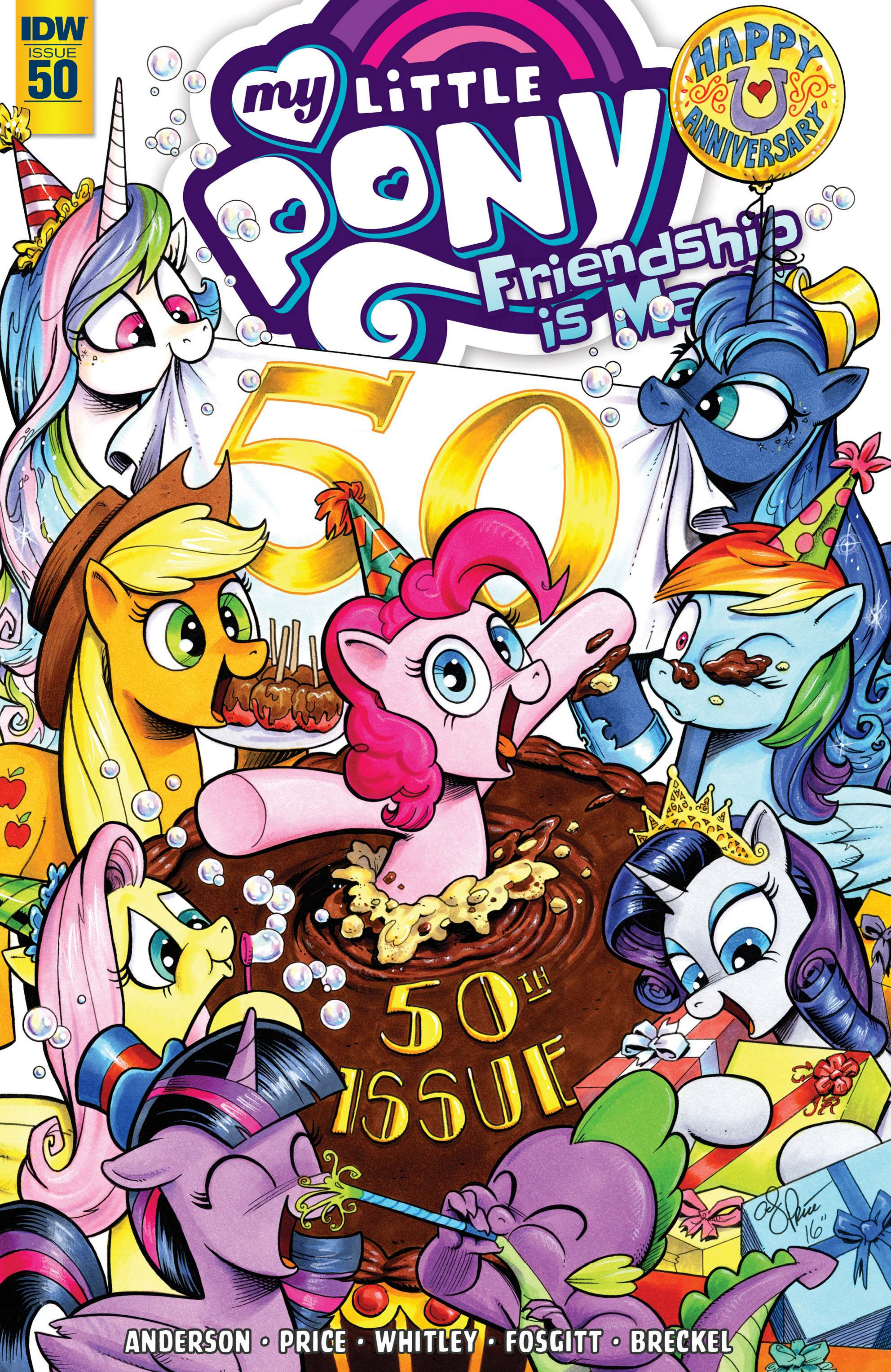


IDW  
ISSUE  
50

# my LITTLE PONY

Friendship is Magic



ANDERSON • PRICE • WHITLEY • FOSGITT • BRECKEL





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WHEN WE LAST SAW OUR HEROES, THEY WERE FACING A TERRIFYING SIGHT:

# ACCORD

CONCLUSION: AND CHAOS INTO THE ORDER CAME

PRINCESSES TWILIGHT AND LUNA, HYPNOTIZED BY THE DRASTICALLY DIFFERENT DRACONEQUUS ACCORD!



TWILIGHT!

PRINCESS LUNA!

OH, NO...

TRAIN PLATFORM 3



YES, MY PRINCESS.

YES, MY SISTER.

JOIN US.

JOIN ACCORD.



BRING ORDER TO EQUESTRIA.



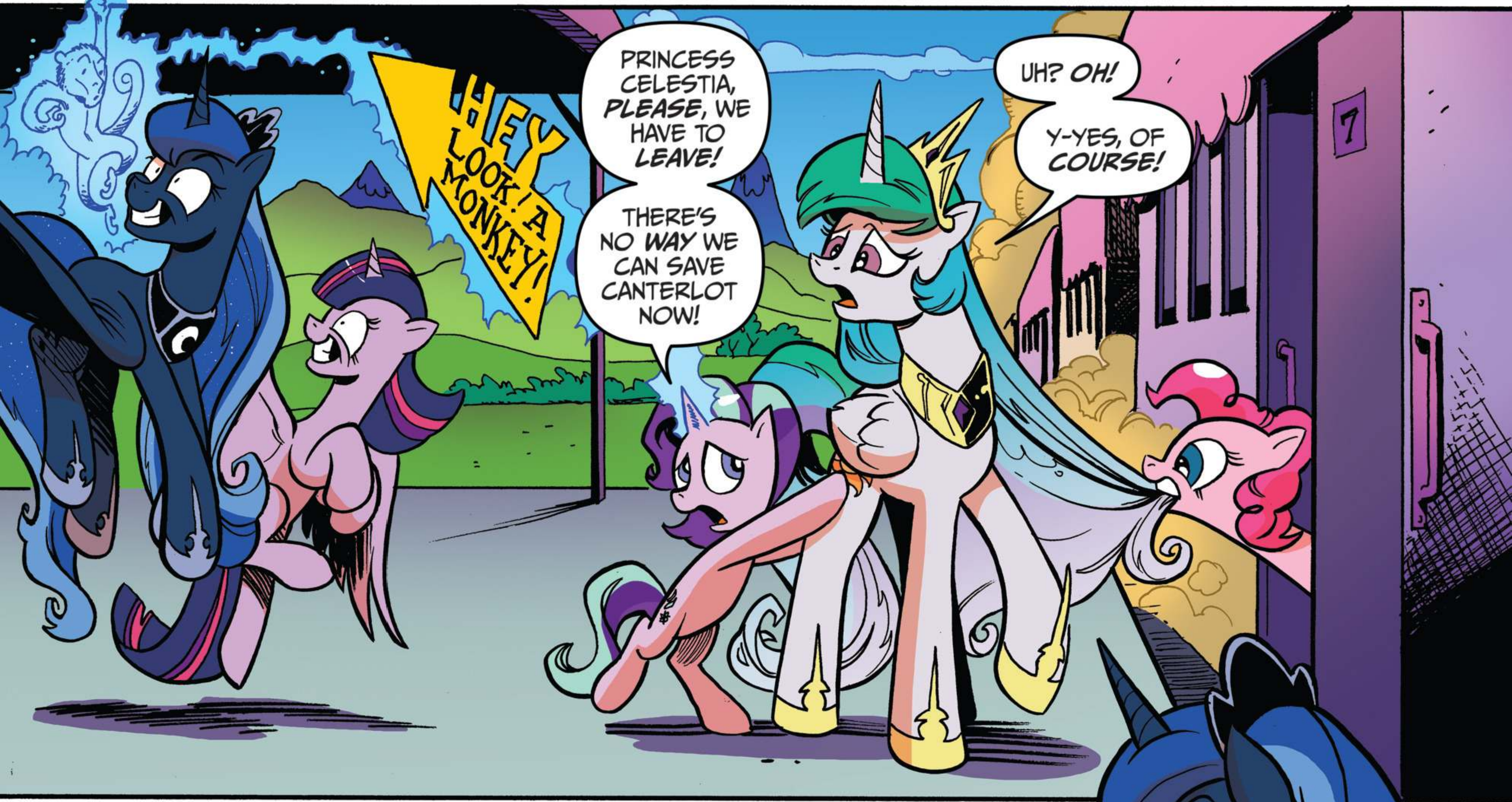


LIKE FUN WE WILL!

YEAH! HE'S GOT YOU HYPNOTIZED INTO LIKING HIM!

HURRY! ONTO THE TRAIN!

WE NEED TO EVACUATE CANTERLOT!



HEY LOOK! A MONKEY!

PRINCESS CELESTIA, PLEASE, WE HAVE TO LEAVE!

THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN SAVE CANTERLOT NOW!

UH? OH!  
Y-YES, OF COURSE!



DO NOT FEAR.

DO NOT RUN.

ACCORD WILL BRING ORDER TO ALL.

PONYVILLE 14  
DODGE CITY 48  
NEW HORSELEANS 269



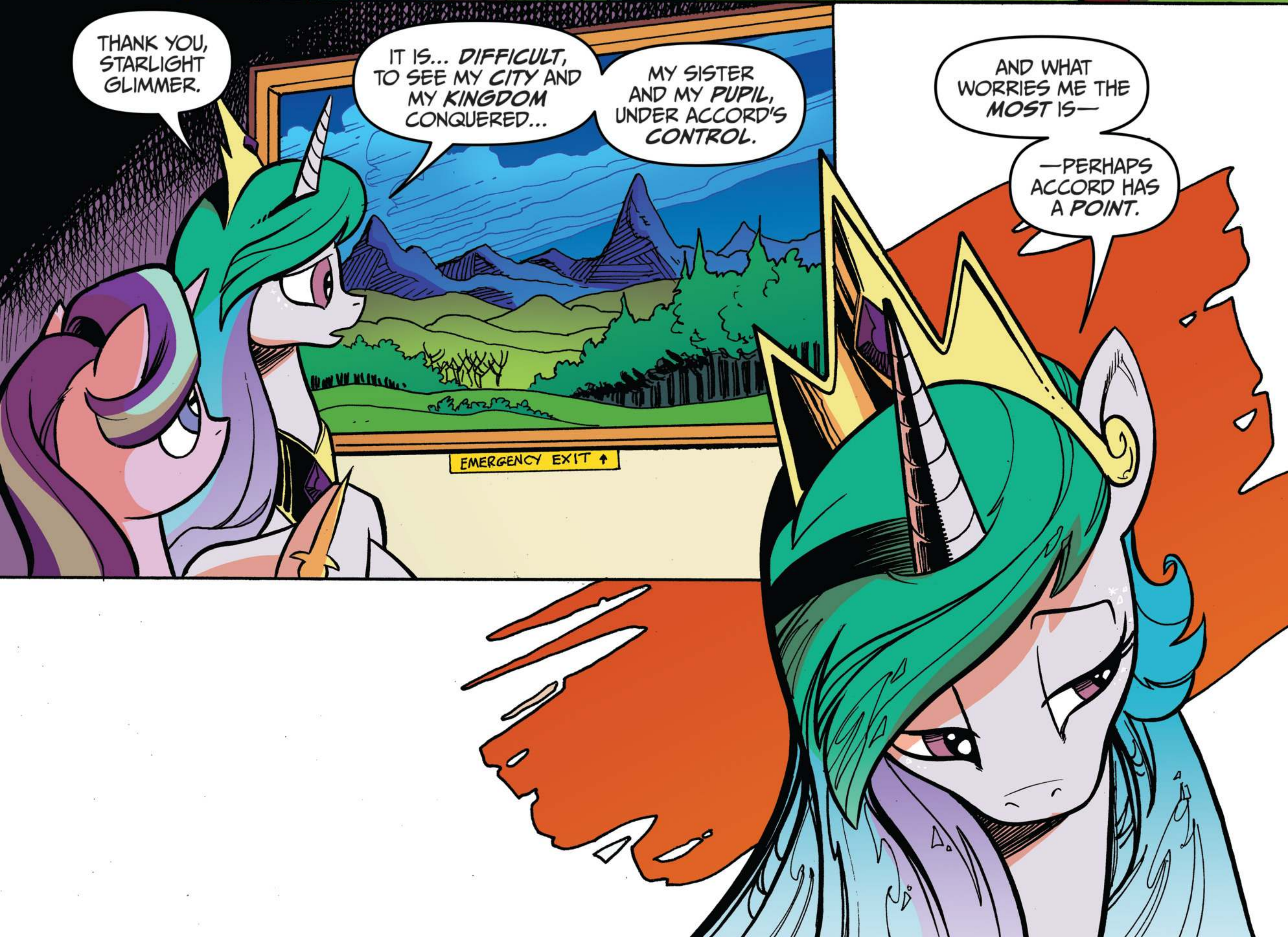


DON'T WORRY, FOLKS! WE'LL BE IN PONYVILLE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!

R JUMPING

PRINCESS CELESTIA, I...

I'M SORRY. I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT YOU'RE FEELING RIGHT NOW...



THANK YOU, STARLIGHT GLIMMER.

IT IS... DIFFICULT, TO SEE MY CITY AND MY KINGDOM CONQUERED...

MY SISTER AND MY PUPIL, UNDER ACCORD'S CONTROL.

AND WHAT WORRIES ME THE MOST IS—

—PERHAPS ACCORD HAS A POINT.

EMERGENCY EXIT ↗





WHAT?!

YOU CAN'T MEAN THAT, PRINCESS!

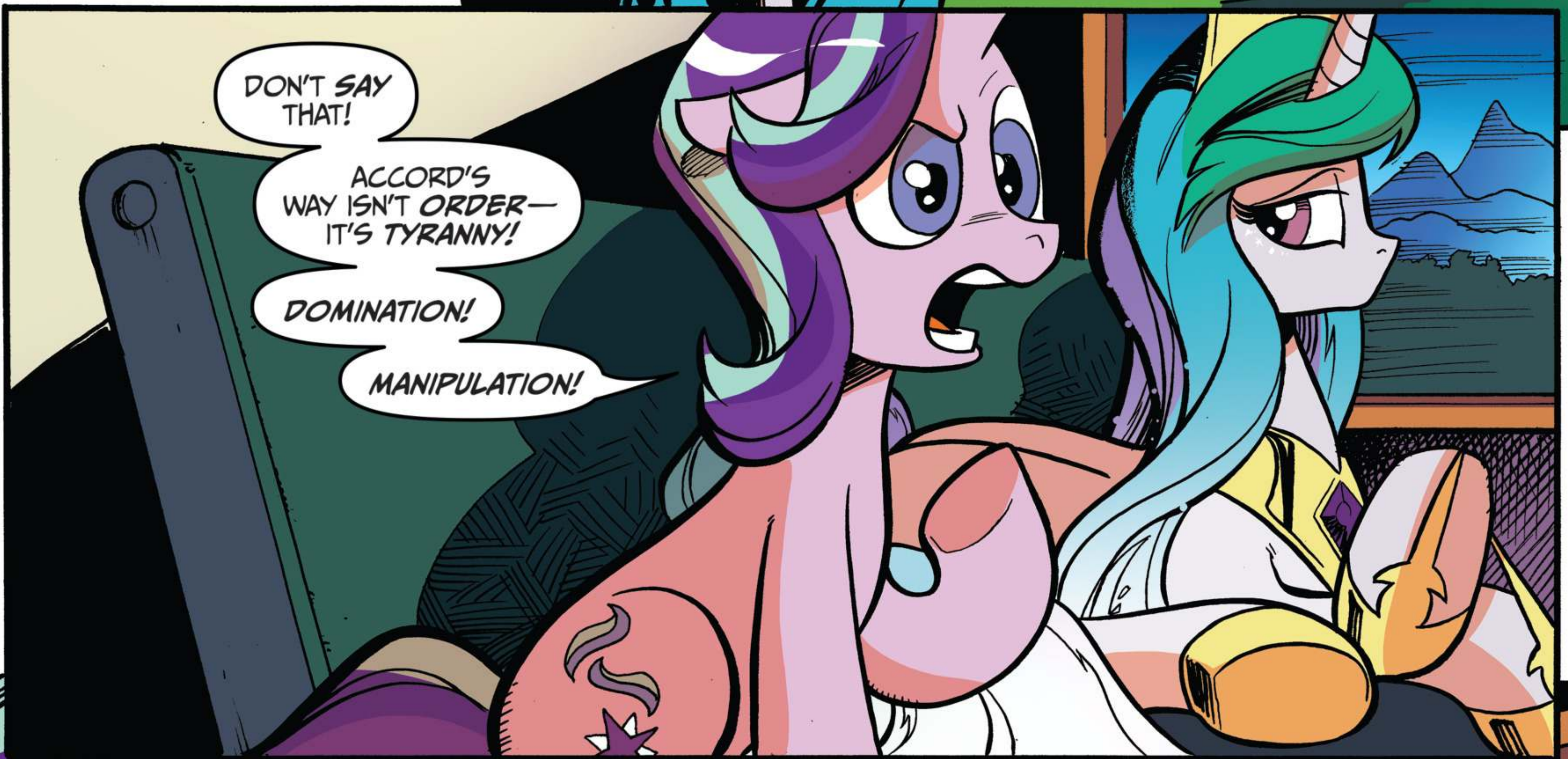
THE IDEA IS HORRIFYING TO ME AS WELL.



BUT MY SISTER AND I HAVE ALWAYS TRIED TO BRING ORDER TO EQUESTRIA.

WE HOPED TO DO IT THROUGH FRIENDSHIP AND KINDNESS, BUT...

...IF ACCORD HAS BEEN SO SUCCESSFUL—MAYBE HIS WAY IS BETTER.

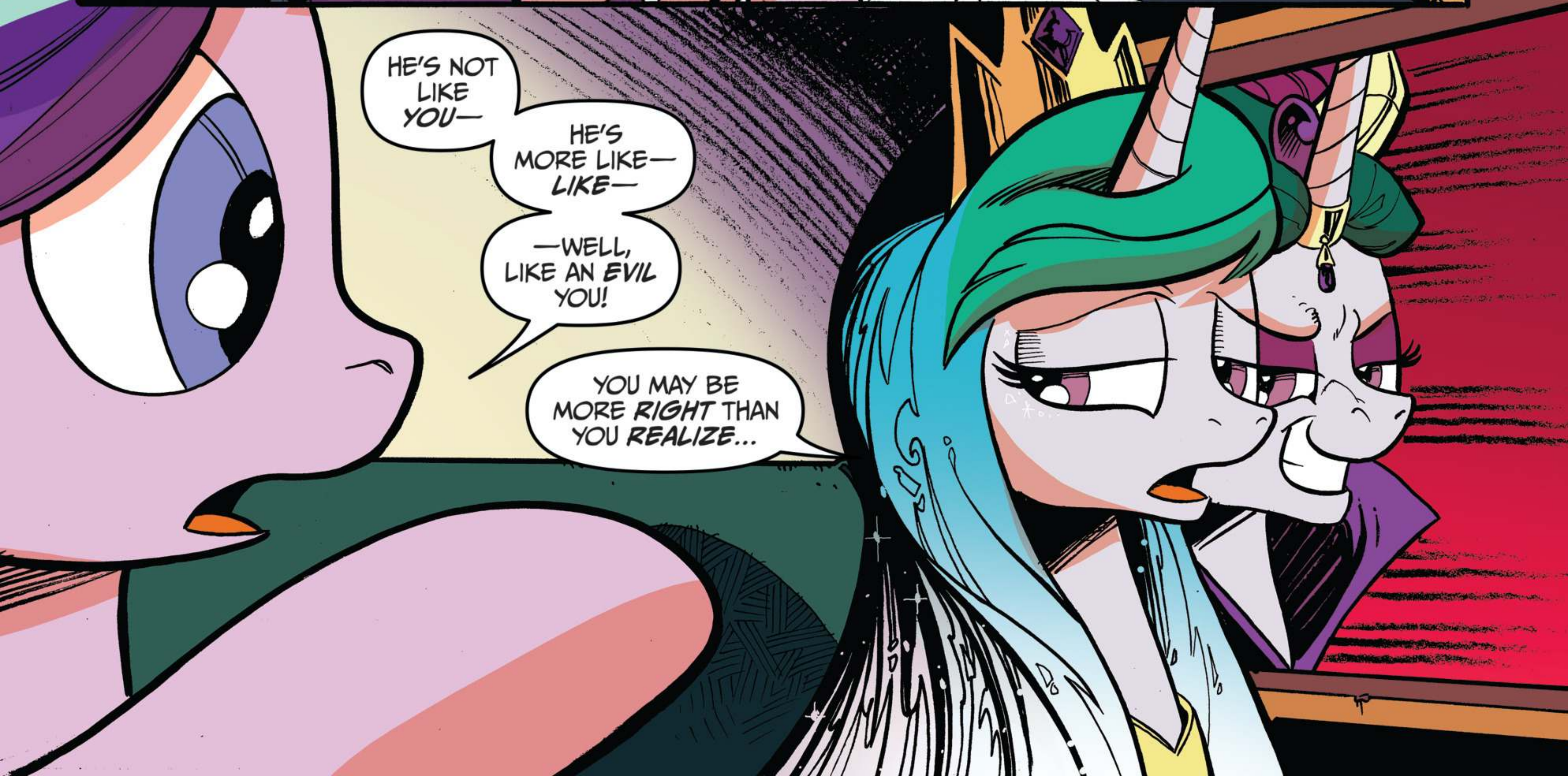


DON'T SAY THAT!

ACCORD'S WAY ISN'T ORDER—IT'S TYRANNY!

DOMINATION!

MANIPULATION!



HE'S NOT LIKE YOU—

HE'S MORE LIKE— LIKE—

—WELL, LIKE AN EVIL YOU!

YOU MAY BE MORE RIGHT THAN YOU REALIZE...





I'VE SEEN A WORLD WHERE I AM A TYRANT.

AN INVERTED WORLD, WHERE GOOD IS EVIL, AND FRIENDSHIP IS HATRED.

ACCORD DOES REMIND ME OF THAT VERSION OF MYSELF..

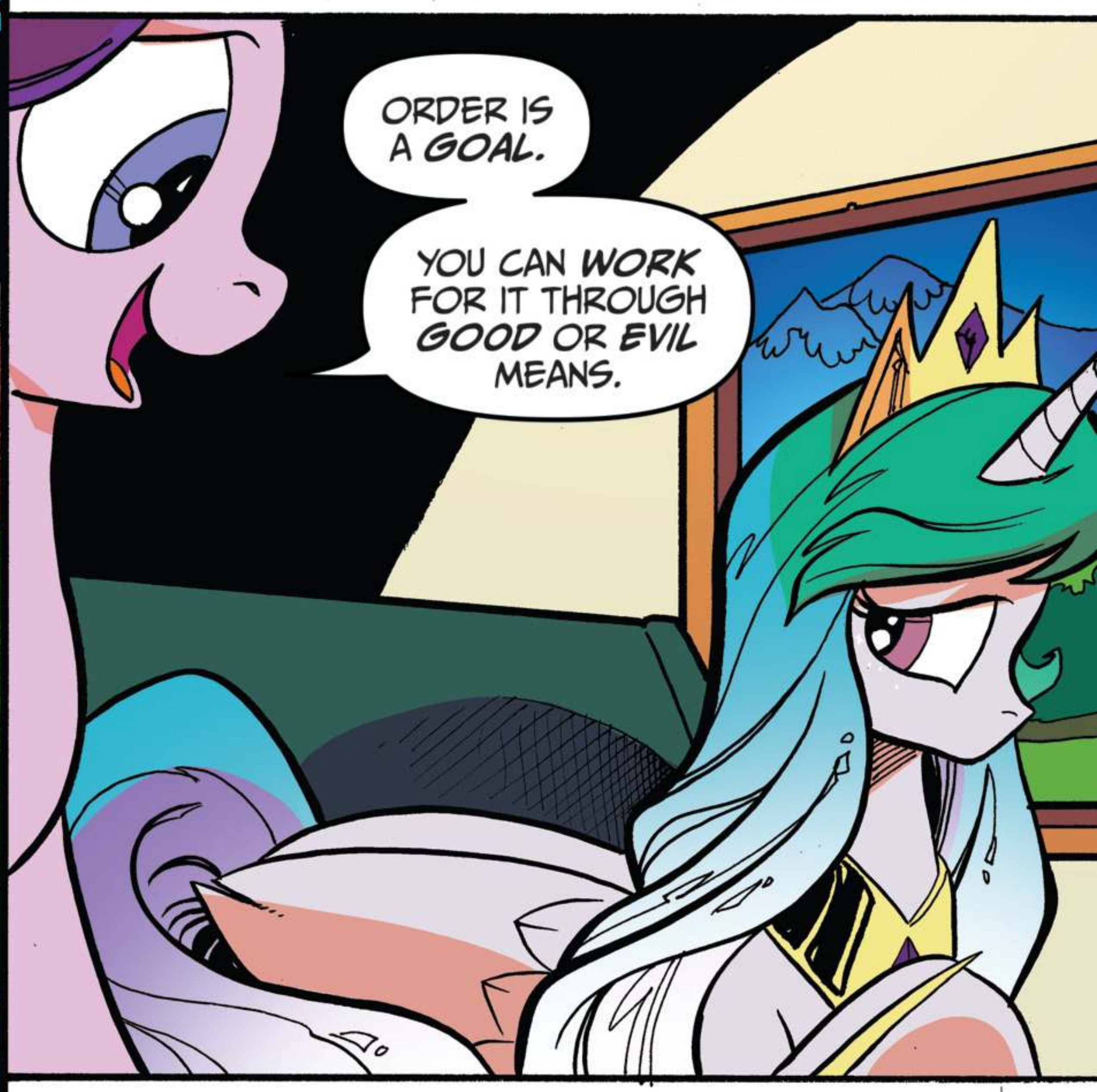
THE MIRROR-WORLD—TWILIGHT TOLD ME ABOUT YOUR ADVENTURES THERE.



THAT OTHER "YOU" TRIED TO CREATE ORDER, TOO—

—BUT SHE DID IT TO CONTROL PONIES.

YOU WANT TO HELP PONIES.



ORDER IS A GOAL.

YOU CAN WORK FOR IT THROUGH GOOD OR EVIL MEANS.



AND BELIEVE ME—

—I KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETTER THAN ANYPONY!





I ONCE TRIED  
TO BRING  
ORDER TO MY  
VILLAGE—

—BUT, WELL, I  
WASN'T DOING IT  
FOR THE *RIGHT*  
REASONS.



I *STILL* WANT  
TO BRING PONIES  
TOGETHER—

—NOT IN  
SAMENESS.

—BUT NOW,  
IN HARMONY AND  
FRIENDSHIP—



YOU KNOW,  
WE'VE SEEN *EVIL*  
OPPOSITES IN  
PONYVILLE,  
TOO.

OH, YES—  
LUNA MENTIONED THE  
RECENT "DARK WATER"  
INCIDENT.

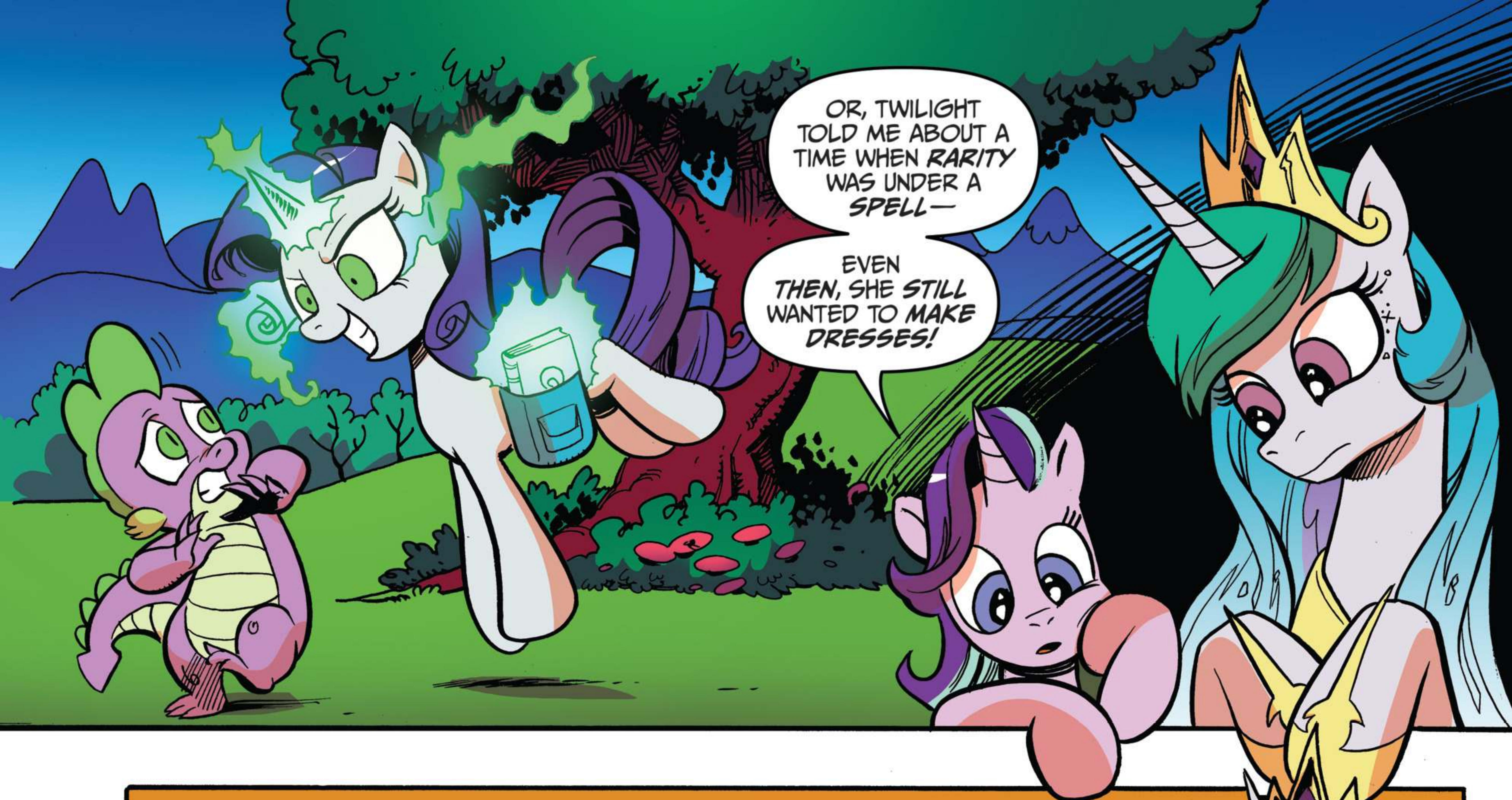
A POOL OF *MAGIC*  
WATER APPEARED NEAR  
PONYVILLE, JUST A LITTLE  
WHILE AGO—

IT TURNED  
EVERYPONY INTO THEIR  
*EVIL* VERSIONS!

BUT EVEN WHEN  
THEY WERE *EVIL*,  
THEY STILL HAD THE  
SAME GOALS:

FLUTTERSHY  
WANTED TO PROTECT  
ANIMALS, PINKIE  
WANTED EVERYPONY  
TO LAUGH...





OR, TWILIGHT TOLD ME ABOUT A TIME WHEN RARITY WAS UNDER A SPELL—

EVEN THEN, SHE STILL WANTED TO MAKE DRESSES!



EVEN WHEN OUR NATURES ARE REVERSED...

WE STILL WANT THE SAME THINGS.

DO YOU THINK ACCORD IS THE SAME?

THE DIFFERENCE IS IN HOW WE REACH FOR IT.

I MEAN, DO YOU THINK HE WANTS THE SAME THINGS THAT DISCORD DID?



...MAYBE.

BUT IF SO, WHAT IS HIS GOAL?



WHAT DO ACCORD AND DISCORD BOTH WANT?





OKAY, EVERYPONY—STAY HERE WHILE WE CHECK TO MAKE SURE IT'S SAFE!

YEAH! WE GOTTA MAKE SURE ACCORD HASN'T HYPNOTIZED PONYVILLE LIKE HE DID TO CANTERLOT!



IT SEEMS QUIET...

OF COURSE IT SEEMS QUIET!

IT ALWAYS SEEMS QUIET UNTIL THE ALIENS INVADE OR THE VOLCANO ERUPTS OR THE ORCHESTRA STARTS PLAYING THE SCARY MUSIC!



SORRY!

JITTERS.



STILL, IF THESE PONIES WERE HYPNOTIZED, THEY WOULD PROBABLY BE TALKING ABOUT ACCORD, SO...

STARLIGHT! PRINCESS CELESTIA! EVERYPONY!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

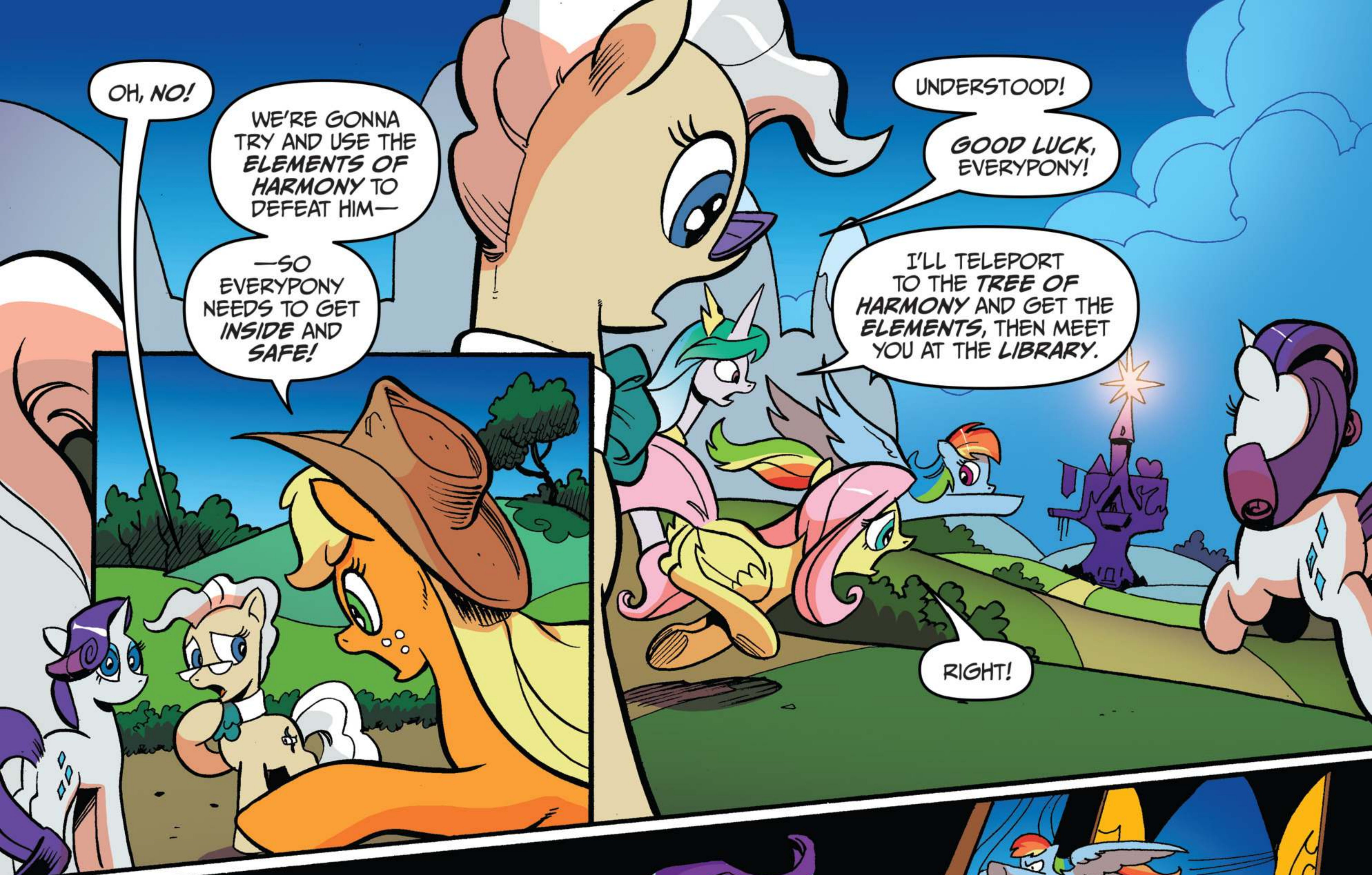


THE LAST SCROLLS FROM CANTERLOT SAID SOME VERY STRANGE THINGS WERE HAPPENING!

STRANGE THINGS INDEED, MAYOR MARE.

ACCORD IS TRYING TO TAKE OVER EQUESTRIA!





OH, NO!

WE'RE GONNA TRY AND USE THE ELEMENTS OF HARMONY TO DEFEAT HIM—

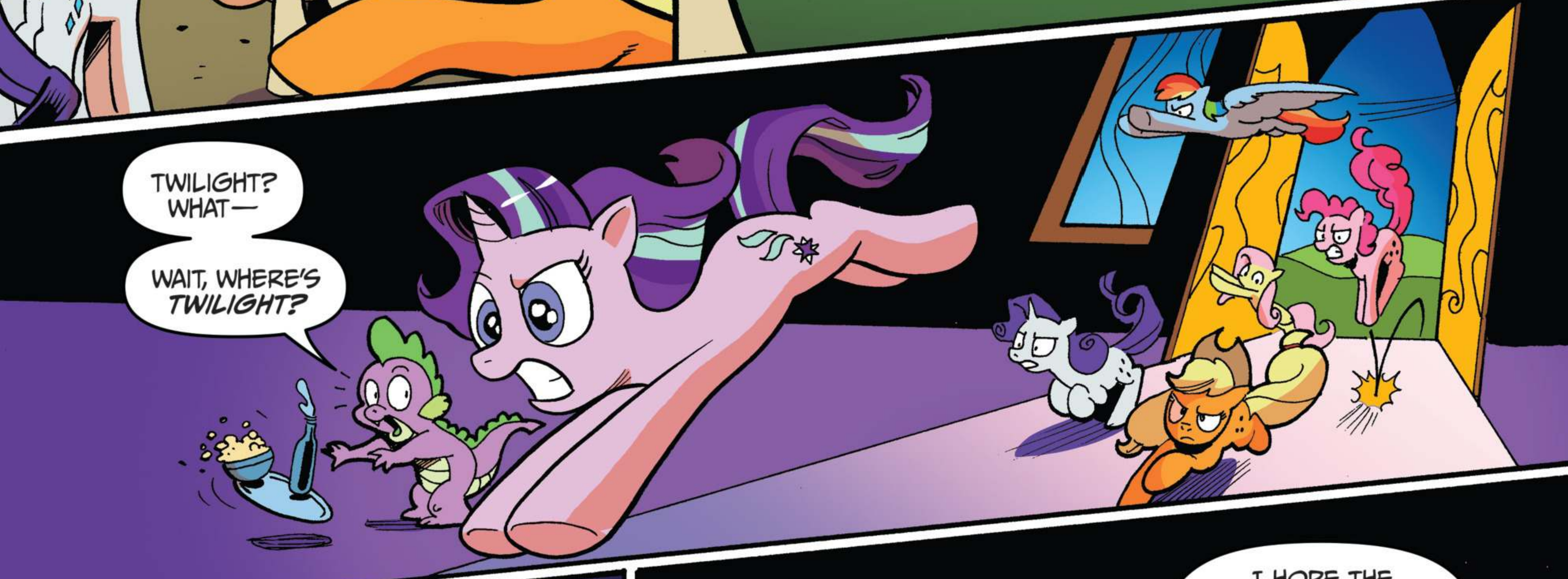
—SO EVERYPONY NEEDS TO GET INSIDE AND SAFE!

UNDERSTOOD!

GOOD LUCK, EVERYPONY!

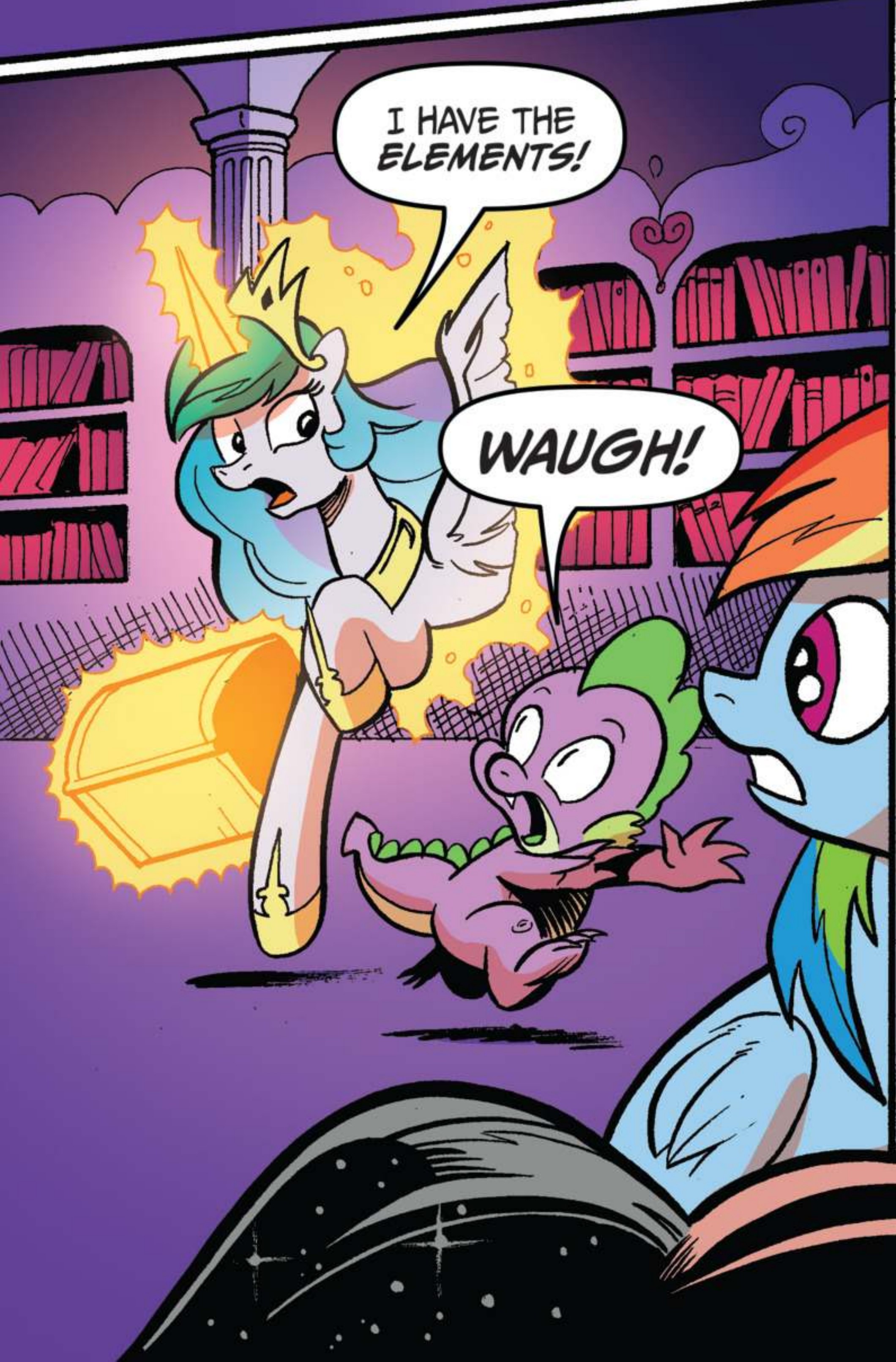
I'LL TELEPORT TO THE TREE OF HARMONY AND GET THE ELEMENTS, THEN MEET YOU AT THE LIBRARY.

RIGHT!



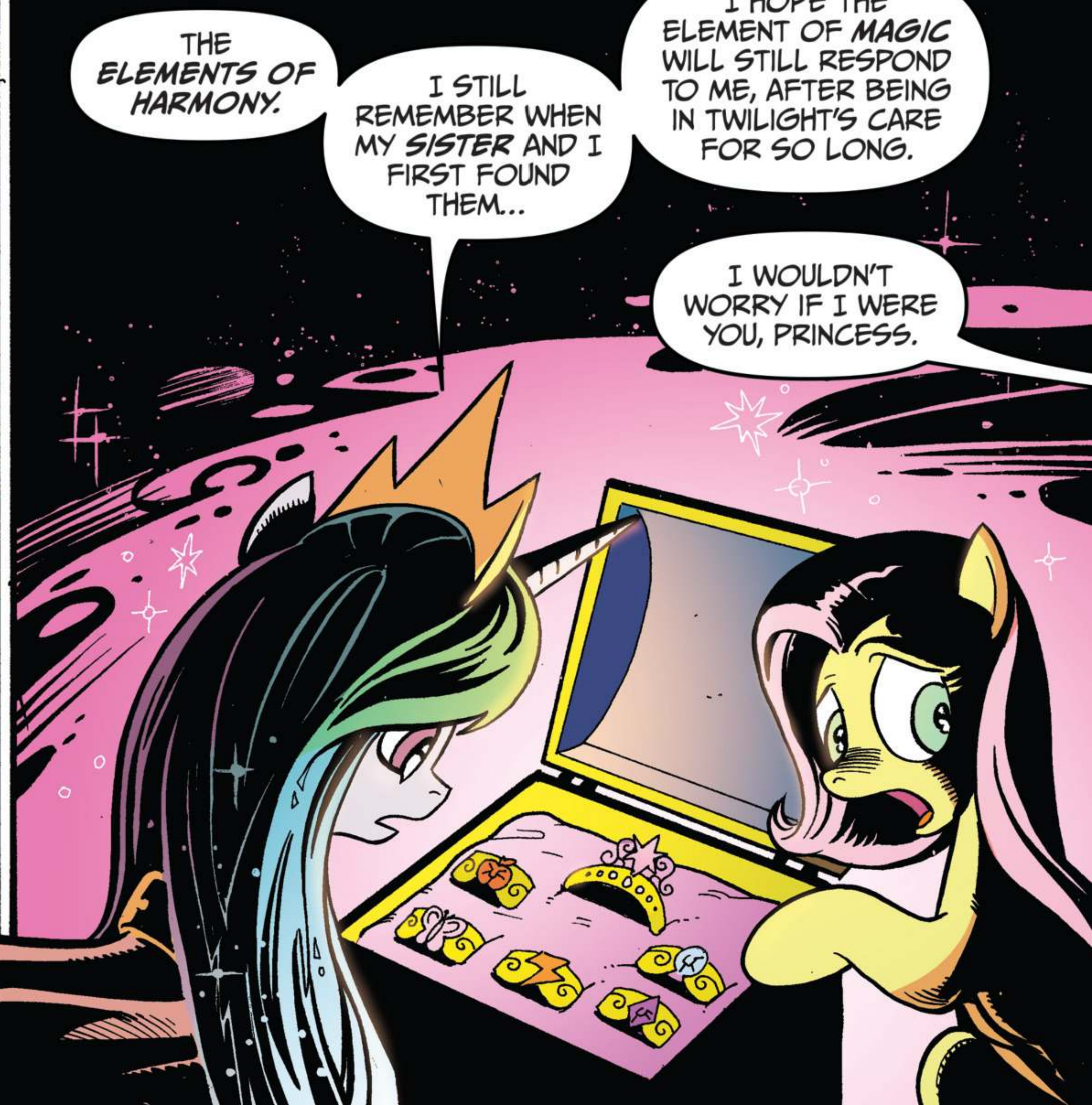
TWILIGHT? WHAT—

WAIT, WHERE'S TWILIGHT?



I HAVE THE ELEMENTS!

WAUGH!



THE ELEMENTS OF HARMONY.

I STILL REMEMBER WHEN MY SISTER AND I FIRST FOUND THEM...

I HOPE THE ELEMENT OF MAGIC WILL STILL RESPOND TO ME, AFTER BEING IN TWILIGHT'S CARE FOR SO LONG.

I WOULDN'T WORRY IF I WERE YOU, PRINCESS.



# ACCORD!?

INDEED.

IT TOOK ME SOME TIME TO WORK OUT THE MAGIC OF TELEPORTING LIKE DISCORD DID—

—BUT ONCE I DID, I DECIDED TO DROP IN ON MY FAVORITE LITTLE VILLAGE!

YOU'RE NOT GETTIN' AWAY WITH THIS, ACCORD!

GET AWAY WITH WHAT?

UNITING ALL OF EQUESTRIA?

MAKING THIS KINGDOM AS ORDERLY AS IT CAN BE?

I'M AFRAID I ALREADY HAVE.

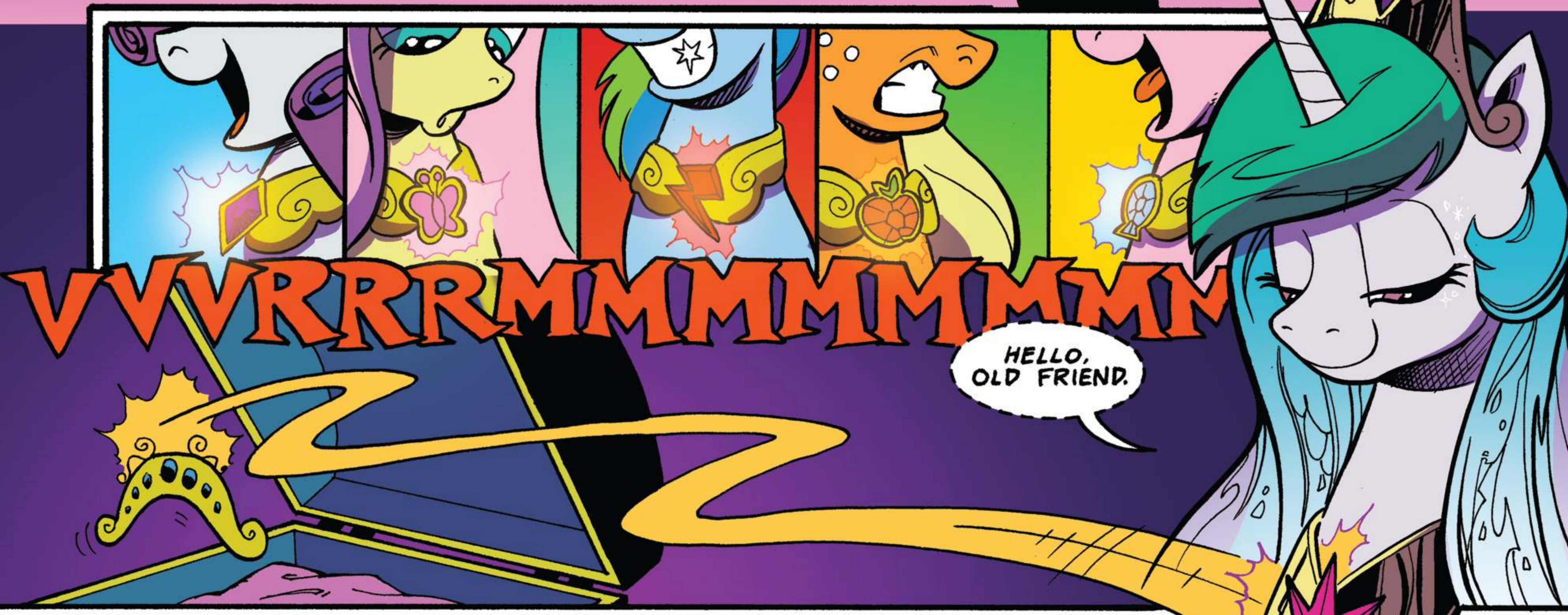
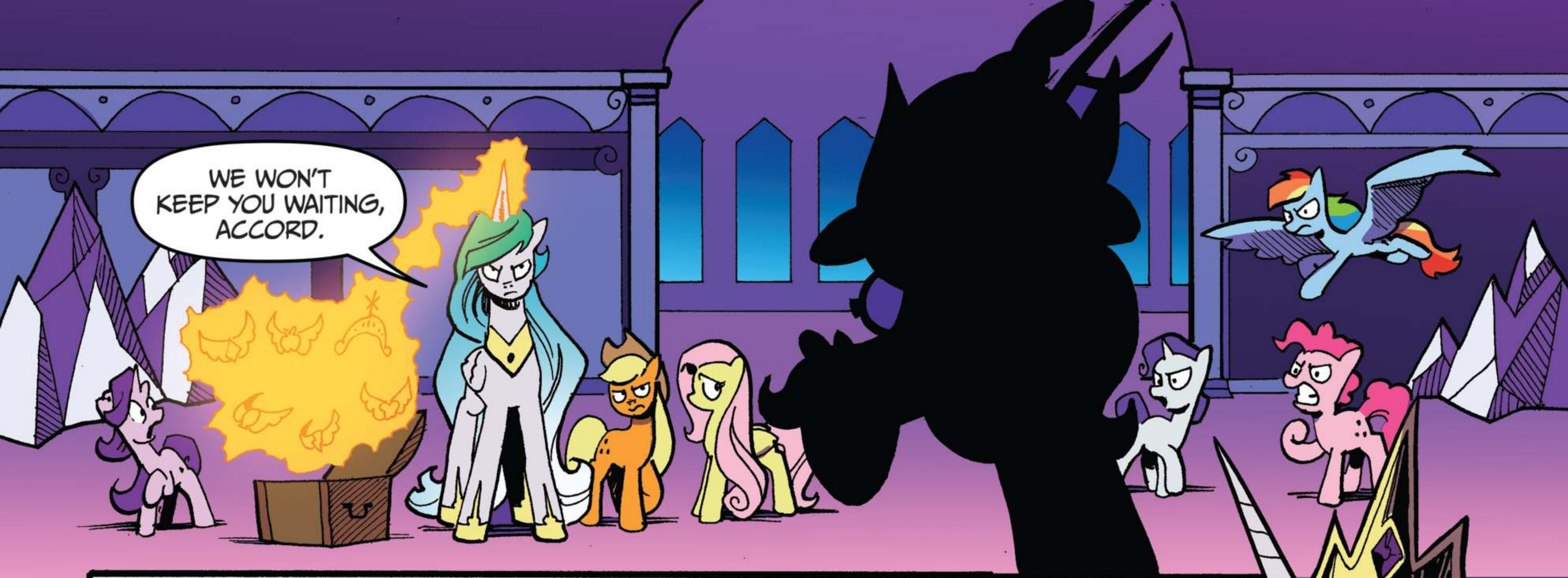
THE ONLY POSSIBLE STUMBLING BLOCK IS THE ELEMENTS OF HARMONY—

—AND I DOUBT THEY WILL BE SO EFFECTIVE WITHOUT THE PRINCESS OF FRIENDSHIP.

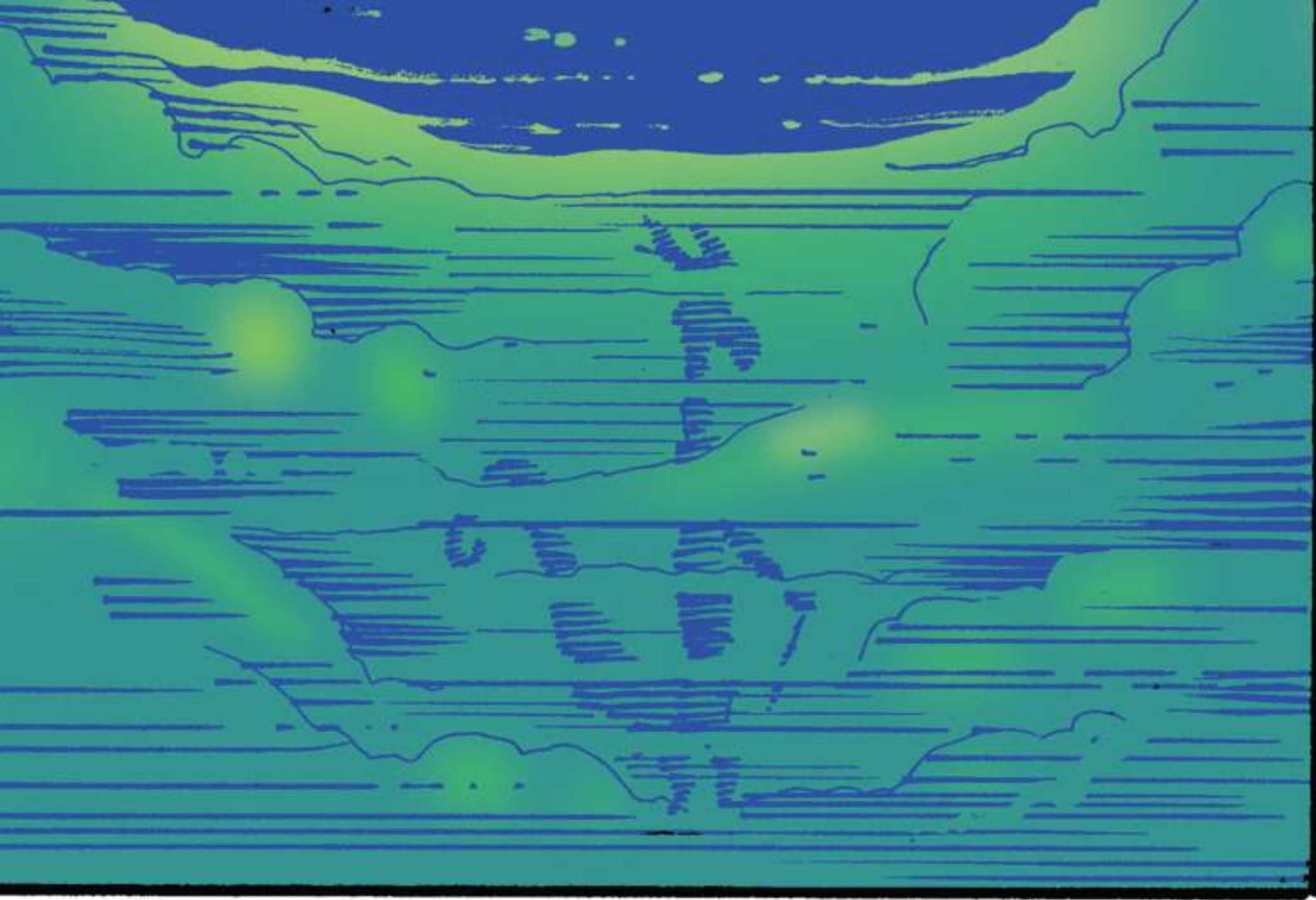
IF YOU WISH TO TRY THEM—

—I INVITE THE ATTEMPT.









AS I SAID.

TSK.



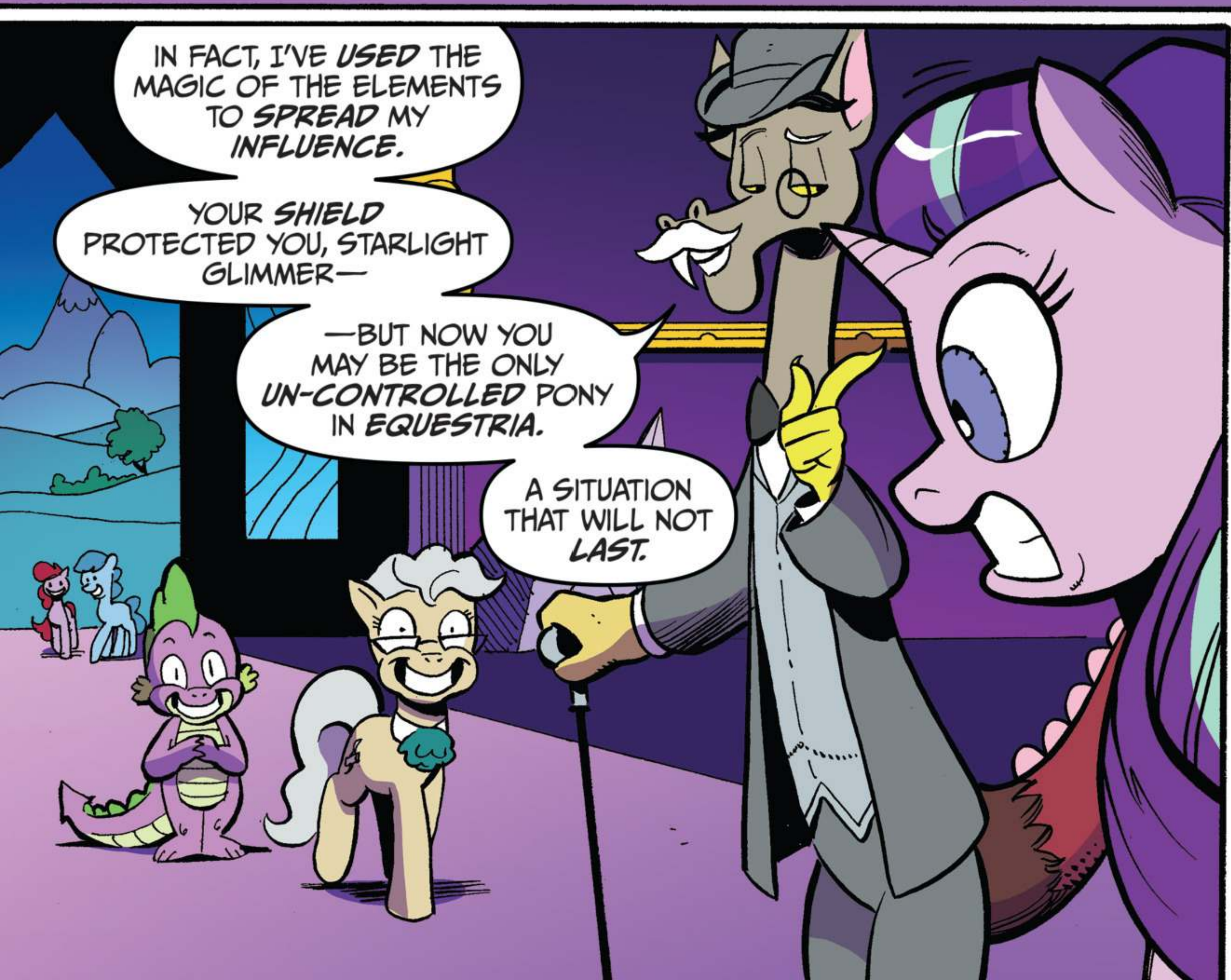
NO...!

YES.



THE MAGIC OF THE ELEMENTS IS ALL ABOUT RESTORING ORDER, YOU SEE.

AND I AM THE MOST ORDERLY OF THEM ALL.



IN FACT, I'VE USED THE MAGIC OF THE ELEMENTS TO SPREAD MY INFLUENCE.

YOUR SHIELD PROTECTED YOU, STARLIGHT GLIMMER—

—BUT NOW YOU MAY BE THE ONLY UN-CONTROLLED PONY IN EQUESTRIA.

A SITUATION THAT WILL NOT LAST.



W... WAIT!





IF I AM THE ONLY PONY IN EQUESTRIA WHO DOESN'T FOLLOW YOU—

—THEN PLAY FAIR!

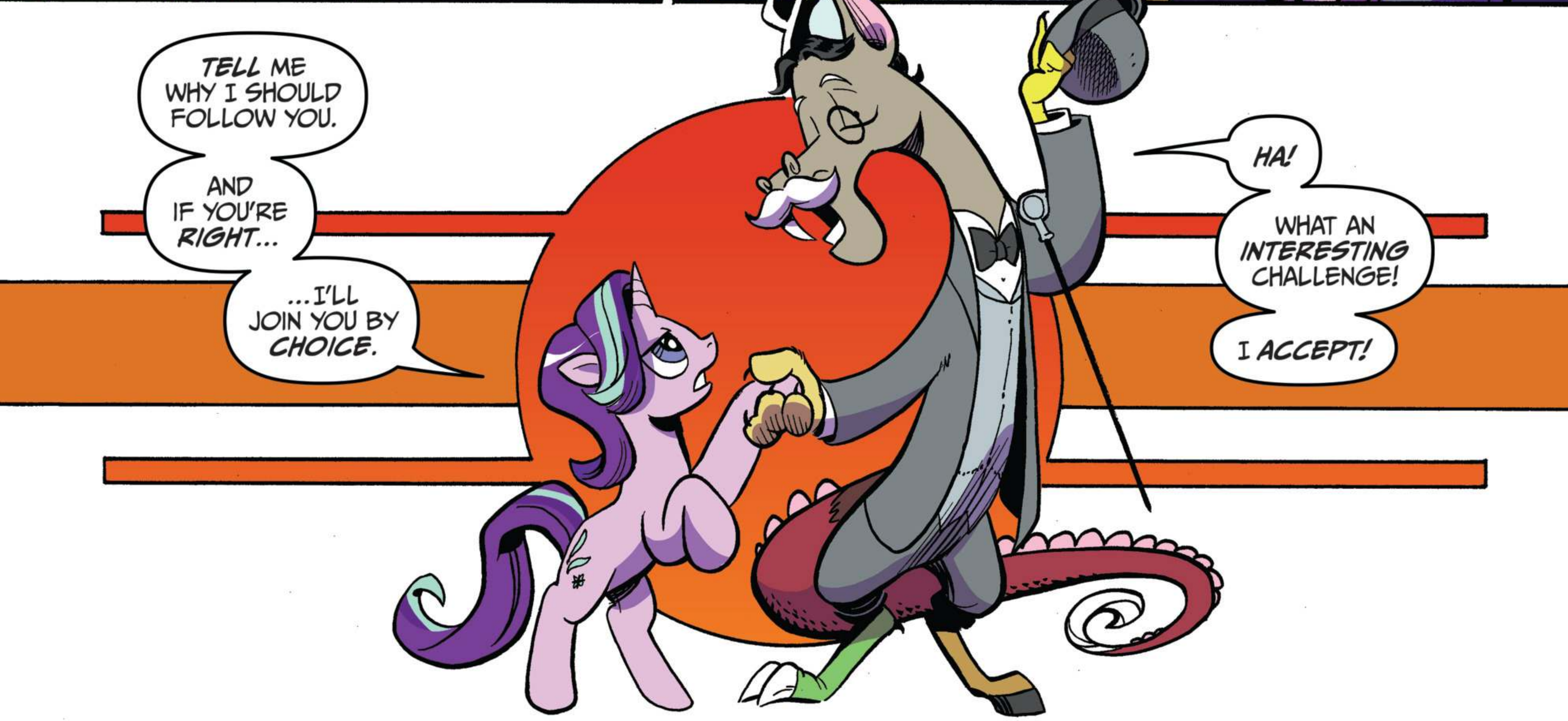


"FAIR," YOU SAY?

Y-YES!

INSTEAD OF JUST SNAPPING YOUR CLAWS AND TURNING ME TO YOUR SIDE—

—CONVINCE ME!



TELL ME WHY I SHOULD FOLLOW YOU.

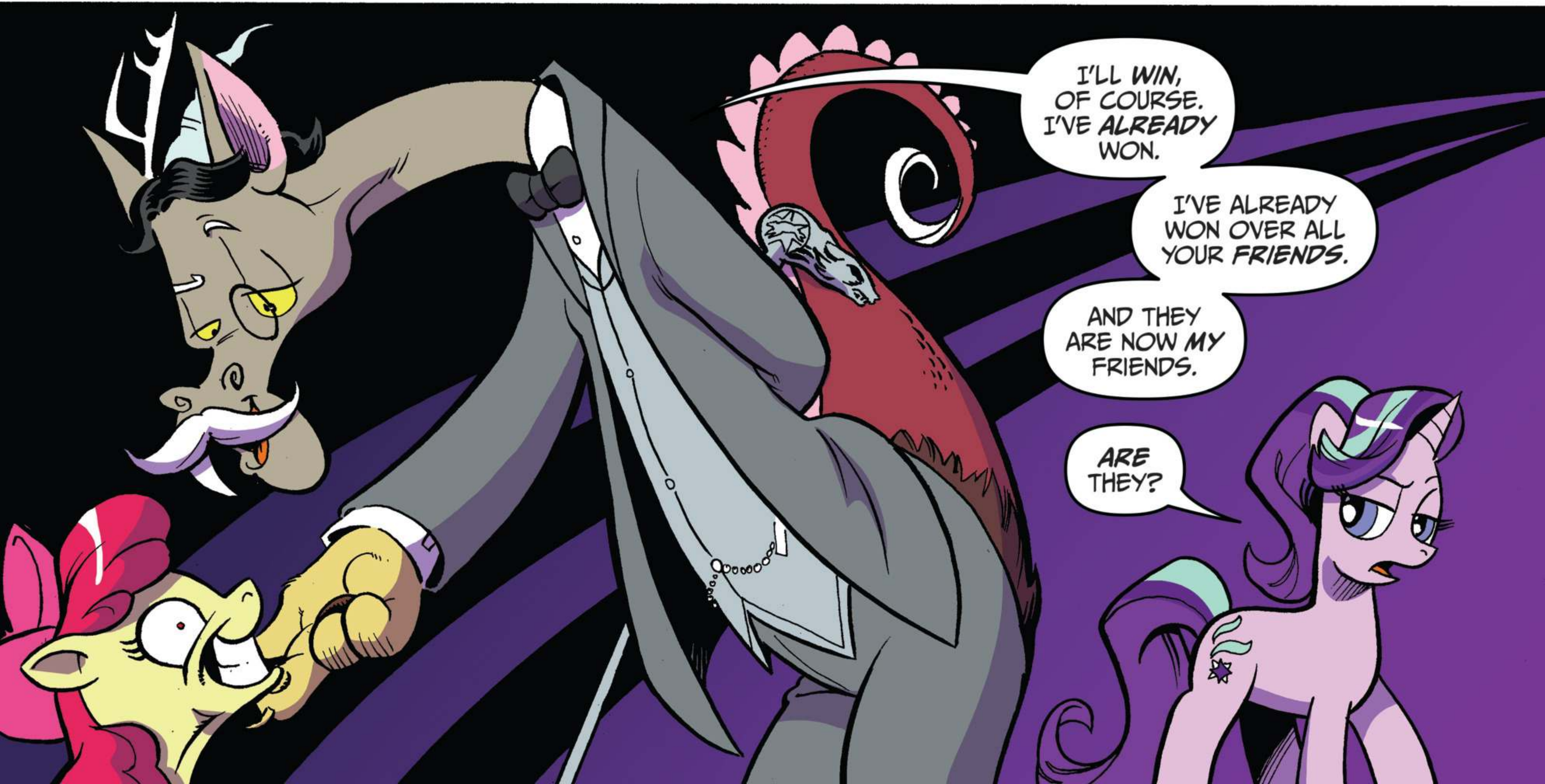
AND IF YOU'RE RIGHT...

...I'LL JOIN YOU BY CHOICE.

HA!

WHAT AN INTERESTING CHALLENGE!

I ACCEPT!



I'LL WIN, OF COURSE. I'VE ALREADY WON.

I'VE ALREADY WON OVER ALL YOUR FRIENDS.

AND THEY ARE NOW MY FRIENDS.

ARE THEY?



WHY, OF COURSE!

JUST LOOK AT EVERYPONY THAT HAS JOINED ME!

THEY THINK LIKE ME, THEY ACT LIKE ME.

**JOIN ME.**



FRIENDSHIP IS ORDER.

AND ORDER IS FRIENDSHIP.

I DON'T THINK SO.



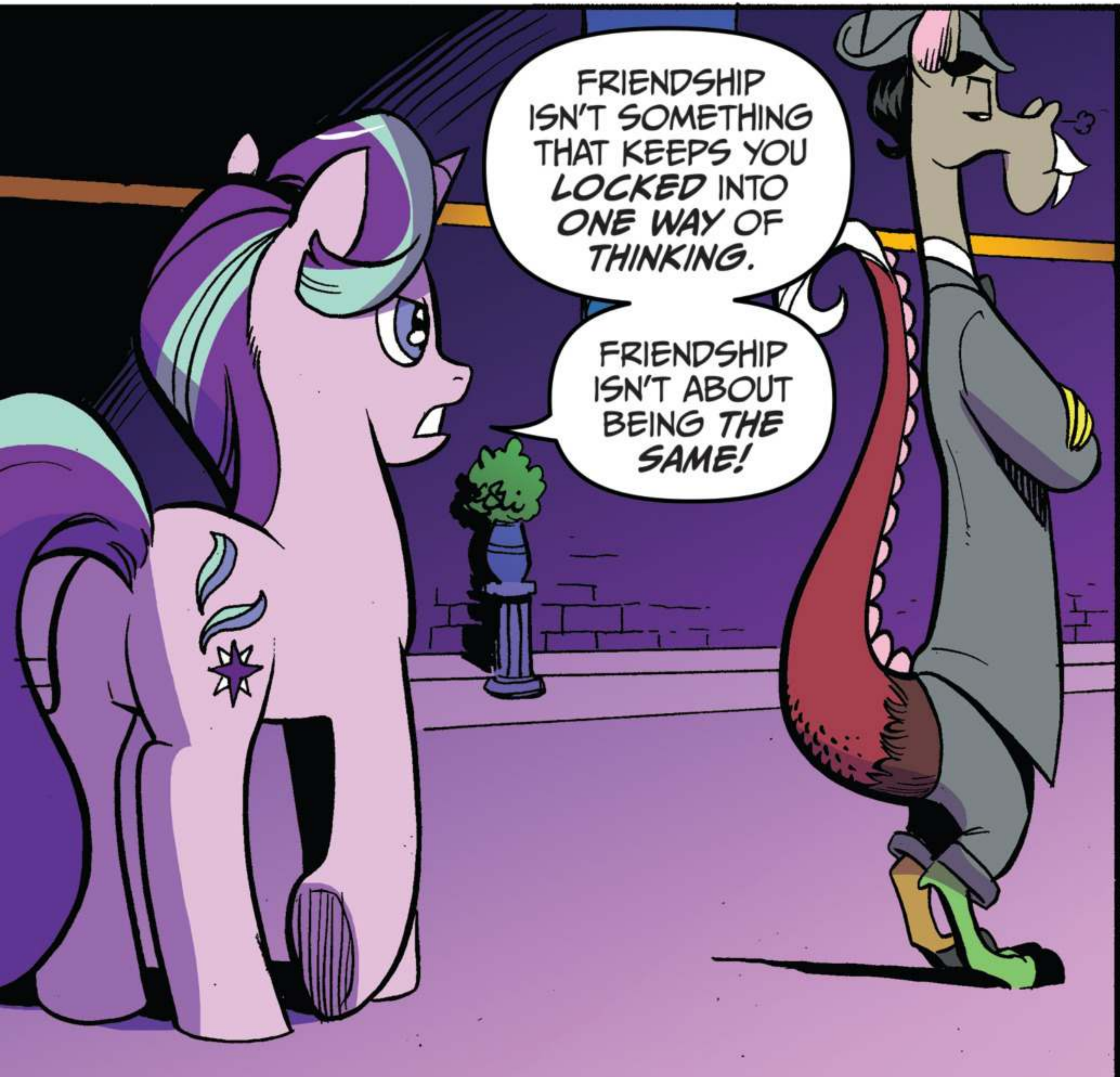
MY OLD VILLAGE WAS BASED ON ORDER.

BUT WE WEREN'T FRIENDS.



FRIENDSHIP ISN'T SOMETHING THAT KEEPS YOU LOCKED INTO ONE WAY OF THINKING.

FRIENDSHIP ISN'T ABOUT BEING THE SAME!

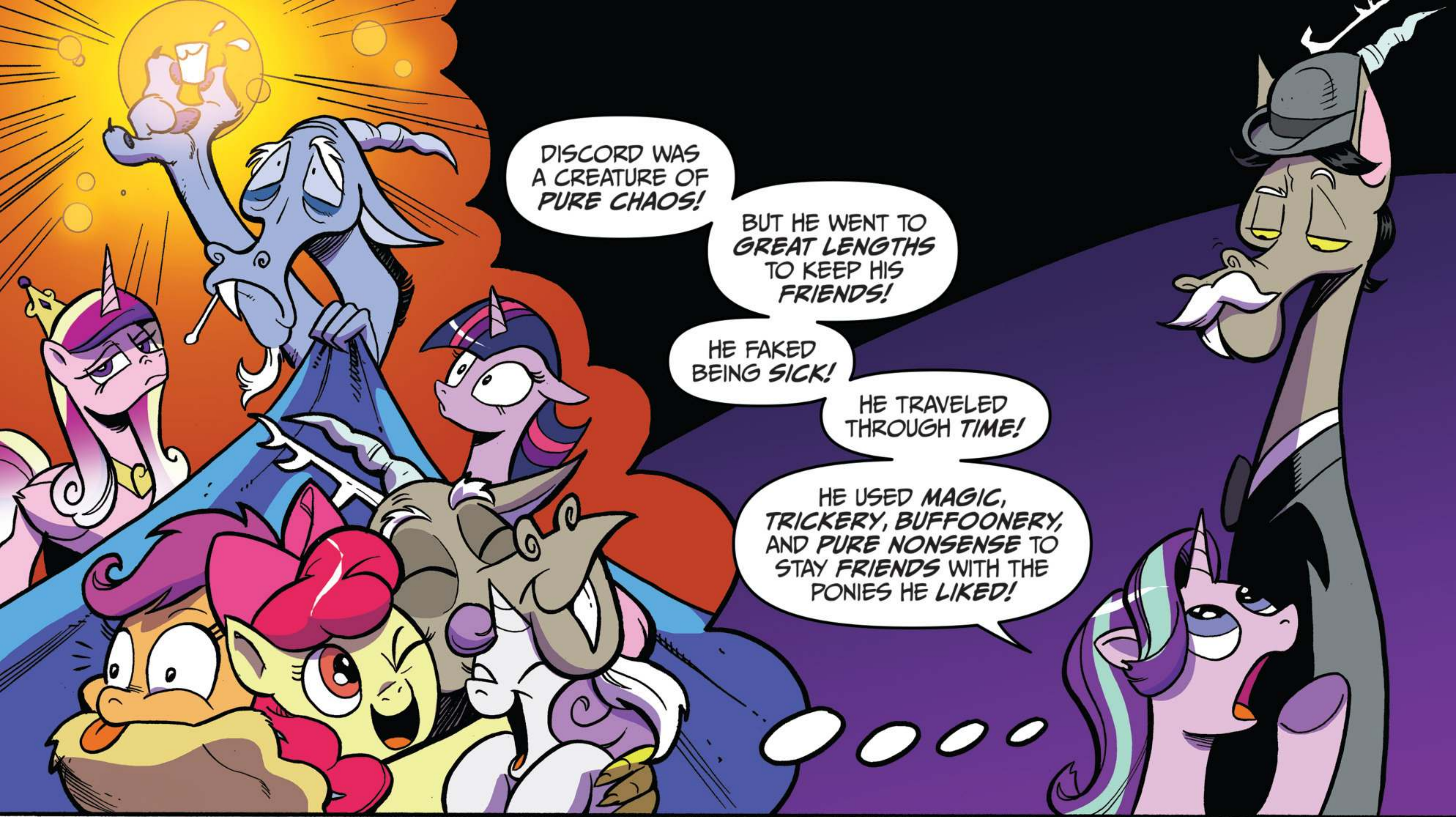


AFTER ALL, DISCORD WASN'T THE SAME AS ANYPONY—

—AND EVEN HE WANTED FRIENDS!







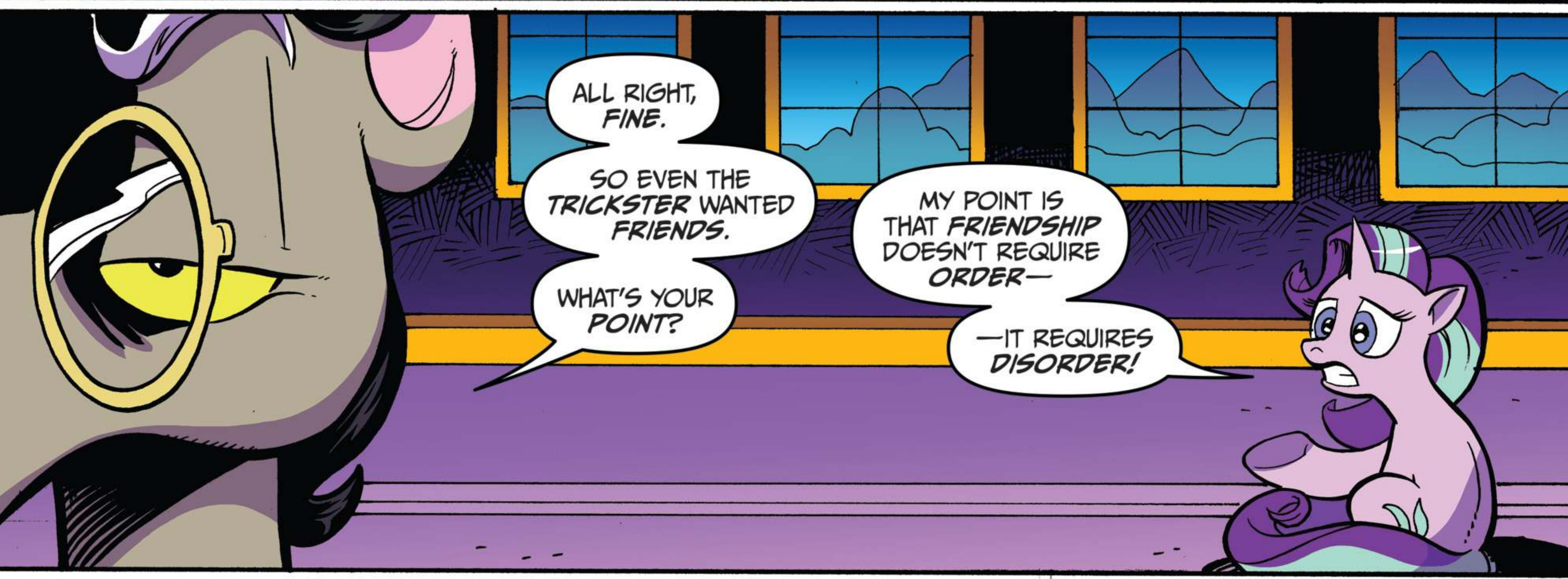
DISCORD WAS A CREATURE OF PURE CHAOS!

BUT HE WENT TO GREAT LENGTHS TO KEEP HIS FRIENDS!

HE FAKED BEING SICK!

HE TRAVELED THROUGH TIME!

HE USED MAGIC, TRICKERY, BUFFOONERY, AND PURE NONSENSE TO STAY FRIENDS WITH THE PONIES HE LIKED!



ALL RIGHT, FINE.

SO EVEN THE TRICKSTER WANTED FRIENDS.

WHAT'S YOUR POINT?

MY POINT IS THAT FRIENDSHIP DOESN'T REQUIRE ORDER—

—IT REQUIRES DISORDER!



YOU CAN'T BE FRIENDS WITH SOMEONY WHO'S EXACTLY LIKE YOU—

IT'D BE LIKE BEING FRIENDS WITH A MIRROR!



FRIENDSHIP MEANS SEEING THE DIFFERENCES IN SOMEONY—

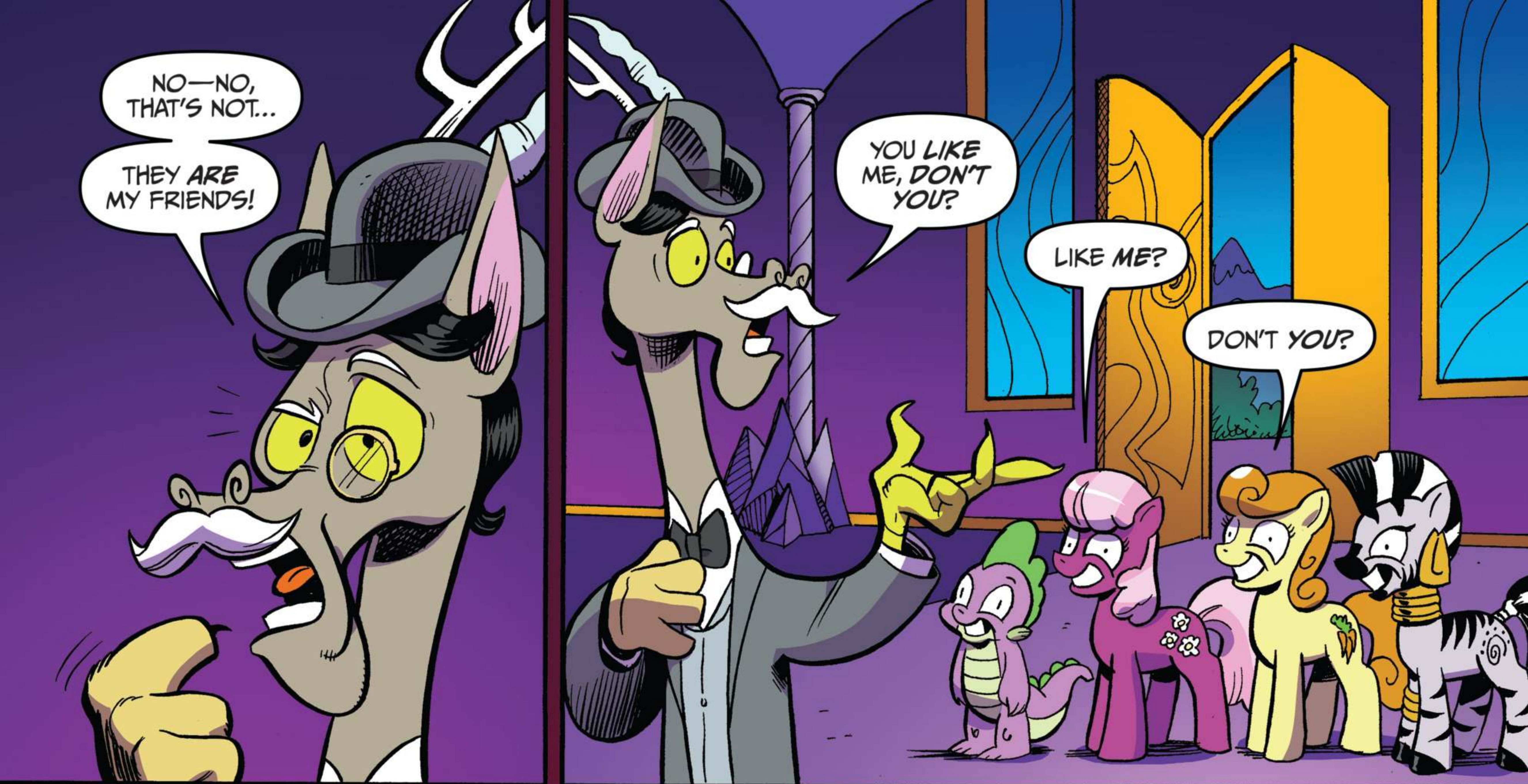
—AND MAKING A CONNECTION ANYWAY!



DISCORD WANTED FRIENDS ABOVE ALL—AND SO DO YOU!

BUT THESE PONIES AREN'T YOUR FRIENDS! THEY'RE YOUR PUPPETS!





NO—NO, THAT'S NOT...

THEY ARE MY FRIENDS!

YOU LIKE ME, DON'T YOU?

LIKE ME?

DON'T YOU?

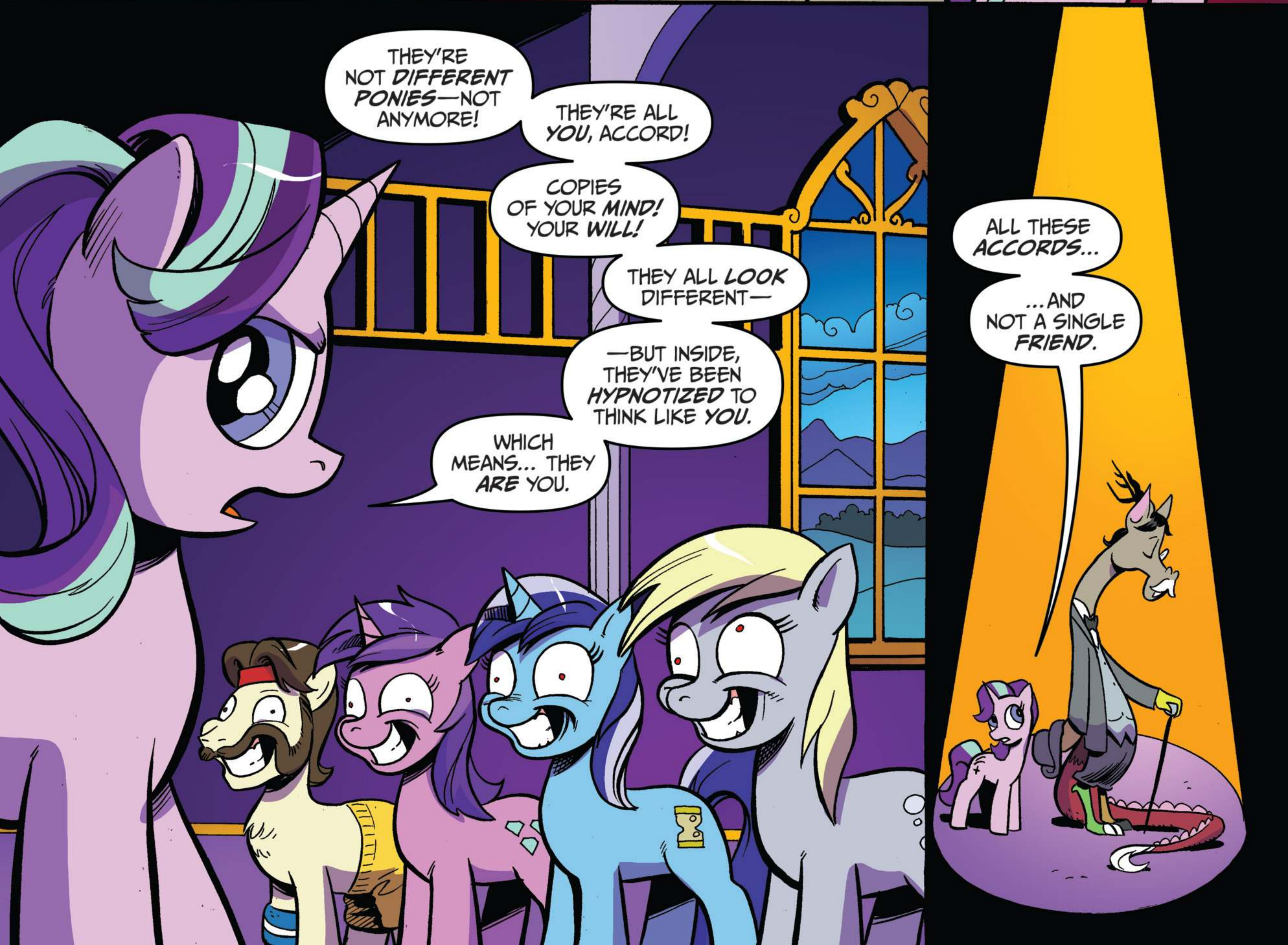


FINE!

MAYBE I DON'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS—BUT I DON'T NEED THEM!

EQUESTRIA IS ALL ABOUT HARMONY—AND I HAVE BROUGHT HARMONY! THOUSANDS OF DIFFERENT PONIES, ALL WORKING TOGETHER!

NO, THEY AREN'T!



THEY'RE NOT DIFFERENT PONIES—NOT ANYMORE!

THEY'RE ALL YOU, ACCORD!

COPIES OF YOUR MIND! YOUR WILL!

THEY ALL LOOK DIFFERENT—

—BUT INSIDE, THEY'VE BEEN HYPNOTIZED TO THINK LIKE YOU.

WHICH MEANS... THEY ARE YOU.

ALL THESE ACCORDS...

...AND NOT A SINGLE FRIEND.





YOU'RE RIGHT.  
THEY'RE NOT MY FRIENDS.



THE ORDER THAT I BROUGHT ISN'T HARMONY.  
...TO MAKE SOMETHING GREATER.  
HARMONY IS MANY DIFFERENT NOTES, ALL COMING TOGETHER...  
NO, IT ISN'T.



WE NEED THOSE DIFFERENT NOTES...  
...THAT WILD AND UNPREDICTABLE MUSIC...  
...TO MAKE SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL.  
INDEED WE DO.



FAREWELL, MISS STARLIGHT GLIMMER.  
I BELIEVE—I HOPE—  
—THAT THIS IS THE LAST YOU'LL SEE OF ACCORD.

**POOF**





AND IT'S GOOD TO HAVE YOU BACK, DISCORD.

I'M GLAD YOU SAW THE VIRTUE OF BEING YOUR OLD CHAOTIC SELF.

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D HEAR YOU SAY THAT, PRINCESS.

I MAY NEVER SMILE AGAIN... OUCH!







I JUST WANTED TO SAY—

—WELL, SORRY FOR MAKIN' YOU FEEL UNWELCOME, DISCORD.

YOU MAY BE A PLUMB CRAZY CRITTER, BUT DANG IF THAT AIN'T WHAT WE LOVE ABOUT YOU!

APPLEJACK JUST SAID SHE LOVES ME! MY LIFE IS NOW COMPLETE. ...DON'T CRY NOW...



DON'T EVER CHANGE, DISCORD.

I PROMISE I WON'T, FLUTTERSHEY.



SERIOUSLY, NEVER AGAIN.

I FINALLY GET MY OWN STORY ARC—BUT IT'S ABOUT A CHARACTER WHO ISN'T EVEN ME!

SIXTY PAGES, AND I'M ON A MEASLY NINE?

I'VE GOT TO RENEGOTIATE MY CONTRACT.



I'M GLAD I REALIZED—IT'S OUR DIFFERENCES THAT BRING US TOGETHER.

IT'S WHAT MAKES FRIENDSHIP POSSIBLE.



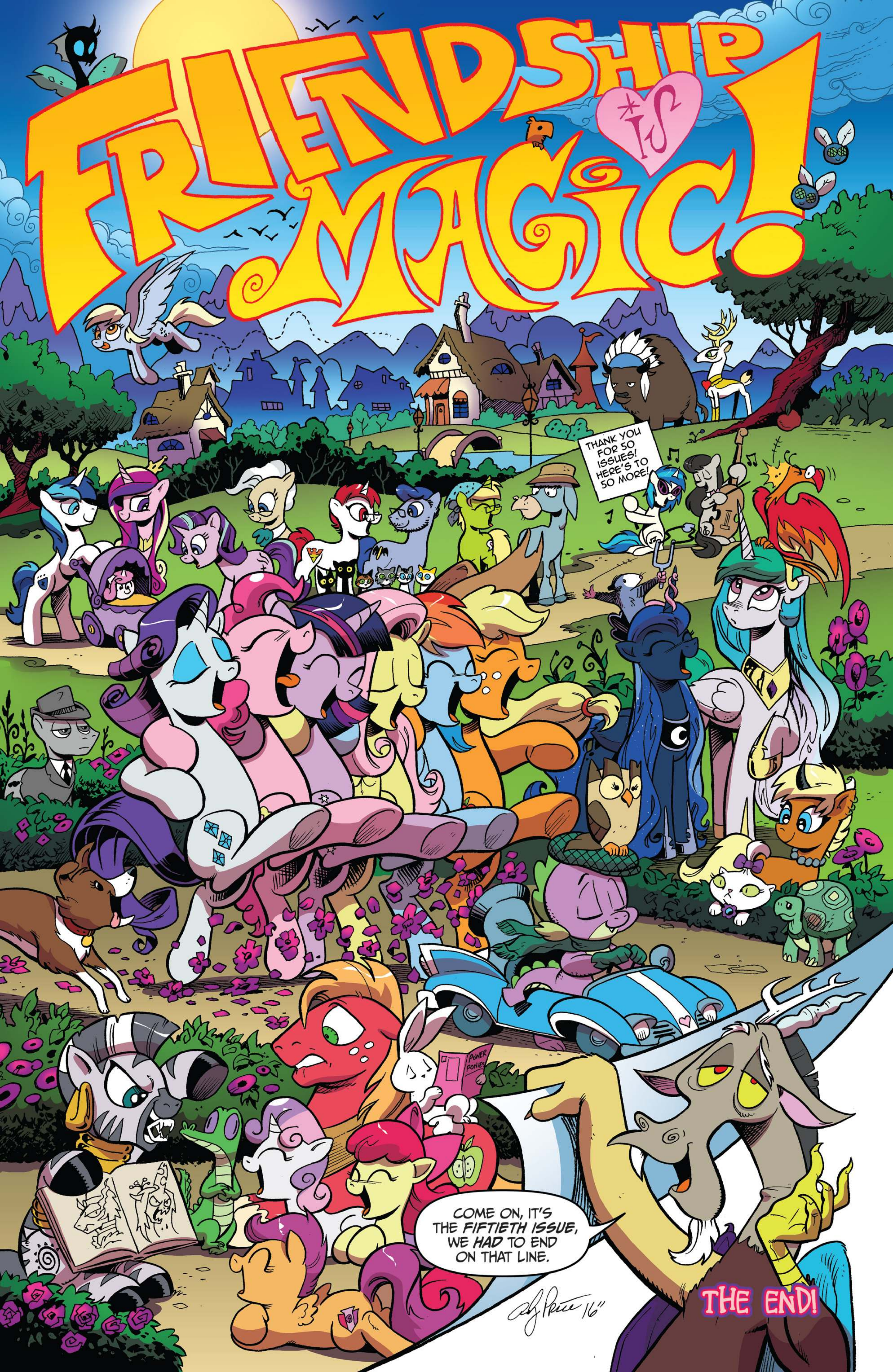
AND FRIENDSHIP HELPS BUILD EVERYTHING ELSE.

AFTER ALL, YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY—

LIGHTEN UP!



# FRIENDSHIP MAGIC!



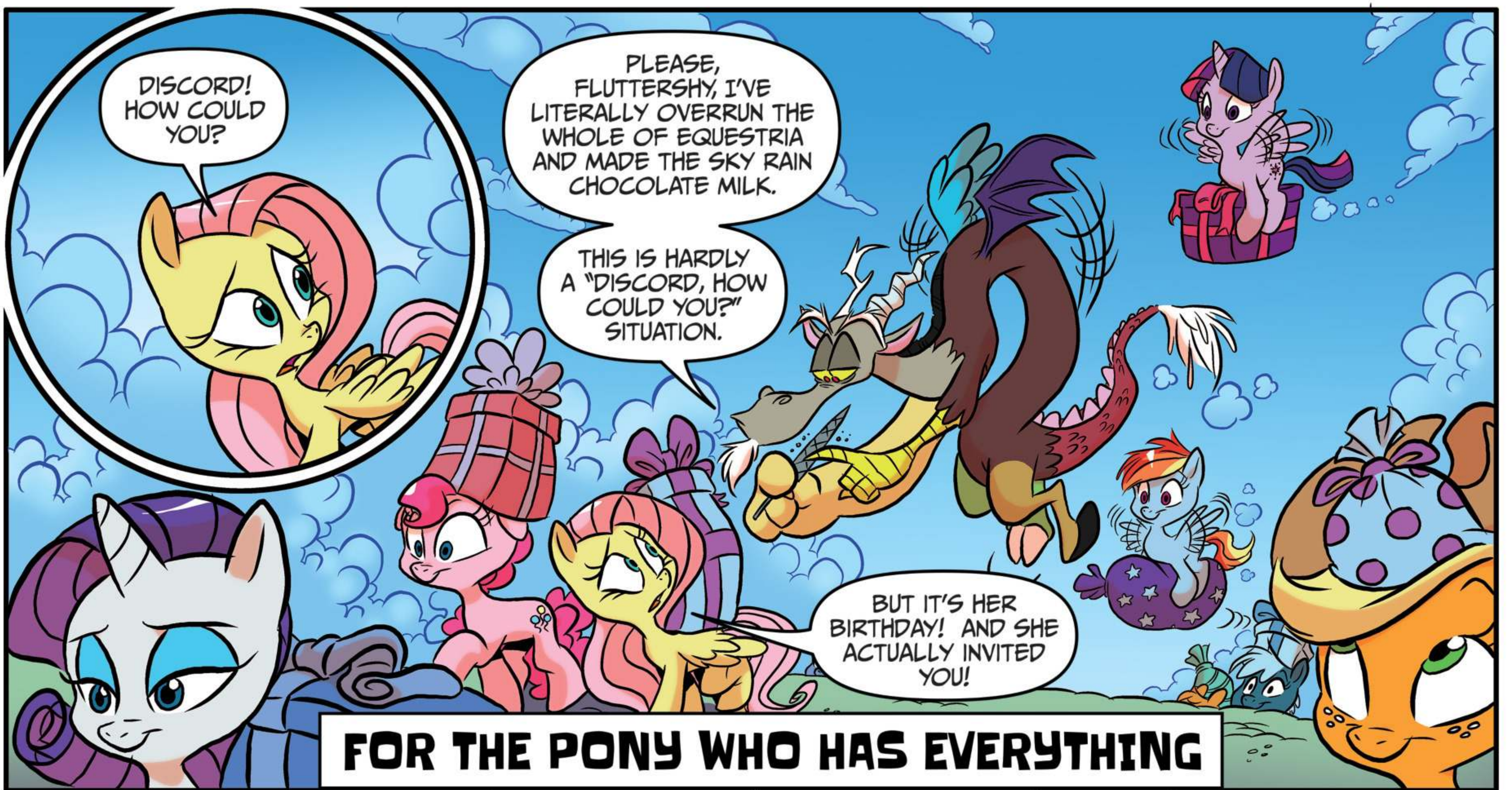
THANK YOU FOR SO ISSUES!  
HERE'S TO SO MORE!

COME ON, IT'S THE FIFTIETH ISSUE, WE HAD TO END ON THAT LINE.

*Andy Price '16*

**THE END!**





DISCORD!  
HOW COULD YOU?

PLEASE,  
FLUTTERSHY, I'VE  
LITERALLY OVERRUN THE  
WHOLE OF EQUESTRIA  
AND MADE THE SKY RAIN  
CHOCOLATE MILK.

THIS IS HARDLY  
A "DISCORD, HOW  
COULD YOU?"  
SITUATION.

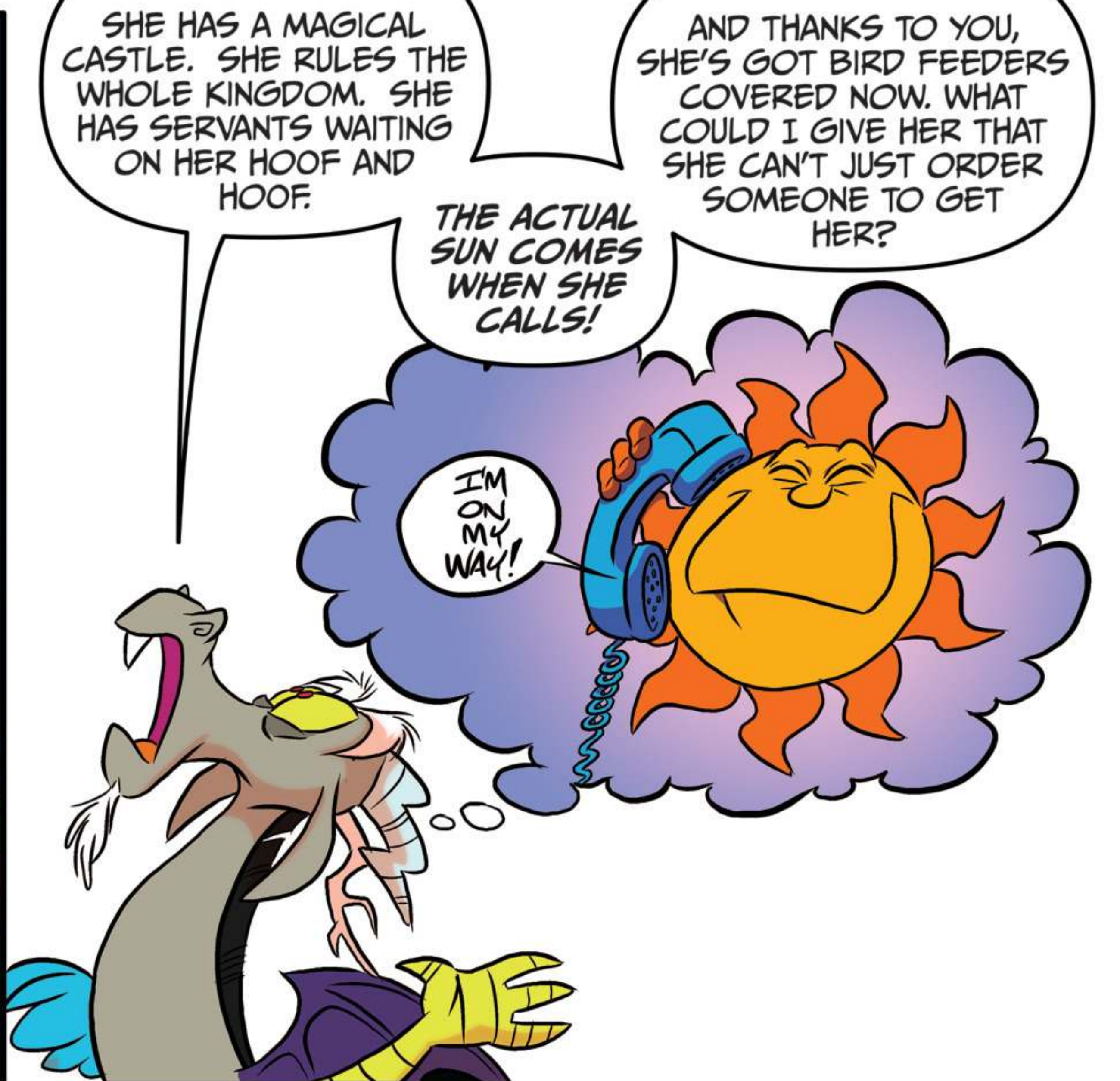
BUT IT'S HER  
BIRTHDAY! AND SHE  
ACTUALLY INVITED  
YOU!

**FOR THE PONY WHO HAS EVERYTHING**



OH, COME NOW,  
LOOK AROUND, IS  
THERE ANYPONY SHE  
DIDN'T INVITE?

THAT'S NOT  
THE POINT. SHE'S  
GIVEN YOU TWO  
SECOND CHANCES  
NOW, YOU DON'T  
THINK YOU COULD  
JUST BUY HER A  
BIRTHDAY  
PRESENT?



SHE HAS A MAGICAL  
CASTLE. SHE RULES THE  
WHOLE KINGDOM. SHE  
HAS SERVANTS WAITING  
ON HER HOOF AND  
HOOF.

AND THANKS TO YOU,  
SHE'S GOT BIRD FEEDERS  
COVERED NOW. WHAT  
COULD I GIVE HER THAT  
SHE CAN'T JUST ORDER  
SOMEONE TO GET  
HER?

THE ACTUAL  
SUN COMES  
WHEN SHE  
CALLS!

I'M  
ON  
MY  
WAY!



THAT'S NOT THE  
POINT. FRIENDSHIP IS  
ABOUT GIVING GIFTS  
FROM YOUR HEART. SURELY  
DISCORD CAN COME UP  
WITH SOMETHING  
ORIGINAL?



I... FLUTTERSHY!  
THAT WAS A CHALLENGE!  
YOU KNOW I CAN'T PASS  
UP A CHALLENGE!

OH, WAS IT? I  
GUESS YOU'LL HAVE  
TO COME UP WITH  
SOMETHING.





TWILIGHT!  
I'M SO GLAD  
YOU AND YOUR  
FRIENDS COULD  
MAKE IT!

WE  
WOULDN'T  
MISS IT. HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY  
PRINCESS!



AND  
DISCORD, I'M  
SO GLAD  
YOU—

SURE SURE,  
NOW WHAT ARE  
YOU HIDING? WHAT'S  
MISSING IN YOUR  
LIFE?

EXCUSE  
ME?

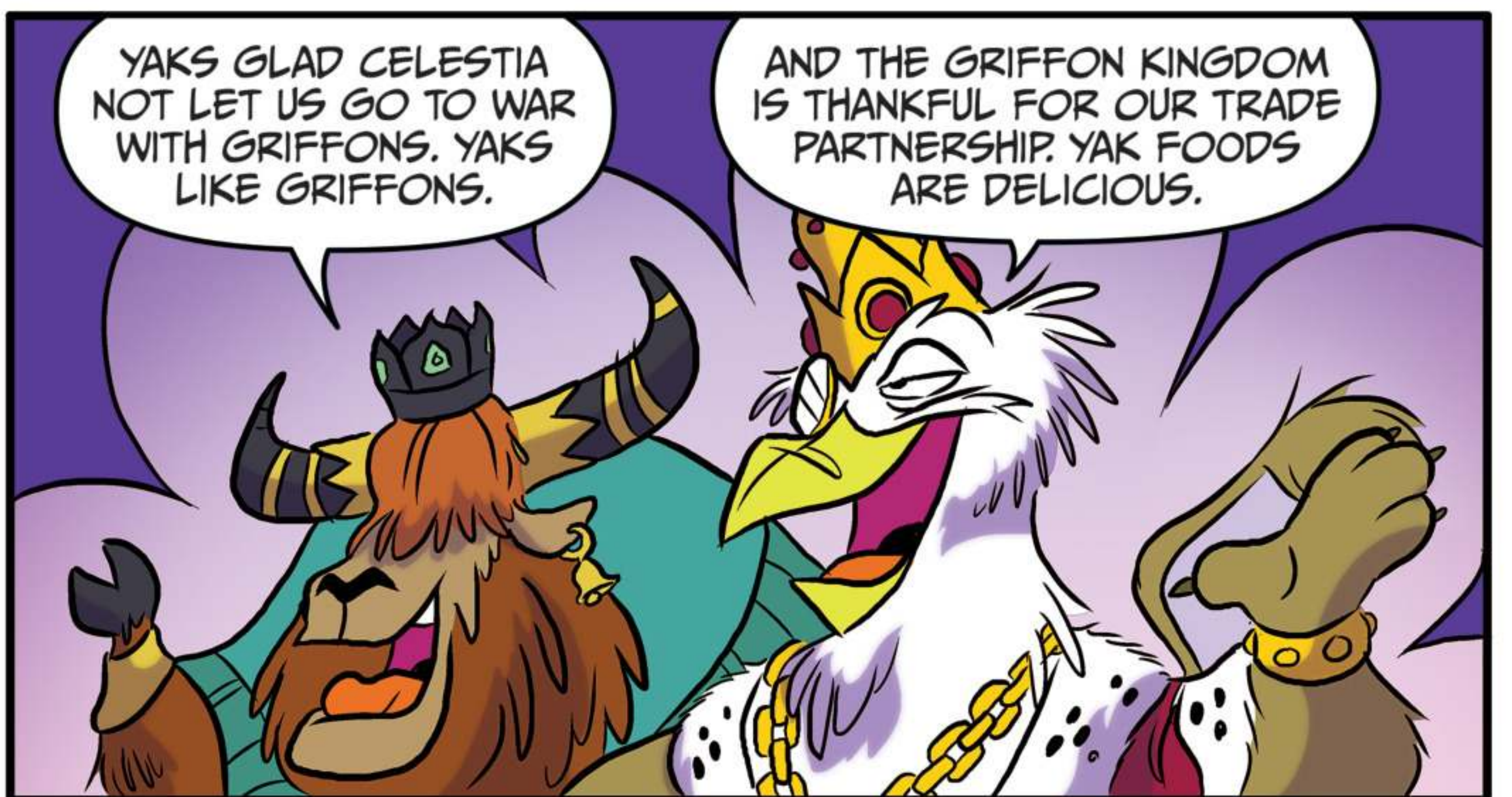
OH, DON'T  
WORRY. I'LL  
FIND IT.



...AND IT JUST WARMS MY  
HEART TO BE ABLE TO SHARE  
THIS SPECIAL DAY WITH  
EACH OF YOU.

IT IS SO NICE TO SEE THE  
LEADERS OF YAKYAKISTAN  
AND GRIFFONSTONE  
EATING AND CHATTING  
TOGETHER.

BE SURE TO  
ENJOY THE FEAST  
AND HAVE SOME OF THE  
MARVELOUS CAKE JUST  
DELIVERED FROM  
SUGARCUBE CORNER  
TODAY!



YAKS GLAD CELESTIA  
NOT LET US GO TO WAR  
WITH GRIFFONS. YAKS  
LIKE GRIFFONS.

AND THE GRIFFON KINGDOM  
IS THANKFUL FOR OUR TRADE  
PARTNERSHIP. YAK FOODS  
ARE DELICIOUS.



LOOK AT THAT. I GOT  
THE BANDAGE ON AND YOU'RE  
ALREADY FEELING BETTER  
AREN'T YOU?

UH-HUH.

NOW, LET'S BE  
CAREFUL NOT TO RUN  
IN THE CASTLE  
AGAIN.



AND I HAD TO  
TEACH THE DRAGON  
ALL ABOUT HONORING  
THE TRUTH OF OTHER  
DRAGONS' PERSONAL  
EXPERIENCE.

THAT  
DOES SOUND  
TRICKY.

BUT YOU WON'T  
BELIEVE WHAT IT  
TAUGHT ME ABOUT  
FRIENDSHIP!









A MUSIC BOX?  
IT'S BEAUTIFUL!  
LET'S WIND IT  
UP.



WHAT A  
LOVELY TUNE.  
I WONDER WHO  
COULD HAVE...  
WAIT...

IS THAT  
ME?



OH MY!



SOME KIND OF  
MAGIC. FEELING  
DROWSY... I...







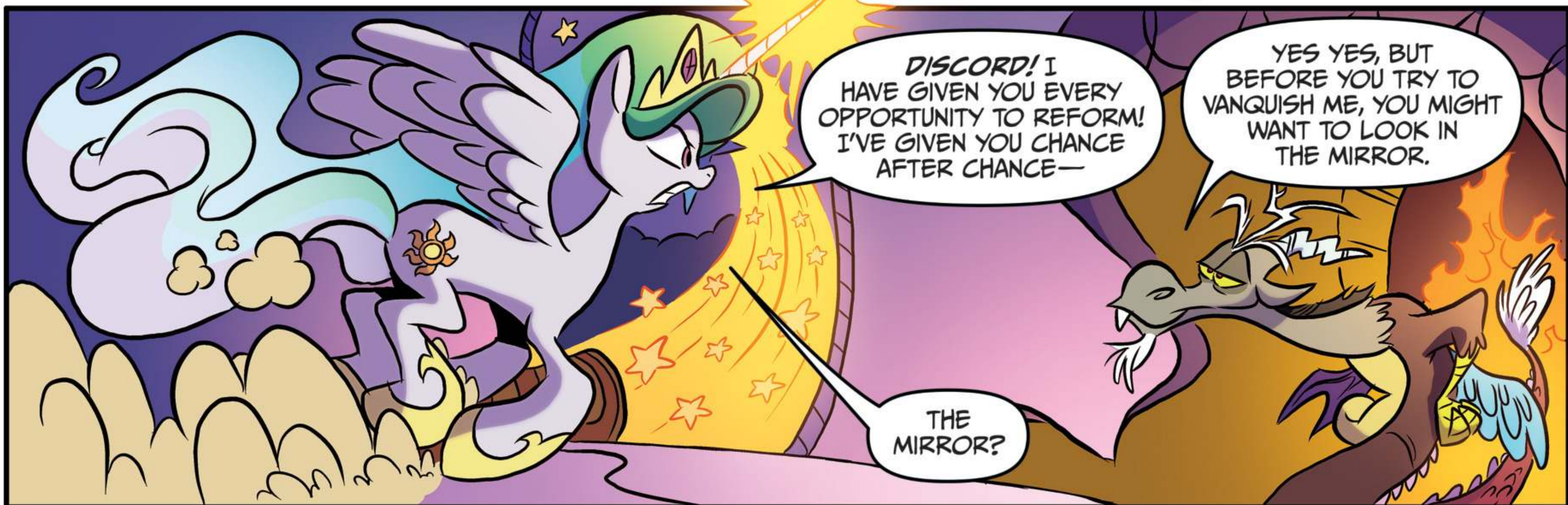
OH MY. WHAT AN ODD DREAM.

WHAT TIME IS IT? I HAVE TO RAISE THE—



THE SUN! THE SUN IS UP! HOW DID IT RAISE WITHOUT ME?

THAT WOULD BE ME. HONESTLY, LIKE IT'S HARD?



DISCORD! I HAVE GIVEN YOU EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO REFORM! I'VE GIVEN YOU CHANCE AFTER CHANCE—

YES YES, BUT BEFORE YOU TRY TO VANQUISH ME, YOU MIGHT WANT TO LOOK IN THE MIRROR.

THE MIRROR?

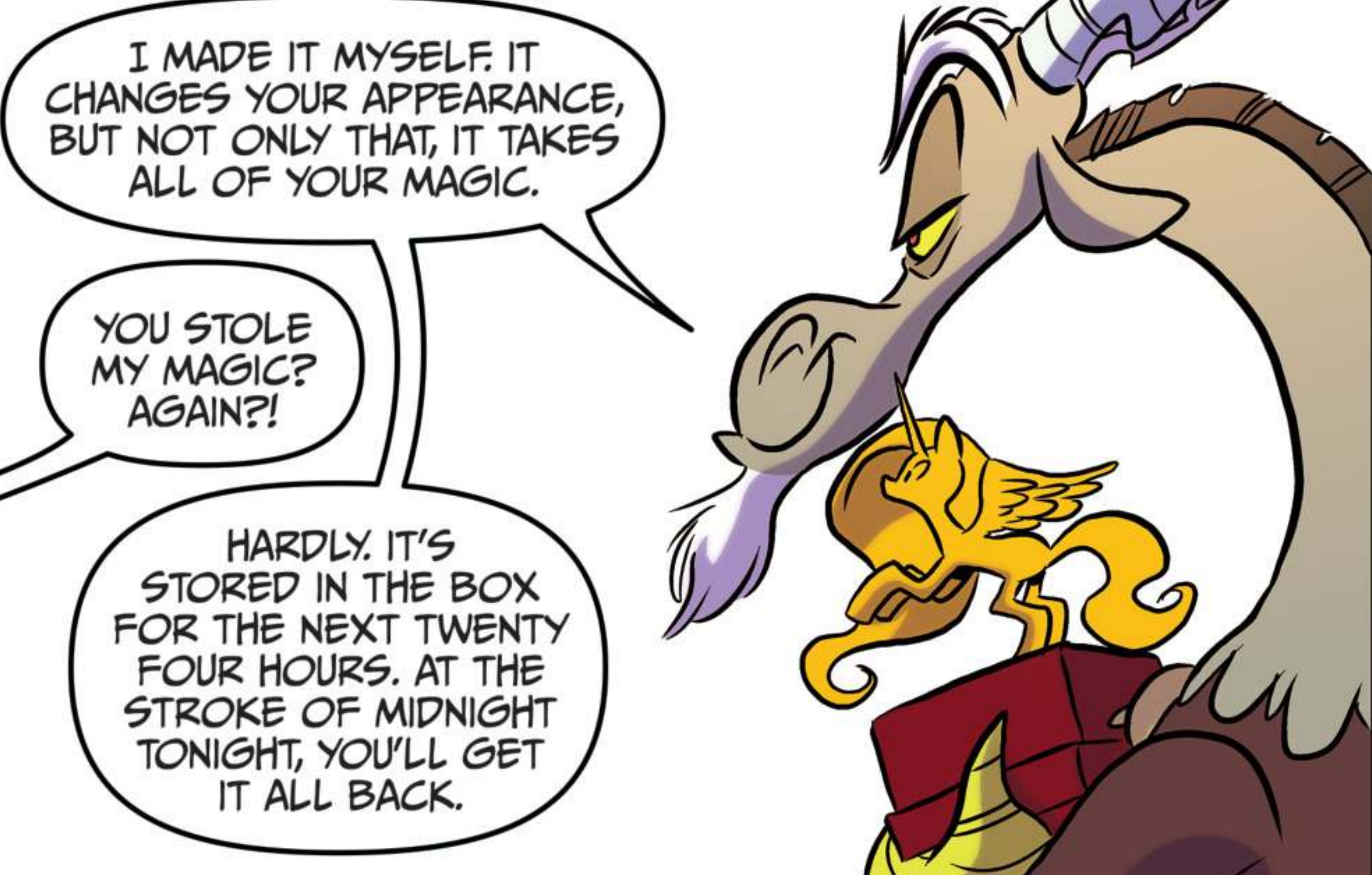


MY... WHO? DISCORD, WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

I FOUND THE PERFECT GIFT FOR YOU. DON'T YOU LIKE IT?

A GIFT?

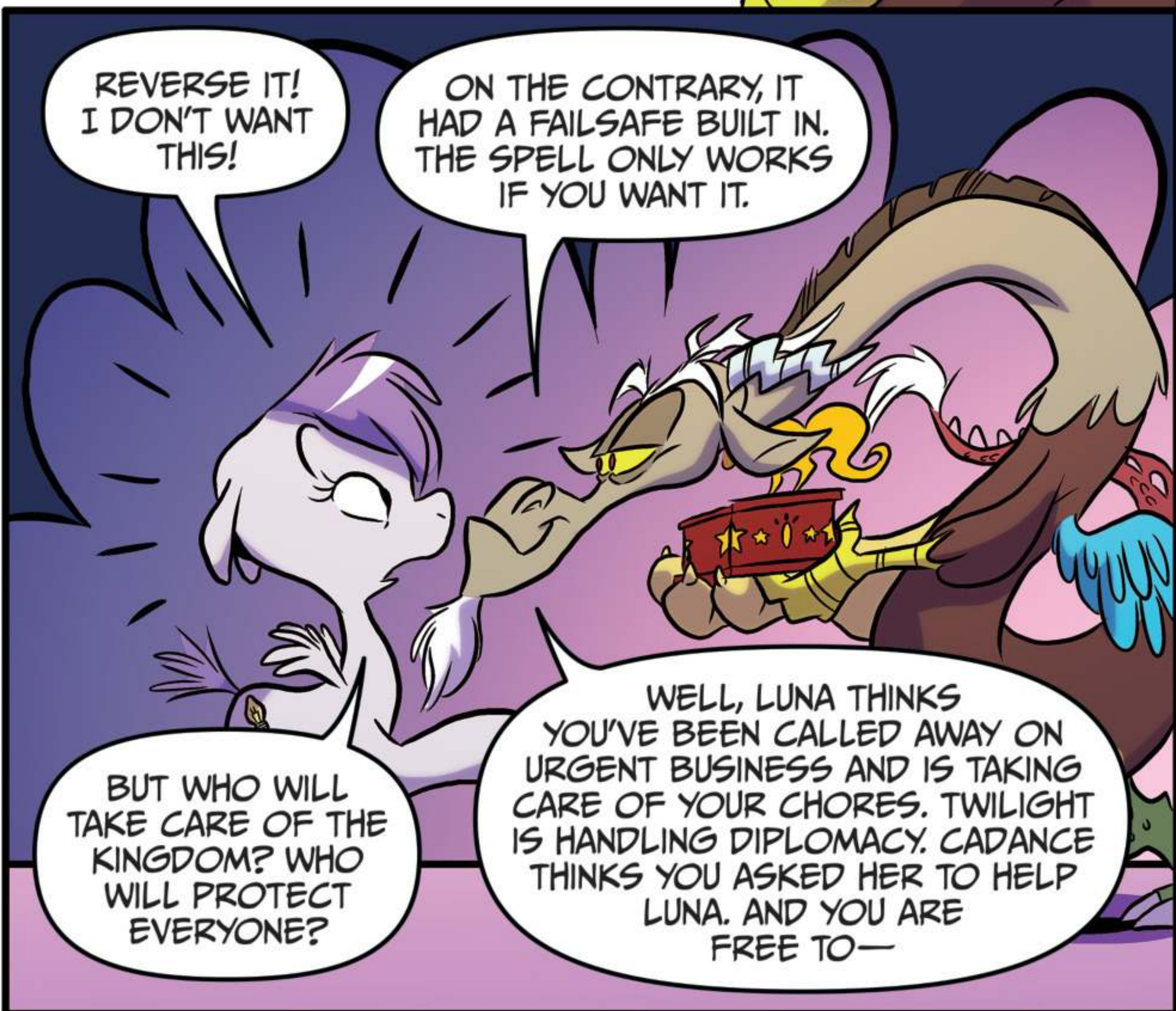
A DAY OFF.



I MADE IT MYSELF. IT CHANGES YOUR APPEARANCE, BUT NOT ONLY THAT, IT TAKES ALL OF YOUR MAGIC.

YOU STOLE MY MAGIC? AGAIN?!

HARDLY. IT'S STORED IN THE BOX FOR THE NEXT TWENTY FOUR HOURS. AT THE STROKE OF MIDNIGHT TONIGHT, YOU'LL GET IT ALL BACK.



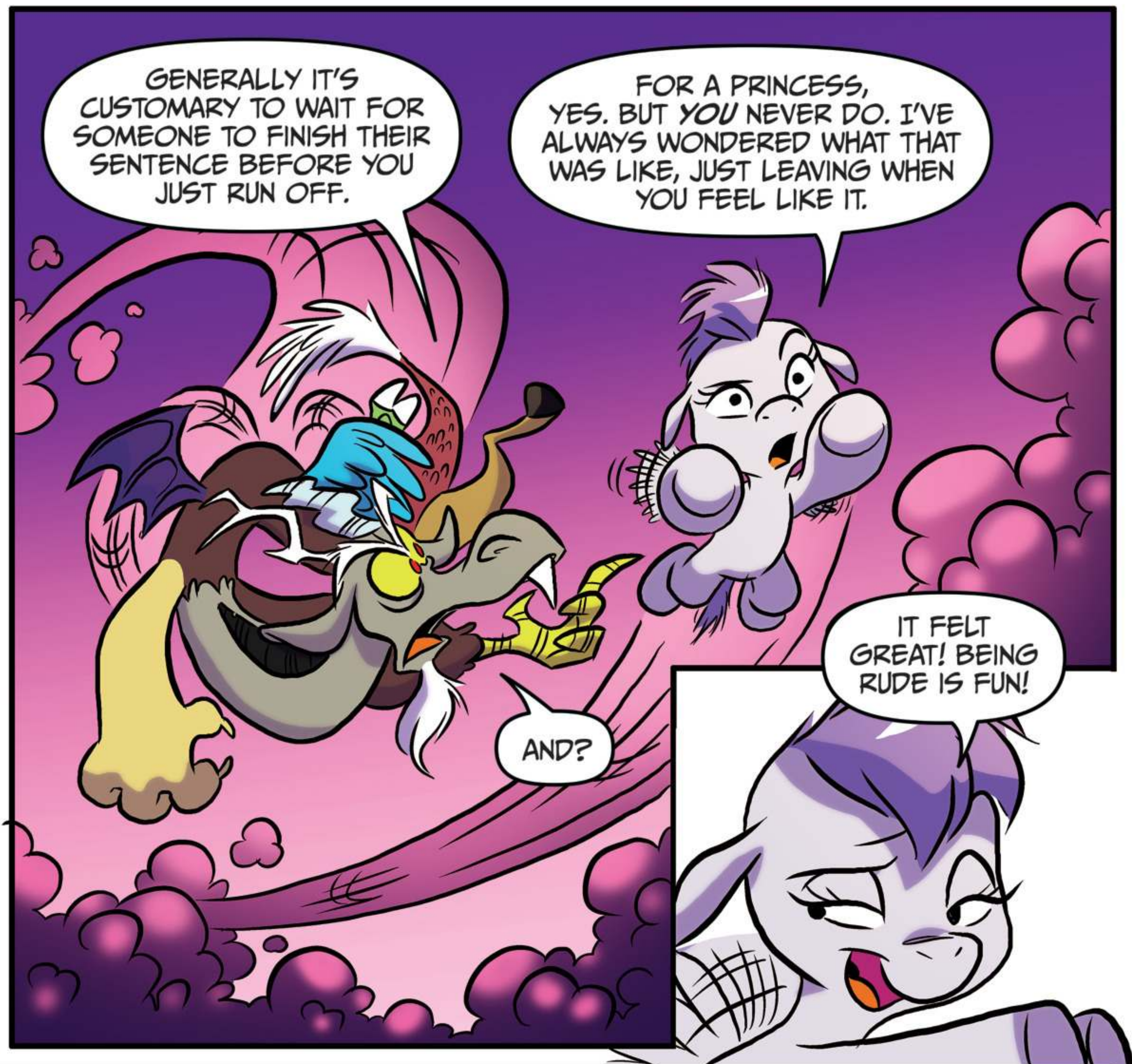
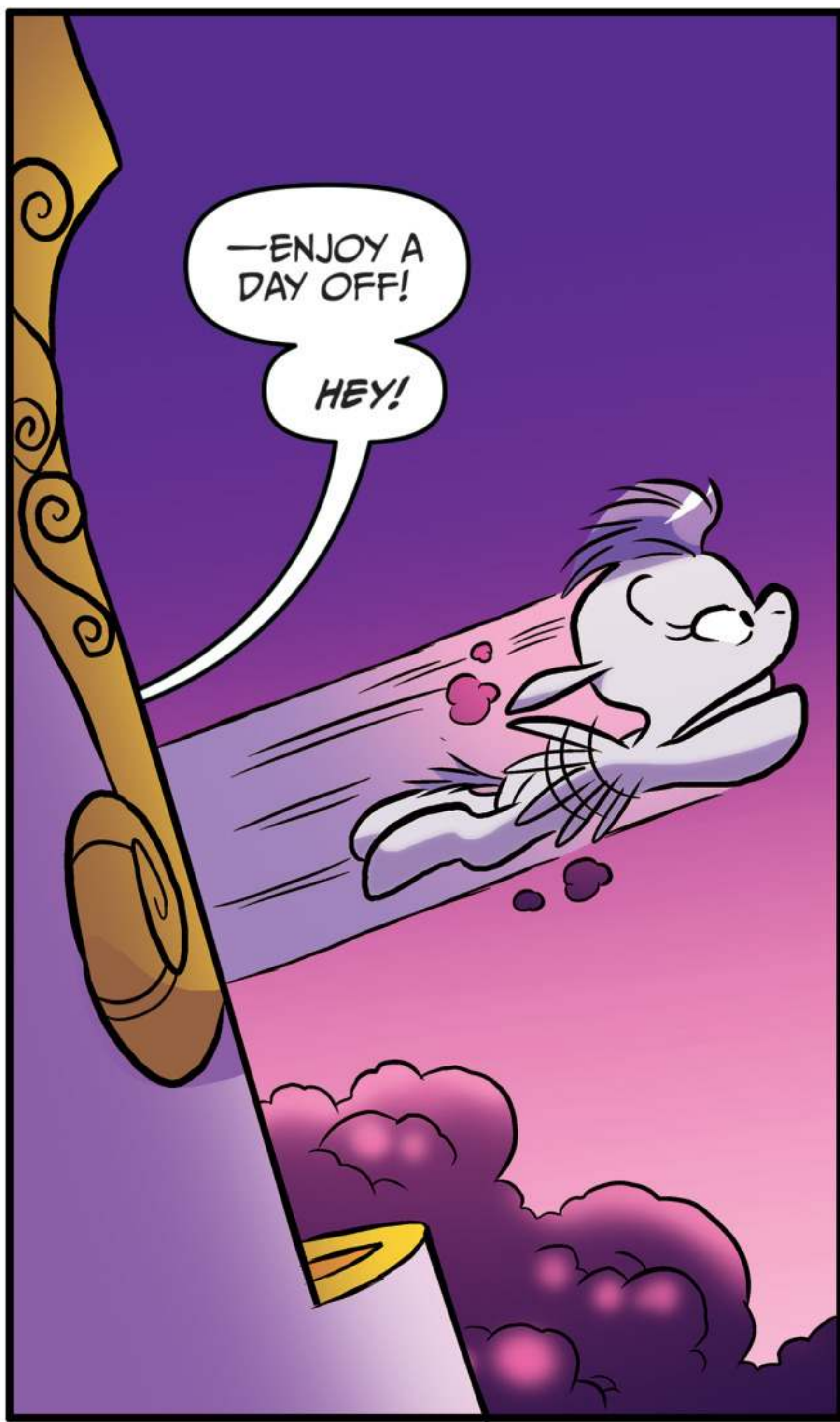
REVERSE IT! I DON'T WANT THIS!

ON THE CONTRARY, IT HAD A FAILSAFE BUILT IN. THE SPELL ONLY WORKS IF YOU WANT IT.

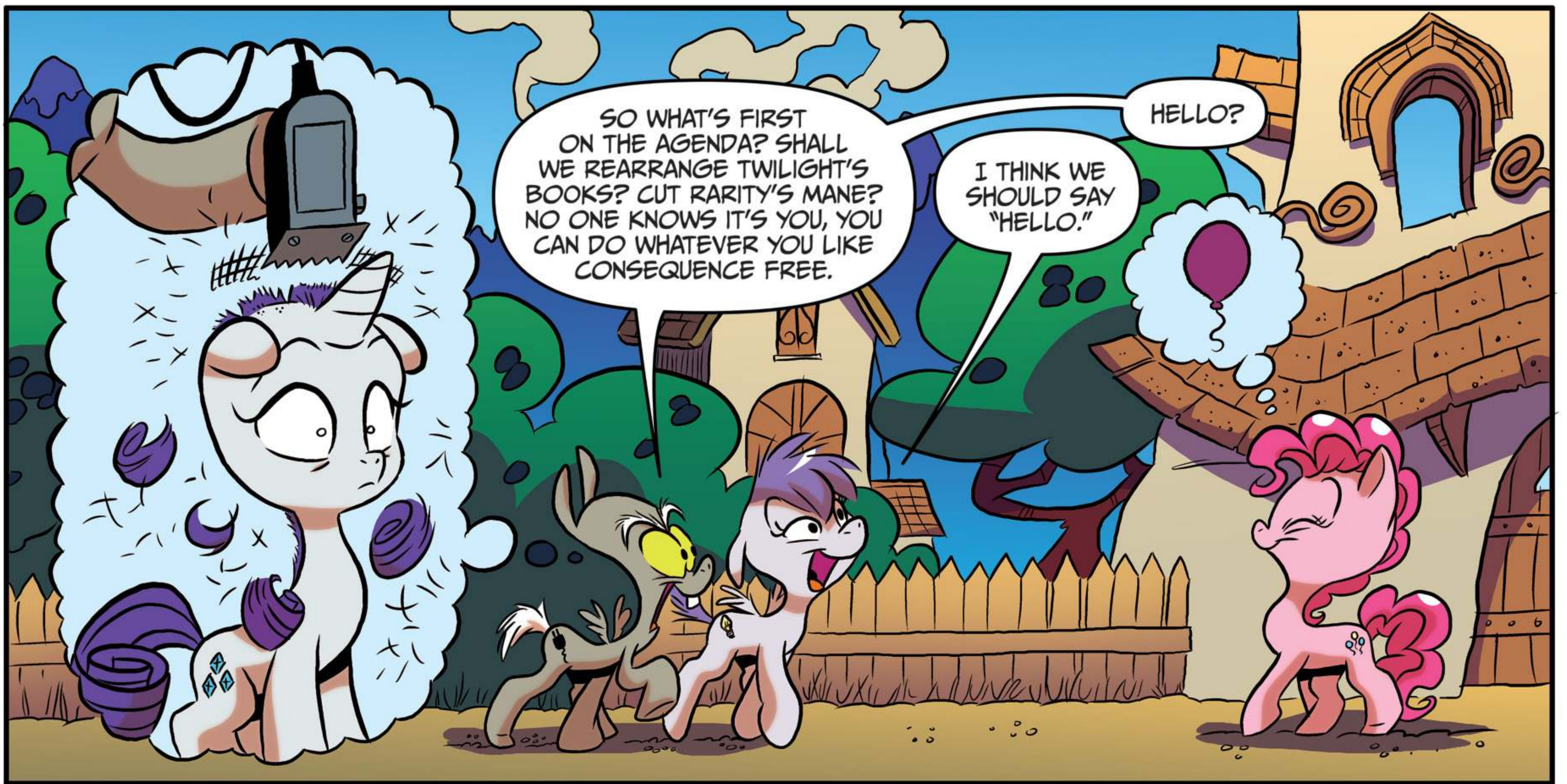
BUT WHO WILL TAKE CARE OF THE KINGDOM? WHO WILL PROTECT EVERYONE?

WELL, LUNA THINKS YOU'VE BEEN CALLED AWAY ON URGENT BUSINESS AND IS TAKING CARE OF YOUR CHORES. TWILIGHT IS HANDLING DIPLOMACY. CADANCE THINKS YOU ASKED HER TO HELP LUNA. AND YOU ARE FREE TO—









SO WHAT'S FIRST ON THE AGENDA? SHALL WE REARRANGE TWILIGHT'S BOOKS? CUT RARITY'S MANE? NO ONE KNOWS IT'S YOU, YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU LIKE CONSEQUENCE FREE.

I THINK WE SHOULD SAY "HELLO."

HELLO?



HELLO, MY—

**GASP!!**

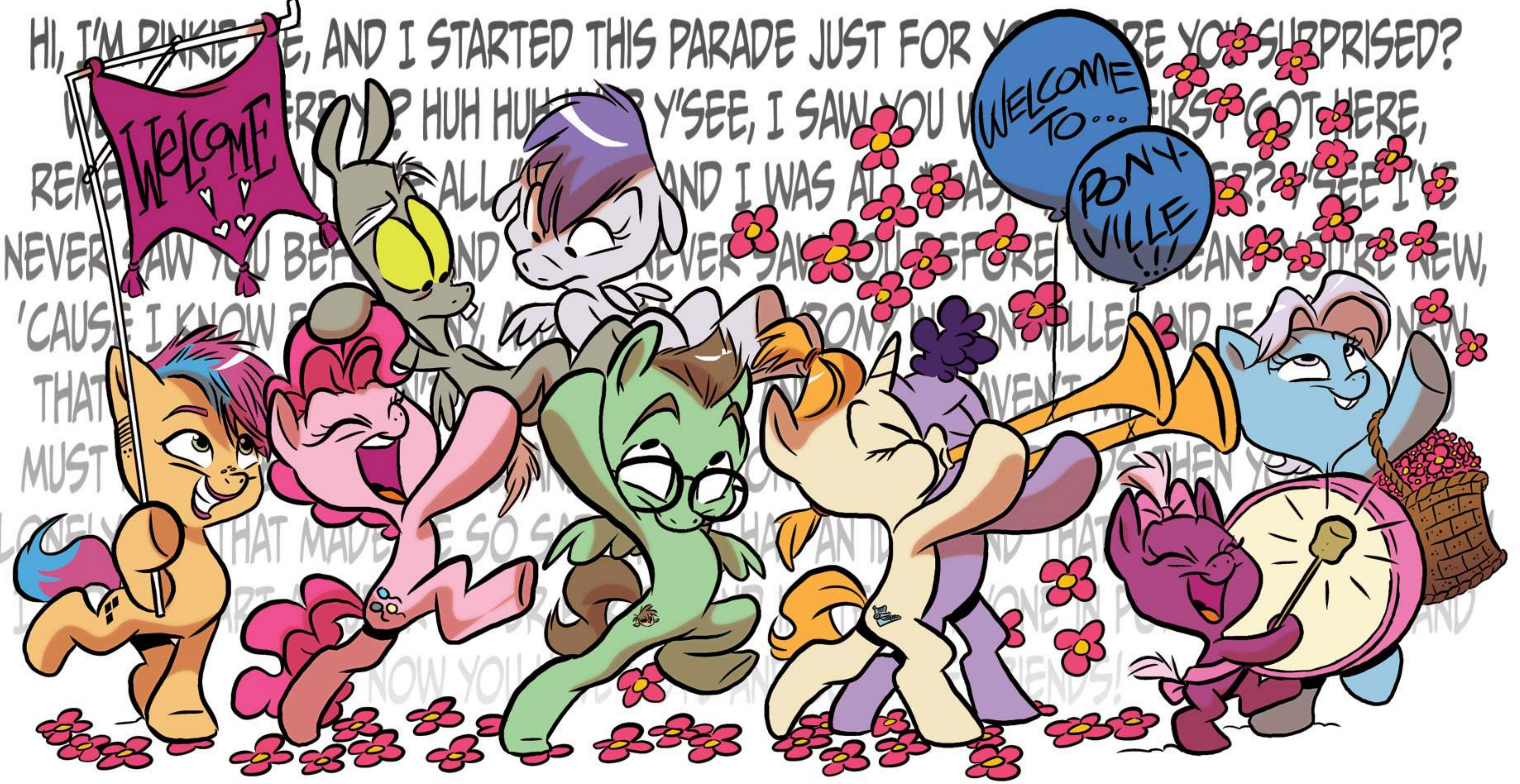


WELL, THAT WAS NOT THE WELCOME I WAS EXPECTING. ARE YOU SURE PINKIE PIE COULDN'T TELL IT WAS ME?

LISTEN, I'M THE LORD OF CHAOS AND I DON'T UNDERSTAND PINKIE PIE, BUT SHE CERTAINLY CAN'T TELL IT'S—



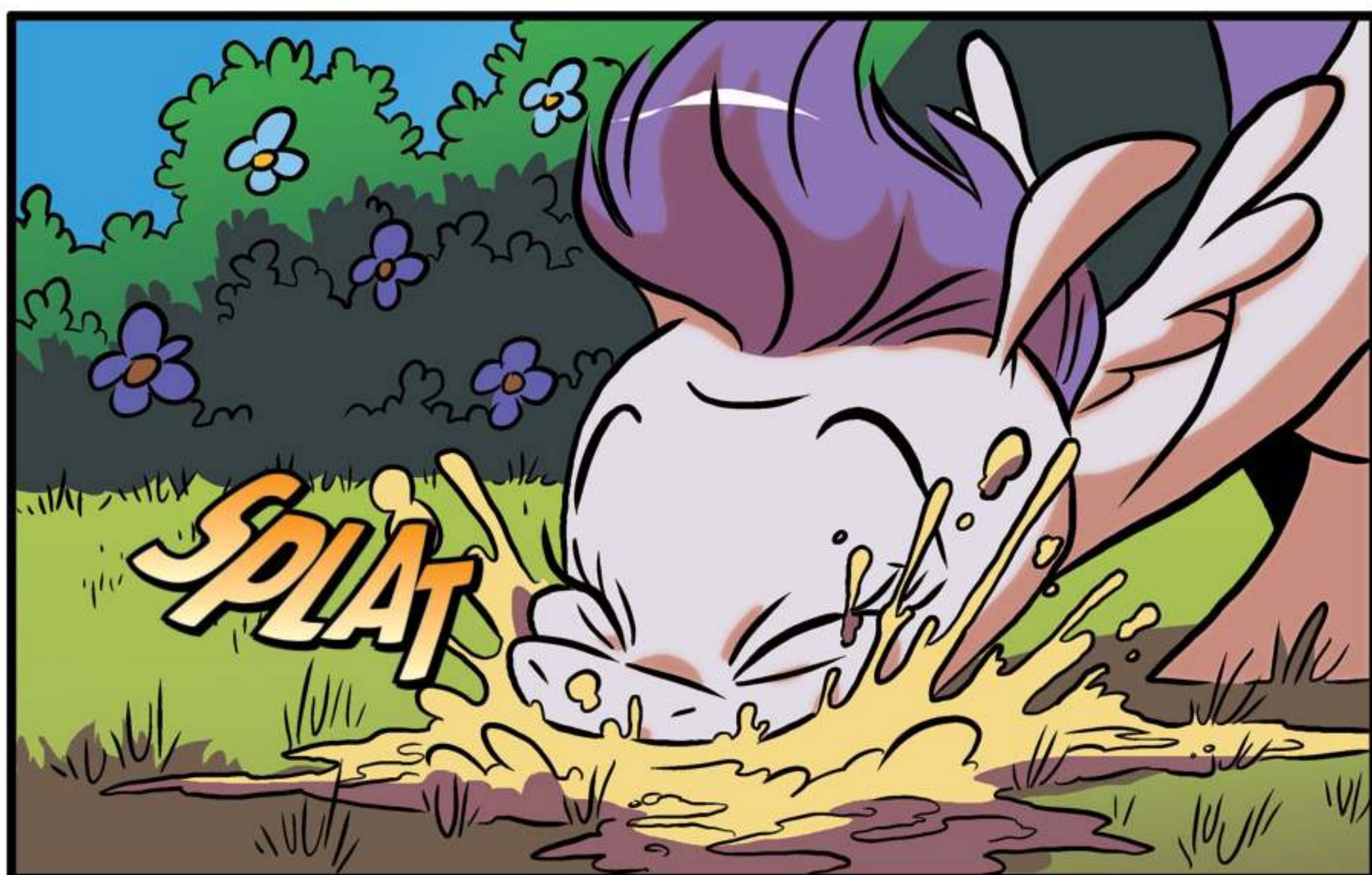
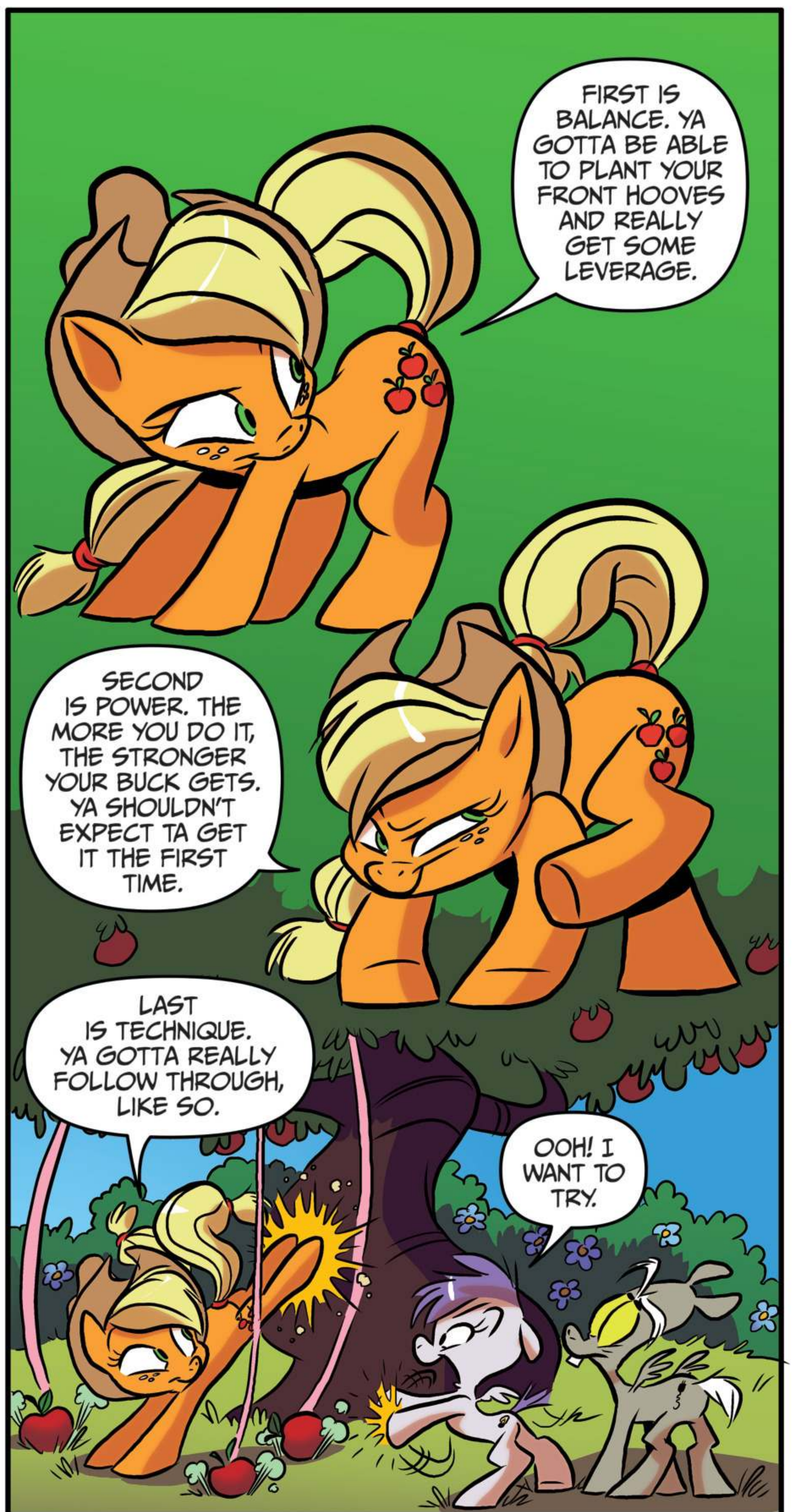
?! ?!



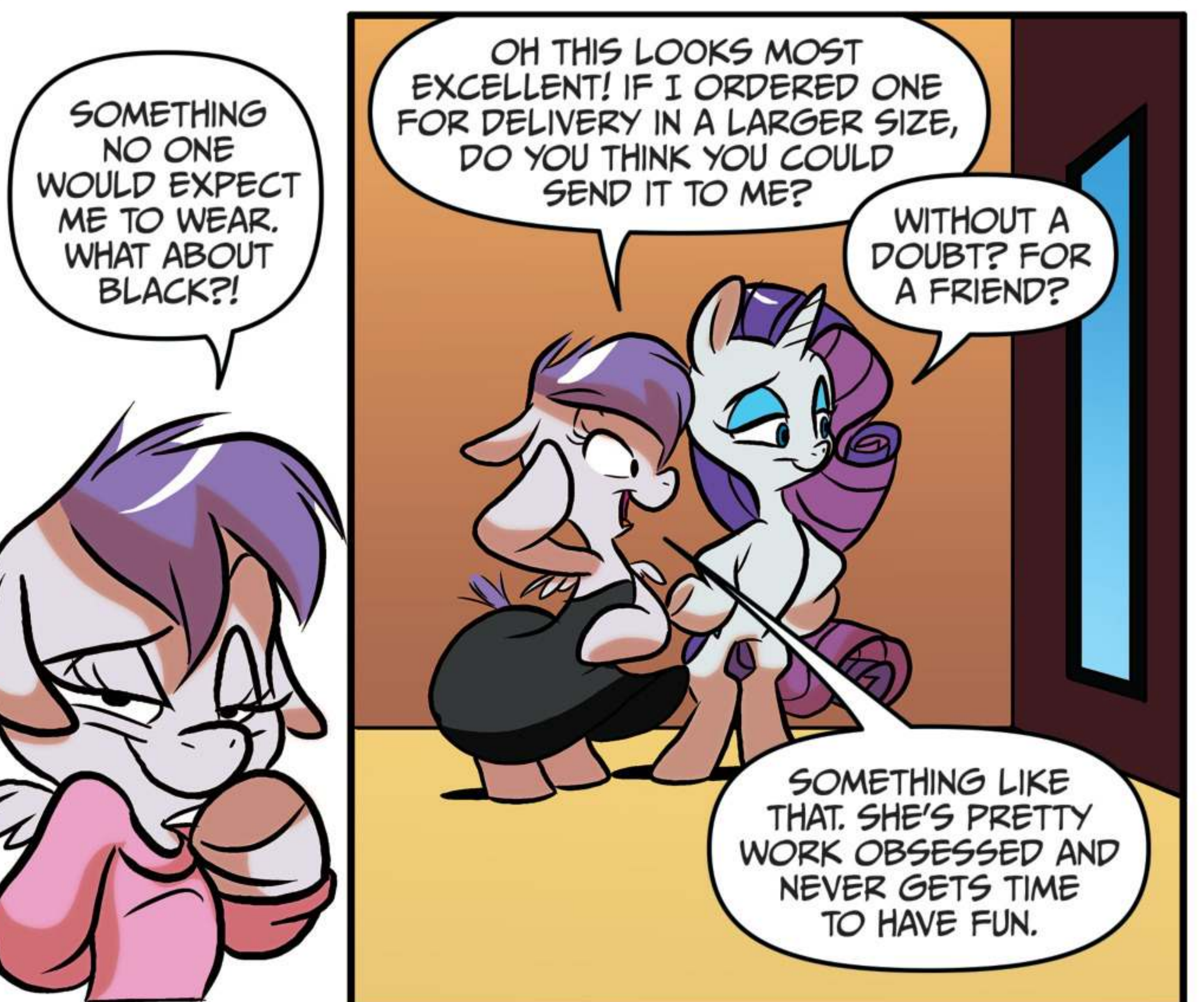
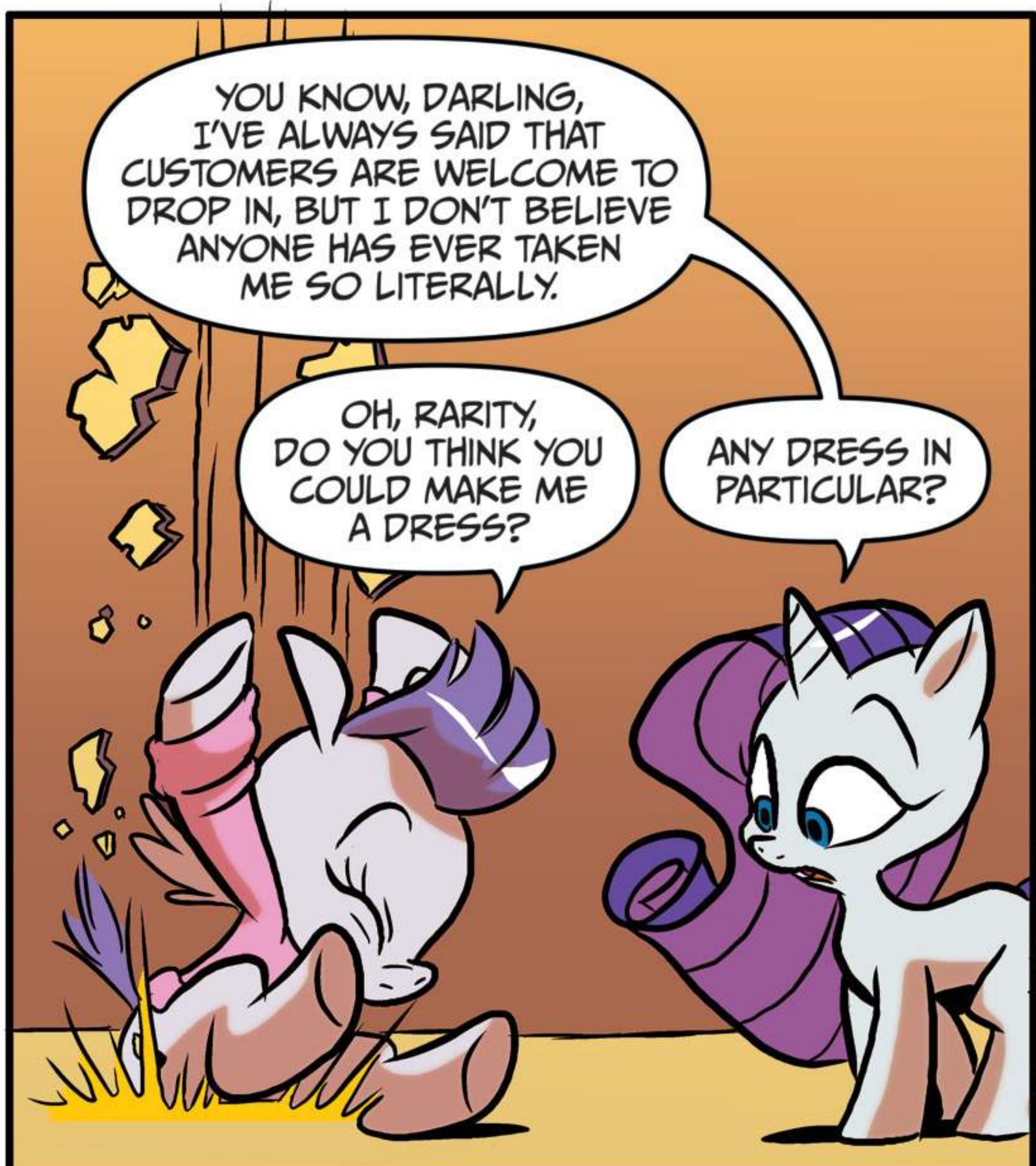
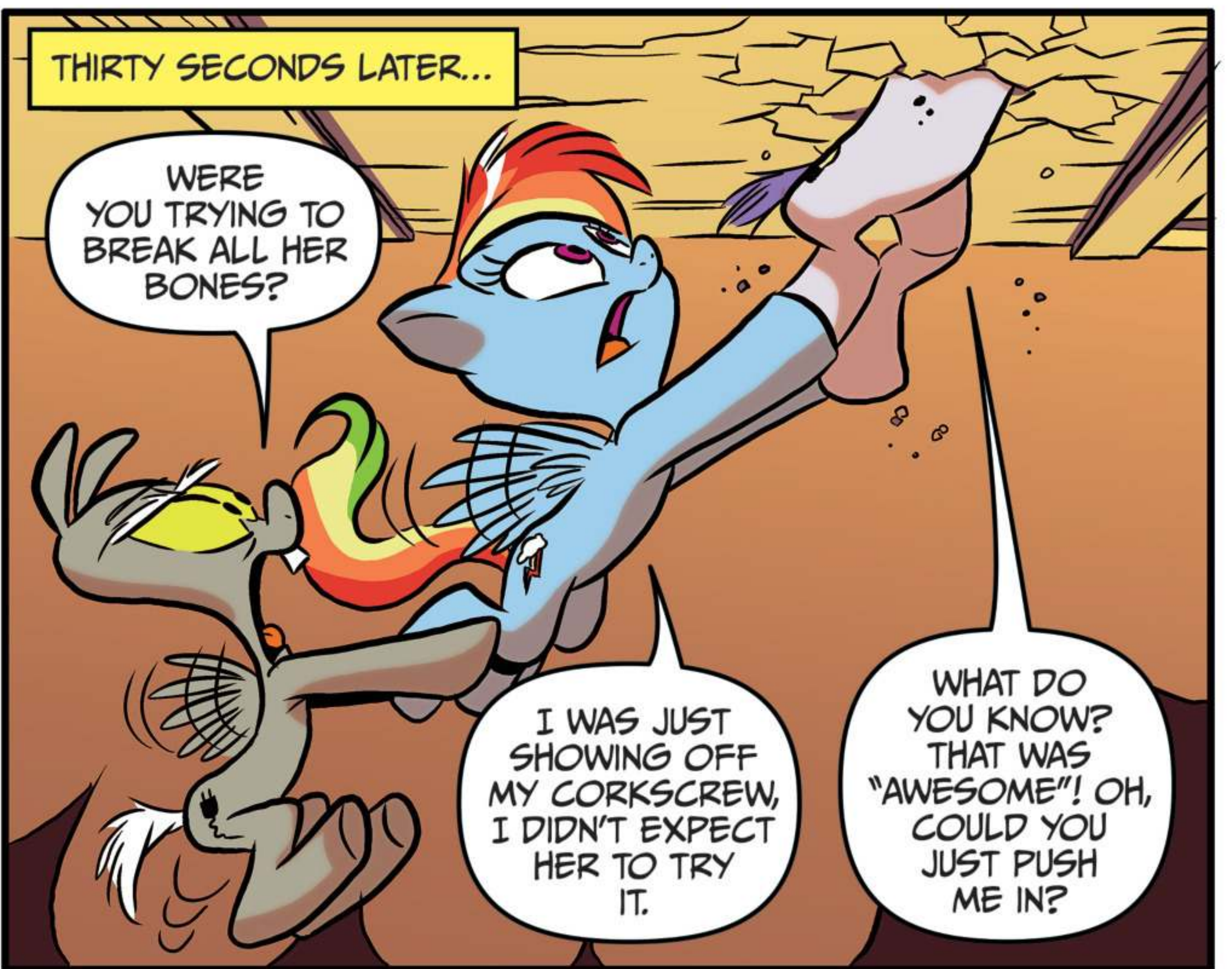
WELCOME TO... PONYVILLE!!!

HI, I'M PINKIE PIE, AND I STARTED THIS PARADE JUST FOR YOU! ARE YOU SURPRISED? HUH HUH HUH Y'SEE, I SAW YOU WHEN YOU FIRST GOT HERE, REMEMBER? ALL "HELLO" AND I WAS ALL "WELCOME TO PONYVILLE!" 'CAUSE I KNOW YOU'VE NEVER SAW YOU BEFORE IT MEANS YOU'RE NEW! THAT'S WHY I WANTED TO MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE YOU BELONG HERE! YOU'VE GOT FRIENDS! YOU'VE GOT A HOME! YOU'VE GOT A PLACE TO BELONG! YOU'VE GOT A PLACE TO BELONG! YOU'VE GOT A PLACE TO BELONG!











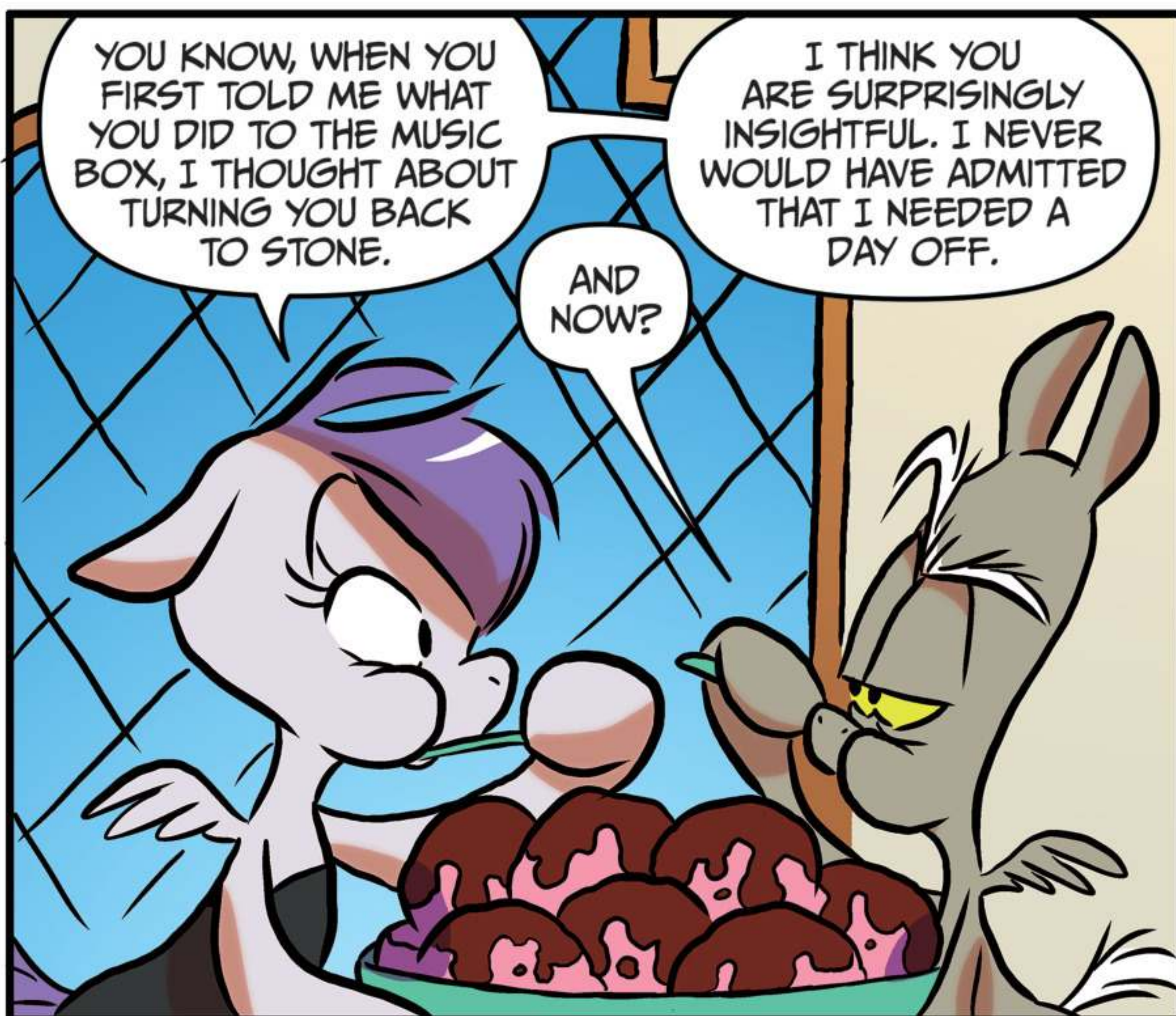


YOU LEAVE AN IMMORTAL PRINCESS ALONE WITH A FASHION DESIGNER FOR FIVE MINUTES AND THE NEXT THING YOU KNOW—



—SHE'S RUN OFF TO THE SWEET SHOP.

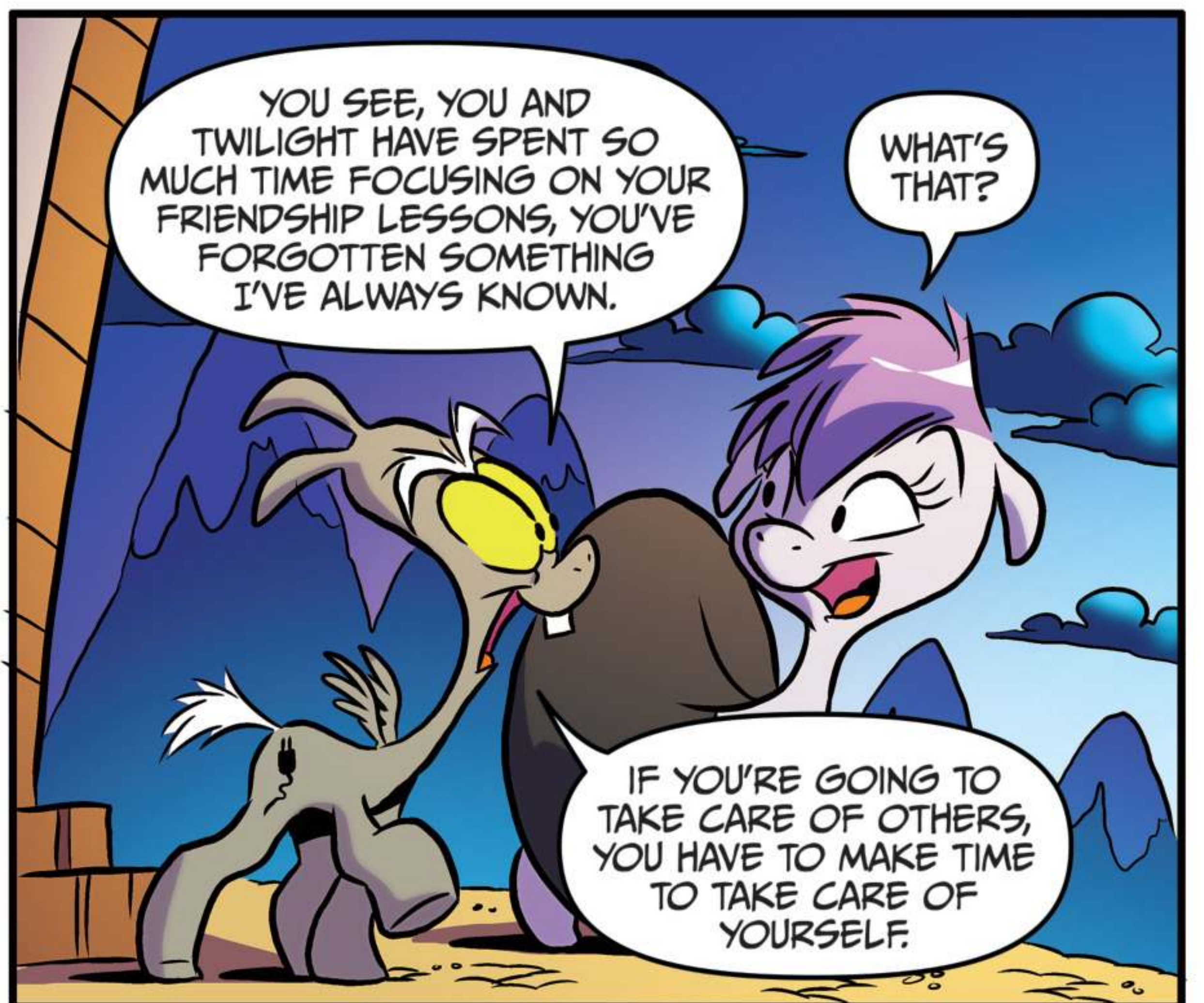
YOU'RE HERE! COME HELP ME! I ORDERED ONE OF EVERYTHING AND I DON'T THINK I CAN FINISH IT ALL.



YOU KNOW, WHEN YOU FIRST TOLD ME WHAT YOU DID TO THE MUSIC BOX, I THOUGHT ABOUT TURNING YOU BACK TO STONE.

AND NOW?

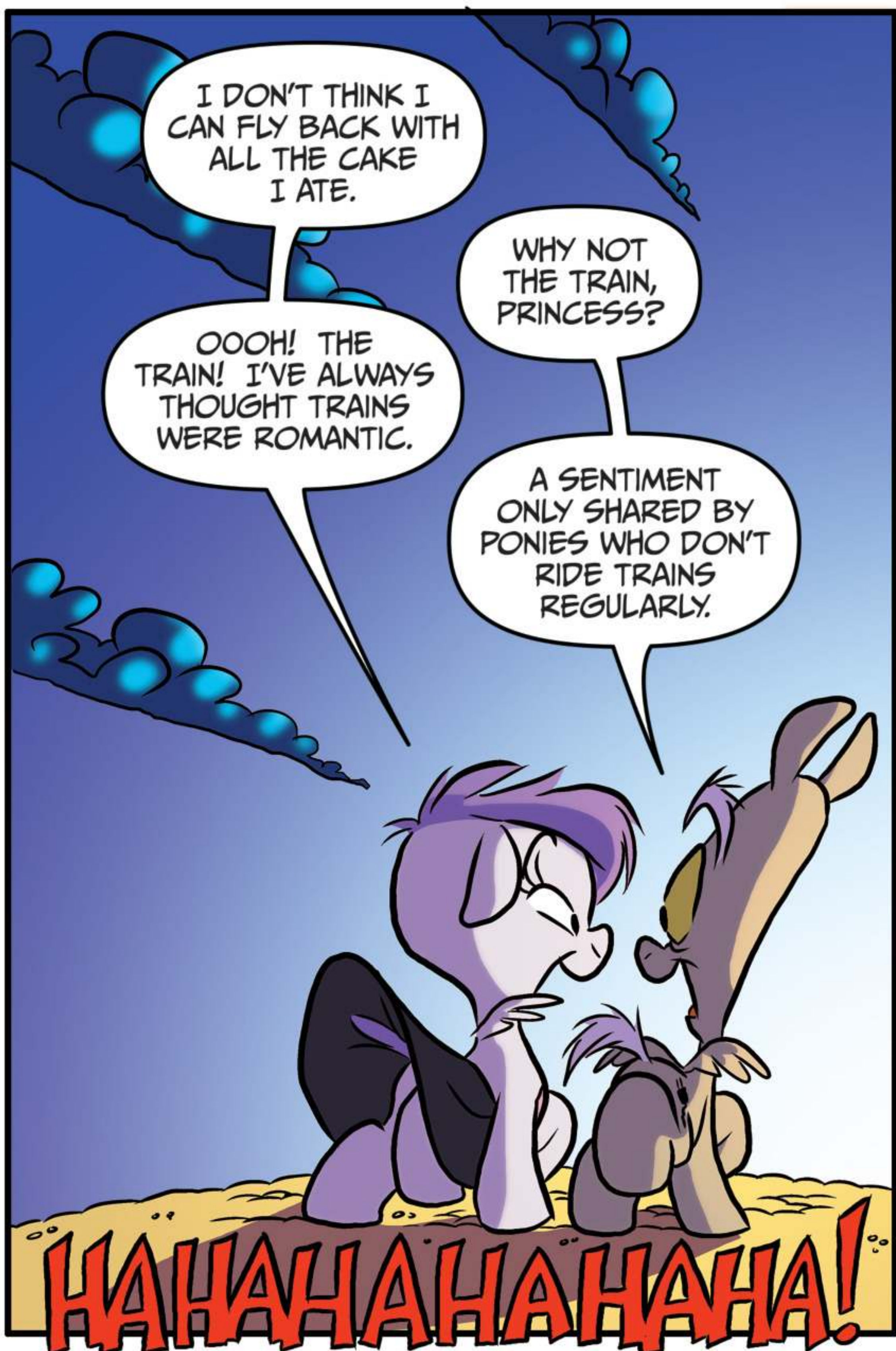
I THINK YOU ARE SURPRISINGLY INSIGHTFUL. I NEVER WOULD HAVE ADMITTED THAT I NEEDED A DAY OFF.



YOU SEE, YOU AND TWILIGHT HAVE SPENT SO MUCH TIME FOCUSING ON YOUR FRIENDSHIP LESSONS, YOU'VE FORGOTTEN SOMETHING I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN.

WHAT'S THAT?

IF YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE CARE OF OTHERS, YOU HAVE TO MAKE TIME TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.

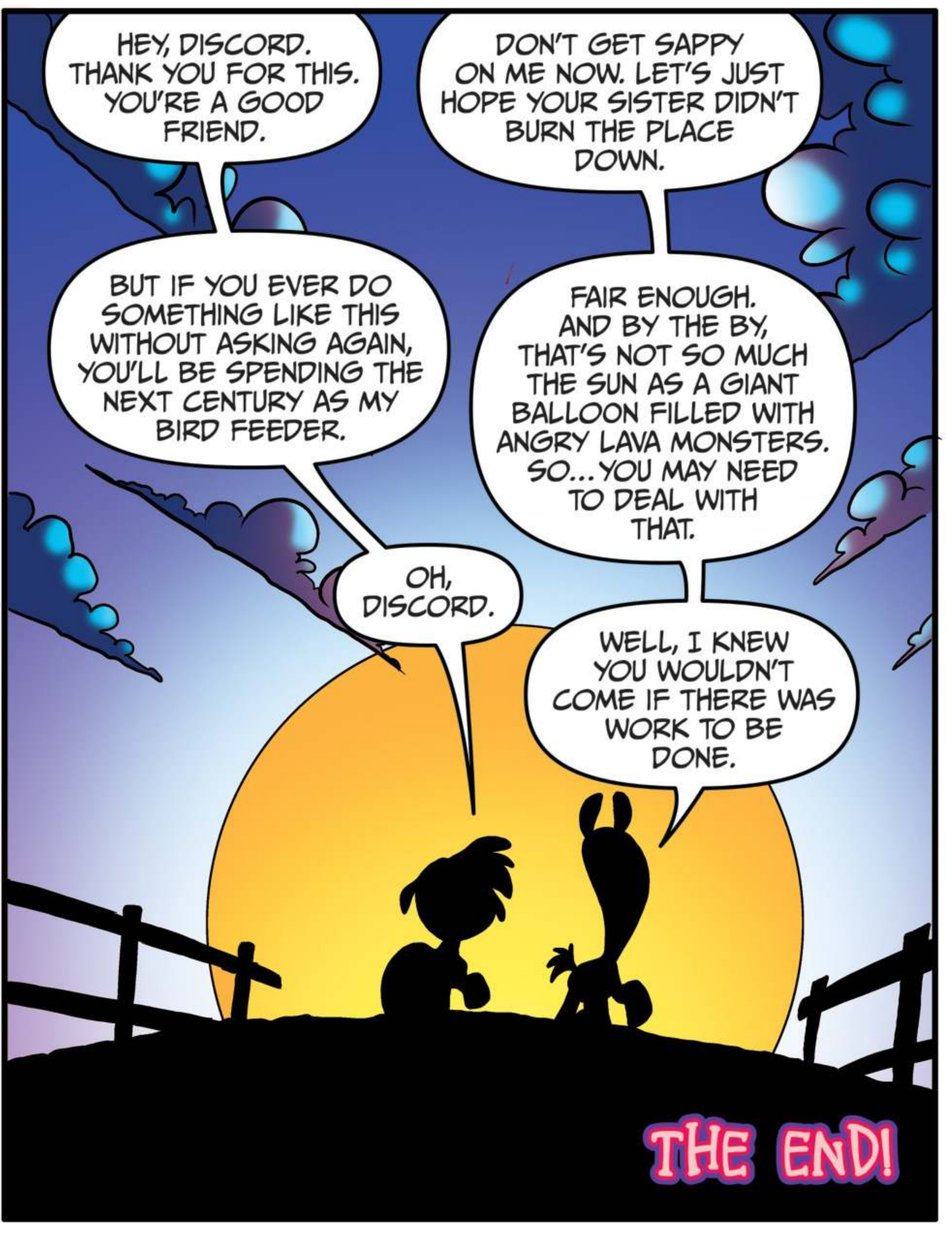


I DON'T THINK I CAN FLY BACK WITH ALL THE CAKE I ATE.

WHY NOT THE TRAIN, PRINCESS?

OOOH! THE TRAIN! I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT TRAINS WERE ROMANTIC.

A SENTIMENT ONLY SHARED BY PONIES WHO DON'T RIDE TRAINS REGULARLY.



HEY, DISCORD. THANK YOU FOR THIS. YOU'RE A GOOD FRIEND.

DON'T GET SAPPY ON ME NOW. LET'S JUST HOPE YOUR SISTER DIDN'T BURN THE PLACE DOWN.

BUT IF YOU EVER DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS WITHOUT ASKING AGAIN, YOU'LL BE SPENDING THE NEXT CENTURY AS MY BIRD FEEDER.

FAIR ENOUGH. AND BY THE BY, THAT'S NOT SO MUCH THE SUN AS A GIANT BALLOON FILLED WITH ANGRY LAVA MONSTERS. SO... YOU MAY NEED TO DEAL WITH THAT.

OH, DISCORD.

WELL, I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T COME IF THERE WAS WORK TO BE DONE.

HAHAHAHAHAHA!

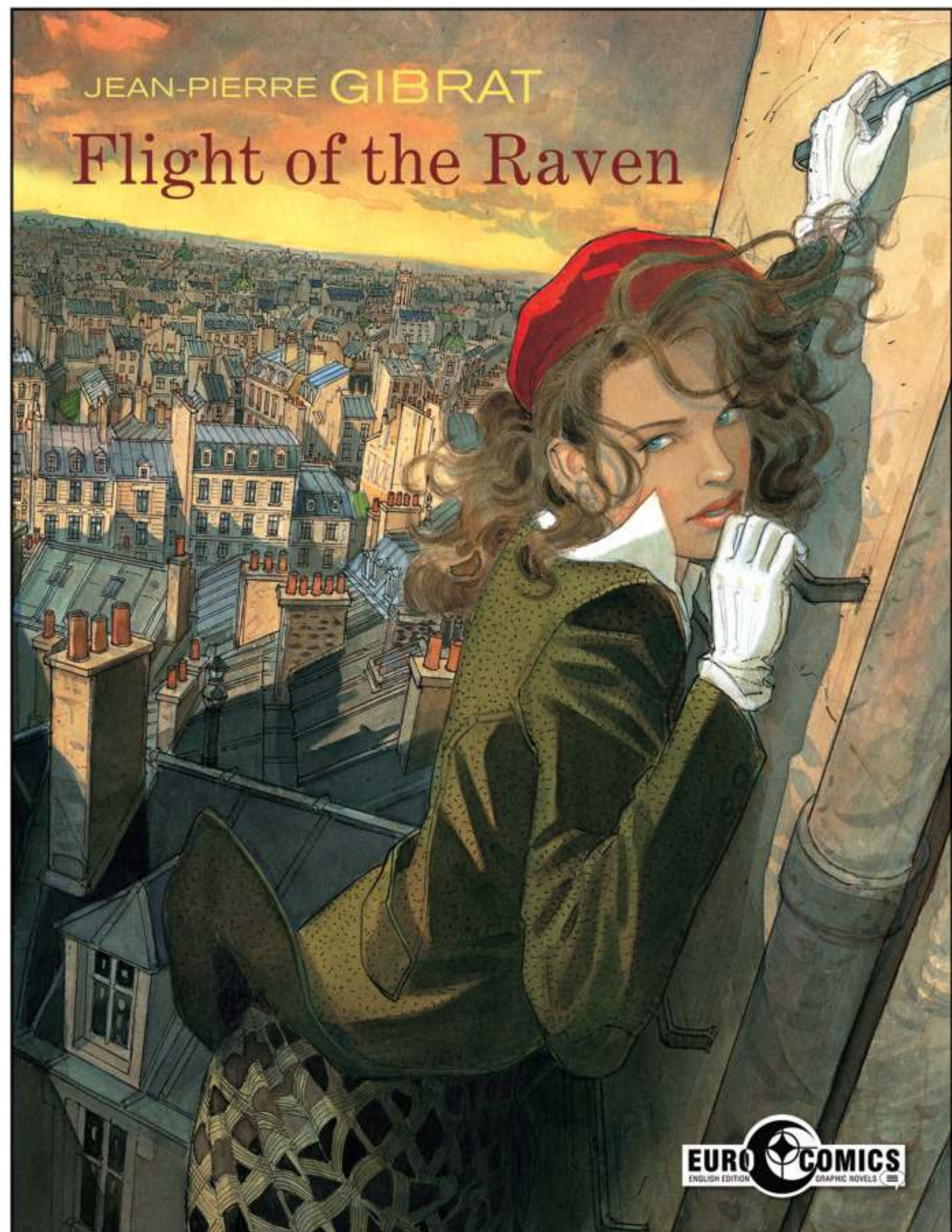
THE END!



# FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

by Ted Adams

We're kicking off 2017 with two books that I can't wait to read — *Flight of the Raven* from our EuroComics line and *You Might Be An Artist If...* from Top Shelf. I asked my colleagues Dean Mullaney and Chris Staros to tell you more about them.



After 40 years as an editor, I sometimes think that I've seen it all. And then last year I discovered the sheer awesome beauty of Jean-Pierre Gibrat's artwork in the French graphic novel *Flight of the Raven*. Gibrat's lush watercolors made my jaw drop and it clearly illustrates why we started our EuroComics imprint in the first place — so that those of us who love comics can enjoy English translations of the best comics from around the world. Just imagine if we lived in a country or spoke a language where there were no comics, for example, by Neil Gaiman, Fiona Staples, Brian K. Vaughan, Will Eisner, Jack Kirby, or Mike Mignola.



That's the position we are in regarding comics created in other languages. We're missing out on a lot of great comics by writers and artists who are superstars overseas. *Blacksad* artist Juanjo Guarnido said, "Gibrat has a unique vision of comics, one in which color — especially watercolor — stands as a storytelling pillar." Gibrat is also a fantastic writer, creating fully-rounded characters and — surprisingly for a story set in wartime — a gentle, bittersweet tale of love and betrayal. I'm proud to have the English translation of this book on my bookcase and I think you will be too.

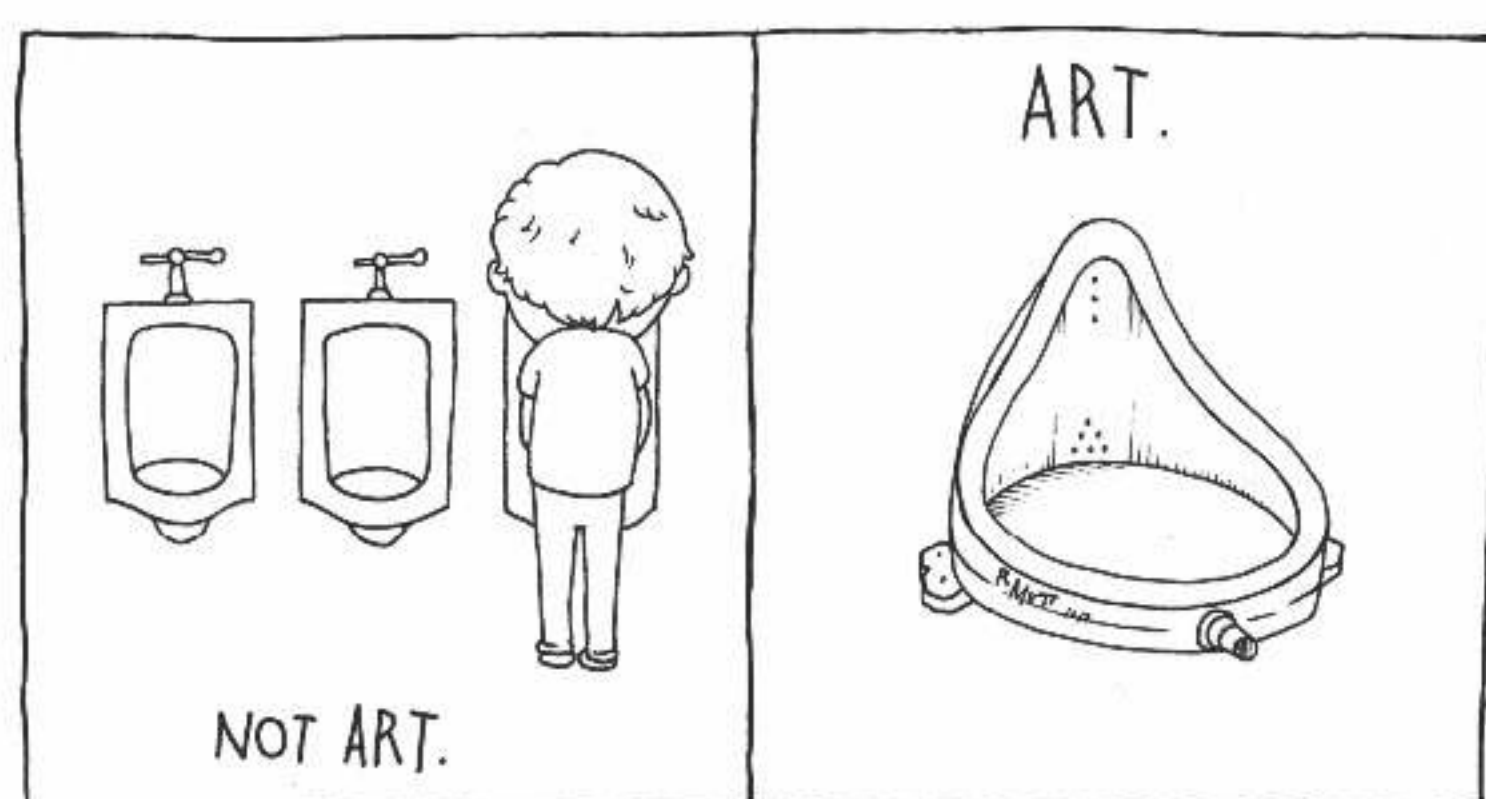
— *Dean Mullaney, Editor-in-Chief, EuroComics*

Every artist I know — who takes their craft seriously — is their own worst critic. And as an editor, you often find yourself providing constructive criticism and moral support in equal measure, trying to push the creative envelope and keep someone from falling apart at the very same time.

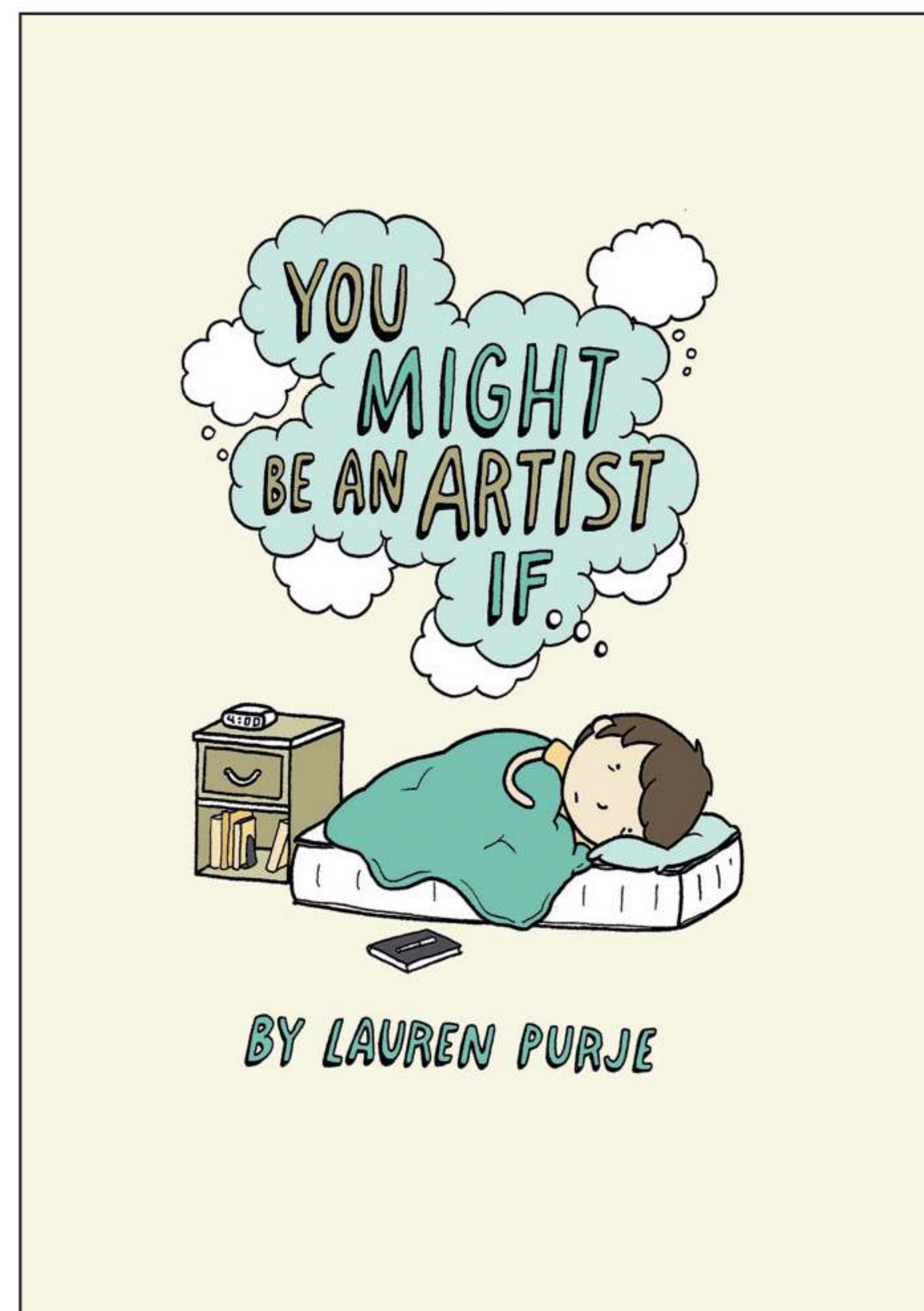


In *You Might Be An Artist If...*, Lauren Purje perfectly captures all the mood swings of the artistic life: the writer's block, the insecurity, the triumph, and the depression; the yin and yang of that feeling that you've simultaneously made the best and worst career decision of your life (and that if you don't make it, your mom or dad is going to say "I told you so").

And while procrastination may be the highest art form of all, the next time you find yourself in a rut, pick up this book, read a few strips, and remember that you're not alone. I bet the laughter will get you back to the drawing board in no time at all.



— *Chris Staros, Editor-in-Chief, Top Shelf Productions*



BY LAUREN PURJE

Thanks, guys! I'll be back next month to tell you about *Animal Noir*, a creator-owned book that I found last year at a comics festival in Barcelona.