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MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9

A Horse Shoe In
Ep 920

Teleplay First Draft

Premise: Ariel Shepherd-Oppenheim
Outline: Ariel Shepherd-Oppenheim
Teleplay 1st Draft: Ariel Shepherd-Oppenheim

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TEASER**SC 1 - INT. SCHOOL - STARLIGHT GLIMMER'S OFFICE - DAY**

Starlight uses her magic to hover a WATERING CAN, tipping it slightly to water VARIOUS PLANTS in her office. She talks to the plant in a sweet, baby voice.

1 STARLIGHT
Don't you look nice today, Mr.
Spikeyleaves-

A KNOCK on the door.

2 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
 (still in baby-voice)
Come in. (coughs - correcting, dropping
the baby voice) Come in!

TWILIGHT and SPIKE enter.

3 TWILIGHT
Hi Starlight! Wow, your plants look
fantastic!

4 STARLIGHT
Thanks! They really do benefit from
personalized attention.
 (quietly to the plant)
And nicknames.

5 TWILIGHT
I've actually come to give you some
exciting news...

Twilight levitates a LARGE SCROLL towards Starlight.

6 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
I'm officially offering you the position
of Headmare of the School of Friendship!

Starlight <GASPS>, taking the parchment and looking it over.

7 STARLIGHT
Headmare?!? I can't believe it!! Well,
technically I can believe it. You leave
me in charge whenever you go anywhere...
But still! It's a huge honor. Thank you!

8 TWILIGHT
Of course!

The two ponies hug.

9 STARLIGHT
This is fantastic! And a big
responsibility. I'm nervous, I'm excited,
I'm... mostly just nervous.

10 TWILIGHT
Don't worry, you'll do great!

11 STARLIGHT
I'm just glad you'll be around to answer
any questions I have. I mean, you've done
it all before, so you know what I'm
dealing with...

12 TWILIGHT
That's right! I'll *never* be too busy to
answer any --

Suddenly Spike gets a bout of indigestion and BURP/FIRES
up a scroll which he opens and reads.

13 SPIKE
Um... Twilight, are you supposed to be in
a Royal Etiquette lesson with Celestia
and Luna right now?

14 TWILIGHT
(realizing)
AHH! Sorry, Starlight, but there is no
WAY I can sit on the throne of Equestria
if I don't know the traditional 20 point
swan napkin fold!

With that, Twilight <BAMFS> away. Spike gives Starlight a
little shrug and walks out.

15 STARLIGHT
Well, Mr. Spikeyleaves, I guess that just
leaves you and me.

Starlight <CHUCKLES> at her own "joke" and puts a hoof on
Mr. Spikeyleaves' pot in a friendly way, but stumbles
spilling some dirt. Embarrassed she scoops it up, puts it
back and gives it a sheepish pat as we...

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SC 2 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - HALLWAY - LATER

Starlight walks down the hall with TRIXIE by her side.

16 TRIXIE
As your greatest, most powerful, and best
friend, you know I am nothing but proud
that you've been officially offered the
position of Headmare...

17 STARLIGHT
Thanks.

18 TRIXIE
...BUUUT, I can't help wondering if it's
going to cut into our social schedule.

19 STARLIGHT
What do you mean?

20 TRIXIE
Well, you don't have the greatest track
record for maintaining a healthy
work/life balance.

21 STARLIGHT
I've actually been thinking--

22 TRIXIE
 (cutting her off)
I mean, of course, I know you've realized
the value of it.

23 STARLIGHT
I have, which is why I--

24 TRIXIE
 (interrupting again)
Setting boundaries, not giving the rest
of your life short shrift...

25 STARLIGHT
Right. Which is why I want to--

26 TRIXIE
 (and again)
Take now, for instance. Walking down this
hallway with such determination, one
wonders if you've forgotten our lunch
date.

Finally having enough, Starlight stops and stares at
Trixie.

27 STARLIGHT
Trixie! I know how I am with work and
responsibilities and I've been thinking
about the best way to handle it.

28 TRIXIE
Oh. Well. Good. So we're still on for lunch?

29 STARLIGHT
Yes. I just need to talk to Twilight first. I thought she'd be around to guide me through the job, but she's pretty busy with the whole taking over Equestria thing.

30 TRIXIE
Seems like everypony's getting promotions these days.

31 STARLIGHT
So I wasn't quite sure what to do.

32 TRIXIE
Well, it's not like Twilight ever does anything alone. She's always had her friends to rely on. And you do too.

33 STARLIGHT
That's exactly what I was thinking. Sort of. I just need to run it by Twilight.
(off Trixie's look of concern) Then we'll go get lunch.

Off Trixie, satisfied...

SC 3 - INT. TWILIGHT'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Twilight is practicing her twenty point swan fold with a FANCY PINK NAPKIN (using her magic to fold the napkin on her desk).

34 TWILIGHT
Fold to the right... Tiny fold upward for the beak... Pull the tail through and...
VOILA!

The NAPKIN SWAN looks perfect for half a second before collapsing. Twilight frowns just as Starlight enters.

35 STARLIGHT
Twilight? Do you have a second?

Twilight starts over again on her napkin.

36 TWILIGHT
I think I can listen and fold at the same time.

37 STARLIGHT
What do you think about me hiring a Vice-Headmare to help run the school? I mean, you've always had your friends around to help, I thought it'd be a good idea if I had somepony too.

Twilight finishes her second napkins swan and for the second time it falls flat. Twilight <SIGHS>. Starlight gives the napkin a shot of her magic and it pops up into a perfect swan. Twilight smiles.

38 TWILIGHT
Starlight, I chose you to replace me because you're the best pony for the job. You can run the school however you want. And if that means hiring a Vice-Headmare I think it's a great idea.

39 STARLIGHT
Really?

40 TWILIGHT
Like you said, I've always had ponies around to help me. And don't worry, I'll always be around to--

Just then, Spike sticks his head in.

41 SPIKE
Ah, Twilight? Rarity says you were supposed to be at the boutique five minutes ago for your second fitting for the coronation gown.

42 TWILIGHT
How many fittings are there going to be?

43 SPIKE
A lot?

Twilight rolls her eyes and turns to Starlight.

44 TWILIGHT
Anyway, good luck finding your Vice-Headmare. I know you'll pick the right pony for the job.

With that, Twilight BAMFS away and Spike exits. Starlight is about to do the same when Trixie, pops her head in.

45 TRIXIE
Wow. I mean, I heard the whole thing and all I can say is, thank you.

46 STARLIGHT
 (confused)
For what?

47 TRIXIE
I mean, I hadn't ever considered it, but
hearing you say it out loud made me
realize what a great and powerful Vice-
Headmare I'd be.

48 STARLIGHT
Oh, that isn't what I meant, I mean--
(off Trixie's look) I can't just give the
position to my friend.

Trixie nods knowingly, like she totally gets it.

49 TRIXIE
Oh, noooo. Of course not. I imagine
there'll be a lengthy "process" to go
through before you inevitably hire the
best pony for the job.

Trixie WINKS and points at herself. Starlight stares at
her, unsure.

50 STARLIGHT
Exactly. I'll have to interview a bunch
of ponies.

51 TRIXIE
Of course.

Trixie WINKS again.

52 STARLIGHT
Is your eye okay?

53 TRIXIE
My eye is "fine!"

54 STARLIGHT
Ooooo-kay...

Off Starlight's uncertain look...

SC 4 - INT. GREAT HALL - DAY

Starlight talks to a collection of ponies: BIG MAC,
OCTAVIA, DR. HOOVES, BON BON, LYRA, SPOILED RICH, and DJ
PON-3. Trixie stands off to the side, smirking.

55 STARLIGHT
 (a little nervous)
I'm so glad you're all interested in the
position of Vice-Headmare...

DJ Pon-3 looks up at this, surprised. She takes her
headphones off and looks to Trixie.

56 TRIXIE
I think the school dance meeting is in
the next hall over.

DJ Pon-3 nods, pops her headphones back on and exits. As
she leaves, Spoiled Rich steps forward.

57 SPOILED RICH
Honestly, if you're looking for somepony
to fundraise, you needn't search any
further. I imagine I could bring in
enough donations to have several
buildings named after me.

58 STARLIGHT
Yes, well, that's not the primary
responsibility of the Vice-Headmare at
this school, but anypony is welcome to
apply...

With that, DISCORD appears in a puff of smoke, casting an
eager eye at Starlight who just shakes her head.

59 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Anypony who hasn't almost destroyed the
school.

Discord frowns, crosses his arms and DISAPPEARS.

60 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Okay! For the rest of you, I've come up
with a series of trials to determine
which of you will be the best Vice-
Headmare.

Trixie turns to Big Mac, talking under her breath, but
not exactly whispering.

61 TRIXIE
As if there's any question.

Big Mac frowns. Starlight clears her throat and barrels
on.

62 STARLIGHT
The first thing my new Vice-Headmare will
absolutely need to do is: Substitute for
any teacher!

Off the candidates exchanging intrigued looks...

TRANSITION TO:

QUICK CUTS OF THE CANDIDATES SUBBING FOR TEACHERS:

SC 5 - INT. RARITY'S CLASSROOM

Starlight watches as Big Mac shows OCELLUS how to sew two
pieces of fabric together while Rarity looks on.

63 OCELLUS
Wow, Big Mac, that seam is so straight!
And you really learned how to sew from
mending apple sacks on the farm?

64 BIG MAC
(proud)
Eeyup.

Rarity looks to Starlight and nods approvingly.

SC 6 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CLASSROOM

Spoiled Rich has on a PAIR OF READING GLASSES while
RAINBOW DASH looks on. Spoiled Rich holds up a thick
BOOK.

65 SPOILED RICH
Now I know everypony says loyalty is the
foundation of friendship and trust. But
nothing secures loyalty more than a stack
of bits. And this book on business will
teach you all how to earn your own.
(opens it and starts to read) Chapter
one: Equity...

PAN TO Rainbow Dash, who looks to Starlight, horrified.
Starlight just SHAKES HER HEAD.

SC 7 - INT. PINKIE PIE'S CLASSROOM

Starlight watches Octavia work with a HANDFUL OF STUDENTS
playing DIFFERENT INSTRUMENTS in an orchestra set-up
(PINKIE PIE and APPLEJACK look on). The kids are out of
tune, but generally are playing the same song.

66 OCTAVIA
Great job everyone! You've really got it!

Nervous, Octavia casts a glance over at her observers and takes note of Applejack.

67 OCTAVIA (CONT'D)
Ah, though... Honesty is an important
part of friendship, so...
 (to everyone)
You've definitely almost got it!

She shoots another look over. Pinkie beams. AJ rolls her eyes. Starlight smiles.

SC 8 - INT. FLUTTERSHY'S CLASSROOM

While Fluttershy watches, Dr. Hooves helps Smolder pour the contents of ONE BEAKER (with BLUE LIQUID INSIDE) into ANOTHER BEAKER (with YELLOW LIQUID INSIDE). After a beat the mixture <FLASHES> and bubbles over.

Dr. Hooves then uses a DROPPER to suck out a FEW DROPS of the liquid. He turns to the side, where a BABY HUMMING BIRD opens its mouth hungrily. Fluttershy looks on, concerned, but before she can say anything, he drops the liquid into the bird's mouth.

The bird <SWALLOWS>, smiles, then pats it's tummy satisfied. Dr. Hooves gives Smolder a HI-FIVE and turns to Fluttershy.

68 DR. HOOVES
And that's the science of humming bird
food.

Starlight watches and smiles.

SC 9 - INT. CLASSROOM - A LITTLE LATER

Trixie stands at the front of the class as a HANDFUL OF STUDENTS try to pay attention to her. Trixie's own eyes glaze over as she stares at the SCROLL in front of her.

69 TRIXIE
In the year 1422 PEE, that's Pre-
Equestria Era, I suppose, Abraxius
Hoofington did... (flipping pages) a
bunch of boring stuff... (more flipping)
for a long time. Wow, do you all really
study this stuff.

The students nod, shooting confused looks at each other. Gallus lets out a <SNORE>.

70 TRIXIE (CONT'D)
I never learned any of this and look how
I turned out. <YAWNS> I think Gallus has
the right idea.

All of the students <CHUCKLE>.

71 TRIXIE (CONT'D)
Let's all use this time to recharge.

With that, Trixie puts her feet up and closes her eyes.
Off the students sharing uncertain looks...

CUT TO:

MOMENTS LATER

Starlight sticks her head in and is shocked to find the
entire class conked out. Trixie's eyes pop open as she
gives a carefree wave, shooting Starlight another WINK.

Off Starlight's frustration...

SC 10 - INT. STARLIGHT GLIMMER'S OFFICE - DAY

Starlight looks through IMAGES of the various candidates
as she talks to her plant.

72 STARLIGHT
Alright, Mr. Spikeyleaves, let's see
who's going on to the next round.

She floats up Dr. Hooves photo--

73 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
 (to Spikeyleaves)
The students really enjoyed Dr. Hooves,
and he clearly knows his science.

She floats Dr. Hooves' photo over and pins it to a
bulletin board.

She floats up a picture of Spoiled Rich--

74 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
 (to Mr. Spikeyleaves)
Right. I can't say either of us expected
that to work out.

With that she drops Spoiled Rich's picture into a waste
basket by her desk.

She floats up a pic of Big Mac

75 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
 (to Spikeyleaves)
And Big Mac really blew me away. He was
so great with the students...

Big Mac's photo goes on the bulletin board.

Next is Trixie's picture. Starlight looks to the plant.

76 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
I know. I'm kind of thinking the same
thing...

With that, Starlight floats the picture toward the trash
can just as Trixie comes barging in.

77 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Trixie! Oh. Hi.

Starlight quickly <ZAPS> Trixie's photo back into the
original pile...

78 TRIXIE
Starlight, I have something I need to
say.

79 STARLIGHT
 (takes a breath)
You know, I actually have something to
say too.

80 TRIXIE
I'll go first. I didn't see why you
needed such an *involved* hiring process.
But I want you to know that I totally get
it now.

81 STARLIGHT
You do?

82 TRIXIE
Of course! I know I don't have to prove
myself to you. I've done that a million
times. This whole application process is
so I can prove myself to the other
ponies, and more importantly, to myself!

83 STARLIGHT
Uh-huh.

84 TRIXIE
Plus, it's like on the job training. Now
I *know* not to let students spend history
class napping. I'm learning so much!

85 STARLIGHT
I feel like that's something you
shouldn't have to learn...

86 TRIXIE
I don't know what you have lined up next,
but I'm ready to give it my all because I
know how much faith you have in me.
(beat) Now, what did you want to say?

87 STARLIGHT
Ah... that's it. Just don't forget to
give it your all.

Trixie salutes, turns and exits. Starlight <SIGHS>. OFF
Starlight hesitantly putting Trixie's photo back on the
board we...

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC 11 - INT. GREAT HALL - DAY

Starlight looks out at a smaller group of ponies-- now
just Dr. Hooves, Octavia, Big Mac, Trixie.

88 STARLIGHT
Well done everypony!! All of you are here
because you performed well--

With a quick look to Trixie.

89 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
--or well enough, in the first round for
the next task-- PARENT TEACHER
CONFERENCES!

Starlight looks at them, clearly disappointed.

90 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
 (in a quieter voice)
I was kind of expecting more of a
response. Anyway, I also want to show you
my-- VICE HEADMARE LADDER!!

She looks to them again, clearly expecting more. They all
realize and start making <INTRIGUED MUMBLING> sounds.

Starlight rolls her eyes and floats up a PIECE OF PAPER
with a LADDER drawn on it. Each pony's photo is taped to
the side (not yet on the ladder).

91 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
As the tasks become more and more
difficult I'll rank each of you on the
ladder. After each round, the pony who
comes in last will be out of the running.

Octavia, Big Mac, and Dr. Hooves all share nervous looks.
Trixie, on the other hand, just smirks.

92 TRIXIE
Now we're getting somewhere.

Off Starlight, unsure...

SC 12 - INT. LIBRARY - DAY

ON OCTAVIA, talking to Ocellus and her MOTHER and FATHER
CHANGELING (from Ep. 815).

93 MOTHER CHANGELING
Ocellus has always been so smart, but
between you and me, she's a bit shy.

94 OCELLUS
(embarrassed)
Mom.

95 OCTAVIA
Ocellus is doing great! At her school
work, obviously, but she's also made
quite a few close friends.
(to Ocellus)
And between you and me, I was a shy foal
too, but as soon as I found music I
started connecting with all sorts of
ponies.

WIDEN TO REVEAL STARLIGHT, who looks on proudly. She
turns her gaze to DR. HOOVES, who talks to Yona and her
MOTHER AND FATHER.

96 DR. HOOVES
Yona is a star pupil.

97 YONA'S FATHER
<PROUND GRUNT> Yona good yak.

98 DR. HOOVES
Good yak, indeed. Now, I'd love to hear
about your Yakyakistan harvest festival.
The pumpkin smashing sounds particularly
interesting.

Yona's mom beams.

99 YONA'S MOTHER
Pumpkin smashing is best! Yaks grow
pumpkins all year, so they get NICE and
BIG. Then we take hooves - and SMASH!

Yona's mom <SMASHES> her hoof onto the desk with such excitement the desk splinters apart. Yona's parents look on, embarrassed.

100 YONA'S MOM
Yaks sorry.

101 DR. HOOVES
No need to apologize!

Dr. Hooves gives Starlight a little wave and she ZAPS the desk with magic, mending it instantly. The Yaks smile.

ON STARLIGHT, who nods approvingly then looks over at--

TRIXIE, who talks to GRANDPA GRUFF and Gallus. Grandpa Gruff looks bored.

102 TRIXIE
Gallus is a fantastic student. (leaning
in, conspiratorial) He's even taught me a
thing or two about napping.

Grandpa Gruff <YAWNS>.

103 GRANDPA GRUFF
Is that why you're putting me to sleep?

104 TRIXIE
Um... Excuse me?

105 GRANDPA GRUFF
I don't know why I have to come to these
things. You're not telling me anything
you couldn't send in a letter.

Trixie bristles.

106 TRIXIE
Well, most parents or guardians want to
be involved in our student's lives.
Besides, it would be nice for Gallus to
feel supported by somepony from home.

107 GRANDPA GRUFF
There's a lot of things that would be
nice.

108 TRIXIE
Perhaps we should find a different
representative from Girffinstone to be
Gallus' guardian.

109 GRANDPA GRUFF
That'd be great! If you find one, let me
know!

As things starts to get heated, Starlight moves to
intercede when suddenly she turns at a RAISED VOICE from
the other side of the room.

110 SILVERSTREAM'S FATHER
 (O.S.)
Is this some sort of game?

ON BIG MAC talking to SILVERSTREAM'S FATHER. Big Mac is
clearly flustered.

111 BIG MAC
Uh... Nope?

112 SILVERSTREAM'S FATHER
Because I assure you my child's education
is nothing to laugh at.

113 BIG MAC
Ah... Nope. Er...

114 SILVERSTREAM'S FATHER
But unless you're able to say something
other than "yep" and "nope", this
"conference" seems like a waste of time.

115 BIG MAC
Ah, well, now... I certainly can say
more. I'm just a pony of few words.

116 SILVERSTREAM'S FATHER
Well, if you plan on continuing to work
at a school that might be something you
need to change.

With that, Silverstream's father stands and strides out.

117 SILVERSTREAM
Ugh. He is so embarrassing.

Starlight turns to follow the hippogriff, but before she
can, Trixie and Grandpa Gruff's exchange grows even more
heated.

118 GRANDPA GRUFF
Gallus knows all of Griffinstone is proud
of him! He doesn't need me traipsing
through Ponyville to prove it!

119 TRIXIE
Good! Because you're no longer welcome!

120 GRANDPA GRUFF
Fine with me!

As Grandpa Gruff storms out, Starlight rushes over to
Trixie.

121 STARLIGHT
Trixie, what happened?!

122 TRIXIE
I'm not sure, but I know we'll have one
less conference to worry about next
semester.

Off Starlight's look of frustration...

SC 13 - INT. STARLIGHT'S OFFICE - LATER

Starlight talks to Big Mac who hangs his head,
downhearted.

123 STARLIGHT
Honestly, Big Mac, you don't have
anything to be sorry for. It's just that
the Vice-Headmare at the School of
Friendship will need to communicate with
parents, teachers, and students-- a lot.
And I don't think you'd be very
comfortable with that.

124 BIG MAC
<SIGHS> Nope. But thanks for considerin'
me.

With that, they shake hooves and Big Mac exits. Once he's
gone, Starlight looks down at her "ladder" and the
pictures of her remaining candidates. Off Starlight,
considering...

**SC 14 - INT. HALLWAY OUTSIDE OF STARLIGHT'S OFFICE -
MOMENTS LATER**

Starlight walks out of her office and posts her ladder by
the door. Dr. Hooves, Octavia, and Trixie all gather
round to looks.

CLOSE on the ladder as we pan down--

ON the first position in the ladder - OCTAVIA. ON the second position in the ladder - DR. HOOVES. And LAST on the ladder... Trixie. Trixie <GASPS> audibly.

Starlight looks over at them.

125 STARLIGHT
Congratulations on making it to the next round! Now, for our final task, each of you will be taking a handful of students on a field trip of your own design. Let me know if you have any questions, but otherwise... I look forward to seeing what you come up with.

Octavia and Dr. Hooves walk off, excited. Trixie continues to stare at the ladder.

126 TRIXIE
I'm last?

127 STARLIGHT
Trixie, I know Grandpa Gruff is... gruff, but you can't get into a shouting match with a parent-- or a guardian.

Still focused on the chart, not really listening.

128 TRIXIE
So, I can get cut?

129 STARLIGHT
If you don't do better in the next round, yes.

130 TRIXIE
This is completely new information, which I am sure is intended for motivational purposes...

Starlight shakes her head.

131 TRIXIE (CONT'D)
 (after a beat)
Nevertheless, I will take it in stride! I'm going to create the most fabulous field trip the students of this school have ever seen!

With that, Trixie strides off, determined.

TRANSITION TO:

SC 15 - INT. PONYVILLE TOWN HALL - DAY

Octavia, Gallus, and a handful of other students are watching a performance of the PONYVILLE SYMPHONY.

PAN OVER to reveal Starlight, watching as she floats a clipboard and quill nearby. She leans over to Octavia.

*

132 STARLIGHT
The symphony is a lovely idea for a field trip, Octavia, but do you think our students will like classical music?

A SNOBBY PONY in the next row turns around, perturbed.

133 SNOBBY PONY
SHHHHHH!

PULL WIDE to reveal Gallus holding up a PAIR OF OPERA GLASSES to his eyes. He leans over to Octavia...

134 GALLUS
(whispering)
Actually, this music isn't so bad! I might even... like it?

Octavia smiles. Starlight takes some notes, impressed.

SC 16 - INT. DR. HOOVES' LAB - DAY

Smolder, Sandbar, and a COUPLE OTHER STUDENTS inspect the various SCIENTIFIC CONTRAPTIONS and MACHINERY in Dr. Hooves' lab.

135 DR. HOOVES
I wanted to do something unique for our field trip. So, I've been working on a temporal transportation device...

Dr. Hooves pulls a tarp off of a large metal contraption with coils and wires sticking out of it. It looks like a cross between a wardrobe and an trash can.

136 SMOLDER/SANDBAR/OTHER
 PONIES
WHOA!!/No way!/So Cool!/ We're gonna travel through time??

137 DR. HOOVES
Who'd like to volunteer?

Sandbar and Smolder immediately try to elbow each other out of the way, <GRUNTING> as each tries to push the other aside. As a result, one of the other STUDENTS calmly walks up to the front.

138 DR. HOOVES (CONT'D)
Excellent! Thank you! Please step inside the machine.

The pony steps inside the machine.

139 DR. HOOVES (CONT'D)
And now, all I have to do is press this button and you will be transported to another time!!

Dr. Hooves pushes a BIG RED BUTTON. Nothing happens. The students look disappointed.

140 DR. HOOVES (CONT'D)
TA-DA! You are now--

Dr. Hooves looks at a clock.

141 DR. HOOVES (CONT'D)
Five seconds in the future!

The students all <GROAN>. PULL WIDE to reveal Starlight taking notes, unimpressed.

SC 17 - INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Yona and a couple other students sit waiting. Starlight stands by the back wall with her clipboard. Concerned, she glances at the clock.

Suddenly there's a <POOF> of smoke and Trixie "appears" <COUGHING> at the front of the class wearing her hat and cape.

142 TRIxie
(like she's doing a show)
Ponies and other students! Welcome to the greatest and most powerful field trip of your lives!

The students share confused looks. A few give a couple of <HALF-HEARTED CLAPS>.

143 YONA
Where Yona and friends going?

144 TRIXIE
I am thrilled you asked. Because today
we're not doing a normal, old, *boring*
field trip, where you go somewhere...

145 YONA
So not field trip then.

146 TRIXIE
Well, I thought about taking you all to
Froggy Bottom Bog. But why leave the
comfort of the school to go to some
smelly, hot, sticky bog when I can bring
the bog to us!!!

Trixie tosses a couple of SMOKE GLOBES and with an
explosive <POOF>.

As the smoke clears we reveal the front of the room has
been transformed into a patch of bog, complete with
vines, mud, and... a CRAGADILE!

Trixie looks to the Cragadile in shock. The creature
turns and snaps at her and she BAMFS to the back of the
class next to a stunned Starlight.

147 STARLIGHT
TRIXIE! WHAT DID YOU DO?

148 TRIXIE
I found the perfect little patch of bog
to teleport into the school, I guess I
didn't consider the possibility that some
creature might wander onto it.

*

The Cragadile turns toward the students and <ROARS>. As
the students all SCREAM we...

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC 18 - INT. CLASSROOM - RESUME

The cragadile advances on the students who scramble over
their desks to get away. Trixie rushes forward tossing
more SMOKE GLOBES at the beast.

149 TRIXIE
Who told you to walk onto my patch of
field trip bog!

Half-obsured by smoke, the cagadile thrashes about,
getting even angrier.

Meanwhile, Starlight ushers all of the students out of the room, then runs forward.

150 STARLIGHT
Trixie, go with the students. I'll handle this!

151 TRIXIE
I was only trying to give them a unique experience-- which you have to admit I pretty much did!

The enraged creature whips its tail at them and they both have to duck. *

152 STARLIGHT
We'll talk about it later!

Starlight has to BAMF away as the monster closes in for another attack. Convinced, Trixie makes a bee line for the door.

TRANSITION TO:

SC 19 - INT. CLASSROOM - AFTERWARD

Trixie pokes her head in to see the classroom is a complete disaster: mud drips from the ceiling, chairs hang from vines, desks overturned in a pile, etc. But there's no sign of the cragadile.

153 TRIXIE
Um... Starlight?

One of the upturned desks rolls over to reveal Starlight, looking much worse for the wear (mane sticking out in places, mud all over her, a part of her mane is smoking). Trixie walks in, tentatively.

154 TRIXIE (CONT'D)
Hey, there. So... is it gone?

155 STARLIGHT
Yes.

Trixie relaxes and strolls up next to her.

156 TRIXIE
Nice. Teamwork. Am I right?

Starlight slowly looks up at her.

157 STARLIGHT
What?

158 TRIXIE
I'm just saying, I set 'em up and you
knock 'em down. I mean, this one got a
tad out of control, but-- Oh, you've got
a little something...

Trixie reaches for a splotch of mud on Starlight's face,
but Starlight brushes her hoof away.

159 STARLIGHT
Are you kidding!? This was a disaster. It
was irresponsible. It was dangerous. It
was--

160 TRIXIE
Original. Outside the box. Yes. But too
much. I agree. And to be honest, I've
been thinking about the whole Vice-
Headmare thing, and while I know you
basically created the position for me, I
think my sensibilities aren't exactly the
right fit.

Starlight snaps.

161 STARLIGHT
Are you CRAZY?! I didn't create the VP
position for you! I was *never* going to
give you the job. You are totally
unqualified.

162 TRIXIE
Unqualified?

163 STARLIGHT
Completely unqualified. Extremely
unqualified. I wasn't even going to
consider you in the first place, but I
felt bad saying no because we're friends.

164 TRIXIE
How *dare* you! I would make a great and
powerful Vice-Headmare!

165 STARLIGHT
Where? At a school for being terrible!?

166 TRIXIE
Well. I guess you won't have to feel bad
about us being friends any more!

Trixie storms out. As Starlight stares angrily after her,
a drop of mud drips down from the ceiling and drops on
her head.

*

Starlight <GRUNTS> in frustration just as Twilight sticks her head in the doorway.

167 TWILIGHT
Starlight?

Twilight looks out at the mess, uncertain.

168 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
I just thought I'd check in to see how
the search for a Vice-Headmare was going.

Starlight grimaces and turns toward the mess. With a BLAST of magic she returns the entire classroom to it's pristine condition, then takes a big breath.

169 STARLIGHT
A lot better now.

170 TWILIGHT
Okay...

171 STARLIGHT
Trixie wanted the job and I can't believe
I actually considered it.

172 TWILIGHT
Well, it can be hard saying no to a
friend.

173 STARLIGHT
No kidding.

174 TWILIGHT
But there's nothing like having somepony
who understands your situation to talk to
when things get hard.

As Starlight takes this in, Spike comes rushing in.

175 SPIKE
There you are Twilight. It's time for
your--

176 TWILIGHT
(cutting him off)
It can wait, Spike. (to Starlight) If you
need help figuring out who to hire I can
make time.

177 STARLIGHT
It's all right. I think I've made my
decision.

Off Starlight's meek smile...

SC 20 - INT. STARLIGHT GLIMMER'S OFFICE - DAY

Starlight sits at her desk talking to a pony off screen.

178 STARLIGHT
You really were the most impressive of
all the candidates, so I hope you're
interested because I'd like to offer you
the job of Vice-Headmare...

PAN TO reveal-- Octavia.

179 OCTAVIA
Oh, wow. Starlight thank you so much. I
am so grateful, but I have to admit the
more I went through your tasks the more I
realized, I'm most comfortable focusing
on music.

180 STARLIGHT
I don't understand.

181 OCTAVIA
Don't get me wrong. I love working with
the students, but being Vice-Headmare is
a big responsibility and I think it might
take me away from doing what I love.

182 STARLIGHT
So, you don't want the job?

183 OCTAVIA
I'm sorry, but no. Although, as the new
Headmare, I thought I'd ask you if maybe
you'd consider starting a music program?

184 STARLIGHT
 (brightening)
Of course! That's a great idea.
Obviously, I'm disappointed you don't
want to be Vice-Headmare, but if you'd be
happy teaching music I'll take what I can
get.

185 OCTAVIA
Oh that's wonderful news!!! I can't wait
to tell DJ Pon-3!

186 STARLIGHT
Really?

187 OCTAVIA
This whole thing has be a little nerve-
wracking and she's been so supportive.
It's important to have a friend to talk
to who really understands you. Thanks
again!

With that, Octavia turns and runs out. Starlight looks
after her with a smile, then looks down at her "ladder."

Pictures of the various candidates lay on the desk. She
looks at the picture of Trixie and <SIGHS>.

SC 21 - EXT. TRIXIE'S WAGON - DAY

Starlight walks up and <KNOCKS> on the door to the wagon.
No response. Starlight <KNOCKS LOUDER>.

188 TRIXIE (O.S.)
Go away!! I mean, I don't know if
anypony's out there, but if somepony is,
go away!

189 STARLIGHT
Trixie, I didn't mean for you to think
I'd give you the job. I'm sorry I said
you weren't qualified. You've got a lot
of great qualities-- even if they aren't
exactly Vice-Headmare qualities.

190 TRIXIE (O.S.)
 (after a beat)
What kind of great qualities?

191 STARLIGHT
Well, you're a good listener. And the
students all like you a lot. Gallus said
no one's ever stood up for him like
that... And obviously, you're great and
powerful.

The door to the wagon slowly swings open and Starlight
walks inside--

SC 22 - INT. TRIXIE'S WAGON - CONTINUOUS

Starlight enters to find Trixie laying face down in her
hammock.

192 STARLIGHT
I really am sorry about what I said, and
everything else. I should have been
honest with you from the start.

193 TRIXIE
Well, to be fair, I didn't exactly make it easy for you. And I shouldn't have assumed you'd just give me the job. I know how seriously you take your responsibilities.

194 STARLIGHT
And I'm about to have a whole lot more since I couldn't find a Vice-Headmare.

195 TRIXIE
What happened?

196 STARLIGHT
I offered the job to Octavia, but it turns out she wasn't exactly interested and nopony else really seems a good fit. I'm kind of out of ideas.

*

Trixie has a sudden thought. She smiles and picks up a few SMOKE GLOBES and starts to juggle them

197 TRIXIE
Hmmm... What would you say to a great and powerful idea?

Starlight looks to her, intrigued and Trixie bobbles the globes, but manages to catch them before they fall. Off her sheepish look...

SC 23 - INT. STARLIGHT GLIMMER'S OFFICE - DAY

Starlight sits at her desk pleased as can be as she looks up at-- SUNBURST! Trixie stands to the side smiling.

198 SUNBURST
...and I knew as soon as I read Trixie's scroll that it was the exact right thing for me to do.

199 STARLIGHT
But what about your home? What about the Crystal Empire? What about being Flurry Heart's Crystaler?!

200 SUNBURST
Honestly, now that Flurry Heart's a little older, there really isn't much for me to do outside of the occasional tradition or festival. And working at a school is what I always thought I'd do, I mean, if you'll have me...

*

201 STARLIGHT
 (almost too eager)
ARE YOU KIDDING? YOU'RE HIRED!

202 TRIXIE
I had a feeling this would work out.

203 STARLIGHT
Oh, Trixie, thank you so much. You're
pretty insightful when you want to be.

204 TRIXIE
Trixie the Great, Powerful, and
Insightful. I like the sound of that!

205 STARLIGHT
 (realizing something)
Actually... you're a good listener and
the students trust you. Maybe you weren't
right for the Vice-Principle job, but
I'll have an opening for another position
soon. What would you say to being the
School of Friendship's new student
counselor?

Trixie face breaks into a wide, eager smile.

206 TRIXIE
I'd say, this office needs a bit of
redecorating... (off Starlight's look)
But also yes!

207 SUNBURST
Wow, Starlight. I think Twilight's
leaving the school in some pretty good
hooves.

Off Starlight's proud face we...

FADE OUT

END