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#19

RICE
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my LITTLE PONY

FRIENDS FOREVER





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Language : English

File source : iTunes Store

Edition : PDF

Lossless : Yes

Original version released by : YayPonies.eu

Translated by : NNOPE

Translated version released by : NNOPE

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GREAT JOB, SUGAR CUBE!

YEAH, TOTALLY COOL!

OH YES, EVERYTHING'S JUST LOVELY.

HOORAY!



CONGRATULATIONS, RARITY! EVERYTHING REALLY DOES LOOK AMAZING. AND THE CAKES' CAKE MATCHES YOUR DECOR AND DRESS DESIGN PERFECTLY.

IT'S ALMOST AS IF YOU WERE IN BUSINESS TOGETHER.



WHY, THANK YOU, DARLING. JUST DOING MY JOB, YOU KNOW. IT'S REALLY NO BIG—



WHY, YES—IT DID LOOK LIKE THE CAKES AND I WERE WORKING TOGETHER ON THIS WEDDING.

IF WE DID GO INTO BUSINESS TOGETHER, WE COULD START A ONE-STOP WEDDING BOUTIQUE.

THERE'S NOTHING LIKE THAT IN PONYVILLE.

THERE'S NOTHING LIKE THAT IN ALL OF EQUESTRIA! WE'D BE REVOLUTIONARY.

WE'D BE **Famous!!**



PONIES FROM ALL OVER WOULD COME TO HAVE US DESIGN EVERY ASPECT OF THEIR WEDDING. WE'LL BE THE "IN" THING!

YOU'RE NOT ACTUALLY TALKING TO ME, ARE YOU?



HEY, UH, RARITY? WOULD YOU LIKE TO DANCE?

DANCE? UMM... SURE.

REALLY? THIS IS THE BEST WEDDING EVER!



WHA? OH, NO TIME! I NEED TO GO HOME IMMEDIATELY AND CREATE A BUSINESS PLAN.

REALLY? WORST WEDDING EVER.

THE NEXT MORNING.

SO YOU SEE, BY TEAMING UP AND ESTABLISHING A ONE-STOP WEDDING BUSINESS, WE WOULD BECOME THE TALK OF EQUESTRIA!

I DON'T KNOW, RARITY. WE REALLY HAVE OUR HANDS FULL WITH REGULAR ORDERS AND TAKING CARE OF THE TWINS, AND—

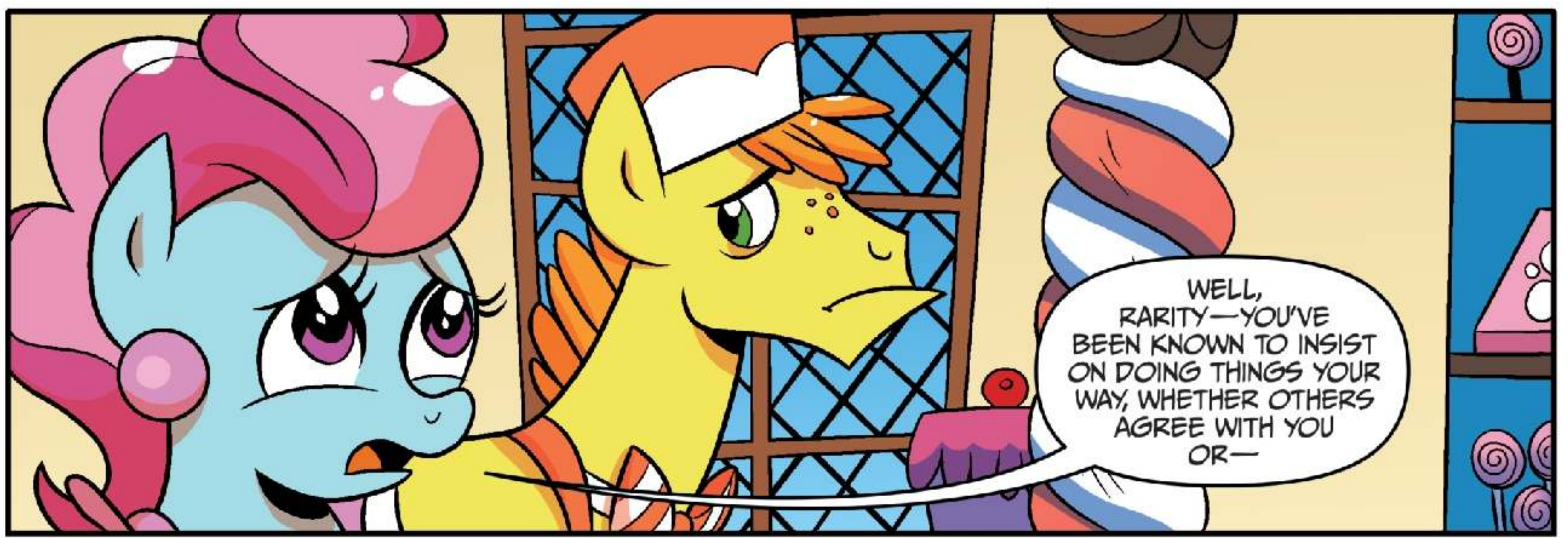
OH, TO BE SURE, BUT WITH THE RIGHT PUBLICITY, WE COULD ATTRACT SOME HIGH-PROFILE—AND HIGH-PAYING—CUSTOMERS. WOULDN'T THAT HELP WITH THE TWINS?

WELL, SHE DOES HAVE A POINT. LITTLE POUND CAKE IS EATING MORE THAN ANYPONY I'VE EVER MET, SO WE COULD USE THE EXTRA INCOME.

NOW RARITY, IF WE ARE GOING TO DO THIS, WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT WE'LL REALLY BE PARTNERS AND HAVE AN EQUAL SAY IN EVERY DECISION THAT IS MADE.

BUT OF COURSE! WHY WOULDN'T YOU?

SO IT'S SETTLED! I'VE EVEN COME UP WITH A FABULOUS NAME—RARIFIED WEDDINGS... AND CAKES TOO!







I COULD NOT HELP BUT OVERHEAR ABOUT YOUR NEW BUSINESS VENTURE. I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING LIKE THAT IN CANTERLOT.

OR EVEN IN... ALL OF EQUESTRIA!



OUR READERS LOVE TO HEAR ABOUT NEW TRENDS IN WEDDINGS AND THIS SOUNDS RIGHT UP THEIR ALLEY.

I'D LIKE TO VISIT YOUR HEADQUARTERS. IF I LIKE WHAT I SEE, THIS COULD BE A FEATURE IN MODERN MARE.



OH, THAT'S WONDERFUL! I'LL NEED TO CHECK WITH MY BUSINESS PARTNERS ONCE I GET BACK TO PONYVILLE AND—



PONYVILLE? HMM, HOW PROVINCIAL. WELL, IF NOTHING ELSE IT'S ALL VERY UNIQUE. I GUESS I CAN MAKE THE TRIP OUT TO THE COUNTRY.



BRIGHT BRIDLE!

YES, MS. WIND, RIGHT BEHIND YOU.





OH, SPIKE, IT WAS REALLY DARLING OF YOU TO MEET ME AT THE TRAIN STATION AND GATHER MY FEW PARCELS.

NOT A PROBLEM. ALWAYS. HAPPY. TO. HELP.



THERE'S SO MUCH TO DO TO PREPARE FOR TOURING WIND'S VISIT. DON'T FORGET YOU'LL NEED TO MEET HER AT THE STATION. I'LL JUST DROP OFF THE LUGGAGE AND THEN HEAD OVER TO THE—



CAKES!

HOWDY, SUGARCUBE!



HELLO, APPLEJACK. DID WE HAVE A MEETING SCHEDULED?

THIS HERE'S GINGER GOLD AND APPLE CRISP, WHO ARE PLANNING ON GETTIN' MARRIED.

THEY WERE JUST GONNA HAVE A SIMPLE COUNTRY WEDDIN' OVER AT SWEET APPLE ACRES, BUT WHEN I TOLD THEM ALL ABOUT YER NEW BUSINESS—WELL, I GUESS YOU COULD SAY I SOLD 'EM!

AND SINCE WE HAVE SO LITTLE TIME, WE FIGURED WE SHOULD GET STARTED WITH THE PLANNING.





EXCELLENT!
AND NOW FOR
THE CAKE
TOPPER.

YES, WE HAVE
THIS TOPPER THAT
MY GREAT AUNTIE
APPLESAUCE USED
ON HER CAKE.

YES, WELL,
THAT CERTAINLY
IS APPLELIKE,
ISN'T IT?

I DO BELIEVE
I HAVE THE MOST
STUNNING LEAD CRYSTAL
FIGURINE THAT WOULD
JUST LOOK SMASHING
ON TOP OF THE CAKE.

BUT
RARITY—



BUT NOTHING! MY
DEAR GINGER GOLD,
DON'T YOU WANT THE MOST
ELEGANT WEDDING WE
CAN OFFER?

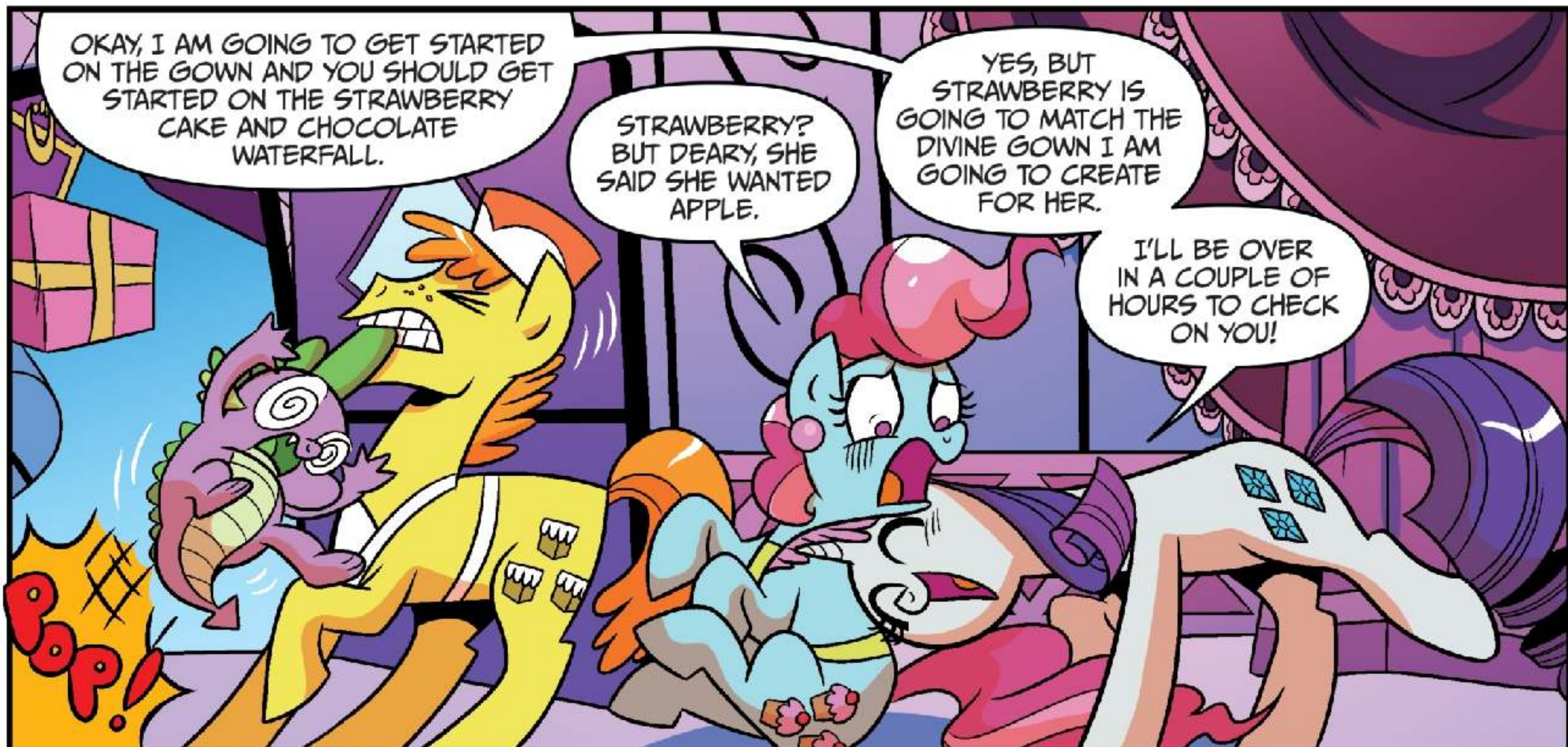
DON'T YOU
WANT TO BE AN
ABSOLUTE QUEEN
FOR A DAY?

AND IF THERE'S ANYONE
WHO KNOWS ABOUT BEING
A QUEEN, IT'S RARITY. I TRUST
HER, AND SO CAN YOU,
LITTLE FILLY.

OKAY, APPLES, LET'S
HEAD BACK TO THE FARM
AND FIGURE OUT WHERE
EVERYPONY'S GONNA
SLEEP.

BEING QUEEN
SURE DOES
SOUND NICE.

H-HELP



OKAY, I AM GOING TO GET STARTED
ON THE GOWN AND YOU SHOULD GET
STARTED ON THE STRAWBERRY
CAKE AND CHOCOLATE
WATERFALL.

STRAWBERRY?
BUT DEARY, SHE
SAID SHE WANTED
APPLE.

YES, BUT
STRAWBERRY IS
GOING TO MATCH THE
DIVINE GOWN I AM
GOING TO CREATE
FOR HER.

I'LL BE OVER
IN A COUPLE OF
HOURS TO CHECK
ON YOU!

POP!

The Next Three Days...





WELL, THIS PONYVILLE IS MUCH MORE CHARMING THAN I EXPECTED, DON'T YOU AGREE, BRIGHT?

YES, MS. WIND.

WITH AN ADORABLE DRAGON TO MEET US AT THE STATION, NOT TO MENTION A PONY THAT CAN PLAY TEN INSTRUMENTS!



OH YES, THERE'S A LOT TO SEE IN PONYVILLE. LET'S DROP OFF YOUR LUGGAGE AT THE INN FIRST AND THEN I CAN SHOW YOU—

NO TIME TO LOSE! WE'LL SEE IT NOW.



I'M SORRY, WE SIMPLY CANNOT HELP YOU RIGHT NOW, BUT—TOURING WIND?

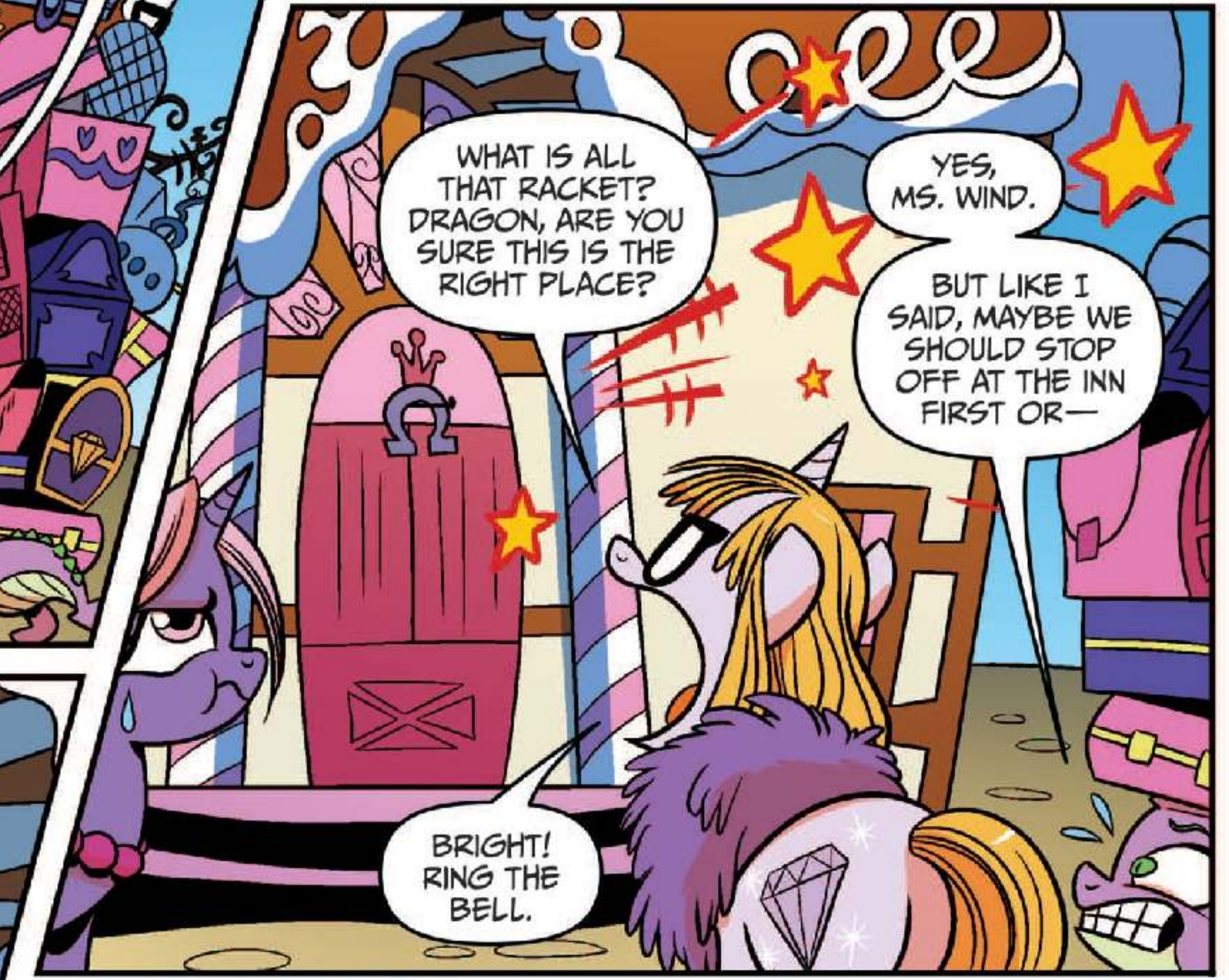
YES. DID YOU FORGET WE WERE COMING?

WELL, YES, I MEAN NO, OF COURSE NOT!

WE'RE HAVING SOME HICCUPS WITH OUR FIRST CLIENT, SO IF YOU CAN COME BACK LATER.

CRASH!

N-not again...



WHAT IS ALL THAT RACKET? DRAGON, ARE YOU SURE THIS IS THE RIGHT PLACE?

YES, MS. WIND.

BUT LIKE I SAID, MAYBE WE SHOULD STOP OFF AT THE INN FIRST OR—

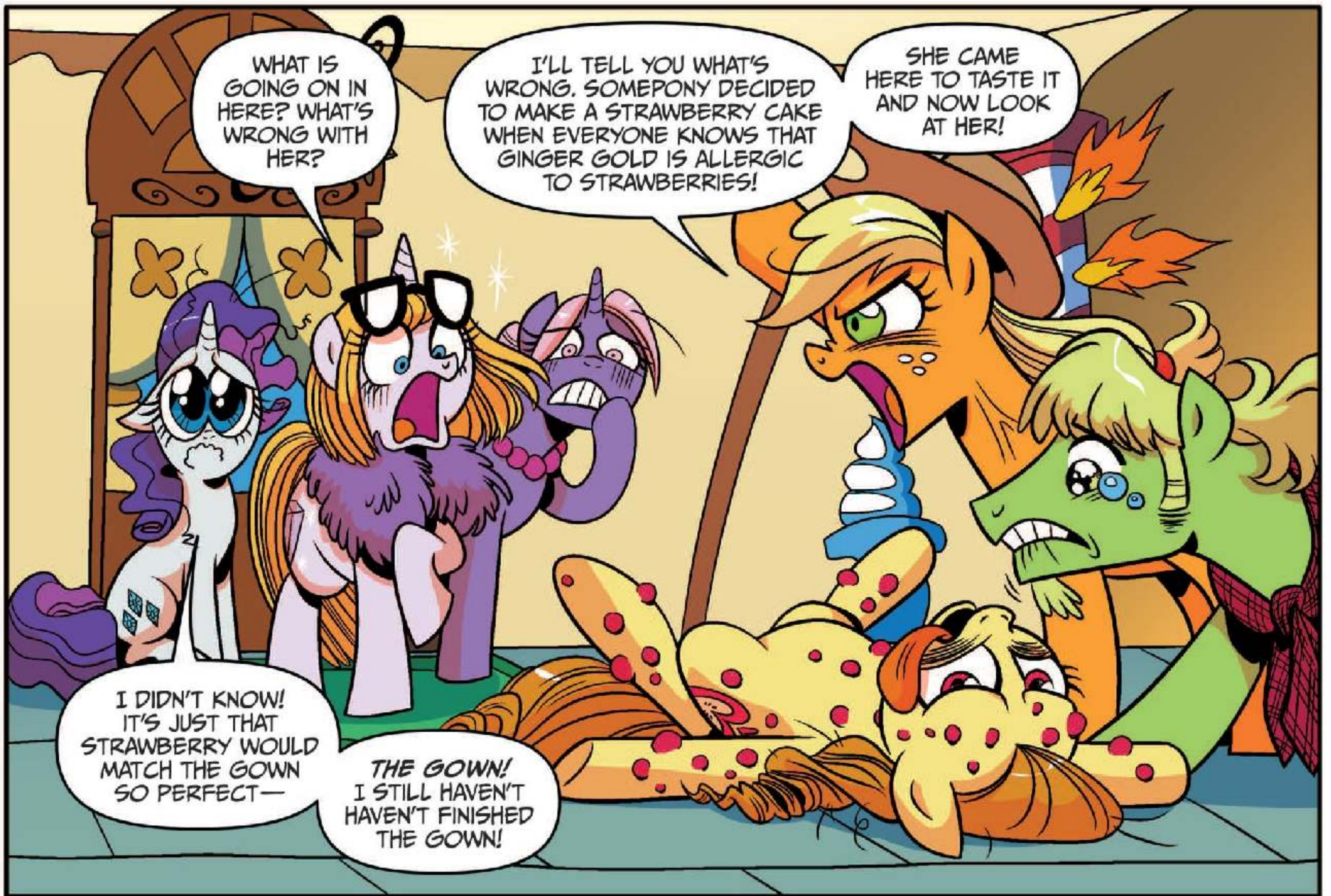
BRIGHT! RING THE BELL.

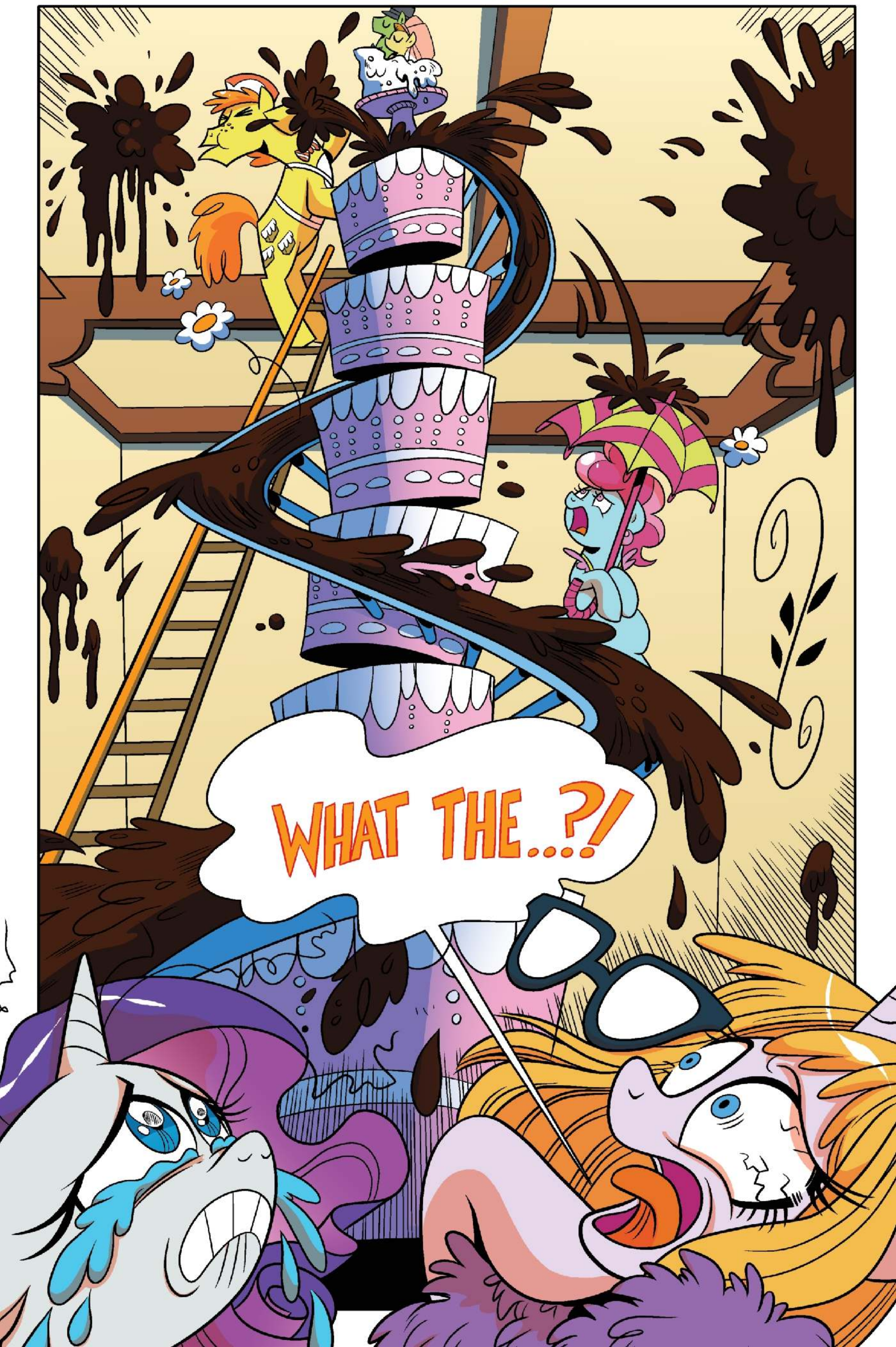


NONSENSE! COME, BRIGHT.

DRAGON—STAY OUTSIDE.

YES, MS. WIND.





WHAT THE...?!



I HAVE NEVER SEEN SUCH RANK AMATEURS IN ALL MY LIFE!

WELL, CERTAINLY EVERY BUSINESS HAS A FEW BUMPS IN THE ROAD AT FIRST.

COMING THROUGH, DEARIES!



BRIGHT BRIDLE!

WE ARE TAKING THE FIRST TRAIN OUT OF THIS PLACE! WHEN IS THAT?

TOMORROW MORNING, MS. WIND.

BUT...

TOMORROW MORNING? OH WELL. TELL THE DRAGON TO BRING OUR THINGS TO WHEREVER WE ARE STAYING.



THAT'S IT. WE'LL NEVER GET WRITTEN UP IN *MODERN MARE*. WE'LL NEVER BE FAMOUS THROUGHOUT EQUESTRIA.

EVEN WORSE, I ABSOLUTELY RUINED THE WEDDING! I LET APPLEJACK DOWN!



I'M A TERRIBLE PONY!

IT'S NOT ALL THAT BAD, DEARY.

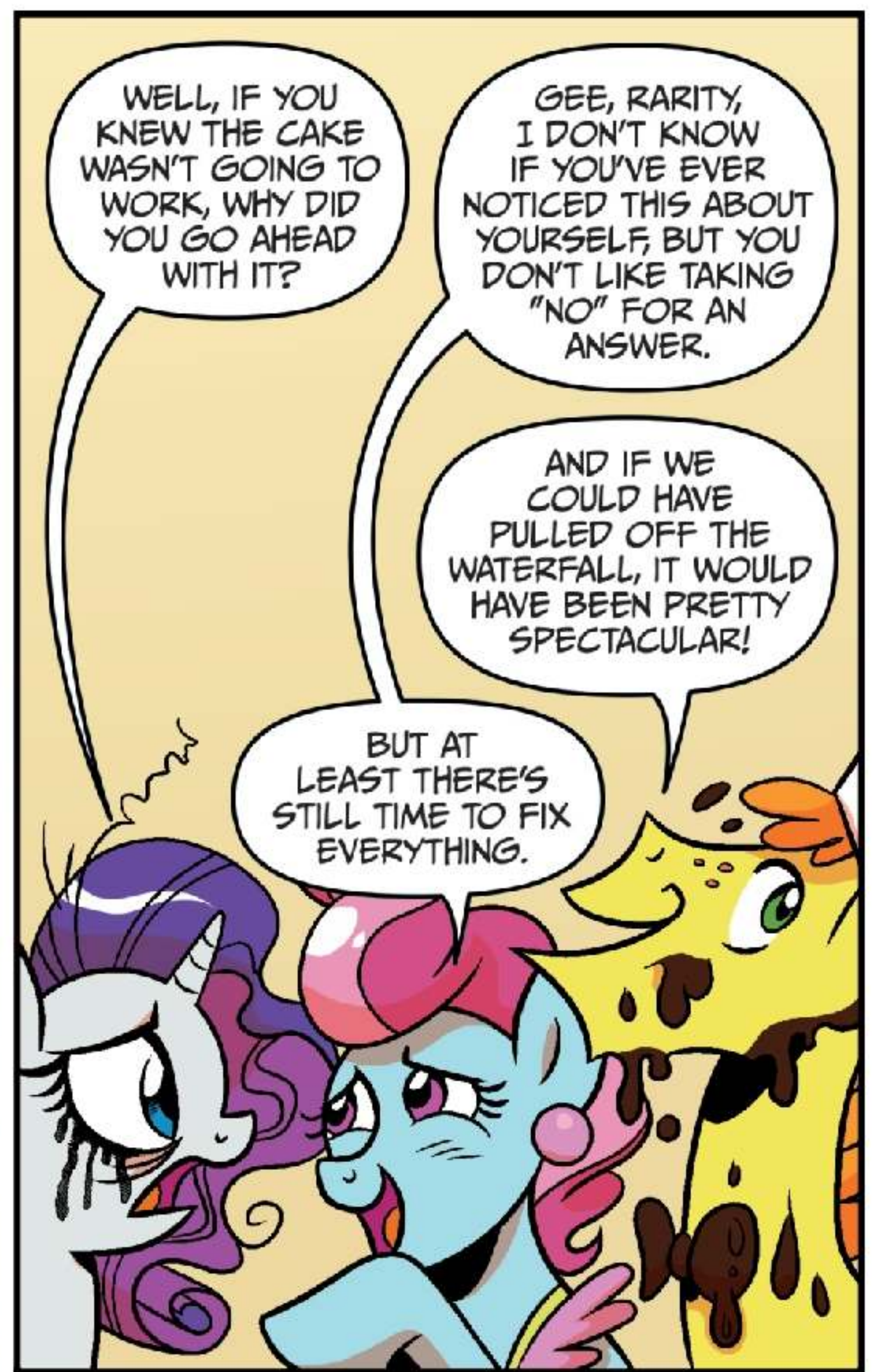


IT'S NOT? WHY, GINGER GOLD—YOU'RE CURED? MRS. CAKE, I DIDN'T THINK YOU KNEW MAGIC!

IT'S NOT MAGIC. JUST AN OLD FASHIONED HOME REMEDY.

LITTLE PUMPKIN IS ALSO ALLERGIC TO STRAWBERRIES, BUT STILL MANAGES TO FIND AND EAT THEM. WE KEEP A JAR OF THIS READY AT ALL TIMES.

BUT THE WEDDING IS STILL RUINED!



NEXT MORNING.

WELL, AT LEAST IT WASN'T A TOTAL LOSS. THAT CRITTER CONCERT IN THE PARK LAST NIGHT CONDUCTED BY FLUTTERSHY WAS SIMPLY ENCHANTING. DON'T YOU THINK?

YES, MS. WIND.

MS. WIND?

WE DO WISH YOU WOULD RECONSIDER REVIEWING OUR BUSINESS.

OUR DEAR RARITY MAY HAVE BEEN A BIT OVER-AMBITIOUS FOR OUR FIRST WEDDING, BUT WE'VE GOT IT ALL STRAIGHTENED OUT.

I DON'T KNOW. YESTERDAY WAS CERTAINLY THE BIGGEST DISASTER I HAVE EVER WITNESSED. DON'T YOU AGREE?

YES, MS. WIND.

STILL, IF YOU WERE ABLE TO RECOVER FROM THAT, IT WOULD BE A MODERN MIRACLE.

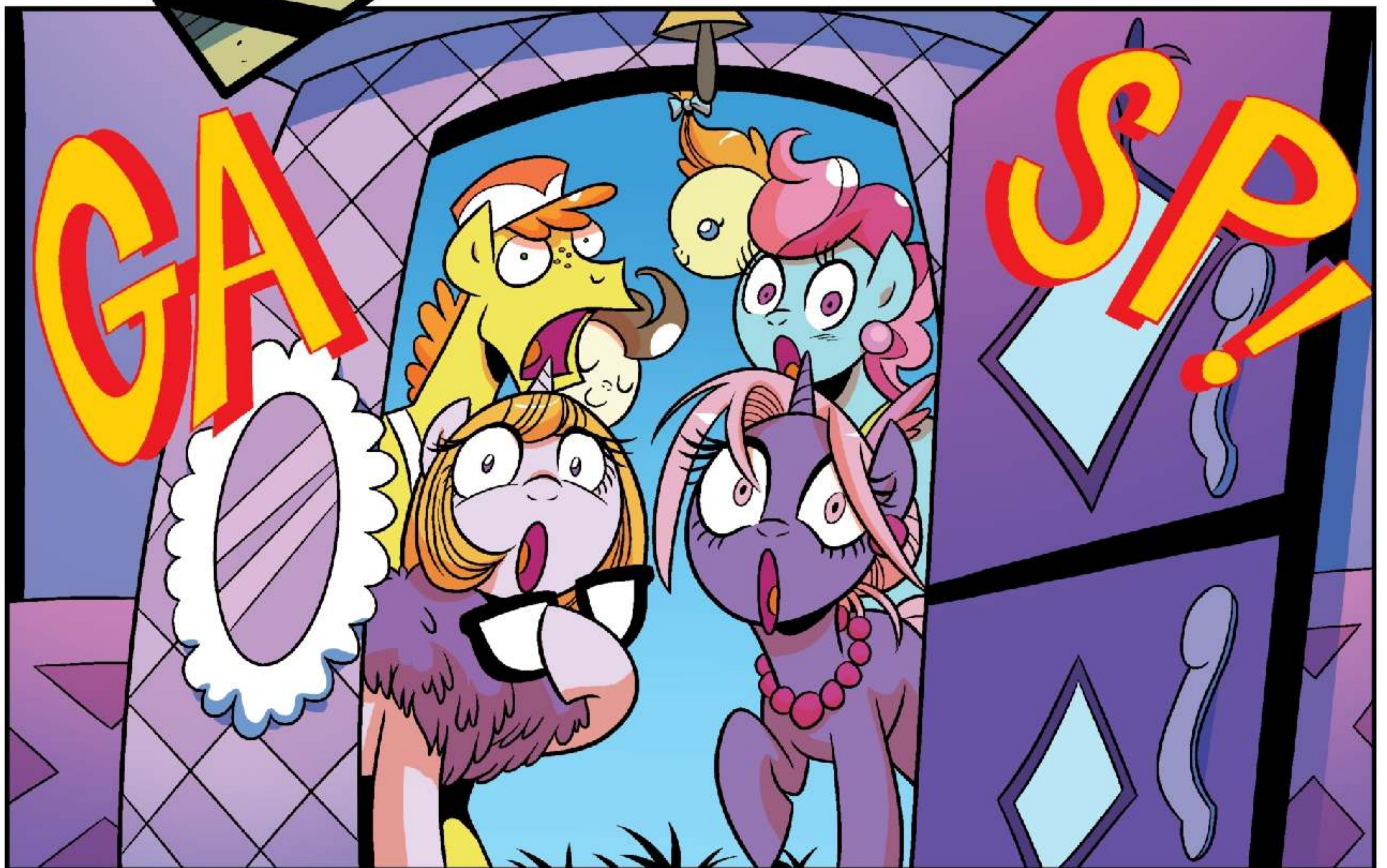
BUT I'M AFRAID I HAVE GOT TO GET BACK TO CANTERLOT TODAY AND CANNOT AFFORD TO MISS THIS TRAIN.

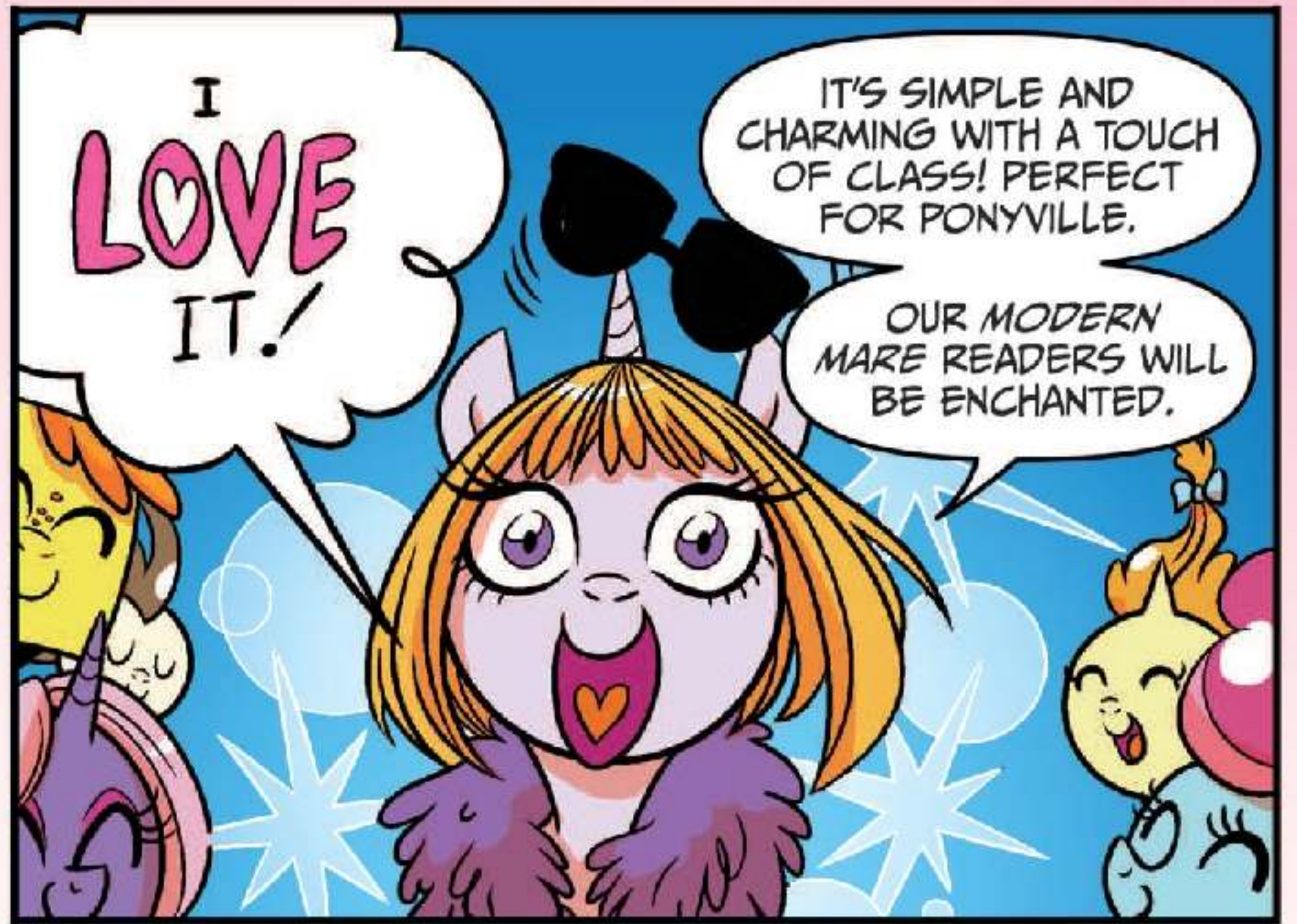
CONSIDER THIS TRAIN DELAYED!

YOU CAN DO THAT?

FOR MY FAIR RARITY, ANYTHING!

BOOM!

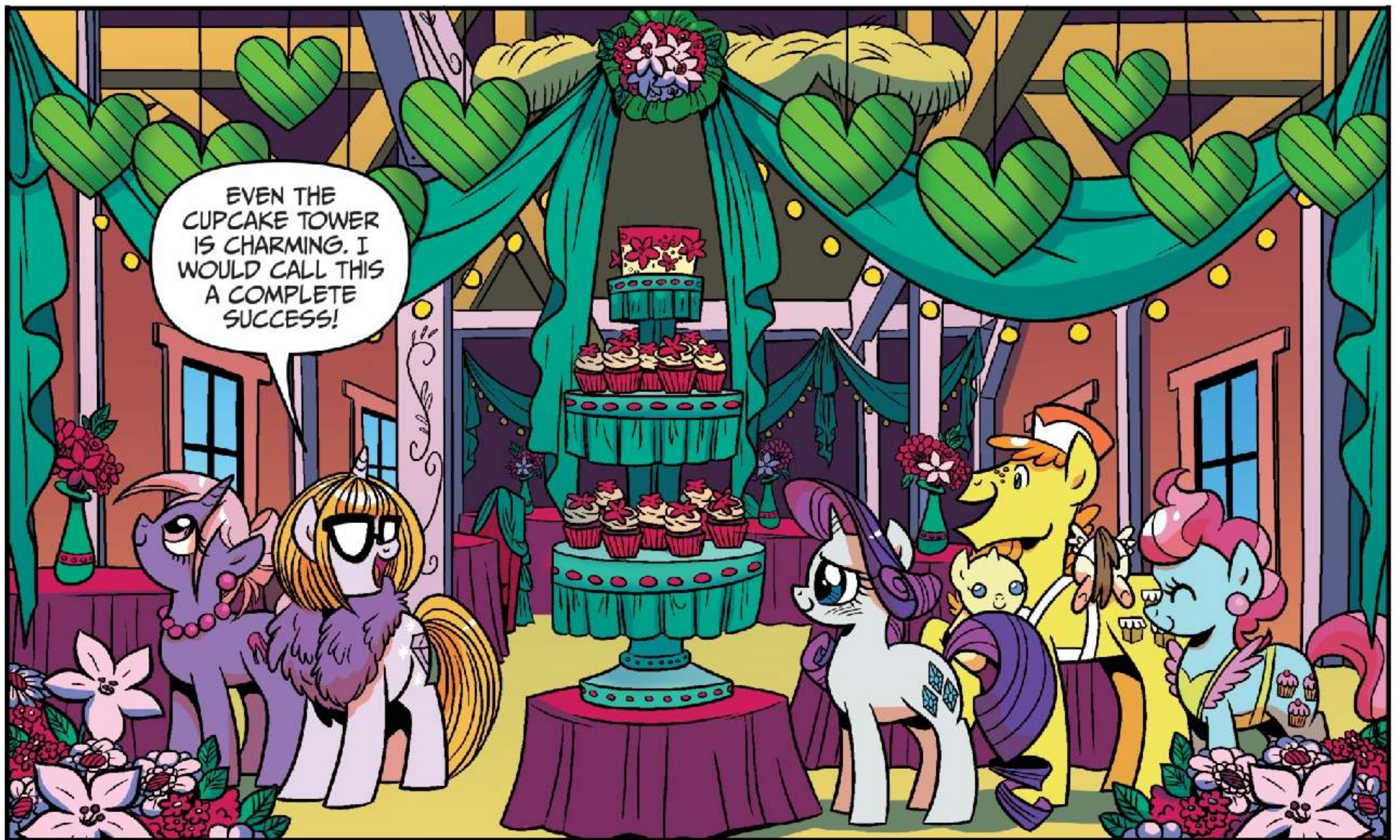






I LOVE IT!
IT'S SO PONYVILLE...
AND I MEAN IT IN A
GOOD WAY. ISN'T THAT
RIGHT, BRIGHT?

YES,
MS. WIND.



EVEN THE
CUPCAKE TOWER
IS CHARMING. I
WOULD CALL THIS
A COMPLETE
SUCCESS!



IF IT IS
A COMPLETE
SUCCESS, IT'S
ONLY BECAUSE
OF YOU TWO.

I REALLY MUST
APOLOGIZE. WE'RE
SUPPOSED TO BE IN
BUSINESS *TOGETHER*
AND I TRIED TO DICTATE
EVERYTHING! CAN YOU
EVER FORGIVE
ME?



OH, RARITY, THERE'S
NOTHING TO FORGIVE. YOUR
SELF-CONFIDENCE IS ONE
OF THE REASONS WHY
WE LOVE YOU.

BUT
SOMETIMES, YOU
NEED TO TRUST
OUR JUDGMENT
TOO!



NOW, HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO PUT THE FINISHING TOUCH ON THE APPLE CUPCAKE TOWER?

I'D LOVE TO! AND YOU NEVER KNOW, DARLINGS, THERE IS STILL PLENTY OF TIME FOR US TO BE FAMOUS THROUGHOUT EQUESTRIA.



Si GH!

The End