

20 YEARS OF IDW
ISSUE 79
COVER A

my LITTLE PONY

Friendship is Magic



Don Kuusisto

MAGGS • KUUSISTO • BRECKEL



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written by
Sam Maggs

art by
Toni Kuusisto

colors by
Heather Breckel

letters by
Neil Uyetake

assistant edits by
Megan Brown

edits by
Bobby Curnow



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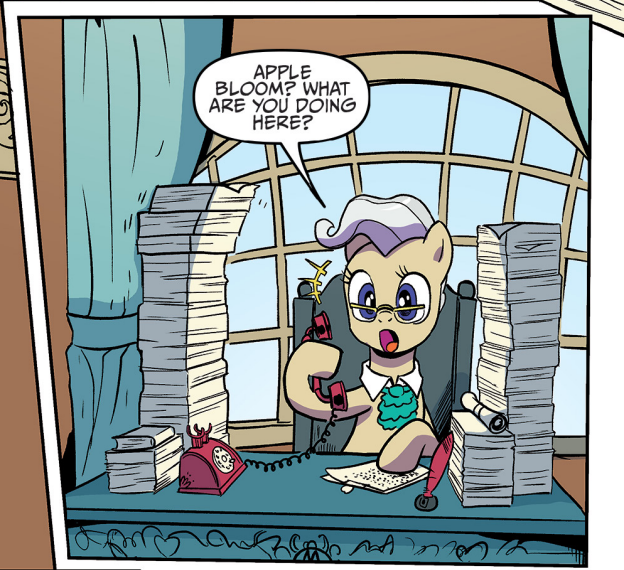
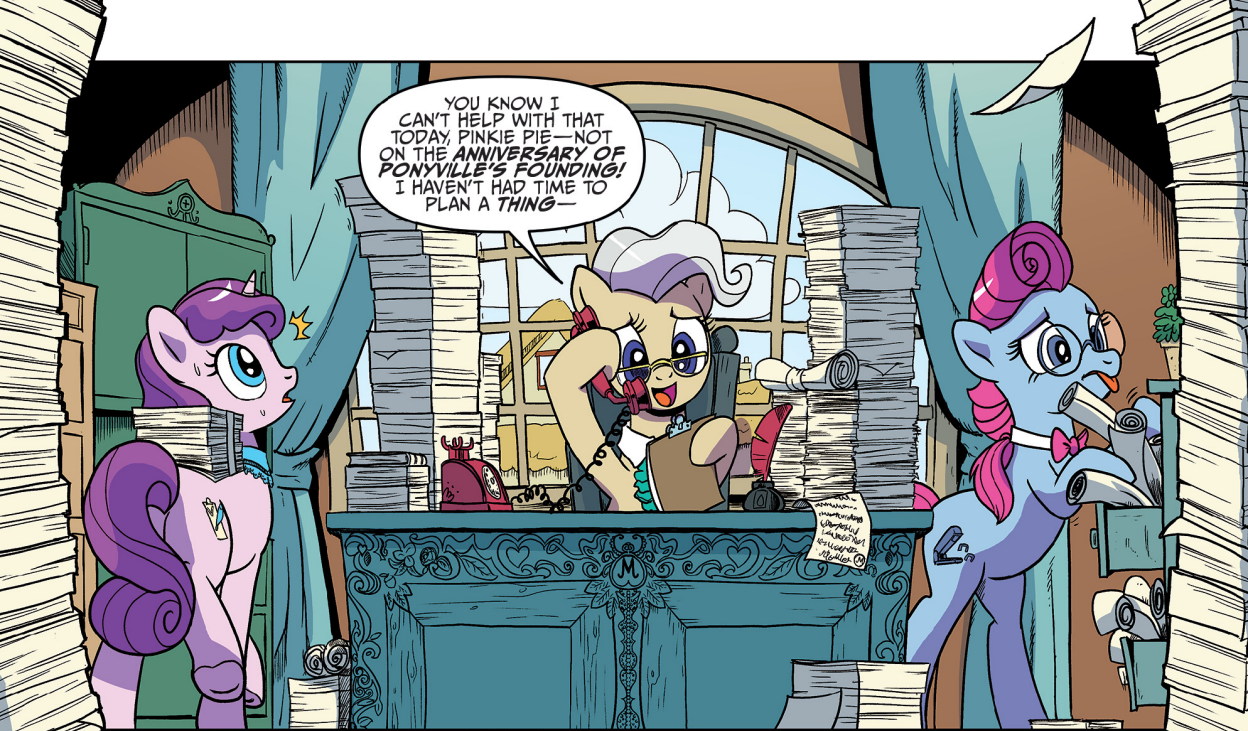
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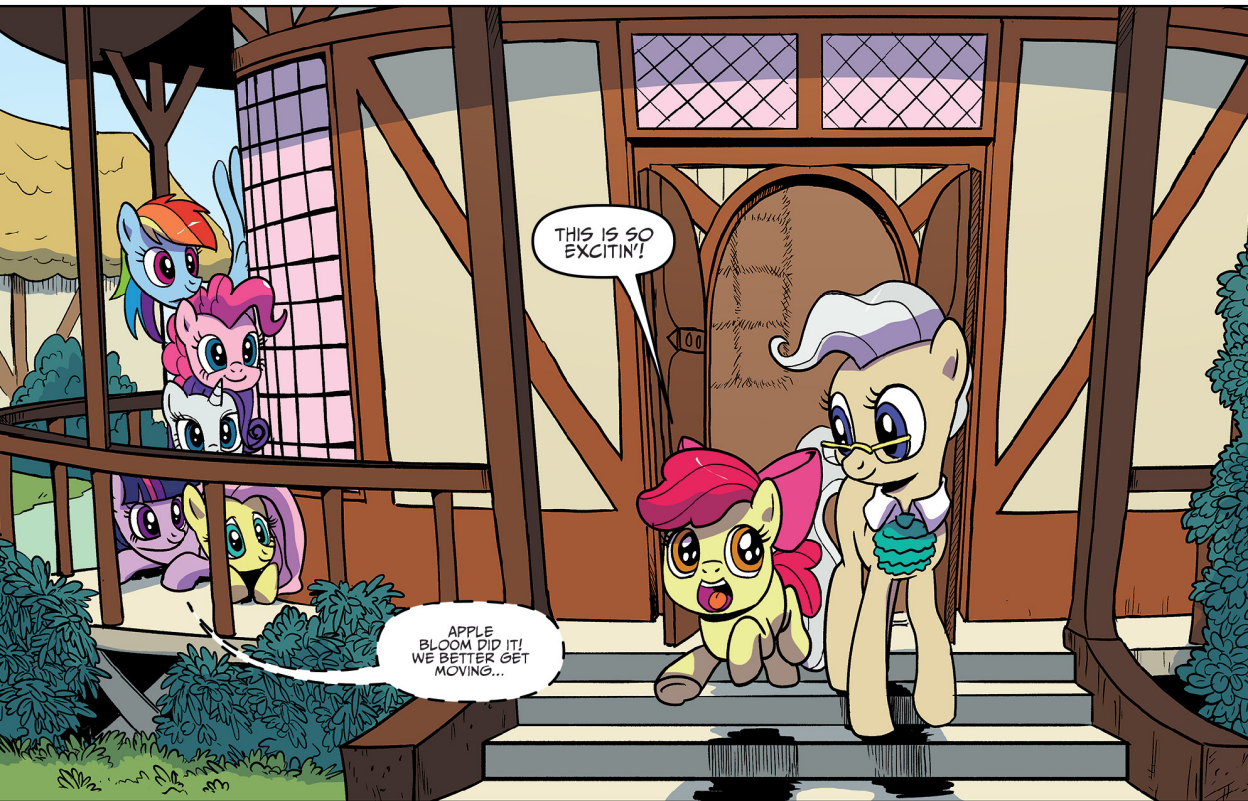
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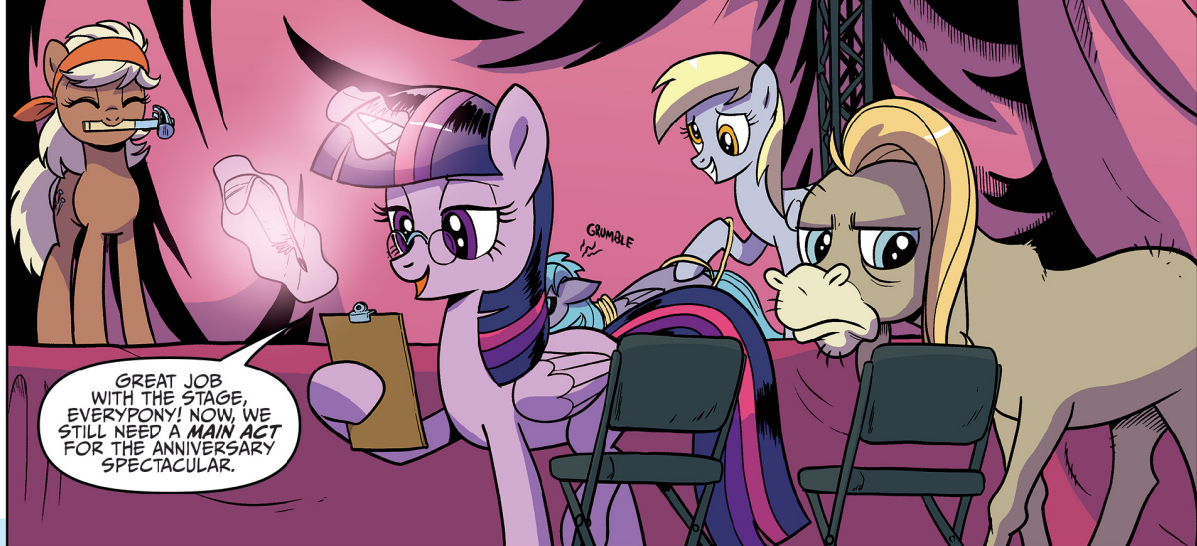


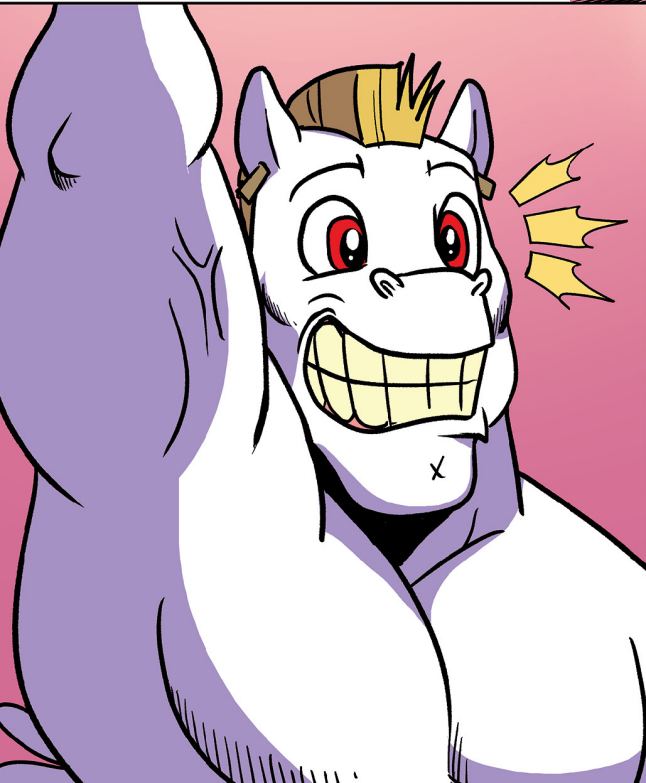
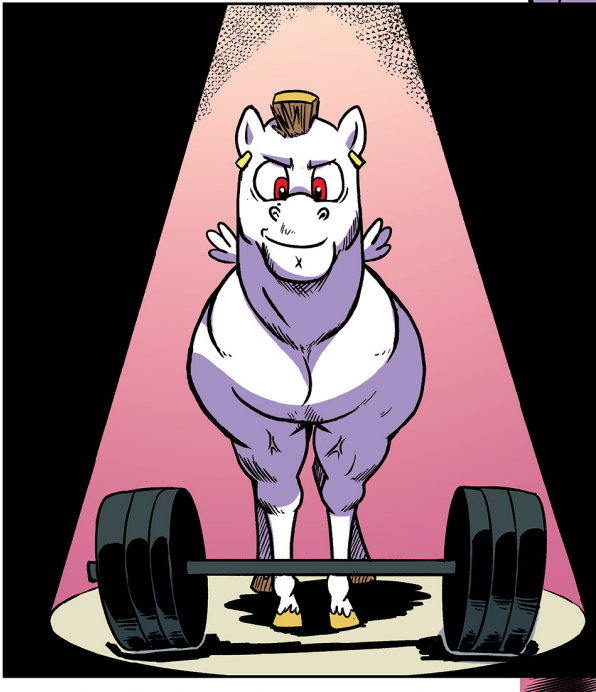


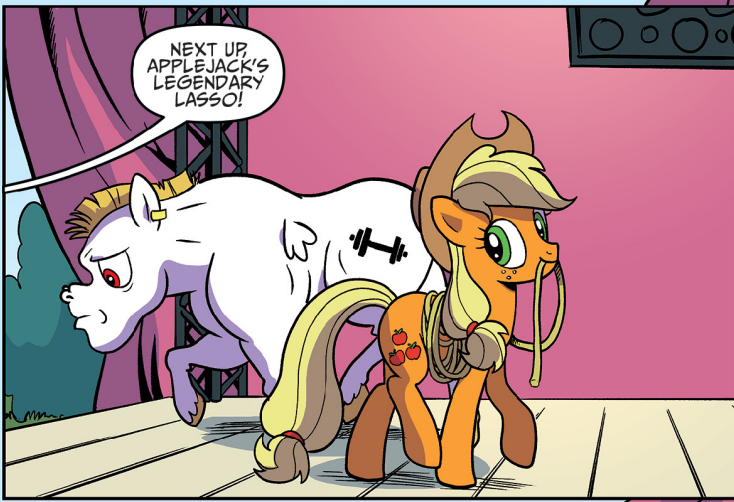
PONYVILLE ANNIVERSARY SPECTACULAR!

THERE'S A LOT TO DO IF WE'RE GOING TO SURPRISE THE MAYOR TONIGHT!

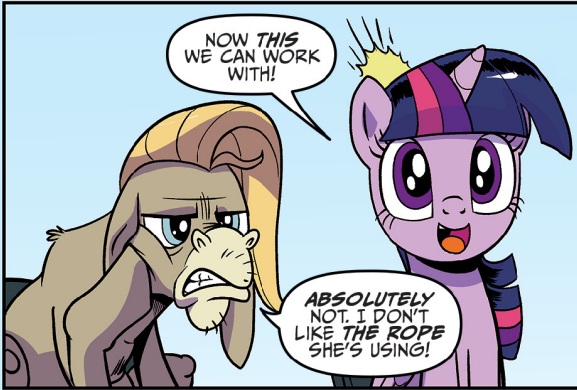






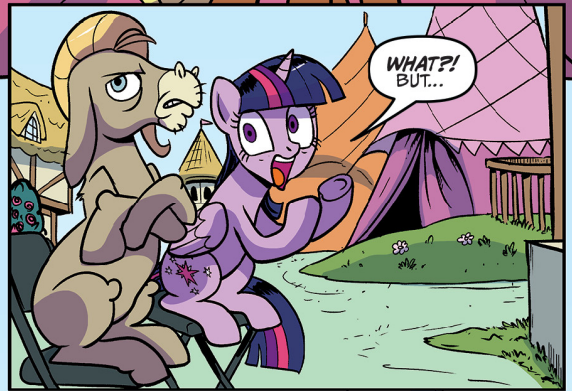


NEXT UP, APPLEJACK'S LEGENDARY LASSO!



NOW THIS WE CAN WORK WITH!

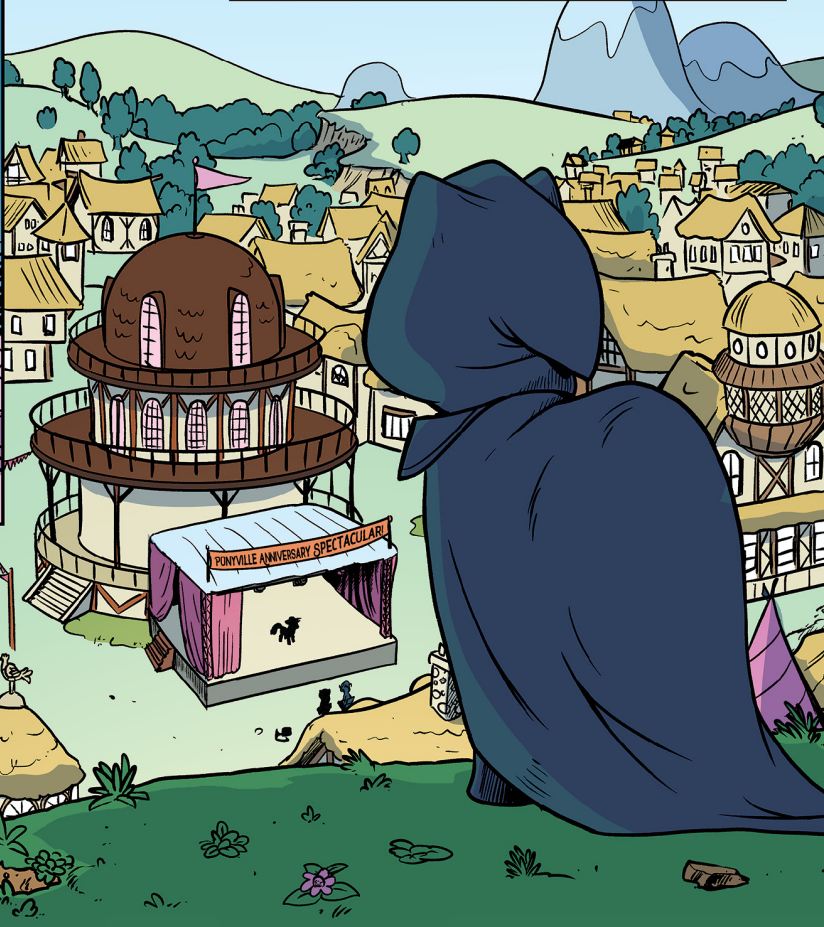
ABSOLUTELY NOT. I DON'T LIKE THE ROPE SHE'S USING!



WHAT?! BUT...



THANK YOU, APPLEJACK. NEXT!



MEANWHILE...

MY FAVORITE SPOT IN PONYVILLE. WHERE YOUNG MINDS TAKE FLIGHT! IT DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER THAN THIS.

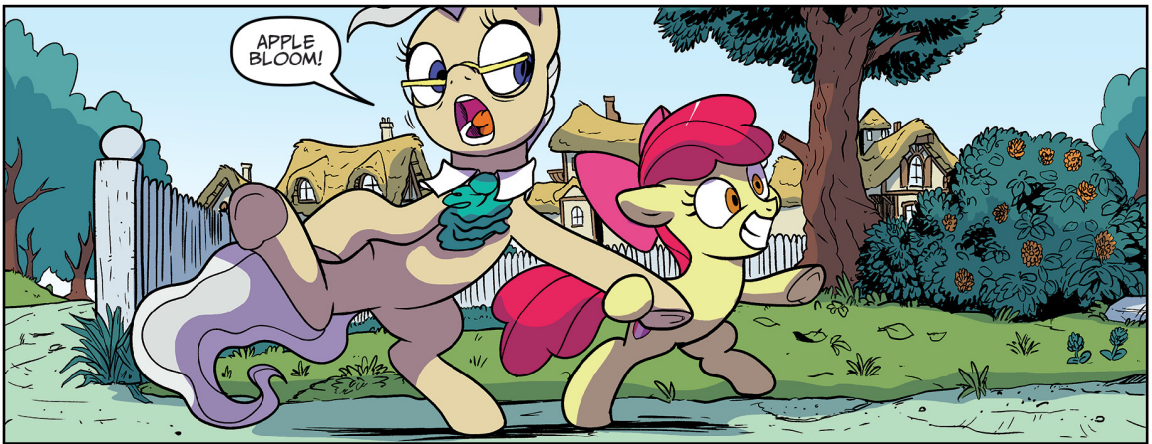
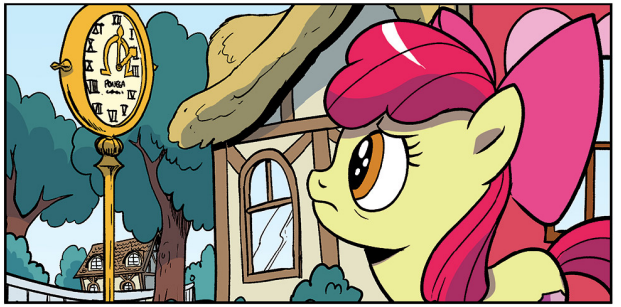
FOR MY SCHOOL PROJECT, YOU BROUGHT ME TO... MY BORING SCHOOL?

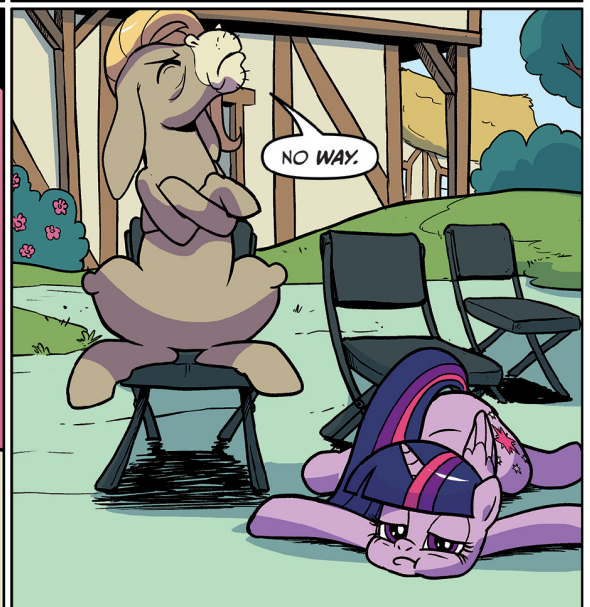
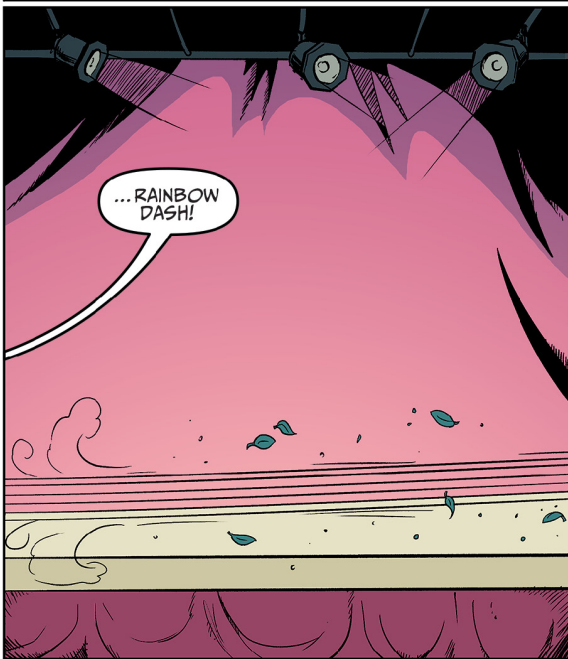
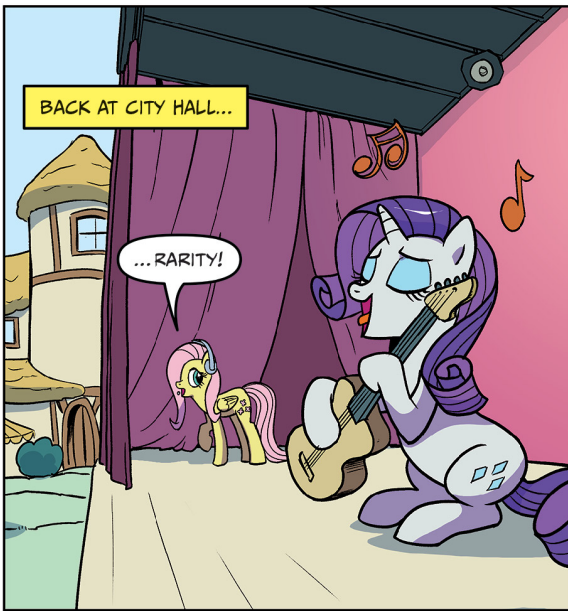
BORING?! APPLE BLOOM! NOT ONLY DOES THE SCHOOLHOUSE HOLD YEARS OF PONYVILLE HISTORY, IT ALSO SHAPES THE VERY NATURE OF THE PONIES WHO WALK THROUGH ITS DOORS.

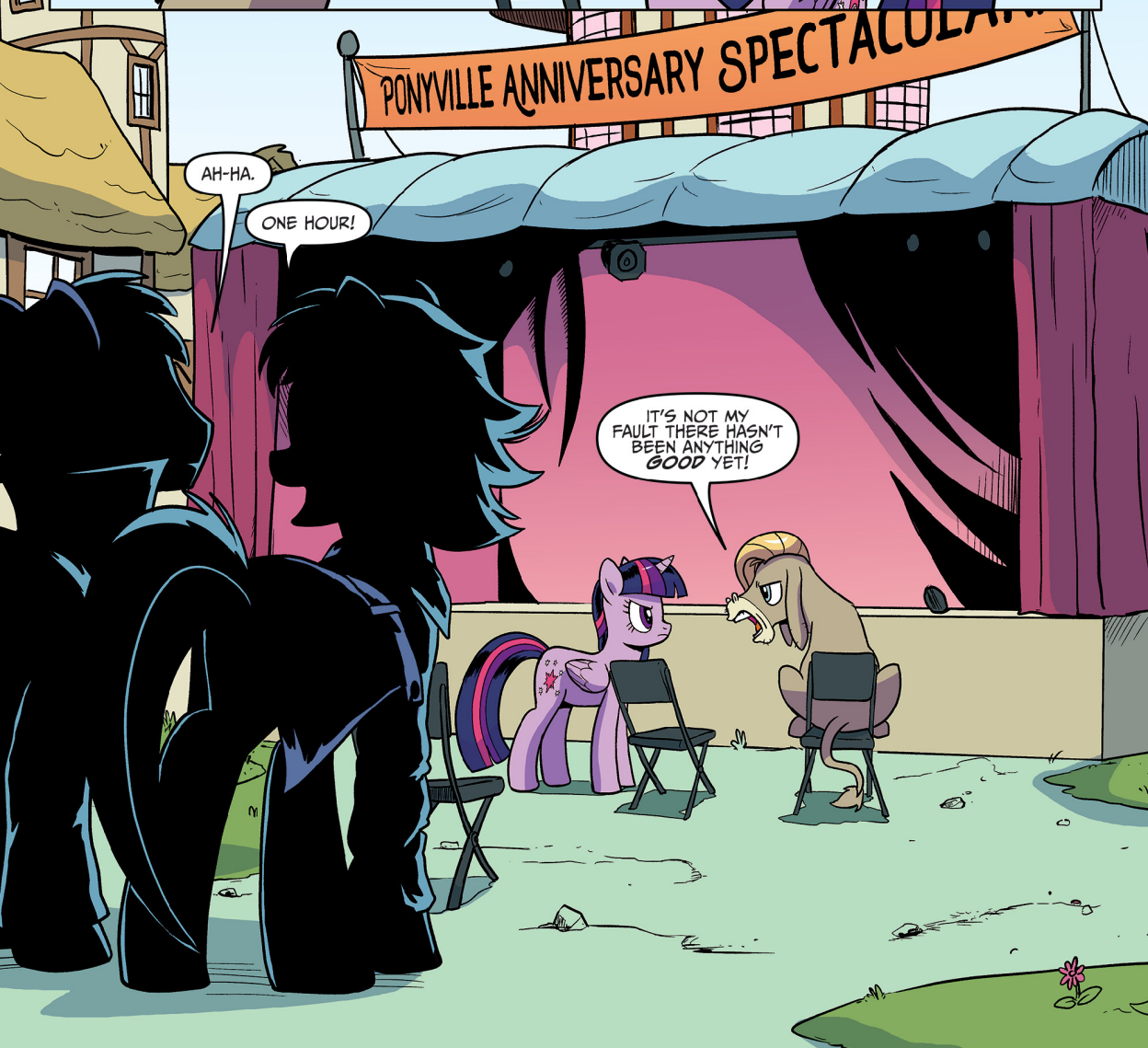
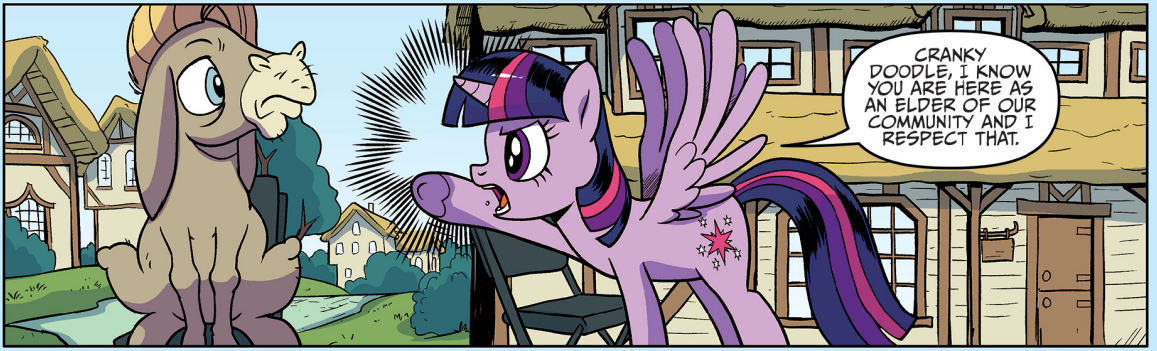
MATH, SCIENCE, LANGUAGE... ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE!

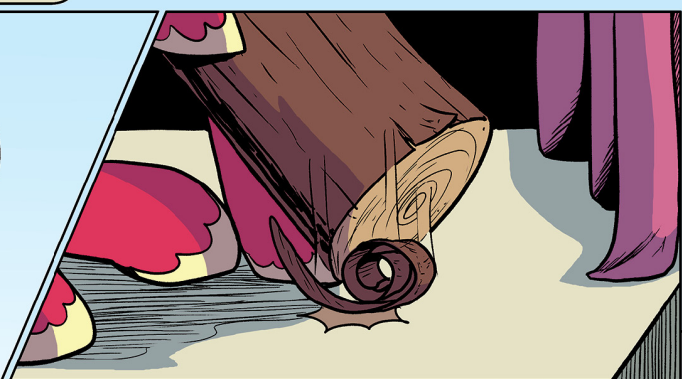
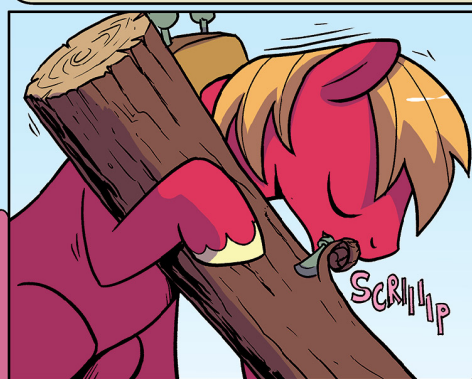
HUH, I GUESS THAT **DOES** MAKE IT SOUND MORE INTERESTING!

YOU GAIN KNOWLEDGE HERE **ALL DAY, EVERY DAY**, AND THAT'S **INVALUABLE**. AND NOW YOU KNOW WHY THE PONYVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE IS MY FAVORITE SPOT IN PONYVILLE.





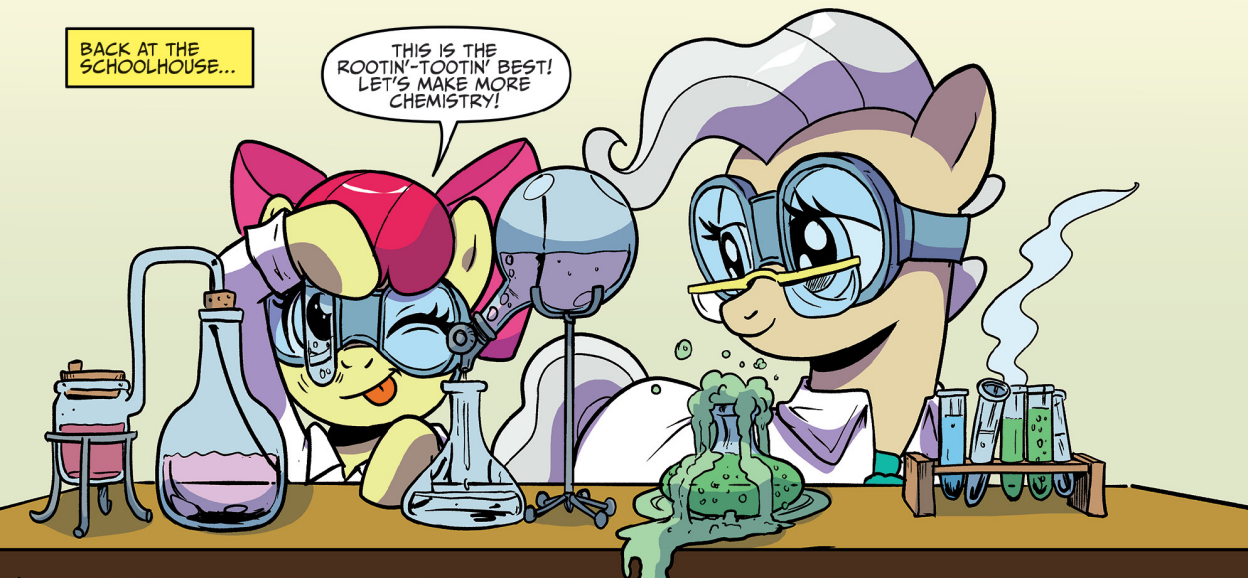






BACK AT THE SCHOOLHOUSE...

THIS IS THE ROOTIN'-TOOTIN' BEST! LET'S MAKE MORE CHEMISTRY!



THIS CAN'T POSSIBLY BE PART OF YOUR PROJECT.



OH, UM... ISN'T IT?



I REALLY MUST BE GETTING BACK—



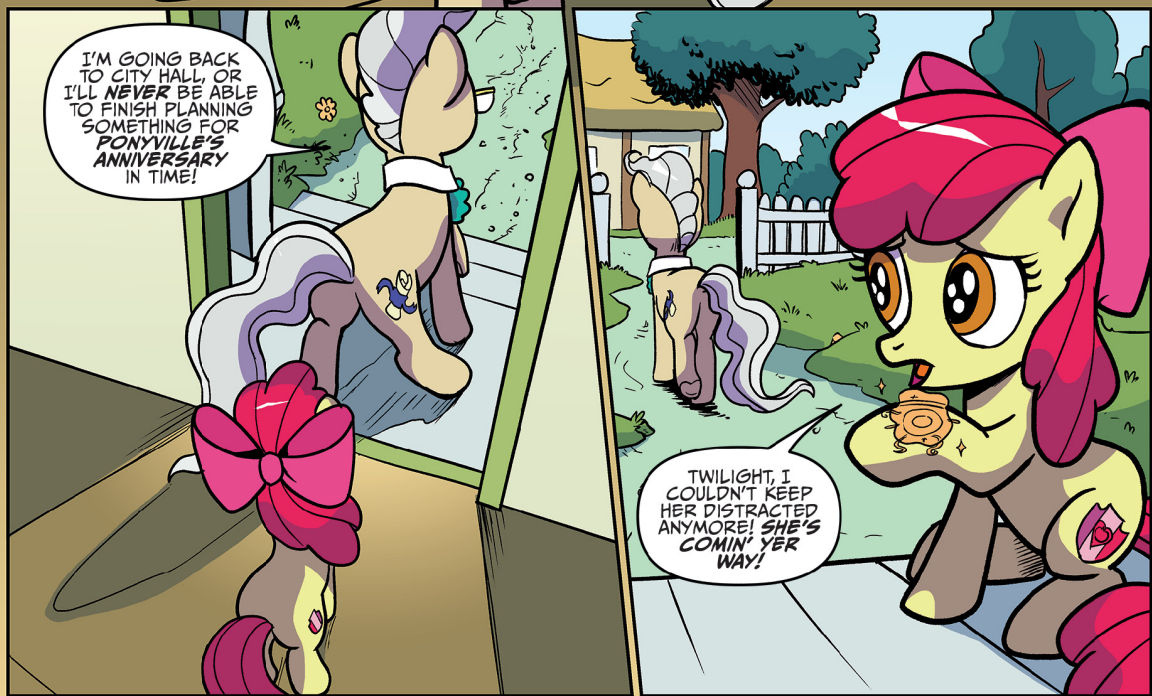
ALREADY?!



THAT'S ENOUGH, APPLE BLOOM!

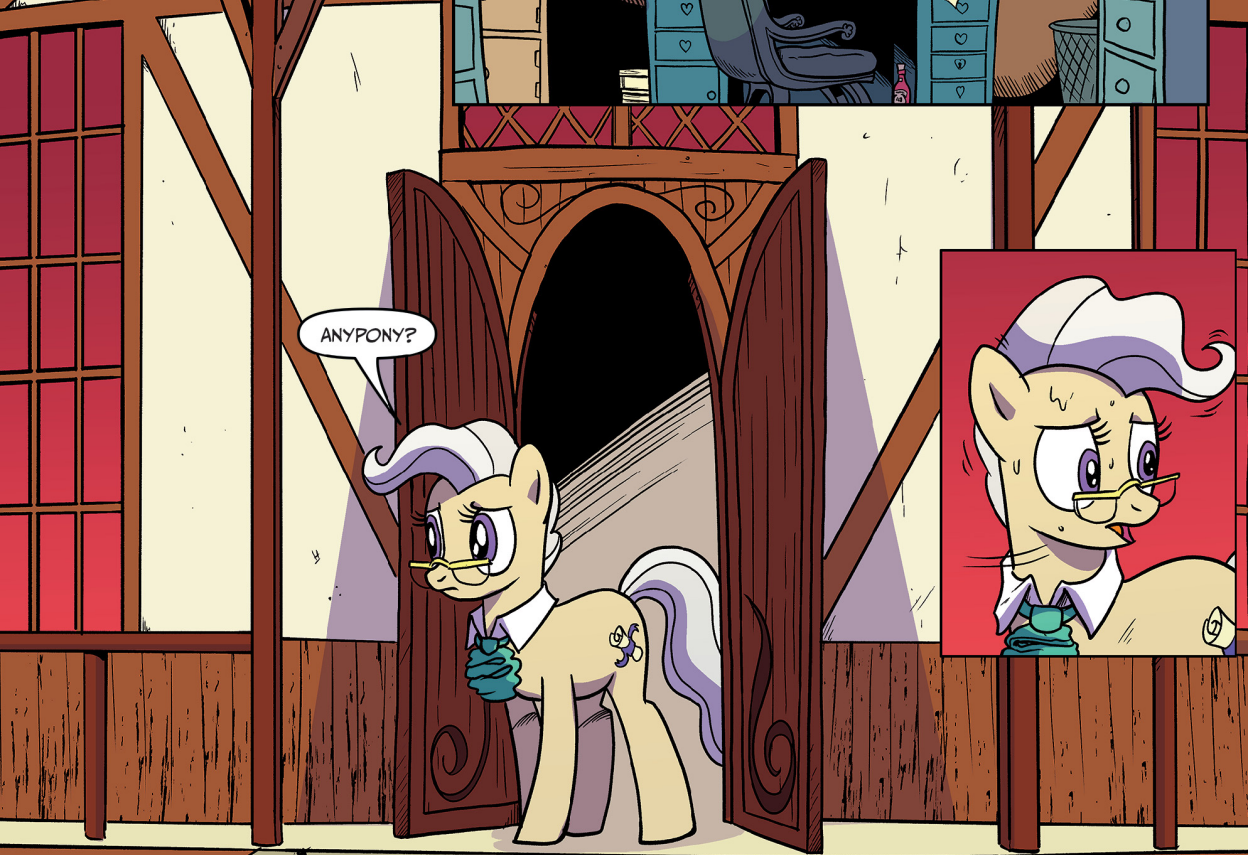
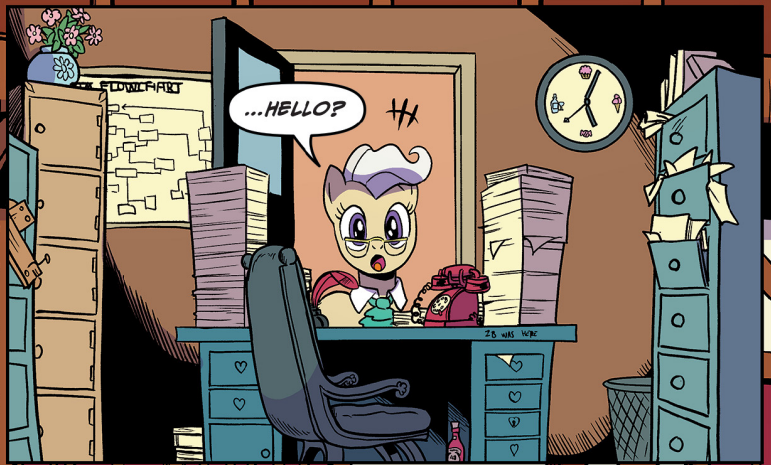
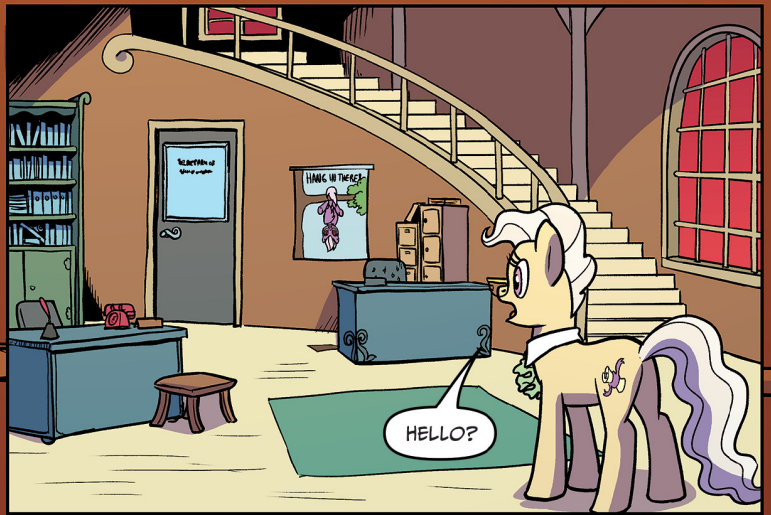
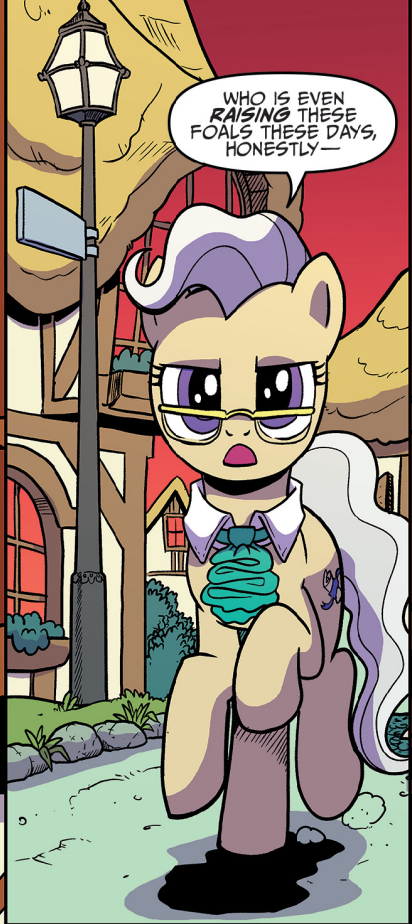


I WAS HAPPY TO HELP, BUT YOU'RE **TAKING ADVANTAGE** OF MY KINDNESS— AND ON **TODAY** OF ALL DAYS!



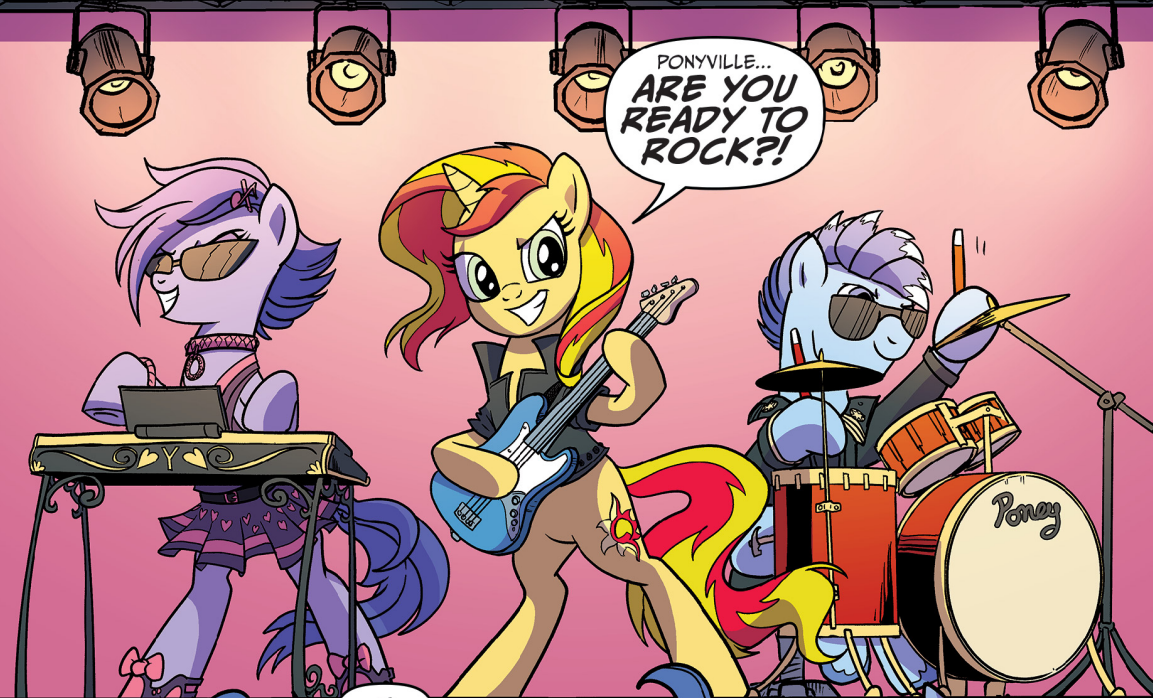
I'M GOING BACK TO CITY HALL, OR I'LL **NEVER** BE ABLE TO FINISH PLANNING SOMETHING FOR **PONYVILLE'S ANNIVERSARY** IN TIME!

TWILIGHT, I COULDN'T KEEP HER DISTRACTED ANYMORE! **SHE'S COMIN' YER WAY!**



SURPRISE!





PONYVILLE YOU'VE ROCKED SO LONG
YOU'LL ROCK ANOTHER CENTURY ON

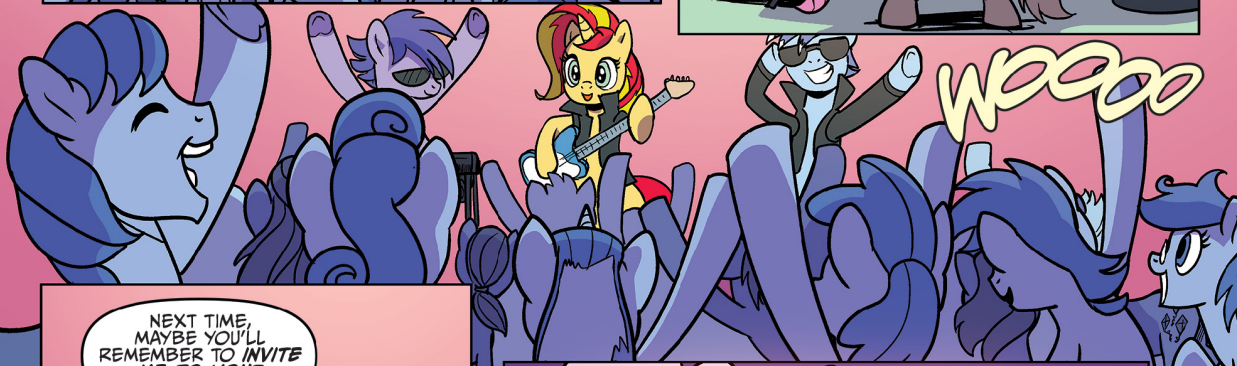
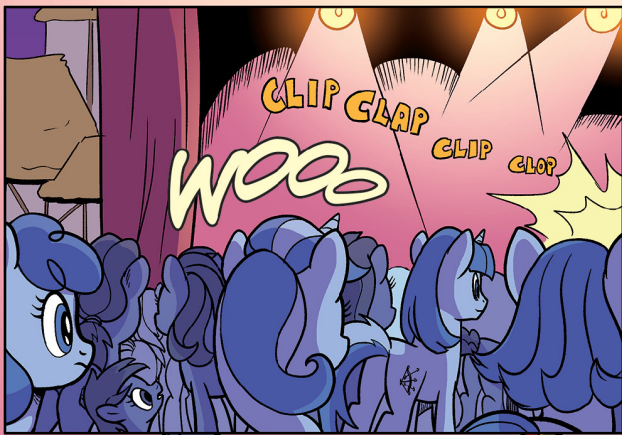
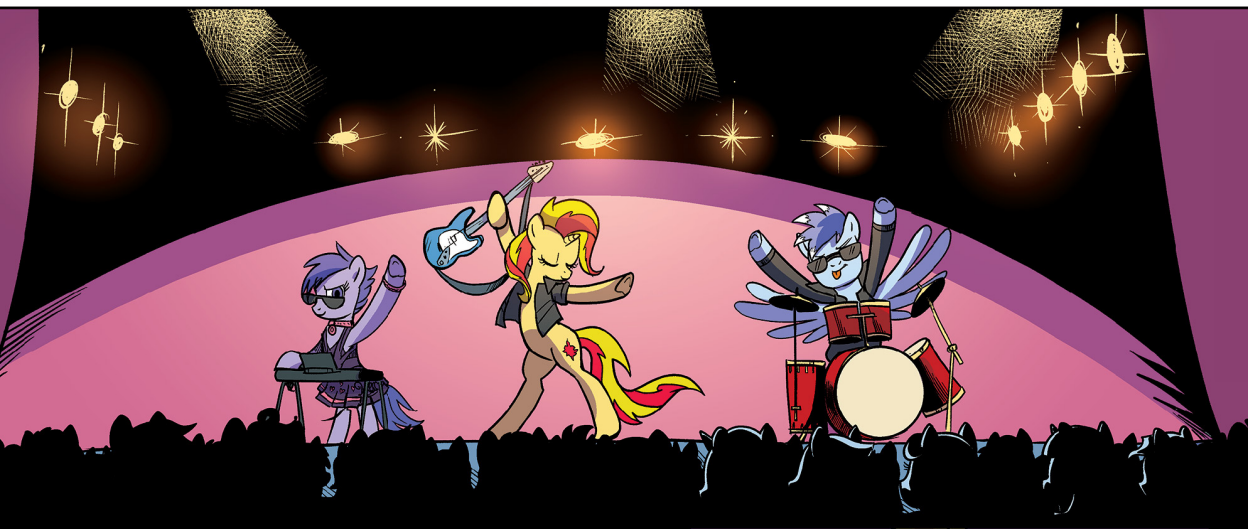
I KNOW I KNOW

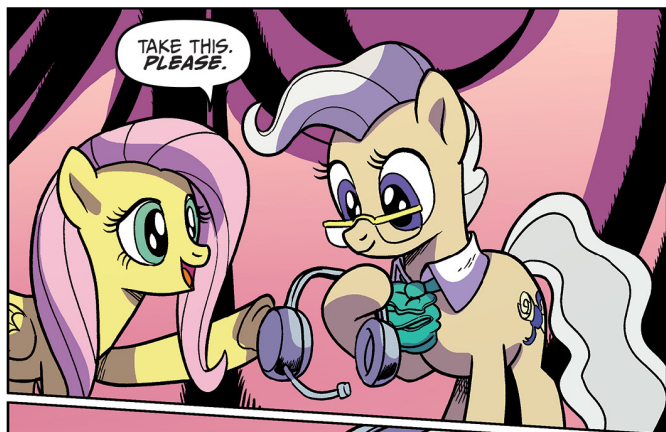
I KNOW YOU LOVE TO ROCK!

I KNOW I KNOW

I KNOW YOU LOVE TO ROCK!







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#1

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HICKEY
BRECKEL

my **LITTLE**
PONY

FIENDSHIP
IS MAGIC



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.....
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OUCH!

WRITTEN BY
JEREMY WHITLEY

ART BY
BRENDA HICKEY

COLORS BY
HEATHER BRECKEL

LETTERS BY
NEIL UYETAKE

EDITS BY
BOBBY CURNOW

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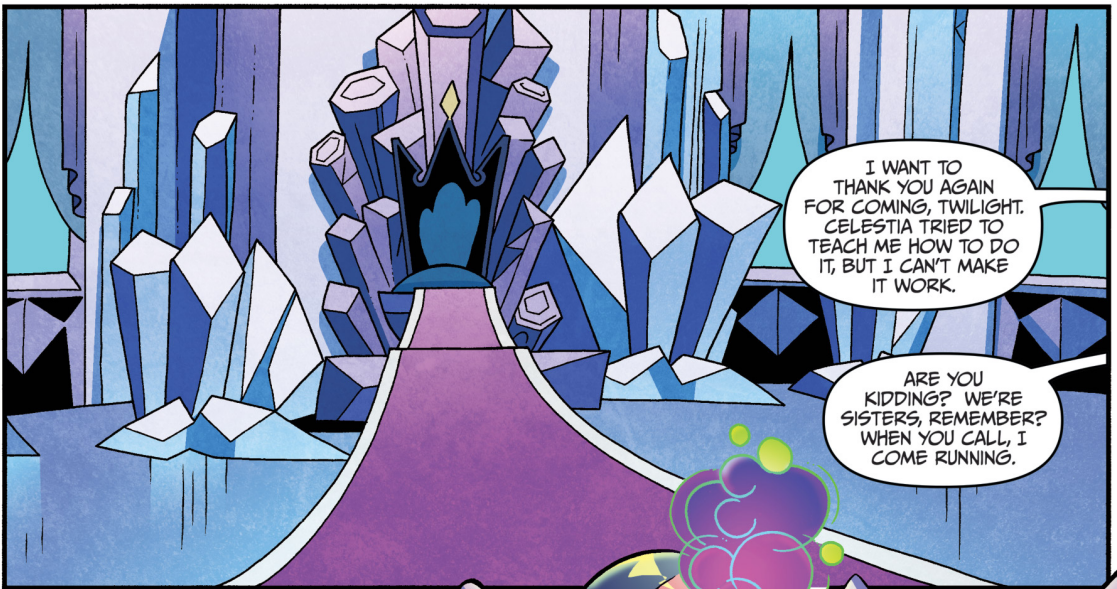


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ARE YOU KIDDING? WE'RE SISTERS, REMEMBER? WHEN YOU CALL, I COME RUNNING.





SO, DO YOU THINK HE'S COMING BACK?

SOMBRA? NO. I THINK HE'S GONE FOR GOOD. BUT WE SHOULD BE PREPARED. THEY THOUGHT THEY HAD HIM BEAT BEFORE TOO.

DO YOU HEAR THAT?

PROBABLY JUST AN ECHO.

IT'S MORE THAT WE HAVE ALL OF THIS INFORMATION MISSING FROM OUR RECORDS. THE CRYSTAL PONIES' MEMORIES CAME BACK, BUT THERE WERE A LOT OF BOOKS AND RECORDS THAT SOMBRA HAD DESTROYED.



AND YOU THINK HE MIGHT HAVE KEPT SOMETHING? DO BAD GUYS KEEP JOURNALS?

WELL, HE SURE LIKED HIMSELF. I'D BE SURPRISED IF HE DIDN'T RECORD SOMETHING.



HERE WE GO!



I KNEW IT! I KNEW HE HAD TO HAVE A ROOM LIKE THIS. JUST LOOK AT IT.

I AM. I SO NEED AN OFFICE LIKE THIS. WELL, EXCEPT FOR THE BUSTS OF MYSELF.

HERE IT IS. HERE'S HIS DIARY. THIS COULD TELL US EVERYTHING WE NEED.



OKAY, YOU EVIL PONY, LET'S SEE WHAT YOU HAD TO SAY.



"SOMBRA... IT WAS THE ONLY WORD I COULD REMEMBER WHEN THEY FOUND ME."

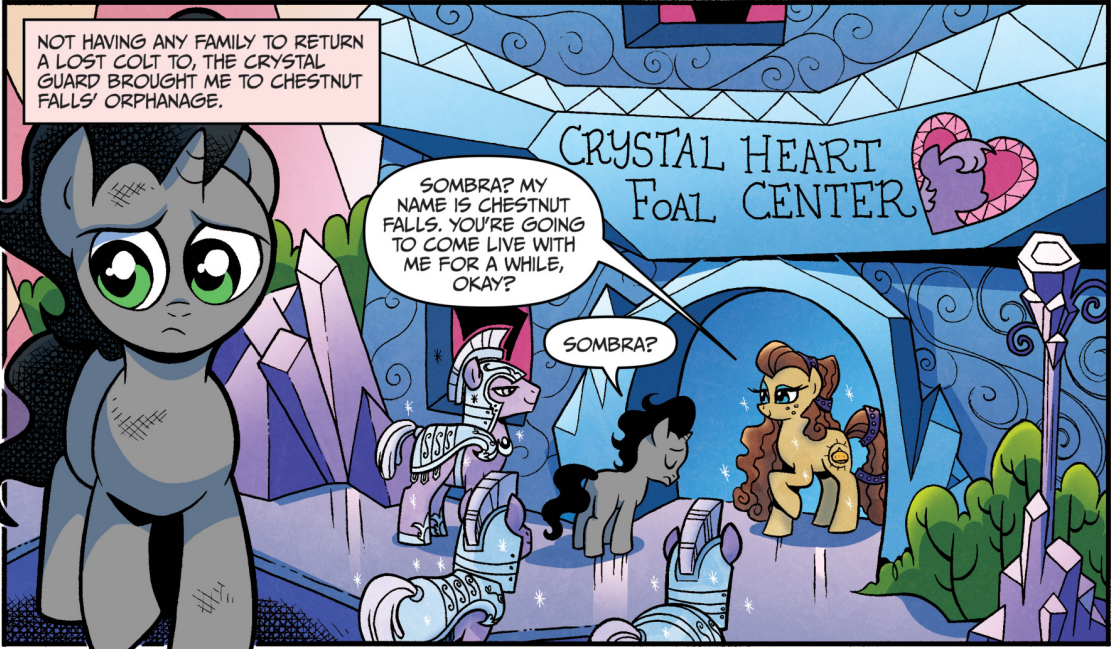
WHEN THEY FOUND HIM? WHO?

NO MATTER WHAT THEY ASKED, THE ONLY THING I WOULD SAY TO THEM WAS THIS ONE WORD. SO THEY MADE IT MY NAME.

The Crystal Guard said I was alone out in the wastes just north of the empire. They asked where my family was, but I couldn't tell them.
No matter what

say one w
"Sombra"
how I th

And that is how I, the King of All Monsters, named myself.



NOT HAVING ANY FAMILY TO RETURN A LOST COLT TO, THE CRYSTAL GUARD BROUGHT ME TO CHESTNUT FALLS' ORPHANAGE.

SOMBRA? MY NAME IS CHESTNUT FALLS. YOU'RE GOING TO COME LIVE WITH ME FOR A WHILE, OKAY?

SOMBRA?



Many Friends Happy Ponies.

I WAS YEARS BEHIND MY CLASSMATES. THEY KNEW ALL ABOUT THINGS I HAD NEVER EVEN HEARD OF. SAYING THEIR WORDS FELT LIKE CHEWING PEANUT BRITTLE. LIKE MY MOUTH WASN'T SUPPOSED TO SAY THEM.



BUT I WAS A QUICK LEARNER.

C D E E F G H I
All mane is black. My eyes are blue.
WRITE A SENTENCE USING THE WORD "MANE".



AND MS. CHESTNUT FALLS WOULD ALWAYS HELP ME WHEN I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND THE HOMEWORK.

SOUND IT OUT A LITTLE BIT AT A TIME.

PEG-UH-SUS.

THAT'S RIGHT! PEGASUS! YOU'RE DOING SO WELL, SOMBRA!



SADLY, THE SAME COULD NOT BE SAID FOR OTHERS.

GREETINGS, FRIENDS. CAN SOMBRA PLAY TOO?

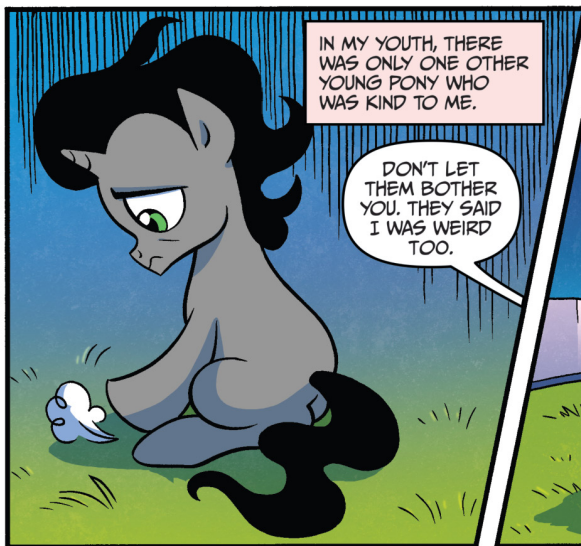
WHY DOES HE TALK LIKE THAT? I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY KEEP HIM HERE, HE'S NOT EVEN A CRYSTAL PONY.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE IS. HE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE HIS CUTIE MARK.



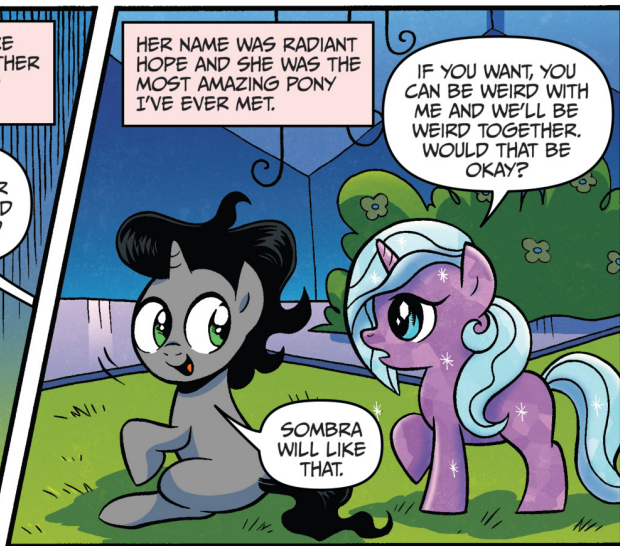
GET AWAY, SOMBRERO. WE DON'T WANT ANYPONY TO SEE US WITH THE WEIRD PONY.

THEY MIGHT THINK WE'RE WEIRD LIKE YOU.



IN MY YOUTH, THERE WAS ONLY ONE OTHER YOUNG PONY WHO WAS KIND TO ME.

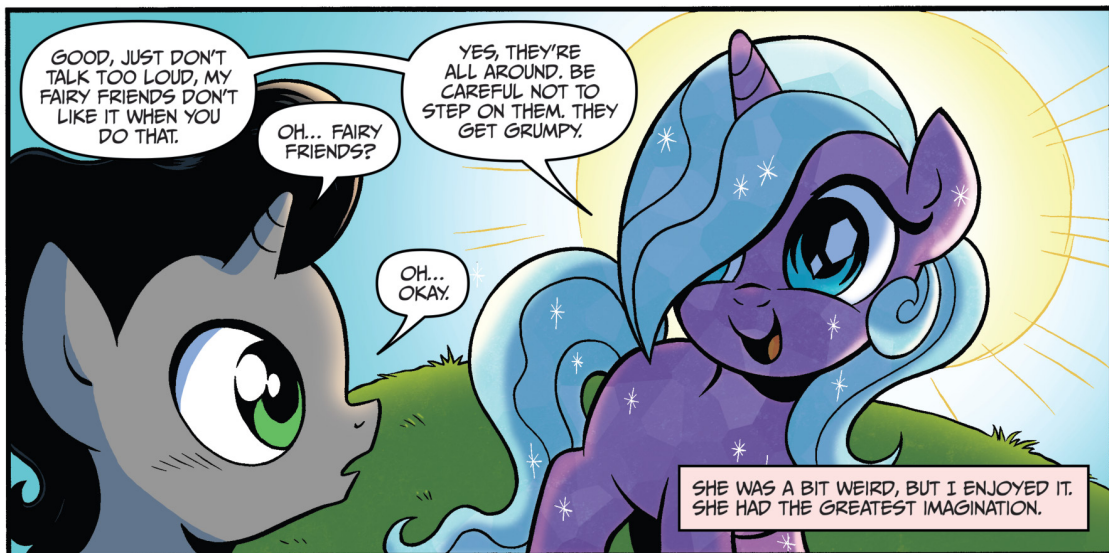
DON'T LET THEM BOTHER YOU. THEY SAID I WAS WEIRD TOO.



HER NAME WAS RADIANT HOPE AND SHE WAS THE MOST AMAZING PONY I'VE EVER MET.

IF YOU WANT, YOU CAN BE WEIRD WITH ME AND WE'LL BE WEIRD TOGETHER. WOULD THAT BE OKAY?

SOMBRA WILL LIKE THAT.



GOOD, JUST DON'T TALK TOO LOUD, MY FAIRY FRIENDS DON'T LIKE IT WHEN YOU DO THAT.

OH... FAIRY FRIENDS?

YES, THEY'RE ALL AROUND. BE CAREFUL NOT TO STEP ON THEM. THEY GET GRUMPY.

OH... OKAY.

SHE WAS A BIT WEIRD, BUT I ENJOYED IT. SHE HAD THE GREATEST IMAGINATION.

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my LITTLE
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