

IDW
ISSUE
30

my LITTLE PONY

FRIENDS FOREVER



AMF!
16

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
PRINCESS OF FRIENDSHIP!
BEST PONY!

PRINCESS CADANCE
THE OTHER PRINCESS

LIBRARIAN SKILLS!!

RICE • GARBOWSKA



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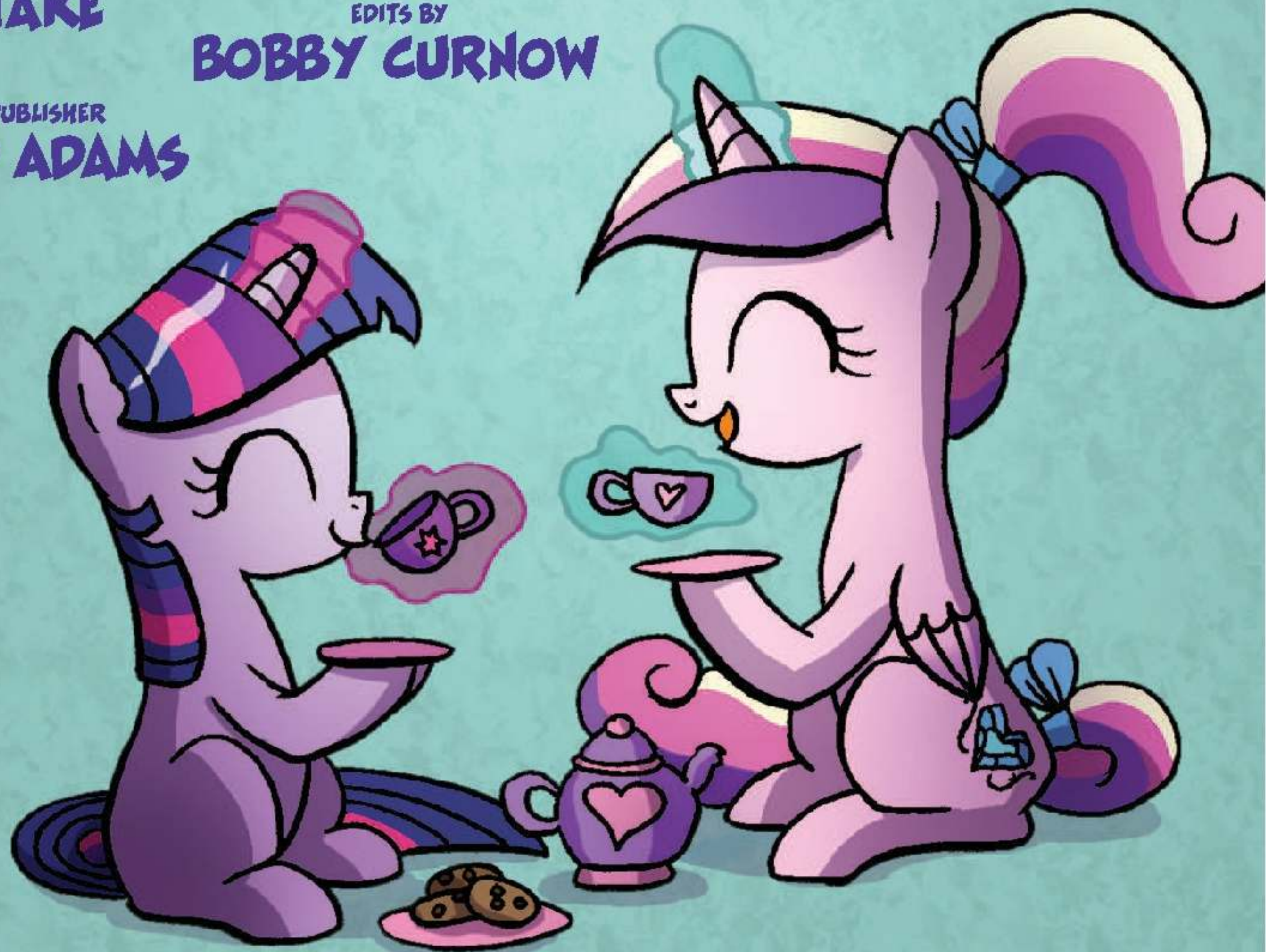
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SUNSHINE, SUNSHINE. LADYBUGS AWAKE! CLAP YOUR HOOVES AND DO A LITTLE SHAKE!



IT'S BEEN TOO LONG, TWILIGHT!

THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE TRIP OUT TO THE CRYSTAL EMPIRE!

HOW COULD I POSSIBLY TURN DOWN AN INVITE FOR THE OFFICIAL DEDICATION OF THE COURT OF THE CRYSTAL PRINCESS?

IN YOUR HONOR!



YEAH, IT SEEMS A BIT SILLY, THOUGH, DOESN'T IT? MAKING SUCH A FUSS AND ALL.

IT'S NOT SILLY! YOU'VE BEEN AN AMAZING LEADER AND PROTECTOR OF THE CRYSTAL EMPIRE SINCE IT REAPPEARED.

WHY SHOULDN'T THE CRYSTAL PONIES HONOR YOU?



NEVER MIND ALL THAT THAT NOW.

THERE'S TWO DAYS UNTIL THE DEDICATION. WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO IN THE MEANTIME?

I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT, AND MAY HAVE COME UP WITH A THING OR TWO.



THINGS TO DO

LET'S SEE... WELL, WE'VE BARELY SCRATCHED THE SURFACE OF THE MAGNIFICENT LIBRARY, AND I BELIEVE A NEW EXHIBIT OPENED UP DETAILING THE HISTORY OF THE EMPIRE, OR—

UNLESS THERE IS SOMETHING YOU ALREADY HAD IN MIND.

WELL, THERE IS SOMETHING I HAVE BEEN WANTING TO DO FOR A WHILE, BUT HAVEN'T HAD THE NERVE.

NAME IT!

A SHORT TIME LATER.

WHEN YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT, I DIDN'T THINK IT MEANT WALKING AROUND THE MARKETPLACE INCOGNITO!

ARE YOU SURE THESE DISGUISES ARE GOING TO WORK?

OF COURSE I'M SURE!





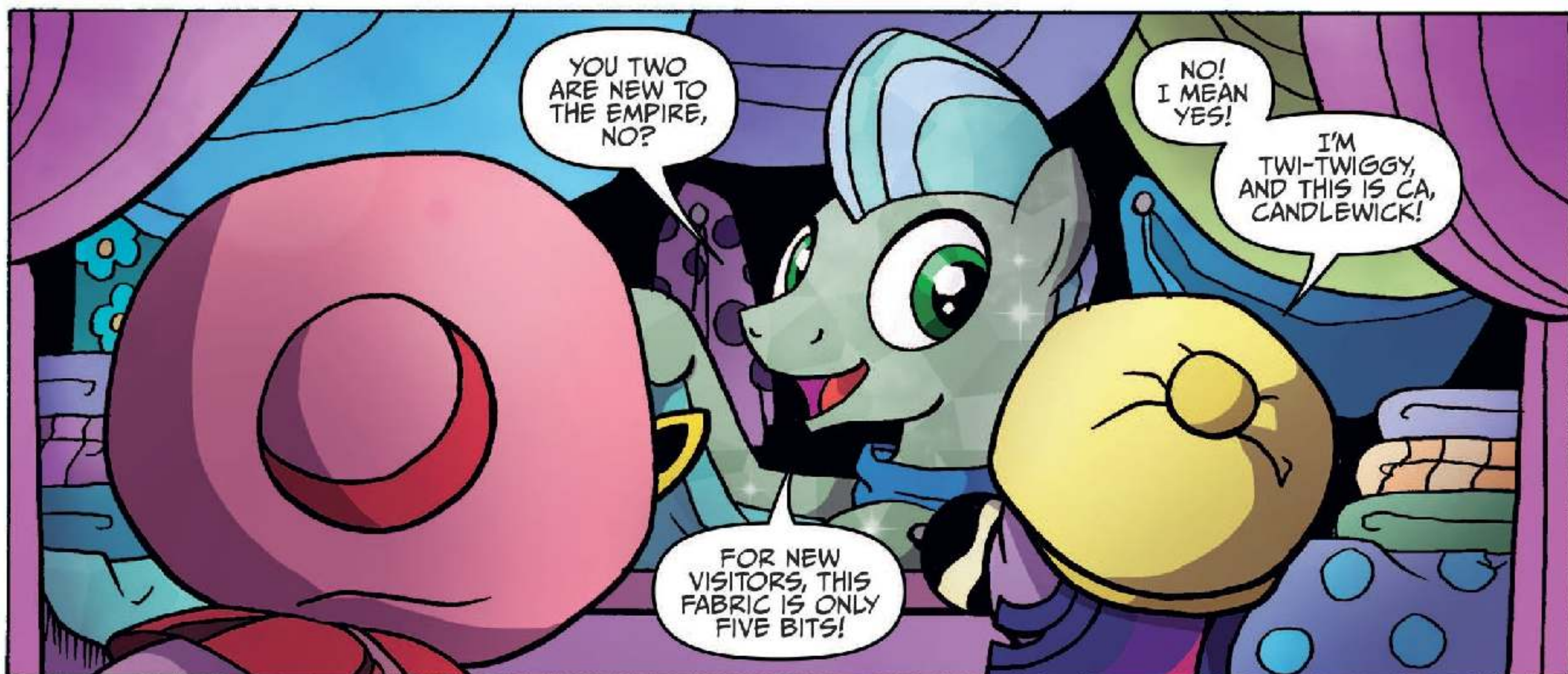
WE'RE
IN AN EMPIRE
THAT HAD BEEN
MISSING FOR
1,000 YEARS.

PONIES
FROM ALL OVER
EQUESTRIA
VISIT US!

WE'LL FIT
RIGHT IN.

STRANGE
PONIES! COME
HERE!

IF YOU
SAY SO...



YOU TWO ARE NEW TO THE EMPIRE, NO?

NO! I MEAN YES!

I'M TWI-TWIGGY, AND THIS IS CA, CANDLEWICK!

FOR NEW VISITORS, THIS FABRIC IS ONLY FIVE BITS!



WHERE ARE YOU JOURNEYING FROM?

AH! THE HOME OF PRINCESS TWILIGHT SPARKLE.

SHE WHO IS NOBLE.

PONYVILLE!

WISE!

NO! I MEAN—

BRAVE!

RESOURCEFUL!



DO YOU KNOW THE GREAT PRINCESS TWILIGHT?

UH, YES. I'VE MET HER ONCE OR TWICE.

FOR FRIENDS OF PRINCESS TWILIGHT, TWO BITS!



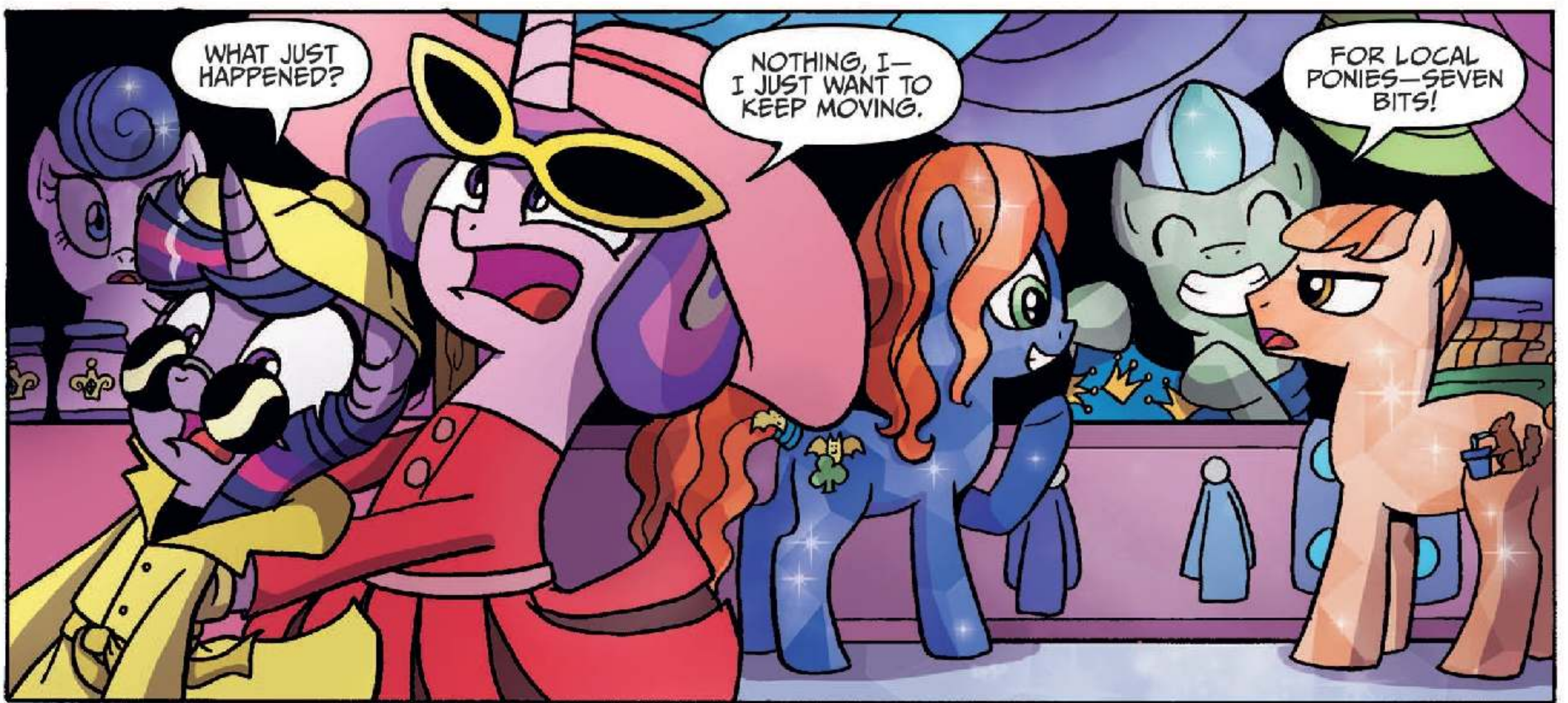
SO, WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THE CRYSTAL EMPIRE?

WE'VE COME FOR THE DEDICATION OF THE COURT OF THE CRYSTAL PRINCESS.



YES, PRINCESS CADANCE IS LOVELY, ISN'T SHE?

THANK YOU, BUT WE MUST BE GOING!



WHAT JUST HAPPENED?

NOTHING, I— I JUST WANT TO KEEP MOVING.

FOR LOCAL PONIES—SEVEN BITS!



EXPLAIN TO ME AGAIN WHY WE'RE DOING THIS?

WHENEVER I WALK AROUND THE MARKETPLACE AS MYSELF, EVERYPONY STOPS WHAT THEY'RE DOING AND BOWS AND GETS TONGUE-TIED.



I JUST WANT TO SEE THE CRYSTAL EMPIRE AS IT REALLY IS, AND INTERACT WITH THE SUBJECTS.

BUT WITHOUT ALL THAT PRETENSION.



BUT BEING THE CRYSTAL PRINCESS IS WHAT YOU'RE MEANT TO BE. YOUR TRUE SELF.

HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF EVERYPONY ALWAYS BOWED TO YOU IN PONYVILLE?



I GUESS I SEE YOUR POINT.

LET'S LOOK AROUND SOME MORE!

THANKS, TWILIGHT. I MEAN TWIGGY!





LOOK, IT'S THE PRINCESSES!

I WANT CELESTIA AND LUNA, SO I CAN RAISE THE SUN AND MOON!



I WANT PRINCESS TWILIGHT SPARKLE, SO I CAN WIELD THE ELEMENTS OF HARMONY!



I WANT PRINCESS CADANCE AND SHINING ARMOR, SO I CAN LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER!



I THINK I'VE SEEN ENOUGH OF THE MARKETPLACE.

MAYBE THIS WASN'T SUCH A GREAT IDEA.



CANDLEWICK, WAIT FOR ME!

LATER THAT EVENING.

IS THAT REALLY ALL THEY THINK OF ME AS—A PRETTY PRINCESS?

OF COURSE NOT!

I'M SURE THEY VIEW YOU WITH GREAT PRIDE AND REVERENCE.

BUT JUST EXPRESS IT IN AN ODD WAY WHEN YOU'RE NOT AROUND.

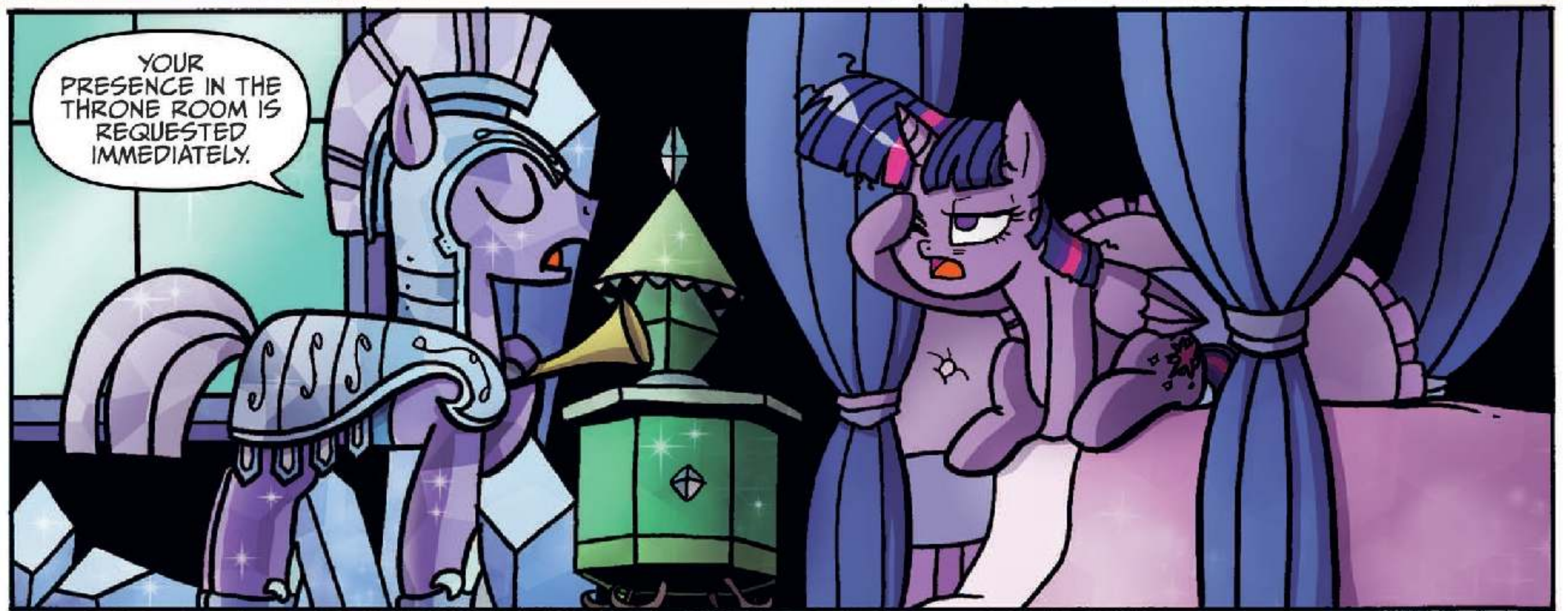
I GUESS.

IF YOU DON'T MIND, TWILIGHT, I'D LIKE TO GO TO SLEEP NOW.

ABSOLUTELY. AND I'M SURE YOU'LL FEEL MUCH BETTER IN THE MORNING.



MORNING.



YOUR PRESENCE IN THE THRONE ROOM IS REQUESTED IMMEDIATELY.



SHINING ARMOR? WHAT'S GOING ON? AND WHY IS CADANCE SUMMONING ME TO THE THRONE ROOM DURING HER MORNING MEETINGS?

CADANCE DIDN'T CALL FOR YOU, I DID.



SHE'S NOT ACTING LIKE HERSELF SOMETHING IS WRONG AND I NEED YOUR HELP.



CADANCE, I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT YOU LOOK TERRIBLE. YOU'RE NOT STILL UPSET ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN THE MARKETPLACE?

WELL, MAYBE A LITTLE.



ACTUALLY, A LOT. I DON'T THINK I SLEPT AT ALL LAST NIGHT.

OH, CADANCE! YOU'RE BLOWING THIS OUT OF PROPORTION!



AM I, THOUGH? WHAT IF CELESTIA AND LUNA JUST PUT ME IN CHARGE HERE AS A FIGUREHEAD?

MADE ME THE CRYSTAL PRINCESS BECAUSE I AM AN ALICORN AND THEY FELT OBLIGATED TO DO SO?



SHINING ARMOR IS MORE THAN CAPABLE OF PROTECTING THE CRYSTAL EMPIRE ON HIS OWN.

NONE TAKEN.



THAT'S NOT TRUE!

NO OFFENSE, SHINING ARMOR.



YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SAVED THE CRYSTAL EMPIRE WHEN SOMBRA CAME BACK.

YES, YOU MAY HAVE NEEDED SOME HELP, BUT WE ALL NEED HELP SOMETIMES.



BUT IT WAS YOU WHO SAVED THE CRYSTAL HEART, NOT ME.

WELL, TECHNICALLY IT WAS SPIKE. WHICH JUST PROVES MY POINT.

THAT WE ALL HELPED YOU SAVE THE CRYSTAL EMPIRE, BUT YOU WERE THE DRIVING FORCE.

AND YOU DESERVE TO BE HERE.

YOUR HIGHNESS!

THANKS, TWILIGHT.



PLEASE FORGIVE THE INTERRUPTION, BUT WE HAVE SUBJECTS AWAITING COUNSEL WITH YOU TO SETTLE DISPUTES.

YES. PLEASE GIVE US A FEW MORE MINUTES AND THEN SEND THEM IN.

I'LL GET OUT OF YOUR MANE AND LET YOU GET BACK TO YOUR OFFICIAL PRINCESS DUTIES.

NO, PLEASE STAY, TWILIGHT. THE DISPUTE RESOLUTIONS DON'T TAKE TOO LONG, AND SINCE YOU'RE ALREADY HERE...



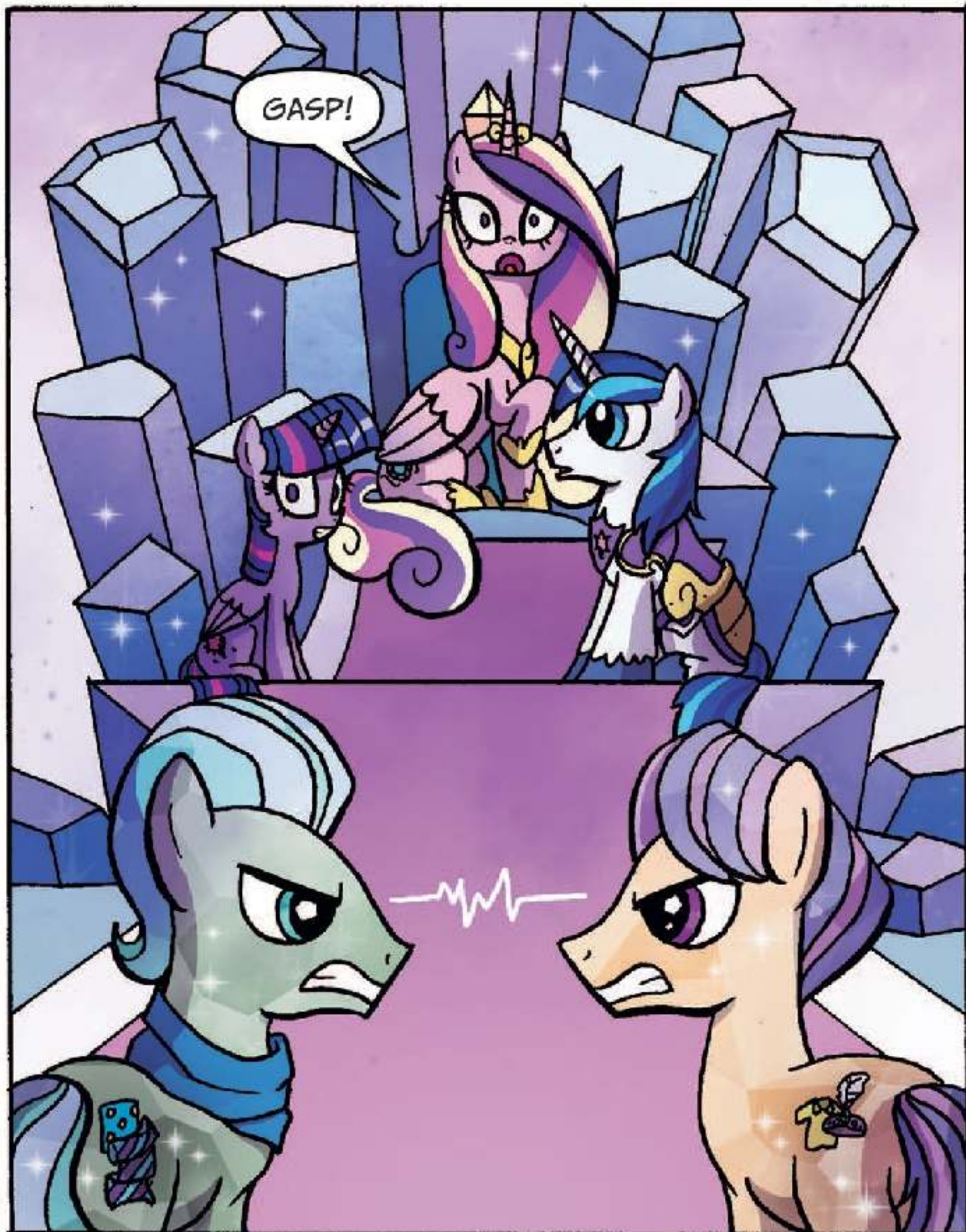
I GUESS IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE CITIZENS OF PONYVILLE START COMING TO THE FRIENDSHIP CASTLE FOR THIS SORT OF THING.

AS LONG AS WE CAN HIT THE LIBRARY AFTER.

DEAL!



GUARD! SEND IN THE FIRST DISPUTE.



GASP!



YOUR HIGHNESS.

YOUR HIGHNESS, YOU'RE LOOKING ESPECIALLY LOVELY TODAY.

HOW CAN I HELP YOU?



OUR BOOTHS ARE NEXT TO EACH OTHER IN THE MARKETPLACE AND HIS FABRICS ARE CONSTANTLY SPILLING OVER INTO MY AREA!

YOUR TACKY KNOCK-OFF COSTUMES DON'T USE UP ALL THE SPACE AND MY BEAUTIFUL MATERIALS NEED ROOM TO BREATHE!



IT DOESN'T MATTER THAT I DON'T USE THE WHOLE SPACE, IT'S MINE AND YOU SHOULD PAY ME OR GET OUT!

PAY YOU? FOR SPACE YOU'RE NOT USING?

CADANCE, ARE YOU GOING TO SAY SOMETHING?



YES, WELL, THE SOLUTION WILL BE...

DETERMINED BY PRINCESS TWILIGHT SPARKLE!

WHAT?



WELL... WHY DON'T YOU TEAM UP TO OFFER LIMITED EDITION OR CUSTOM COSTUMES MADE FROM HIS FABRIC AND SPLIT THE PROFITS?

THAT'S NOT A HALF BAD IDEA.

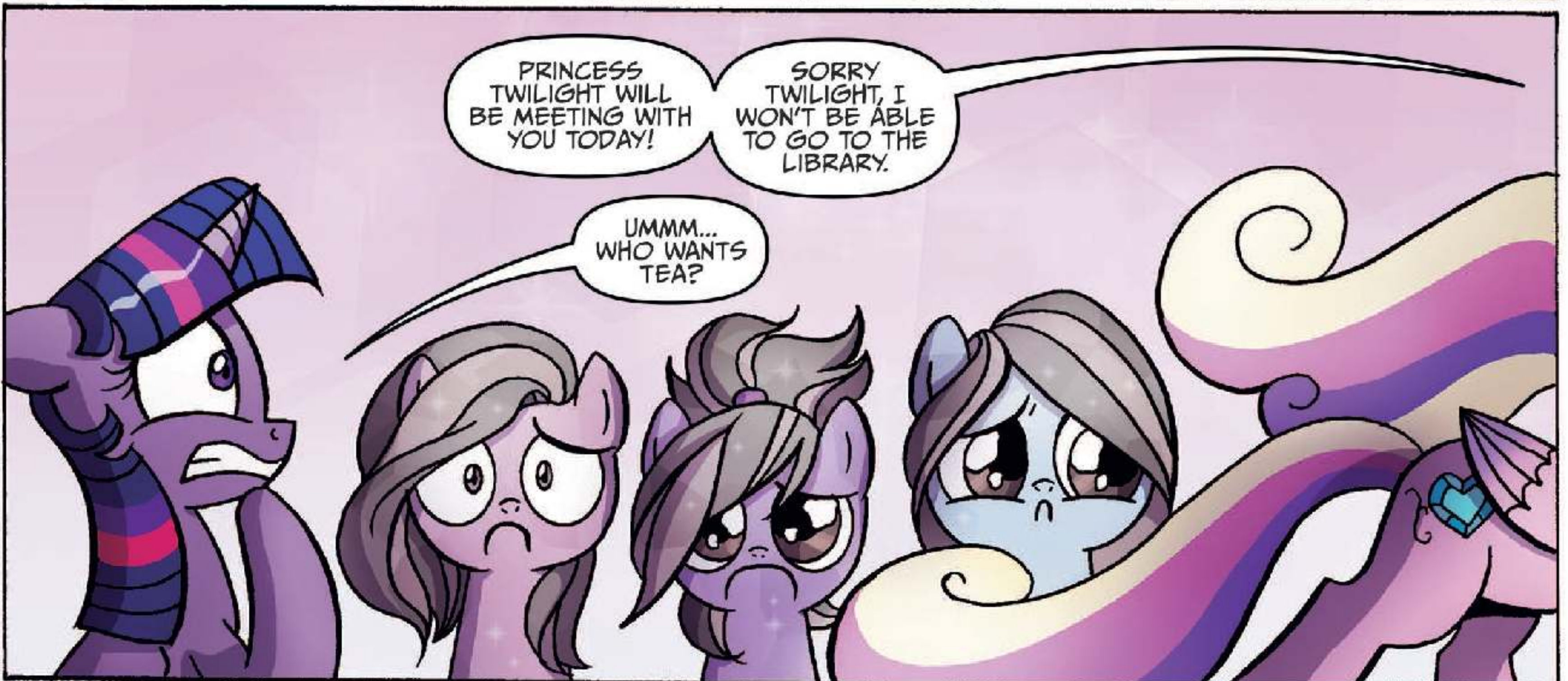
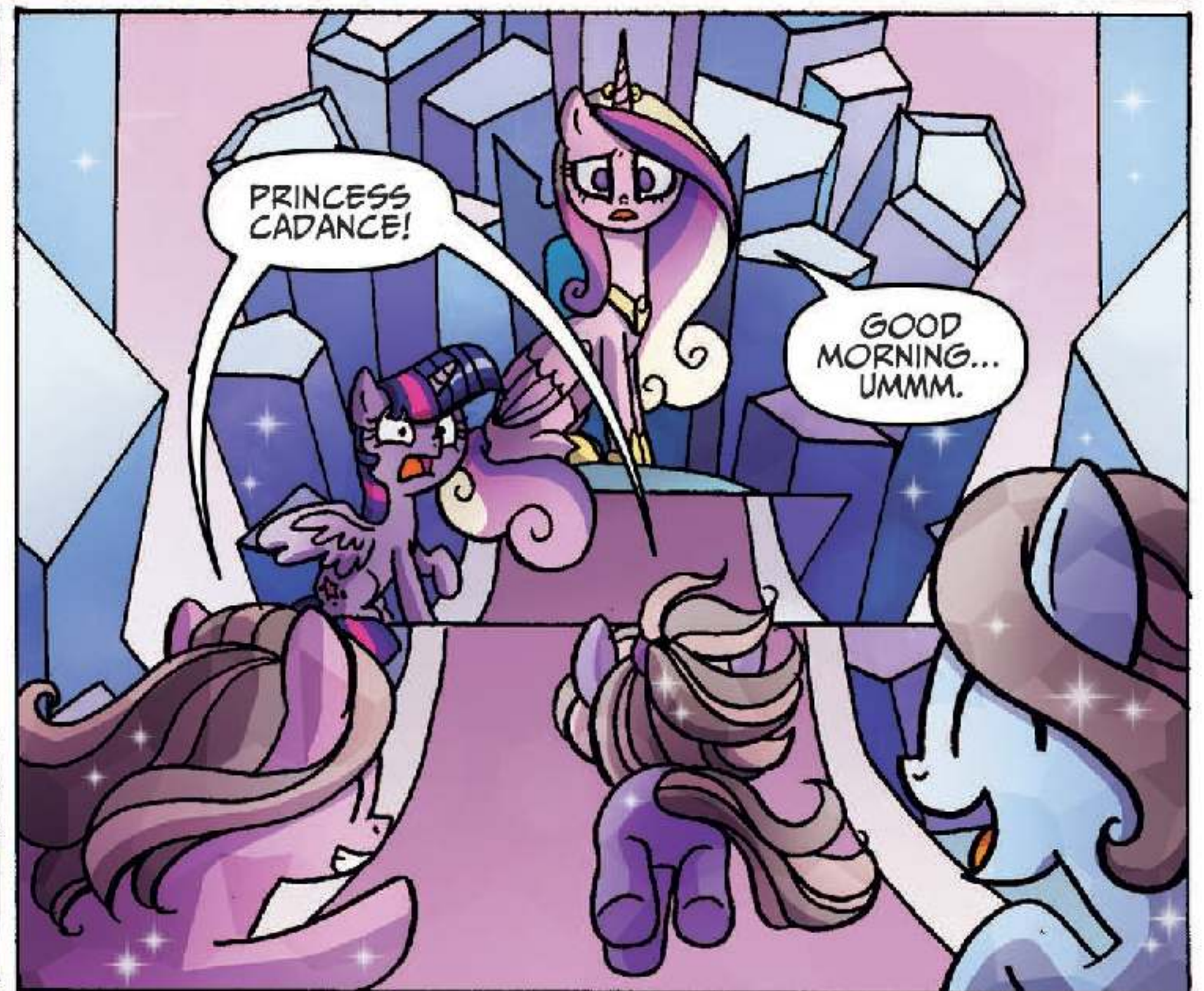
THAT MAY CERTAINLY BE A WAY TO DRUM UP SOME BUSINESS FOR BOTH OF US!



THANK YOU PRINCESS CA— I MEAN TWILIGHT SPARKLE.

YES, THANK YOU... PRINCESS TWILIGHT.







IT'S WORSE THAN WE THOUGHT.



NOW SHE'S TALKING ABOUT REJECTING THE FORMAL NAMING OF THIS COURT.

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO, TWILY?

I'M AFRAID SHE'S THINKING OF RENOUNCING THE THRONE!

I'VE NEVER SEEN HER ACT LIKE THIS BEFORE.



RUMOR HAS IT THAT SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED TO PRINCESS CADANCE. SHE'S NOT HERSELF.

INDEED! I SAW HER TODAY.

IT WAS AS IF ALL THE LOVE AND LIGHT HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM HER.



DOES THE CRYSTAL HEART LOOK LESS BRIGHT TO YOU?

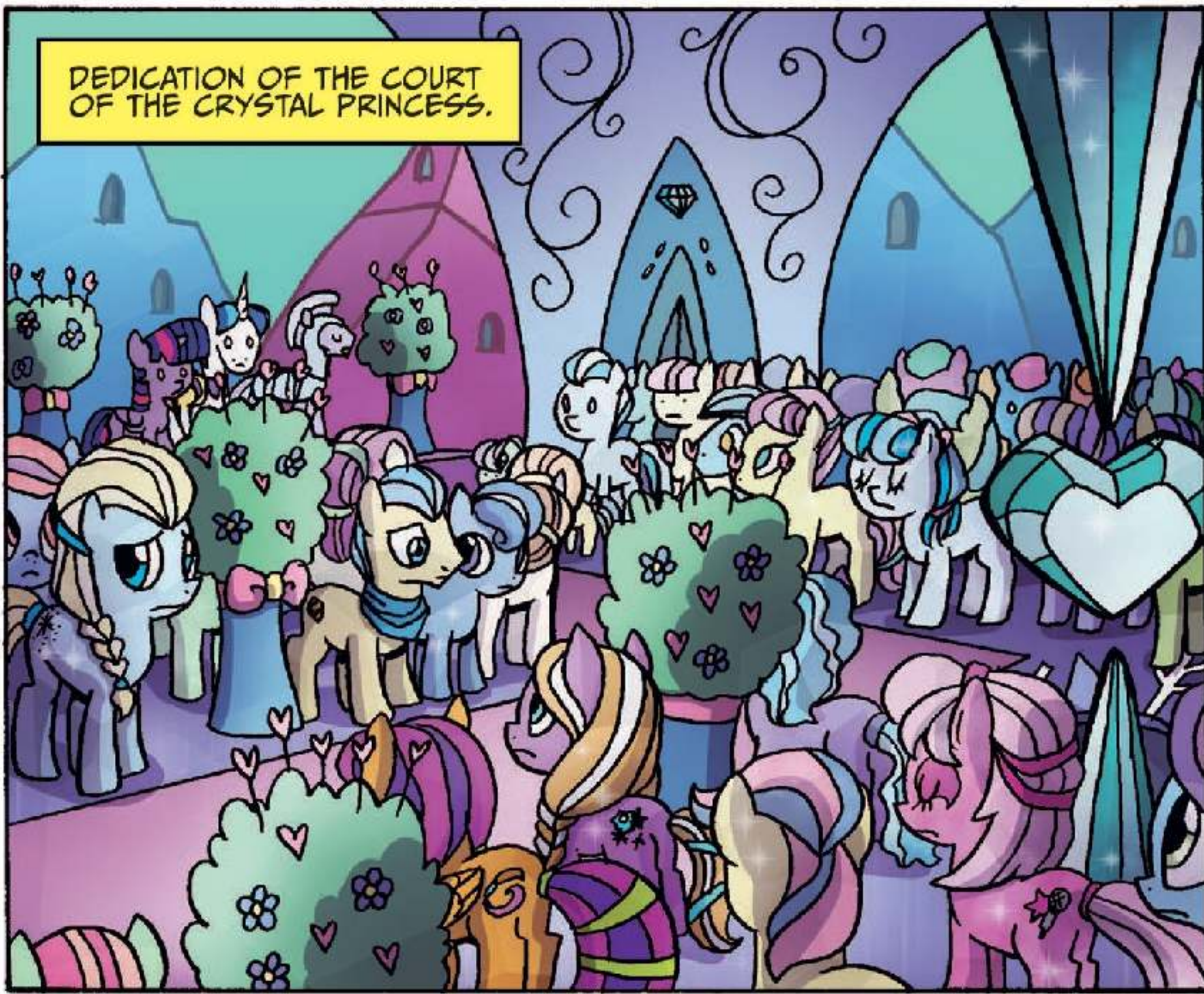
IT PROBABLY JUST LOOKS THAT WAY BECAUSE THE SUN IS GOING DOWN.



COME ON. LET'S HEAD BACK AND SEE IF WE CAN FIGURE SOMETHING OUT.

OTHERWISE THE DEDICATION TOMORROW IS GOING TO BE A DISASTER.

DEDICATION OF THE COURT OF THE CRYSTAL PRINCESS.



ANY LUCK LAST NIGHT?

NONE. SHE WOULD BARELY SPEAK TO ME.

ME NEITHER.



AND NOW, I PRESENT— THE CRYSTAL PRINCESS!



WHERE IS SHE?

I DON'T KNOW!

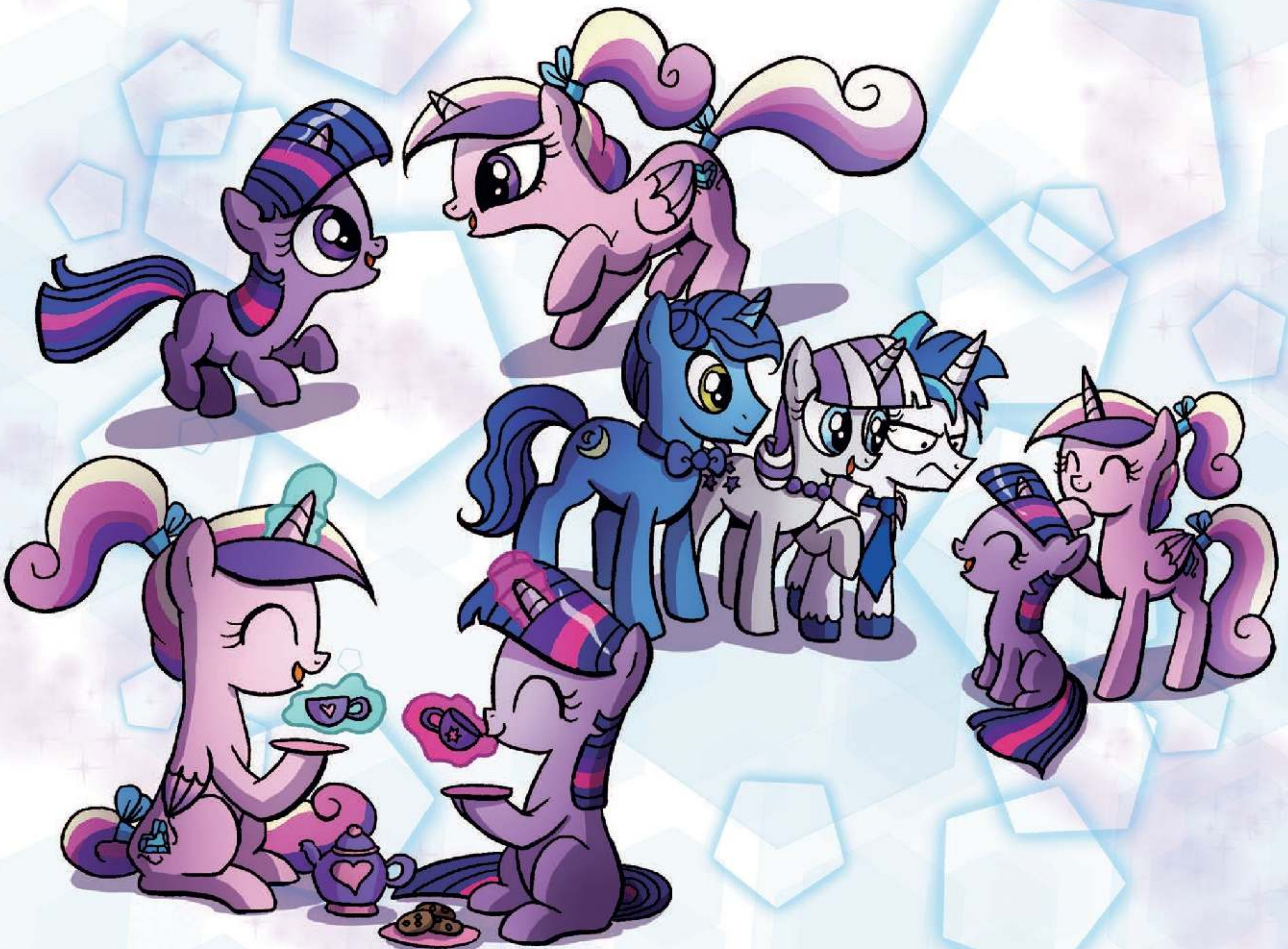
I REPEAT. THE CRYSTAL PRINCESS!

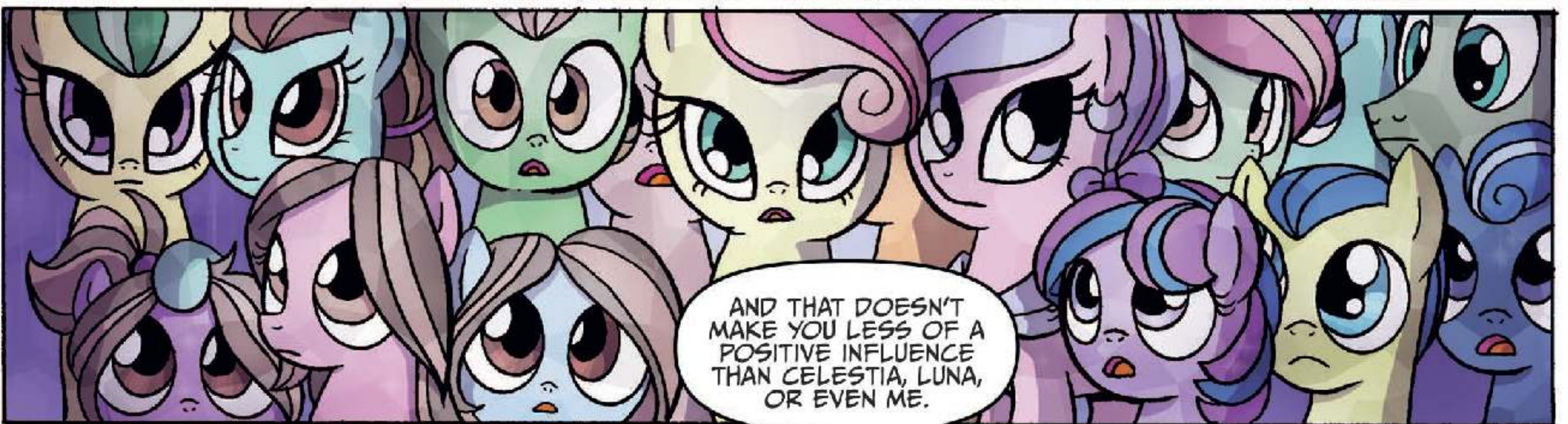


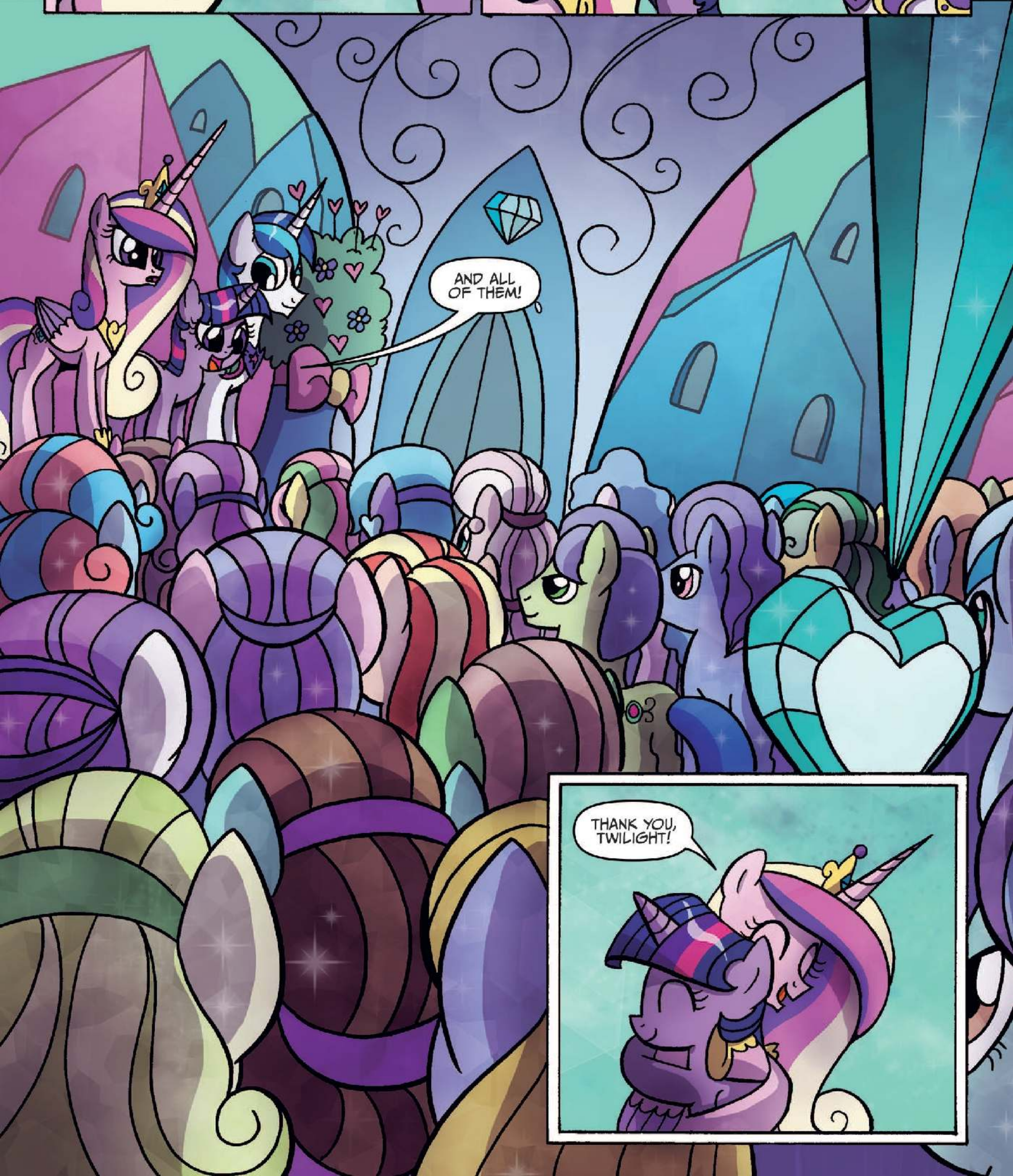
GASP!

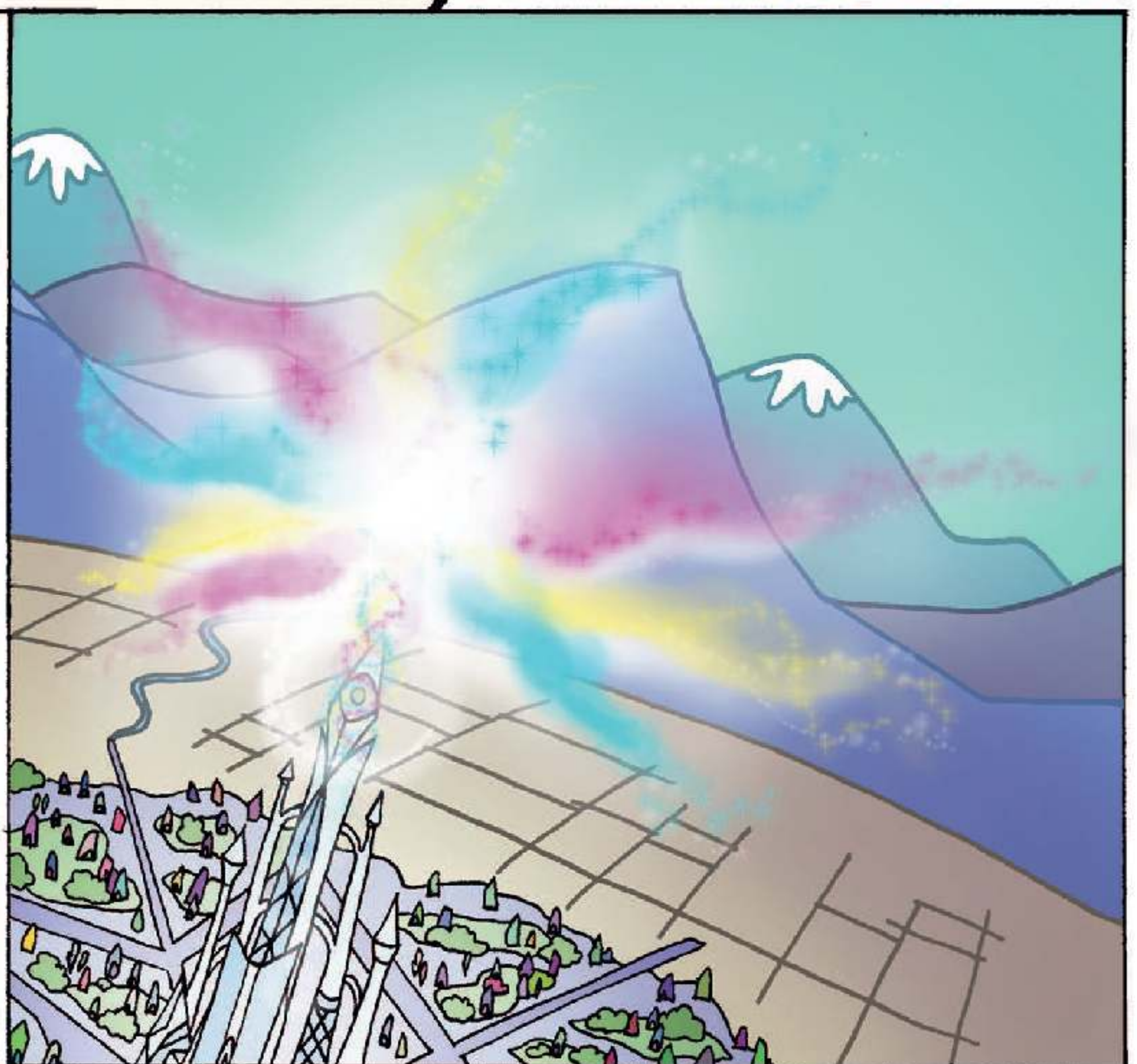
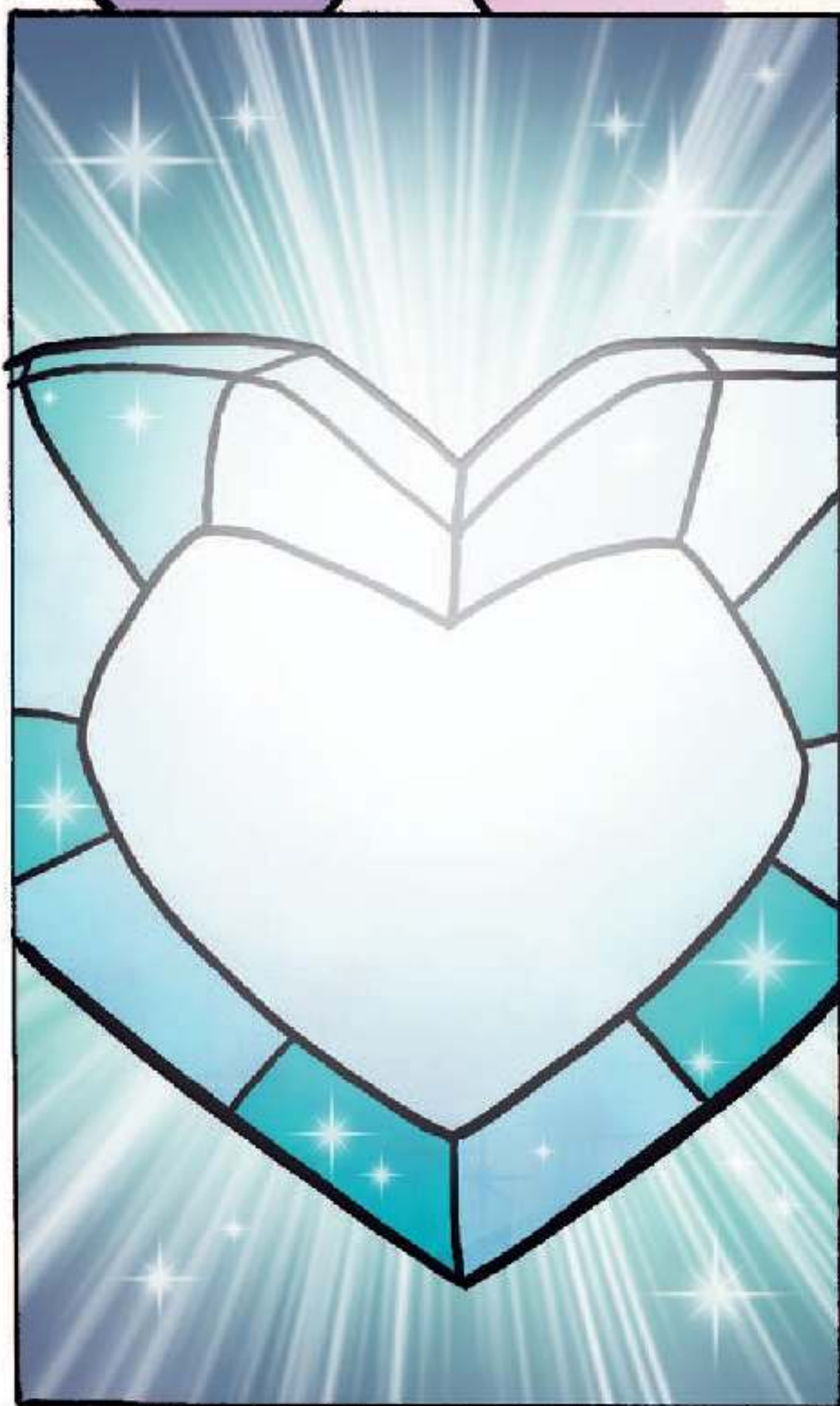
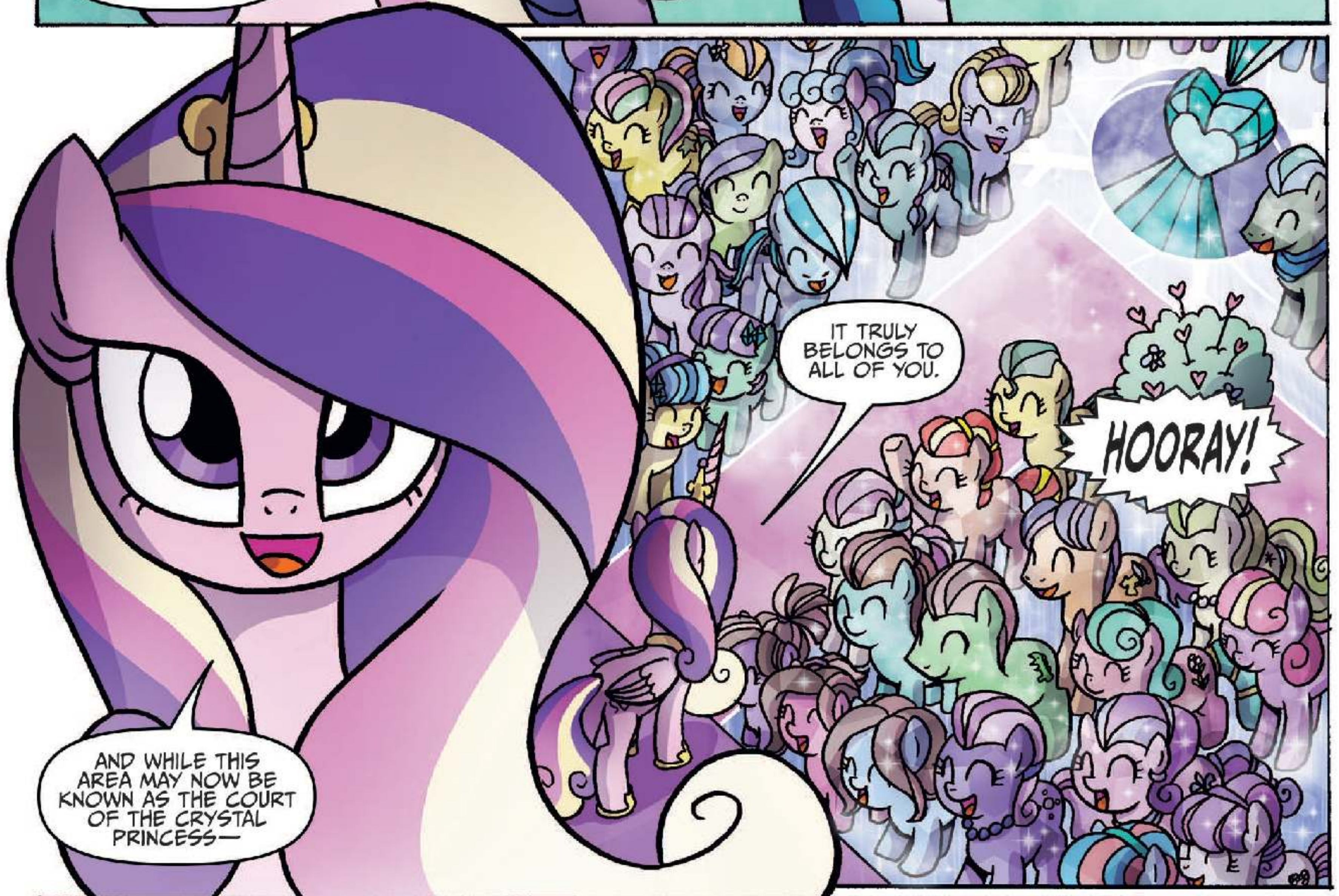














IT'S GOOD TO FEEL LIKE ME AGAIN, WITHOUT SO MUCH SELF-DOUBT AND SECOND GUESSING.

YES, IT DOES.

THOUGH I'M SURE EVERYPONY QUESTIONS THEIR OWN IDENTITY AND PURPOSE AT SOME POINT.



I'M JUST GLAD YOU WERE AROUND WHEN IT HAPPENED TO ME.



PLEASE GET UP, GIRLS! THAT'S NOT NECESSARY!



TWILIGHT, YOU GOT THEM TO CHANGE IT?

MAYBE...



AFTER ALL, THAT IS YOUR TRUE IDENTITY.

YES, IT IS!

THE END.

FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

Ted Adams here. I'm going to be your monthly guide through the IDW/Top Shelf checklist, pointing out our big hits and bringing your attention to some gems that you might otherwise miss.

Chris Ryall's dream has come true: IDW is publishing **Rom**. IDW and Hasbro have been working together on comics for more than a decade and I don't think a week's gone by when Chris hasn't been trying to find a way for us to publish *Rom*.

His dreams came true when we launched *Rom* as part of this year's Free Comic Book Day event and continue in July with the release of the first issue. Chris is joined on writing duties by **Christos Gage** and long-time IDW artist, **David Messina**, is handling the art. The heavy-hitters providing covers for the first issue include **J.H. Williams III**, **P. Craig Russell**, **Michael Golden**, **Sal Buscema**, **Zach Howard**, and **Tom Whalen**.

July is also **Rom cover month** at IDW and you'll find him featured on **Action Man #2**, **Back to the Future #10**, **G.I. Joe: A Real American Hero #230**, **Jem and the Holograms #17**, **Judge Dredd #8**, **Micronauts #4**, **My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic #44**, **My Little Pony: Friends Forever #30**, **Star Trek #59**, **Transformers #55**, **Transformers: More Than Meets the Eye #55**, and **Transformers: Till All Are One #2**.

The **Powerpuff Girls** are back in a big way at Cartoon Network with an all-new 40-episode series that premiered in April. We've got a new series, **Powerpuff Girls #1**, that takes place directly in the world of the new show with stories written by show writers **Jake Goldman** and **Haley Mancini** and drawn by **Derek Charm**. Ask your retailer about the extra-rare variant cover by **Jay Hasrajani**, one of the show's animators.

A hidden gem from IDW this month is **Angora Napkin: Cuddle Core Collected Edition**. A 320-page collection of **Troy Little's** cult-classic, Eisner-Nominated series that includes a DVD with the animated TV show that brings the characters to life.

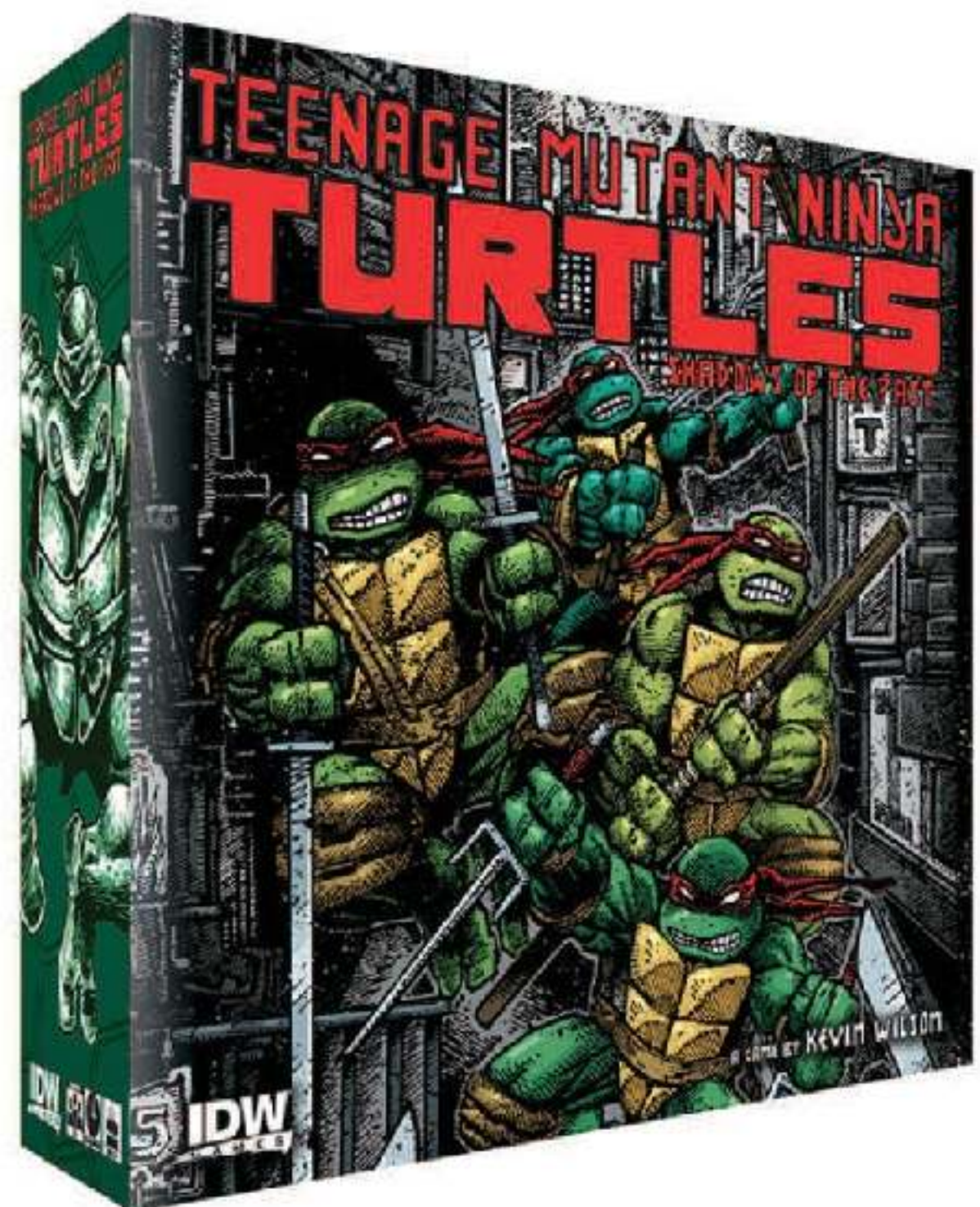
Mickey Mouse Shorts: Season One #1 is based on the Disney TV animation by **Paul Rudish**. In the first issue, Mickey battles his way through a Tokyo bullet train during rush hour, an unlikely character competes in a dog show, and Donald suffers from... Flipperboobootosis?! This one also has a rare variant

cover drawn by one of the shows animators, **Tara Billinger**.

EuroComics brings us one of my favorite titles, **Alack Sinner**, by **Carlos Sampayo** and **Jose Muñoz**. This is the first of two volumes that will collect, for the first-time in English, all of the *Alack Sinner* comics by this legendary Argentinian team. *Sinner* is a hard-boiled private detective whose adventures are played out to a jazz soundtrack in a noir New York from 1975 through the 2000s. This one gets my highest recommendation.

Another one of my favorites is **Bill Sienkiewicz's The New Mutants: Marvel Artist Select Series**. The title is a mouthful but this is the latest in the line of hardcover books we're doing with Marvel. Every copy is signed by Sienkiewicz, comes in a slipcover and is strictly limited to 999 copies. If you've read my other columns, you know that one of my sweet spots for comics is Marvel in the '70s and '80s and there's not much I like more than the issue collected here (**New Mutants #s 18 to 31**, as well as, a bonus story by **Chris Claremont** and **Sienkiewicz**).

While we're talking about Marvel, this month's Artist's Edition is **Marvel Covers: The Modern Era**. There are two covers to choose from—a Spidey cover by **Todd McFarlane** and a Wovie cover by **Sam Kieth**. Inside the book you'll find covers by Art Adams, J. Scott Campbell, Jim Lee, Sam Kieth, Todd McFarlane, John Romita, Jr., Joe Quesada, Marc Silvestri, and more.



IDW Games has **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Shadows of the Past**, designed by **Kevin Wilson**. This is a miniatures combat, scenario-driven campaign game that features story content from the IDW *TMNT* comic. Every game comes with more than 40 sculpted minis, 12 unique maps and over 100 cards featuring all-new art by **Tony Vargas**.

Wow, what a month. I can't wait for July to get here. See you in 30...