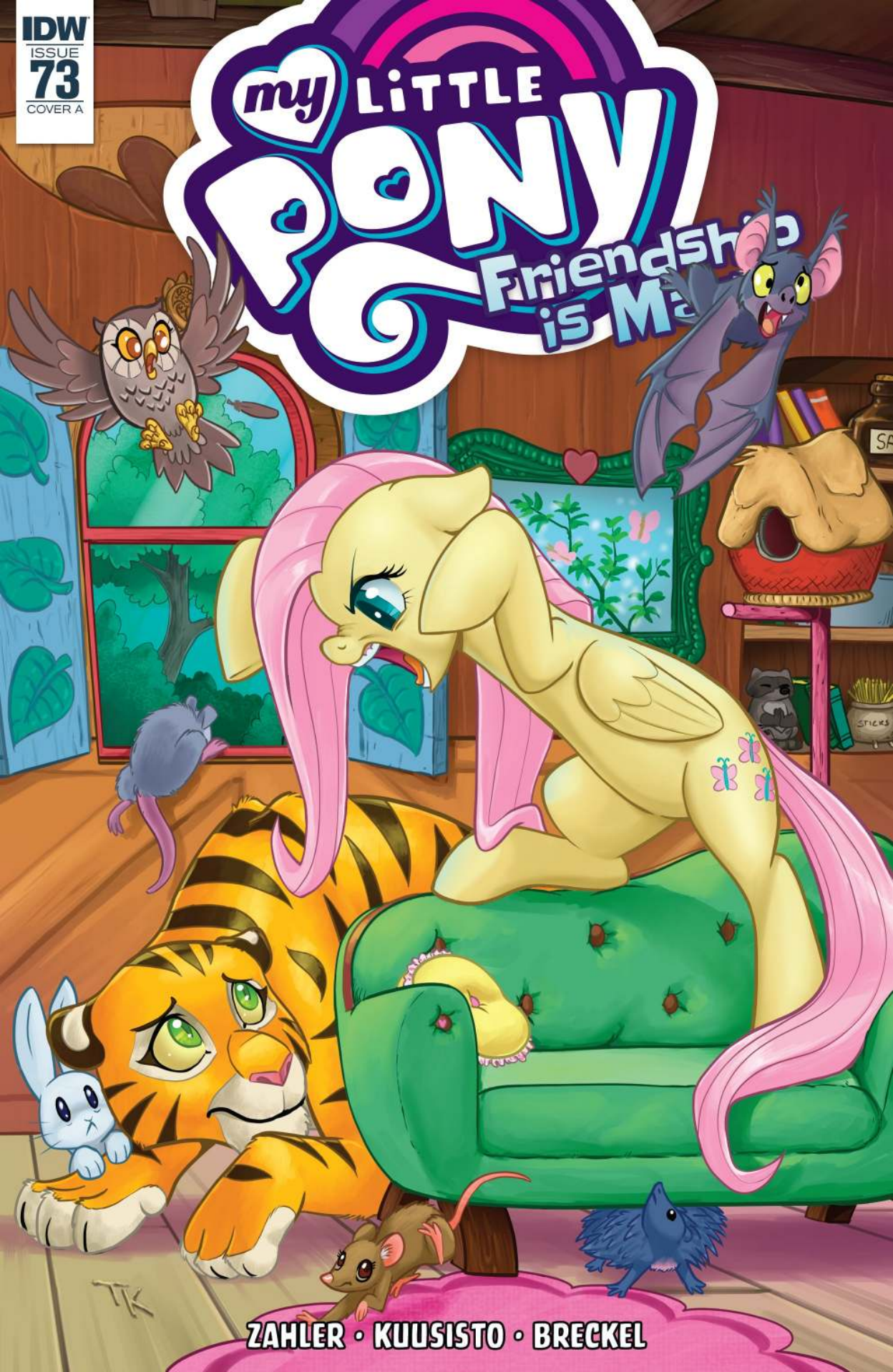


IDW
ISSUE
73
COVER A

my LITTLE PONY

Friendship
is Magic



ZAHLER • KUUSISTO • BRECKEL



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Language: English

File Source: Comixology

Edition: PDF

Lossless: yes

Original version released by: YayPonies.eu

Translated by: NNOPE

Translated version released by: NNOPE

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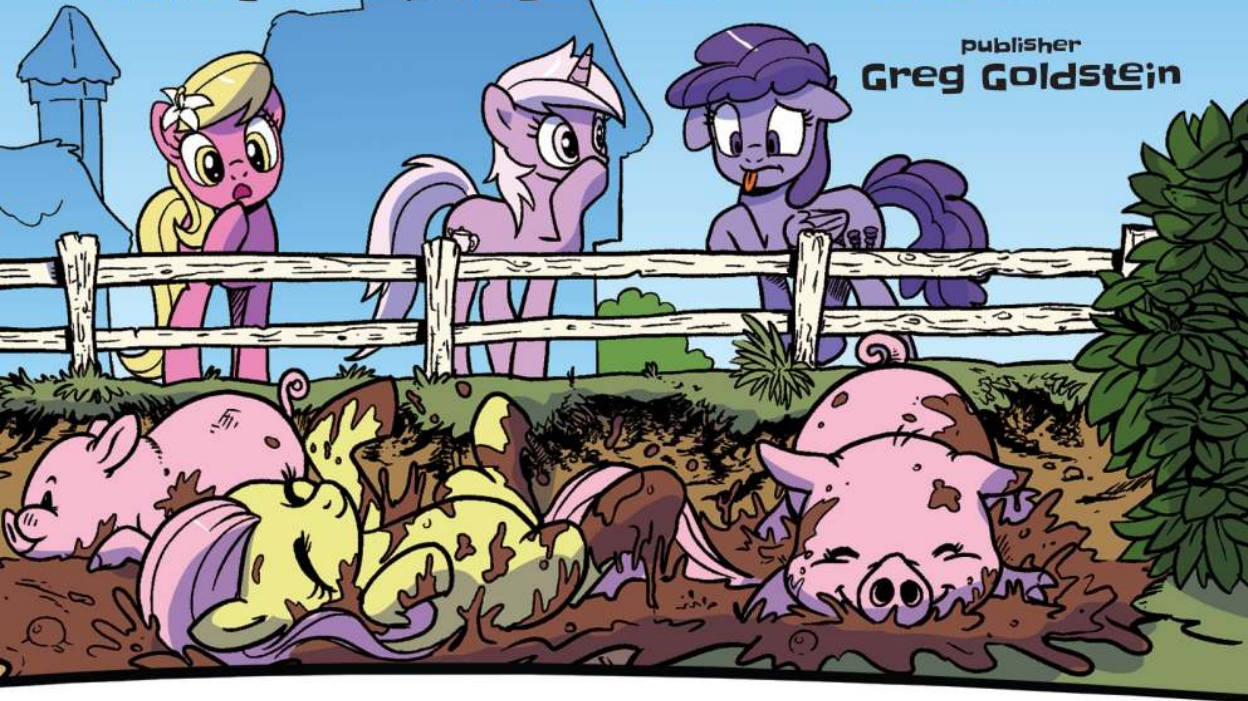
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Special thanks to Meghan McCarthy, Eliza Hart, Ed Lane, Beth Artale, and Michael Kelly.

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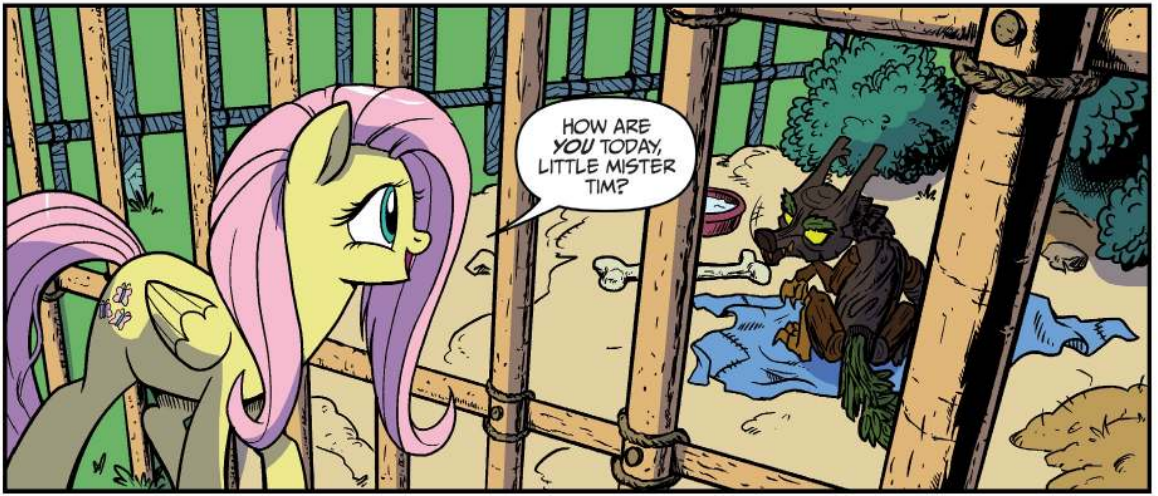
GOOD MORNING, MY LITTLE FRIENDS!



IT'S A BRIGHT, BEAUTIFUL, SHINY MORNING. LET'S SEE WHAT WE CAN DO TODAY!



TIME TO GO CHECK ON OUR SPECIAL GUEST, ANGEL BUNNY.





SHHH. HE'S SLEEPING.

YES, I KNOW HE'S ALWAYS SLEEPING.



IT LOOKS LIKE HIS FUR IS GROWING BACK NICELY.



THIS PLACE HAS BEEN VERY RELAXING FOR HIM. HE'S NO LONGER OVER-GROOMING. I THINK HE LIKES IT HERE.



LET'S CONTINUE OUR ROUNDS, SHALL WE?



THAT AFTERNOON...

KNOCK KNOCK! IT'S ME.

ME WHO?



I'M LEAVING NOW.

UM, OKAY. I GUESS I CAN SEE MYSELF OUT?



BYE?



THE NEXT EVENING...



FLUTTERSHY?



FLUTTERSHY, IS THAT YOU?

WHOP WHO IS THAT?

IT'S APPLEJACK.



I COULDN'T SEE YOU—

—WAIT, WHAT'S THAT?



DO YOU NEED SOME HELP WITH THAT, LITTLE FRIEND?



—I DON'T KNOW, MAYBE IT'S GOOD FOR HER SKIN?

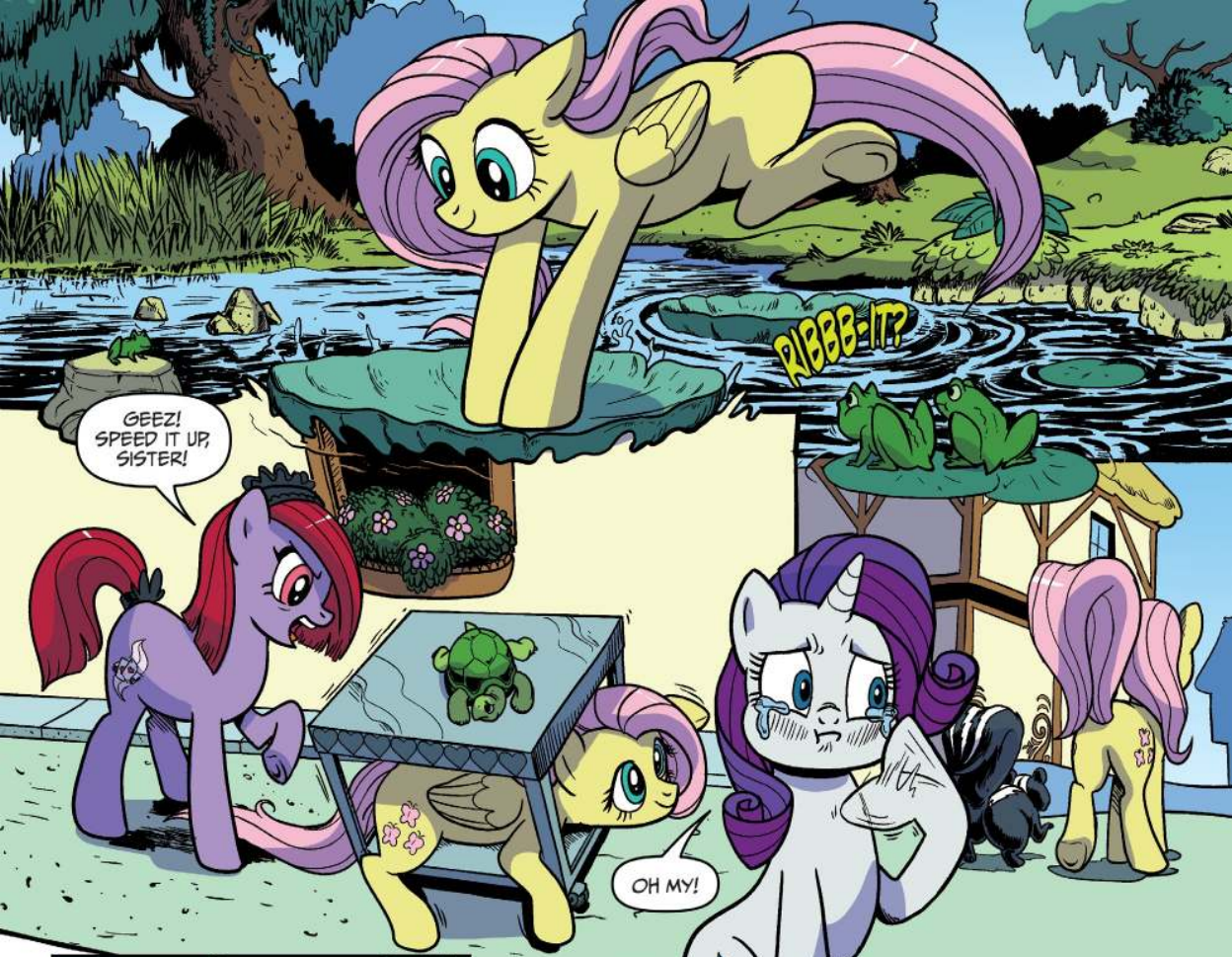


THAT AIN'T RIGHT.



A NEW WAY TO EXERCISE! OH, YEAH!





GEEZ!
SPEED IT UP,
SISTER!

RIBBB-IT?

OH MY!



MAYBE SHE'S
JUST SPENDING TOO
MUCH TIME WITH
THOSE ANIMALS.



SHE AIN'T ACTING
LIKE HERSELF. I SAW
HER FLYING. HIGH.
WHEN'S THE LAST TIME
SHE DID THAT?

WHEN
SHE WAS A
VAMPIRE.

OH,
NOT THAT
AGAIN.





WHEN I SAW HER, SHE WAS JUST RUDE AND ALOOF AND SLEEPING.

SHE COULD HAVE JUST BEEN TIRED. SHE'S BEEN PUTTING IN A LOT OF TIME BETWEEN THE SCHOOL AND THE SHELTER.

WHAT'S EASIER TO BELIEVE?

THAT SHE'S JUST TIRED AND ACTING STRANGE, OR THAT SHE'S UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF SOME WEIRD MAGICAL SPELL?



MAGICAL SPELL, YOU'RE RIGHT.



WE'RE GOING TO THE LIBRARY TO CHECK ON SOME THINGS.

JOY.

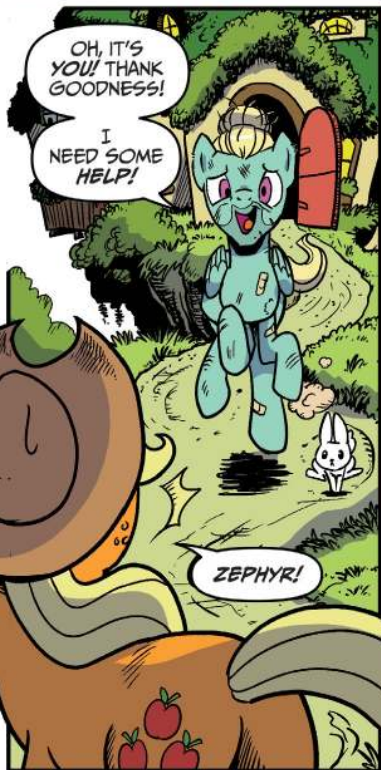
YOU GET DASH AND KEEP AN EYE ON FLUTTERSHY.



SHORTLY...

FLUTTERSHY!
YOO-HOO!

ARE YOU
HOME? MAYBE
SHE'S HIDING?



OH, IT'S
YOU! THANK
GOODNESS!

I
NEED SOME
HELP!

ZEPHYR!



I CAME OVER TO
BORROW A—WELL,
THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT
RIGHT NOW. BUT WHEN I GOT
HERE, FLUTTERSHY WASN'T
AROUND. AND I COULD TELL
THE ANIMALS WERE HUNGRY,
SO I TRIED TO FEED
THEM—

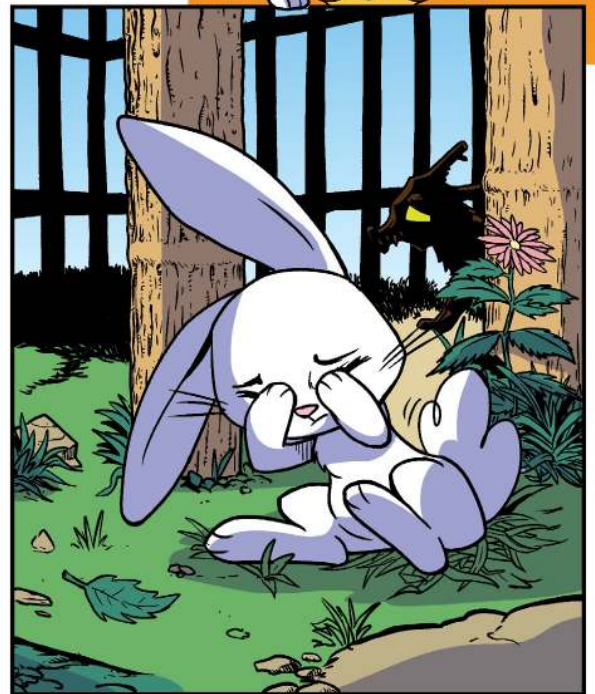
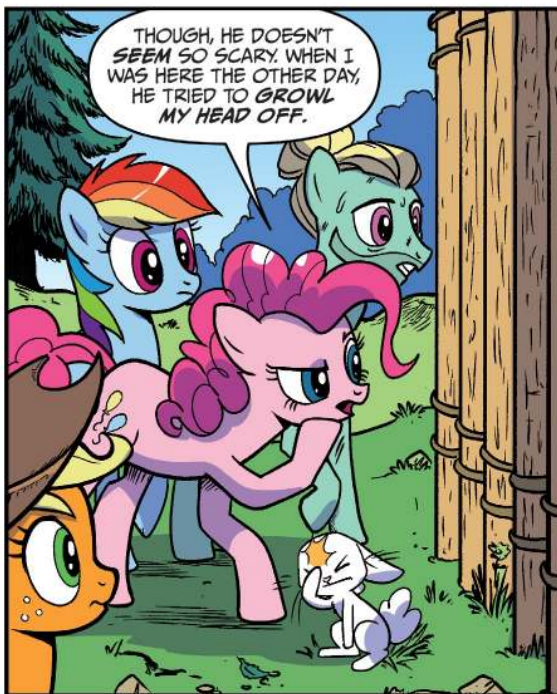
—IT DIDN'T
GO WELL.



FLUTTERSHY'S BEEN
ACTING SO WEIRD. WE
THINK THERE MIGHT BE
MAGIC INVOLVED, BECAUSE
SHE'D NEVER JUST
ABANDON HER ANIMALS.



OOOF!
ANGEL BUNNY!
HEY!





HEY, LOOK AT THAT. HE'S BITING HIS NAILS.

THAT KIND OF REMINDS ME OF MY SISTER. SHE DOES THAT SOMETIMES.



YEAH, HE'S ACTING DIFFERENT TO BE SURE. HE'S ALMOST ACTING LIKE—



—FLUTTERSHY!

HE'S ACTING ALL SHY AND RETIRING, LIKE SHE DOES. AND WHEN I SAW HER, SHE WAS ACTING LIKE... LIKE A CAT!

AND WHEN I GALLOPED INTO HER, SHE WAS FLYING LIKE AN OWL. THAT'S IT!

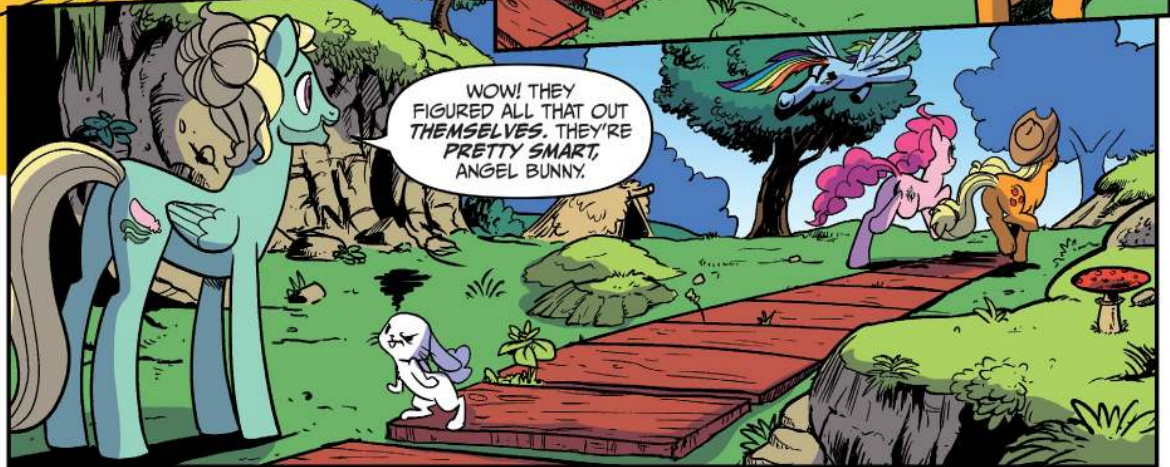


OKAY, BUT IF FLUTTERSHY IS ACTING LIKE THE ANIMALS, AND THIS TIMBERWOLF IS ACTING LIKE HER, DOES THAT MEAN—



FLUTTERSHY WILL BE ACTING LIKE A TIMBERWOLF!

WE NEED TO FIND HER! RIGHT NOW!



WOW! THEY FIGURED ALL THAT OUT THEMSELVES. THEY'RE PRETTY SMART, ANGEL BUNNY.







FLUTTERSHY IS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF A RELIC OF STARSWIRL'S. THE ANIMAMULET. IT'S BEEN LOST FOR CENTURIES.



IT LOOKS LIKE THIS.

THE PROBLEM IS, WE DON'T KNOW WHERE IT IS OR HOW TO WORK IT. THERE'S BARELY ANYTHING WRITTEN ABOUT IT AT ALL.

WE'RE GUESSING IT'S AT THE SHELTER SINCE SHE'S TAKING ON THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THOSE ANIMALS, BUT WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO FIND IT.



WELL, WELL... THAT'S A PRETTY BIG GEM. I THINK I CAN FIND IT.

MEANWHILE...



THANKS FOR HELPING OUT. ANIMAL-STYLE FLUTTERSHY IS PRETTY QUICK. SHE'S DASHING IN AND OUT.

KEEP HERDING HER. WE NEED TO FORCE HER BACK TO THE SHELTER.

SURE. SHE'S ACTING LIKE AN ANIMAL.

NO, BECAUSE TWILIGHT THINKS SHE CAN STOP HER THERE.

THAT, TOO!

AT THE SHELTER...

—SO SHE'S BEEN AFFECTED BY AN AMULET THAT STARSWIRL HAD. HE WAS TRYING TO COMMUNE WITH THE ANIMALS BUT—

FLUTTERSHY!

YES, FLUTTERSHY. LIKE I WAS SAYING, SHE'S AFFECTED—

NO, I'M SAYING—

—FLUTTERSHY IS HERE!

OH, NO! SHE'S GETTING WORSE! WE NEED TO FIND THAT AMULET! NOW!

I FOUND IT, DARLING!

NOW WHAT DO WE DO?

I'M... I'M NOT SURE. WE NEED TO DESTROY IT. BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW. THERE WAS NOTHING IN HIS SCROLLS.



FLUTTERSHY!
SNAP OUT OF
IT!

IT'S REALLY
POWERFUL. I JUST
DON'T KNOW.

I'VE
GOT IT!

WHAT'S
GOING
ON?

GOMP

BURP





I DON'T REMEMBER HOW I GOT HERE. WHAT'S HAPPENED?

BOY, DO WE HAVE A STORY FOR YOU.



SO SHE'S OKAY? EVERYTHING IS BACK TO NORMAL?



YIPES!

GROWL!

LOOKS LIKE.



THAT WAS VERY BRAVE, SPIKE.

THANK YOU. IT WAS THE ONLY THING I COULD THINK OF.

I'M GLAD IT WORKED.

I JUST HOPE THERE ARE NO SIDE EFFECTS.

SIDE EFFECTS?



WOOF

WOOF



LIKE WHAT?

COULD BE ANYTHING.

A WEEK LATER...

OKAY, MY LITTLE ANGRY-PANTS FRIEND, IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO GO HOME.

YOU'RE ALL BETTER NOW. GO FIND YOUR FAMILY.

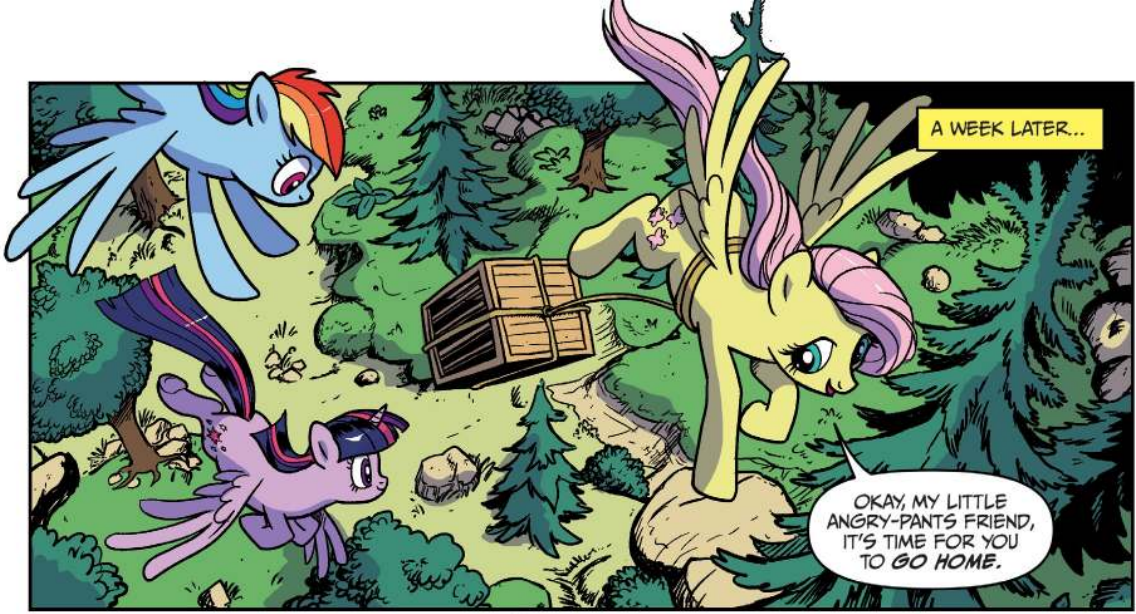
GRRRR?

RRRRM?

THERE THEY GO, OFF TO BE HORRIBLE WOLF BEASTS.

THEY'RE JUST BEING WHO THEY ARE.

AND HOW ARE YOU?



I'M BACK TO MYSELF. BUT I STILL HAVE FLASHES NOW AND THEN WHERE I REMEMBER BEING MORE ANIMAL INFLUENCED.

BUT I WOULDN'T DO IT AGAIN.

I THINK IT'S ACTUALLY GIVING ME INSIGHT INTO THE ANIMALS I TAKE CARE OF, SO I GUESS I'M HAPPY ABOUT IT.

READY TO GRAB SPIKE AND HEAD BACK TO THE SCHOOL?

I THINK SO.



SHEESH! HOW MUCH LONGER IS THIS GOING TO LAST?

IT'S ALMOST OUT OF YOUR SYSTEM NOW. MAYBE ANOTHER DAY OR TWO.

CAN'T HAPPEN SOON ENOUGH.

I APPRECIATE IT, SPIKE. I WAS ALMOST LOST FOREVER.

AW, IT WAS NOTHING.

IT WAS SOMETHING. AND SOMETHING I WON'T FORGET.

DON'T WORRY, I'VE GOT HIM.



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Legends of Magic



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Brenna Hickey

WHITLEY • HICKEY • BRECKEL



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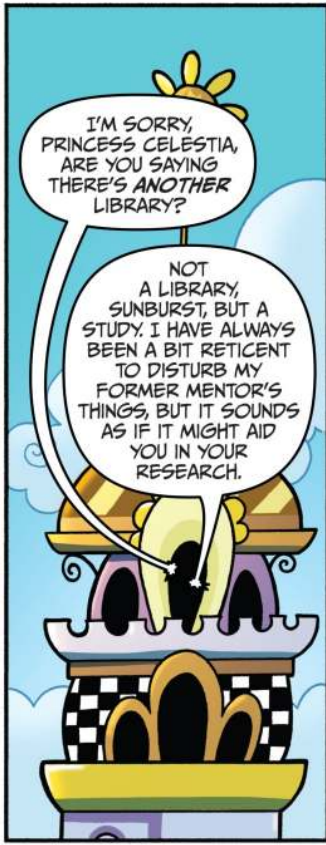
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THIS IS AMAZING!
WHO KNOWS WHAT
COULD BE IN
HERE!

WELL, I AM CERTAIN
THAT LUNA AND I READ
SEVERAL OF THESE
STORIES WHEN WE WERE
UNDER STARSWIRL'S
TUTELAGE.

WHY
WOULD YOU
KEEP ALL OF
THIS LOCKED
AWAY?



WHEN STARSWIRL
DISAPPEARED, LUNA AND I
WERE CONVINCED HE WOULD BE
BACK ANY DAY. HE WAS OFTEN
PULLED AWAY ON ADVENTURES,
JUST TO TURN UP A FEW
WEEKS LATER.

AND WHEN
HE DIDN'T
RETURN?

AT FIRST, WE WERE
SURE HE WOULD. THEN, ONCE
A FEW MONTHS HAD PASSED,
WE STOPPED LOOKING. BUT WE
WERE STILL YOUNG, AND DIDN'T
DARE TO DISTURB OUR
TUTOR'S THINGS.



THEN THERE WAS
THE FIGHT, AND I EXILED
LUNA TO THE MOON. AFTER
THAT I WAS TOO BUSY... OR
PERHAPS IT HURT TOO
MUCH TO THINK OF
THOSE DAYS.

"LEGENDS
OF MAGIC"?

STARSWIRL
WAS FOND OF
MYTHS AND
LEGENDS. STORIES
OF PONIES WITH
EXCEPTIONAL
POWER.

Legends
of Magic

IT LOOKS LIKE
HE WROTE THESE
HIMSELF.



WHEN HE HEARD
A STORY OR A SONG
OF A LEGEND, HE WOULD
ALWAYS WRITE IT DOWN.
USUALLY THEY WERE
NOTHING MORE THAN
TALL TALES.

WHAT
ABOUT THIS
ONE?

WHAT IS IT
CALLED?

"THE GREAT
STARSWIRL THE
BEARDED, THE
TWO SISTERS, AND
THE MAGICAL
VORTEX."



THAT...
THAT'S ABOUT
ME!

LATER THAT NIGHT.

FASCINATING!
THIS WAS WRITTEN
BY STARSWIRL, BUT
IT DOESN'T READ
LIKE A JOURNAL
HERE.

HE'S WRITTEN
AN ACCOUNT
OF HIS OWN
LEGEND.



"NOW, WITHOUT A
DOUBT, MANY AMONG YOU
WILL KNOW THE LEGENDS
OF STARSWIRL THE
BEARDED."

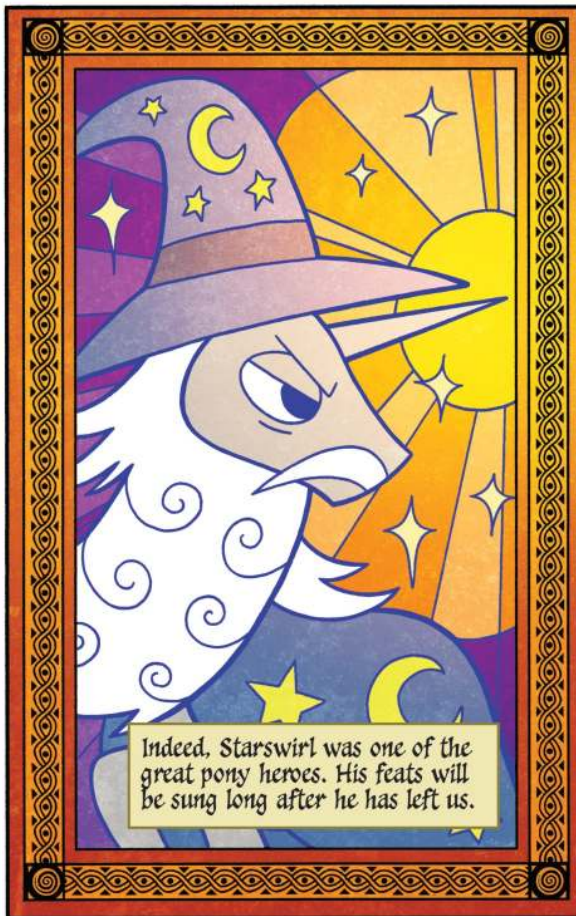
"ONE OF THE
GREAT HEROES OF
OUR TIME, STARSWIRL WAS
KNOWN FOR FACING DOWN
MAGICAL CREATURES AND
FORCES NO OTHER PONY
WOULD DARE."

~~SNORT~~
HE CERTAINLY
WASN'T KNOWN
FOR HIS SMALL
EGO.



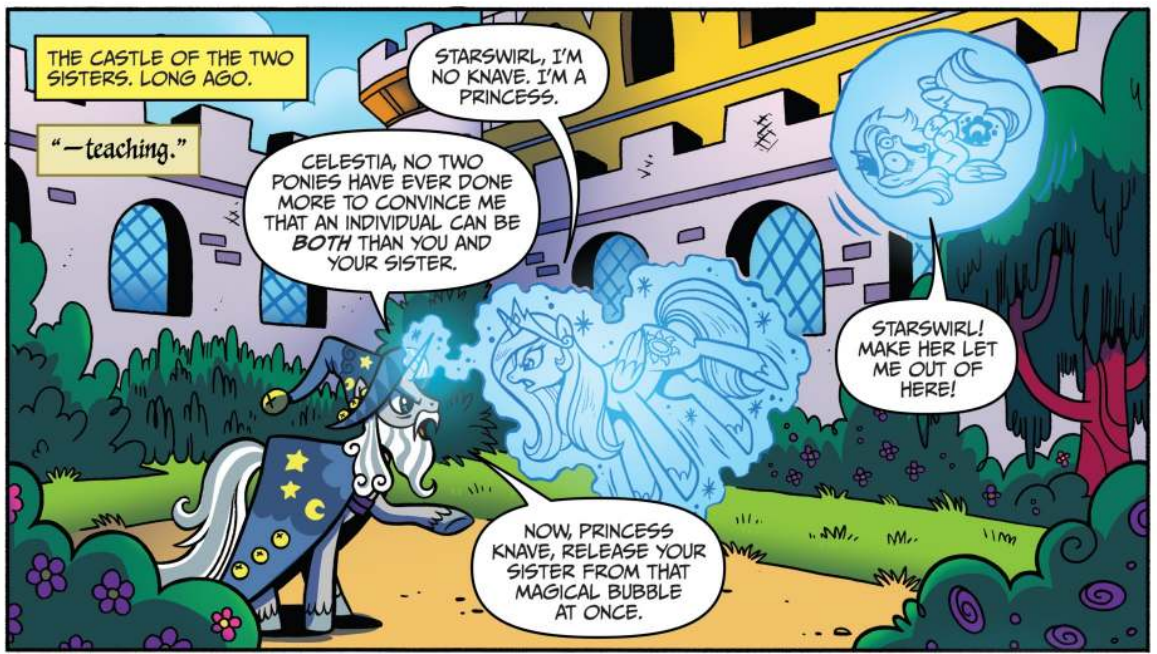
But perhaps the most challenging
role for Starswirl was not that of
mage, or wanderer, or hero. But the
most dangerous of all professions—

Indeed, Starswirl was one of the
great pony heroes. His feats will
be sung long after he has left us.



HALT, KNAVE!
GO NO FURTHER!







IT IS NOT YOUR JOB TO MONITOR OR COMMENT ON YOUR SISTER'S PROGRESS. I AM THE INSTRUCTOR HERE.

WELL, THAT MUST BE FRUSTRATING FOR YOU.



ARE YOU OKAY, PRINCESS LUNA?

THANK YOU FOR GETTING ME DOWN. HOW CAN MY OWN SISTER BE SO MEAN? CAN YOU BELIEVE HER?

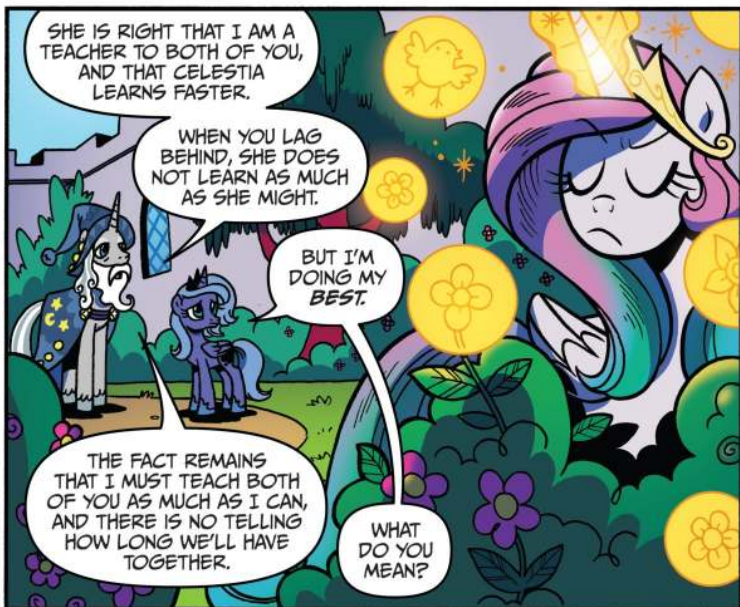
TO BE FRANK, HER COMPLAINT HAS MERIT.



I... I THOUGHT YOU WERE ON MY SIDE.



THERE ARE NO SIDES HERE, PRINCESS LUNA.



SHE IS RIGHT THAT I AM A TEACHER TO BOTH OF YOU, AND THAT CELESTIA LEARNS FASTER.

WHEN YOU LAG BEHIND, SHE DOES NOT LEARN AS MUCH AS SHE MIGHT.

BUT I'M DOING MY BEST.

THE FACT REMAINS THAT I MUST TEACH BOTH OF YOU AS MUCH AS I CAN, AND THERE IS NO TELLING HOW LONG WE'LL HAVE TOGETHER.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



WHEN A CRISIS ARISES, I MAY BE CALLED ON TO DEAL WITH IT, AND SOMEDAY I MIGHT NOT RETURN.

SOMETIMES OUR LIVES REQUIRE US TO DO THINGS THAT DO NOT SEEM IMMEDIATELY POSSIBLE TO US.



AS A PRINCESS, SOMEDAY THOSE THINGS MIGHT BE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SURVIVAL OF YOUR KINGDOM OR THE FALL OF ALL OF EQUESTRIA.

IF YOUR BEST IS NOT UP TO THE TASK, EITHER YOU MUST FIND A NEW BEST, OR BE WILLING TO LIVE WITH THE CONSEQUENCES.

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my LITTLE PONY

Legends of Magic



TO BE CONTINUED IN...

MY LITTLE PONY: LEGENDS OF MAGIC #1

Bronna Hickey

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