas of what should be on the bucket list. For example, Luna is enamored by all the daytime activities she hasn't been able to do because she has to stay up all night (even things that seem boring, like eating lunch with the sun out), while Celestia's ideas are all random / adventurous. Luna, who has basically lived in ponies' dreams for years, has been there done that for a lot of random stuff, but whatever. The sisters agree they'll have fun doing anything, so long as it's together.

And they do start off having fun, going berry picking, splashing in a fountain with their horseshoes off, ordering the tallest, weirdest-flavor-combo ice cones... But soon, Luna begins to feel they're doing way more things on Celestia's list than hers. Celestia graciously agrees they can do something on Luna's next. They do, and Luna has a blast, but Celestia does not enjoy herself and gets a little testy – this is why SHE was picking their activities. Luna sighs – it ALWAYS has to be Celestia's way, doesn't it... Soon, the downside of the sisters spending 100% of their free time together rears its ugly head – and their sibling rivalry flares up. They try to set their differences aside, but in some kind of teamwork activity, things go horribly wrong and harsh truths come out: Luna thinks Celestia is bossy. Celestia thinks Luna is reckless. Finally the sisters agree on one thing - that their bucket lists would be better if they did them ALONE. So the sisters go their separate ways.

But though they start out feeling self-justified in their choice, it's soon clear that things definitely aren't as fun solo. In fact, it's how they've been living their diurnal/nocturnal lives. Celestia and Luna miss each other. Luna visits Celestia's

dreams and the sisters have a heart to heart. Celestia is “bossy” because she wants to protect her little sister from the scary things out there in the world. And Luna is “reckless” because she wants to show her super-responsible sister all the exciting things the world has to offer. They agree to try again, realizing that though they might not see eye-to-eye on everything right away...They can appreciate the other’s enjoyment and support each other. That’s what it means to BE sisters. And guess what – they just checked another new thing off the bucket list – because they’ve never solved a friendship problem on their own before!

The sisters, now relaxed and happy, return to Canterlot, to find Twilight and her friends barely managing to hold things together at the castle. The duo shares a look – should they go and help? Well, Luna DOES still have tickets to a Wonderbolts show, and they ARE home early... Maybe there’s time for one more thing on the list.