

20 YEARS OF IDW
ISSUE 5
COVER A

my LITTLE PONY

Nightmare Knights



WHITLEY • FLEECES • BRECKEL

AMF
18



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my LITTLE PONY

Nightmare Knights



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YOU KNOW, ERIS, WE MAY LOOK PRETTY DIFFERENT ON THE OUTSIDE, BUT YOU AND I ARE ACTUALLY VERY SIMILAR.



REALLY? THE QUEEN OF CHANCE AND A STREET CAT ARE VERY SIMILAR? HOW'S THAT?



THESE PONIES, THEY'VE NEVER REALLY HAD IT BAD. I LIVED UNDER THE STORM KING. HE DESTROYED MY TOWN. I LOST MY FAMILY. FRIENDSHIP ISN'T GOING TO FIX THAT.



I STAYED ALIVE AND HEALTHY BECAUSE I LIVED BY MY WITS. I ROLLED WITH THE PUNCHES.

WHEN THINGS GOT TOUGH, I KNEW HOW TO CREATE A LITTLE CHAOS.



BUT THE STORM KING, HE HAD AN IRON FIST LIKE YOUR PONY OF SHADOWS. HE DIDN'T APPRECIATE THE FINER POINTS OF CHAOS.

THE MORE HE SQUEEZED, THE FASTER IT ALL SLIPPED THROUGH HIS FINGERS. HECK, IF HE HAD TREATED OL' TEMPEST BETTER, HE MIGHT NOT BE GRAVEL NOW.



JUST LIKE ME, YOU BIDED YOUR TIME. YOU KEPT YOUR CARDS CLOSE TO YOUR CHEST.

AND WHEN YOU GOT YOUR CHANCE, NOT ONLY DID YOU SEIZE IT...

CLAP!



...YOU CREATED A WHOLE CASTLE FULL OF MISDIRECTION.



A VERY NICE TRICK. HOW DID YOU DO IT?

COME ON NOW, YOU KNOW A CAT CAN'T TELL HIS SECRETS.



VERY WELL, KEEP THEM.

YOU'RE SURE YOUR FRIENDS WILL BE COMING HERE? I'D HAVE THOUGHT THEY WOULD'VE ARRIVED BY NOW.



YOU CLEARLY DON'T KNOW LUNA VERY WELL. I'M SURE SHE FOUND OL' STYGIAN WHERE YOU LEFT HIM AND IS WRACKING HER LITTLE BRAIN ABOUT HOW TO SAVE HIM.

THE GUILTY ALWAYS ARE THE MOST HOPELESS WHEN IT COMES TO SAVING OTHERS.



WOULDN'T YOU AGREE, CAPPER?

HMMM... WELL...



YEAH, I RECKON I WOULD.



CELESTIA?

NO.



THIS WAS OUR ISSUE BEFORE. I DO NOT KNOW THIS NAME. MY NAME IS, AND AS FAR BACK AS I CAN REMEMBER HAS ALWAYS BEEN, DAYBREAKER.

OH.

BUT... I DID HAVE A SISTER... ONCE.



HER NAME WAS NIGHTMARE MOON.

SHE WAS THE FIERCEST AND MOST LOYAL OF SISTERS, AND I AM AFRAID I FAILED HER WHEN IT MATTERED MOST.

DOES THAT NAME "NIGHTMARE MOON" MEAN ANYTHING TO YOU?



DID SHE LOOK ANYTHING LIKE THIS?

STYGIAN, I WOULD DO IT MYSELF, BUT I'M STILL LOW ON MAGIC.

YOU REMEMBER THE ARMOR THOUGH, DON'T YOU?

COMING RIGHT UP.



YOU LOOK JUST LIKE HER.

TOLD YOU.



I WAS HER... ONCE.

THEN MY SISTER, CELESTIA, RECRUITED A GROUP OF YOUNG PONIES TO HELP SAVE ME FROM THE DARKNESS.



WE WON'T HAVE MUCH TIME. SHE HAS EYES EVERYWHERE. IF SHE SEES US TALKING...

I HAVE TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE.

DAYBREAKER...



I'M SORRY TO ASK YOU THIS—I KNOW IT MIGHT END UP CAUSING YOU PAIN. HOWEVER, BEFORE WE LEAVE, WE NEED TO RETRIEVE SOMETHING FROM ERIS' SUITE.

THAT'S WHERE ERIS IS! AND NOW THAT SHE HAS YOUR... OH...

SHE HAS YOUR POWERS. THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT BACK.



I CAN'T LET THOSE POWERS FALL INTO THE HANDS OF ANY OF THESE VILLAINS.

SHE WANTS ME TO TAKE YOU THERE. GETTING YOU THERE SHOULD BE EASY, BUT AFTER THAT...

LEAVE THAT TO US.



FINALLY. IT LOOKS LIKE DAYBREAKER HAS THIS LITTLE SOIREE MOVING ALONG—

—SOON I'LL CRUSH THESE PONIES UNDER MY TALONS, AND YOU AND I CAN GET TO DOING SOME PROPER MISCHIEF.



KITTEN, I'M BORED. DO ANOTHER TRICK FOR ME?

ANOTHER ONE?

UNLESS YOU WANT TO GO BACK TO HAVING ETERNAL NIGHTMARES, YES.



OKAY, YEAH, SURE. ANOTHER TRICK... ANOTHER TRICK.

QUICKLY! I NEED TO PREPARE FOR DECIMATING A PRINCESS AND HER—

WHO AM I KIDDING? I'M JUST GOING TO HAVE LUNA'S SISTER BARBEQUE THEM AND CALL IT A DAY.



AW, RATS. I HAD THE BEST CARD TRICK.

THUMP



I HATE CARD TRICKS! I RUN A CASINO!

DO THE OTHER ONE AGAIN! I WANT TO FIGURE OUT HOW IT WORKS.



OKAY, YEAH, NO PROBLEM, PRINCESS.

HERE'S THE POKER CHIP. SEE IT?

YES, NOW DO THE TRICK!



WATCH CLOSELY AS I MAKE SOMETHING DISAPPEAR RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES.







I HAVE CAPTURED THE LAST OF THE INVADERS.



THERE IS SOMETHING TO THIS CATS AND LUCK THING. PERHAPS YOU'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO REDEEM YOURSELF YET.

YES, PRINCESS.



PRINCESS LUNA, YOU HAVE BEEN AN INTERESTING CONUNDRUM FOR ME.

I'VE STOLEN PLENTY OF THINGS FROM POWERFUL PONIES BEFORE, EVEN AUCTIONED THEM OFF...



BUT NEVER HAVE I MET A PONY FOOL ENOUGH TO COME HERE, TO MY REALM, TO STEAL THEM BACK.

IT'S ALMOST ENOUGH TO MAKE ME LIKE YOU.




ALMOST...



BUT, OF COURSE, I CAN'T HAVE EVERY TWO-BIT PRINCESS FROM EVERY WORLD SHOWING UP HERE AND DEMANDING I RETURN THEIR MAGIC OR THEIR STAFF OR THEIR PET POODLE.


SO, I'M FACED WITH A DILEMMA OF HOW BEST TO MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF YOU.

OH, COME ON!



LISTEN, TAKE IT FROM SOMEBODY WHO USED TO BE A VILLAIN, MONOLOGUING JUST WASTES EVERYONE'S TIME.

IF YOU'RE GOING TO DO SOMETHING NEFARIOUS, LET'S SKIP TO THAT.



YOU KNOW WHAT, THE SURLY PURPLE ONE IS RIGHT.

DAYBREAKER, BURN THEM ALL.



NO.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "NO"?

THE PONY OF SHADOWS ALREADY FORCED ME TO BETRAY MY SISTER ONCE. I WON'T DO IT AGAIN FOR YOU.



OH, THIS, GOOEY SENTIMENTALITY. I WAS PRETTY SURE YOU HADN'T RECOGNIZED HER. SHE'S NOT THE SAME PONY SHE ONCE WAS.

DAYBREAKER, COME ON, YOU'RE A WEAPON. YOU'RE MEANT TO DESTROY WEAK PONIES LIKE THIS. NOT TO GET ALL SAPPY.



ALL OF THAT IS DONE. I'M DONE WORKING FOR YOU. I'M MY OWN PONY FROM NOW ON.

A PRETTY SENTIMENT.



I WONDER HOW LONG I'LL NEED TO SHOCK YOU FOR YOU TO REALIZE HOW WRONG YOU ARE.



CLICK



PATHETIC.



COME ON, YOU WRETCHED CONTRAPTION! WHY WON'T YOU WORK!



YOU KNOW, FOR A CREATURE SO PRACTICED IN DECEPTION...



YOU'RE QUITE BAD AT RECOGNIZING IT.

MY COLLAR!
HOW?!

"WELL, I KNEW THAT IF THE COLLAR
GOT HOT ENOUGH THE METAL WOULD
MELT, BUT YOUR SPELLS KEPT ME
FROM USING MY OWN MAGIC ON IT.

"SO I NEEDED A PONY WITH EXTREMELY
STRONG OFFENSIVE MAGIC WHO COULD
MELT IT FOR ME.

"I HADN'T INTENDED TO
DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

"BUT THEN WHEN I INTERROGATED
TEMPEST, SHE TOLD ME THAT IN
HER WORLD I WAS A PRINCESS
AND LUNA WAS MY SISTER.

"EVEN THEN, I KNEW YOU WOULD
SEE MY EVERY MOVE WHEN I
LEFT THE SECURITY ROOM, SO
I COULDN'T THINK OF A WAY TO
GET THE COLLAR OFF AND GET
TO YOU WITHOUT YOU NOTICING.

"UNTIL YOU
DROPPED A
POWERFUL
ILLUSIONIST
RIGHT—"

"AHEM."

THAT'S "GREAT
AND POWERFUL,"
NOT JUST
"POWERFUL."

IT'S ABOUT
BRANDING. YOU
SEE, "THE GREAT
AND POWERFUL
TRIXIE" JUST HAS
A CERTAIN...

YOU KNOW
WHAT? I'M GONNA
LET YOU FINISH
YOUR SPEECH.
YOU'RE DOING
GREAT.

SO I HAD THE
ILLUSIONIST MAKE ME
A FAKE COLLAR, JUST
SO I COULD GET
CLOSE ENOUGH
TO DO—



SHE'S TOO STRONG!

THIS MUST BE SO DISAPPOINTING FOR YOU.

ALL OF THESE YEARS OF PLOTTING YOUR TREACHERY, ONLY TO FALL SHORT BECAUSE OF YOUR OWN WEAKNESS.

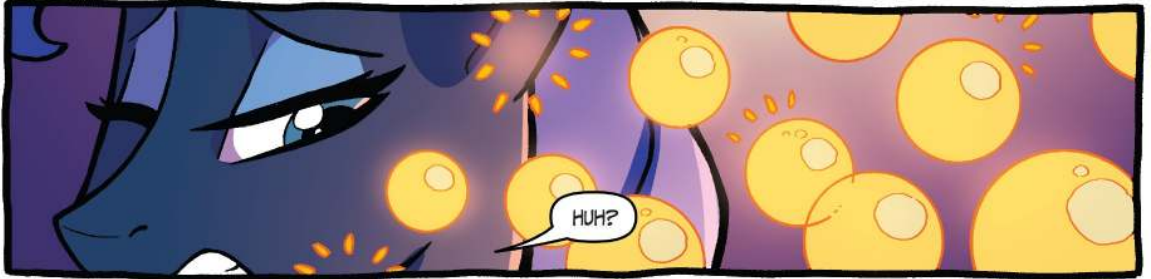
EXCEPT SHE HAS SOMETHING YOU HAVEN'T GOT!



SHE HAS FRIENDS ON HER SIDE!









EXCEPT YOU GUYS HAD TO GO AND DO WHAT YOU ALWAYS DO, REDEEM A BAD GUY. I DON'T KNOW WHY I'M EVEN SURPRISED.

THEN YOU MARCH IN HERE WITH THE LITERAL POWER OF THE SUN AND SUDDENLY A LITTLE SLEIGHT OF HAND DOESN'T SEEM SO IMPRESSIVE.



ANYWAY, HERE'S THE SPHERE WITH YOUR MAGIC IN IT.

I PICKED UP ONE IN THE MESS DOWNSTAIRS AND SWITCHED IT OUT WHEN SHE THOUGHT I WAS ON HER SIDE.



CRASH!



OH, YES,
THIS IS MUCH
BETTER.



NO!



CRACK!



PLEASE,
PRINCESS, YOU
DON'T WANT TO
HURT ME.

YOU SUMMONED ME
HERE BY INVADING THE
DREAMS OF MY FRIEND. YOU
PRETENDED TO BE THE
PONY OF SHADOWS.

I'M JUST A
GODDESS OF CHAOS.
I'M JUST DOING WHAT'S
IN MY NATURE.

YOU TRIED
TO DESTROY MY
FRIENDS AND
MY SISTER.



PLEASE, I'VE
LEARNED MY LESSON.
SEE, I'M A VICTIM
HERE, TOO.

THE PONY OF
SHADOWS HAD ME
LOCKED UP FOR
CENTURIES. IT
DROVE ME
MAD.

HMMM...



PLEASE,
OH MERCIFUL
PRINCESS.

ERIS, I DO
NOT WANT TO
HURT YOU.



WWWMMMM



CRASH

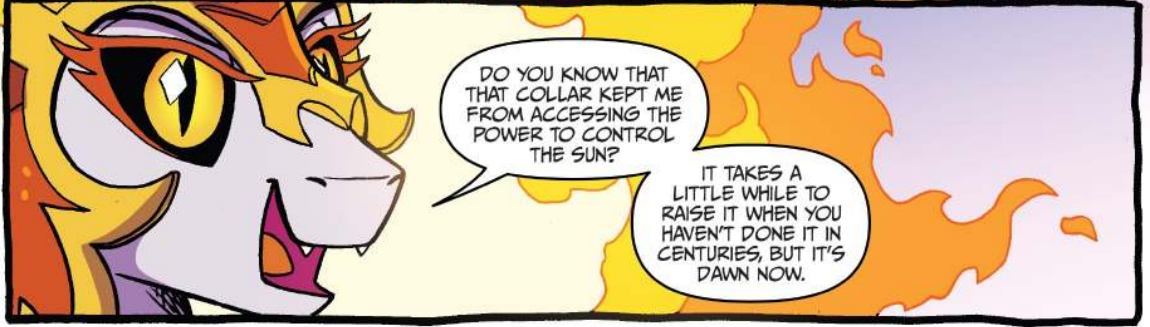


THOOM

WWWMMMM



I DO.



DO YOU KNOW THAT THAT COLLAR KEPT ME FROM ACCESSING THE POWER TO CONTROL THE SUN?

IT TAKES A LITTLE WHILE TO RAISE IT WHEN YOU HAVEN'T DONE IT IN CENTURIES, BUT IT'S DAWN NOW.



9

Dearest Sister,

I am writing you this letter, though I have no intention of ever showing it to you.

I think perhaps it's best if I don't share this adventure with you.



Long ago, you were faced with the terrible duty of fighting your own sister. I have always wondered what that must have felt like for you.

I think I got a little taste of it today.



We can support those we care for. We can nudge them toward the right choices. We can stand up for them when they are in trouble.

But we cannot force them to make the right choices. We cannot force them to be good.



Instead, we must form new friendships with those we meet on our new paths.

We create our own families, as you've done with Twilight and Cadance.



And we remain grateful for those who stand by us. Who have supported us even when we were at our worst.



And hope that those who have taken different paths someday find their way back to us.

-L



The End!

20 YEARS OF IDW ONE-SHOT

my LITTLE PONY

IDW 20/20



FREE DIGITAL ASHCAN

TAKE A PEEK AT ANOTHER AWESOME COMIC YOU MAY LIKE...



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I'M GLAD YOU GOT TO CATCH RAINBOW DASH'S PERFORMANCE, AMBASSADOR!



HER FLIGHTS ARE FAMOUS ALL ACROSS EQUESTRIA!

I CAN CERTAINLY SEE WHY!

I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS O' THOSE STORM CLOUDS, THOUGH...

I-I THOUGHT THEY CLEARED ALL THE CLOUDS?



AND NOW, TIME FOR THE BIG FINALE!



SHE'S BUILDING SPEED FOR THE SONIC RAINBOOM!

DASH! LOOK OUT FOR THAT LIGHTNING—







HUH?

WHAT?

EEEYAAHHH!

PZAP

PZAP

WHOA!

HIYA!

HIYA!

PZAP

PZAP



WHA—WHERE AM I? IS THIS CELESTIA'S SCHOOL?

HOW DID I GET HERE?



OH, NO...

I'VE TRAVELED THROUGH TIME AGAIN, HAVEN'T I?

YOU'RE ME!



CAN'T CATCH ME, YOU WEIRD IMPOSTER!

WILL YOU SLOW DOWN?! I'M YOU!



EEEEEEK!

OH, NO...

PLEASE DON'T SCREAM! WE GET TUMMYACHES WHEN WE SCREAM!



WHAT'S TH' BIG IDEA, GOIN' AROUND LOOKIN' LIKE ME?!

AH AM YOU, YOU ORNERY VARMINT!



SO SOME KIND OF TEMPORAL DISTORTION SENT YOU TO THE PAST?

YEP!

AND YOU ARRIVED NEXT TO YOUR YOUNGER SELF BECAUSE OF QUANTUM KIRLIAN ATTRACTION, RIGHT?

RIGHT!



20 YEARS OF
IDW
ONE-SHOT

my LITTLE PONY

IDW
20/20



TO BE CONTINUED IN...

MY LITTLE PONY: IDW 20/20