

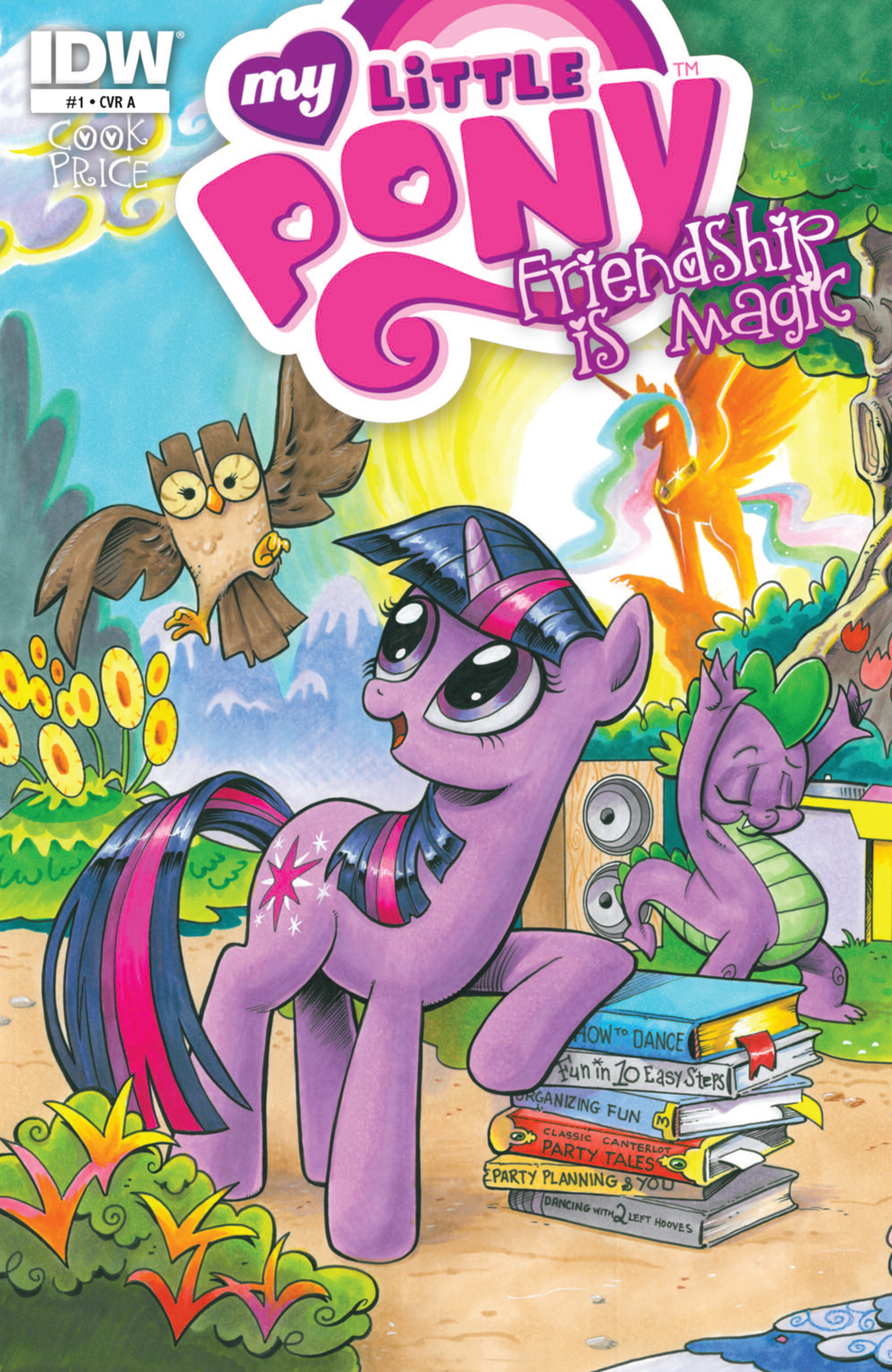
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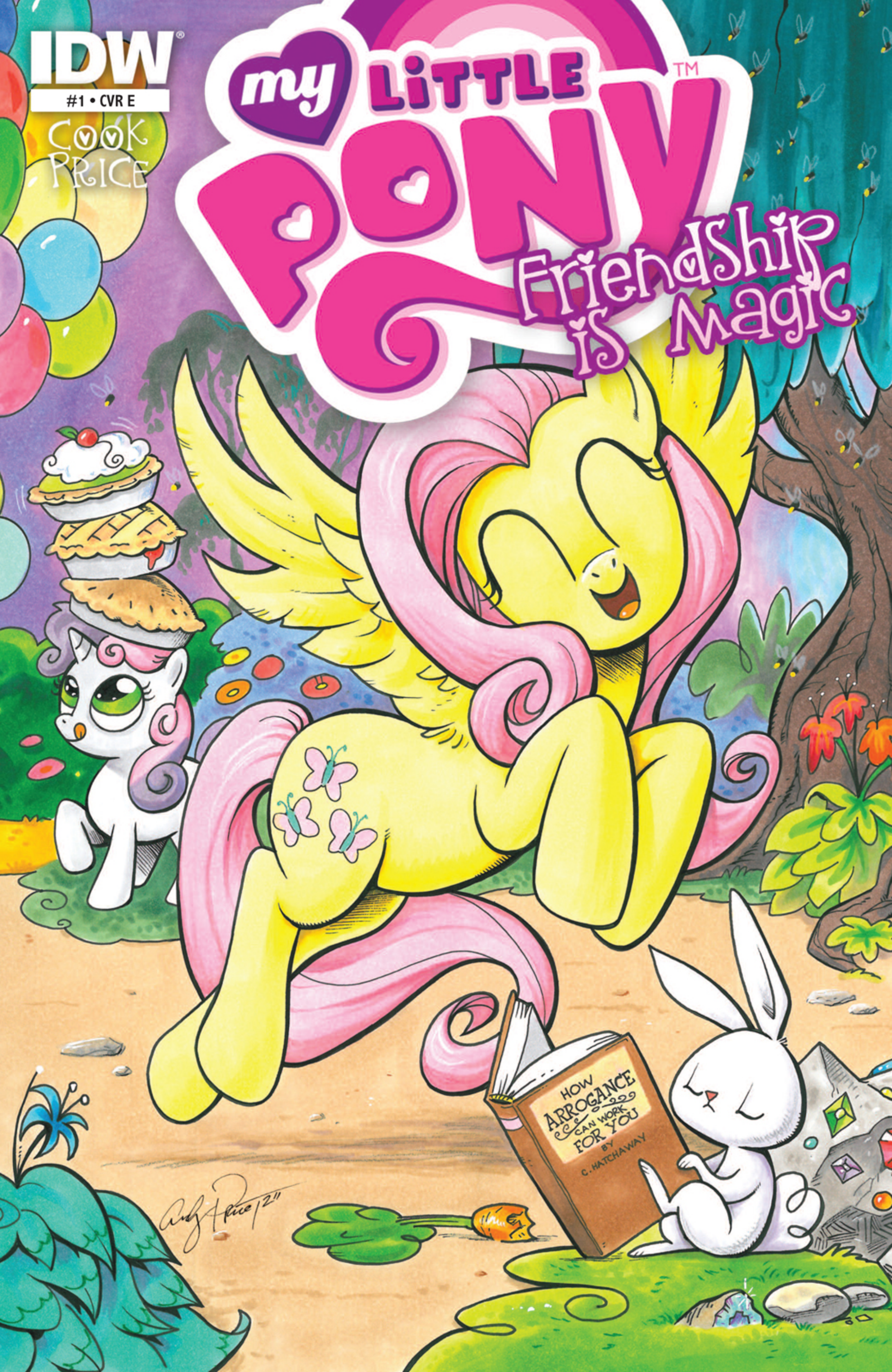
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THIS WAS A GREAT IDEA, WE CAN GET OUR CUTIE MARKS AS ZOOLOGISTS!

ZOO-WHAT? NO, WE'RE GETTING THEM IN BEING JUNGLE ADVENTURERS!

I DON'T THINK FLUTTERSHY'S BACKYARD CAN BE CONSIDERED "THE JUNGLE."

SNUFF  
SNUFF

SNUFF  
SNUFF  
SNUFF

THIS SIDE UP  
Jungle Crooz

ANIMALS

Birds

Piglet's

Bunnies

HMM... DID YOU KNOW THAT THE STUDY OF PONIES IS CALLED "HIPPOLOGY"?

HA  
HA

HA

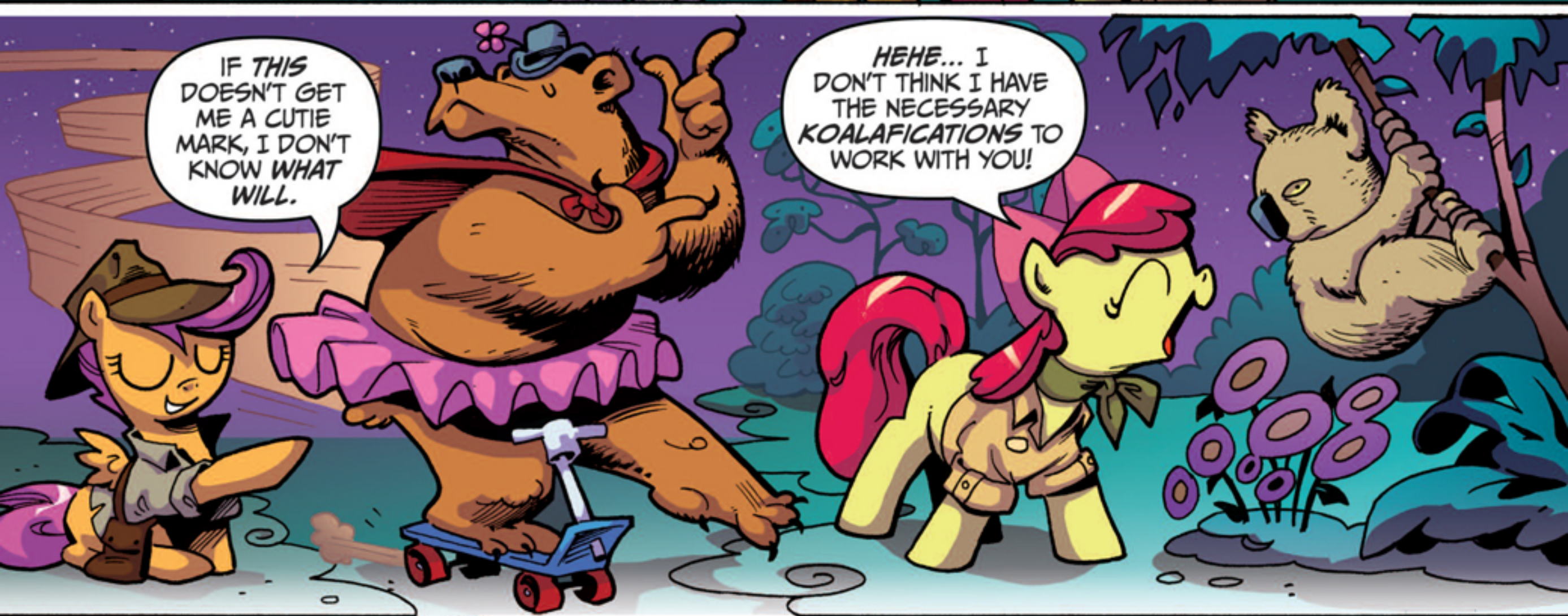
BRUNELLA

I DON'T THINK WE LOOK MUCH LIKE HIPPOS...

HEY!

# THE RETURN OF QUEEN CHRYSALIS







THE NEXT DAY...

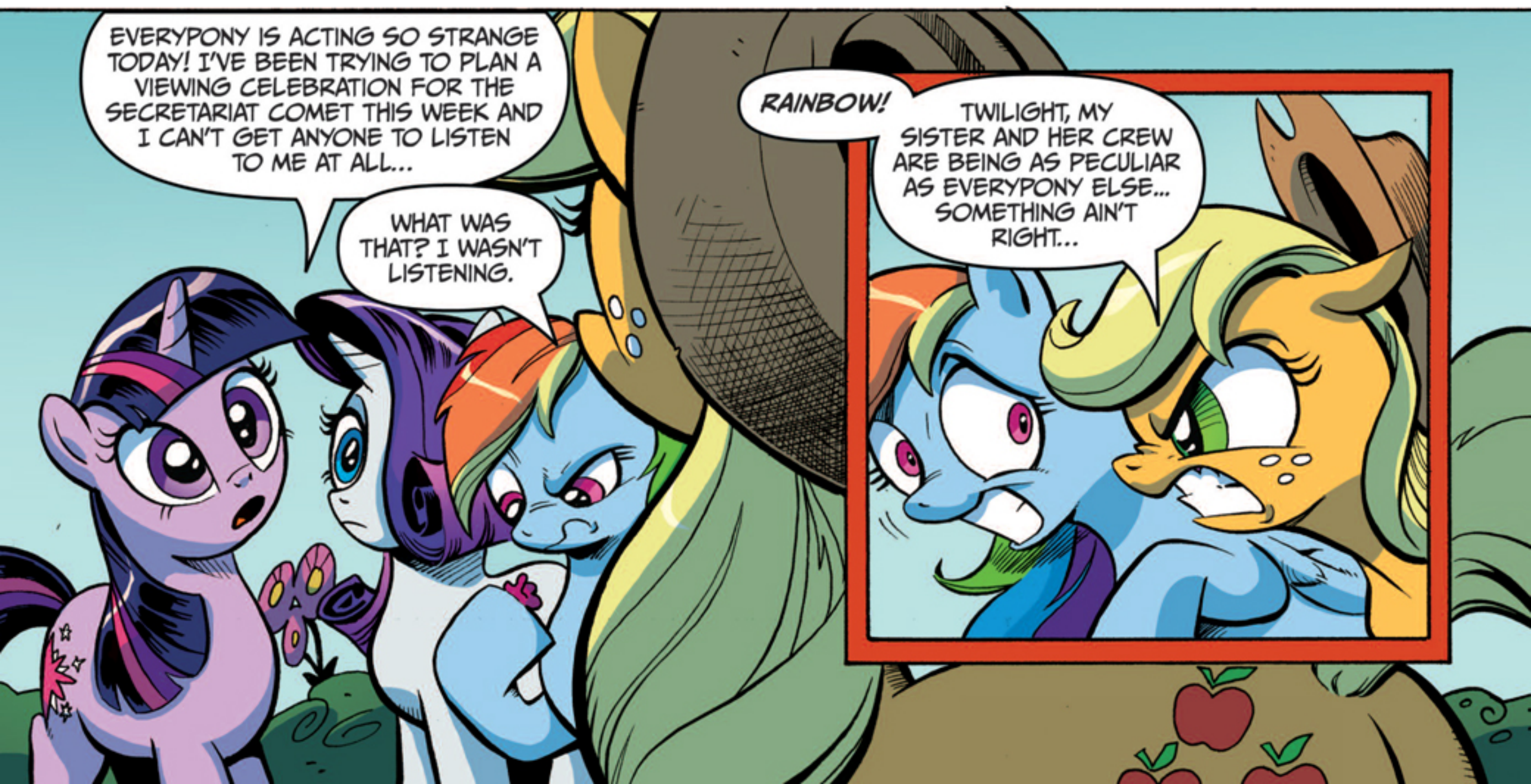


APPLE  
BLOOM! IT'S  
TIME TO GET  
UP!













HAVE ANY OF YOU SEEN CHEERILEE? I JUST HEARD SHE DIDN'T SHOW UP TO THE SCHOOLHOUSE TODAY!

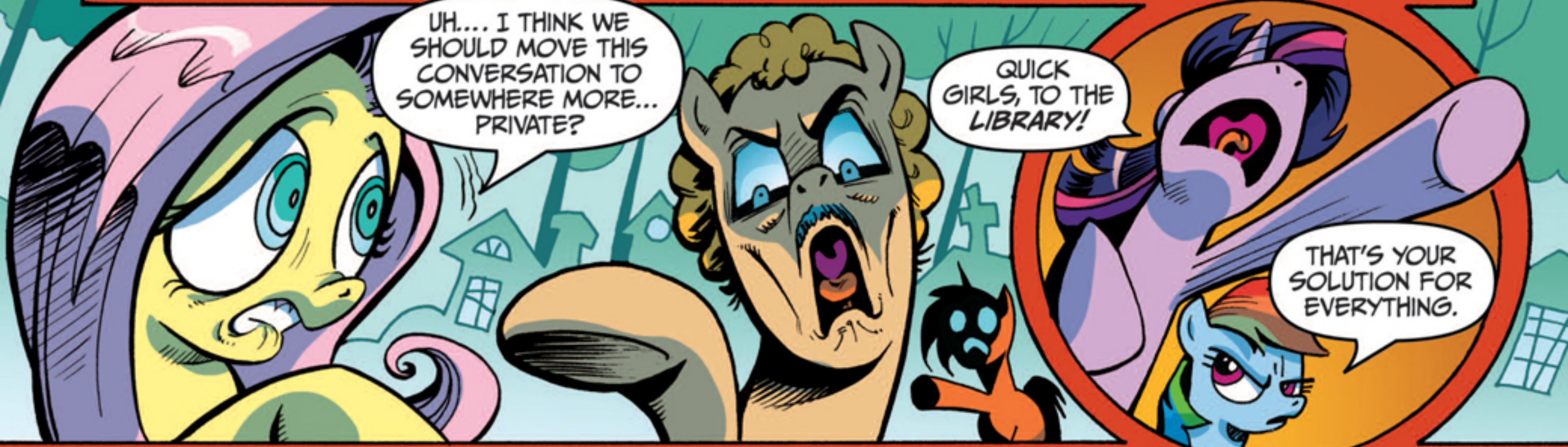
AND THE CAKES DIDN'T OPEN UP SUGARCUBE CORNER THIS MORNING!

AT FIRST I THOUGHT MAYBE THEY WERE PLANNING A PARTY BECAUSE MR. CAKE'S BIRTHDAY IS IN 43 DAYS AND THAT'S CUTTING IT WAY CLOSE TO JUST BE STARTING IN ON ORDERING SUPPLIES...

...BUT WHEN I ASKED ABOUT IT, THEY JUST LOOKED AT ME LIKE I WAS CRAZY.



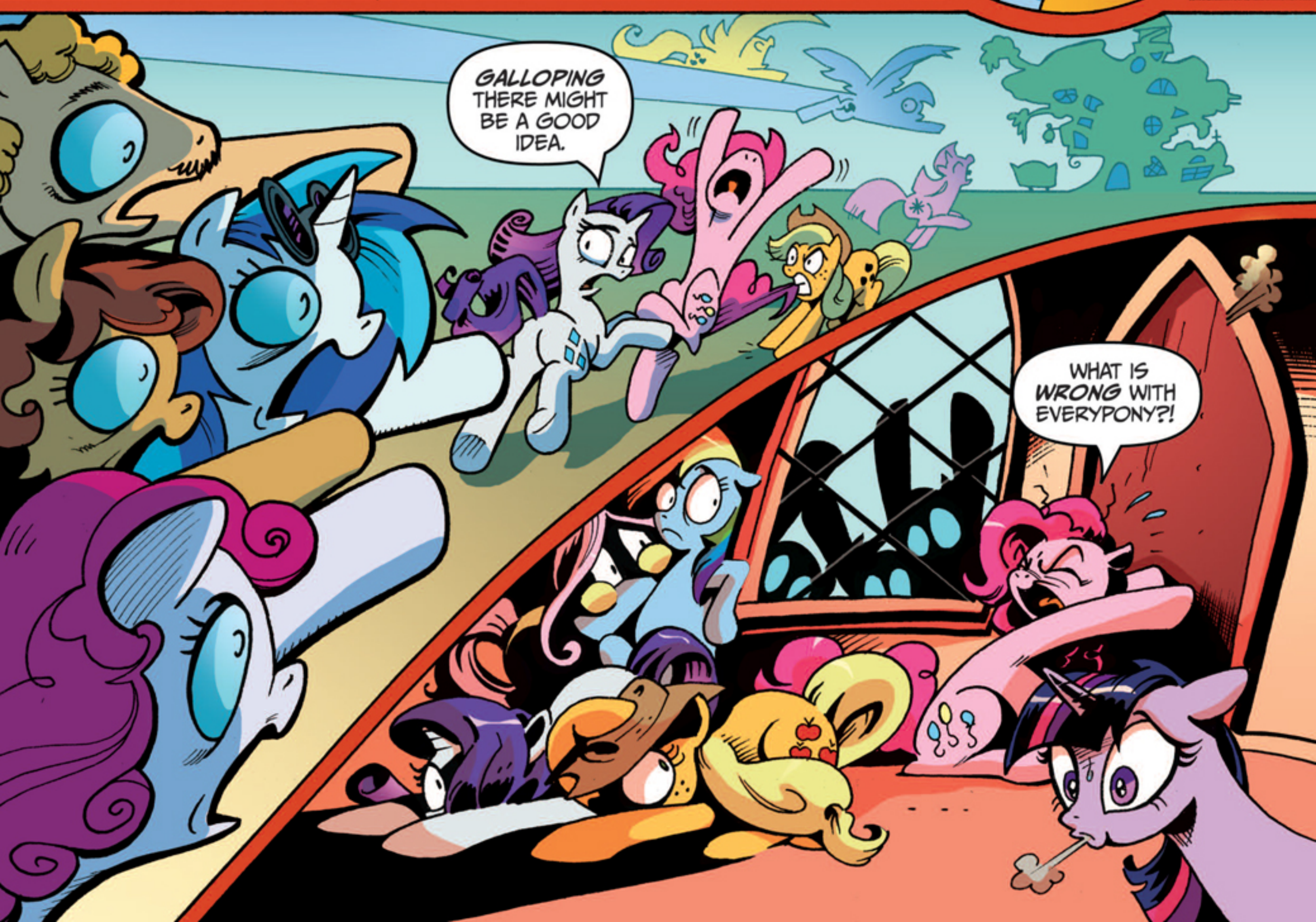
EVERYPONY IS ACTING SO BIZARRE! MORE AND MORE PONIES BY THE HOUR! WHAT IN EQUESTRIA IS GOING ON?



UH... I THINK WE SHOULD MOVE THIS CONVERSATION TO SOMEWHERE MORE... PRIVATE?

QUICK GIRLS, TO THE LIBRARY!

THAT'S YOUR SOLUTION FOR EVERYTHING.



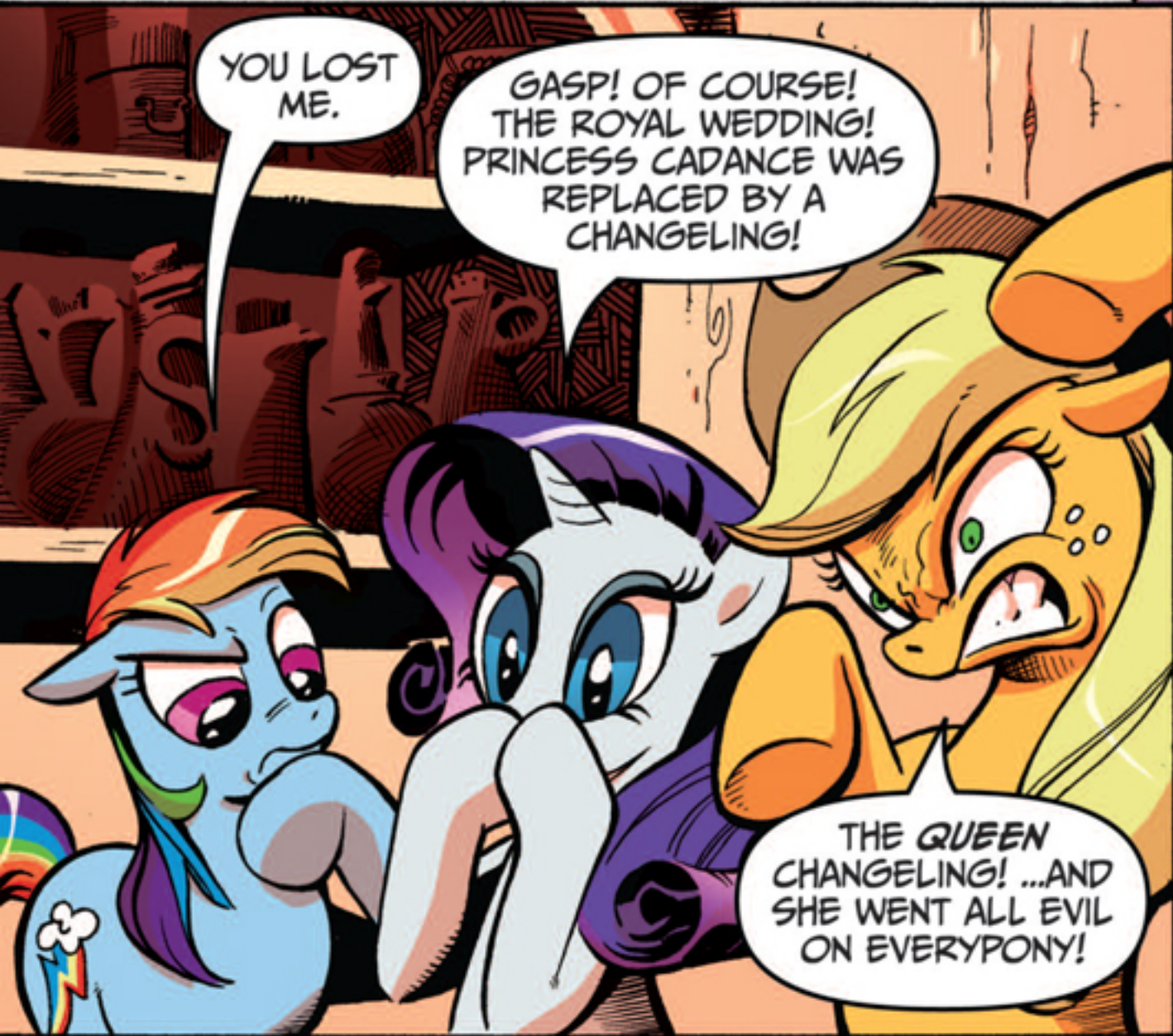
GALLOPING THERE MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA.

WHAT IS WRONG WITH EVERYPONY?!





WAIT... THIS...  
THIS IS TOO  
FAMILIAR. EVERYPONY  
ACTING STRANGE?  
ACTING LIKE  
THEY'VE BEEN  
REPLACED?!



YOU LOST  
ME.

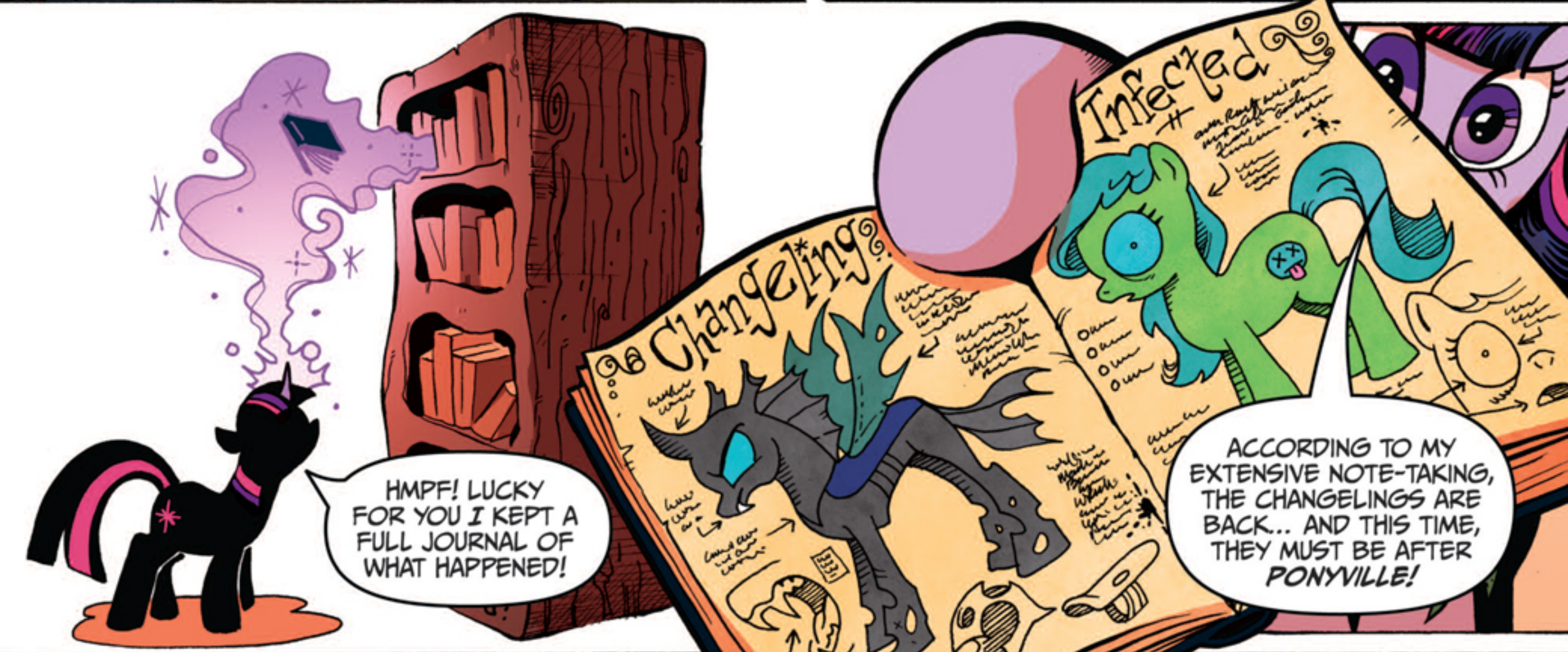
GASP! OF COURSE!  
THE ROYAL WEDDING!  
PRINCESS CADANCE WAS  
REPLACED BY A  
CHANGELING!

THE *QUEEN*  
CHANGELING! ...AND  
SHE WENT ALL EVIL  
ON EVERYPONY!



OOOH... THE  
WEDDING... YEAH...  
WELL, I DON'T REMEMBER  
MUCH AFTER I HAD PINKIE'S  
TUTTI-FRUTTI SHERBET SUGAR  
PUNCH. IT MADE THE DAY A  
BIT OF A BLUR...

THAT'S  
BECAUSE I USE  
SEVEN PARTS  
SUGAR TO EVERY  
ONE PART TUTTI!



HMPF! LUCKY  
FOR YOU I KEPT A  
FULL JOURNAL OF  
WHAT HAPPENED!

ACCORDING TO MY  
EXTENSIVE NOTE-TAKING,  
THE CHANGELINGS ARE  
BACK... AND THIS TIME,  
THEY MUST BE AFTER  
*PONYVILLE*!



WELL, WE NEED TO WARN  
PRINCESS CELESTIA RIGHT  
AWAY! SHE'LL GET RID OF  
THEM RIGHT QUICK!

RIGHT!

*SPIKE!* TAKE  
A LETTER!



RIGHT!



THREE REWRITES AND A SPELL CHECK LATER...

PERFECT! SEND IT TO CELESTIA, SPIKE.

NO PROBLEM.

NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL SERVICE!

POOM

"DEAR CORRESPONDENT: I AM UNAVAILABLE DUE TO A ROYAL EMERGENCY. PLEASE TRY SENDING YOUR LETTER AGAIN AT A LATER TIME."

...I... I WAS JUST FORM LETTERED?!

WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE WE ARE ON OUR OWN FOR THIS. IT'S CLOBBERING TIME!

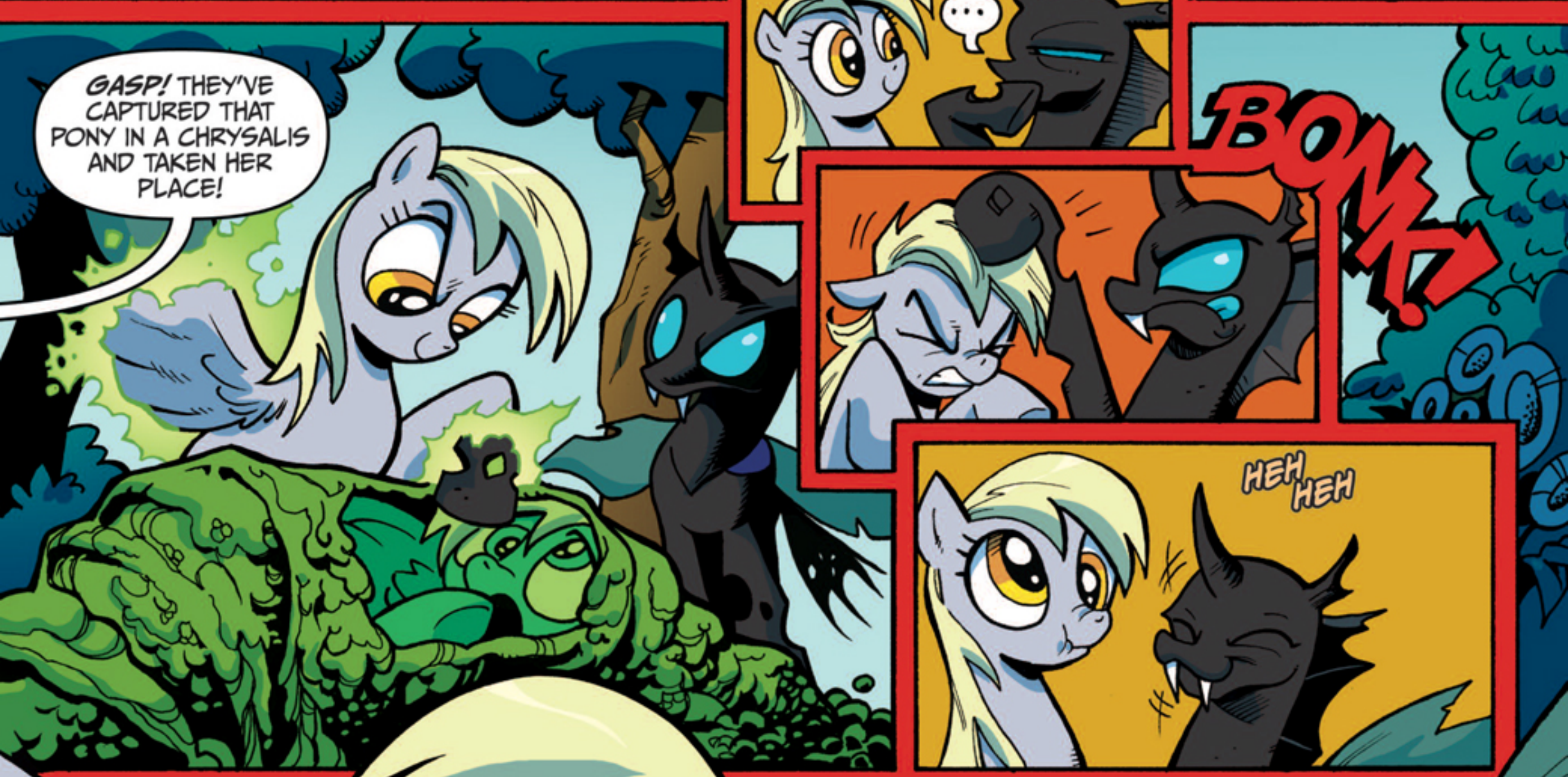
UM... I WOULD BE OKAY WITH WAITING UNTIL THE PRINCESS IS AVAILABLE.

MY SISTER IS MISSIN' AND IF THOSE THINGS ARE RESPONSIBLE, WE NEED TO FIND OUT WHAT IS GOING ON!

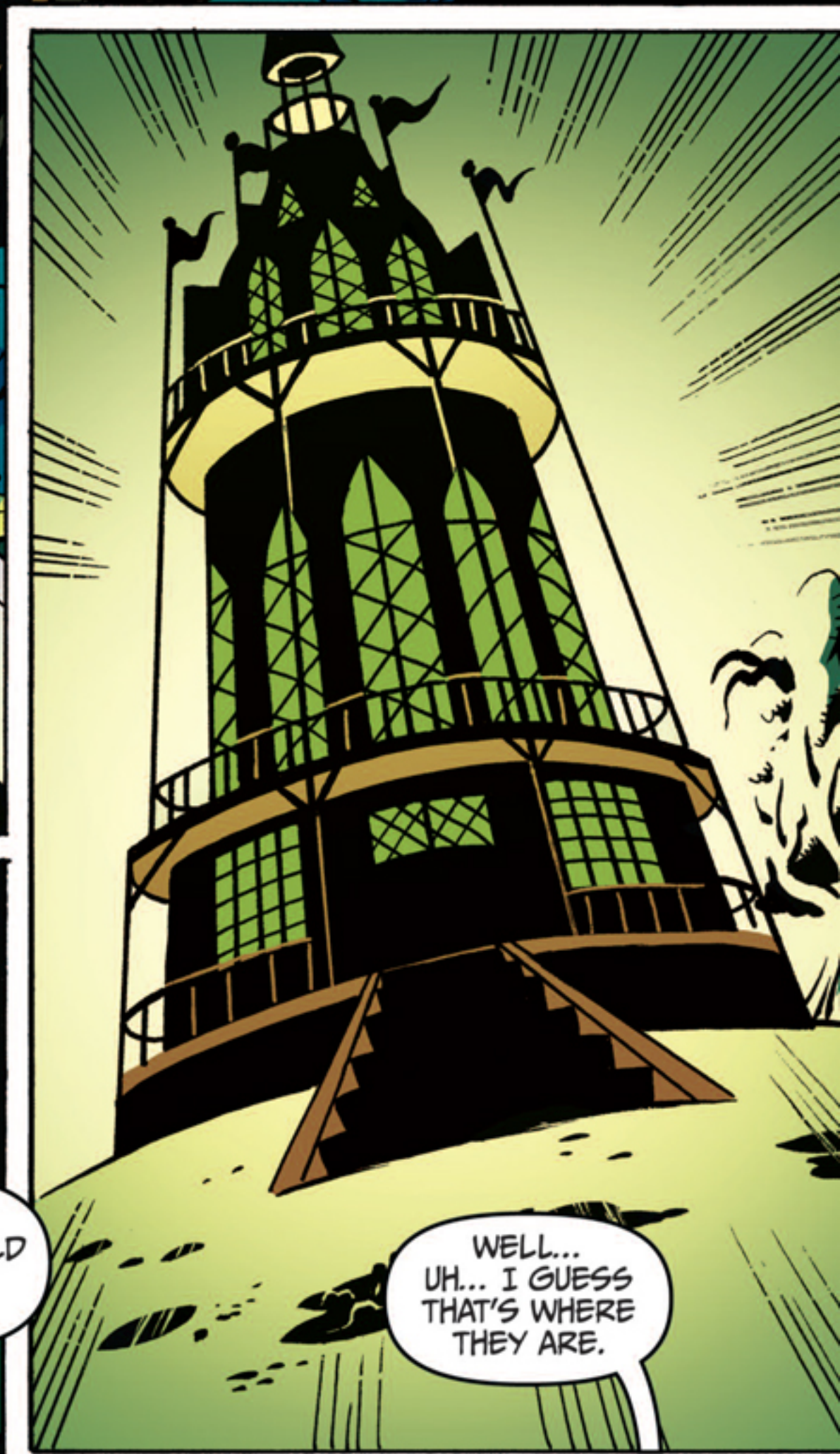














LET'S GET  
THIS RODEO  
STARTED!

GIVE ME BACK  
MY SISTER, YOU  
RUFFIANS!

IT'S FLANK  
WHOOING...

...TIME?

HISSE

OKAY, GIRLS!  
WE'VE FOUGHT  
THEM BEFORE!  
WE CAN HANDLE  
THIS!



"...I THINK?"

POOF

WATCH OUT!  
THEY'RE TAKING  
OUR FORM TO  
CONFUSE US!

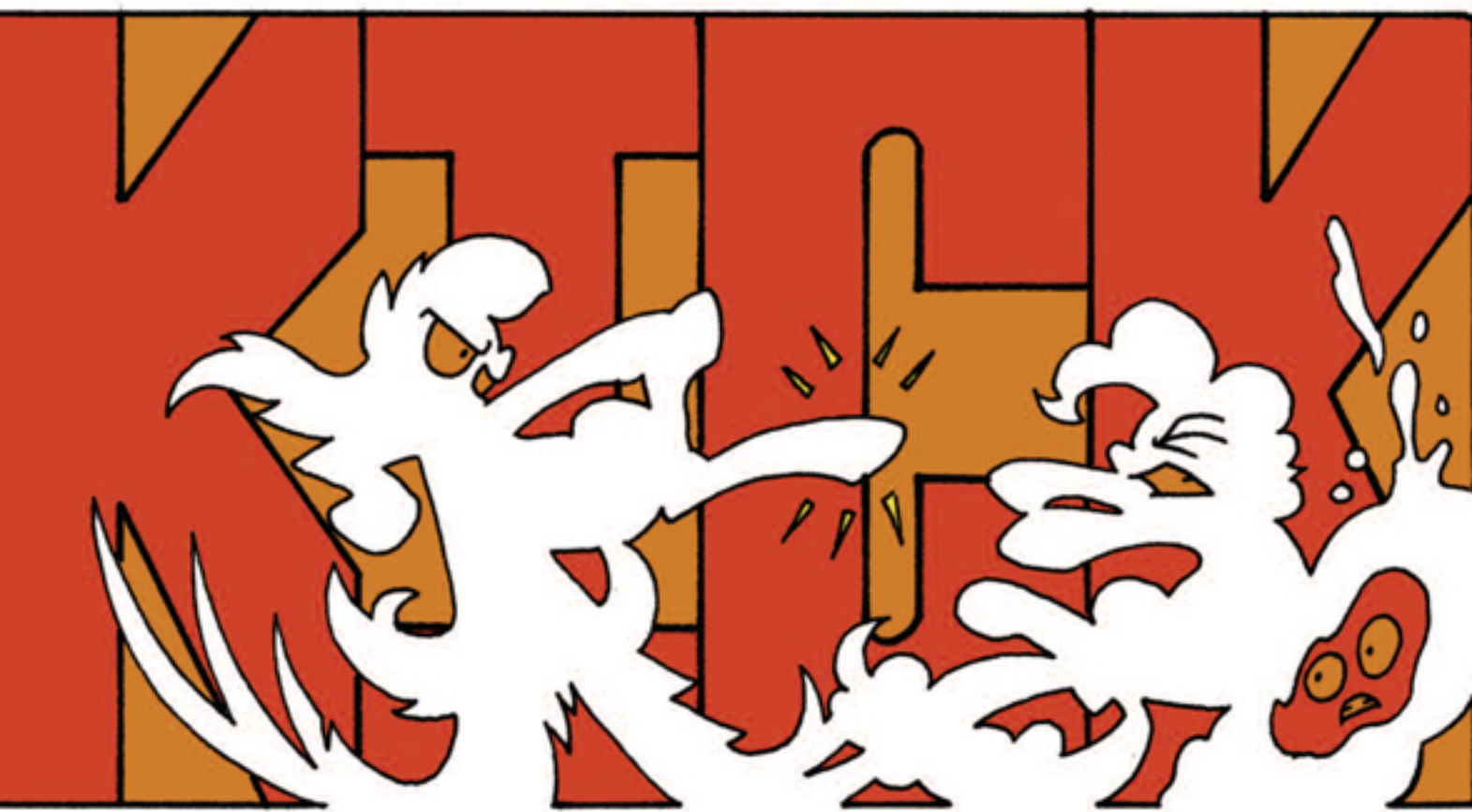
WELL,  
THIS IS...

...NIGHTMARISH.

OH! THIS WOULD BE  
THE **BEST PARTY EVER**  
IF WE WEREN'T ALL ABOUT  
TO BE TURNED INTO POD  
PONIES!

PINKIE!









HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO TELL ME APART FROM ME?!

HMM... DO YOU MIND IF I DO SOMETHING I'VE BEEN DYING TO TRY?



THERE, NOW YOU LOOK DIFFERENT AND FABULOUS!



RARITY! BLAST IT! PRETEND IT'S LAST YEAR'S FASHION OR SOMETHING!

EEP! LEG WARMERS AND STIRRUP PANTS?!

...NOT IN MY SPRING LINE!



UH... TWILIGHT? LITTLE HELP?





WE NEED TO TRY SOMETHING ELSE! WE NEED TO TAKE THEM ALL DOWN AT ONCE!

QUICK! SOMEONE GET RARITY MAD AGAIN! SHOULDERS PADS! PARACHUTE PANTS!



IDEA! IDEA! OH! OH! PICK ME! I HAVE AN IDEA!





WELL... THAT  
ESCALATED  
QUICKLY... THEN  
ENDED ABRUPTLY.

WOW PINKIE!  
HOW DID YOU KNOW  
THAT CAKE BATTER  
WOULD GET ALL THE  
CHANGELINGS TO STOP  
DEAD IN THEIR  
TRACKS?

BECAUSE IT'S  
THE BATTER FOR  
MY SUPER-STICKY  
DOUBLE-BUBBLE  
BUBBLE-GUM FOR  
GUMMY CAKE!  
...DUH.

LET'S START  
LETTING EVERYPONY  
OUT OF THESE PODS  
AND FIND THOSE  
FILLIES!

LATER...

THERE'S NO SIGN  
OF SWEETIE BELLE,  
APPLE BLOOM, OR  
SCOOTALOO ANYWHERE,  
AND YOU'VE OPENED  
ALL THE PODS!

WHERE...  
WHERE COULD  
THEY POSSIBLY BE?  
WHY AREN'T THEY  
HERE?!



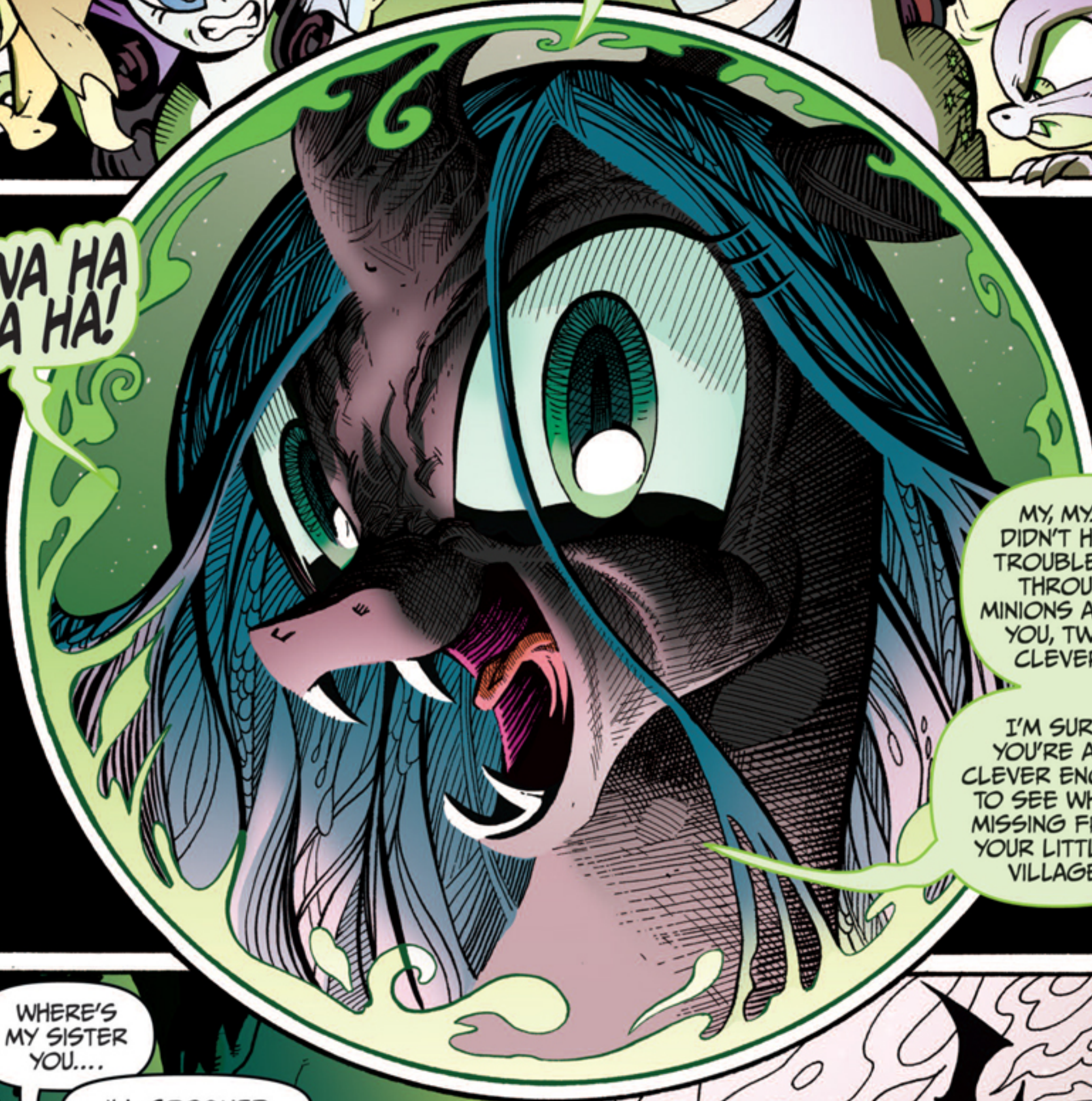






MWA  
HA HA  
HA!

MWA HA  
HA HA!



MY, MY... YOU  
DIDN'T HAVE ANY  
TROUBLE SEEING  
THROUGH MY  
MINIONS AT ALL, DID  
YOU, TWILIGHT?  
CLEVER GIRL.

I'M SURE  
YOU'RE ALL  
CLEVER ENOUGH  
TO SEE WHO'S  
MISSING FROM  
YOUR LITTLE...  
VILLAGE.



WHERE'S  
MY SISTER  
YOU....

...ILL-GROOMED...

...SWISS  
CHEESE...

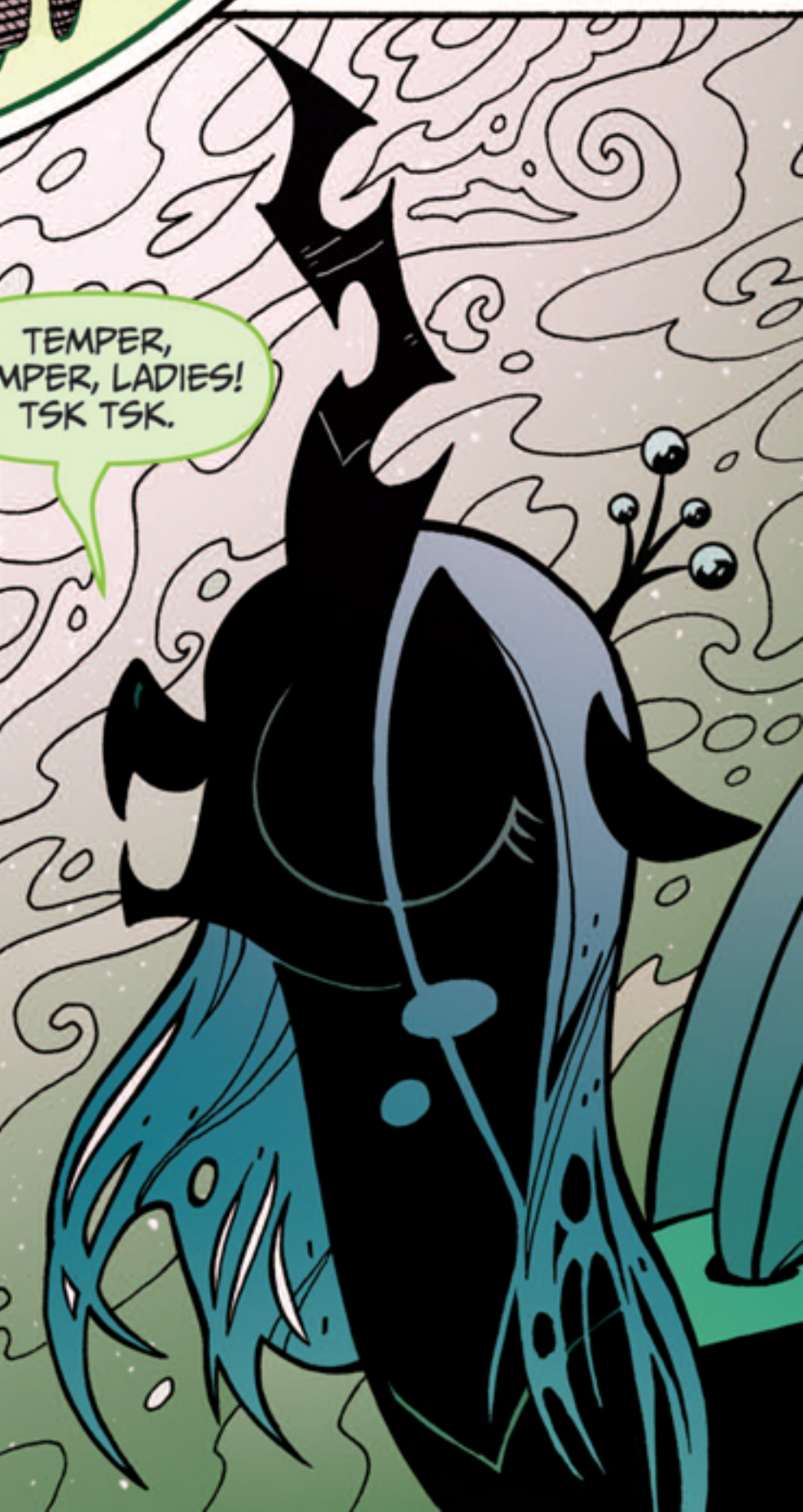
...MULE!



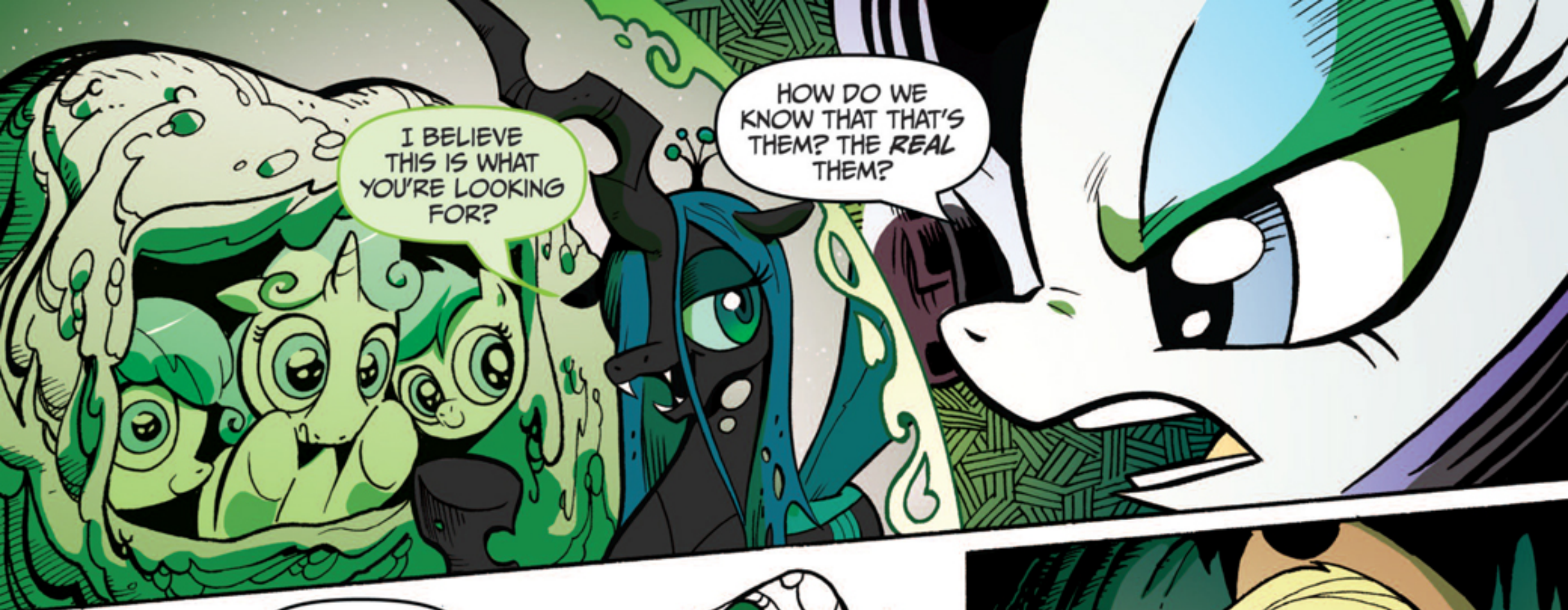
HEY!

hā!

TEMPER,  
TEMPER, LADIES!  
TSK TSK.







I BELIEVE THIS IS WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR?

HOW DO WE KNOW THAT THAT'S THEM? THE *REAL* THEM?



MAYBE THIS WILL HELP US GET OUR CUTIE MARKS?

IN WHAT? BEING FILLYNAPPED?

SIGH.



THAT'S THEM.

I HAVE THEM HERE... IN MY KINGDOM. YOU MAY WANT TO COME COLLECT THEM QUICKLY...



WHAT WOULD A CUTIE MARK IN BEING FILLYNAPPED LOOK LIKE?

LIKE US?

I DON'T KNOW IF I WANT A PICTURE OF YOU ON MY FLANK FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.

...BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I CAN PUT UP WITH THIS.

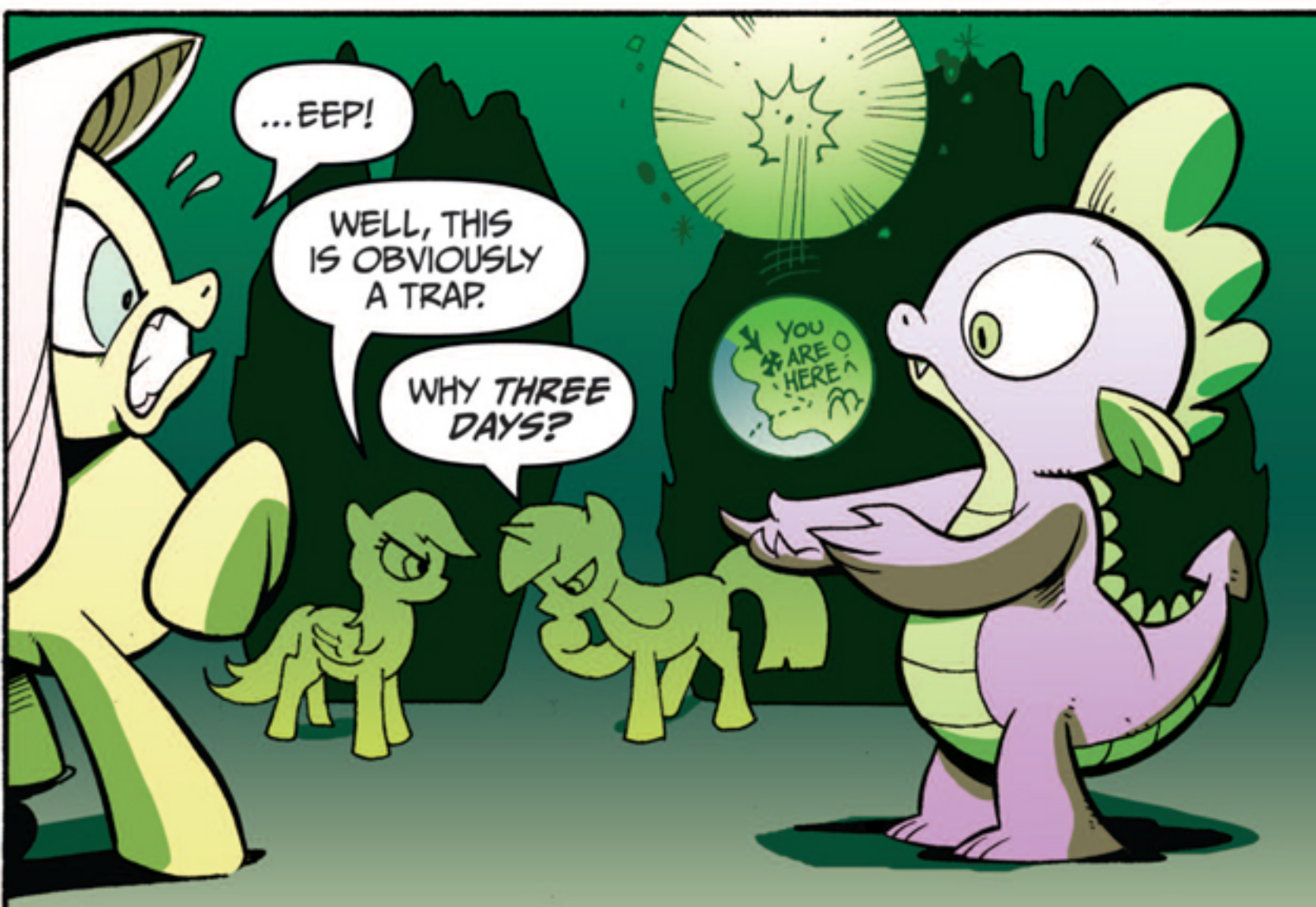


HOW ABOUT THREE DAYS? OTHERWISE, SOMETHING *BAD* MIGHT HAPPEN TO YOUR LITTLE FRIENDS... SOMETHING LIKE...



HEY! SHE'S ABOUT TO START MONOLOGUING! I BET SHE REVEALS HER ENTIRE TWISTED PLAN!

UGH. GOODBYE.



...EEP!

WELL, THIS IS OBVIOUSLY A TRAP.

WHY *THREE* DAYS?





GASP! I KNOW. SECRETARIAT COMET! IN THREE DAYS THE SECRETARIAT COMET IS PASSING THROUGH THE HORSE HEAD NEBULA \*BREATHE\* AND IT'S ALL PASSING OVER EQUESTRIA. IT'S THE SINGLE BIGGEST CONJUNCTION IN CELESTIAL EVENTS IN OVER 3,000 YEARS!

YOU GOT WHAT IN YOUR WHAT NOW?



IT'S A MAGICAL PHENOMENON, EVERY MAGICAL CREATURE IS GOING TO FEEL THE EFFECTS. IT MUST BE WHY PRINCESS CELESTIA IS UNAVAILABLE. SHE'S PROBABLY PROTECTING CANTERLOT!

BUT... IF CELESTIA IS BUSY, WHO WILL HELP US AGAINST QUEEN CHRYSALIS? WE CAN'T GO TO THE CHANGELING KINGDOM ALONE!

YES, PERHAPS SOME OF THE ROYAL GUARD CAN ACCOMPANY US? MAYBE SOMEONE WITH BROAD SHOULDERS... A NICE COIFFURE... AN ACCENT...

STILL NO ONE WITH ME THAT THIS IS A TRAP?



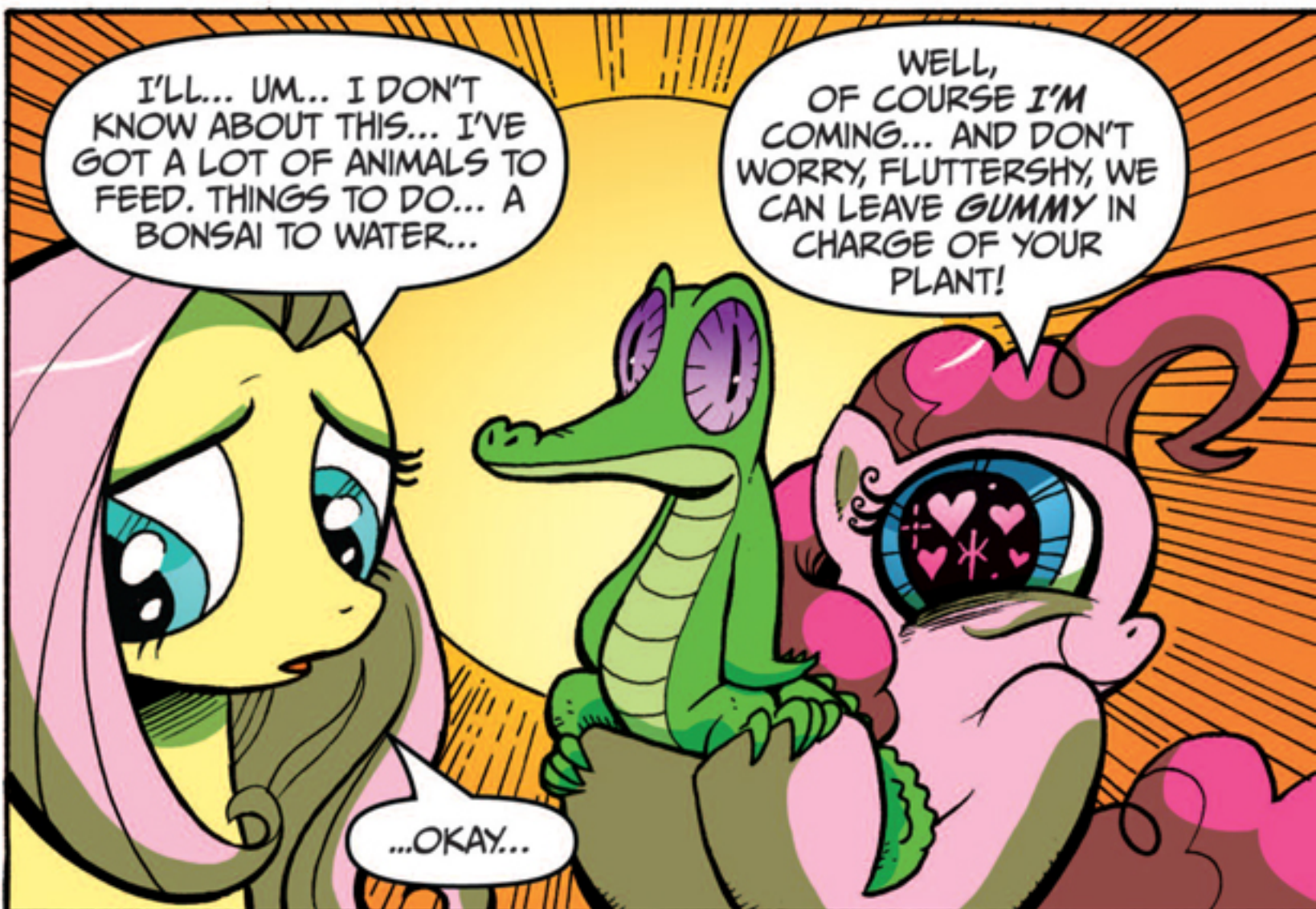
WE KNOW IT'S A TRAP, RAINBOW... BUT I CAN'T WAIT AROUND FOR HELP FROM THE ROYALS. I'VE GOT TO SAVE MY SISTER!

SWEETIE BELLE NEEDS MY HELP. I'M GOING WITH APPLEJACK.

BUT WE SHOULD WAIT... WE NEED TO DO SOME INVESTIGATION INTO WHAT THE QUEEN IS UP TO! HOW IS SHE GOING TO USE THAT MAGICAL SURGE? WHY DO WE NEED TO BE THERE?! WE SHOULD TRY AND WRITE TO THE PRINCESS AGAIN.



WRITE ALL THE LETTERS YOU WANT, THERE'S NO TIME TO WAIT. RARITY AND I ARE LEAVING NOW.



I'LL... UM... I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS... I'VE GOT A LOT OF ANIMALS TO FEED. THINGS TO DO... A BONSAI TO WATER...

WELL, OF COURSE I'M COMING... AND DON'T WORRY, FLUTTERSHY, WE CAN LEAVE GUMMY IN CHARGE OF YOUR PLANT!

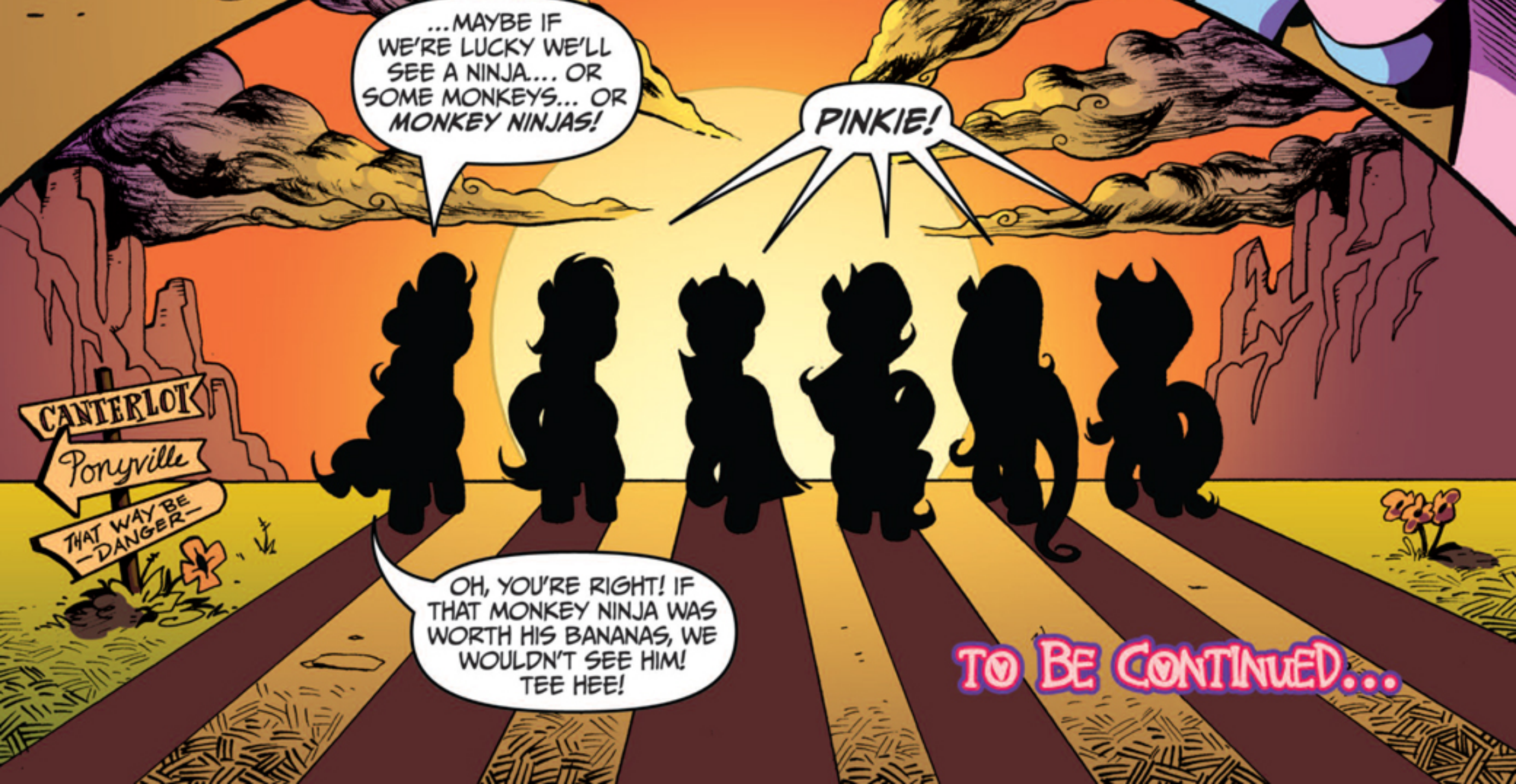
...OKAY...



SPIKE, YOU STAY HERE. KEEP TRYING TO GET A HOLD OF PRINCESS CELESTIA AND TELL HER WHERE WE ARE.

I'M LEAVING YOU IN CHARGE OF THE CAPTURED CHANGELINGS. WHEN YOU GET A HOLD OF THE PRINCESS, SHE'LL TAKE CARE OF THEM.







NEXT MONTH: ISSUE #2







## How Much Is That Pony In The Window?

Art and Story by Katie Cook





