

IDW®

#3

ANDERSON
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#3
of the
5 Week
Event

my LITTLE PONY

Friendship
is Magic





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ONCE UPON A TIME...

IN THE LAND OF EQUESTRIA...



... THERE WERE
THREE SIRENS.

ARIA BLAZE

ADAGIO DAZZLE

SONATA DUSK



WELL,
SIRENS?

WHAT CITY
SHALL WE DRAIN
NEXT?

AH!
TROTtingham WAS
SO TASTY!

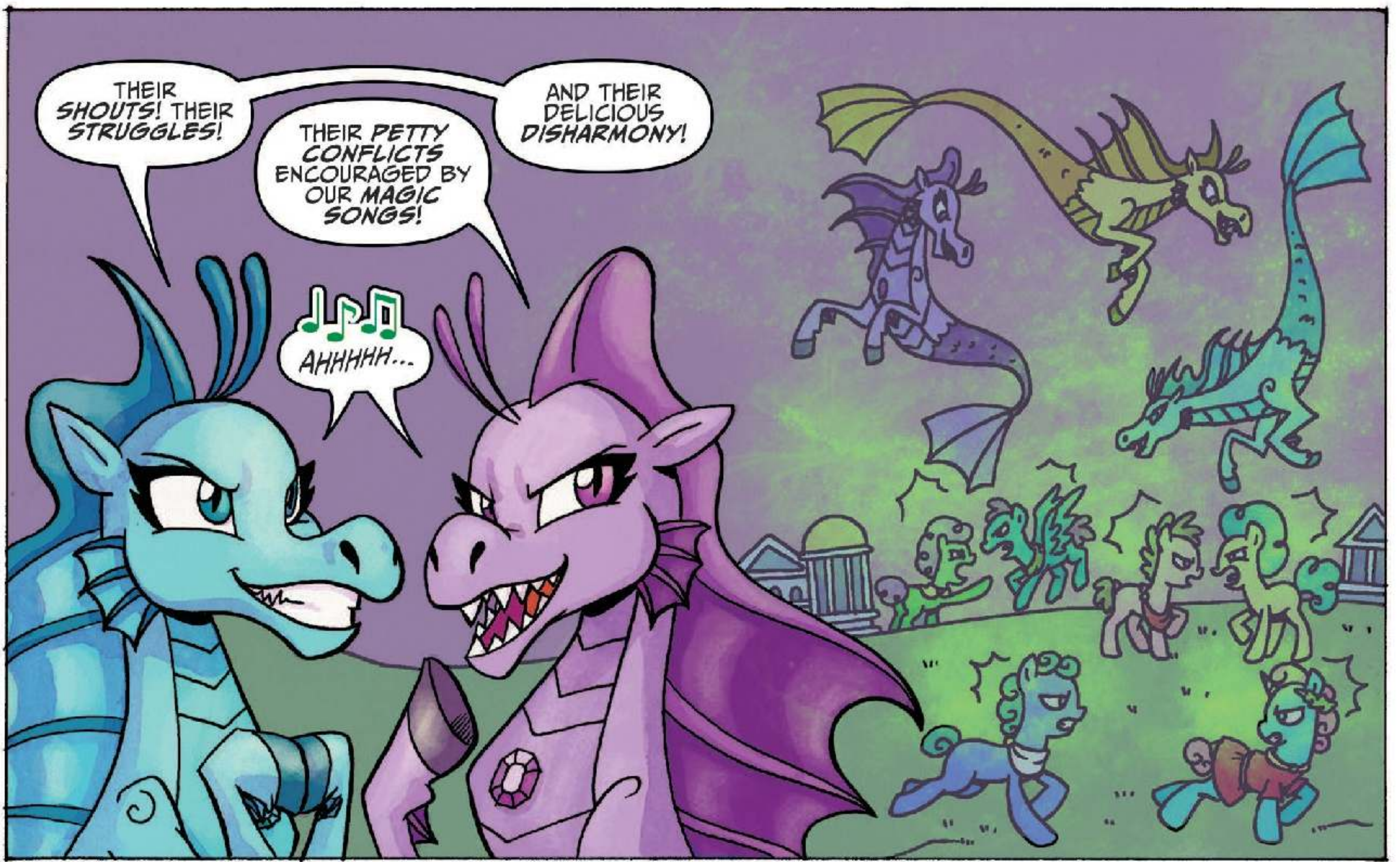
I DON'T THINK WE
COULD EVER TOP OUR
PERFORMANCE
THERE!

TROYINGHAM

CANTERLOT

ALEXANDRIA







CANTERLOT?

THE CITY WHERE STARS ARE MADE!

THE CITY WHERE LEGENDS ARE BORN!

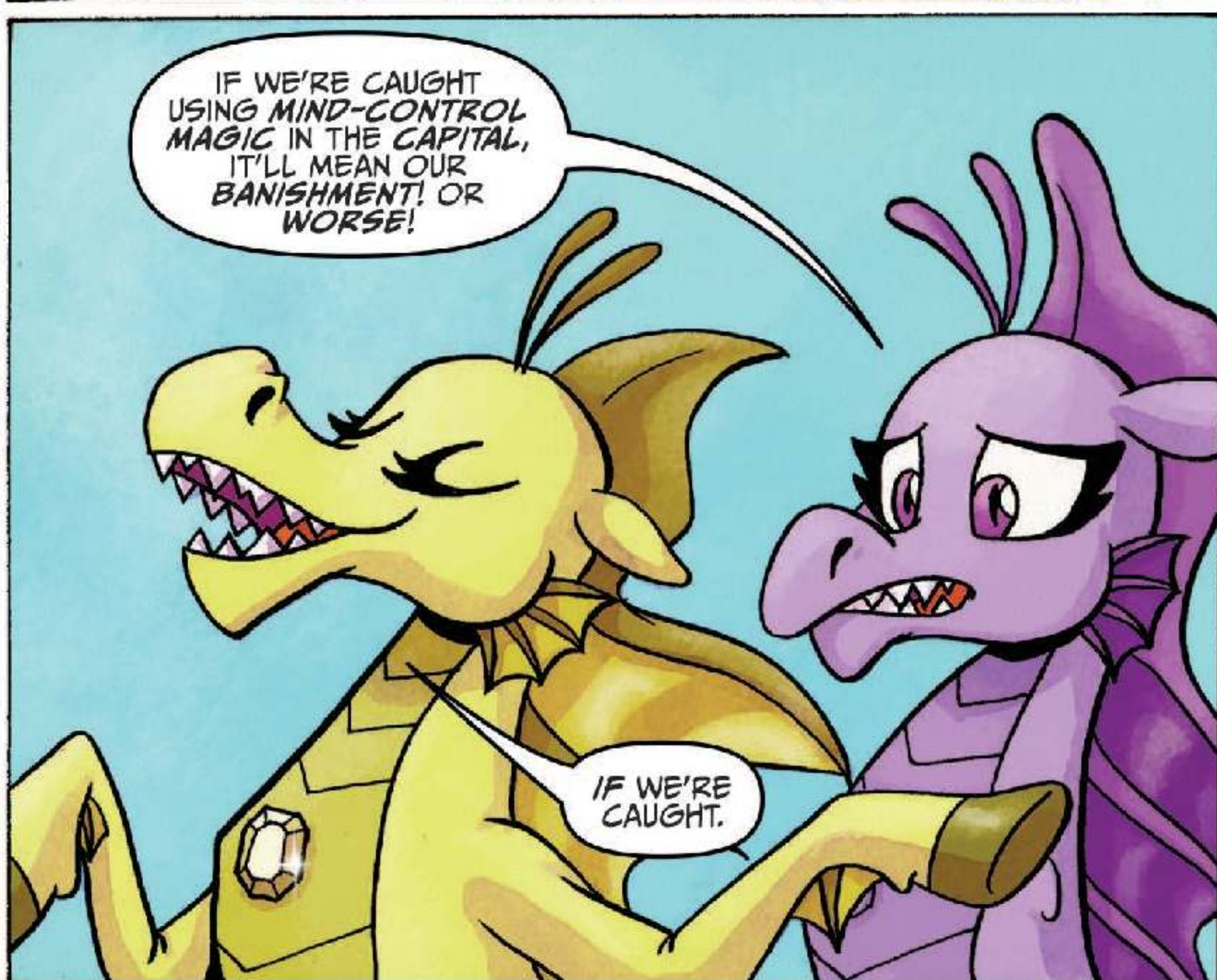
THE VERY HEART OF EQUESTRIA!



THE COLTOSSEUM!
THE GRAND BAZAAR!

...AND THE PRINCESSES,
AND THE ROYAL GUARD.

ADAGIO, ARE YOU SURE THIS IS WISE?



IF WE'RE CAUGHT USING MIND-CONTROL MAGIC IN THE CAPITAL, IT'LL MEAN OUR BANISHMENT! OR WORSE!

IF WE'RE CAUGHT.



OUR SONGS ARE TOO SUBTLE,
OUR MAGIC TOO MUSICAL!

NOPONY WILL SEE THROUGH OUR CUNNING SPELLS!



SOON, WE'LL HAVE ALL OF EQUESTRIA AT OUR COMMAND!

AND IT ALL BEGINS...





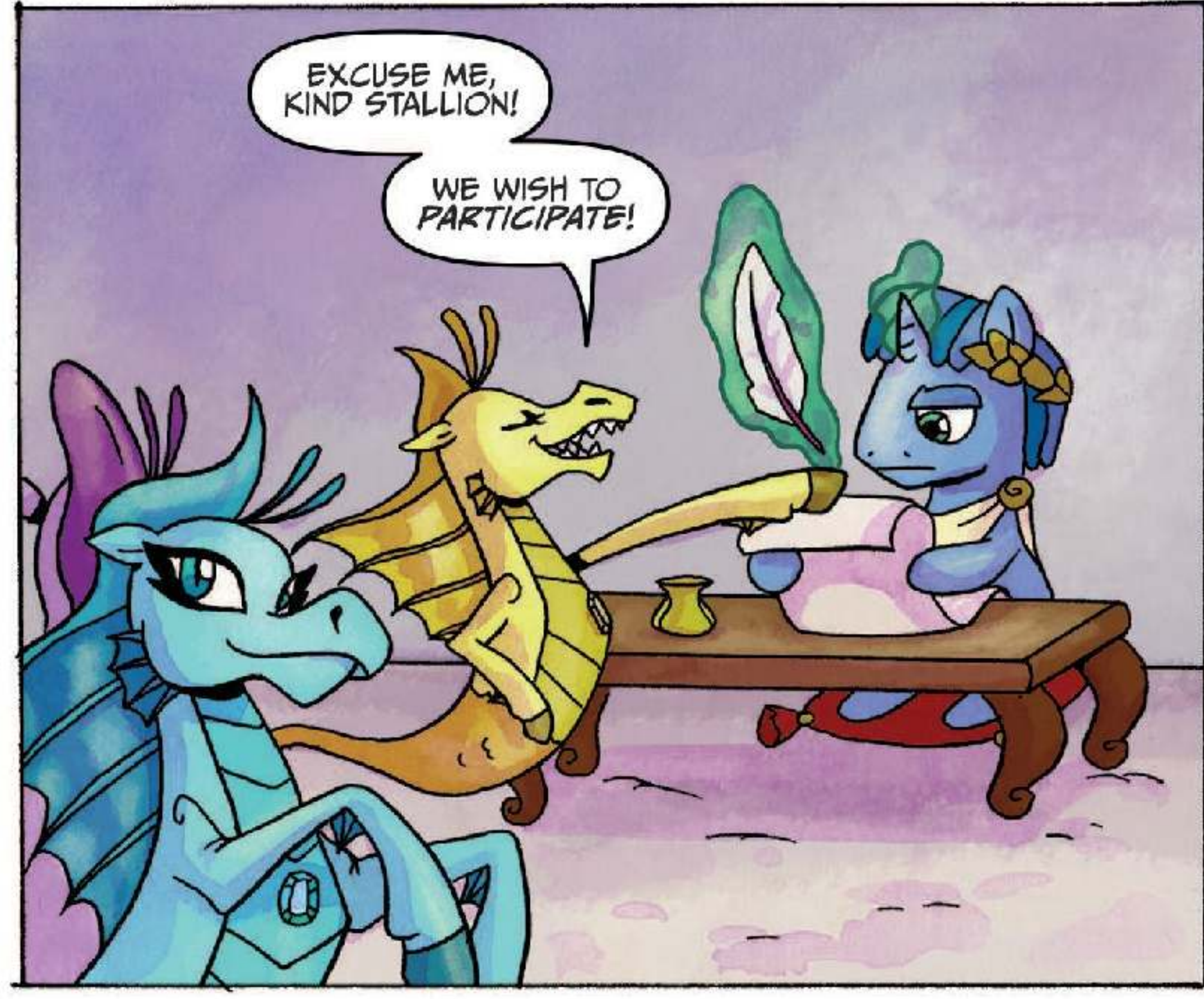


AND SO THE SIRENS WENT TO THE COLTOSSEUM...

...WHERE THE FINEST ARTISTS OF THE DAY PERFORMED THEIR WORKS!



HA! THESE PITIFUL FOALS HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THEY'RE IN FOR!



EXCUSE ME, KIND STALLION!

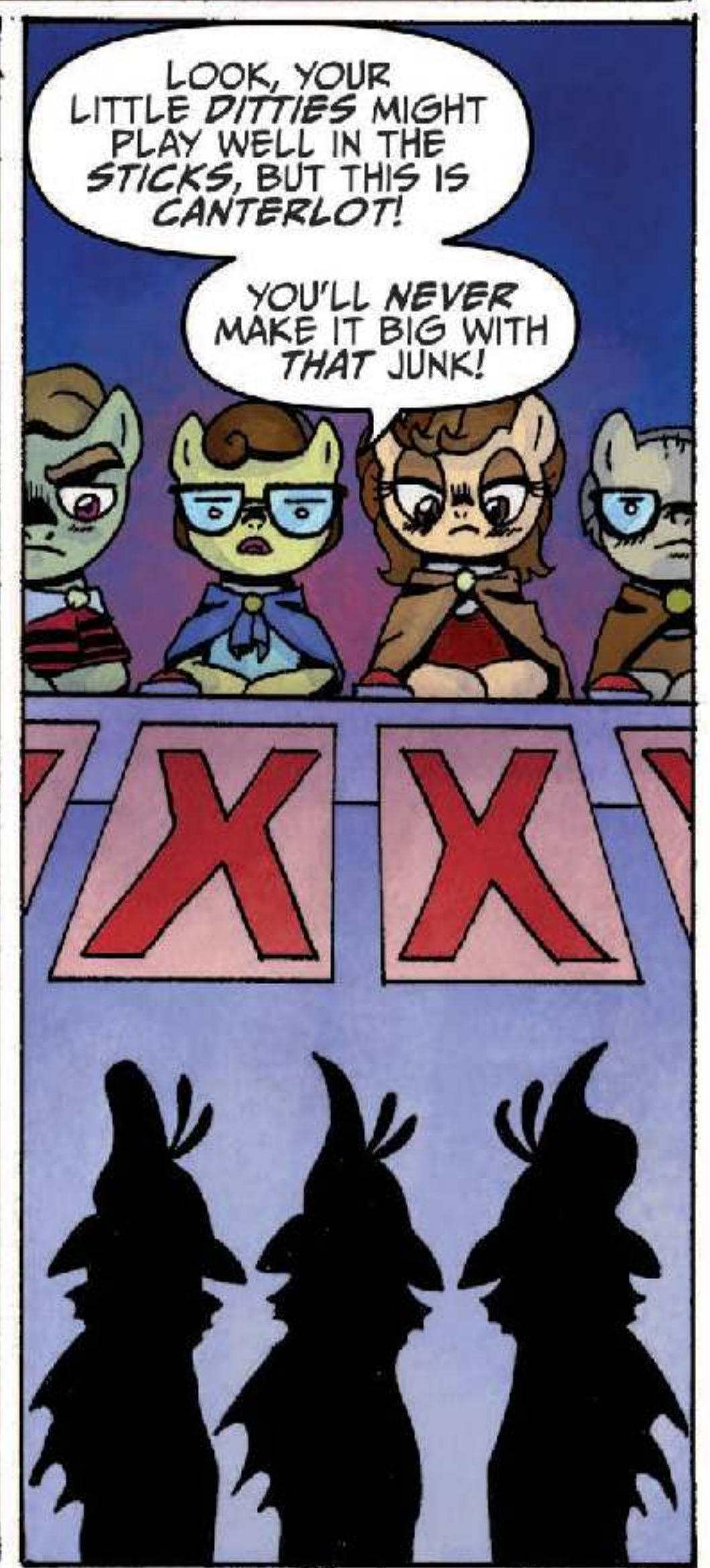
WE WISH TO PARTICIPATE!



NAME?

THE SIRENS.
(WITH TWO 'S'S.)









HOW DARE THOSE—THOSE *INSECTS* NOT RECOGNIZE OUR BRILLIANCE?!

THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN EATING OUT OF OUR HOOVES!



THEY KIND OF HAD A POINT, ADAGIO.

WE'VE BEEN USING THE SAME MUSIC FOR FOREVER.



YES! AND IT'S ALWAYS WORKED!

WHY CHANGE WHAT WORKS?



CANTERLOT IS MORE SOPHISTICATED THAN ANYWHERE ELSE WE'VE BEEN.

IF WE'RE GOING TO DOMINATE THIS CITY, WE MAY NEED TO MODERNIZE OUR REPERTOIRE!

CHWY CHWY



HUH?

WE NEED TO COME UP WITH NEW SONGS.

OH.



I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT...

BUT HOW?

CHWY CHWY



WE COULD TRY INSTRUMENTS? THOSE LYRES SEEM POPULAR...

NO, WE SHOULD STICK TO OUR STRENGTHS.



SO LET'S CHANGE OUR SINGING STYLE.

WHAT KIND OF SINGING IS "IN" RIGHT NOW?

CHANTING OR MOANING, I THINK...



WE COULD TRY RECITING POETRY.

EXCEPT NONE OF US CAN WRITE POETRY.

I DON'T KNOW AN ODE FROM AN ELEGY.



WE'LL NEVER GET POPULAR JUST COPYING WHAT'S IN STYLE!

WE NEED TO COME UP WITH SOME NEW STYLE OF MUSIC!

SOMETHING ORIGINAL! SOMETHING WITH PIZZAZZ!

SOMETHING WITH—



POOF



OUR NEW MUSIC SHALL BE
"POP"





TODAY'S FIRST COMPETITOR IS...

COMPETITORS



...OH, FOR CELESTIA'S SAKE! NOT YOU THREE AGAIN!

DIDN'T YOU GET ENOUGH YESTERDAY?

YAWN



OH, PLEASE LET US COMPETE AGAIN.

I THINK YOU'LL FIND...



...WE'VE IMPROVED OUR ACT.



FINE, FINE. GO AHEAD AND START WHEN YOU'RE—

POP!

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE POP!

POP!

IT'S WHAT WILL TAKE US TO THE TOP!

IT'S WHAT'S NEW, IT'S WHAT'S HOT, IT CAN'T BE STOPPED!

POP!

POP IS THE WORD!

IT CAN'T BE CAPTURED, ONLY HEARD!

IT'S WHAT MAKES THE WORLD TURN!

POP BURNS!

YOUR HOOVES CLOP!

CLOP!

IT'LL MAKE YOUR LEGS HOP!

HOP!

IT'S THE POP!



CLAP CLAP CLAP
CLAP



AMAZING!
ASTONISHING!

I'M GOING TO
HIRE THEM RIGHT
AWAY!

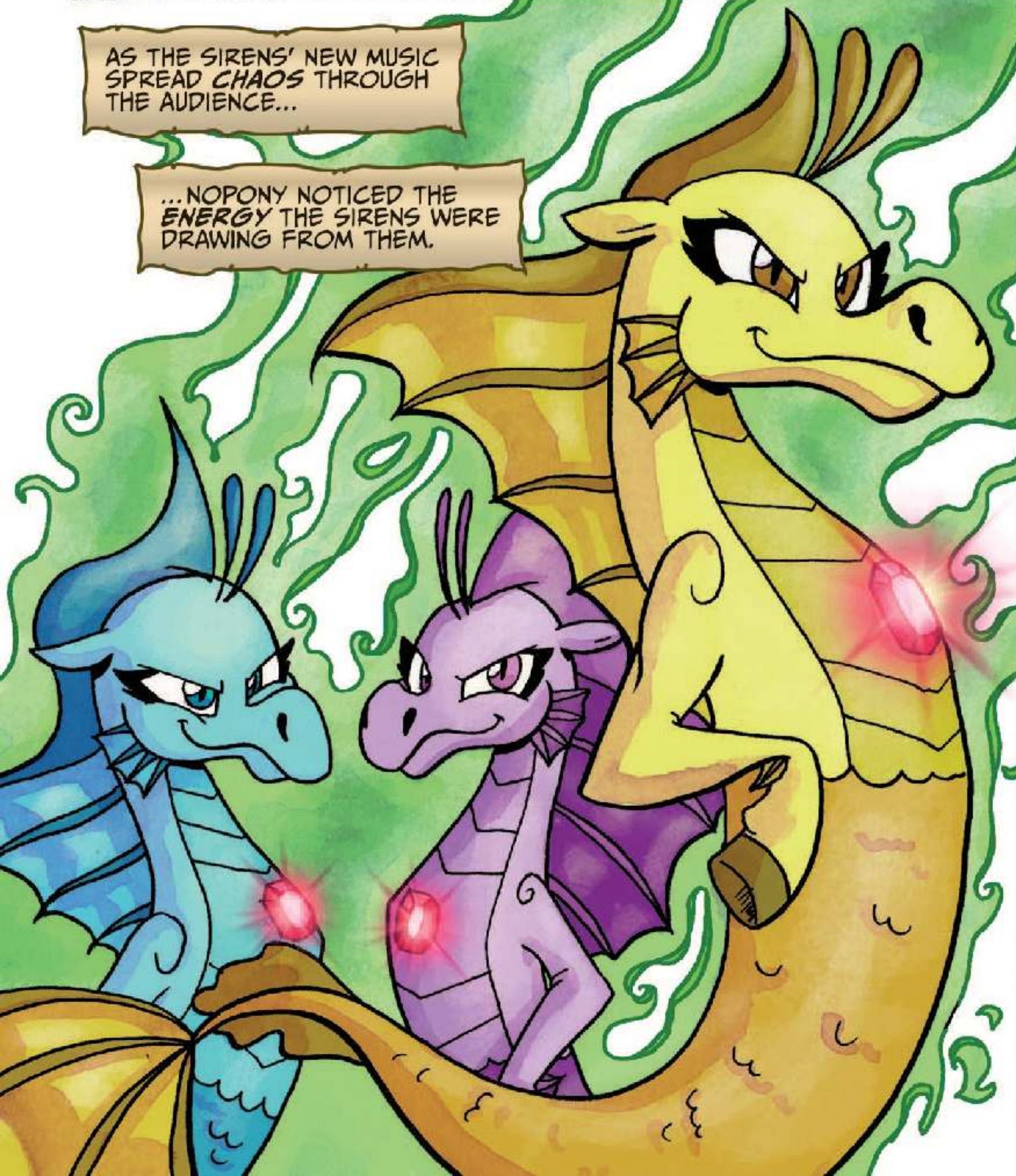
WHAT? NO,
I'M GOING
TO!

THOSE SIRENS
ARE PHENOMENAL!

NO, ME!

AS THE SIRENS' NEW MUSIC
SPREAD CHAOS THROUGH
THE AUDIENCE...

...NOPONY NOTICED THE
ENERGY THE SIRENS WERE
DRAWING FROM THEM.



NOPONY, THAT IS...

...EXCEPT STARSWIRL
THE BEARDED.

STARSWIRL COULD TELL THAT THE SIRENS WERE USING DANGEROUS MAGIC WITH THEIR NEW "POP MUSIC"...

... BUT HE DID NOT KNOW HOW TO STOP THEM.



THEIR MESMERIZING MUSIC COULD BE THE DOOM OF EQUESTRIA!

BUT HOW TO COUNTER IT?

ALL MY MAGIC WILL BE USELESS AGAINST THOSE TANTALIZING TUNES!



SO IF I CANNOT USE MAGIC...



... PERHAPS ANOTHER TOOL WILL BE MORE EFFECTIVE!



THAT EVENING...

TONIGHT FIRST SHOW! YES SIRENS IN CONCERT!



HELLO, CANTERLOT!



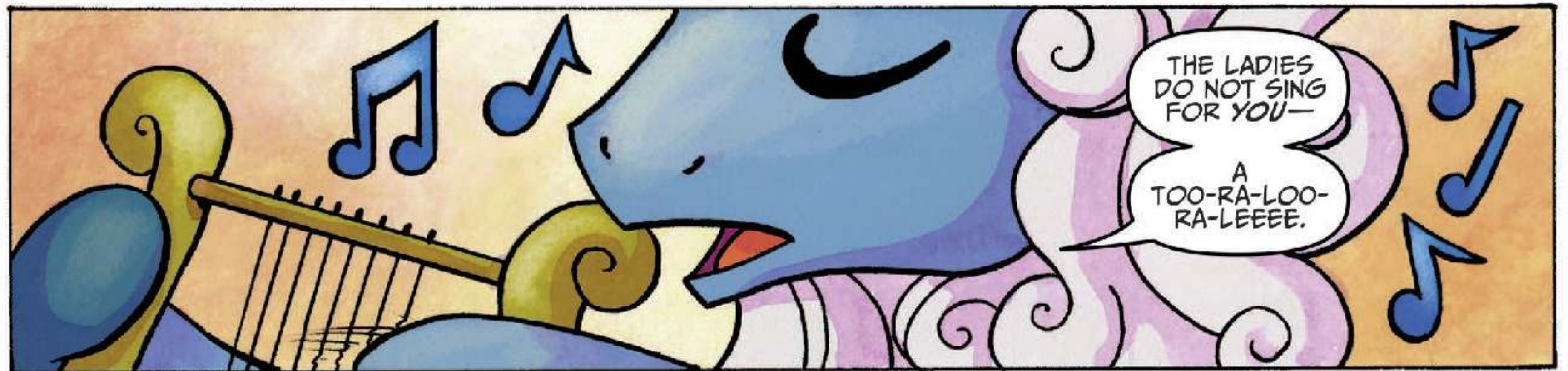
WE'RE SO THRILLED TO HAVE YOU ALL HERE FOR OUR FIRST PERFORMANCE AT THE—

OHHH...



OH THE LADIES FAIR, THEY ARE UNTRUE—

A TOO-RA-LOO-RA-LAYYY—



THE LADIES DO NOT SING FOR YOU—

A TOO-RA-LOO-RA-LEEE.



BOOOOO!

GET OFF THE STAGE!

WE WANT THE SIRENS!



CLEARLY STRONGER MEASURES ARE REQUIRED.

AND SO BEGAN...

...THE MUSIC WARS!

NIGHT AFTER NIGHT, STARSWIRL AND THE SIRENS COMPETED FOR PONIES' EARS.

THE COMPETITION WAS FIERCE!

THE PERFORMERS WERE UNRELENTING!



ENTIRELY NEW GROUPS WERE DEVELOPED!

HELLO, MY PONY FRIEND!

TELL ME THAT FRIENDSHIP WILL NEV-ER-END!

NO FEWER THAN TWENTY-THREE NEW MUSIC GENRES WERE INVENTED DURING THESE CONCERTS!

WELL, I'M STARSWIRL, THE ONE WITH THE BEARD, THE ONE THAT YOU FEARED/I'M FISHIN' FOR NEW HEARS AND IT'S YOUR EARS I'VE SPEARED/I GOT MORE MAGIC IN ME THAN CELESTIA'S SUN/AND NOW THE REST OF YOU'S DONE/BECAUSE THE BEST OF YOU'S WON.

OH, I'M AN OLD COWPONY, I LIVE ON THE RANGE, THE SHOES ON MY HOOVES ARE ALL THAT I OWN...

THEIR SONGS WERE LEGENDARY, THEIR CREATIONS DIVINE!

HEAT!

BUT YOU CAN'T HANDLE IT, NO—YOU CAN'T ENDURE THE HEAT—

BEAT!

YOU SAY YOU WANT THE MUSIC—YOU SAY YOU WANT THE BEAT—

ENTIRELY NEW INSTRUMENTS WERE DESIGNED!

BUT IN THE END...

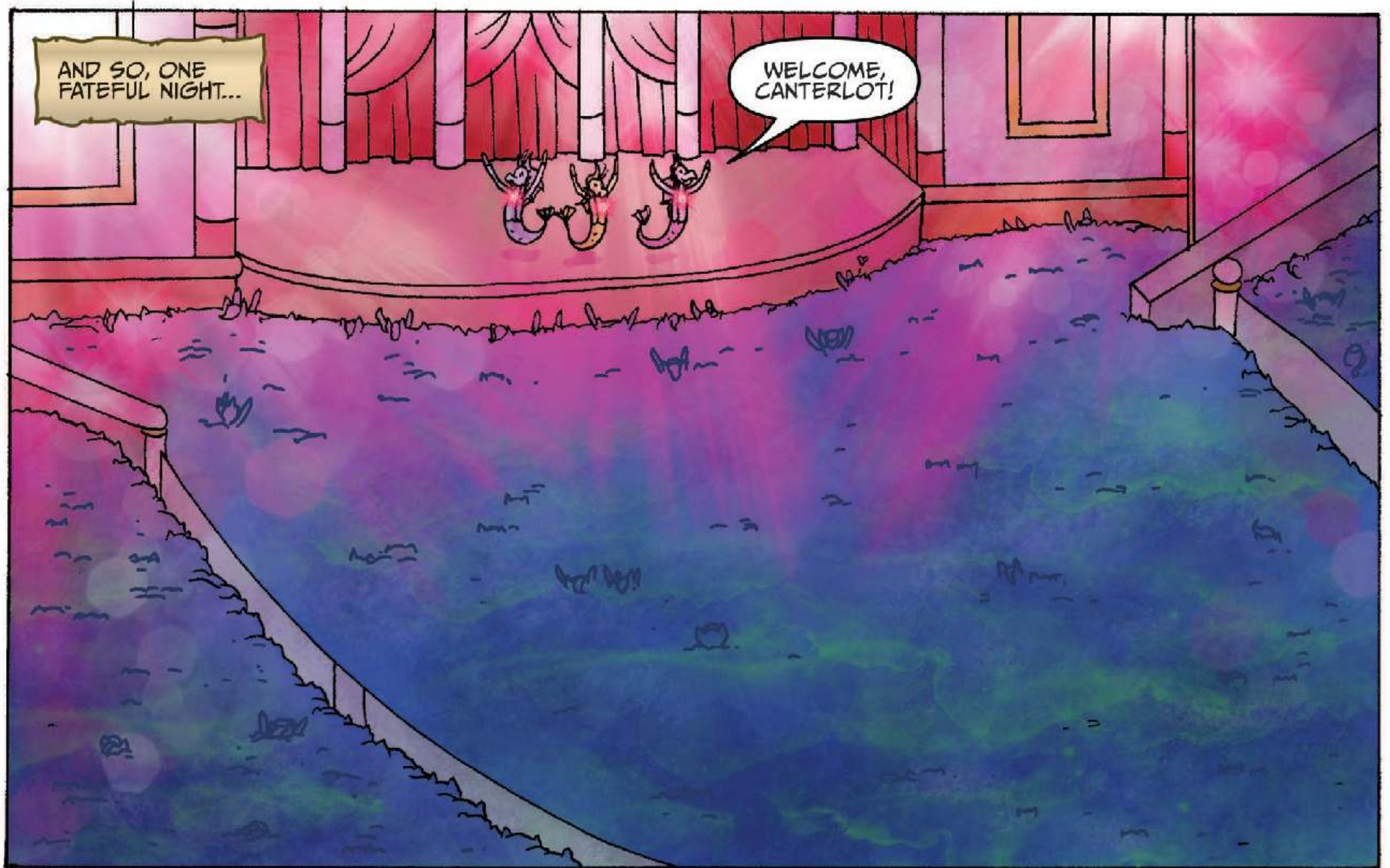
THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

THOSE WHO WITNESSED THESE CLASHING CONCERTS WOULD NEVER FORGET THE EXPERIENCE.

HOLD ME.

... STARSWIRL WAS BETTER AT MAGIC THAN HE WAS AT MUSIC.

HE HAD JUST ONE, LAST, DESPERATE OPTION REMAINING.



AND SO, ONE FATEFUL NIGHT...

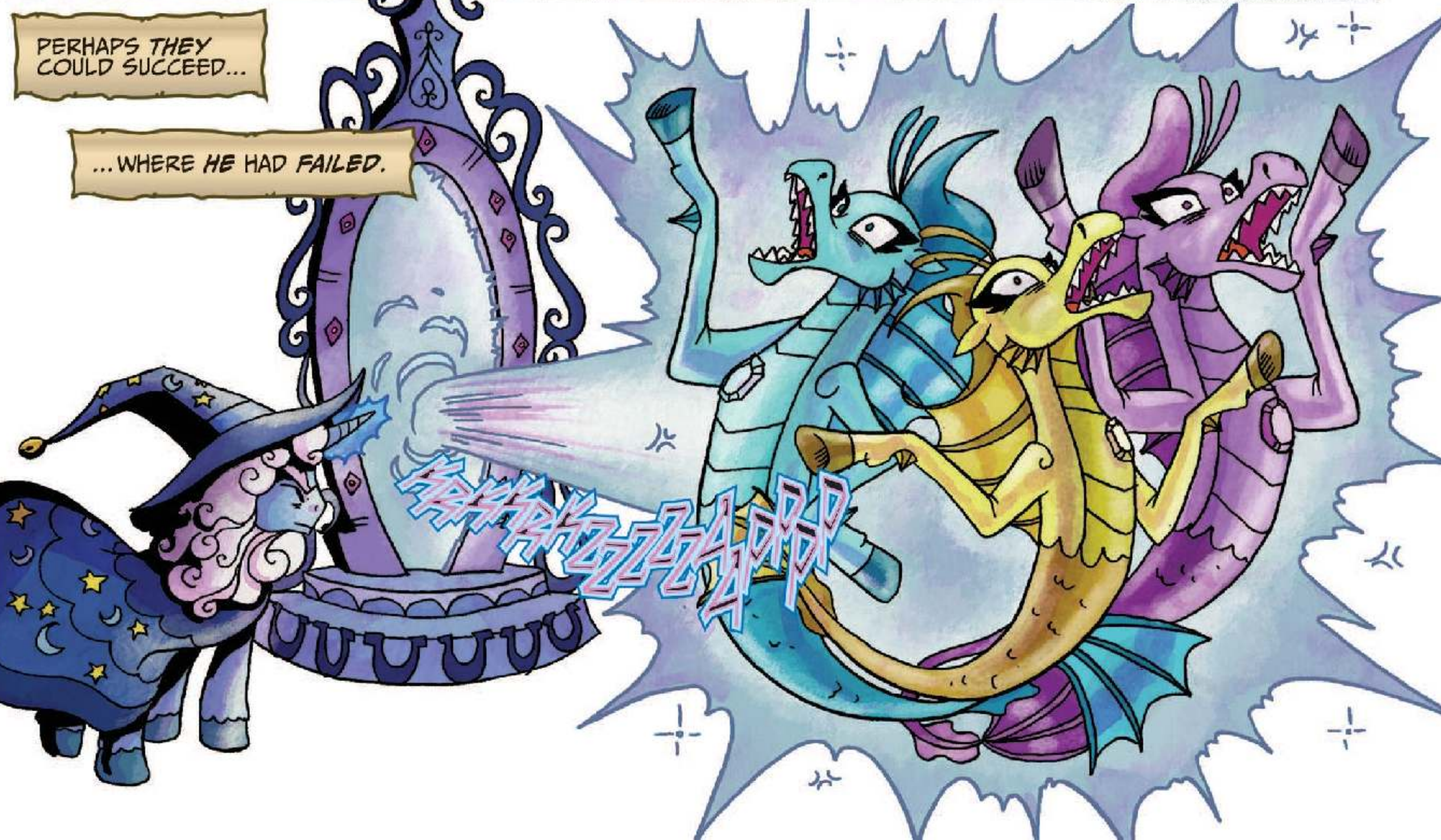
WELCOME, CANTERLOT!



... STARSWIRL PREPARED THE MAGIC MIRROR THAT COULD TRANSPORT PONIES TO OTHER DIMENSIONS.



EVEN THOUGH HE COULD NOT STOP THE SIRENS, PERHAPS ANOTHER WORLD COULD.



PERHAPS THEY COULD SUCCEED...

... WHERE HE HAD FAILED.

BECAUSE THE SIRENS' POWERS REQUIRED MAGIC...

STARSWIRL HOPED THAT SENDING THEM TO A WORLD WITHOUT MAGIC WOULD BE ENOUGH.

BUT IN TRUTH, STARSWIRL HAD FAILED.

HE LACKED SOME QUALITY, SOME KIND OF MAGIC, THAT COULD HAVE REDEEMED THE SIRENS.

INDEED, MAYBE THEY COULD HAVE USED THEIR MUSIC FOR GOOD INSTEAD OF EVIL.

BUT IT WAS NOT TO BE.

Indeed, maybe they could have used
for good instead of evil
But it was not to be
It was, perhaps, his greatest failure ever.

EPILOGUE:

OOF!

OW!

WHUMP

WHERE—
WHERE ARE
WE?

WHAT
HAPPENED TO
MY HOOVES?!

CURSE THAT
OLD FOOL!
HE'S TRAPPED
US IN ANOTHER
WORLD!

I—I CAN'T
FEEL ANY
MAGIC!

THIS IS
A WORLD
WITHOUT
MAGIC!

NOT
ENTIRELY
WITHOUT...

THERE'S STILL
A WHISPER OF
MAGIC LEFT IN OUR
PENDANTS!

ENOUGH FOR
US TO KEEP
SINGING!

ENOUGH TO
GATHER THE ENERGY
OF CHAOS...

...AND
MAYBE, ONE
DAY...

... TO
GO BACK
HOME.

THE END