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# my LITTLE PONY



SEASON 10 STARTS HERE!



Brian Hickley



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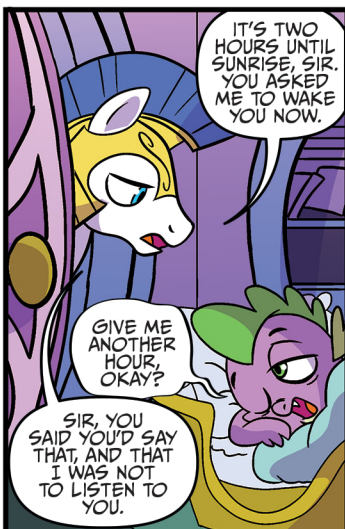
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PARDON ME... ERRR... UMMM...  
MR. SPIKE?



WHUH?  
I...  
I WAS SLEEPING IN THE BED BUT... IT'S NOT VERY COMFORTABLE AND...  
WHAT TIME IS IT?



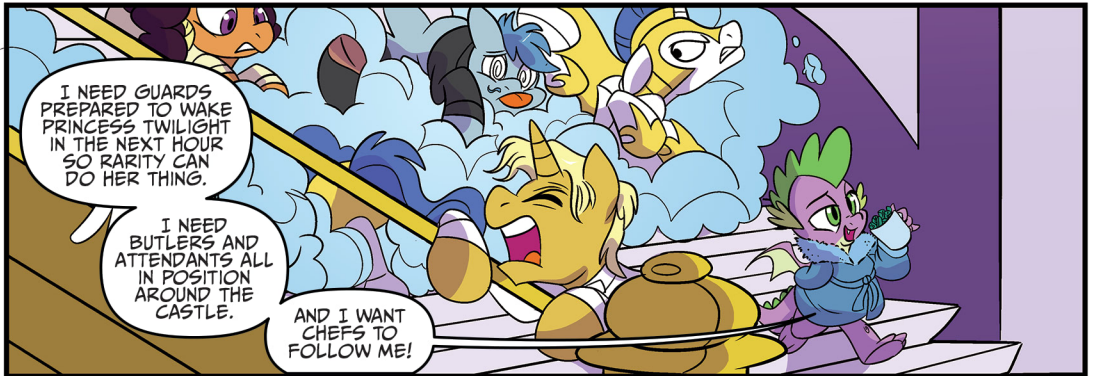
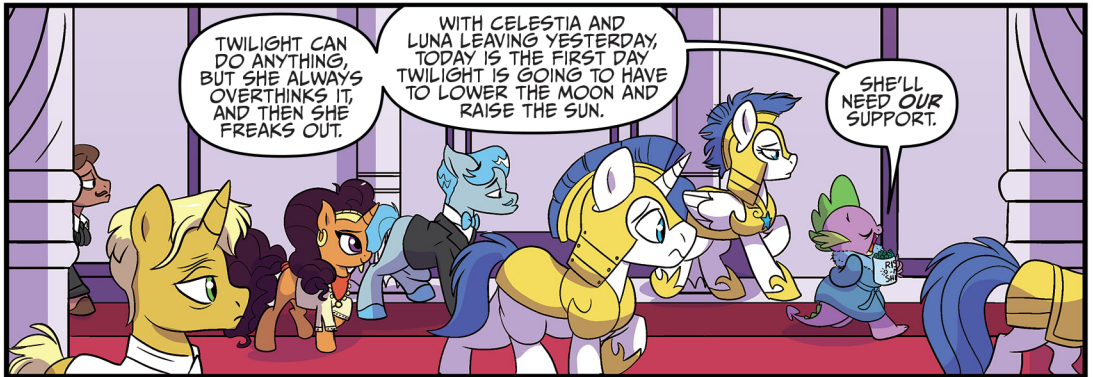
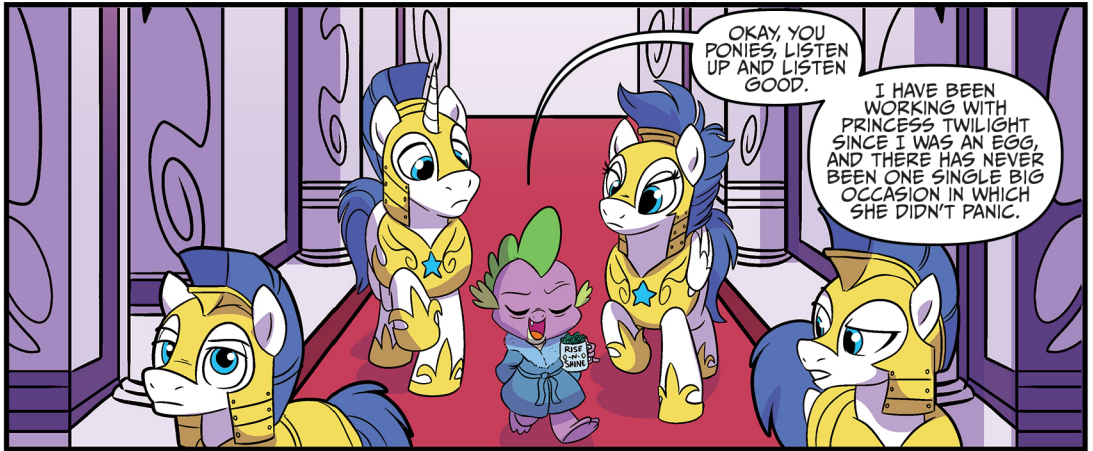
IT'S TWO HOURS UNTIL SUNRISE, SIR. YOU ASKED ME TO WAKE YOU NOW.  
GIVE ME ANOTHER HOUR, OKAY?  
SIR, YOU SAID YOU'D SAY THAT, AND THAT I WAS NOT TO LISTEN TO YOU.

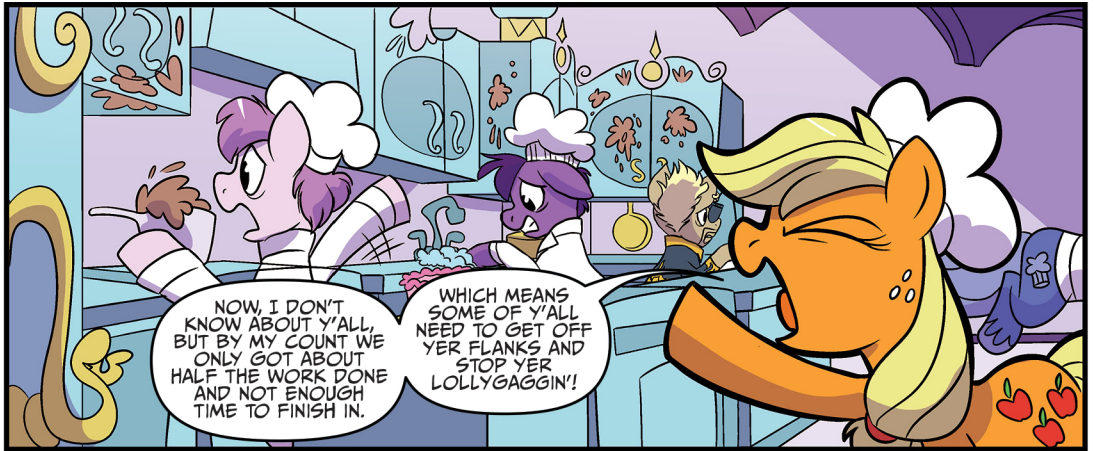


I... I DID?  
YES, SIR. YOU SAID THAT TODAY WAS PRINCESS TWILIGHT'S FIRST SUNRISE AND THAT SHE WOULD ABSOLUTELY NEED YOUR HELP.  
HER FIRST...  
HER FIRST...



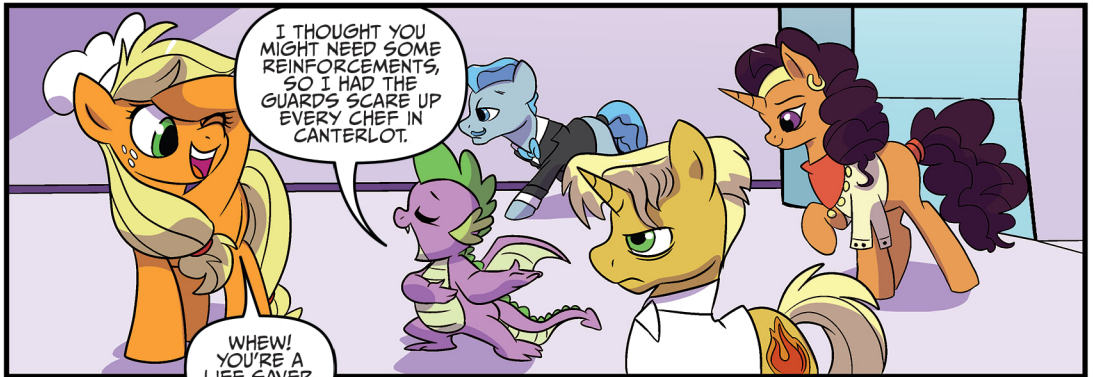
HER FIRST SUNRISE!





NOW, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT Y'ALL, BUT BY MY COUNT WE ONLY GOT ABOUT HALF THE WORK DONE AND NOT ENOUGH TIME TO FINISH IN.

WHICH MEANS SOME OF Y'ALL NEED TO GET OFF YER FLANKS AND STOP YER LOLLYGAGGIN'!



I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NEED SOME REINFORCEMENTS, SO I HAD THE GUARDS SCARE UP EVERY CHEF IN CANTERLOT.

WHEW! YOU'RE A LIFE SAVER, SPIKE!



I'VE BEEN UP HALF THE NIGHT TRYIN' TO GET THE FEAST FOR THIS MORNING PREPARED. IT'S GONNA BE A BIG ONE.

WELL, I KNOW TWILIGHT'S THRILLED THAT YOU AGREED TO HELP.

SHE WAS WORRIED IT WAS TOO MUCH TO ASK, WITH YOU HAVING TO COME ALL THE WAY UP FROM PONYVILLE.

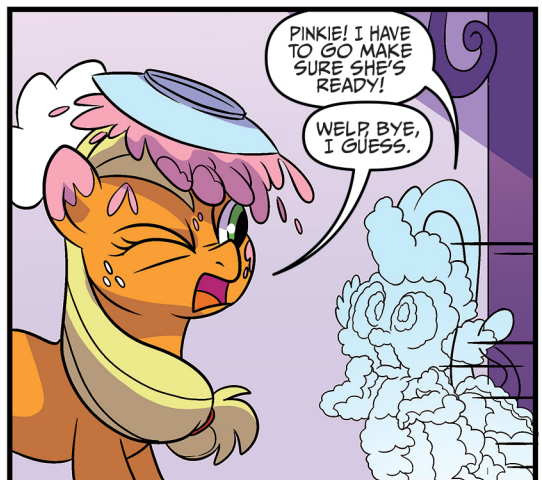
HECK, SPIKE, IF I'M HONEST, I WAS GLAD TO GET THE INVITE.



I KNOW IT'S HARDLY BEEN ANY TIME AT ALL SINCE WE WERE FIGHTING TO SAVE ALL OF EQUESTRIA, BUT... WELL...

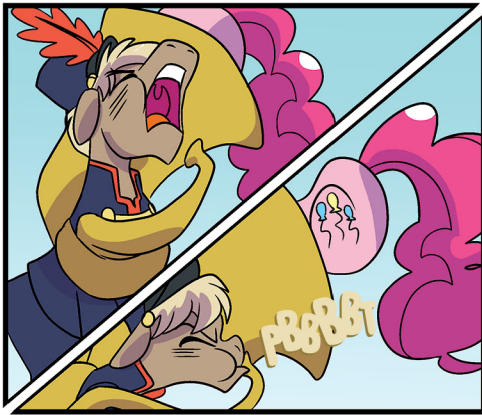
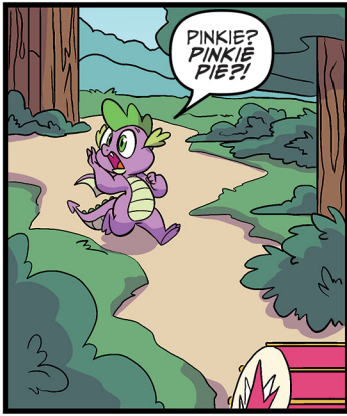
I KINDA MISS IT, YA KNOW? WITH TWILIGHT BEING HERE, SHE CAN'T JUST RUN OFF ON SOME BIG ADVENTURE, AND THAT MEANS I DON'T EITHER.

HONESTLY, I THINK PINKIE FEELS THE SAME WAY, WHICH IS WHY---



PINKIE! I HAVE TO GO MAKE SURE SHE'S READY!

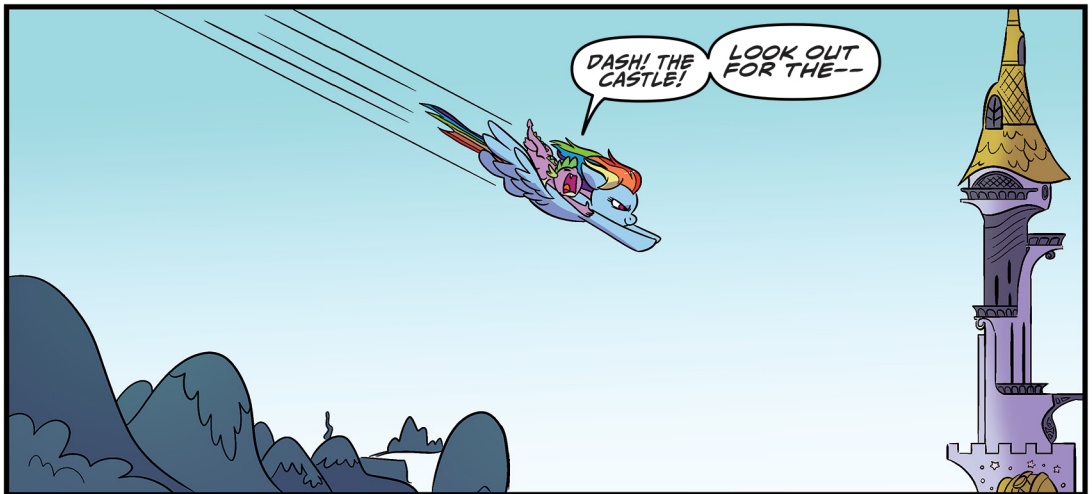
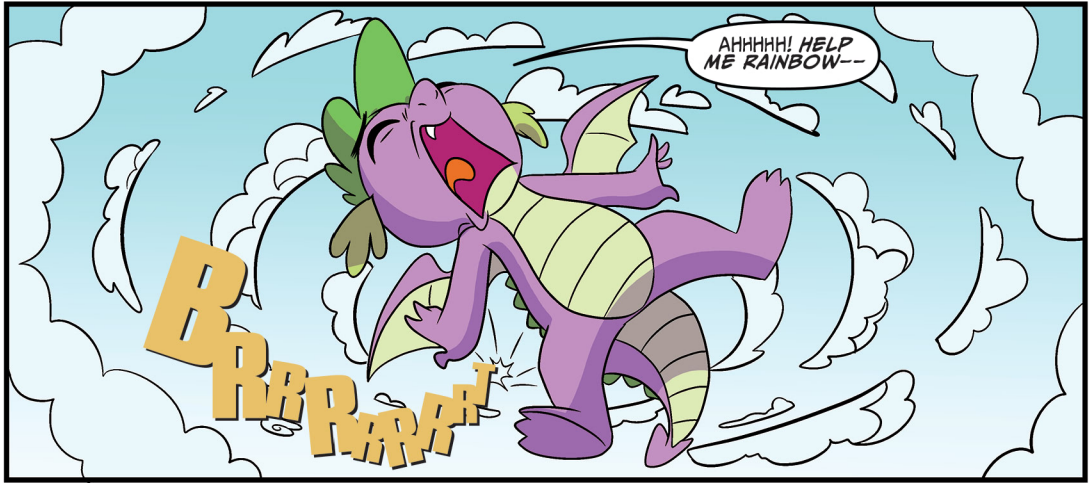
WELL, BYE, I GUESS.



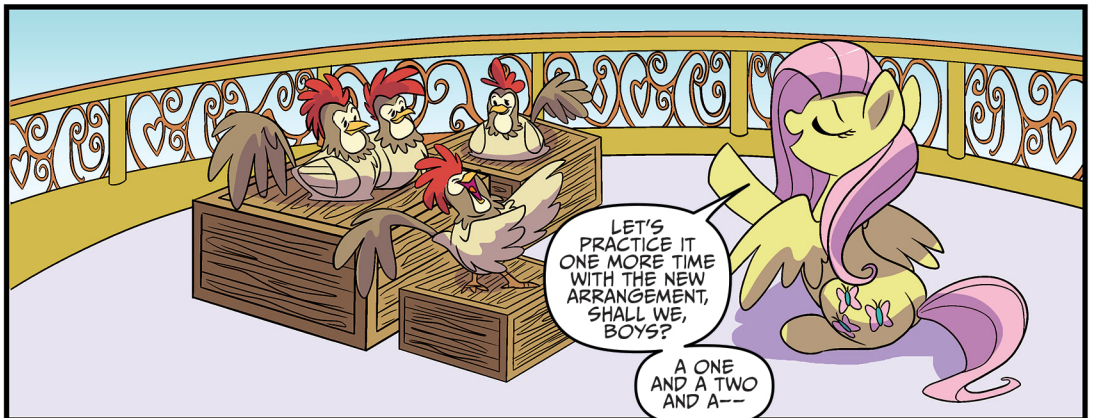
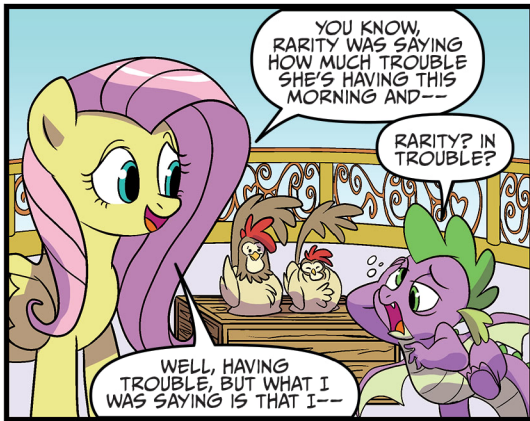
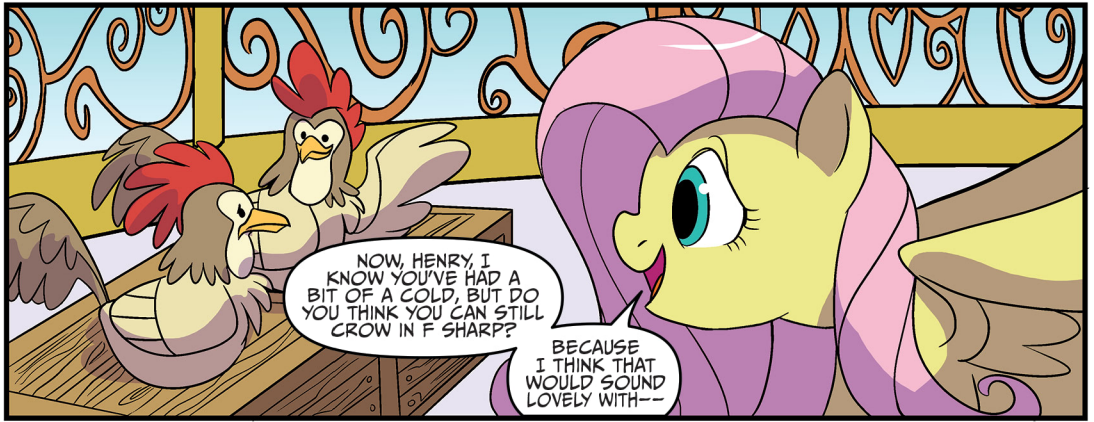
GEE, THANKS PINKIE!

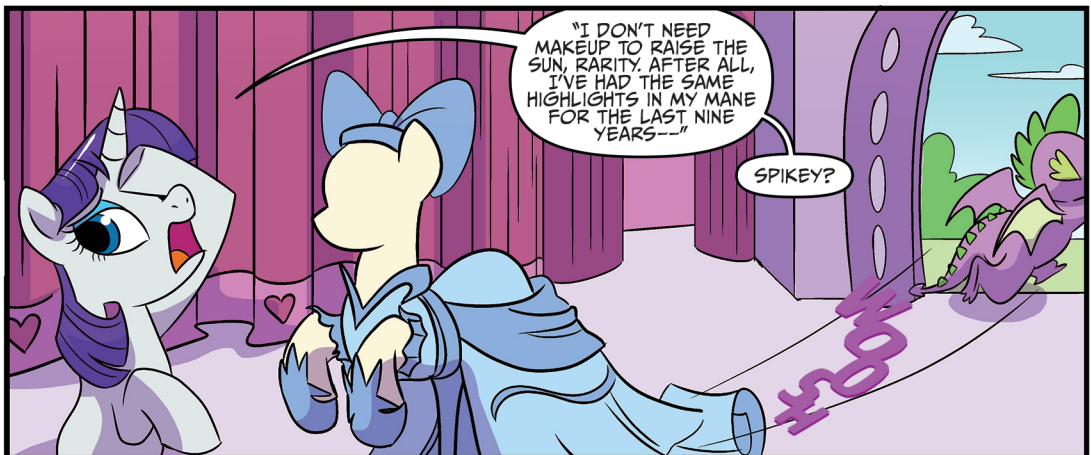
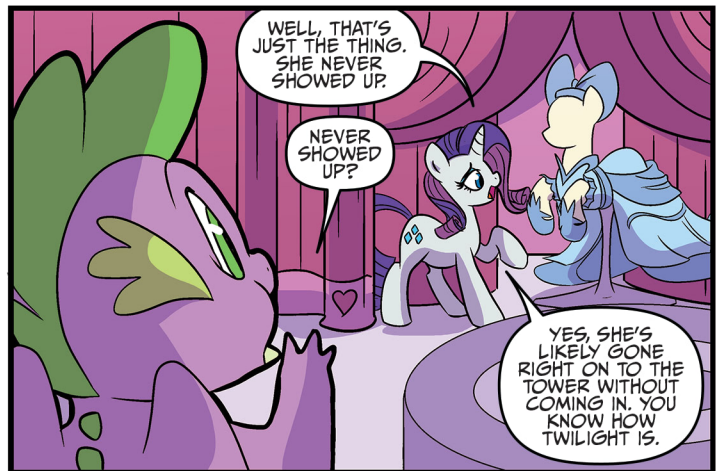
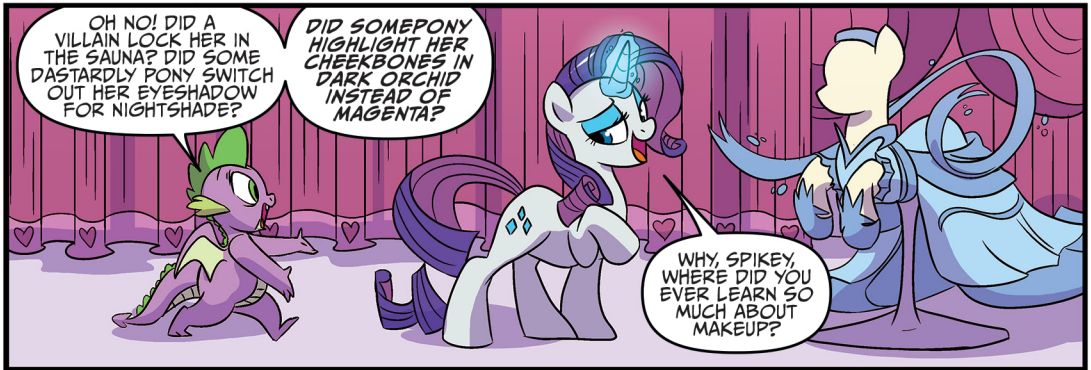
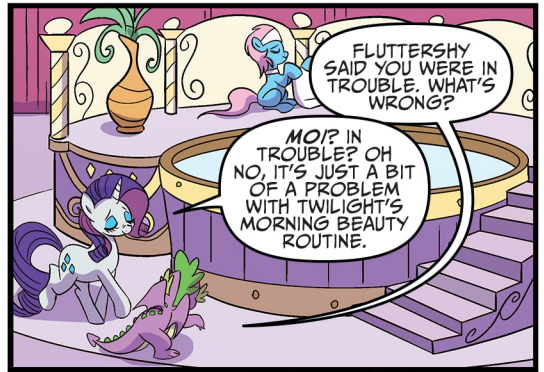
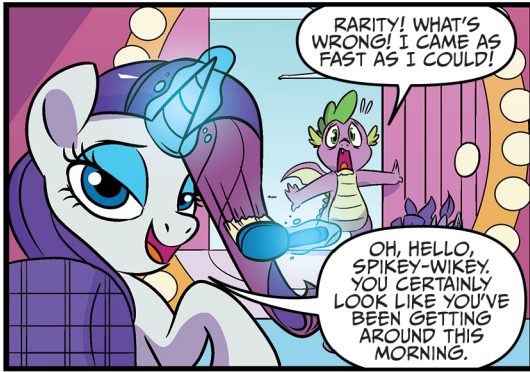
PINKIE, IT'S ALMOST TIME. IS THE PARADE READY?

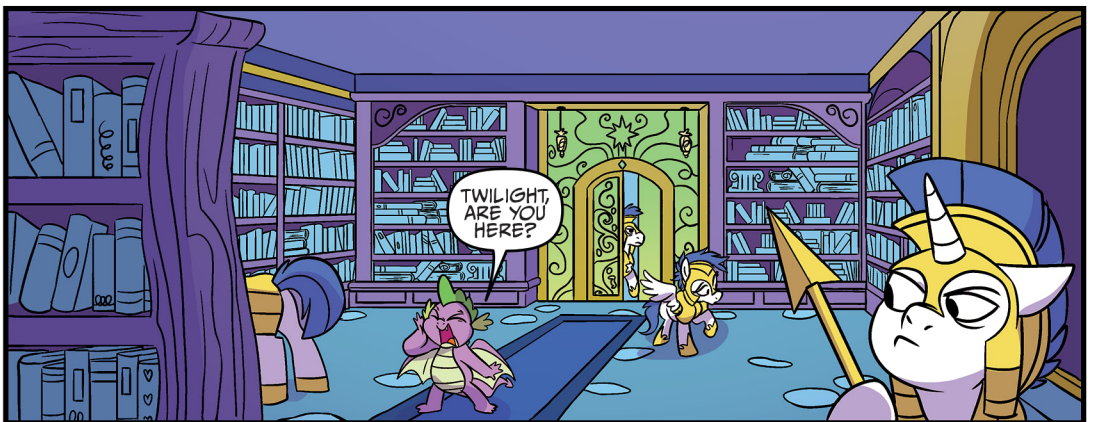
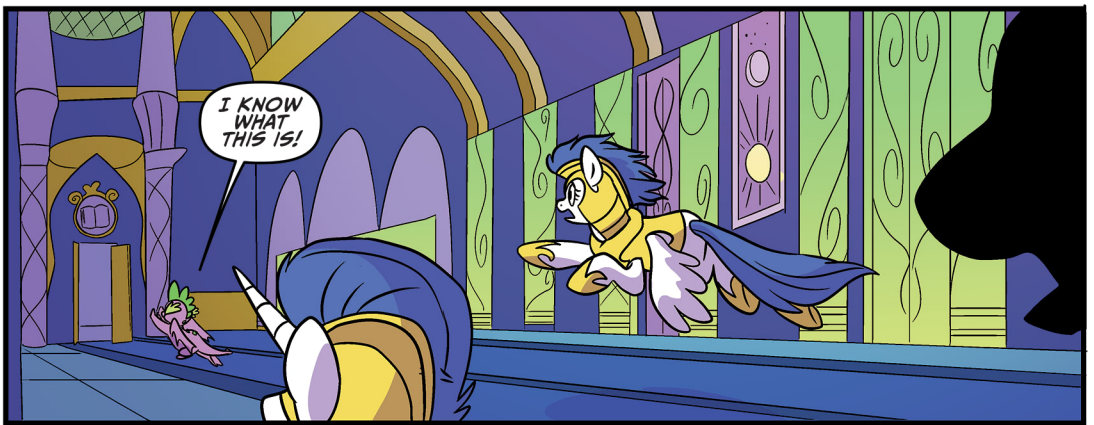
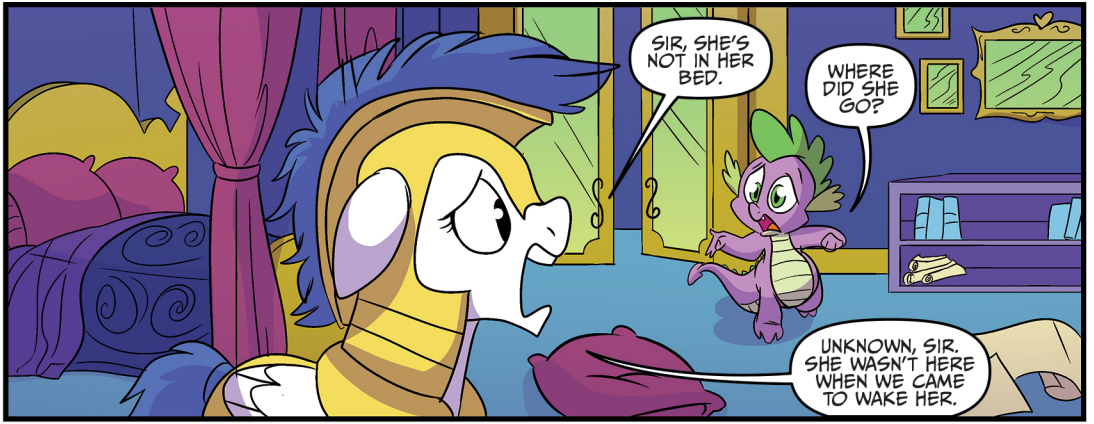




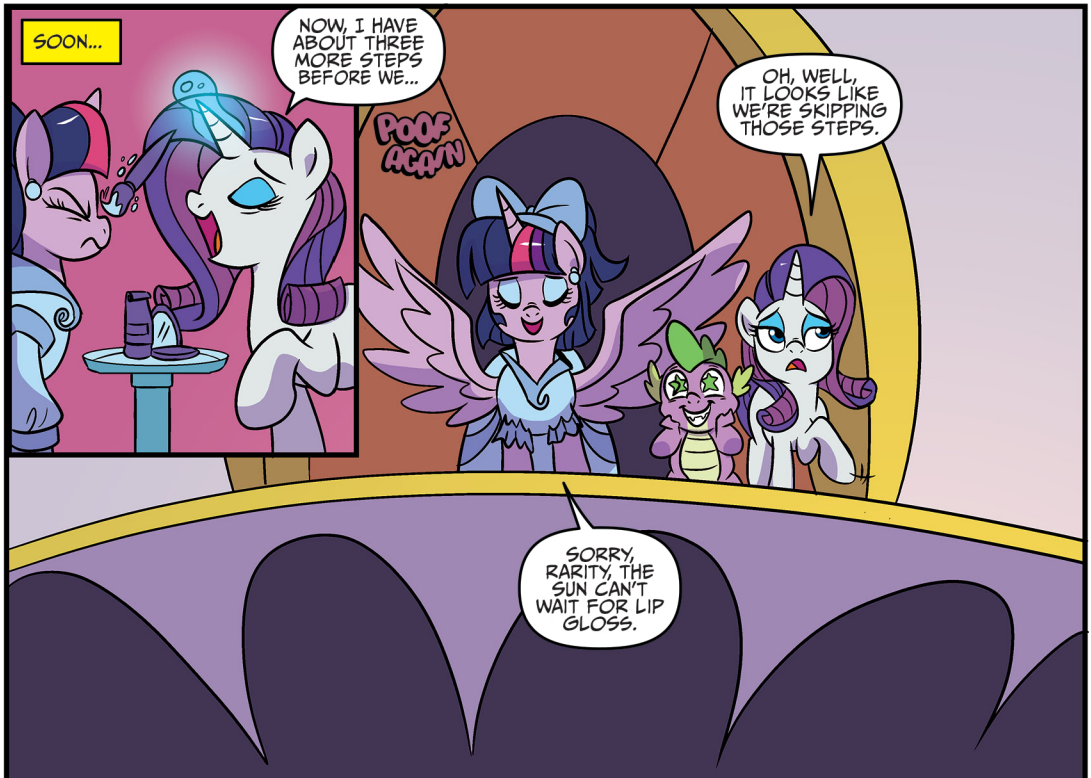
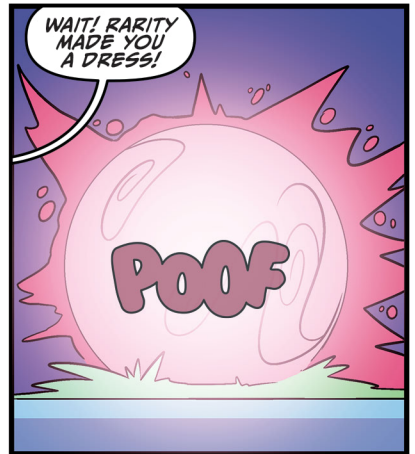
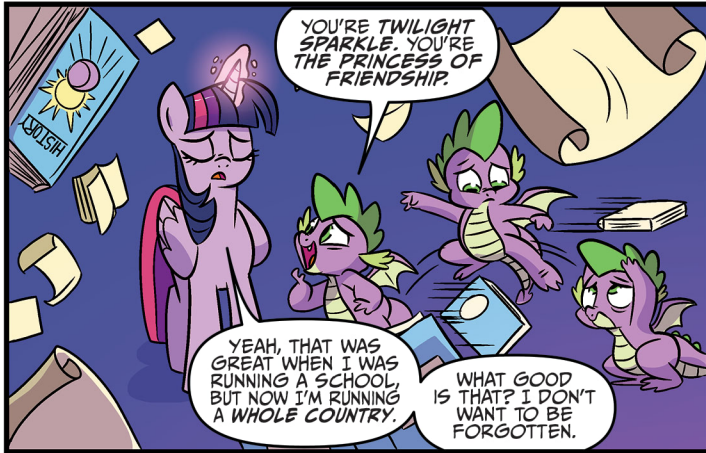














WELL, ALL I'M SAYING IS A LITTLE CONCEALER NEVER HURT ANYPONY.

COCKA  
DOOLE  
DOO



SEASON 10 CONTINUES IN  
MY LITTLE PONY: FRIENDSHIP IS MAGIC #89!



FIRST ISSUE AVAILABLE NOW! FROM IDW COMICS!



**THE ANIMATED ADVENTURES OF YOUR FAVORITE PONIES MAY HAVE ENDED, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THE FUN IS STOPPING! EXPANDING THE MYTHOLOGY OF EQUESTRIA, IDW'S *MY LITTLE PONY: FRIENDSHIP IS MAGIC* SEASON 10 CONTINUES ALL THE HEART-STOPPING ACTION AND WONDERFUL FRIENDSHIP YOU'VE COME TO EXPECT FROM THE MANE SIX! PRINCESS TWILIGHT SPARKLE HAS A NEW TASK THAT WILL TAKE HER FRIENDS TO PLACES WE'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE, AND WRITER JEREMY WHITLEY IS HERE TO TELL US MORE ABOUT WHAT WE CAN EXPECT!**

### **Tell us a little bit about Season 10—what was your thought process behind the story?**

The biggest thing I wanted to be sure of was that we stayed true to the show while acknowledging how much things changed for our heroes in the last few episodes. Twilight Sparkle is in charge now, and in the finale we got a peek at the leader she will become. What we wanted to do was take inspiration from the show to grow the world in ways that felt both authentic and new. That brought the questions of, "What does the reign of Twilight Sparkle look like?" and "How would the relationships of our cast have changed?" I think Twilight, especially, is trying to answer the same questions.

Ultimately, what we landed on was that Twilight's legacy is about connecting with others. As a student of Celestia, this was about connecting with other ponies. Now it's about reaching outside of the world we know and exploring strange new worlds. To seek out new life and new civilizations. To boldly go where no pony has gone before.

### **Did you feel any sort of pressure going in?**

Well... yes and no. Obviously, writing for the world of Equestria is not new to me. Before Season 10 even starts, I have 40 issues of *My Little Pony* comics under my belt (between *Friendship is Magic*, *Friends Forever*, *Legends of Magic*, *Nightmare Knights*, and *Friendship is Magic*). But I also knew that Season 10 needed to be something big and new and, with the show wrapping up, that we now had the opportunity to tell large-scale stories that would have been the show's to tell before. I wanted to make sure we had something new to do and say, so I feel like there was pressure to bring some new and fresh ideas that still felt like *Friendship is Magic*.

### **Can you tell us a little bit about your writing process? How do you go about plotting a story?**

As people who've read a lot of my stories might guess, I tend to start with character. I begin with characters I love and facets of them I want to learn more about. I've often enjoyed writing stories in the "Friends Forever" team-up style, because it means combining two characters with different personalities and saying, "What's the big thing we could do that either bring these two together or drive them apart? How can we highlight the differences in their personalities? What is the most, for example, Discord-centered story we can tell, and how would Luna react to that?". I think that's part of why *Friendship is Magic* appeals to me, because the characters are so clearly defined, but there's so much room for interesting intersections and nuance in the friendships.

Once I have the answer to that question, I take the idea to the folks at IDW and Hasbro and hope they'll let me take it on. With Season 10, I've done some of the most plot-centered stories I've done since beginning working on MLP, so the biggest goal has been to keep an emotional core within those stories and continue to tell stories about the characters we love while widening their world.

### **What are you most excited for fans to experience in Season 10?**

I'm thrilled for fans of the show to experience our first story, starting in issue 89 of the series, where we get to answer some questions that I've been itching to answer since the first season of *Friendship is Magic*—where does Zecora come from, and how did she end up in Equestria? I've had some ideas for this story for years, and when I got the opportunity to kick off season 10, this was the first story I pitched. I'm very excited to fill in a corner of the MLP universe that's been mostly untouched for years! We have a lot of cool new characters for readers to meet, and a few new types of characters that I think longtime fans of the show will love.

## What is the thing you're most excited to explore in Season 10?

There are a lot of cool things we have in store story-wise, but I think my favorite thing to explore might be the character dynamics. With Twilight tied up in Canterlot, we can't tell stories of the Mane 6 the way we have for years. Part of the design for this season is that some of the characters who have played background roles are stepping up and taking on roles in the spotlight. We get to see combinations of characters we've never seen on adventures before. I mean, our first story brings together one of the Mane 6, a major supporting character, one of the Pillars of Equestria, and a character who originally appeared in the MLP movie. That's something the show hasn't ever done!

## What do you feel is the difference between exploring stories in a TV show versus a comic book?

Well, the most obvious thing is cast. There are quite a few characters from the show that make an appearance in the first issue of season 10. It would be a real headache to bring in all of those voice actors to deliver one or two lines.

There's also the question of size. You can fit about half the story in a 20-page comic that you can in a 20-22 minute tv show. That means that to do a two-part season opener or season finale takes four issues. Thankfully, that's something we have room for in season 10, because we're aiming to tell some big stories.

## What do you love about comics?

I love how free comics allow us to be. Comics are so versatile and can tell so many types of stories. I also love the nature of personal collaboration. A television show takes an entire studio to animate, while I get to work with just a couple of artists to make exactly the story we wanted to tell. It makes it much easier to get a finished product that feels like what you imagined when you first wrote the script, and gives a feeling of really having been in the trenches together.

## You've been a writer on *My Little Pony* for quite some time—who is your favorite pony to write for? What's been your favorite issue to write?

Oooh, that's so tough. It's like choosing between my children at this point. Twilight Sparkle, Luna, Tempest, Rockhoof, and Trixie are among my favorites, but I still think my all-time favorite is Discord. Anything is possible when you're writing the Lord of Chaos. I think the issue of *Friends Forever* I did with Discord and Luna was my favorite, because we got to experience Discord's dreams, and we hadn't ever seen those characters interact on a friendly basis. The sheer number of gags and hijinks in that issue made it very fun to write.

Though, going back and reading stories I've done in the past, I think the one about which I feel most warmly was a few issues before that, when I did a story about Rarity and Babs Seed, where they bond over having parents who don't really understand them. It was a challenge to figure out what those characters would do together, and I was really proud of where that issue ended up going.

## Can you describe Season 10 in three words?

Friendship is Universal.



# TRANSFORMERS

my LITTLE PONY

## FRIENDSHIP IN DISGUISE!

THE CITIZENS OF  
EQUESTRIA AND  
CYBERTRON  
COLLIDE!

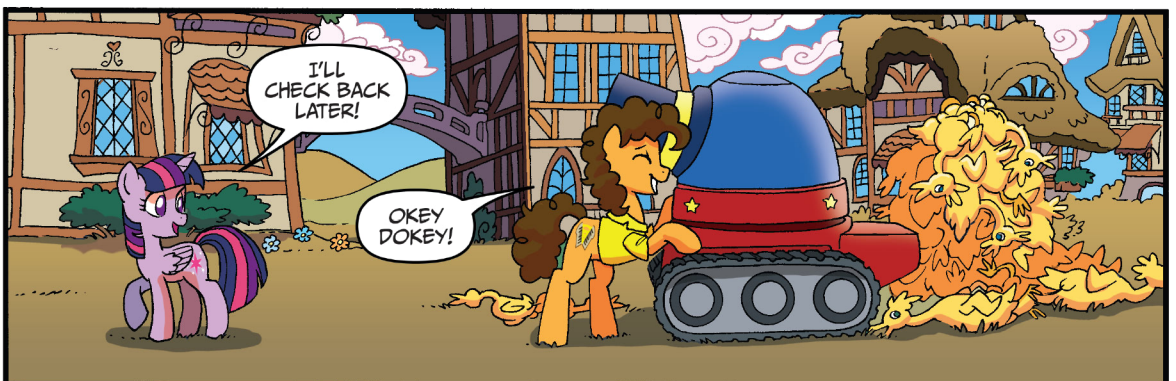


JAMES ASMUS • IAN FLYNN • TONY FLEECES  
JACK LAWRENCE • SAM MAGGS • SARA PITRE-DUROCHER  
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LET'S SEE...  
SO MANY RUBBER  
CHICKENS, SO  
LITTLE TIME.



CHEESE  
SANDWICH?!



PINKIE PIE?  
WHAT ARE YOU  
DOING HERE?

WHAT AM I  
DOING HERE? I  
THINK THE QUESTION  
IS, WHAT ARE YOU  
DOING HERE?

SHOULDN'T YOU  
BE WITH RAINBOW  
DASH?

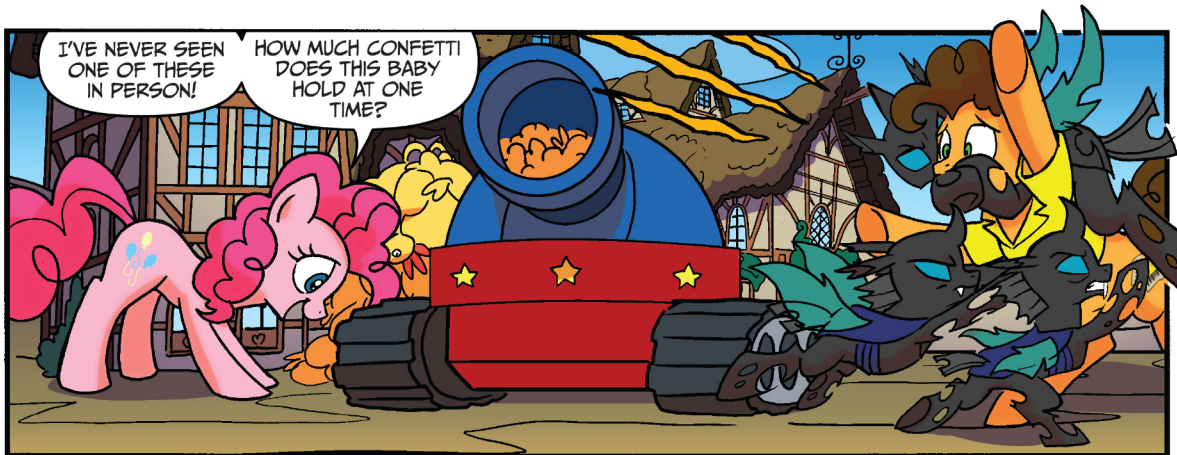
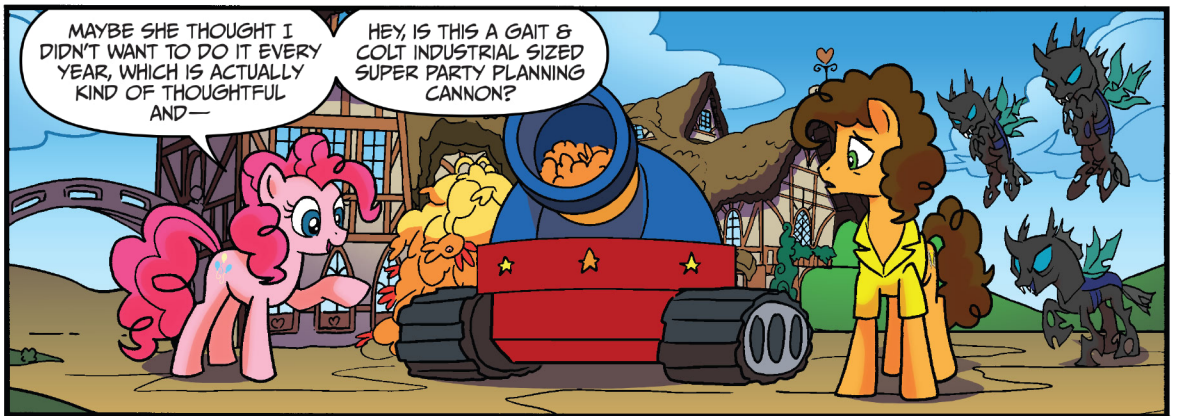
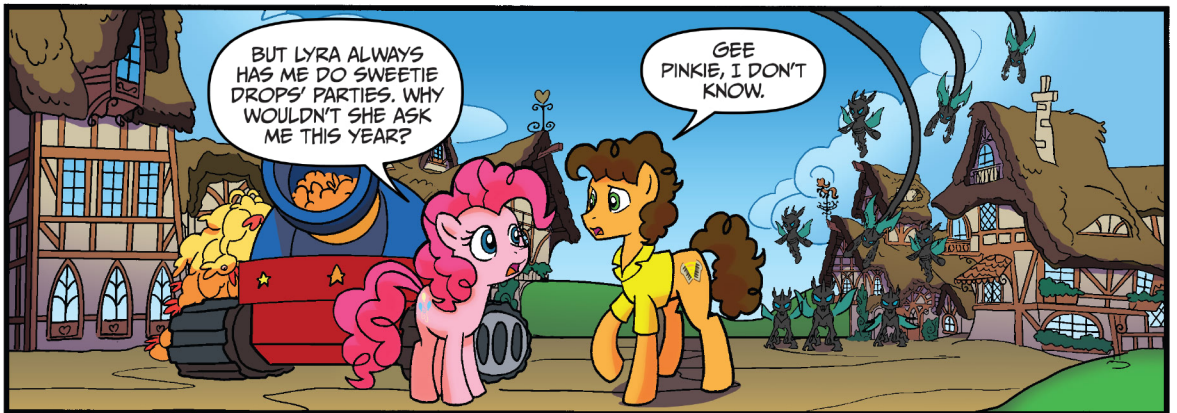
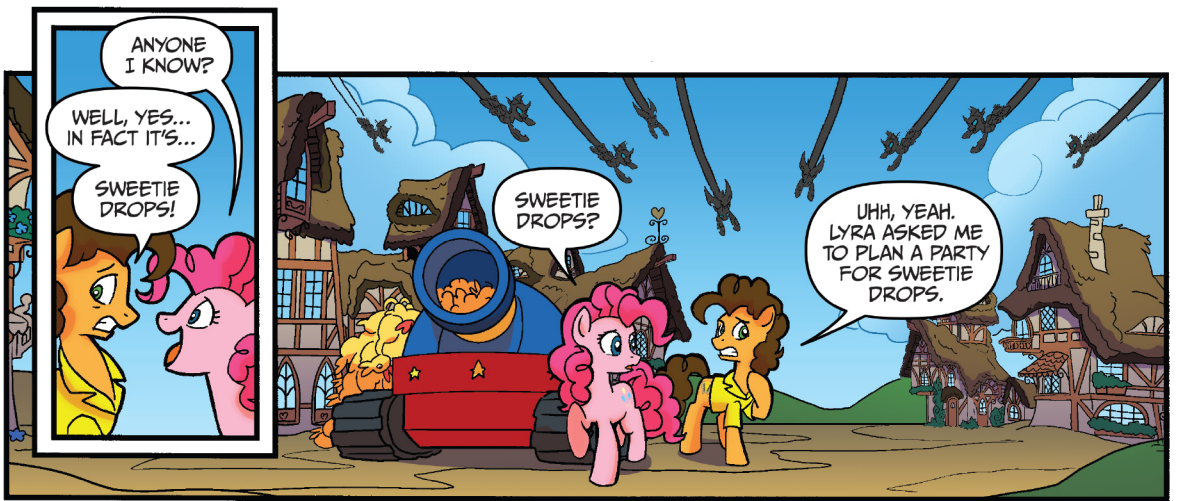


WE WERE  
SUPPOSED TO MEET  
EARLIER AT SUGAR  
CUBE CORNER, BUT  
SHE NEVER  
SHOWED.

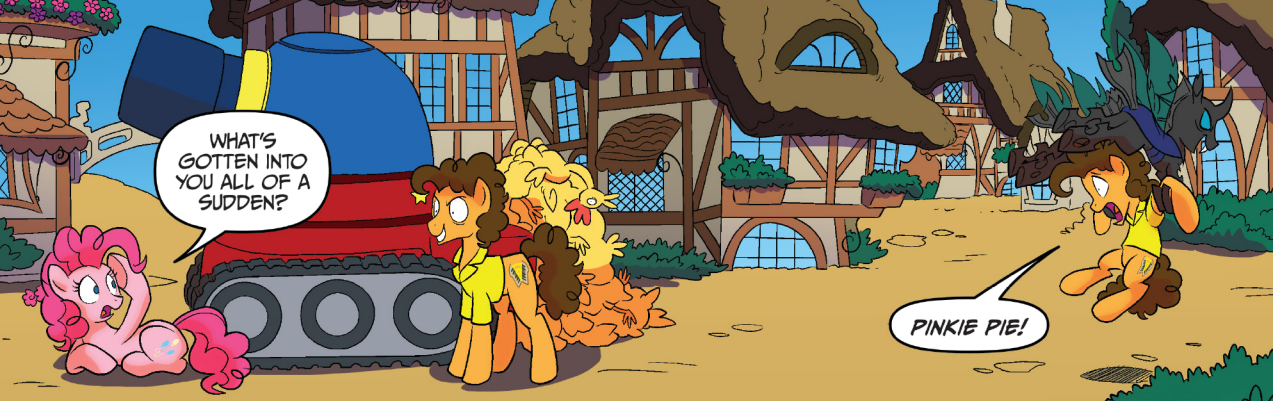


WAIT A  
SECOND! THIS  
LOOKS AN AWFUL  
LOT LIKE PARTY  
PLANNING!

IT DOES?





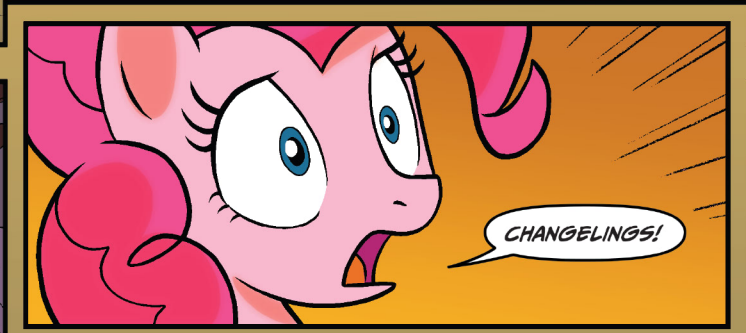


WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN?

PINKIE PIE!



CHEESE? HOW CAN YOU BE OVER THERE IF YOU'RE OVER...



CHANGELINGS!



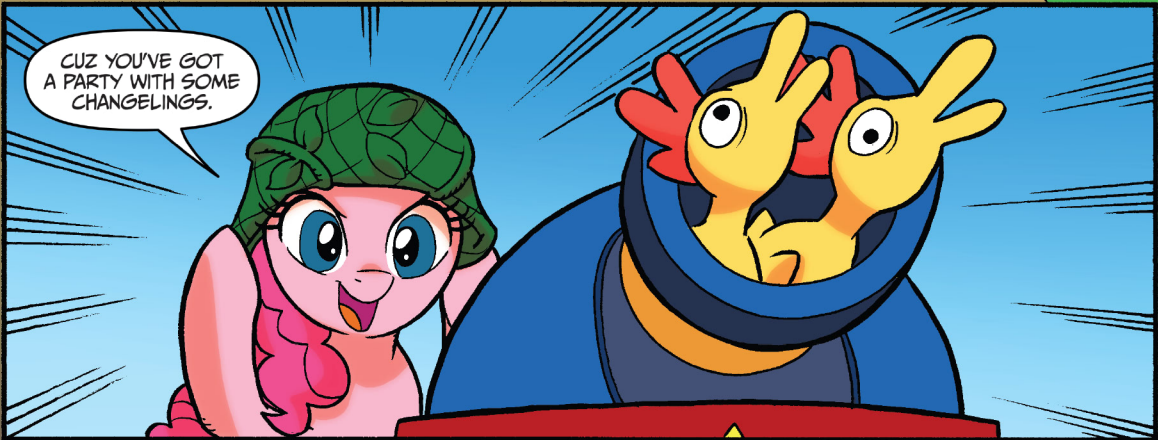
HOW DARE YOU IMPERSONATE THE ONE AND ONLY CHEESE SANDWICH!

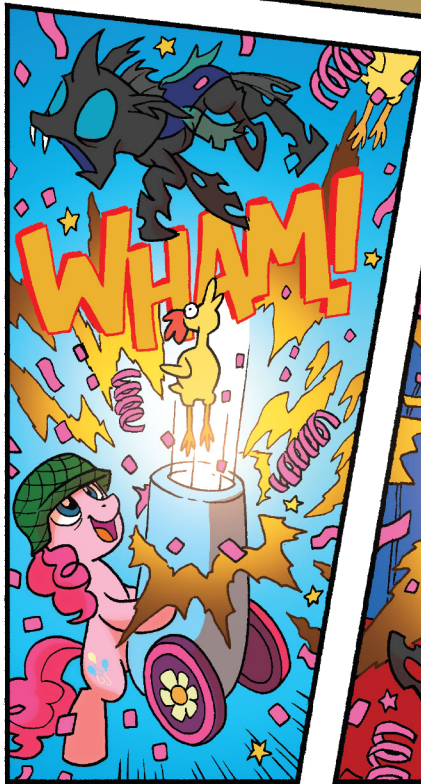
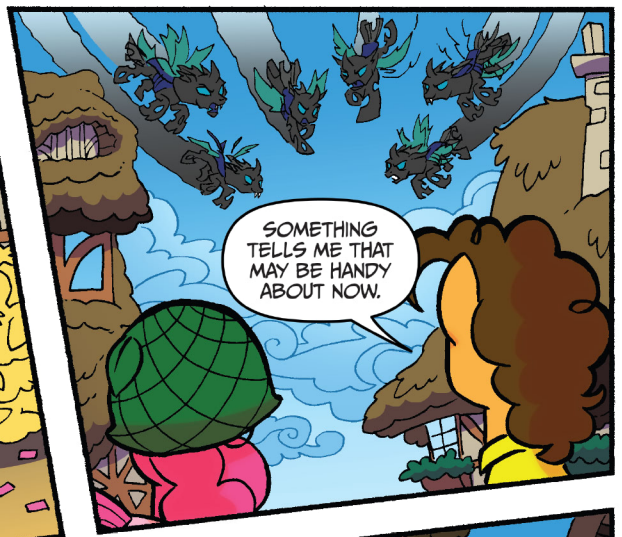
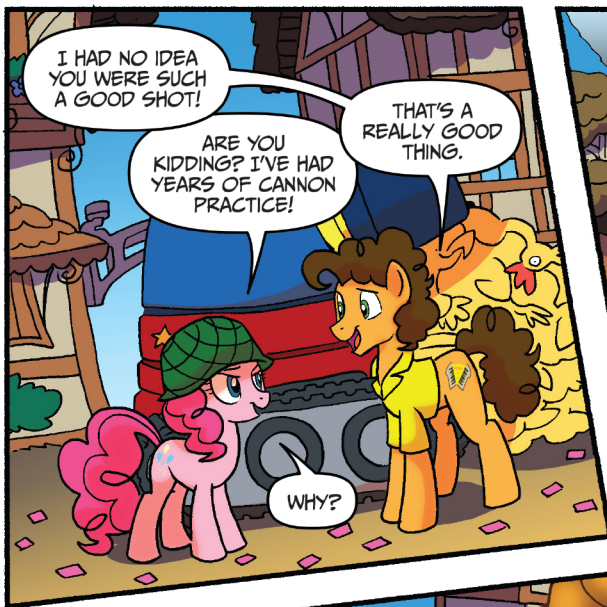
COME AND GET ME!

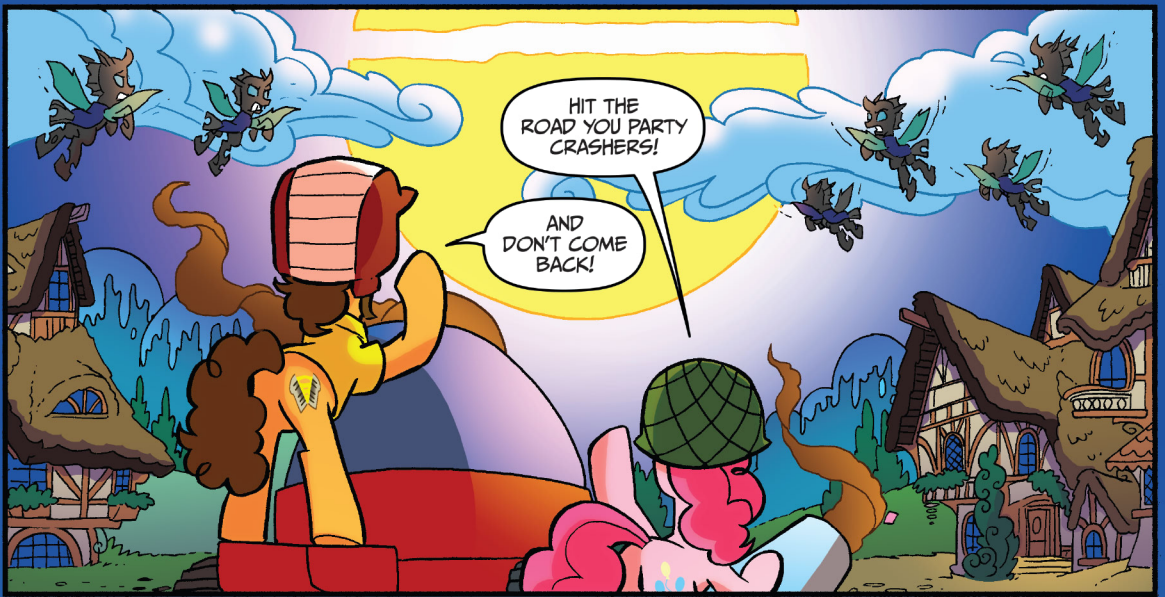


BOOM!









HIT THE ROAD YOU PARTY CRASHERS!

AND DON'T COME BACK!



THANKS FOR SAVING ME BACK THERE.

OF COURSE!

CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?

SURE!



DID TWILIGHT BRING YOU HERE TO PLAN MY BIRTHAVERSARY PARTY?

MAYBE...



SAY, WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

HELP PLAN MY OWN PARTY?

AFTER ALL, YOU ARE THE PARTIEST PONY IN ALL OF EQUESTRIA!

AND BETWEEN THE TWO OF US—

IT'LL BE THE BEST PARTY EVER!

THE END!

# my LITTLE PONY

Friendship is Magic

GET READY FOR UNFORGETTABLE ADVENTURES IN THE LAND OF EQUESTRIA!



"FUN, MAGICAL, AND CAPTURES YOUR IMAGINATION!"

-NEWSARAMA

"A JOY TO READ. WILL BE RE-READING AGAIN AND AGAIN IN THE FUTURE."

-COMICBUZZ

"AN ENJOYABLE MIX OF ADVENTURE AND HUMOR!"

-GEEKED OUT NATION



Middle-grade readers will enjoy riding along with the ponies for some magical hijinx and reading tales of friendship and mystery!

MY LITTLE PONY:  
FRIENDSHIP IS MAGIC  
VOLUMES 1-19

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