IDW

#7

WHITLEY FLEECS BRECKEL

my LITTLE PONY

FRIENDS FOREVER



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THIS IS ONE OF MY BEST IDEAS YET. ARRANGING THE LIBRARY BY DATE OF PUBLICATION IS REALLY THE ONLY METHOD OF SORTING THAT MAKES SENSE.

IF YOU SAY SO, TWILIGHT.

NOW, SHOULD I FILE THE TWO EDITIONS OF STARSWIRL'S "GUIDE TO MAGICAL PEDANTRY" NEXT TO EACH OTHER OR BREAK THEM UP?

ARE YOU SURE THERE'S NOT SOMETHING ELSE WE SHOULD BE DOING TODAY? ISN'T PINKIE THROWING SOME SORT OF PARTY OR SOMETHING?

YOU'RE RIGHT, SPIKE.

I AM?

OF COURSE WE HAVE TO SPLIT THEM UP BY PUBLICATION DATE, OTHERWISE WHAT ARE WE EVEN REORGANIZING FOR?

YOU'RE NOT EVEN LISTENING TO ME, ARE YOU?

KNOCK KNOCK

OH, THANK GOODNESS.

HUH. WHO COULD THAT BE?

WHO CARES? COME ON IN!

TWILIGHT SPARKLE!

YOUR PRINCESS REQUIRES YOUR ASSISTANCE!

I MEAN... AHEM... I NEED YOUR HELP, TWILIGHT.

PRINCESS LUNA! WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

WAH!

I HAVE A TERRIBLE PROBLEM AND IT IS IN YOUR AREA OF EXPERTISE.

IS IT RESEARCH? I HOPE IT'S RESEARCH.

I FEAR IT IS NOT, TWILIGHT. I NEED HELP WITH... HUMOR.

ACTUALLY, I WAS GOING TO GET DOWN.

HUMOR? LIKE, BEING FUNNY?

INDEED, TWILIGHT SPARKLE. YOU HELPED ME UNDERSTAND THAT SCARING PONIES ISN'T ALWAYS BAD, BUT MY FUTURE AS A PRINCESS DEPENDS ON BEING ABLE TO MAKE CANTERLOT LAUGH.

IT IS A TALE YEARS IN THE MAKING. A TALE OF WOE AND MISFORTUNE.

UMMM... HOW SO?

POP

OH, COME ON!

FOR YEARS, MY SISTER AND I LIVED APART FROM THE COMMON PONIES OF EQUESTRIA. WE PROTECTED THEM AND MADE THE DAY AND THE NIGHT. WE WERE SEEN AS MORE THAN MERE PONIES.

THEN, AS YOU KNOW, I CHANGED. I DROVE MY PEOPLE AWAY AND FRIGHTENED THEM TERRIBLY.

MY SISTER, TERRIFIED BY WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO ME, DECIDED TO BRING HERSELF CLOSER TO THE AVERAGE PONY. THE GRANDEST CHANGE SHE MADE WAS TO HOLD A BANQUET.

SHE CALLED IT "CHUCKLE-LOT." IT WAS A CHANCE FOR CELESTIA TO CUT LOOSE. THE OTHER PONIES WOULD GET TO SEE THAT SHE WASN'T ALWAYS SERIOUS.

ONCE I RETURNED, SHE INVITED ME TO TAKE PART AS WELL. I FEAR IT HAS NOT GONE WELL. I DO NOT KNOW HOW TO MAKE PONIES LAUGH. MY SUBJECTS... MY FELLOW PONIES ARE STILL AFRAID OF ME.

HA HA HA!

BUT THIS YEAR WILL BE DIFFERENT, TWILIGHT! I WANT TO MAKE THEM LIKE ME. I WANT TO BE FUNNY.

AND YOU WANT ME TO TEACH YOU?

INDEED! WHENEVER YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS VISIT YOU ARE ALWAYS LAUGHING AND LIGHTHEARTED. I WISH TO BE MORE LIKE THAT. CAN YOU TEACH ME?

OF COURSE I CAN! PRINCESS LUNA, YOU ARE GOING TO BE THE TOAST OF THIS YEAR'S CHUCKLE-LOT!

INTERESTING... ACCORDING TO THIS BOOK, COMEDY IS BASED LARGELY ON TIMING. FOR EXAMPLE, A LEAD UP TO SOMETHING ONLY TO REVEAL SOMETHING UNEXPECTED.

OH, HERE'S A GOOD ONE. THIS SAYS COMEDY IS BASED ON THE ABSURD. IT REQUIRES AN ELEMENT OF STRANGENESS OR BASIC MISUNDERSTANDING BY A CHARACTER.

NOW IT SAYS HERE THAT ONE OF THE BASIC TENANTS OF COMEDY IS HYPERBOLE.

IF THE EXTREMES OF A CHARACTER OR SITUATION ARE OVERDONE OR RIDICULOUS IN SIZE. ALSO, IT SAYS THERE IS A RULE OF THREE WHERE A JOKE IS ONLY FUNNY THREE TIMES... THAT'S RIDICULOUS, BECAUSE—

TWILIGHT SPARKLE!

CEASE YOUR PRATTLING AT ONCE!

SORRY... AHEM... I MEAN... DO YOU THINK THERE IS SOMEPONY THAT'S A LITTLE MORE OF AN EXPERT IN THE ***PRACTICE*** OF COMEDY? IS THERE SOMEPONY THAT COULD ***SHOW*** ME HOW TO BE FUNNY?

AHHHH! IT'S NIGHTMARE MOON!

PINKIE, YOU KNOW DARN WELL SHE'S NOT NIGHTMARE MOON ANYMORE. YOU'VE BEEN ON ADVENTURES TOGETHER!

HER?! THE ONE WHO MAKES LITTLE CHILDREN RUN FROM ME IN FEAR?

PINKIE PIE IS THE FUNNIEST PONY I KNOW, PRINCESS LUNA.

BUT SURELY THERE IS SOMEPONY ELSE?

IF YOU REALLY WANT TO LEARN TO BE FUNNY, PINKIE IS YOUR BEST CHANCE.

PINKIE, PRINCESS LUNA NEEDS YOUR HELP.

I AM NOT SURE ABOUT THIS, TWILIGHT SPARKLE.

SHE WANTS TO LEARN HOW TO BE FUNNY. DO YOU THINK THAT YOU CAN TEACH HER?

MS. PIE, I HAD HOPED—

OH! I MEAN TO SAY... I WAS HOPING THAT YOU MIGHT TEACH ME—

SILENCE! LUNA of EQUESTRIA,

YOU COME TO ME WISHING TO LEARN THE ART OF COMEDY! WHY DO YOU SEEK THIS KNOWLEDGE?!

I... I... I THINK BEING FUNNY WILL MAKE ME A BETTER PONY AND PUT PONIES AT EASE AND—

LIES! WHAT IS YOUR TRUE PURPOSE?!

I... UMMM... I...

EVERYPONY LOVES CELESTIA AND THEY'RE JUST SCARED OF ME! I'M TIRED OF PONIES TREATING ME LIKE A MONSTER!

I WANT PONIES TO LIKE ME! IS THAT SO WRONG? ARE YOU GOING TO HELP ME OR NOT?

OF COURSE I WILL!

NOW, I'VE TAUGHT A LOT OF PONIES TO BE FUNNY. I TAKE IT VERY SERIOUSLY. ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE READY TO LEARN?

YES. IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO ME.

I CAN'T HEAR YOU!

I SAID YES. I WAS SPEAKING IN A PERFECTLY REASONABLE VOICE AND WE WERE STANDING RIGHT NEXT TO EACH OTHER... I DON'T—

YOU'RE JUST SUPPOSED TO SAY "YES" LOUDER.

WHY?

IT'S FUN, TRUST ME.

I CAN'T HEAR YOU!

YES!

I STILL CAN'T HEAR YOU!

YES!

ARE YOU READY TO BE FUNNY?

VERILY!

THAT IS FUN.

FUNNY FARM

WELCOME TO THE FUNNY FARM! THIS IS WHERE YOU WILL LEARN THE BASICS OF PHYSICAL COMEDY. SAY HELLO TO YOUR TRAINERS.

MY TRAINERS?

ROCKY, THE GRIZZLED VETERAN COACH WITH THE GRUFF EXTERIOR AND A HEART OF GOLD.

WE'RE GONNA FIGURE OUT IF YOU GOT WHAT IT TAKES, LITTLE PRINCESS.

MR. TURNIP, THE EARTHY AND SEEMINGLY SIMPLISTIC TEAM PLAYER THAT'S SECRETLY FULL OF SAGE ADVICE.

I'm hopin' y'all brought your A-game today.

MADAME LA FLOUR, THE HIGH SOCIETY TYPE WITH EXQUISITE TASTE AND BOUNDLESS GENEROSITY.

charmed, I'm sure.

AND, OF COURSE, THE ELOQUENT BUT RESERVED EXPERT IN ALL THINGS, SIR LINTSALOT.

THERE IS NO REPLACEMENT FOR PRACTICE, MY DEAR. IT'S GOOD THAT YOU'RE HERE.

I... I... I...

IT'S GOOD TO MEET YOU ALL.

FUNNY FARM

GREAT! NOW THAT YOU ALL KNOW EACH OTHER, LET'S GET STARTED! EACH ONE OF THEM HAS A PRANK YOU CAN PLAY ON THEM. GO AHEAD! I'LL TIME YOU!

NOW, LET'S SEE. WHAT COULD BE FUNNY HERE?

A CUP OF PUNCH. SURELY THIS IS FUNNY SOMEHOW...

OH NO! THAT'S DEFINITELY GOING TO STAIN!

BUMP!

CATCH

PINKIE... I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SUPPOSED TO DO HERE.

NO PROBLEM. LEAVE THE FIRST RUN TO THE EXPERT!

THE MARBLES GO ON THE FLOOR, WHERE THEY'LL CAUSE A HILARIOUS FALL FOR MR. TURNIP!

Pinkie, you little scamp.

WE PUT THE INFLATED WHOOPEE CUSHION UNDER MADAME LA FLOUR AS SHE SITS.

Why, pinkie, I'll turn as red as cinnamon!

IF WE GLUE SIR LINTSALOT'S CUP TO THE TABLE, HE'S GONNA END UP LOSING HIS PUNCH EVERYWHERE.

A CLEVER PLAY TO BE SURE.

AND THE CATAPULT SHOOTS THE CREAM PIE RIGHT INTO ROCKY'S FACE.

FIRE!

HMMM... OH WELL, I GUESS THAT'S BROKEN.

BUT... I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS.

WHAT MAKES THESE THINGS FUNNY?

WELL, MADAME LA FLOUR IS A REALLY PROPER PONY. WHEN SHE MAKES A RUDE NOISE WITH THE WHOOPEE CUSHION IT'S UNEXPECTED.

SO, TO BE FUNNY I HAVE TO TORMENT THOSE WHO OPPOSE ME AND LAUGH IN THEIR FACES?

NO. YOU PLAY PRANKS ON YOUR FRIENDS.

I TORMENT MY FRIENDS?

NOT TORMENT. PRANKS CAN BE EMBARRASSING, BUT YOUR FRIENDS WILL LAUGH WITH YOU, NOT AT YOU. NOT EVERYPONY CAN TAKE PRANKS AND IT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW WHEN TO STOP.

I THINK I'M STARTING TO SEE NOW. IT'S ABOUT SEEING THE COMEDY IN THE SITUATION.

FWIP!

SMUSH!

WHOA!

PTHHPPPPP

WOW, PRINCESS! THAT WAS AMAZING! I NEVER EVEN THOUGHT THAT ONE PONY COULD SET OFF *ALL* OF THE PRANKS!

YOU DARE?

YOU DARE TO MOCK THE PRINCESS OF THE NIGHT? YOU DARE TO MAKE A MOCKERY OF THE MOST FEARED PONY IN ALL OF EQUESTRIA? YOU SHOULD BE TREMBLING WITH FEAR NOT WITH LAUGHTER.

AH! WE WERE LAUGHING AT THE PRANK, NOT AT YOU PRINCESS.

Princess, if you want ponies to not fear you, you're going to have to stop that.

YEAH, EASE UP ON PINKIE! SHE'S TRYING TO HELP YOU, YA GALOOT!

MY APOLOGIES, PINKAMENA, TURNIP, ROCKY. I AM JUST NOT USED TO BEING LAUGHED AT.

Seems like that's the sorta thing people do to someponey who's funny.

YOU ARE WISE, GOOD TURNIP.

YOU KNOW WHAT? I THINK YOU NEED TO BE MORE COMFORTABLE. MAYBE WE SHOULD GET YOU BACK IN YOUR OWN CASTLE.

A WISE OBSERVATION. PERHAPS THE ROCKS, TURNIPS, AND FLOUR SHOULD REMAIN HERE, THOUGH.

DURING THE DAY, THIS IS WHERE I SPEND MOST OF MY TIME.

OOH, FANCY SHMANCY!

YES? DO I KNOW YOU?

I DON'T THINK SO. I'M PINKIE PIE.

FANCY SHMANCY, HOW DO YOU DO?

YEAH, THERE'S PLENTY OF ROOM FOR GOOD COMEDY HERE. HAVE YOU CONSIDERED A UNICYCLE?

EXCUSE ME?

NEVER MIND, ONE THING AT A TIME.

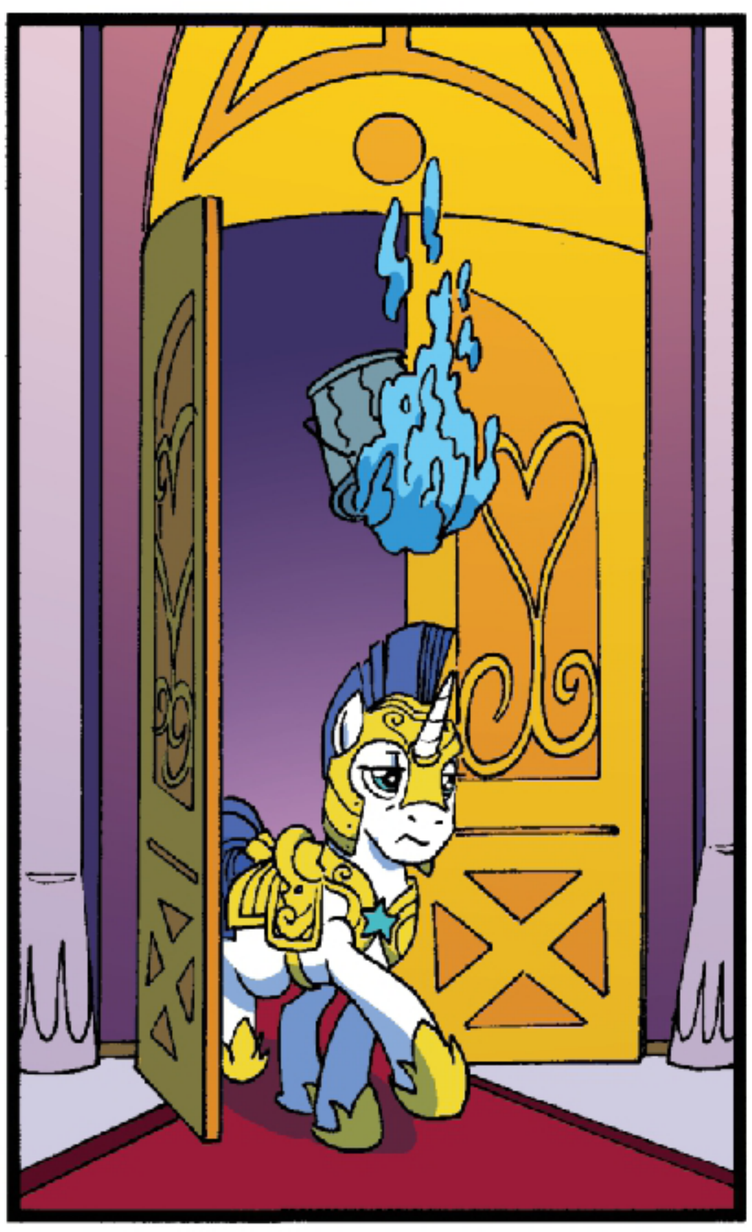
OKAY, SHOW ME WHAT SORT OF THINGS YOU DO DAILY. IT'S TIME FOR OJS! *ON THE JOB SILLINESS!*

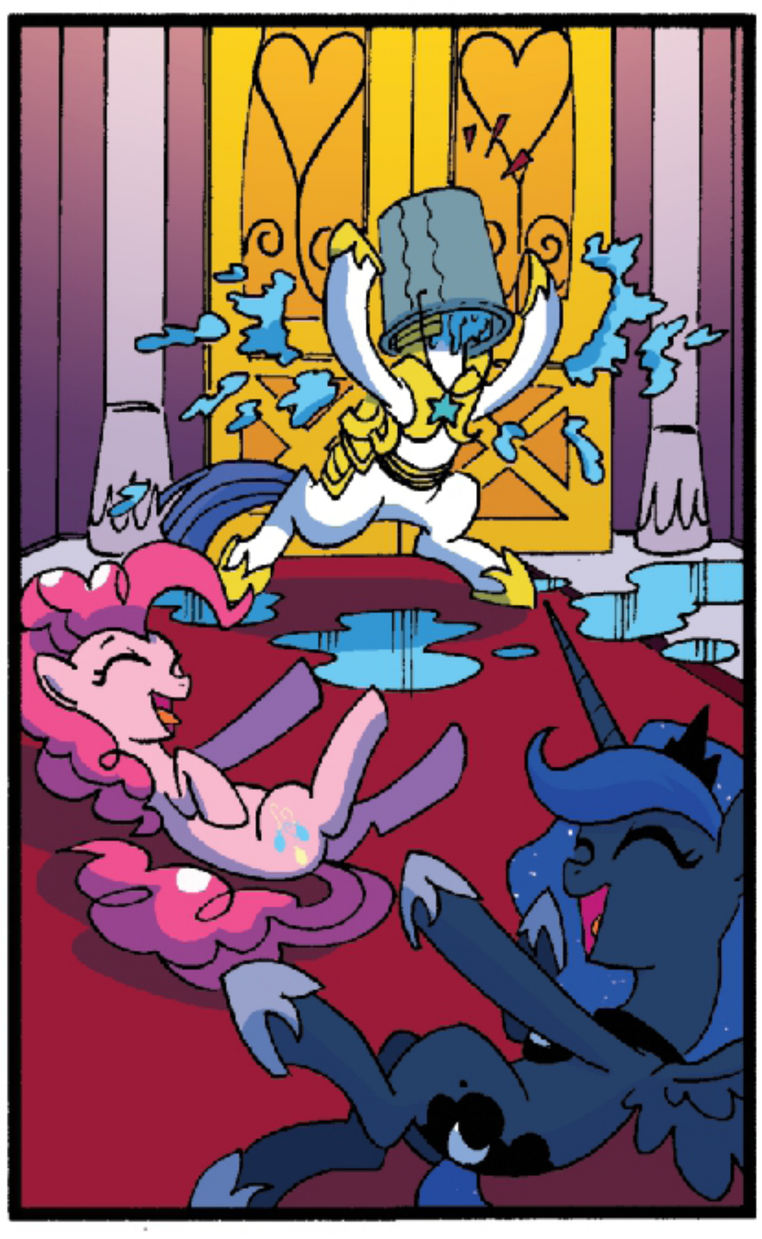


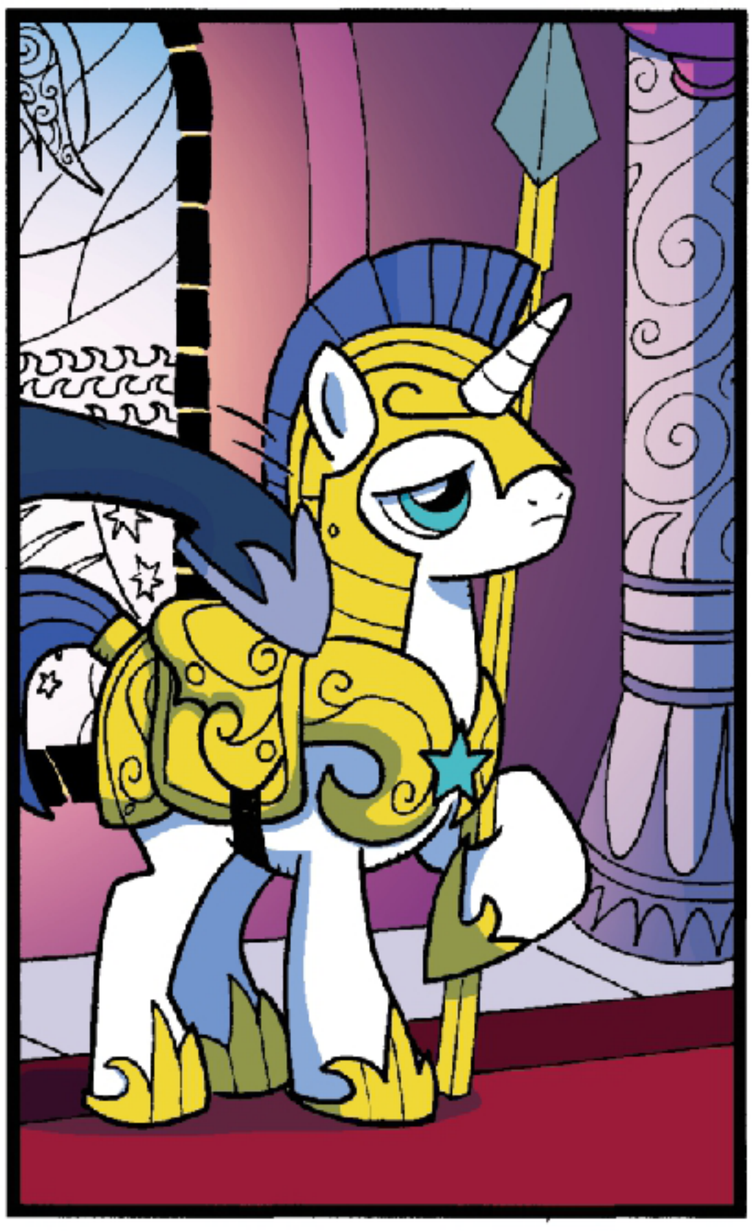



ZAPP!

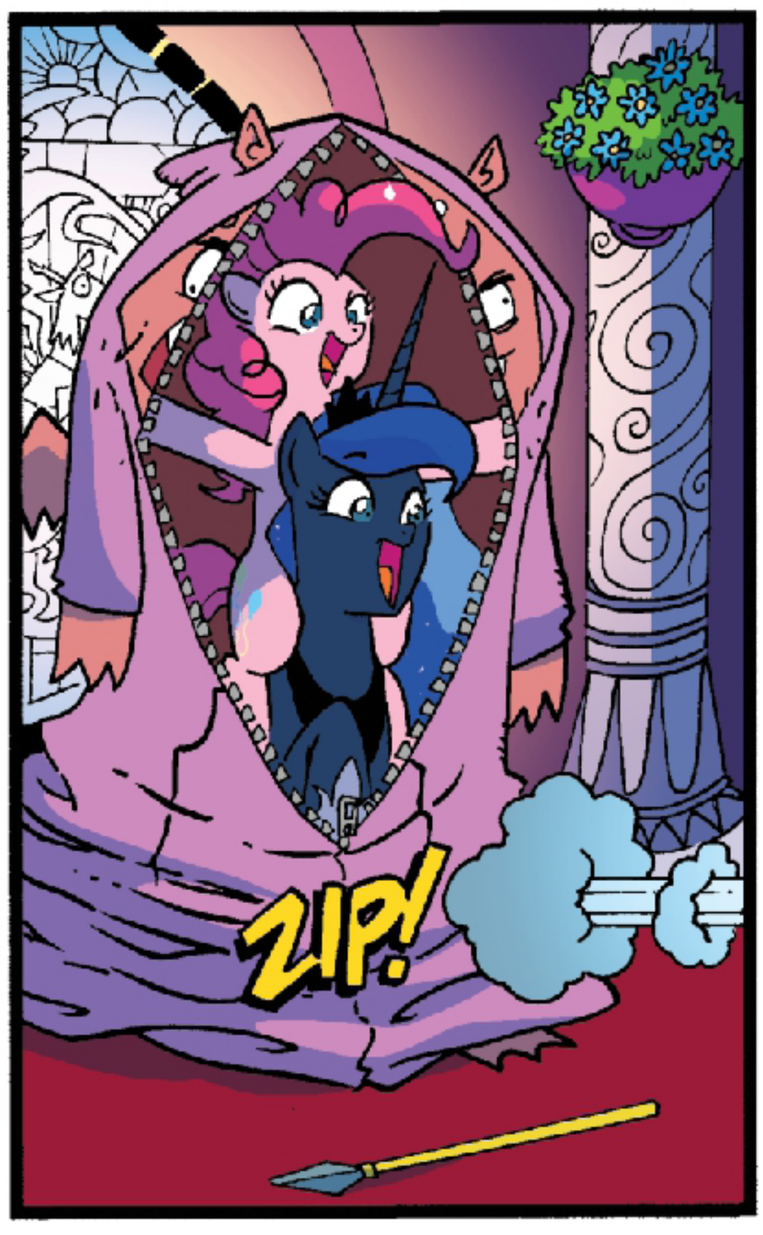











ZIP!

THAT NIGHT...

WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON NOW?

I NEED TO COME UP WITH SOMETHING FOR CHUCKLE-LOT. I HAVE TO BE FUNNIER THAN CELESTIA.

I JUST CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING. ALL OF THESE JOKES HAVE BEEN YOUR IDEA SO FAR.

WHAT ABOUT THE PRANK COMBO YOU DID AT THE FUNNY FARM? THAT WAS ALL YOU.

HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO MAKE CELESTIA DO ALL OF THAT?

NOT CELESTIA. WHY DON'T YOU DO IT?

ME? HUMILIATE MYSELF IN FRONT OF ALL OF MY SUBJECTS? THEY WOULD NEVER RESPECT ME AFTER THAT.

YOU HAVE TO BE ABLE TO LAUGH AT YOURSELF IF YOU WANT OTHER PEOPLE TO.

OUT OF THE QUESTION! I AM A PRINCESS OF EQUESTRIA AND MY SUBJECTS NEED TO RESPECT ME, NOT MOCK ME.

LAUGHING AND MOCKING ARE NOT THE SAME THING.

YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND, PINKIE PIE. I'M VERY IMPORTANT. YOU'RE JUST A CLOWN.

OH, I SEE.

PINKIE, I DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT. IT'S JUST THAT I HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES AND YOU...

AND MAKING PONIES HAPPY ISN'T IMPORTANT. YOU DON'T REALLY WANT TO LEARN ABOUT BEING FUNNY. YOU JUST WANT TO BEAT CELESTIA AT SOMETHING.

CAN YOU BLAME ME?! SHE'S SO PERFECT AND I'M SO... NOT.

MAYBE IF YOU STOPPED WORRYING ABOUT WHAT YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE AND WERE JUST YOURSELF YOU WOULDN'T NEED SOMEPONY TO TEACH YOU HOW TO HAVE FUN.

THE NIGHT OF CHUCKLE-LOT.

I'M SORRY THINGS DIDN'T WORK OUT WITH PRINCESS LUNA, BUT I'M GLAD YOU DECIDED TO COME OUT ANYWAY.

ME, MISS A COMEDY PARTY? YOU MUST BE KIDDING.

CHUCKLE-LOT

OOH! THERE'S A PRESENT ON THE TABLE.

WHAT IS IT?

I DON'T KNOW. IT'S FOR YOU. FROM PRINCESS LUNA.

OH.

AREN'T YOU GOING TO OPEN IT?

I'LL OPEN IT LATER. RIGHT NOW IT'S TIME TO *PAR-TAY!*

GOOD EVENING, EVERYPONY, AND WELCOME TO CHUCKLE-LOT! I'M SORRY TO ANNOUNCE THAT MY SISTER LUNA WON'T BE JOINING US THIS EVENING.

EXCUSE ME, SORRY TO INTERRUPT.

I'M SORRY TO DO THIS AND I'LL LET YOU FINISH, BUT SOMETHING MUST BE SAID.

MY SISTER AND I ARE ROYALTY. WE ARE THE PRINCESSES OF EQUESTRIA AND AS SUCH ARE VESTED WITH BOTH POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY ABOVE THAT OF AN AVERAGE PONY.

WE'RE IMPORTANT! TOO IMPORTANT TO BE LAUGHED AT AND FAR TOO IMPORTANT TO BE FORCED TO PLAY THE FOOL FOR OUR COMMON SUBJECTS. YOU SHOULD ALL BE ASHAMED!

AND YOU MOST OF ALL, MY SISTER. I HAVE BROUGHT YOU THIS GIFT AND I HOPE IT WILL REMIND YOU OF YOUR TRUE PLACE IN EQUESTRIA!

UMMM... THANK YOU...

SPLAT!

HA... HA HA HA.

HAHAHAH

HAHAHAHAHAHA
HAHAHAHAHAHA

OH, TWILIGHT?

And one for Twilight Sparkle

SPLAT!

SLIP!

OH! WHOA!

GAH!

DEAR SISTER, I LEARNED SOMETHING TODAY.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO LAUGH. THE MORE IMPORTANT YOU ARE, THE MORE IMPORTANT IT IS TO LEARN TO LAUGH AT YOURSELF.

HAHAHAHAHA

EVERYPONY NEEDS TO LAUGH AND EVERYPONY NEEDS A GOOD JOKE OR PRANK NOW AND AGAIN. AND THE MARK OF A GOOD FRIENDSHIP IS BEING ABLE TO SHARE A LAUGH, EVEN WHEN IT'S ABOUT SOMETHING YOU NEVER MEANT TO BE FUNNY. -*Luna*