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2 Dick Rogers
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2 Dick Rogers
(takes 62-95) TS.

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MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9

Sparkle's Seven
Ep 904

LOCKED SCRIPT

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TEASER**SC. 1 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - TWILIGHT'S OFFICE - DAY**

A wild-eyed SPIKE bursts into Twilight's office.

96 97
↓ ↓

1 SPIKE
Twilight! Look at the scroll I
just got!

TWILIGHT SPARKLE and STARLIGHT GLIMMER look up from their lesson plans in surprise as Spike holds up the scroll with a picture of a tin-foil, slightly ratty TOY CROWN.

Twilight gapes to Spike. Rising excitement, almost giddy.

62 63
↓ ↓

2 TWILIGHT
Spike! Do you know what this
means?!

Spike nods, grinning. Starlight leans in.

96 97

3 STARLIGHT
Uh, I don't. What's so exciting
about a toy crown?

98 99
A B
↓ ↓

4 SPIKE
Oh, this is no toy crown.
(paints the picture)
It's the hard-won helm of the
Sibling Supreme!

Off Starlight's confused expression..

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 2 - INT. TWILIGHT'S FILLYHOOD HOME - DAY - FLASHBACK

YOUNG SHINING ARMOR races YOUNG TWILIGHT (BABY SPIKE on her back) to their house, beating her there. Shining Armor grins at Twilight. She comically fumes.

62 63
↓ ↓

5 TWILIGHT
When Shining Armor and I were
small, we competed over EVERYTHING.

64
↓

Twilight and Shining Armor make clay pots. Twilight's is great, Shining Armor's sags. It's Twilight's turn to grin.

REVEAL - TWILIGHT VELVET and NIGHT LIGHT showing their children an ACCOMPLISHMENT CHART with a picture of each kid.

(62) 63

6 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
To keep it friendly, our parents
gave us gold stars every time we
did something special. Sharing...

Shining Armor is about to bite into an apple. He sees a
hungry Baby Spike watching him, and he uses his magic to
split it in two and offers him half. Spike smiles.

7 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Getting good grades...

Twilight proudly trots in, magically floating a SHEET OF
HOMEWORK with a SMILEY FACE on it.

8 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Even telling a really funny joke!

Shining Armor finishes telling a joke, and Twilight, her
PARENTS and Baby Spike MOS LAUGH.

9 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
And at the end of each week, we'd
add up the stars.

Twilight dances from hoof to hoof and Shining Armor tries to
see around their mother as she consults the chart.

As mom steps aside, reveal Baby Spike drawing a picture of
himself beneath the other two. As he starts drawing in stars
for himself, Mom lifts him and cradles him, and we see
Twilight has one more star than Shining Armor.

10 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
The sibling with the most would win
the crown of the Sibling Supreme--
and bragging rights--til next time!

Shining Armor smiles ruefully and lifts the Sibling Supreme
crown onto Twilight's head. She poses proudly.

SC. 3 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - PRESENT

Starlight looks at Twilight wryly.

11 STARLIGHT
Guess that explains your love of
charts. Aaaand so much else.

12 SPIKE
(dreamy)
I always wanted to be Sibling
Supreme one day. Maybe this letter
means it's finally my chance!
(MORE)

101 102
↓
6.
↓

103 104 105 106 - AIT
↓
check for noise - preferable
file

101 102

SPIKE (CONT'D)

(reads scroll)

Meet me at Celestia's Castle to
decide who deserves the crown once
and for all.

(beat, to Twilight)

Race ya there.

103
104

Twilight grins, and they both TAKE OFF. Starlight watches
them go, and calls after them, bemused.

102

13

STARLIGHT

Guess I'll...Watch the school?

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SC. 4 - INT. CELESTIA'S CASTLE - THRONE ROOM - DAY

Twilight and Spike enter to find PRINCESS CELESTIA, a not-
happy PRINCESS LUNA, and SHINING ARMOR waiting for them - and
Shining Armor has the Sibling Supreme crown on his head.

65 66

14

TWILIGHT

<gasp> You're wearing it?!

Shining Armor uses his magic to take off the crown and
levitates it onto Celestia's throne. He smiles to Twilight.

107 108 109

15

SHINING ARMOR

Good to see you too, Twily. Look, I
know you've always held a grudge
because I left home with this...

Twilight tries to play it cool and fails miserably.

65 66

16

TWILIGHT

Grudge? Pff. What grudge? Just
because you've had it for waaay
longer than you should have, and I
never got a chance to win it back--

107 109

17

SHINING ARMOR

That's what this is.

Spike giddily elbows Twilight as Celestia explains--

115 116
17A

107

18

CELESTIA

With the return of Sombra, Princess
Luna and I felt it was time to
reinforce the castle's defenses.

Luna shoots her sister a pouty/annoyed look.

107 109

19 LUNA
I said we could do it ourselves,
but some ponies are a bit stubborn.

Spike between them, concerned, but Celestia smoothly goes on--

20 CELESTIA
So I asked our old Captain of the
Guard to handle the job.

Shining Armor preens, looking pretty pleased with himself.

21 SHINING ARMOR
I've taken the security here to a
new level. The only thing I need
now is somepony to test it.

110 111 112 113

Shining Armor looks pointedly at Twilight. She gapes.

22 TWILIGHT
You want me to break into
Celestia's castle?!

Shining Armor nods.

107 109

23 SHINING ARMOR
If you can get past my defenses,
steal the crown, and get out,
you'll be Sibling Supreme forever.
(off Twilight's grin)
BUT, if you fail, I keep the crown.

24 TWILIGHT
DEAL! (then) Wait...Are you sure
this counts? Mom and Dad aren't
giving us any stars.

107 109

25 CELESTIA
I will represent their authority.
And thank you, Twilight. Your help
will reveal if there are any holes
in our security.

Luna rolls her eyes. Shining Armor grins to Twilight--

26 SHINING ARMOR
And there aren't. I've designed a
multi-tiered, impenetrable, triple-
backed up line of defense.

STYLIZED "OCEAN'S 11" MONTAGE OF DEFENSES - as Shining Armor
narrates, we see his defenses with slide-ins and side-cuts.

-EXT. CELESTIA'S CASTLE - a ring of GLIMMERING DUST surrounds the castle. STARSWIRL the BEARDED uses his magic on it, making a see-through SHIELD OF LIGHT around the castle.

117 118

27 SHINING ARMOR (V.O.)
The castle is surrounded by shards of Queen Chrysalis' throne. Thanks to Starswirl, its anti-magic powers are now tuned to stop anycreature from using a spell to get inside.

117 118

PUSH IN ON EXT. MAIN GATES, with a SQUAD of CANTERLOT GUARDS.

65 66

28 TWILIGHT (V.O.)
Wow. And I'm guessing you can't just walk in through the main gate.

I/C Shining Armor smiles to Twilight - he's so onto her.

117 118

29 SHINING ARMOR
You can't fly in either.
(off Twilight's surprise)
I know what you're thinking, Twily.
Which is why I set up air defenses.

BACK TO MONTAGE - EXT. CASTLE - Steampunk-style WINDMILL TURBINES are propped on the castle roof. As they spin, their <GUSTS> of wind blow back a few BIRDS that try to fly past.

119

30 SHINING ARMOR (CONT'D)
Giant fans keep any creature from flying too close to the castle.

CAMERA TRAVELS DOWN and PUSHES UNDERGROUND - where a Guard pony stands in INT. CATACOMB PASSAGE and seals an archway entrance with bricks and mortar.

31 SHINING ARMOR (CONT'D)
Plus the entrances to the tunnels below the castle have been sealed. So there's no underground access.

-INT. CELESTIA'S CASTLE - HALLWAY - Guards at every doorway.

32 SHINING ARMOR (V.O.)
And even if you could get in, which you can't, I've doubled the ranks of security. Ponies protect every hallway and door - which can only be opened with Royal Guard medals.

PUSH THROUGH THE HALLWAY to the Throne Room. A Guard Pony puts his medallion to the door. It swings open to INT. THRONE ROOM where Luna and Celestia stand on the throne dais.

117 119
33 SHINING ARMOR (V.O.)
Even if you brought an army...

33A 129 130
The Guard turns with panic as a flood of silhouetted BAD GUY PONIES file in.

34 SHINING ARMOR (V.O.)
The throne room is the safest spot
in Equestria. I rigged a floor trap
to activate at the slightest touch.

34A 131 AB
The floor of the throne room all around the dais drops away,
leaving the Princesses safe as the Bad Guys all fall in.

35 SHINING ARMOR
But say you avoid the floor.

-INT. THRONE ROOM - NIGHT - A THIEF PEGASUS sneaks through
the darkened, empty chamber, careful not to touch the floor
as she flaps toward the thrones.

36 SHINING ARMOR (CONT'D)
Still no luck. Because I've
employed Nature's alarm system.

REVEAL - rafters filled with patrolling, glaring GEESE.

I/C Spike - he raises disbelieving brows. Oh, c'mon.

37 SPIKE
Geese?

38 SHINING ARMOR
You can hear their honks all the
way in Ponyville. Plus they bite.

37A 132 133 134
Shining Armor rubs a red spot on his foreleg and winces.

37B 135 ABC
MONTAGE - INT. THRONE ROOM - The geese begin <HONKING> and
snapping at the intruder as Shining Armor appears in the
doorway and the thief pony hangs her head, caught.

MATCH DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 5 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - THRONE ROOM - DAY

A chalk drawing of the throne room. As we pull back, we see
that the room is set with several BLACKBOARDS, INTENSE
DIAGRAMS (of the Mane Six and Spike doing "football play"
versions of a heist), and CASTLE BLUEPRINTS. Twilight and
Spike face the rest of the Mane Six.

68 70
39 TWILIGHT
So that's what we're up against.

ON APPLEJACK, RARITY, PINKIE PIE, FLUTTERSHY and RAINBOW DASH
- looking unsure.



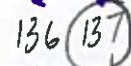
40 APPLEJACK
That's a barrel and a half of
obstacles, plus a bushel and peck
of impenetrability.



41 RARITY
And all this is to win some
fillyhood competition with your
brother?



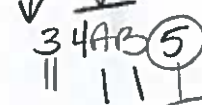
42 TWILIGHT
It's more than that! Okay, it's
exactly that.
(adds last minute)
And to protect Celestia's castle.



43 FLUTTERSHY
If it means that much to you,
Twilight, we're in.



44 PINKIE PIE
I was already in. C'mon, who
doesn't want to hang with geese?!

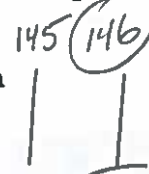


45 RAINBOW DASH
Of course we'll help. But...How?!

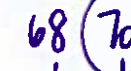
Dash gestures to the daunting diagrams. Spike steps forward-



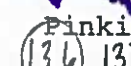
46 SPIKE
Shining Armor may have come up with
some great security, but he'll
never guess Twilight's plan.



Twilight begins assigning roles, very military commander.



47 TWILIGHT
We play to our strengths and defeat
all of the security measures. That
way if one of us fails, the others
still have a shot at getting the
crown. Pinkie, you'll distract the
guards with a surprise party.



Pinkie salutes, very official.



48 PINKIE PIE
Sir, yes sir, Twilight sir!

68 (70)

49 TWILIGHT
 Applejack, you'll buck your way
 into the sealed tunnels. Rainbow
 Dash, if anypony can outfly those
 wind turbines, it's you. Rarity,
 you'll sew us guard costumes so we
 can sneak past security. Then
 Fluttershy will disable the throne
 room alarm by charming the geese.

49A The Mane Six brighten - that all sounds feasible! Until
 Spike <COUGHS> up a scroll with a burst of fire.

136 137

50 SPIKE
 It's from Shining Armor. (reading)
 Dear Twily, Hope your idea isn't
 just...(scanning ahead, then)
 He...He guessed your whole plan!

68 (70)

51 TWILIGHT
 What?!
 (reads, building ire)
 Pinkie party, Rarity costumes...
 Signed the future Sibling Supreme?!
 Come on!

Rarity levitates the letter away from Twilight.

136 137

52 RARITY
 Twilight, darling. Nopony knows you
 better than your own brother.

68 (70)

53 TWILIGHT
 So you're saying I should give up?

136 137

54 RARITY
 (ala Oceans 11)
 I'm saying your brother will win.
 No matter how brilliant your plan
 is, no matter how many variations
 you try, it will be something your
 brother expects and he'll always
 win. Unless--

With a WHIRL or other dramatic flourish, Rarity suddenly dons
 her SHADOW SPADE ATTIRE and tells the others in noir fashion:

55 RARITY (CONT'D)
 When that perfect chance comes
 along you do something he can't
 expect. Then, you'll win.

They all stare, impressed. Then...

136
 56 SPIKE
 You've been practicing that speech,
 haven't you?

57 RARITY
 A little bit. It felt like I rushed
 it. Did I rush it?

58 ^{AT} ~~6A~~ ~~7~~ ~~6C~~ EVERYONE ^{ed}
 No. / Absolutely not. / Not at all. ^{AT} ~~6A~~ ~~7~~ ~~6C~~ ~~70~~ ~~139~~

59 RARITY
 We have to do the opposite of what
 Shining Armor suspects. Therefore,
 Twilight can't mastermind the
 plan... but I can!

OFF all of their looks of shock.

8A ~~5~~
 60 APPLEJACK
 That's... Definitely unexpected.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 6 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - THRONE ROOM - RESUME

The others continue to stare at Rarity, confused.

9 10
 61 RAINBOW DASH
 How is you making a break-in plan
 the opposite of Twilight doing it?

147A ~~6~~
 62 RARITY
 Because my plan is for each of us
 to devise our own unexpected part
 of it! Allow me to demonstrate...

SC. 7 - INT. CANTERLOT - SEEDY JUICE JOINT - FANTASY SETTING

In a FILM NOIR-style, like we're in Rarity's imagination...
 Rarity, dressed as SHADOW SPADE, and Rainbow Dash, dressed in
 similar attire, BURST through the doors.

62A 148 149
 A few NE'ER DO WELL PONIES drinking smoothies look up in
 surprise/fear. They scatter when Rarity demands--

150 151
 63 RARITY
 We're looking for a pony with
 information.

Only the SERVER PONY at the Juicebar is left. He huddles back
 as Rarity and Rainbow Dash approach.

119
120A
121B

64 RAINBOW DASH
We got questions, and you're gonna
serve us up some answers, juice
jockey.

150
151

65 RARITY
Where is the secret entrance to the
passages under Canterlot Castle?

66 SERVER PONY
Shining Armor sealed them all.
There is no secret entrance.

Rarity leaps atop the bar and meets him eye-to-eye.

11
12

67 RARITY
There's always a secret entrance!

152A
153B

68 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah. So make like a glass of OJ
and spill.

Rainbow Dash juices an orange between her hooves.

150
151

69 PINKIE PIE (V.O.)
Ooh! Ooh! I know what I can do!

As Pinkie's voice interrupts, the scene DISSOLVES TO--

SC. 8 - EXT. SKY - FANTASY SETTING

In a whimsical Little Prince-style, track with a hot air
balloon getting higher and higher from the ground below.

153 154 155

70 PINKIE PIE (V.O.)
You're gonna need a lookout, so I
can be your eye in the sky!
(then)
Too low, silly, up here!

The CAMERA TRACKS past the balloon up to...EXT. SPACE!

Pinkie and Gummy, in space suits, float by. Gummy (upside
down) licks his helmet; his tongue gets stuck to the glass.

Pinkie moonwalks across the sky, from star to star, then
bounces off an asteroid and slides around Saturn's rings.

As she does, Saturn grows comical eyes and a mouth.

153

71 SATURN
Oh, Pinkie! That tickles!

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 9 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - THRONE ROOM - RESUME

The other ponies are all looking at Pinkie in disbelief.

72 PINKIE PIE
Whaaaat?

156 ABC
111

Applejack shakes her head.

13 14

73 APPLEJACK
How about somethin' a little more
down to earth. Like...

SC. 10 - EXT. CANTERLOT - STAGE - FANTASY SETTING

We see AJ in a rhinestone studded hat, playing guitar. The
Guards all leave their posts to listen.

15 16 17

74 APPLEJACK (V.O.)
I distract the guard ponies with a
farewell performance by my alter
ego, famous country western super-
star, Apple Chord?

75 TWILIGHT (V.O.)
I didn't know you had an alter-ego.
And why would she be giving a
farewell performance?

71 73
1

18

17

76 APPLEJACK (V.O.)
Well, it's a long story...

As Applejack explains we see a MONTAGE in a sepia-toned, old
time-style series of shots:

-EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - BARN - YOUNG APPLEJACK <MOS PLAYS>
her guitar for an extended family gathering. BIG MAC, GRANNY
SMITH, and APPLE BLOOM <APPLAUD> as she finishes.

16

6

77 APPLEJACK (V.O.)
Back on the farm, playin' music was
about makin' her family smile. Word
of her talent spread, and soon
Apple Chord was playin' real shows--

-EXT. STAGE- Young Applejack performs with fancy lighting and
a rhinestone-studded hat. Her family sits in the front row.

78 APPLEJACK
The more she played, the bigger
those shows got--

-IN A SERIES OF DISSOLVES - Young AJ ages as she plays show
after show, each one bigger than the last.

Her family sitting farther and farther back each time until finally, AJ stares out, disappointed - her family is nowhere to be seen.

17 18 79 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
But she missed playin' for her family. So one day, she gave it up.

-EXT. BACKSTAGE - Applejack leaves her fancy hat on a stool and walks away from it all.

18 6C 80 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Seeing her family smile is all she ever wanted from her music...

-EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - BARN - AJ plays for just her family again and when she finishes, they all gather around for an embrace and the MONTAGE ENDS as we DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 11 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - THRONE ROOM - RESUME

CLOSE ON Applejack as she finishes the story.

19 81 APPLEJACK
Of course, Apple Chord could come out of retirement for a farewell concert this one time.

Now it's AJ's turn to have the ponies eye her in disbelief.

82 RAINBOW DASH
Wait. Did you just make all that up or did it actually happen?

83 APPLEJACK
Um...

157 158 84 RARITY
(cutting her off)
It doesn't matter. It's perfect! Fluttershy? Spike?

Fluttershy looks down, nervous.

85 FLUTTERSHY
I guess the opposite of what I'm good at is being in small spaces...

86 SPIKE
I always wanted to be a super spy. Is that the opposite of anything?

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 12 - INT. CASTLE VENTILATION SYSTEM - FANTASY SETTING

Spike and Fluttershy, in SPY GEAR, wriggle through a tiny duct space. Spike leads the way, wearing SPY GOGGLES.

157 158 159

87 SPIKE
Special Agent Fluttershy, target detected below.

160

88 FLUTTERSHY
It's almost too easy.

Fluttershy slides open a grate and dives through.

SC. 13 - INT. CELESTIA'S THRONE ROOM - FANTASY SETTING

Fluttershy spins, dips and rolls through a FIELD OF LASERS surrounding the crown.

She reaches it and flips it up with a kick.

Its shiny surface reflects the lasers back to their source and... <BOOM!> destroys their generator.

SC. 14 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - THRONE ROOM

Twilight shrugs to the others.

89 TWILIGHT
I guess I'm the only one left that still needs a plan.

72AB 73

157

159

90 RARITY
Oh no, darling, that IS the plan.
You...Shall do nothing!

90A 74

Twilight gapes, horrified - her, give up control?! Spike sides to Rarity.

91 SPIKE
Shining Armor definitely won't expect that.

SC. 15 - EXT. CANTERLOT CASTLE - DAY

Applejack trots up near the main gates with her guitar. The CANTERLOT GUARDS exchange confused looks as she sets up. Shining Armor, on patrol, squints from the castle walls.

161 162 163

92 SHINING ARMOR
Applejack? What are you doing?

164

23 (24)

93 APPLEJACK
 Applejack? Heh, heh, who's that? My
 name's Apple Chord and I've got a
 couple of songs to play for ya.
 Clap your hooves if you know 'em.
 This one's called "Barrel Full Of
 Hay!" And a one and a two and a--

21

She quickly starts <PLAYING GUITAR> to the perplexed guards.

(25)

94 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
 My love is like a barrel...

SC. 16 - EXT. NEAR CANTERLOT - SAME TIME

On a hill outside of the city, a Hot Air balloon is tethered to the ground. Inside ride Pinkie and Gummy. Spike and Fluttershy cling to the far side of the balloon, hidden from any eyes below as they approach. Rainbow Dash briefs them--

26 (27)

95 RAINBOW DASH
 The Wonderbolts did a flyby, and
 the only way past those giant fans
 and into the castle ducts is here--

Rainbow Dash holds up a diagram for Spike and Fluttershy. Like the Deathstar, there's a tiny weakness in the defenses.

(165) (165)

96 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
 But there's no room for mistakes!

97 PINKIE PIE
 Just like space travel!

Pinkie pulls a space helmet on, and pops one on Gummy. She detaches the tether and the balloon begins to float up.

(166)

98 FLUTTERSHY
 Uh, Pinkie, we're not actually
 going INTO space, right?

99 PINKIE PIE
 No, silly! I'm dropping you two
 off as soon as we're close to the
 fans. Then I'm going into space.

SC. 17 - EXT. CANTERLOT CASTLE BACK WALL - SOON

99A (75)

Twilight walks along the wall, looking at the flowers. She startles as Shining Armor comes around the corner.

167 (168)

100 SHINING ARMOR
 You're up to something, Twily.

76 77
↓
167 168
↓

101 TWILIGHT
Nope. Just looking at the flowers.

102 SHINING ARMOR
Right. I'll be watching you.

Shining Armor walks off, suspicious. Twilight gives a small grin and says to herself--

76 77
| I

103 TWILIGHT
Maybe Rarity's plan will work!

Until there's a shout from above.

167 168

104 PINKIE PIE (O.S.)
Canterlot, we have a problem!

169
I

104A 78
I

Twilight looks up to see --

IN THE SKY - the Hot Air Balloon has sprung a leak. Losing air, it drops into the cross-currents of air from the fans and immediately starts to whip back and forth out of control!

ON TWILIGHT, determined. She takes off, flapping skyward.

I/C CANTERLOT GATES -- AJ plays the last chord. The Guards look on, bored.

284
↓

105 APPLEJACK
I know that one's a crowd favorite.
What's say we play it one more
time? And a one, and a two and a --

Before AJ can start again the Guards all look up at Twilight. She flaps into the wind currents after Pinkie's deflating balloon and is buffeted back by their force.

106 GUARDS
<worried walla>

170 171 172
| | I

AJ <STOPS PLAYING>, annoyed. Then looks at all the guards watching as Twilight tugs at the balloon with her magic.

285 293
| I

107 APPLEJACK
Oh, well. A distraction's a
distraction.

She trots up and unfastens one of the guard's medallions, pulling off a quick light-hoofed grab.

SC. 18 - EXT. SKY - CONTINUOUS

Twilight uses her magic to float the balloon basket to the ground. She looks inside to see only Pinkie and Gummy.

79(80)
↓ ↓
173 174 175

108 TWILIGHT
Where's Spike and Fluttershy? Did they make it into the castle?

109 PINKIE PIE
They jumped out right before the balloon went TBBBTHHHH. But that's all I could see without being in space. Where I didn't get to go.

(176)

79(80)
↓ ↓

110 TWILIGHT
Let's hope Rarity and Rainbow Dash had better luck...

SC. 19 - EXT. CANTERLOT - SEEDY JUICE JOINT - SAME

Rarity (still in Shadow Spade attire) and Rainbow Dash arrive outside the Juice Bar from Rarity's fantasy sequence, but there's a sign on the door with a picture of a clock.

177(178)
↓ ↓

111 RARITY
What's this? Closed?!

A RANDOM PONY walks by.

112 RANDOM PONY
The Seedy Juice Joint is always closed around this time.

Rarity grabs him by the collar.

113 RARITY
Then how can we shake down Ne'er Do Wells for information?!

114 RANDOM PONY
(perfectly friendly)
What sorta information do you need?

31(32)
↓ ↓

115 RAINBOW DASH
Um... the location of a secret entrance to the passages under Canterlot Castle?

177(178)
↓ ↓

116 RANDOM PONY
You mean that one?

He points to a Guard Pony standing in front of a bricked-up archway. Rarity immediately lets him go, fixes his collar.

117 RARITY
Yes. Thank you. That will do nicely.

As the Radom Pony walks off, Dash and Rarity look over at the Guard who takes off his helmet to reveal...

33 34 35 36

118 RAINBOW DASH
Oh no. ~~The guard is~~ Zephyr Breeze?!

Dash pulls Rarity around a corner and the two of them peer back. Sure enough, ZEPHYR BREEZE stands in uniform, looking at his own reflection in his helmet. Rarity brightens.

177 178

119 RARITY
Honestly, dear, this couldn't be more perfect.

35 36

120 RAINBOW DASH
How is this perfect!? He's the most annoying pony in Equestria, and he's totally obsessed with me, and we have to come up with a way to distract him, and--

37

Rarity just stares at Dash, raising her eyebrows.

121 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Ooooooh no! No way! Uh, uh!

WIPE TO:

MOMENTS LATER

Rarity shoves a glammed (make-up, gown, etc.) Dash forward. She awkwardly walks toward Zephyr, who grins to see her.

179 180

122 ZEPHYR BREEZE
Rainbows! I knew you'd come running when you heard I got this job. The mares love a pony in uniform, amiright?

Zephyr does several poses, including Blue Steel.

38ABC 39

123 RAINBOW DASH
Not really.

From around the corner, Rarity <CLEARS HER THROAT>.

123A 183

124 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
I mean, yeah. Totally. Why don't you step into the light so I can see how <UGH> handsome you look in it.

As Dash leads Zephyr away from the archway, Rarity rushes up and uses her magic, straining to pull a few bricks lose.

124A 184

179 (180)

125 ZEPHYR BREEZE
(preening) I told the Sarge that gold kinda clashes with my aura, but apparently they aren't big on "input". Still, I totally manage to rock the look, don't you think?

41 42 (43)

126 RAINBOW DASH
Yep. You're real guard material.

Dash looks over at Rarity, who's pulled a few bricks free.

179 (180)

127 ZEPHYR BREEZE
I'm part of the castle team now, so I'm basically royalty.

Rainbow Dash TAKES in disbelief and trips in her fancy heels.

128 ZEPHYR BREEZE (CONT'D)
Whoa, we got a swooner! It's good you're finally being honest with your feelings for me, Rainbows.

Dash grits her teeth and looks again to Rarity who's freed enough bricks for them to get through. She motions for Dash to follow and while Dash sneaks away, Zephyr keeps talking.

129 ZEPHYR BREEZE (CONT'D)
The truth is such a gift. Like, I had to follow my bliss to see guarding is my calling. Plus, I'm seriously epic at it, so...

He steps forward, so self-absorbed in rhapsodizing, that he's oblivious as Dash sneaks past and into the catacombs.

SC. 20 - INT. CANTERLOT CATACOMBS - CONTINUOUS

Dash runs along the darkened passage way toward Rarity, who lights the way with her horn.

47 48 49 (50)

130 RAINBOW DASH
Ugh. It's a good thing you got the passageway open when you did. ~~I don't think I can~~ imagine anything worse than listening to Zephyr for one more second.

185A B (186)

131 RARITY
Luckily you don't have to imagine.

With that, Rarity turns her horn and illuminates the passage, dark, slimy, and small, it disappears into the gloomy distance. A rat scurries by.

185 186

132 RARITY (CONT'D)
I just hope Fluttershy and Spike
made it past those horrible fans...

SC. 21 - INT. CELESTIA'S THRONE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

THROUGH THE WINDOW GLASS - Spike and Fluttershy CLING to the wall, eyes shut in the whipping, jet-stream air of the fans. Spike uses a claw to cut a circle in the glass. It pops out--

132A 187
And Fluttershy dives through the glass circle to grab it before it hits the floor. She gives a <SIGH> of relief.

Spike prepares to fly down and grab the crown, but Fluttershy holds out a hoof. She points to the ceiling where the flock of ALARM GEESE line the rafters sleeping.

187A 188
133 FLUTTERSHY
(whisper) We'll have to glide to the throne. No flapping.

Spike nods and spreads his wings as the two of them take off in a wide arc, silently spiraling toward the throne.

One tiny problem-- a goose is NAPPING on the throne. It startles awake to see Fluttershy and Spike. Beady eyes wide, it <HONKS>, setting off the other geese in a <HONKING FIT!>

133A 190
Spike and Fluttershy share a horrified look as the THRONE ROOM DOOR STARTS TO OPEN!

In a flurry of flaps, Spike and Fluttershy dive to hide behind the throne. They cling to its back.

Luna looks in, peering around the room. Finally, she rolls her eyes and turns, heading back into the hall.

188 134 LUNA
Sister! Another false alarm from Shining Armor's guard geese!

134A-1 191 192
Fluttershy and Spike barely cling to the back of the throne as the <HONKING> geese start to dive at them. Spike tries to wave one of them away, but slips as he does. As soon as his claws touch the floor, it activates the pit trap...

And Spike falls in, pulling Fluttershy with him!

SC. 22 - EXT. CASTLE - SAME

134A 81
Twilight stands in front of the castle. Suddenly, Shining Armor appears at the gates. Twilight quickly picks a flower and makes a show of smelling it. Her brother just points to his eyes, then to her indicating, "I'm watching you."

Twilight looks anxiously over at Applejack, who's now just
<TUNING> her guitar. Twilight frets.

82 83
↓ ↓
193 ABC
|||

135 TWILIGHT
We should have heard by now.
Something must have gone wrong.

136 PINKIE PIE (O.S.)
Probably several somethings.

194
I

PAN to Pinkie using Gummy like a stapler, as she tries to fix
the big rip in her balloon.

82 83
↓ ↓

137 TWILIGHT
No lookout, no distraction, and no
word from the ponies inside...

As Twilight talks we do a series of stylized slide-in wipes
(a la Oceans Eleven) that divide the screen into sections
depicting our girls:

- Rarity and Dash wandering aimlessly through the slimy
disgusting maze of catacombs under the castle.
- Spike doing his best to calm Fluttershy in full freak out
as she tries to find a way out of their prison.
- Twilight, Pinkie, and AJ outside just as we left them.

82 83
| |

138 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
I'm starting to think this whole
operation might be a giant flop.

84
I

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC. 23 - INT. UNDER CELESTIA'S THRONE ROOM - DAY

Fluttershy zips around the small room, <HYPERVENTILATING> in
panic as she feels along the edges of the walls for a way
out.

195
138A
196 197
↓ ↓

139 SPIKE
Geez, Fluttershy, I thought your
whole "small spaces" thing was just
part of the plan to be unexpected.
I didn't know it was this bad.

140 FLUTTERSHY
Once I got trapped in the Castle of
the Two Sisters, and Angel Bunny
and I were separated.
(MORE)

196⁴ (197)

FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)

Now whenever I'm in a tiny room
it's all I can think about! I was
so worried he felt alone and
forgotten.

141 SPIKE
I know what that's like.

Fluttershy stops her frantic search and looks at him.

142 FLUTTERSHY
What do you mean?

143 SPIKE
I was always excited to be a part
of Twilight's and Shining Armor's
rivalry, like I was their little
brother, but they never really
thought of me that way.

203 (201)

(196)

144 FLUTTERSHY
I know they both have a special
place in their heart for you, but
sibling dynamics are hard. Trust
me.

145 ^{202A} SPIKE ^{202B}
Ugh. Right. / Zephyr Breeze.

200 201 (202AB)

(197)

146 FLUTTERSHY
(nods)
Honestly, he could learn a lot from
you about being a little brother.

As Fluttershy and Spike share a smile, the wall behind them
slides open to reveal Rarity and Rainbow Dash, mid-argument --
they don't notice the others. Dash has her hoof on a lever.

147 RARITY
Look, I'm sick of being lost in
these slimy corridors too, but you
shouldn't try every lever you come
across. Half of them are traps.

(199)

52 (53)

148 RAINBOW DASH
And the other half might open a
secret passage to the castle!

196 (197)

149 RARITY
It's not worth the risk!

Rarity glances over to Spike.

196 (197)

↓ ↓

150 RARITY (CONT'D)
 Oh, hello, Spike.
 (back to Dash)
 Even if we did find our way into
 the castle, we'd still have all
 those guards to contend with and--
 (looks back, realizing)
 SPIKE! FLUTTERSHY!

They all embrace.

196 (197)

↓ ↓

151 RAINBOW DASH
 What are you guys doing down here?

(54) (3) 11

152 SPIKE
 We kind of fell through the floor.

153 FLUTTERSHY
 I don't think our plan is working.

154 RARITY
 If we've both hit dead ends,
 perhaps we should return outside
 and reevaluate the situation.

154A-1 (198)

She looks into the gross passageway back and <SHUDDERS>.

SC. 24 - EXT. CASTLE - LATER

Twilight paces back and forth, glancing over occasionally to
 see Shining Armor is still watching her.

205 (206)

↓ ↓

155 SPIKE (O.S.)
 <PSSSST!>

Twilight looks up to see Spike, Rarity, Dash, and Fluttershy
 around a corner. Spike waves to her to come over.

Twilight gets Pinkie and AJ's attention, and the three of
 them head over to meet the rest.

85 (86)

205 (206)

↓ ↓

156 TWILIGHT
 What are you all doing out here?

157 RARITY
 In retrospect, our plan might have
 been too unexpected.

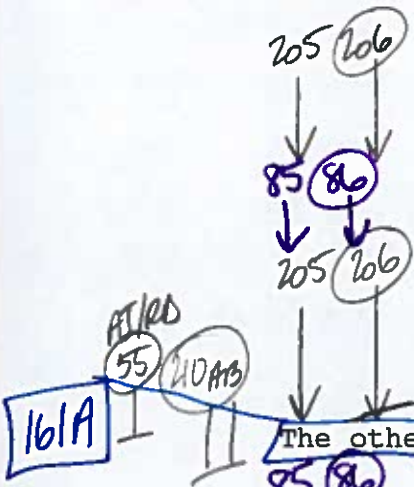
209 |

85 (86)

↓ ↓

158 TWILIGHT
 Every part of it failed? Now I'll
 never get the crown.

Twilight drops her head into her hoof. Spike steps up and
 puts a claw on her shoulder.



159 SPIKE
Maybe we should go back to doing
things the Twilight way.

160 TWILIGHT
You mean, the totally expected way?

161 SPIKE
It may not be a surprise, but you
have a pretty good record for
planning things. I believe in you!

The others nod in agreement. Twilight smiles, encouraged.

162 TWILIGHT
Then I guess it's worth a try.
Thanks, Spike.

163 SPIKE
What are little brothers for?

Twilight turns to face her friends, ready for action.

164 TWILIGHT
Okay. You all know what to do!

SC. 25 - EXT. CELESTIA'S CASTLE - SOON

There's an <EXPLOSION> of confetti! The guards move to investigate, marveling at a collection of PARTY DECORATIONS around the courtyard. As they walk past a PINATA it slowly turns to reveal it's PINKIE! She gives a subtle nod OS...

And another "GUARD" moves in from OS, headed for the castle gates. CLOSE as we see -- it's RARITY in GUARD DISGUISE.

She uses her horn magic to float the guard medallion that AJ swiped earlier onto her uniform.

211 212 213 165 RARITY
(sotto)
At least one part of our unexpected
plan worked unexpectedly.

PUSH THROUGH THE GATES to follow Rarity as she walks past other guards and into the throne room.

SC. 26 - EXT. ABOVE THE CASTLE - SAME TIME

In her element, Rainbow Dash holds Fluttershy (think tandem skydiving) as she dips and soars past the gusts of air generated from the windmills, navigating the gauntlet. (Perhaps even a Sonic Rainboom to get past the turbines).

SC. 27 - EXT. CATACOMBS - SAME TIME

Zephyr hands his helmet to another sour-faced guard while a MASON PONY re-bricks up the archway.

214 AB

166 ZEPHYR BREEZE
Too be fair, it was never made specifically clear to me what "guarding" actually means.

215 (217)

The sour-faced guard rolls his eyes. Twilight leads Spike and Applejack past this, around the corner to the bare rock beneath the castle. AJ looks at the rock face, uncertain.

56 AB

167 APPLEJACK
I'm strong, Twilight, but not even I can buck through solid rock.

88 AB

168 TWILIGHT
That's why I brought a specialist.

MAUD steps out of the shadows. She gives the rock face a few taps, then draws an "X" and points.

AJ bucks the rock on the X making a new entrance to the catacombs and Twilight, Spike, and Applejack step in.

SC. 28 - INT. CELESTIA'S CASTLE - OUTSIDE THRONE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Guard Rarity moves toward the guard on duty outside.

218 (219)

169 RARITY
(guard voice)
Next shift. You're on break.

The guard nods and heads off. When the coast is clear, Rarity opens a window. Rainbow Dash and Fluttershy fly in.

Rarity, looking around secretively, opens the door to the throne room.

ANGLE - the geese swivel their beady eyes to the door. But before they can open their beaks, Fluttershy stands in the doorway, beaming warmly at them.

220

170 FLUTTERSHY
Hello, geese! You've been working so hard! Who wants a feather massage?

SC. 29 - INT. CATACOMBS - SAME TIME

Spike holds a map and leads the party through the tunnels.

218 (220)

171 SPIKE
We mapped this out when we got lost down here. The lever to the secret hallway entrance should be... Here.

Spike pulls a lever, which opens a passage...

SC. 30 - INT. CELESTIA'S CASTLE - OUTSIDE THRONE ROOM - CONT.

And Spike, AJ, and Twilight step out from behind a tapestry into the hall directly by the throne room, where Rainbow Dash, Rarity, and Fluttershy (cuddling two geese) wait.

Pinkie lowers from the ceiling via a rope around her middle, ala "Mission Impossible." Next to her, Gummy also lowers in, only his "rope" is his tongue.

58 (59)

172 RAINBOW DASH
I can't believe this worked!

22 (222)

173 SPIKE
I guess sometimes the best plan is the one you expect.

Twilight grins to her friends and looks into the throne room. Inside, the crown GLINTS on one of the thrones.

89 (90)

174 TWILIGHT
All I have to do now is fly over and take the crown, and I'll be Sibling Supreme forever.

But just as Twilight spreads her wings to take flight, Shining Armor steps out from behind the throne room curtains.

221 (222)

175 SHINING ARMOR
Not exactly.

Princesses Celestia and Luna follow him out and stand on either side of the throne. Twilight's expression drops.

89 (90)

176 TWILIGHT (91)
Oh, come on!

221 (222)

177 SHINING ARMOR
Gotta admit, it was unexpected for you to do everything exactly how I thought you would. But you should know by now there's no way to beat the true SIBLING SUPREME!

177A (92)

Twilight <SIGHS>, exasperated. Celestia steps forward.

221 222AB 178 CELESTIA
I am sorry, Twilight, but it looks
as though Shining Armor has truly
won the crown.

From off screen, Spike <CLEARS HIS THROAT>.

223 179 SPIKE
That's the thing about looks...

As they all turn to look at Spike, he reaches behind his back
and pulls out -- THE CROWN!

180 SPIKE (CONT'D) 224
...they can be deceiving!

180A 224ABC III Confused, they all do a double take and see that the crown on
the throne is, in fact, gone!

Twilight and Shining Armor rush forward in disbelief.

89AB 90 223 181 TWILIGHT / SHINING ARMOR
Spike?! / How in Equestria did you
do it?

182 SPIKE
Come on. You two don't think you
have the only sibling rivalry? I
had an inside pony help.

Spike motions to Luna. Celestia turns to her sister in shock.

183 LUNA 225AO
I told you we should have handled
the security ourselves.

SC. 31 - INT. THRONE ROOM - FLASHBACK

Spike explains in a replay of the scene when Twilight and
Spike first came to the Castle.

227 228 184 SPIKE (V.O.)
It wasn't hard to miss there was
some disagreement on the whole
"security" thing.

As before Luna shoots her sister a pouty/annoyed look.

185 LUNA
I said we could do it ourselves,
but some ponies are a bit stubborn.

As Spike looks back and forth between them, as before.

227 228 229

186 SPIKE (V.O.)
So, while Shining Armor went on and
on about all his improved security
measures, Luna and I struck a deal.

186A 229 In a previously unseen angle, Spike sidles up to Luna,
whispering in her ear. As a smile spreads across her face...

69.

187 SPIKE (V.O.)
She put Zephyr in charge of the
catacombs and helped keep Celestia
out of the castle hallways.

SLIDE TO:

SC. 32 - EXT. NEAR CANTERLOT - FLASHBACK

Fluttershy and Spike cling to the side of Pinkie's hot air
balloon. Pinkie gives them the thumbs up and they disengage.

230

188 SPIKE (V.O.)
Once Luna was on board, I just had
to do my part...

231

As they fly past, Spike sticks out a claw, ripping a hole in
the balloon causing air to rush out and Pinkie to lose
control. As he and Fluttershy tumble toward the castle...

SLIDE TO:

SC. 33 - EXT. CASTLE - FLASHBACK

As before, a despondent Twilight drops her head into her hoof
and Spike puts a reassuring claw on her shoulder.

189 SPIKE (V.O.)
...and make sure we stuck to
Twilight's plan so we'd all get to
the throne room at the same time.

SLIDE TO:

SC. 34 - INT. THRONE ROOM - FLASHBACK

As from moments ago, they all arrive to see Shining Armor
step out from behind the curtains.

190 SPIKE (V.O.)
I knew Shining Armor would let it
play out til the last possible
second.

6

A victorious Shining Armor strides toward his sister.

4
227 (231)
||

191 SPIKE
Then, while everyone was distracted
by his gloating, all Luna had to do
was float the crown over to me.

From a previously unseen angle, Luna does exactly that.

SC. 35 - INT. THRONE ROOM - PRESENT

As Spike finishes, everypony stares up at him in awe.
Finally, Celestia give a little <COUGH>.

232 233 234

192 CELESTIA
I apologize for not listening to
your concerns, sister. It seems we
need to make adjustments to account
for threats inside the castle as
well as out. (then) If you agree?

(235)
|

Luna gives her sister a smirk.

234
ABC
6061
|

193 LUNA
I think it's worth discussing.

193A - Celestia

194 RAINBOW DASH
Soooo....If Twilight AND Shining
Armor failed...Who gets the crown?

Twilight and Shining Armor share a smile. Then as one, they
use their magic to float the crown onto Spike's head.

93 AB AKC
|

195 TWILIGHT
The true Sibling Supreme. Spike.

(95)
|

232 233

196 SHINING ARMOR
The little brother we've always
had!

236
TS
94
196A
|

And as Spike rushes to hug them both, we... END EPISODE.

*