

**IDW**<sup>®</sup>

#35

WHITLEY  
PRICE  
BRECKEL

# my LITTLE PONY

Friendship  
is Magic



#35



Released by  
YayPonies.eu

if you like it, get a physical copy !

### Where to buy physical copy :

in USA : <http://shop.idwpublishing.com/>

in USA : <http://tfaw.com>

in Germany : <http://www.comicshop.de/>

in UK : <http://forbiddenplanet.com/>

in UK : <http://legionofcomics.co.uk/>

Worldwide (based in US) : <http://amazon.com>

We always think that physical comics are cooler (call us old!), but if you prefer digital version, or can't get the physical one, please support the comics and Comixology decision to remove DRM and get the legal version via :

<https://www.comixology.com/>

Language : English

File source : iTunes Store

Edition : PDF

Lossless : Yes

Original version released by : YayPonies.eu

Translated by : NNOPE

Translated version released by : NNOPE

If you translate the comic, feel free to edit this page by replacing "Language", "Translated version released by" and "Translated by" with your own credits/infos.



WRITTEN BY

Jeremy Whitley

ART BY

Andy Price

COLORS BY

Heather Breckel

EDITED BY

Bobby Curnow

LETTERS BY

Gilberto Lazcano

Special thanks to Brian Lenard, Ed Lane and Michael Kelly for their invaluable assistance. Also Special Thanks to Cathy Gaines-Mifsud, Dorothy Ruth Crouch, and Graham Ingels.

**IDW**<sup>®</sup>  
[www.IDWPUBLISHING.com](http://www.IDWPUBLISHING.com)  
 IDW founded by Ted Adams, Alex Garner, Kris Oprisko, and Robbie Robbins



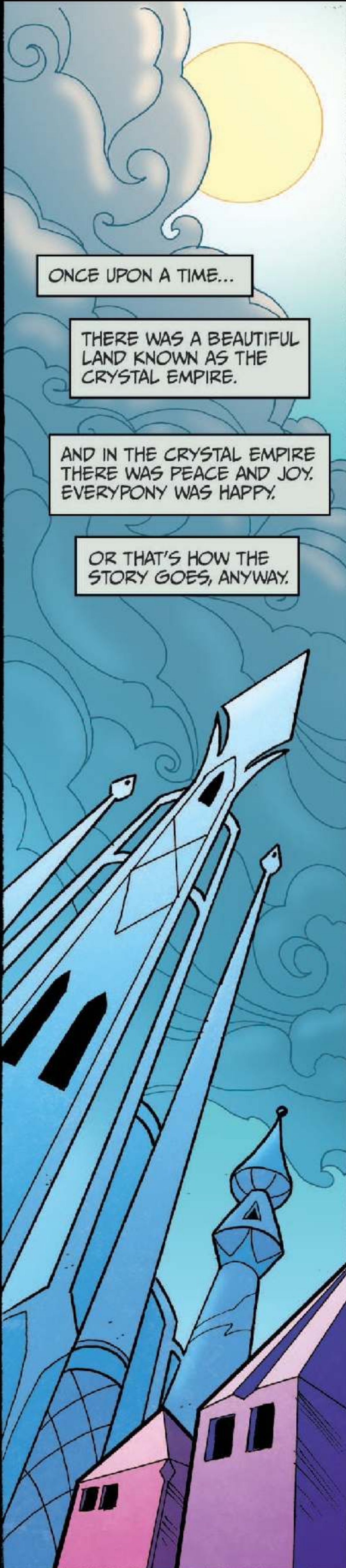
Licensed By:  
 Ted Adams, CEO & Publisher  
 Greg Goldstein, President & COO  
 Robbie Robbins, EVP/Sr. Graphic Artist  
 Chris Ryall, Chief Creative Officer/Editor-in-Chief  
 Matthew Ruzicka, CPA, Chief Financial Officer  
 Alan Payne, VP of Sales  
 Dirk Wood, VP of Marketing  
 Lorelei Bunjes, VP of Digital Services  
 Jeff Webber, VP of Digital Publishing & Business Development

Facebook: [facebook.com/idwpublishing](https://facebook.com/idwpublishing)  
 Twitter: [@idwpublishing](https://twitter.com/idwpublishing)  
 YouTube: [youtube.com/idwpublishing](https://youtube.com/idwpublishing)  
 Instagram: [instagram.com/idwpublishing](https://instagram.com/idwpublishing)  
 deviantART: [idwpublishing.deviantart.com](https://deviantart.com/idwpublishing)  
 Pinterest: [pinterest.com/idwpublishing/idw-staff-faves](https://pinterest.com/idwpublishing/idw-staff-faves)



MY LITTLE PONY: FRIENDSHIP IS MAGIC #35. OCTOBER 2015. FIRST PRINTING. HASBRO and its logo, MY LITTLE PONY, and all related characters are trademarks of Hasbro and are used with permission. © 2015 Hasbro. All Rights Reserved. The IDW logo is registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. IDW Publishing, a division of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Editorial offices: 2765 Truxtun Road, San Diego CA 92106. Any similarities to persons living or dead are purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be reprinted without the permission of Idea and Design Works, LLC. Printed in Korea. IDW Publishing does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork.

# STAGE of the CRYSTAL EMPIRE part II




ONCE UPON A TIME...

THERE WAS A BEAUTIFUL LAND KNOWN AS THE CRYSTAL EMPIRE.

AND IN THE CRYSTAL EMPIRE THERE WAS PEACE AND JOY. EVERYPONY WAS HAPPY.

OR THAT'S HOW THE STORY GOES, ANYWAY.



BUT IN THAT BEAUTIFUL LAND, THERE WAS A YOUNG GIRL WHO HAD LOST MUCH AND FOUND HERSELF IN AN ORPHANAGE. HER NAME WAS RADIANT HOPE.

AND SINCE SHE WAS ALONE, HOPE MADE FRIENDS WITH SHADOWS AND PIXIES AND THINGS NO ONE ELSE COULD SEE.

THE OTHER YOUNG PONIES AT THE ORPHANAGE SAID THAT SHE WAS STRANGE AND THEY REFUSED TO PLAY WITH HER.


AND WHEN SHE WAS THE LAST GIRL WITH NO CUTIE MARK, IT ONLY GOT WORSE.



AND THEN, RADIANT HOPE FINALLY MET SOMEONY WHO WOULD BE HER FRIEND.

IF YOU WANT, YOU CAN BE WEIRD WITH ME AND WE'LL BE WEIRD TOGETHER. WOULD THAT BE OKAY?

SOMBRA WOULD LIKE THAT.



SOON, SOMBRA AND HOPE WERE THE BEST OF FRIENDS AND THEY WERE INSEPARABLE.

GOOD KING... I MEAN PRINCE SOMBRA! I HAVE COME TO RESCUE YOU FROM YOUR TOWER.

LOOK OUT, SIR LADY HOPE, THE DRAGON IS RIGHT BEHIND YOU!

OF COURSE, A GOOD FAIRY TALE NEEDS CERTAIN THINGS. ONE NIGHT HOPE AND SOMBRA DECIDED TO GO OUT TO SEE THE CRYSTAL HEART.

WOW, IT'S AMAZING!

LET'S GET CLOSER!

THE LEGEND OF THE CRYSTAL HEART SAYS THAT IF YOU LOOK INTO ITS SURFACE LONG ENOUGH, YOU CAN SEE YOUR FUTURE.

AND WHAT RADIANT HOPE SAW STRUCK HER WITH WONDER. SHE SAW THAT SHE WOULD BECOME A PRINCESS.

BUT SOMBRA SAW SOMETHING FAR DIFFERENT. HE SAW AN IMAGE THAT WOULD STAY WITH HIM. AN IMAGE THAT WOULD WAKE HIM FROM A SOUND SLEEP. HE SAW SOMETHING HE DID NOT WANT TO BECOME.

SOMBRA HAD HOPED TO PUT THE TERRIBLE VISION OUT OF HIS MIND BY GOING TO THE CRYSTAL FAIRE. HOPE HAD WANTED TO TAKE HIM AND HE COULDN'T WAIT.

BUT THE DAY OF THE FAIRE CAME AND SOMBRA BECAME TERRIBLY ILL. HE WRITHED IN PAIN WHILE EVERYONE ELSE CELEBRATED, EVERYONE EXCEPT HOPE.

SHE NEVER LEFT HIS SIDE.

THE SAME THING HAPPENED EVERY YEAR AND EVERY YEAR IT GOT WORSE. UNTIL ONE DAY...

SOMBRA WAS IN SO MUCH PAIN THAT HOPE KNEW SHE HAD TO HELP. SHE DIDN'T KNOW HOW OR EVEN WHAT WAS HAPPENING TO HIM, BUT SHE KNEW SHE HAD TO DO SOMETHING.



AND SO SHE DID.

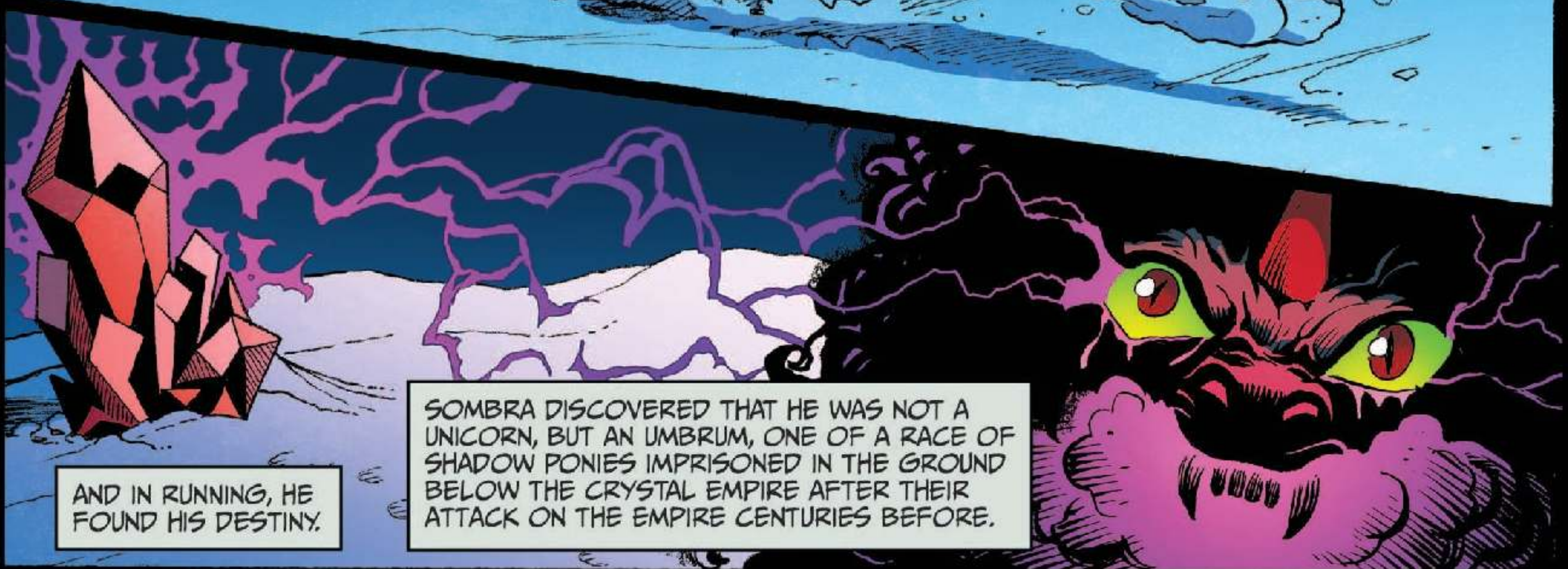


AND WHEN THE LETTER FROM THE TWO SISTERS CAME, HOPE REALIZED THAT HER VISION WAS COMING TRUE. SHE WAS ON HER WAY TO BECOMING A PRINCESS!



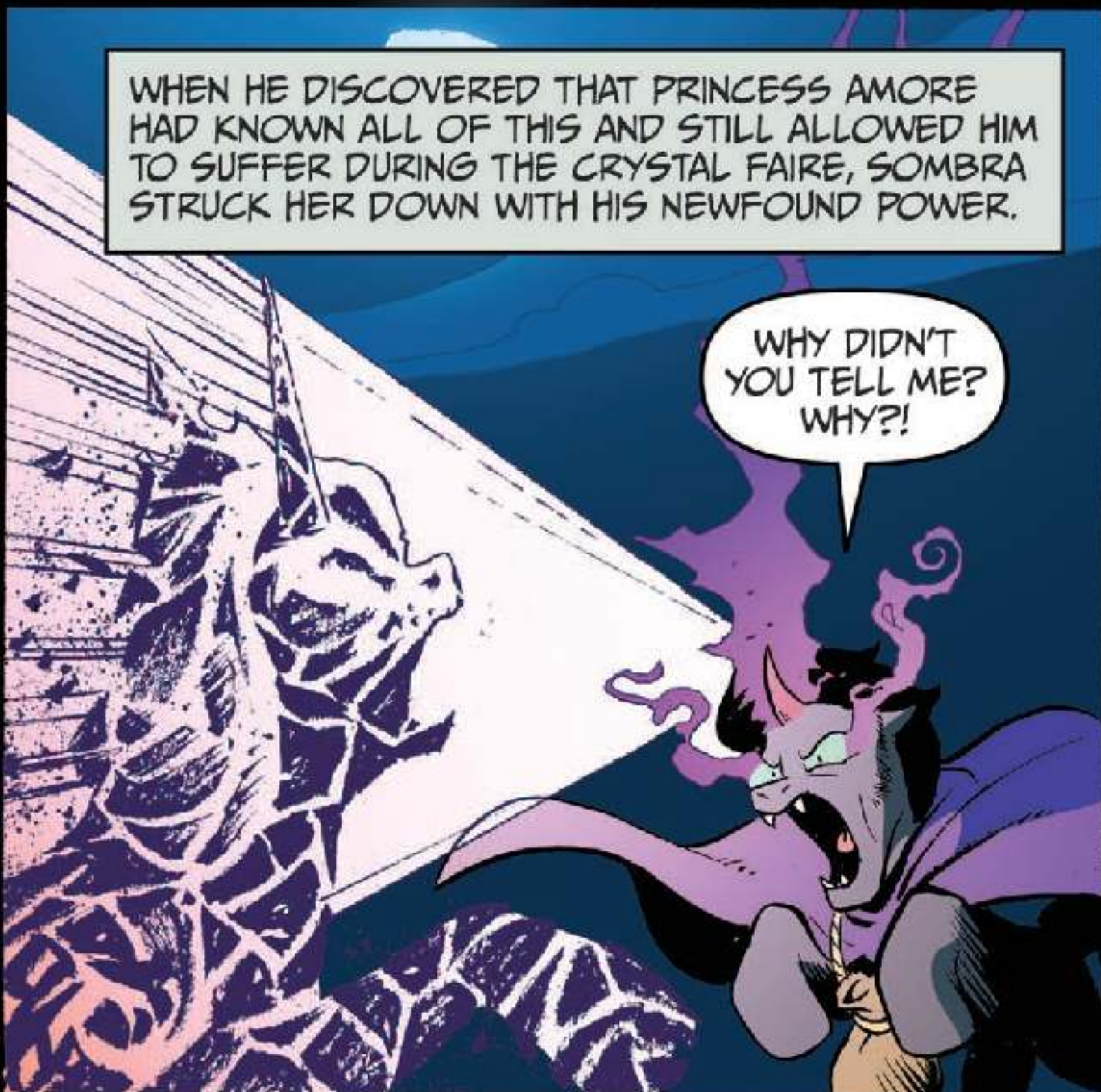
AND SOMBRA, WHO HAD NEVER TOLD HOPE WHAT HE SAW IN THE CRYSTAL HEART, WAS SURE THAT HIS FATE WAS SEALED.

AND SO HE RAN.



AND IN RUNNING, HE FOUND HIS DESTINY.

SOMBRA DISCOVERED THAT HE WAS NOT A UNICORN, BUT AN UMBRUM, ONE OF A RACE OF SHADOW PONIES IMPRISONED IN THE GROUND BELOW THE CRYSTAL EMPIRE AFTER THEIR ATTACK ON THE EMPIRE CENTURIES BEFORE.



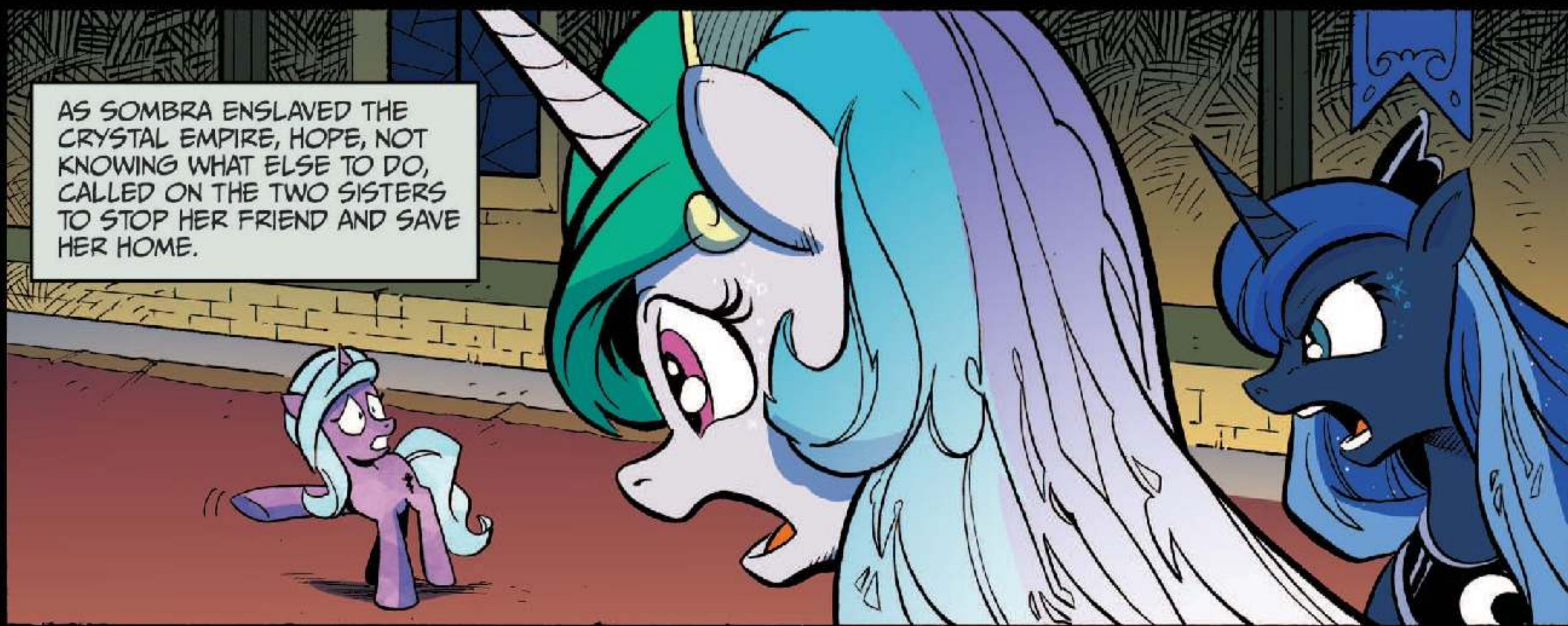
WHEN HE DISCOVERED THAT PRINCESS AMORE HAD KNOWN ALL OF THIS AND STILL ALLOWED HIM TO SUFFER DURING THE CRYSTAL FAIRE, SOMBRA STRUCK HER DOWN WITH HIS NEWFOUND POWER.

WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?  
WHY?!



AND HOPE, SEEING THE MONSTER SOMBRA HAD BECOME, FLED.

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?



AS SOMBRA ENSLAVED THE CRYSTAL EMPIRE, HOPE, NOT KNOWING WHAT ELSE TO DO, CALLED ON THE TWO SISTERS TO STOP HER FRIEND AND SAVE HER HOME.



AND THEY DID STOP HIM. THEY EXILED HIM FOR A THOUSAND YEARS.

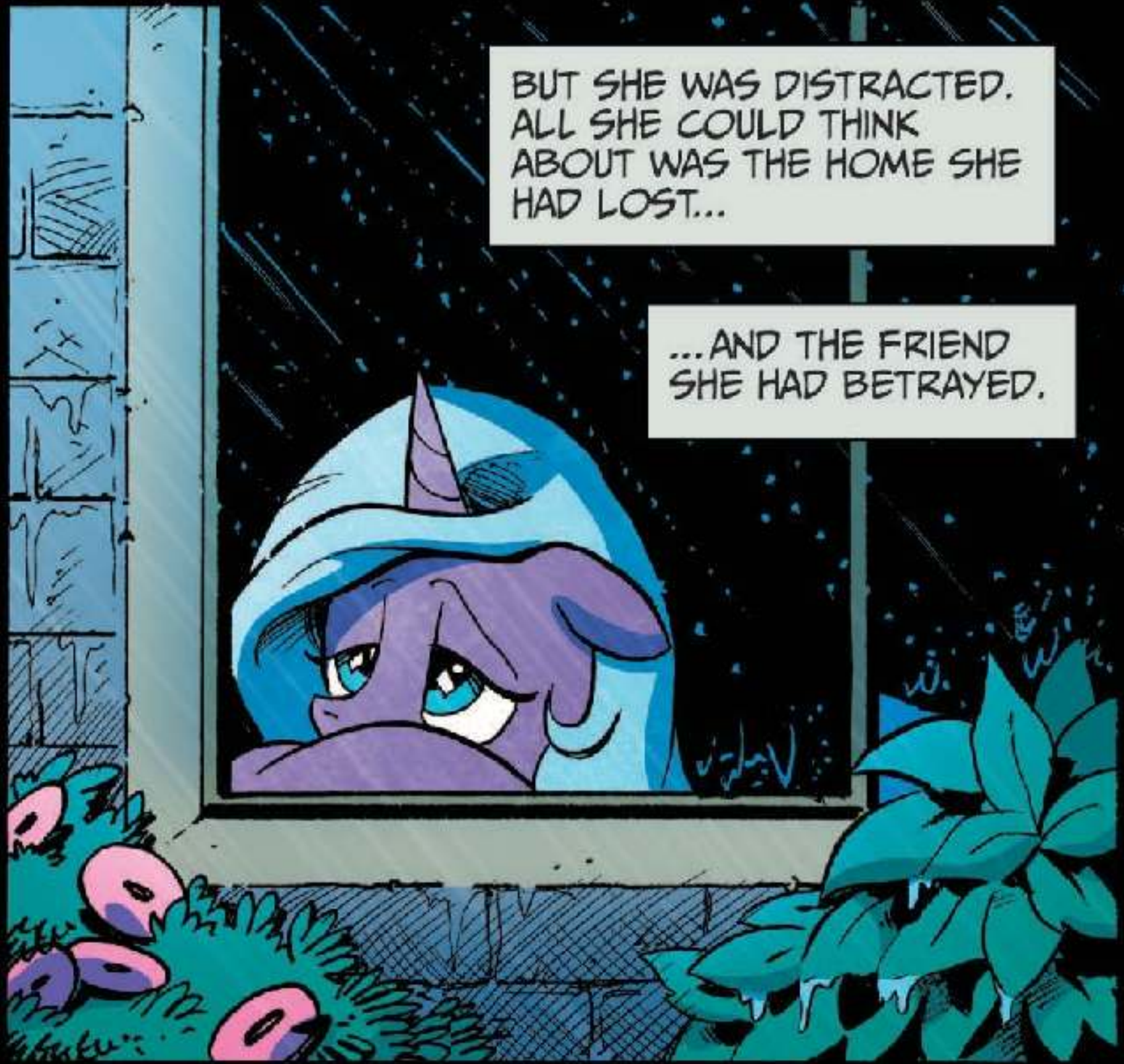


BUT SOMBRA HAD ONE LAST SPELL. AND WITH THAT SPELL, HE MADE THE CRYSTAL EMPIRE DISAPPEAR FOR AS LONG AS HE WAS EXILED.

AND ALL AT ONCE RADIANT HOPE LOST HER FRIEND AND HER HOME.



RADIANT HOPE RETURNED WITH THE PRINCESSES TO STUDY MAGIC AND FULFILL HER DESTINY.



BUT SHE WAS DISTRACTED. ALL SHE COULD THINK ABOUT WAS THE HOME SHE HAD LOST...

...AND THE FRIEND SHE HAD BETRAYED.



HOPE DECIDED TO LEAVE HER TEACHERS AND FIND HER OWN PATH. A PATH THAT LED HER FAR AWAY.

HOPE FOLLOWED IN SOMBRA'S FOOTSTEPS, GOING DEEP INTO THE WASTES SO THAT SHE MIGHT FIND OUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO HIM.

HOOOOOOOOOOPE

BUT HOPE WAS NOT READY FOR WHAT SHE WOULD FIND.

HOPE? IS THAT YOU?

WHO ARE YOU? HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?

WE ARE SOMBRA'S KIND. HE TOLD US ABOUT YOU... ABOUT HIS ONLY FRIEND AND HOW YOU SAVED HIM FROM THE PRINCESSES' WEAPON.

SOMBRA IS THE CHILD OF A CRYSTAL?

NO, HOPE, WE ARE THE UMBRUM, THE SHADOW PONIES. WE ARE LOCKED DEEP IN THE GROUND. SOMBRA WAS SENT TO RESCUE US.

OH.

TELL ME, HOPE. WHAT HAS BECOME OF OUR SON? WHERE IS SOMBRA?

HE'S GONE. THE PRINCESSES EXILED HIM FOR A THOUSAND YEARS. IT'S ALL MY FAULT. I DIDN'T THINK... I...

ONE THOUSAND YEARS? THEN THERE IS STILL HOPE FOR US. HOPE... YES. HOPE, WOULD YOU COME TO OUR WORLD AND LEARN MORE OF THE UMBRUM?

BUT I THOUGHT...

WE ARE TRAPPED, BUT YOU CAN COME IN. PERHAPS WE CAN HELP YOU UNDERSTAND SOMBRA. PERHAPS WE CAN HELP YOU SAVE HIM.

OKAY.

AND SO, RADIANT HOPE WENT TO VISIT THE UMBRUM.





IT WAS WONDERFUL, SOMBRA! YOUR PEOPLE ARE AMAZING!

MY PEOPLE? MY PEOPLE ARE MONSTERS. JUST LIKE ME.



IT'S NOT TRUE! THEY'RE NOT MONSTERS AND NEITHER ARE YOU.

I'VE KNOWN I WAS A MONSTER SINCE I SAW MY REFLECTION IN THE CRYSTAL HEART. I CAN'T ESCAPE MY DESTINY.

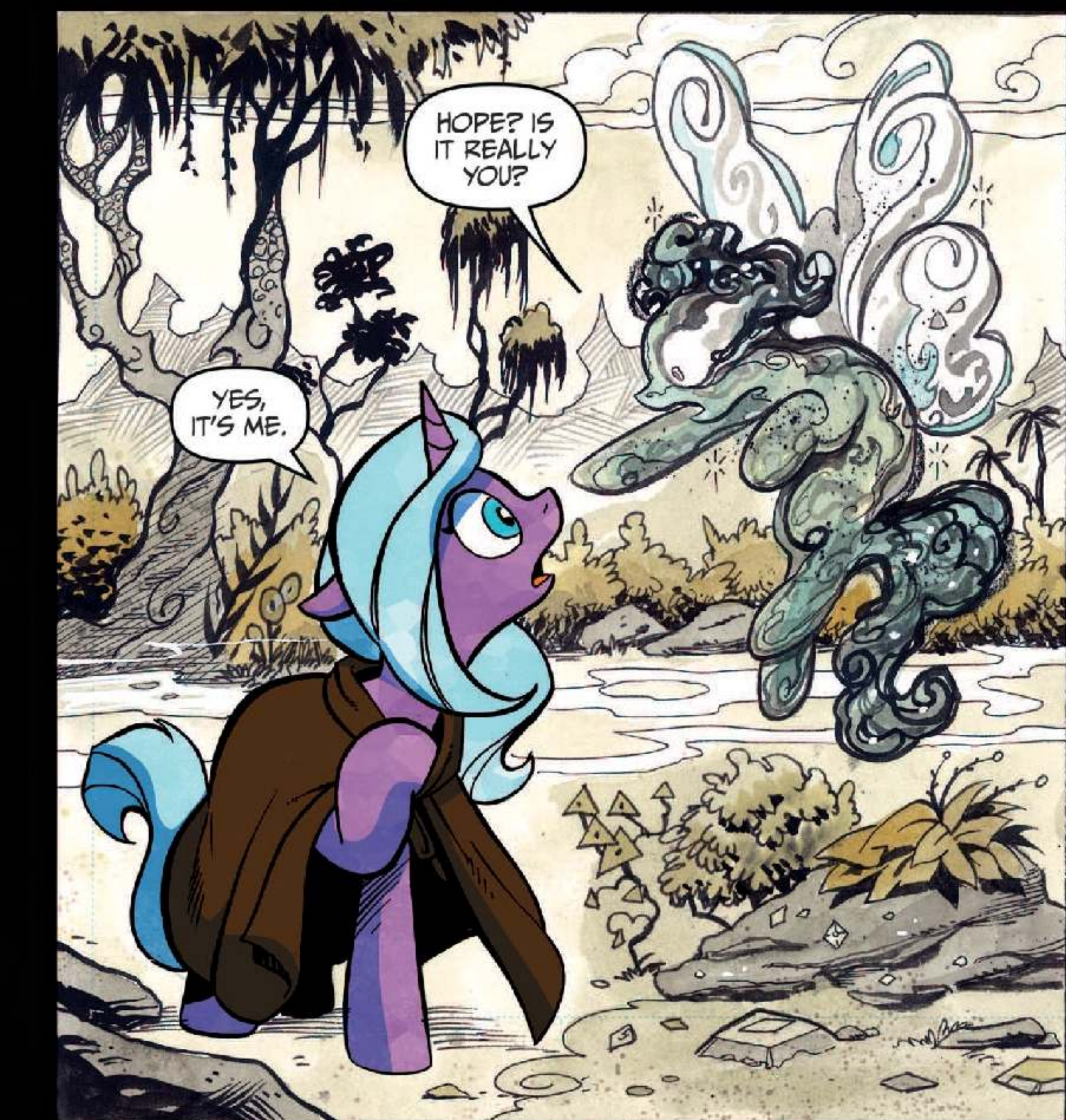
YOUR DESTINY IS TO SAVE YOUR PEOPLE. THEY'RE STILL WAITING FOR YOU.

Krak



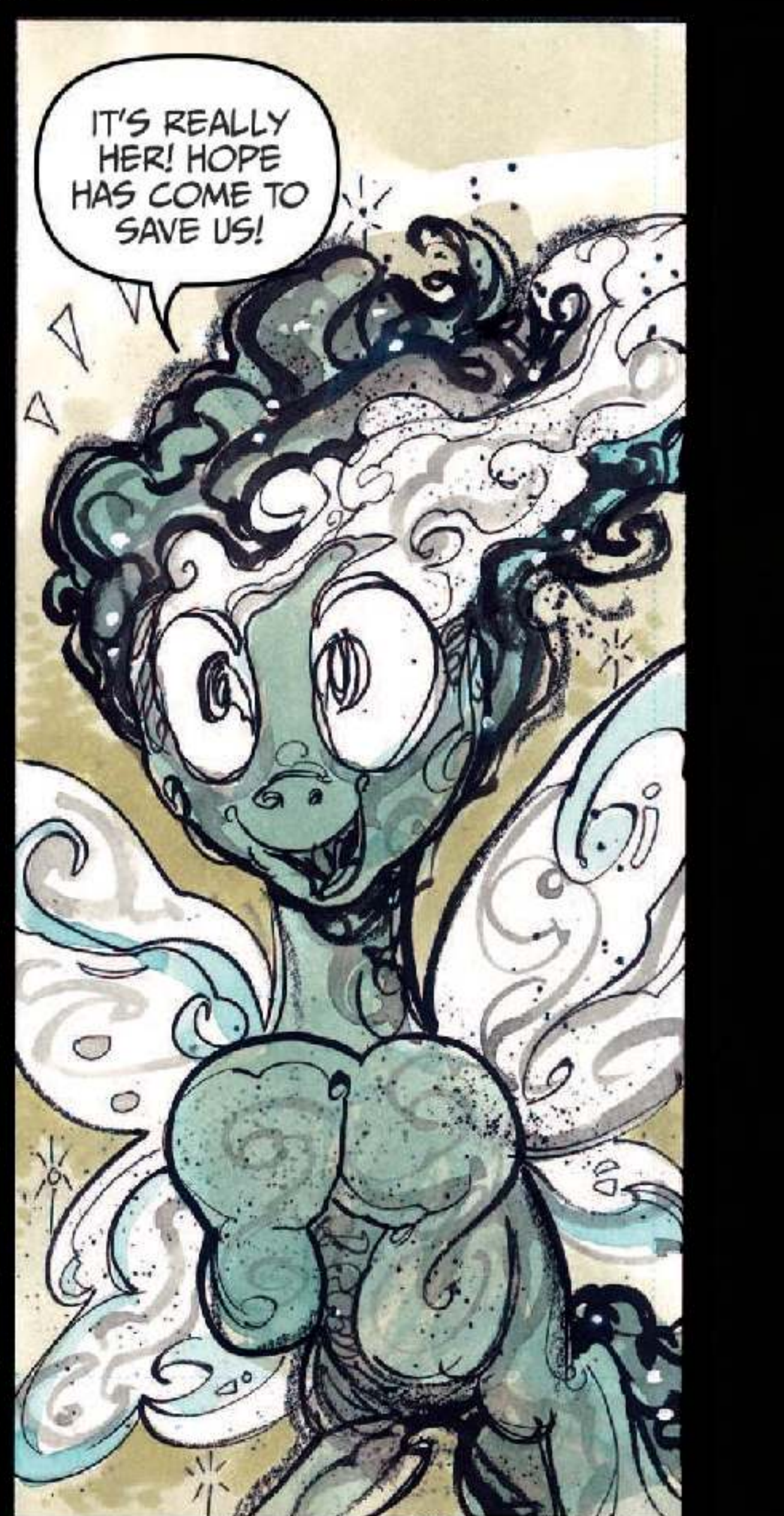
HELLO? IS ANYONE HERE?

HOPE??



HOPE? IS IT REALLY YOU?

YES, IT'S ME.



IT'S REALLY HER! HOPE HAS COME TO SAVE US!

I RECOGNIZED  
THEM AT ONCE.

THEY WERE MY  
IMAGINARY FRIENDS.

THEY WERE THE ONES  
I KNEW WERE REAL  
THOUGH NO ONE ELSE  
COULD SEE THEM.





THAT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE. IF THEY LOOK LIKE PIXIES, THEN WHY AM I... LIKE THIS?



YOU WERE MEANT TO BE THEIR CHAMPION. TO DEFEAT THE PONIES WHO FEAR THEM BECAUSE THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY ARE. TO PROTECT THEM FROM PONIES LIKE THE ONES OUTSIDE.

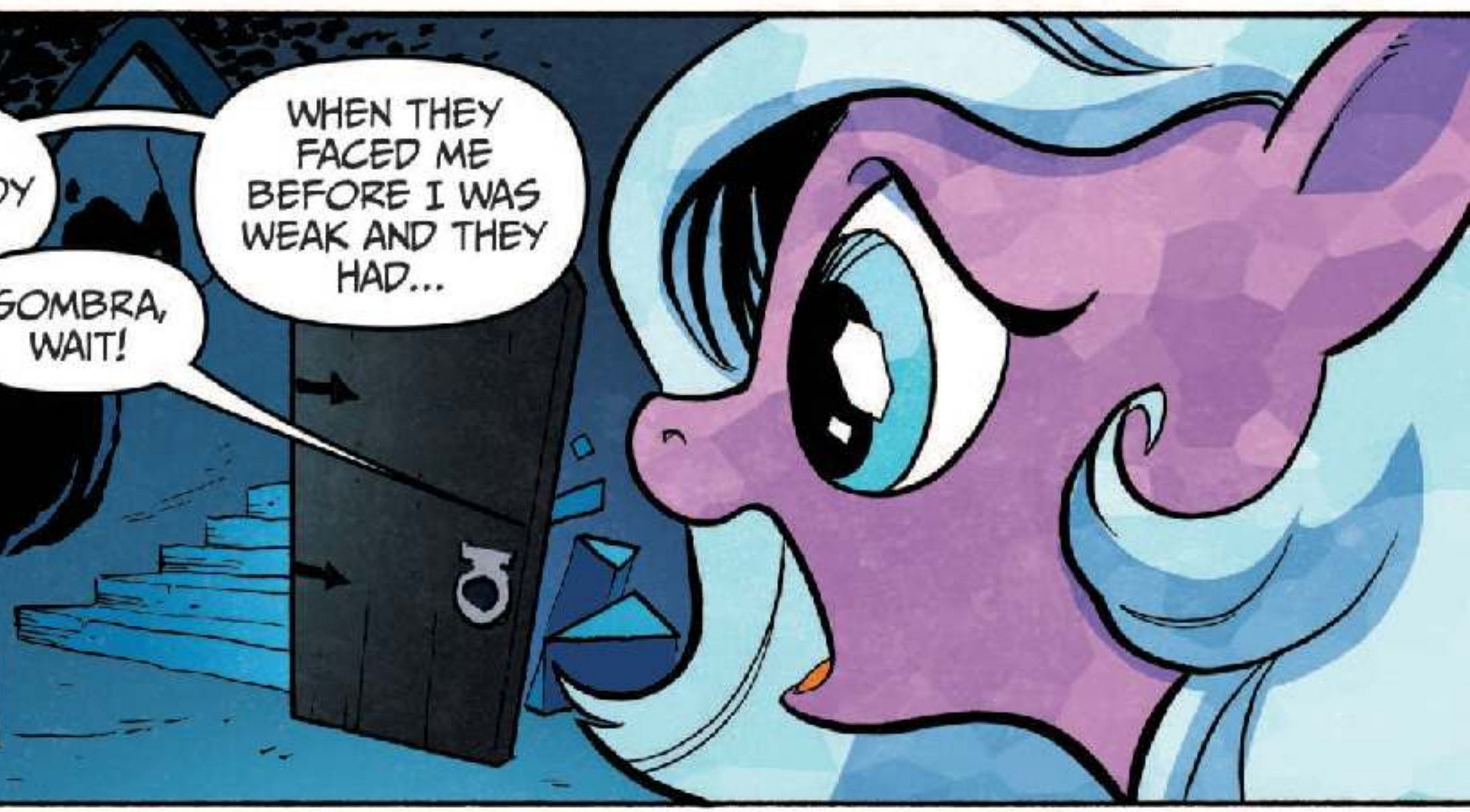
OUTSIDE? WHO IS...

ONE OF THE PRINCESSES AND HER—



PRINCESSES?! COME TO DESTROY ME AGAIN?!

SOMBRA, WAIT!



WHEN THEY FACED ME BEFORE I WAS WEAK AND THEY HAD...



WHERE IS THE CRYSTAL HEART?

IT'S RIGHT HERE, AROUND MY NECK.



HAHAHAHAHAHA!



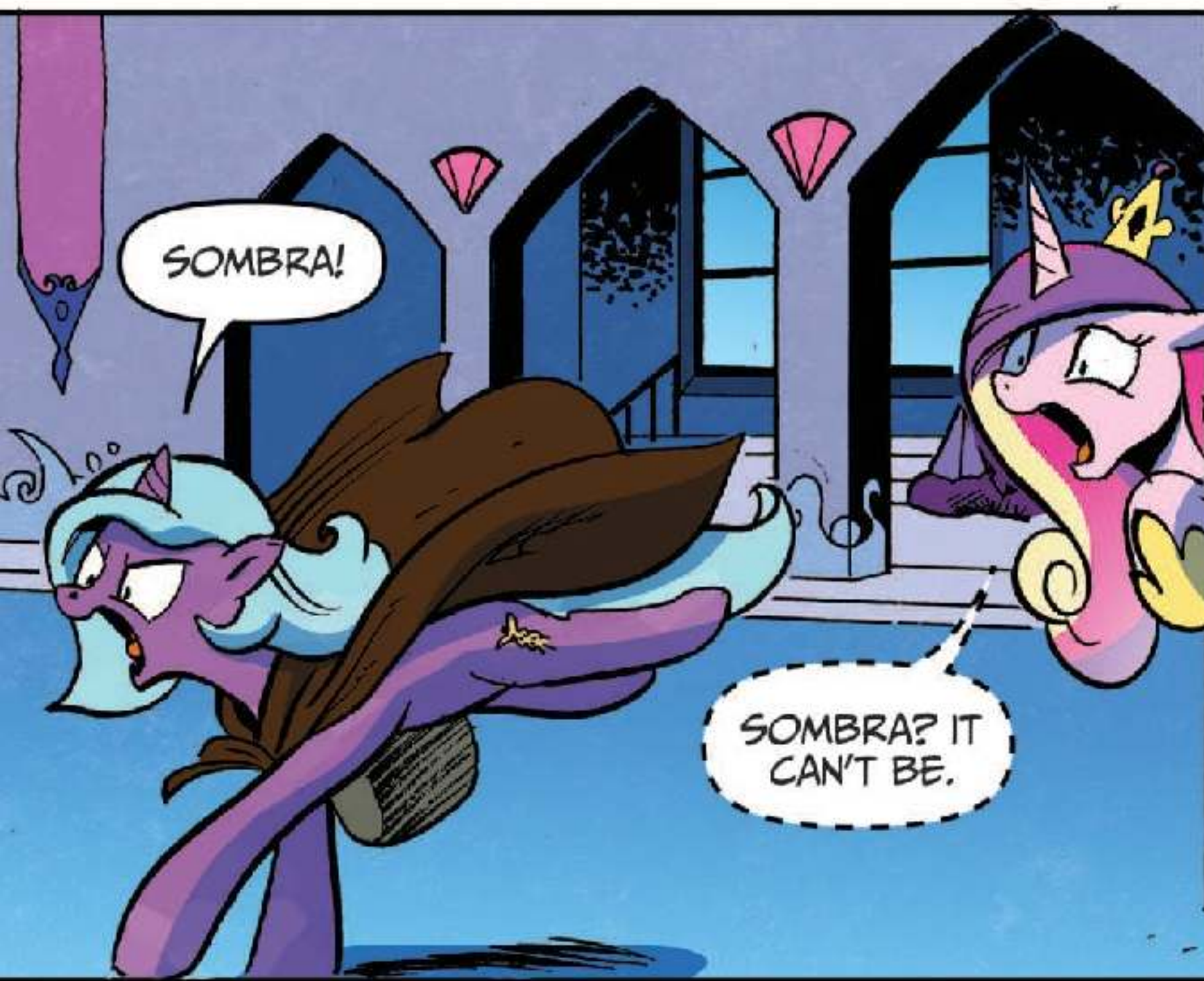
THAT TERRIBLE NOISE!  
IT'S COMING CLOSER, I'D BETTER HIDE.



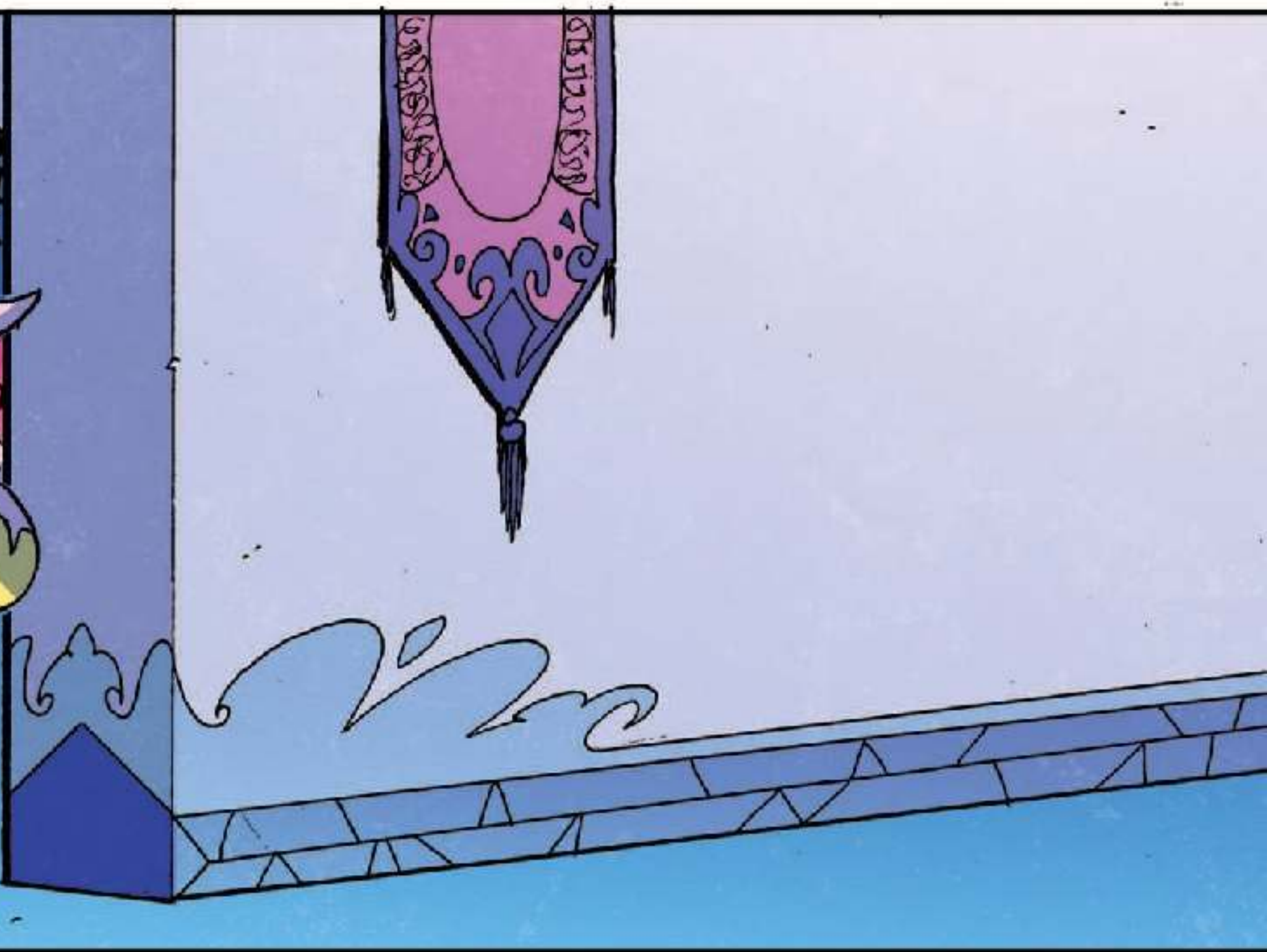
HA HA HA!



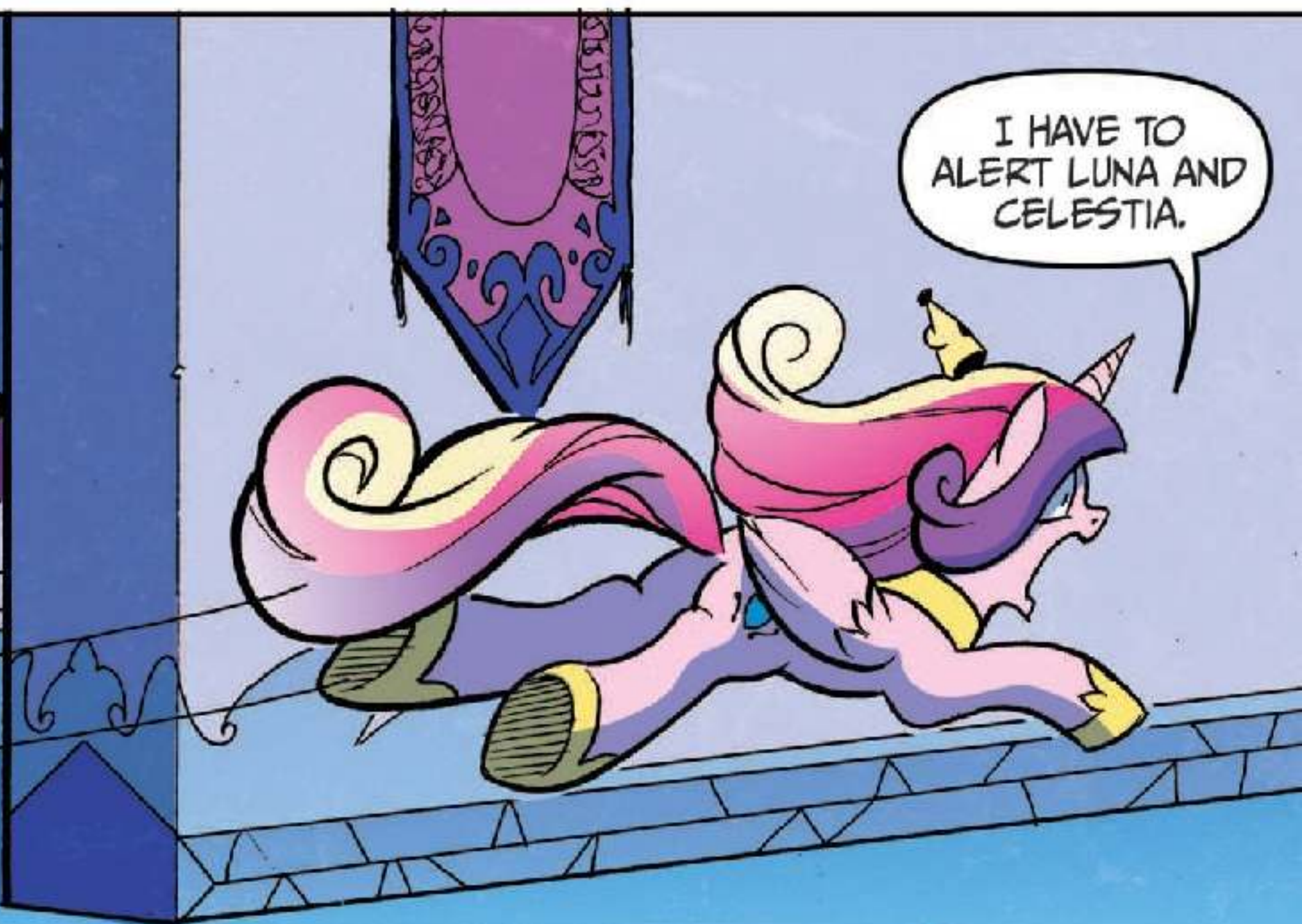
I WILL HAVE MY REVENGE!



SOMBRA!



SOMBRA? IT CAN'T BE.



I HAVE TO ALERT LUNA AND CELESTIA.



WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WHAT'S ABOUT TO HAPPEN?

ABOUT TO HAPPEN? IT'S ALREADY HAPPENING.



DID IT JUST GET DARKER?

THE PALACE!  
CADANCE IS IN THERE!

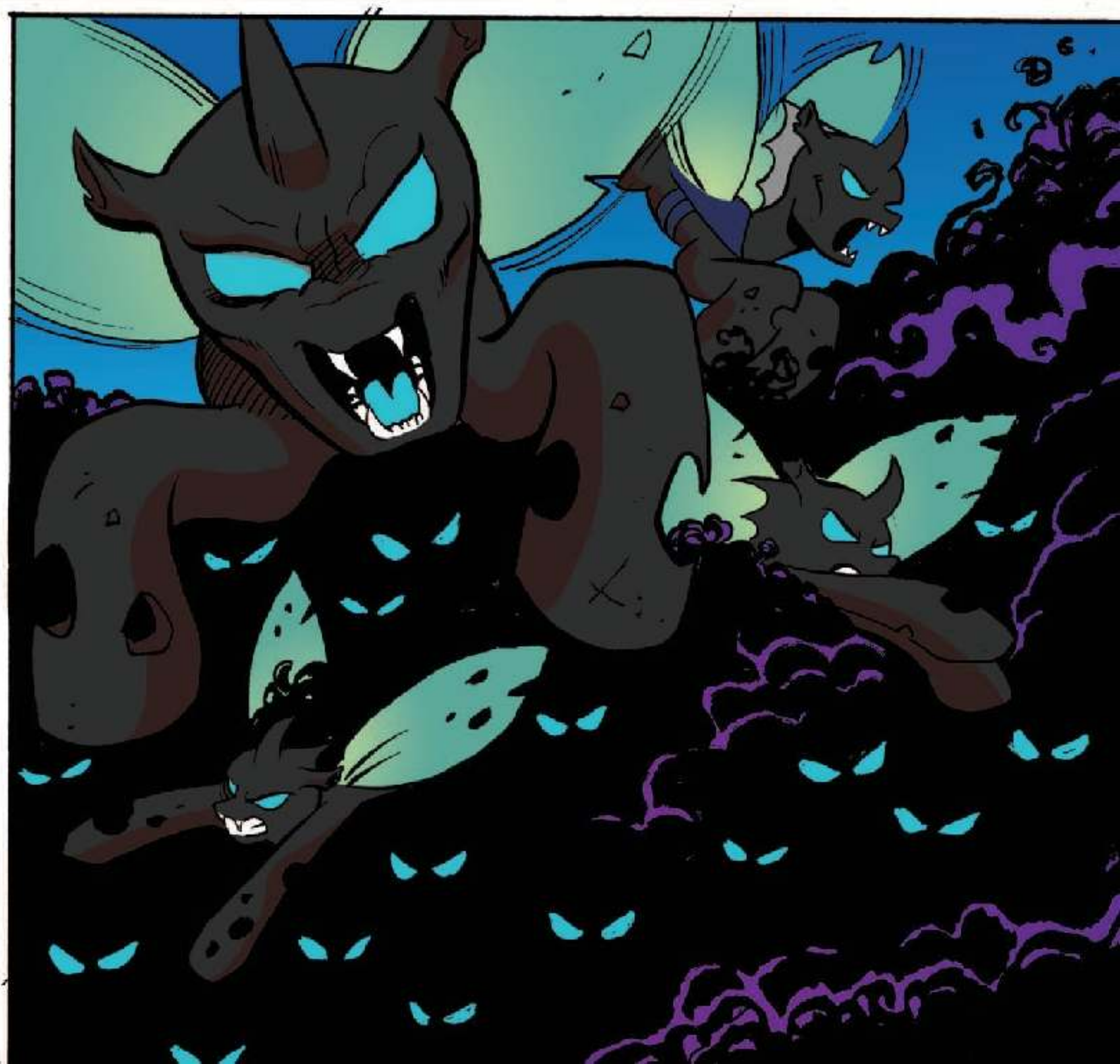


WAIT! WE HAVE TO STAY TOGETHER! THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT'S HAPPENING!

TWILIGHT, I HAVE TO GET TO CADANCE! SHE COULD BE IN DANGER.



SHINING ARMOR!  
LOOK OUT!



SO, LITTLE PONY, YOU'RE A PRINCESS NOW.

NOW THIS WAS WORTH WAITING FOR.

IRON WILL IS READY TO BRING THE PAIN!

LET'S MAKE THIS QUICK.

READY, BROTHER?

INDUBITABLY, BROTHER.

NO, STOP IT! GET AWAY!

LET'S SEE HOW YOU LIKE A LITTLE PINKIE PARTY POWER.

WE ALREADY LOCKED YOU VARMINTS UP ONCE, WE CAN DO IT AGAIN.

BACK, YOU DISGUSTING CREATURES!

YOU GUYS THINK YOU CAN OUTFLY ME?

EVERYPONY! WE'RE GETTING SEPARATED!

WE HAVE TO STAY TOGETHER!





HUH? WHERE'D THEY ALL GO?

HEY, SLOWPOKE!



HEADS UP!

PARDON ME, MS. PIE, THAT IS A SPECTACULAR PARTY CANNON. DO YOU MIND IF I TAKE A LOOK?

HUH? OH, OF COURSE! I'M ALWAYS HAPPY TO SHARE.



OOPH!

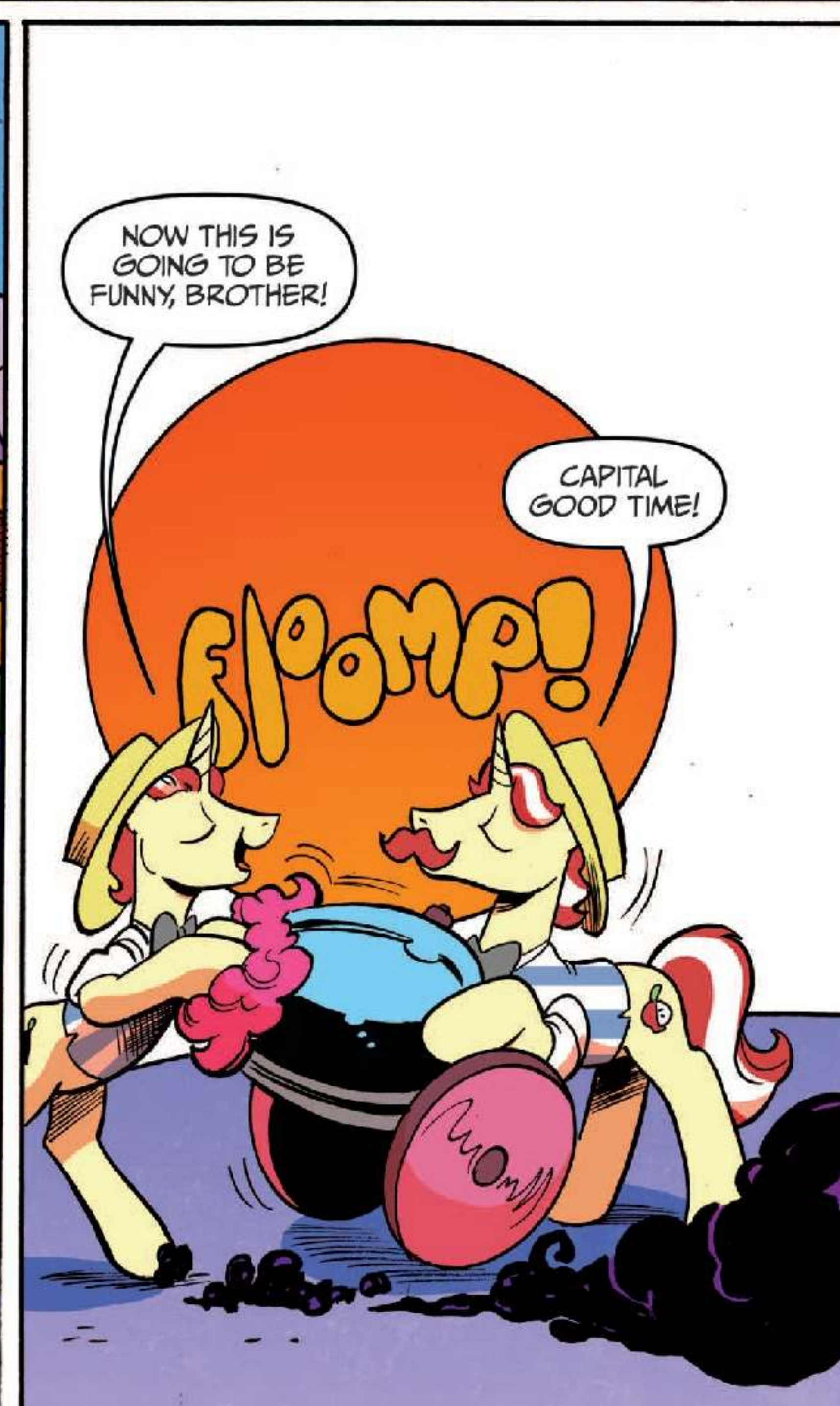


IT'S A GREAT MODEL, TOP OF THE LINE.

MY BROTHER AND I ARE BIG CIRCUS FANS. DO YOU THINK A PONY COULD FIT IN THERE?

WHY, OF COURSE!

EXCELLENT NEWS!



NOW THIS IS GOING TO BE FUNNY, BROTHER!

CAPITAL GOOD TIME!





HERE IT COMES! YOU CREEPS READY FOR THIS?

**CRUNK**



HA! AT THIS RATE I DON'T EVEN NEED THE REST OF THE TEAM!

**BAM**

**POW**

**SMACK**



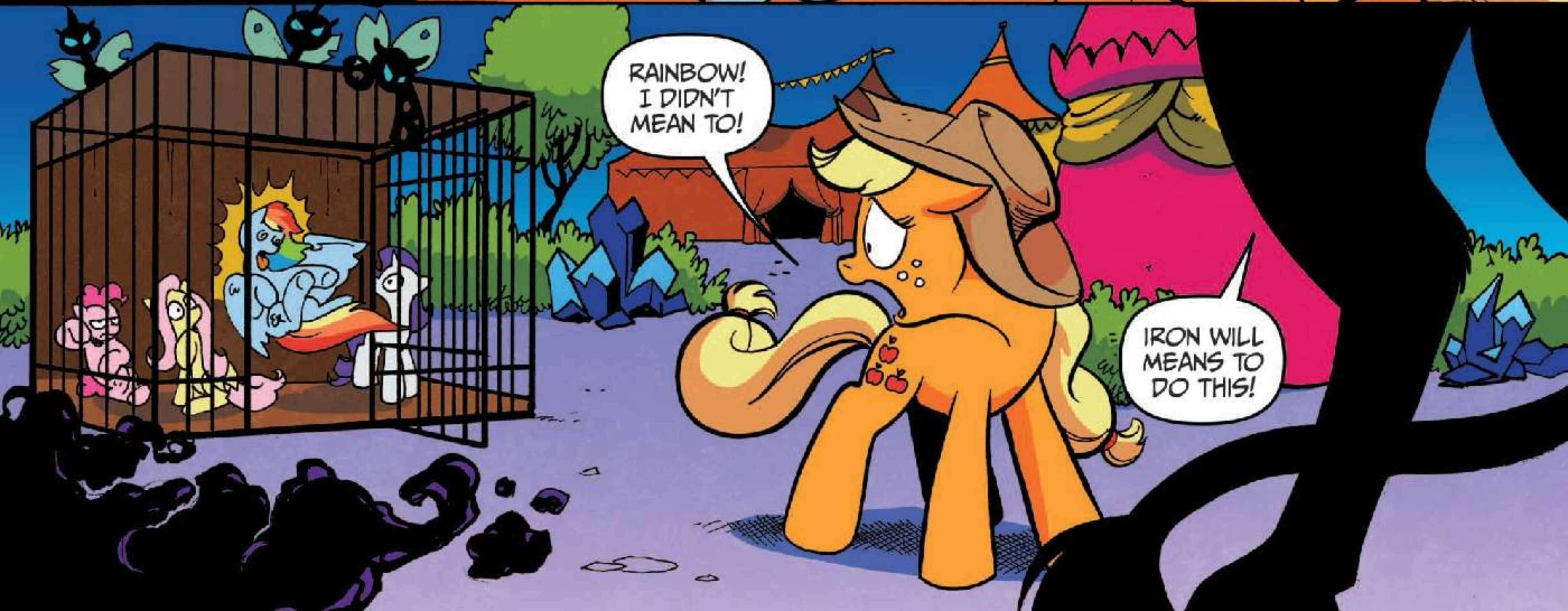
HEY, WHERE ARE YOU GUYS GOING? WE'RE NOT—UH OH!

**PUW**



NONONONONONONONONO!

**KRAK**



RAINBOW! I DIDN'T MEAN TO!

IRON WILL MEANS TO DO THIS!



oops!

OOPH!



WELL, THIS IS NOT GOING WELL AT ALL.

TWILIGHT IS STILL FIGHTING! SHE'LL SAVE US.



STAY AWAY FROM MY BROTHER.

OH, LITTLE PRINCESS...



YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE LEFT. NO MORE FRIENDS. NO MORE FAMILY. NO MORE HARMONY. HOW WILL YOU EVER MATCH ME NOW?



YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND, CHRYSALIS. FRIENDSHIP DOESN'T GO AWAY JUST BECAUSE YOU HURT MY FRIENDS.

THAT JUST MAKES ME FIGHT HARDER!

YOU... ARE... TOUGH. I'LL GIVE YOU THAT, BUT—



I BROUGHT  
A FRIEND THIS  
TIME TOO!

CRYSTAL  
FAIRE





HELLO, SOMBRA.

YOU TWO?! HOW DID YOU GET HERE SO QUICKLY?

WE GOT A MESSAGE FROM CAD—

ENOUGH!



WHEN YOU DEFEATED ME BEFORE I WAS YOUNG AND INEXPERIENCED. BUT NOW I'M STRONGER.



YOU ARE OUTMATCHED, FELL BEAST. YOU WOULD BE BEST SERVED TO LEAVE HIM TO US.

NO WAY! I FINALLY WON. I'M NOT ABOUT TO LET YOU GOODY-TWO-SHOES TAKE THAT FROM ME!



SOMBRA, IT MATTERS NOT HOW POWERFUL YOU ARE. YOU ARE POWERED BY HATRED.

THAT'S NOT ENTIRELY TRUE.





