

As Recorded
February 9, 2018
w/ Dick & Rogers
(takes 1-66) T.S.

As Recorded
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w/ Dick & Rogers.
(takes 67-181)

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**MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9**

**The Point of No Return
Ep 905**

LOCKED SCRIPT

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Outline:	Gillian Berrow
Teleplay 1st Draft:	Gillian Berrow
Teleplay 2nd Draft:	Gillian Berrow
Teleplay Final Draft:	Gillian Berrow
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TEASER

FADE IN:

SC. 1 - EXT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - DAY

SPIKE is staring up into the sky and suddenly DUCKS as a blur of pegasus wings and mail ZOOMS overhead... We hear a comical OS <CRASH>. Spike calls in the opposite direction--

1 **SPIKE**
Twilight! Mail's here!

REVEAL - Muffins stands out of her crash landing, happily oblivious, and turns an arrow-side pointing down HEAVY BOX right side up. Then she <SHAKES> it to make sure it's okay.

Twilight and Spike rush over--

2 **TWILIGHT SPARKLE**
Are you alright?

3 **MUFFINS**
Mmhm! Just had a REALLY heavy delivery today.

Muffins nods to the box. Spike looks hopeful. His next line is pointed - his intended audience is a clueless Twilight.

4 **SPIKE**
Is it a deluxe set of Special Edition Ogres & Oubliettes figurines that I'm totally surprised by and haven't been hinting that I need forever?

5 **MUFFINS**
It's for Twilight.

Spike slumps Twilight smiles at Muffins, who flies off.

6 **TWILIGHT SPARKLE**
Thank you! Huh, it's from Princess Celestia.

Spike suddenly coughs FLAME - producing a LETTER.

7 **SPIKE**
So's this. (then) Really? She couldn't have put it into the box?

Twilight levitates the letter from him and reads it aloud:

① 2

8 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 "My Dearest Twilight. I have been conducting a thorough cleaning of the castle, and I came across a few items of yours in your old room. I thought you might want them back."

Twilight brightens and uses her magic to open the box.

② 9 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
 I didn't even know I'd left anything!
 (then)
 Awww, look!

She pulls out a hoof-made MACARONI FRAME with a PHOTO of BABY SPIKE, YOUNG TWILIGHT, YOUNG SHINING ARMOR and their PARENTS.

④ 10 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
 Remember this? It's the macaroni picture frame Cadance helped me make when I was a filly!

A piece of pasta falls off the frame. Spike deadpans--

⑥ 11 SPIKE
 Who could forget a masterpiece like that?

Twilight continues to lift items out of the box: A RETRO STARSWIRL FIGURINE, QUILLS, and a PILE OF SCROLLS. She beams.

③ 12 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 My G1 Starswirl figure! And some of my favorite school scrolls!

She unfurls a scroll and sighs with nostalgia.

② 13 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
 And here's my extra, extra credit report on "The Impediments of Using Magic in Everyday Chores!"
 (reads, laughs)
 Still so true!

⑦ 14 SPIKE
 Is my Smash Fortune comic in there?
 I've been looking for that for years!

⑧ 15 SPIKE (CONT'D)
 Hold this.

Spike leans into the box and FALLS IN. His arm pops up from inside, holding AN OLD BOOK.

Twilight looks up from her essay... And gapes in horror.

2B
↓
↓

16 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Oh no, oh no, oh no...

Spike pokes his head out at Twilight's panic. Eyes the book.

69 71
| |

17 SPIKE
What's wrong? It just looks like an
old library book.

72 73AB 74
| | | |

Twilight levitates the book over.

2
|

18 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Exactly! It belongs to the Canterlot
Library. That means it's...

She flips the book open. We see a CLOSE UP on the weathered
and stamped CHECK-OUT CARD inside. Twilight GULPS.

19 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
... OVERDUE!

67
| |

END TEASER

ACT ONE

SC. 2 - EXT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - RESUME

Twilight paces, levitating the book with her. Spike listens
and watches her go back and forth, like a tennis match.

4 8 9
↓
↓

20 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
You don't understand, Spike. I have a
perfect library book-return record!

Spike raises a claw in a "point of order" gesture.

76 77
↓
↓

21 SPIKE
Had a perfect record--

8 9
↓
↓

22 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
<groan> I've never turned in a book
even a minute late! And this one--

Twilight looks around to make sure nopony is listening. In a
HISSED WHISPER:

23 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
Has been overdue since I left for
Ponyville!

↓
↓

ZOOM IN to her eyeball (Ratatouille-flashback style) to...

SC. 3 - INT. CANTERLOT LIBRARY - FLASHBACK

Younger Twilight Sparkle stands at the CHECK-OUT COUNTER with a stack of books. She levitates them into her bag. A sweet old librarian mare, DUSTY PAGES, stamps the last book.

Dusty Pages smiles warmly at Twilight. She passes her the book (from current day).

76 (77)
24 DUSTY PAGES
Make sure you bring this one back on time. We've got a long waiting list of ponies who can't wait to read it!

8 (9)
25 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I promise I won't let you down!

Dusty gives her a grandmotherly wink.

76 (77)
26 DUSTY PAGES
Of course you won't, dear. If there's anypony I can trust to take care of a book, it's you, Twilight Sparkle!

Dusty Pages points and we PAN OVER to an ORNATELY FRAMED PICTURE of Young Twilight on the wall.

27 DUSTY PAGES (CONT'D)
After all, you still hold the "Best Book Borrower" title...

8 (9)
28 YOUNG TWILIGHT
I hope I do forever!

Twilight grins, proud. She trots out of the library.

CUT TO:

SC. 4 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE ROOM - LATER- FLASHBACK

(NOTE: Exact scene from Ep 1, sc. 2-3)

Twilight enters in a tizzy with the ELEMENTS OF HARMONY. Spike is holding a PRESENT for Moondancer.

As Twilight carelessly tosses stacks of books aside, looking for the one on "The Mare in the Moon", we see OUR BOOK fall BEHIND THE BOOKSHELF!

We ZOOM into the doomed-to-be-forgotten book and...

CROSS FADE TO:

SC. 5 - EXT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - RESUME

We ZOOM back out of Twilight's eye. She's even more panicked as she looks at the book.

10 11

29 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

And then Celestia sent me to Ponyville
and I forgot all about this! Dusty
Pages prided herself that no books
were damaged or lost on her watch. And
I failed her! I've failed MYSELF!

79 80 81

30 SPIKE

(dry)

I take it we're going to Canterlot.

Twilight rushes off. Spike shrugs and flies after her.

6

31 SPIKE (CONT'D)

The sooner the better, I guess.

82

CUT TO:

SC. 6 - EXT. CANTERLOT LIBRARY - LATER

Twilight and Spike land a short distance from the Canterlot Library steps. Spotting a few OTHER PONIES, Twilight immediately pulls Spike aside and they duck behind a corner.

32 SPIKE (CONT'D)

(whispering)

Uhhh...Why are we hiding? Don't you
want to return your book?

83 84 85 86 87

12 13

33 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

(whispers back)

Yes, but what if somepony sees me in
there? I'm the Princess of Friendship.
Everywhere I go, ponies recognize me.
I'll stick out like a sore hoof!

34 SPIKE

Princess Twilight Sparkle in a
library? Alert the presses!

82 88 89 95

Twilight levitates a LIBRARY CARD with a GOOFY PICTURE OF
YOUNG TWILIGHT on it from her saddlebag.

12 13

35 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

A late book is a big deal, Spike! What
if Dusty Pages revokes my library
card? Or bans me from ever entering
the building again?!



36 SPIKE
Don't you already have most of those books in your collection at home?

90 91 92

37 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Yes, but the ones in THERE have a special Canterlot library-y smell!

14

38 SPIKE
You sniff books?

39 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
You don't?
(then, sighing)
I used to LIVE in a library! If I'm not a good example of proper book-borrowing behavior, then what kind of princess am I?

Spike pats Twilight's shoulder.



40 SPIKE
One that makes mistakes like everypony else. Trust me, once you return that book, you'll feel way better.

93 94

41 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Thanks, Spike.
(readying herself)
Let's go.

Twilight starts out from her hiding place. Suddenly a RANDOM PONY walks by. Twilight ducks back into hiding. Spike raises an eyebrow at her. She grins sheepishly.

42 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
Uh, NOW let's go.

Spike shakes his head and follows her.

CUT TO:

SC. 7 - INT. CANTERLOT LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

A few PONIES sit quietly at desks, reading. Twilight tiptoes past them. Spike points to the MAIN DESK, where a YOUNG LIBRARIAN UNICORN (NOT Dusty Pages), stands.

Twilight <GULPS> then levitates a nearby plant to carry in front of her face, "hiding."

When she reaches the desk, she tries a gruff fake voice.

18 19
↓ ↓
97 98

43 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
(gruff voice)
I have a book to return.

44 LIBRARIAN PONY
Princess Twilight! So good to see you!

Twilight <SIGHS> and removes the plant. So much for disguises. The Librarian motions a hoof to a full BOOK CART.

45 LIBRARIAN PONY (CONT'D)
Need some recommendations from the new releases section?

Twilight can't help but lean in, interested.

18 19
↓ ↓

46 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Is that the new edition of "Mooncurve's Seven Theories on Bending Time"?! I have been waiting for the release since--

Spike elbows her.

47 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
I mean, uh, no books today, thanks.

A few ponies in the background audibly <GASP>. Twilight lowers her voice.

48 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
But I do need to speak with Dusty Pages about a... Sensitive matter.

49 LIBRARIAN PONY
(puzzled)
Dusty who?

Twilight chuckles nervously thinking she's made a joke.

50 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Dusty Pages! The head librarian?
She's worked here forever.

Twilight riffles through her saddlebag and pulls out a PHOTO of a SWEET OLD GRANNY. The Librarian Pony shakes her head, looking apologetic.

97 98
↓ ↓

51 LIBRARIAN PONY
I'm sorry, Princess. I don't know her. Now, is there some other way I can help the Library's Best Book Borrower?

She smiles, gesturing to the GOLD FRAMED PHOTO on the wall,
now of ADULT TWILIGHT.

18 19

52 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
<slightly manic giggling>

Spike casually flips through a COMIC BOOK. He stops and leans
in, using the book as a shield to hide their mouths.

97 98 99

53 SPIKE
(whispering)
Just ask her where to return an
overdue book. It's no big deal. It
happens all the time!

100

18 19

54 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
(whispering)
Not to me it doesn't!
(then, deep breath)
Fine.

20 22

Then Twilight freezes, realizing what she just said.

18 19

55 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
Fine! Oh no. I didn't even think about
the late fine! A book out this long
will probably cost a thousand bits!

The Librarian Pony watches this exchange behind the comic
book quizzically.

Spike takes the initiative. He grabs the book out Twilight's
saddlebag and approaches the counter.

102 103

56 SPIKE
She--- I mean we, have an overdue book.

The librarian smiles.

57 LIBRARIAN PONY
Well, that's no problem at all. In
fact, it happens all the time!

Spike smirks and nudges Twilight smugly.

104

58 SPIKE
See?

Spike passes the book over.

105

59 LIBRARIAN PONY
(smiling)
I'll just find it in the card catalog.

The Librarian reads the title and turns to a CARD CATALOG.
With ease, she sorts through the cards.

60 LIBRARIAN PONY (CONT'D)
(reading)

Number one-eight-nine-oh-five. Got it!

Twilight sighs with relief. Spike smiles.

But as the Librarian floats out the card to examine it...Then
her eyes BUG OUT IN SHOCK.

61 LIBRARIAN PONY (CONT'D)
Ohhhhh, wow. Eeeesh. Haven't seen a
book this late in, well, ever. You
need to go see First Folio in the
"Grossly Overdue Book Return Office
for Ponies Who Should Know Better."

Twilight wilts in utter shame and takes the book back.

62 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Don't pull any punches with those
names, do ya?

63 SPIKE
And that office would be...

64 LIBRARIAN PONY
In the basement. Because of the shame.

Twilight sinks even lower.

CUT TO:

SC. 8 - INT. CANTERLOT LIBRARY - BASEMENT OFFICES

The corridor is DARK, COBWEBBED and SPOOKY. Sounds of <WATER
DRIPPING> and unidentified <CLANKING> abound.

Twilight has her head down as she takes the walk of shame.
Spike's wing gets caught in a cobweb and he pulls it free.

65 SPIKE
Whoa. Looks like nopony ever goes down
here.

66 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Nopony except undependable rule
breakers who deserve all the horrors
this hallway holds.

67 SPIKE
And their faithful dragon companions.

Spike notices something on the door at the end of the hall.

108 (110)

68 SPIKE (CONT'D)

Hey, looks like First Folio left a note on the door.

27 (28)

69 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Abandon hope all ye who enter?

Spike leans forward to read the pinned note.

108 (110)

70 SPIKE

(reading)

"Out to lunch on Restaurant Row."

(then shrugs)

Guess we'll have to try back later.

(111) 12

Spike turns to go. Twilight levitates him back.

27 (28)

71 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Oh no. I can't wait another minute to return this book! In the time it took us to get here, I racked up another--

Twilight looks up, doing the math in her head.

72 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)

Seventeen bits in late fees!

Twilight's face transforms from panic to determination.

73 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)

We're going to lunch!

(29)

108 (110)

74 SPIKE

Good, cause I'm starving!

(then)

Oh. You mean to find First Folio.

(an idea)

Can we least get take out?

But Twilight is already racing down the hall. Spike hurries after her.

CUT TO:

SC. 9 - INT. TASTY TREAT RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

A few customers are waited on by non-speaking CORIANDER CUMIN and SAFFRON MASALA. At a table, Twilight peers around a menu and whispers to Spike--

30 31
 ↓ ↓
 114 115
 ↓ ↓
 30 31
 ↓ ↓
 114 115 116b
 75 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 Tell me if you see any librarian-type ponies.
 76 SPIKE
 Twilight, we've tried this at three other restaurants already.
 77 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 (growing panic)
 And my late fines are already up another 26 more bits!
 78 SPIKE
 <sigh> Fiiiiiine. (117A 3C)
 Spike goes to peer at ponies' cutie marks. A Pony customer notices him and waves a hoof.
 79 PONY CUSTOMER
 Waiter, we're ready to order.
 80 SPIKE
 Oh, I'm not actually a---
 81 PONY CUSTOMER
 Three samosas, two curry specials...
 Spike, unsure what to do, pulls out a scroll and writes.
 82 PONY CUSTOMER (CONT'D)
 Do you think that's enough for the two of us?
 Spike considers, rubbing his chin.
 83 SPIKE
 I would probably order some Naan as well? For the table. (121A 3B)
 84 PONY CUSTOMER
 Sounds great!
 84A 33 34
 Twilight <GROANS> to herself and face-plants on the table. Then she hears--
 85 MOONDANCER
 Twilight? Is that you?
 Twilight looks up to see her old friend, MOONDANCER.
 30 31
 ↓ ↓
 86 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 Moondancer! How have you been? I'm just visiting... No real reason. Heh.

114 118
↓ ↓

87 MOONDANCER
Well it's good to see you! I'm just
meeting my friend, First Folio, for
lunch, do you want to join us?

(120)
↓

She motions to a pony at a table nearby - this is FIRST FOLIO, who happens to be the late returns librarian.

30 31
↓ ↓

88 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
First Folio? YES! I mean, thank you.

(32)
↓

First Folio smiles as Twilight sits with them.

114 118
↓ ↓

89 FIRST FOLIO
Princess Twilight! Good to meet you!
Did you know your picture's up in our
library as the Best Book Borrower--

(124) (125)
↓

30 (31)
↓ ↓

90 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Yeeeah. I was hoping I could talk to
Dusty Pages about that.

114 118
↓ ↓

91 MOONDANCER
Oh, Dusty Pages left the library moons
ago. Didn't you know?

(91A) (35)
↓

Twilight shakes her head in surprise

↓ ↓

92 FIRST FOLIO
I heard she was forced to leave. It's
so sad. She loved the library.

(124)
↓

Twilight's jaw drops.

30 (31)
↓ ↓

93 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Wait. Forced to leave?

114 118
↓ ↓

94 FIRST FOLIO
Mm-hm. She had a perfect librarian
record, until one careless pony didn't
return a book and ruined it all.

(124)
↓

↓ ↓

95 MOONDANCER
Are you okay, Twilight?

We PAN BACK OVER to Twilight, who looks pale and sick.

30 (31)
↓ ↓

96 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Uh huh... Would... You excuse me?

Twilight rushes out of the restaurant, nearly crashing into
Spike, who is now wearing an apron and carrying plates. He
shrugs to the nearest dining ponies.

114 118

97 SPIKE

That's why you only order spicy if you mean it.

119

SC. 10 - EXT. TASTY TREAT RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

Spike (no longer in an apron), hurries out to find Twilight.

122 AB

98 SPIKE

Twilight, what's wrong?

123

Twilight levitates the book out of her bag.

30 31

99 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Dusty Pages isn't working at the library anymore because I didn't return this book. Spike... I think I got her FIRED!

36

Off Twilight's horrified face as we...

END ACT ONE**ACT TWO****SC. 11 - EXT. CANTERLOT STREETS - SHORTLY AFTER**

Spike follows Twilight as she rushes through the streets of Canterlot. She clearly knows exactly where she is going.

125 126

100 SPIKE

Twilight! The library is that way!

37 38

101 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Change of plans! We're going to Dusty's house. She used to invite me over for tea all the time--

125 126

102 SPIKE

What about your late fees?

37 38

103 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

They're not as important as making things right.

125 126

104 SPIKE

Wait, so you're NOT going to return the book?

37 38

105 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

No. Dusty Pages is! It's my fault she lost her job. So if I give her the book, she can return it and get her old job back! It'll fix everything!

105A (39)

Twilight stops in front of a house. She takes a deep breath and <KNOCKS>.

The door swings open. But instead of a sweet granny on the other side, it's a burly MEATHEAD PONY. He seems annoyed at the interruption.

125 126 128 106 MEATHEAD PONY
Didn't ya see the sign?!

He points and we PAN OVER to a sign with "NO" circle around a cheesy, smiling pony holding a briefcase.

107 MEATHEAD PONY (CONT'D)
"No Salesponies"!

37 (38) 108 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Oh, I'm not selling anything!

Meathead gestures to yet more signs:

125 128 109 MEATHEAD PONY
No carolers either. No surveys, no petitions, no free literature--

The Meathead tries to close the door. Twilight uses her magic to wedge it open.

37 (38) 110 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
No problem! I'm just looking for somepony who used to live here. I'm pretty sure this was her house...

125 128 111 MEATHEAD PONY
Dusty Pages?

37 (38) 112 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
(brightening)
Yes!

125 128 113 MEATHEAD PONY
Hold on.

He disappears and returns.

114 MEATHEAD PONY (CONT'D)
She moved to Silver somethin'...
Shoals? Seas? Surfer? Whatever.

He passes Spike a stack of MAIL.

125 128

115 MEATHEAD PONY (CONT'D)
When you find her, give her this. Been
stackin' up for years. And tell her
to CHANGE HER ADDRESS!

129 130 131 133 134
| | | | |
| | | | |

Meathead <SLAMS> the door. Twilight and Spike look down at
the stack of mail and exchange a surprised look.

CUT TO:

SC. 12 - EXT. SILVERSTABLE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY - LATER

A now-exhausted Twilight and Spike (mail in a bag) land in
front of an idyllic building, surrounded by trees. Very
peaceful and lovely.

Twilight reads a sign--

40 41
↓ ↓

116 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
*Silverstable Community-- for the best
Golden Years. This has to be it.*

Spike shows Twilight a map with a lot of check marks.

139 140 141
| | |
| | |

117 SPIKE
I hope so. It's the last "Silver"
spot on the map we haven't looked.

142 143
| |
| |

SC. 13 - INT. SILVERSTABLE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY - CONTINUOUS

Twilight and Spike walk down a beautiful hotel-resort-like
hallway with doors to apartment units.

Each door has a PHOTO of the retiree pony who lives there and
a BOUQUET OF FRESH FLOWERS on a table next to it. It's fancy.

Spike stops to smell some ROSES and grins.

144 145
↓ ↓

118 SPIKE
Whoa. This place is--

40 41
↓ ↓

119 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Terrible, I know! There's not a single
bookshelf in sight. Poor Dusty.

43
|

She looks around in horror.

120 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
I can't believe that my carelessness
sent her here, when she could be
happily surrounded by millions of
wonderful-smelling books.

144 145
↓ ↓

121 SPIKE
You realize that might just be a "you"
thing, right?

ANGLE ON a doorway with DUSTY'S PICTURE on it: an adorable,
bespectacled granny with a huge toothy smile (Same pic from
Sc. 6).

40 41
↓ ↓
40 41
↓ ↓
40 41
↓ ↓

122 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
There she is! Here we go...

42
↓

Twilight takes a breath and <KNOCKS> on the door. No answer.

123 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
Aarrgghh!

124 SPIKE
Maybe we should just wait here. She's
bound to be back soon.

125 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
No. We're fixing this now. This place
isn't that big. We can find her!

CUT TO:

**SC. 14 - EXT. SILVERSTABLE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY - THE DOCKS -
LATER**

A FEW OLD MARES and OLD STALLIONS from Silverstable sit
behind EASELS, painting watercolors of the seaside scene in
front of them. Among them is APPLE ROSE (cousin of GRANNY
SMITH).

Twilight and Spike approach.

44 45
↓ ↓
46
↓

126 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
(to the group)
Sorry to interrupt your plein air
painting, but we're looking for Dusty
Pages. Have you seen her?

127 APPLE ROSE
Sure have.

148 149
↓ ↓

And that's all she says. Twilight tries to keep it together.

44 45
↓ ↓
46 47
↓ ↓

128 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Annndddd...

129 APPLE ROSE
She had to leave early to get to her
fengbi de ti session.

148 149
↓ ↓

147 148 (149) 130 OLD STALLION
 (interrupting)
 Which is right before she leads the
 Woodworking class with me. Then she's
 on to windsurfing!

131 APPLE ROSE
 Don't forget theatre rehearsal!
 Dusty's playing the lead role...
 (jealous) Again.

132 OLD STALLION
 Then there's her band practice
 later...

44 45 133 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 Thank you!

Twilight trots off, Spike following.

147 148 149 134 SPIKE
 Wow, Dusty sounds like one busy pony.

44 45 135 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 She's just filling her days with
 distractions to cover the pain of
 losing the best job ever.
 (determined)
 But not for long!

CUT TO:

**SC. 15 - INT./EXT. SILVERSTABLE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY -
 MONTAGE**

Twilight and Spike rush around town, trying to follow the
 schedule. At every turn, they narrowly miss Dusty.

-- IN THE GARDEN. Several retirees slowly go through graceful
 motions, doing *fengbi de ti* - literally "closed hoof," the
 MLP version of Tai Chi. Twilight and Spike approach an OLD
 MARE and she very, very slowly points to the gate. Twilight
 frowns.

-- IN THE WOODSHOP. Retirees build various items: FURNITURE,
 BIRD HOUSES, etc. Twilight spots the Old Stallion from
 before. She approaches him and he apologetically points to
 the door.

-- ON THE WATER. Twilight and Spike are on a boat wearing
 LIFE JACKETS. Twilight points. In the distance, there are a
 few WINDSURFERS. Could it be her?

They climb onto two WINDSURFING BOARDS and sail out toward the group. No sign of her. In the distance, Twilight thinks she sees something.

Twilight shields her eyes, tries to look closer and loses her balance, falling into the water. Twilight pops up, soaked and grumpy.

-- IN THE BLACKBOX THEATRE. Twilight and Spike enter to see that a group of ponies in COSTUMES/ROBES are on stage, practicing. They all wear SILLY MASKS.

Twilight interrupts the rehearsal. One by one, the old ponies pull off the masks and shake their heads. None of them are Dusty. Twilight looks like she is going to lose it.

CUT TO:

SC. 16 - INT. THE SILVERSTABLE CLUB - LATER

A nightclub style room with a stage and little tables with centerpieces. The place is empty, except for THE BAND who are <PLAYING> onstage. DUSTY PAGES is jamming on guitar.

Twilight and Spike enter. Immediately, Twilight is overjoyed. Finally! The pony they've been looking for!

136 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
DUSTY PAGES! Finally! C'mon, Spike.

Twilight is about to march up on stage when Spike stops her.

137 SPIKE
You sure you want to interrupt her?

Dusty boogies and strums like a rockstar.

138 SPIKE (CONT'D)
She looks pretty happy up there.

139 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Trust me, it's all an act. She'll be a lot happier when I deliver the good news that she can go back to working at the library!

Twilight trots up confidently and magically "holds" all the instruments away from their ponies. The music <STOPS>.

140 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
Care to take five, everypony?

153 (154)

141 DUSTY PAGES

(smiling)

Twilight Sparkle? My stars! It's so wonderful to see you! What are you doing here?

46 (47)

142 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

I've been looking all over Equestria for you! I need to tell you something.

Dusty spots Spike's bag of mail!

153 (154)

143 DUSTY PAGES

You brought my mail! Oh, thank you!

Dusty hugs Twilight who looks even more uncomfortable. She gently disentangles herself from Dusty.

46 (47)

144 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

No. I mean, yes, we did, but that's not why we're here.

(solemn)

I let you down. And I can't forgive myself until I set things right.

153 (154B)

145 DUSTY PAGES

I don't remember you doing anything wrong...

Twilight hangs her head.

46 (47)

146 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

You don't need to protect my feelings. You told me to take special care of a book I checked out from the Canterlot library. And I never brought it back!

Dusty gapes in surprise.

153 (154B)

147 DUSTY PAGES

It was you that had the book out? The one that broke my perfect record?

Twilight nods. She pulls out the book, sheepish.

46 (47)

148 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

But now you can bring it to Canterlot Library and get your job back!

She tries to pass the book to Dusty, but the old librarian shakes her head. Suddenly dismissive and curt:

153 155

149 DUSTY PAGES

No thank you! I don't ever need to see
that library again. Now if you'll
excuse me, I have somewhere to be!

156 157

Dusty trots out of the nightclub.

Off Twilight's confused and disappointed face as we...

END ACT TWOACT THREESC. 17 - INT. THE SILVERSTABLE CLUB - SHORTLY AFTER

Twilight and Spike sit at an empty table. The band plays a
<SAD SONG>. Twilight looks bummed.

49 50

150 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

(to the band)

Do you mind?!

51

The band shrugs and switches to something more <UPBEAT>. It
still doesn't cheer Twilight up.

151 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)

I don't understand. If Dusty Pages
won't go back to Canterlot Library and
explain everything, then she won't be
able to get her job back. Even worse--
her record will remain... *imperfect!*

Spike nods, but he knows what's REALLY going on here--

159 160

152 SPIKE

And yours will, too?

49 50

153 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Well... Yeah! But that doesn't matter
anymore.

Spike raises a suspicious eyebrow.

159 160

154 SPIKE

Really?

49 50

155 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Well, maybe a little bit. Oh no...
BITS! The late fines! How much do I
owe now?

Spike does a quick calculation, "counting" on his claws.

156 SPIKE
Uhh... You don't want to know.

157 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
It would have been worth all the bits in Equestria if I'd made things right with Dusty. I wish I knew why she won't go back.

158 SPIKE
Why don't you ask her?

159 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
She didn't seem to want to talk...

160 SPIKE
You surprised her. And she probably had something else on her schedule. That thing is PACKED. C'mon, what've you got to lose?

Twilight considers that, and realizes...

161 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Now that I've messed up this much...
Nothing.
(then)
You're right, Spike. It's worth a try. Where do you think she went? Crochet, bingo...

Handwritten notes and diagrams: 156A, 52, 159, 161, 49, 50, 159, 161, 49, 50, 159, 161, 162, 163, 164, 49, 50.

CUT TO:

SC. 18 - INT. SILVERSTABLE FRUIT FIGHT ARENA - SOON AFTER

Twilight and Spike enter a gated park-like arena with lots of JUNGLE FOLIAGE and CRATES splattered with colorful splotches. Apple Rose and the Old Stallion run past, wearing HELMETS and KNEE PADS.

162 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
A SQUISHY FRUIT FOODFIGHT TOURNAMENT?

Spike holds up a white flag and announces--

163 SPIKE
Hey, everypony! We come in--

Suddenly, several STRAWBERRIES, TOMATOES, etc. splatter onto both Twilight and Spike.

Handwritten notes and diagrams: 12, 163A, 54, 55, 165, 166.

165 (166) 164 SPIKE (CONT'D)
-- Pieces.

Twilight TELEPORTS herself and Spike to safety behind a rock.
Fruit <SPLATS> on the rock! She calls out from behind it--

56 (57) 165 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Stop! We just wanna talk to Dusty
Pages for a moment! Please?!

Out of nowhere, an unidentified PONY in a HELMET (Dusty
Pages) swings down from a tree on a rope, Daring Do-style.

165 (166) 166 DUSTY PAGES
TIME OOOOOUT!

A huge TOMATO slides down Twilight's mane and PLOPS onto the
ground, splattering everywhere.

167 DUSTY PAGES (CONT'D)
Looks like you two got smoothied. Next
time, you should rent gear!

Dusty actually cracks a little smile. Spike shares her grin.

168 SPIKE
We're not actually here for the game. 167 (168)

56 (57) 169 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I... Was hoping you'd give me another
chance to talk to you about the
library book.

165 (166) 170 DUSTY PAGES
This really means a lot to you,
doesn't it? 169

170A 61 Twilight nods. Dusty leads them to the sidelines.

56 (57) 171 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I know I ruined your life by not
returning my book on time. And I will
do anything I can to make it up to
you. Even promise to never take a
book out of the library again, if
that's what it takes.

171A 166 Dusty looks thoughtfully at Twilight...Then bursts into a
huge <PEAL> of laughter.

165 (166) 172 SPIKE
That...Is not the reaction we
expected. 170 (171)

165 166
 ↓ ↓
 173 DUSTY PAGES
 Twilight, dear. You've got it all backwards! I'm not upset with you.
 Twilight blinks, surprised.

56 57
 ↓ ↓
 174 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 You're not?

165 166
 ↓ ↓
 175 DUSTY PAGES
 No! If I'm mad at anypony, it's me. All those years I spent hiding away in that library, trying to be perfect...
 Dusty sits down on a log and pats the spot next to her. Twilight sits next to her.

176 DUSTY PAGES (CONT'D)
 When your book never came in, I felt something exhilarating!

56 57
 ↓ ↓
 177 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 What was it?

165 166
 ↓ ↓
 178 DUSTY PAGES
 Freedom!

179 SPIKE
 From books?

180 DUSTY PAGES
 From perfection! I was too stubborn to know when to call it quits. It took your mistake to make me realize that I wasn't living the life I wanted!

56 57
 ↓ ↓
 181 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 You mean you weren't fired? You left the library because you wanted to?
 Dusty nods and smiles.

165 166
 ↓ ↓
 182 DUSTY PAGES
 Twilight, your late book was the best thing that ever happened to me!
 Dusty motions to the beauty around them.

174 175
 ↓ ↓
 183 DUSTY PAGES (CONT'D)
 Now, I'm not afraid to try things I might fail at. I'm learning more every day. In fact, sometimes messing up teaches me more than getting it right!

Twilight pulls the book from her bag and looks at wistfully.
She holds it out Dusty.

56 57

↓ ↓

184

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

You're sure you don't want to return
it and get that perfect record back?

59 60

At this, a giant wayward YELLOW FRUIT screams into FRAME and
comes SPLASHING onto the book!

Twilight <SHRIEKS> in horror.

174 175

↓ ↓

185

DUSTY PAGES

Oh, good. It was a yellow one. You can
still see the words!

56 57

↓ ↓

186

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

But it'll have a stain!

174 175

↓ ↓

187

DUSTY PAGES

That doesn't change the truth inside
it.

(then)

Wait. Did you even read that thing?

Twilight blushes and stares at the book.

56 57

↓ ↓

188

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Actually, er... No. I guess I didn't.

She wipes the fruit away and reads the title aloud.

189

TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)

(reading)

"PERFECTION."

174 175

↓ ↓

190

DUSTY PAGES

And the next part...

Dusty points her hoof at the cover. CLOSE UP on the title to
REVEAL that there is tiny writing below, as well.

Twilight brings the book closer to her face and squints to
read it.

56 57

↓ ↓

191

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

... The Impossible Pursuit.

Spike and Dusty <LAUGH>. Twilight looks sheepish.

56 (57)

192 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
Oh. That might've been useful to look
at earlier.

CUT TO:

SC. 19 - INT. CANTERLOT LIBRARY - FINES OFFICE - NEXT DAY.

First Folio sits behind a desk piled high with stacks of books and papers. Twilight and Spike sit across from her, eagerly watching as First Folio tallies up the fines.

178 (179)

193 FIRST FOLIO
Your total late fees come to...

64 65

194 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
However much it is, I'll cover it!
Uh...Do you have a monthly payment
plan?

(66)

178 (179)

195 FIRST FOLIO
...Twenty eight bits.

196 SPIKE
That's it?!

197 FIRST FOLIO
Yeah. Most ponies don't know it caps
at a month.
(wink)
Probably because we don't tell them.

Spike grins as Twilight passes over a stack of COINS.

64 65

198 FIRST FOLIO (CONT'D)
Thanks! Your account's back to normal.
Although we will be taking down your
Best Book Borrower picture.

(181)

199 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Uh...Is that really necessary? It just
seems so permanent. I mean, I did
return the book after all...

199A

Spike <CLEARS HIS THROAT> pointedly.

200 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
Okay. Letting the perfection go.
(deep breath, then)
You want me to reshelve this for you?

Twilight nods to the book.

178 179

201 FIRST FOLIO

(shrugging)

Nope. It's an old edition. We've
already replaced it with a new copy.

202 SPIKE

In that case...Can we keep it? It
might be a good reminder to keep
around.

203 FIRST FOLIO

You sure? This one has a stain.

180

Twilight and Spike share a smile.

64 65

204 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

That's what makes it perfect.

END EPISODE.

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