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COVER A

MY LITTLE PONY





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MY LITTLE PONY

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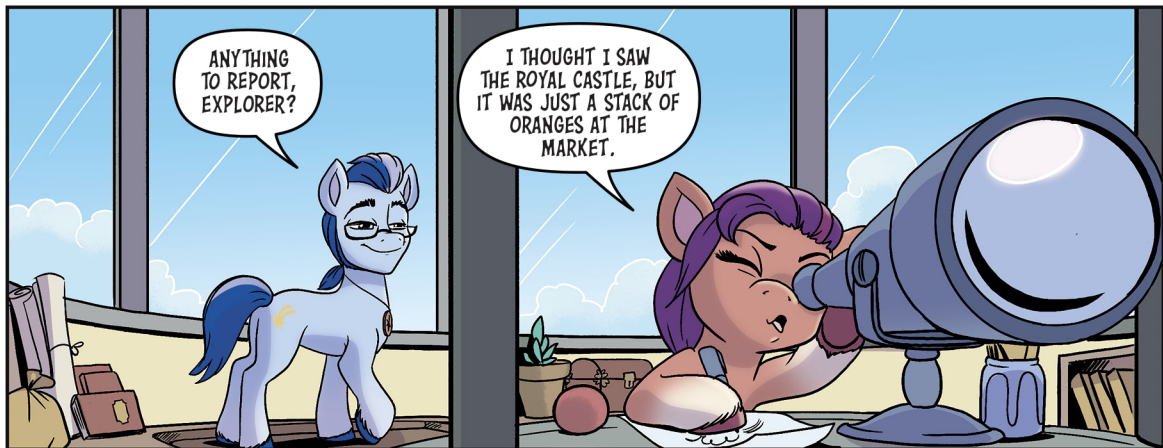
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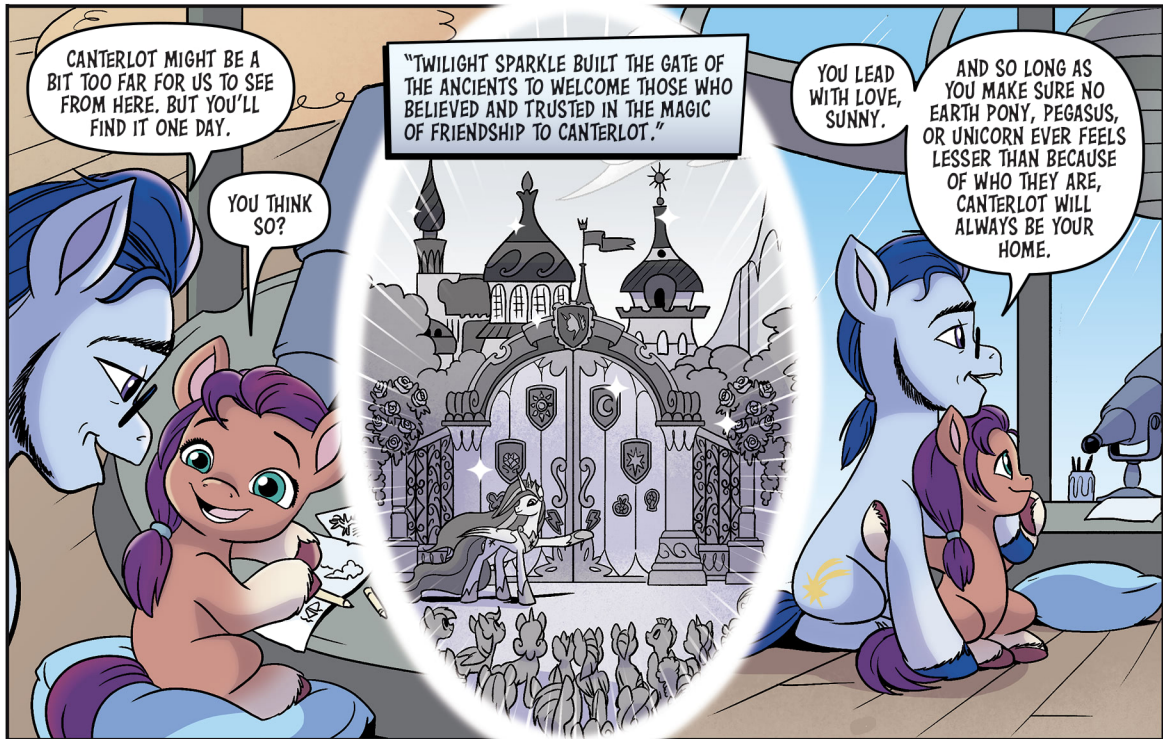
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ANYTHING TO REPORT, EXPLORER?

I THOUGHT I SAW THE ROYAL CASTLE, BUT IT WAS JUST A STACK OF ORANGES AT THE MARKET.



CANTERLOT MIGHT BE A BIT TOO FAR FOR US TO SEE FROM HERE. BUT YOU'LL FIND IT ONE DAY.

YOU THINK SO?

"TWILIGHT SPARKLE BUILT THE GATE OF THE ANCIENTS TO WELCOME THOSE WHO BELIEVED AND TRUSTED IN THE MAGIC OF FRIENDSHIP TO CANTERLOT."

YOU LEAD WITH LOVE, SUNNY.

AND SO LONG AS YOU MAKE SURE NO EARTH PONY, PEGASUS, OR UNICORN EVER FEELS LESSER THAN BECAUSE OF WHO THEY ARE, CANTERLOT WILL ALWAYS BE YOUR HOME.



NOTHING NEW TO REPORT, DAD. BUT NOT EVERY WEEK CAN BE AS EVENTFUL AS REUNITING THE UNITY CRYSTALS AND RESTORING MAGIC TO ALL PONYKIND.

DO YOU THINK TWILIGHT WOULD BE PROUD OF ME?

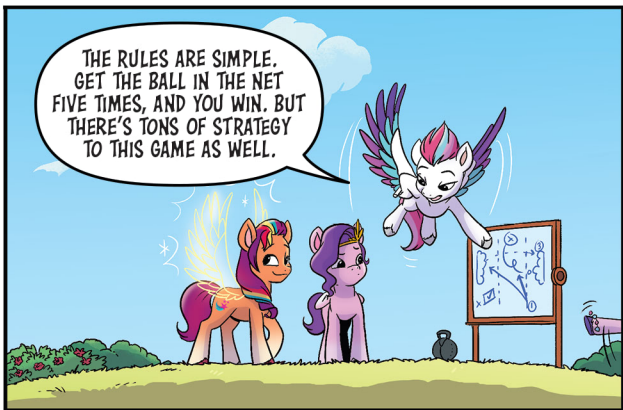


OF COURSE SHE WOULD BE! AND THE PIPPSQUEAKS AGREE. SAY HI!

LIVE



IF YOU'RE DONE LIVESTREAMING, WE'VE GOT A GAME OF FLYBALL TO PLAY!



THE RULES ARE SIMPLE. GET THE BALL IN THE NET FIVE TIMES, AND YOU WIN. BUT THERE'S TONS OF STRATEGY TO THIS GAME AS WELL.



OOH, ARE WE PLAYING A GAME? IS THIS A PIE-EATING CONTEST? A CAKE-EATING CONTEST? A COOKIE-EATING CONTEST?



NO NEED TO TWIST MY HOOF, I'M IN! POINT ME TO THE FIELD.



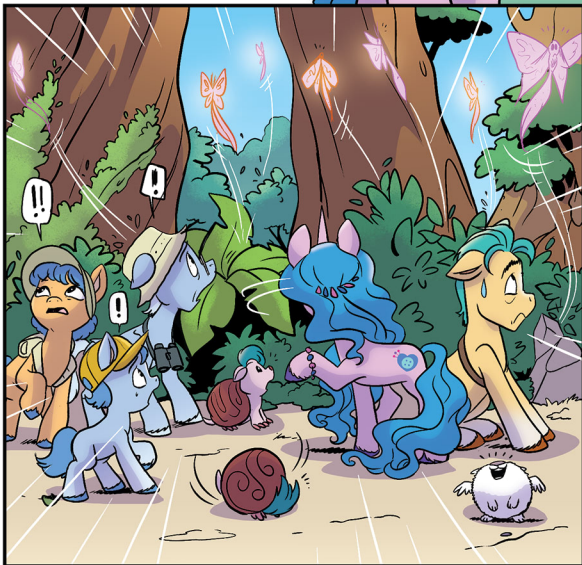
IT'S UP NEAR THAT CLOUD OVER THERE...

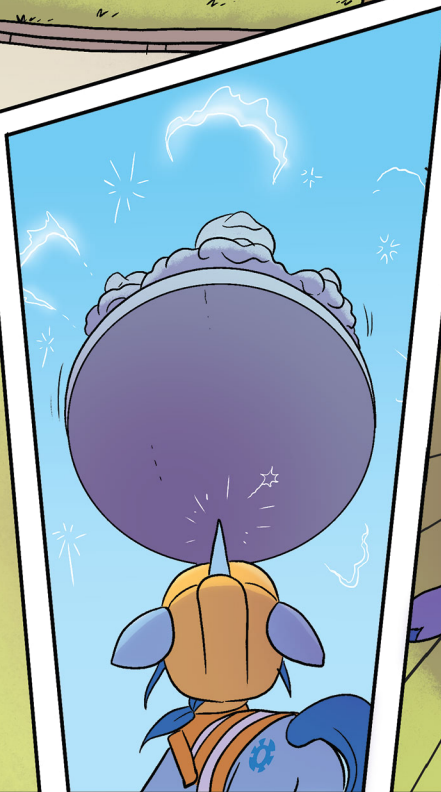
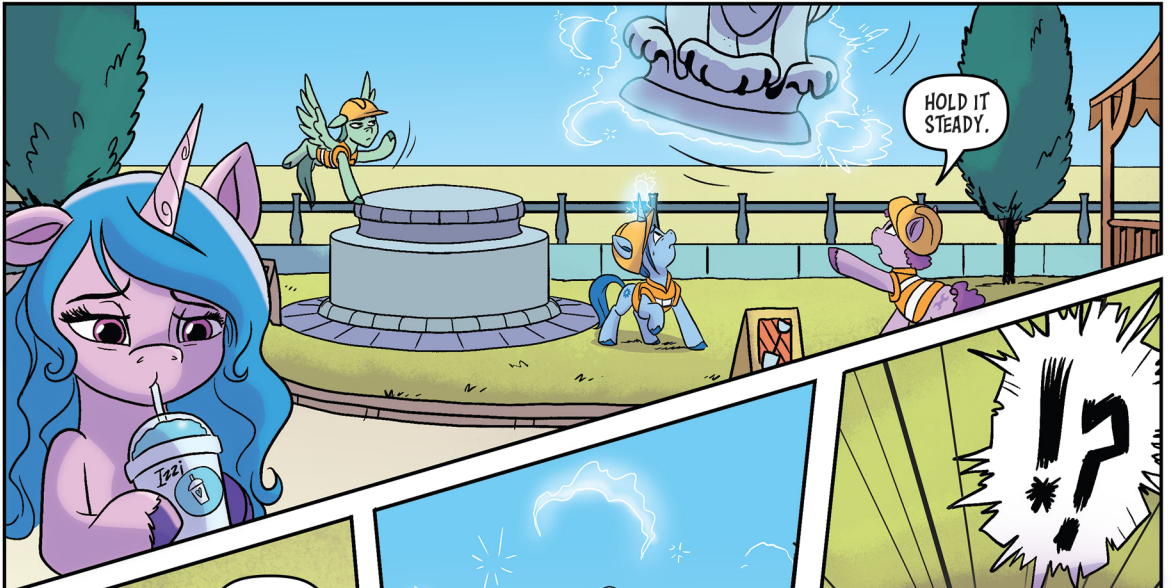
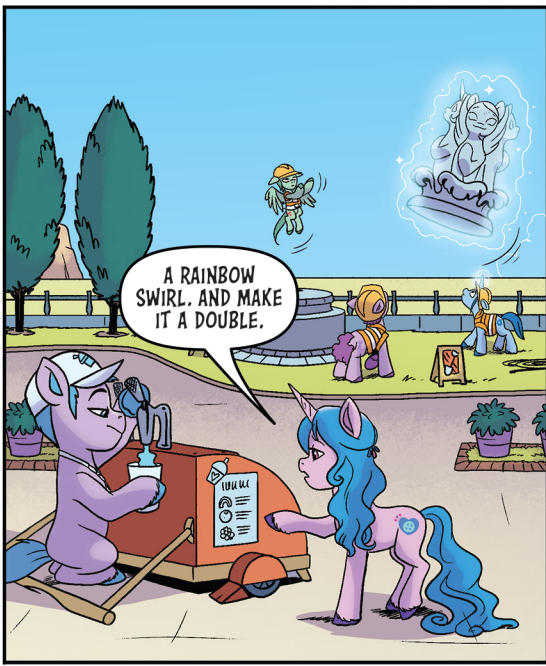


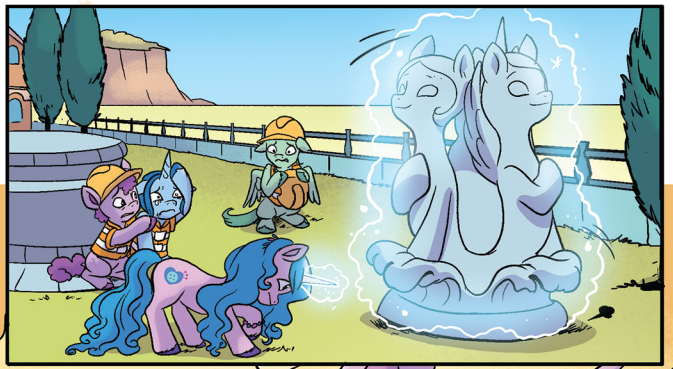
OH! WELL, I ALWAYS SAY IT'S JUST AS MUCH FUN CHEERING ON YOUR FRIENDS AS IT IS PLAYING WITH THEM...



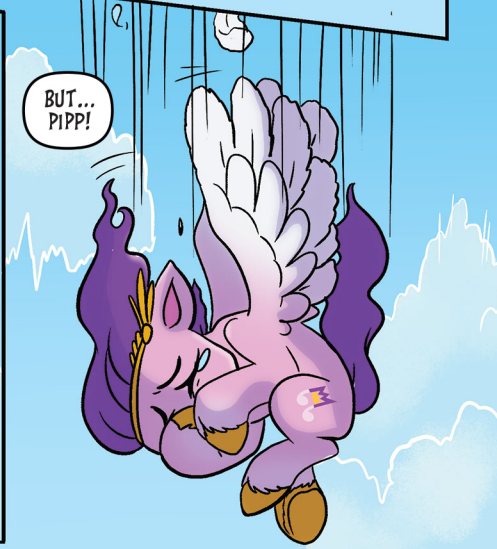
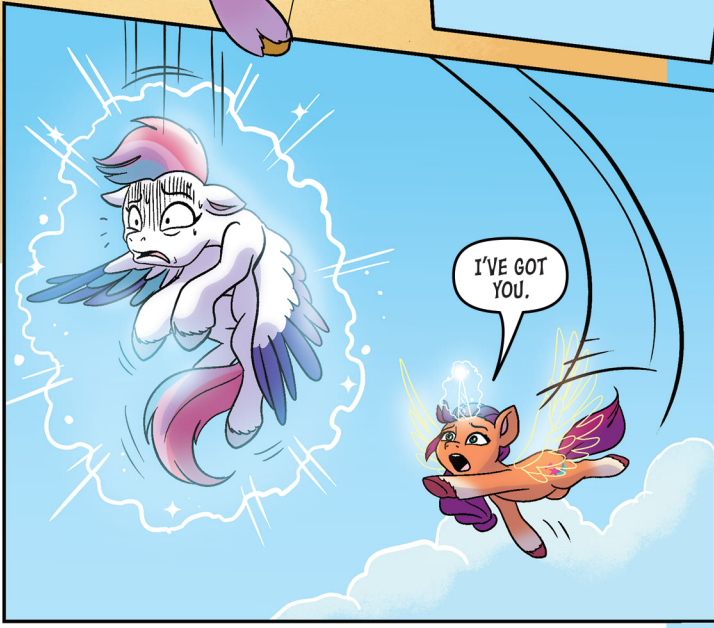
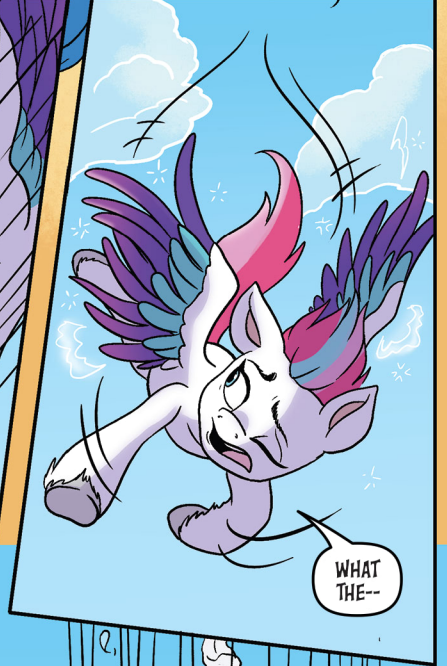
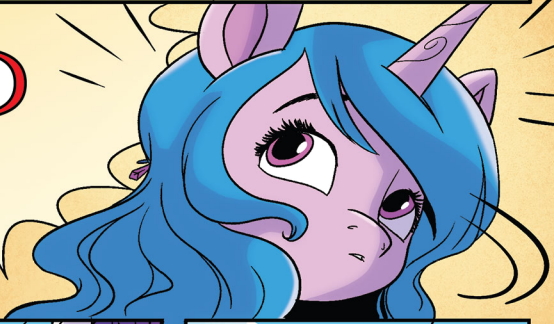
SEE YOU LATER, IZZY!





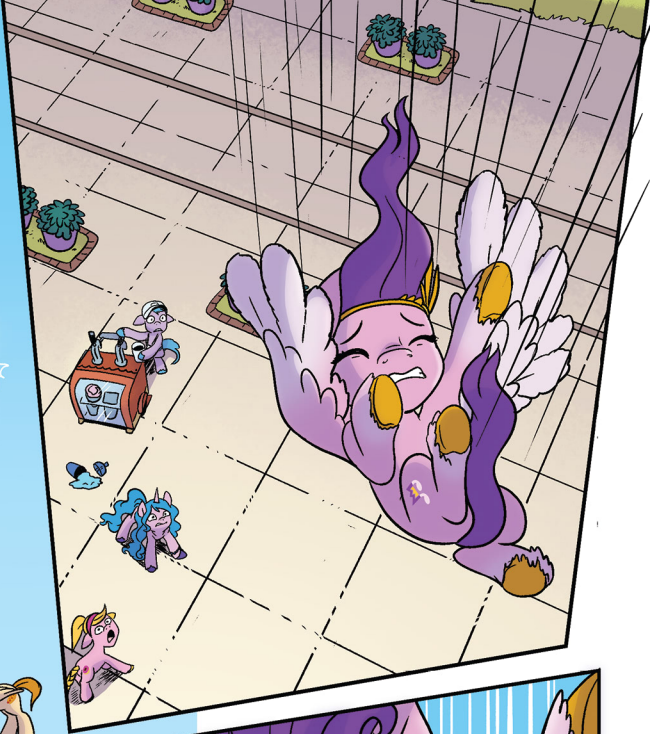


HELP.





COME ON,
COME ON!



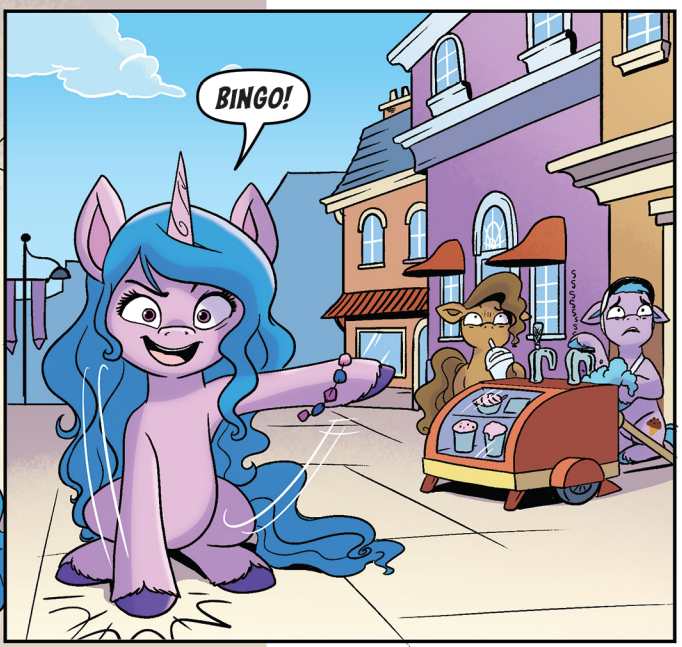
BELIEVE YOU
CAN FLY, AND
YOU WILL!



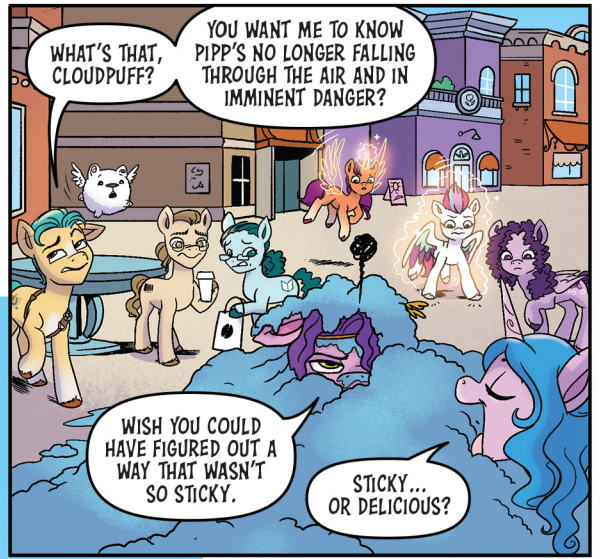
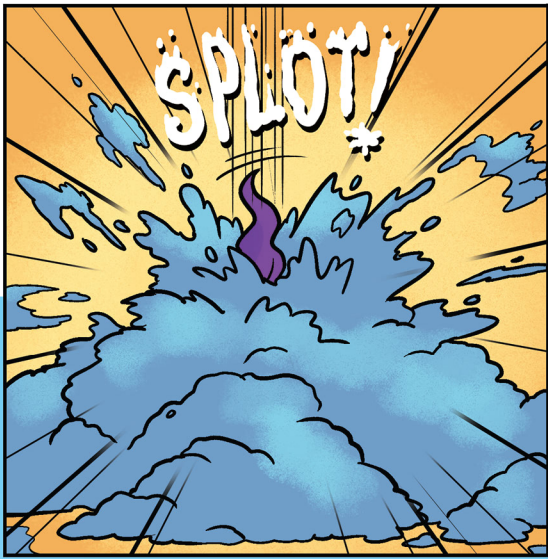
THAT'S
YOUR PLAN
B?!



OKAY...
MOVING ON TO
PLAN C.

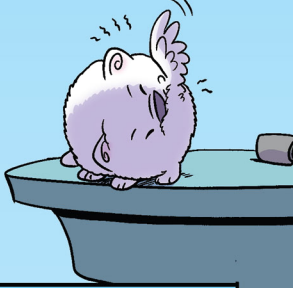


BINGO!



EXCEPT FOR SUNNY. YOUR WINGS WORKED THE WHOLE TIME.

I COULD STILL FEEL MY MAGIC GLITCHING. BUT IT SEEMS BETTER NOW.



OH, LOOK, MY MAGIC'S COMING BACK, TOO! LOOKS LIKE THIS TOSPY-TURVY MAGICAL CRISIS HAS BEEN AVERTED!



JUST BECAUSE OUR MAGIC'S BACK DOESN'T MEAN IT'S BACK BACK. IF IT FIZZLED AWAY ONCE, THE SAME THING COULD HAPPEN AGAIN.

NONE OF THIS MAKES ANY SENSE. SO LONG AS THERE'S UNITY BETWEEN OUR SPECIES, THE CRYSTALS ARE SUPPOSED TO KEEP OUR MAGIC STABLE.

AND NEXT TIME WE MIGHT NOT HAVE A SMOOTHIE MACHINE AT THE READY.

PEGASI, UNICORNS, AND EARTH PONIES HAVE NEVER BEEN TIGHTER. IF ANYTHING, OUR MAGIC SHOULD BE STRONGER.



YOU'RE RIGHT. SO IF MAGIC IS GOING HAYWIRE, IT CAN'T BE ABOUT FRIENDSHIPS-- OH NO.

DO WE THINK THAT'S A GOOD "OH NO" OR...?

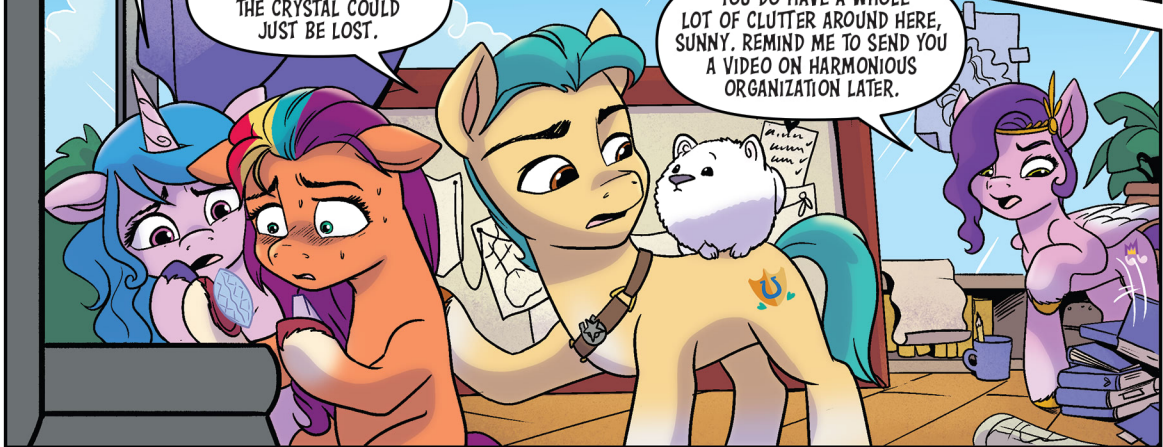


AND WE'RE RUNNING.

HAVEN'T I BEEN THROUGH ENOUGH TRAUMA FOR ONE DAY?



GET YOUR HOOVES MOVING, PIPP!



I DIDN'T THINK THE CRYSTALS COULD BE SEPARATED. THIS LOOKS INTENTIONAL.

THESE CRYSTALS ARE A SYMBOL OF PONYKIND'S ABILITY TO LIVE IN HARMONY.

BUT WE ARE NOT GOING TO LET THAT HAPPEN.

IF SOMEONY SEPARATED THEM, IT'S BECAUSE THEY WANT MAGIC TO FIZZLE OUT UNTIL IT'S GONE--FOR LIFE TO GO BACK TO THE WAY IT WAS BEFORE.



WE WERE ABLE TO UNITE THE CRYSTALS ONCE BEFORE. WE CAN DO IT AGAIN. LET'S FIND THE CRYSTAL THIEF AND GET THAT CRYSTAL BACK!



YEAH!

MISSION. INITIATED.

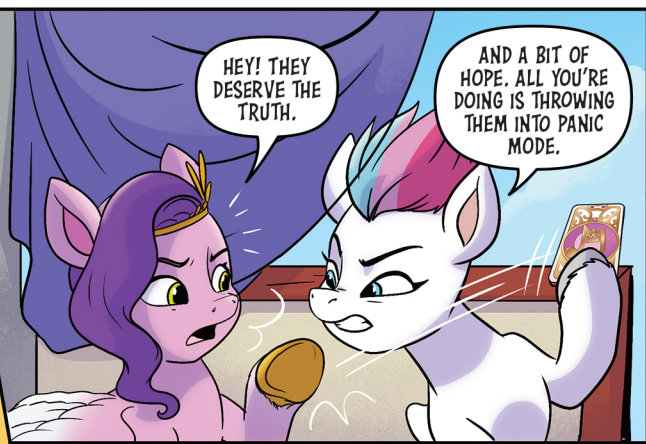
BAK! BAK! BAK! BAK! BAK!



PIPPSQUEAKS, I KNOW YOU'RE ALL SCARED RIGHT NOW... AND YOU SHOULD BE!

YOUR MAGIC MIGHT BE BACK, BUT IT WILL DISAPPEAR AGAIN, AND THEN COME BACK, AND THEN DISAPPEAR AGAIN, UNTIL IT DISAPPEARS COMPLETELY... BECAUSE SOME PONY STOLE A UNITY CRYSTAL.

IT'S REALLY BAD.

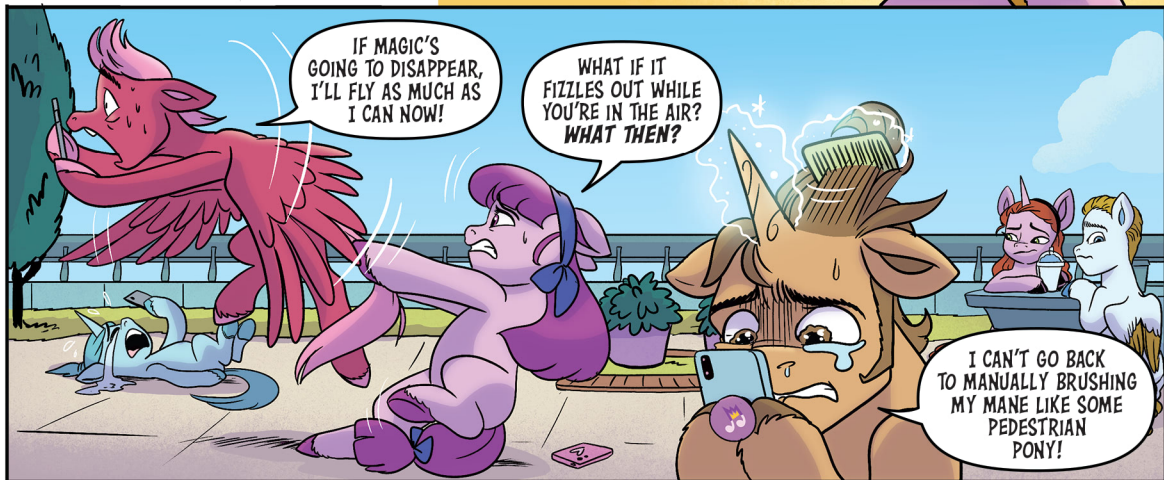


HEY! THEY DESERVE THE TRUTH.

AND A BIT OF HOPE. ALL YOU'RE DOING IS THROWING THEM INTO PANIC MODE.



MY PIPPSQUEAKS MEDITATE WHEN THEY'RE OVERWHELMED. THEY DON'T PANIC.



IF MAGIC'S GOING TO DISAPPEAR, I'LL FLY AS MUCH AS I CAN NOW!

WHAT IF IT FIZZLES OUT WHILE YOU'RE IN THE AIR? WHAT THEN?

I CAN'T GO BACK TO MANUALLY BRUSHING MY MANE LIKE SOME PEDESTRIAN PONY!



NOPONY SHOULD BE SCARED BECAUSE WE ARE GOING TO SOLVE THIS BY BEGINNING OUR SEARCH RIGHT HERE, WHERE THE BREAK-IN HAPPENED.

AND THAT'S THE THING ABOUT BREAK-INS...



...NO MATTER HOW HARD A THIEF TRIES, THEY'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO LEAVE THE SCENE EXACTLY AS THEY FOUND IT.

SOMETHING'S ALWAYS JUST A LITTLE BIT OFF. A LITTLE BIT BROKEN... IN.



OOH, I WOULD LIKE FIFTY OF THOSE HATS PLEASE. WHERE'S IT FROM?

PROBABLY ALL THIS CLUTTER.



DETECTIVE ZIPP ALWAYS COMES PREPARED.

DETECTIVE ZIPP?

THAT'S RIGHT. BECAUSE I ZIPP MY WAY THROUGH A GOOD MYSTERY UNTIL I TRACK DOWN THE PERPETRATOR AND BRING THEM TO JUSTICE.



WE'RE GOING TO GET THOSE CRYSTALS BACK IN NO TIME!

I WOULDN'T BE SO SURE. HOW MANY SUCCESSFUL CASES HAVE YOU SOLVED, DETECTIVE ZIPP?



WELL... THIS WOULD TECHNICALLY BE MY FIRST CASE. WHICH, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, MEANS I'VE NEVER HAD ANY UNSUCCESSFUL CASES EITHER!



SO IF YOU'RE READY, LET'S GET SOLVING.



TO CATCH OUR THIEF AND FIND OUR MISSING CRYSTAL, IT'S IMPORTANT TO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THE SPECIFICS. THE MINUTIA. THE DETAILS.



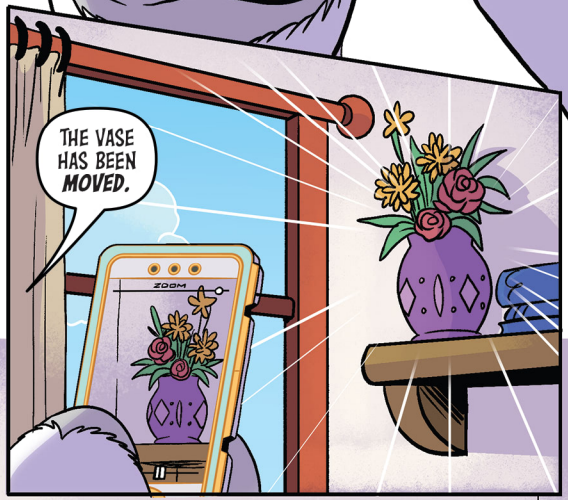
PIPP FILMED THIS BEFORE WE LEFT THIS MORNING. AND AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THE RAINBOW LIGHT SHINING BEHIND HER, THE CRYSTAL HADN'T BEEN STOLEN YET.

LOOK CLOSELY. WHAT ELSE DO YOU SEE?

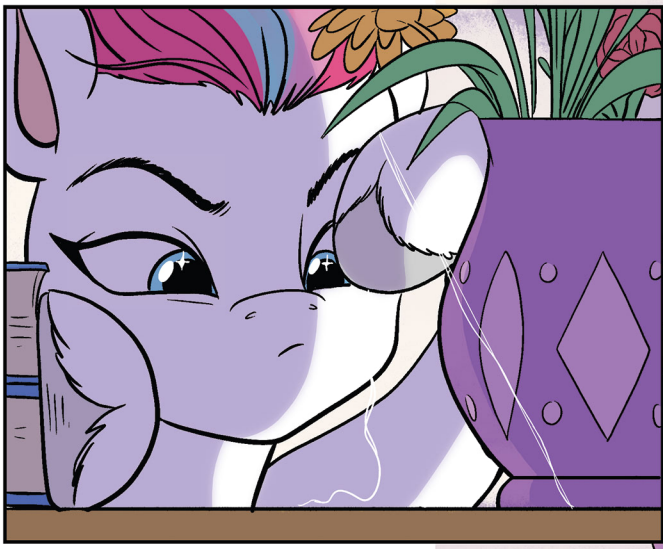


BESIDES THE GORGEOUS WAY THE LIGHT'S BRUSHING MY CHEEKS?

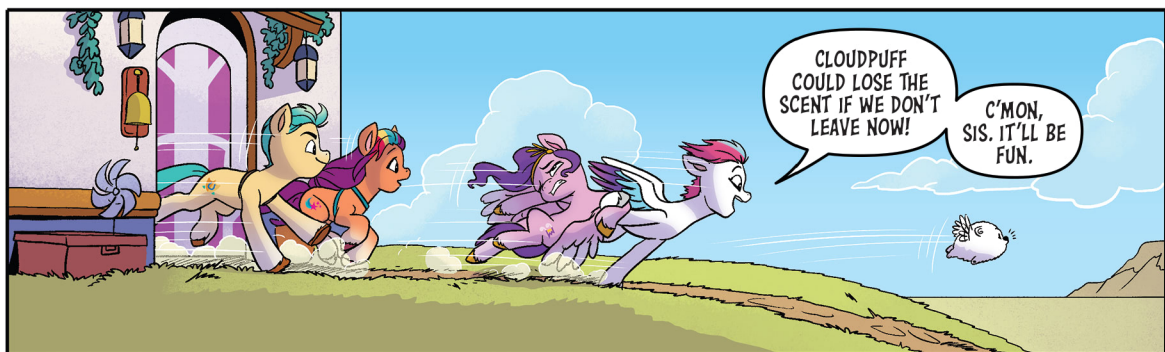
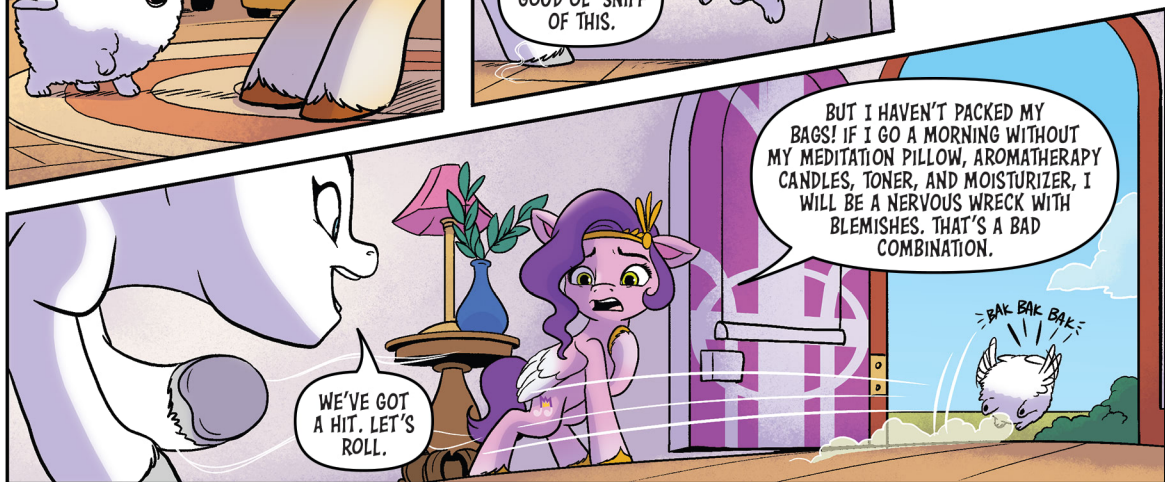
YEAH, BESIDES THAT.



THE VASE HAS BEEN MOVED.



CONSIDER THE CASE ZIPPED.



SEVERAL HOURS LATER...

YOU'LL LET ME KNOW WHEN WE HIT THE FUN PART, RIGHT?



THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT WHOEVERPONY STOLE THE CRYSTAL MUST BE GETTING JUST AS TIRED.



HERE'S THE DEAL, PIPPSQUEAKS. WE'VE BEEN TRACKING OUR THIEF FOR A MILLENNIUM--

THREE HOURS.

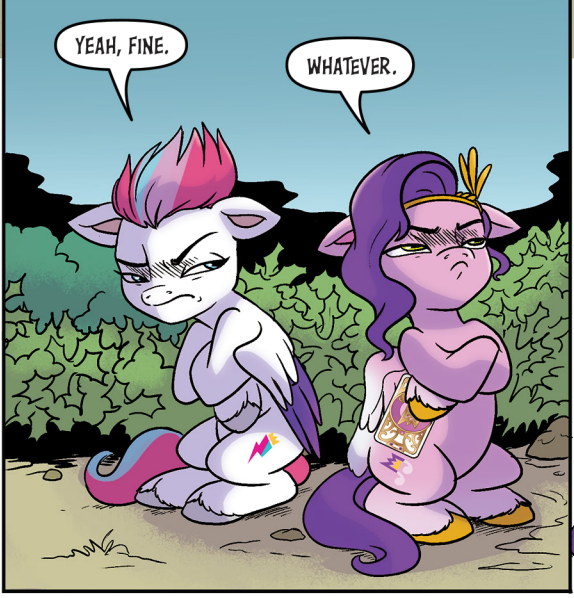


BECAUSE ZIPP IS A HORRIBLE DETECTIVE, HITCH KEEPS ATTRACTING ALL THESE CREEPY ANIMALS, IZZY KEEPS SINGING, AND CLOUDPUFF KEEPS GOING IN CIRCLES! SO IF YOU'RE HEARING THIS, FOR THE LOVE OF ALL PONYKIND, SEND HELP.



NO, MY PHONE DIED! AND I DON'T HAVE A CHARGER BECAUSE SOME PONY DIDN'T GIVE ME ENOUGH TIME TO PACK ANYTHING.







WINGS SEEM TO BE WORKING RIGHT NOW.

AND IF THEY STOP WORKING IN THE AIR?



WE'LL MAKE SURE WE'RE LOW ENOUGH THAT THE TREES CAN CATCH OUR FALL.

I CAN ASK SOME OF THE CRITTERS AROUND HERE IF THEY'VE SEEN ANYTHING.



I DON'T THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO SPLIT UP.

WE DON'T HAVE A CHOICE. EVERY MINUTE THAT CRYSTAL IS SEPARATED FROM THE OTHERS, OUR MAGIC WILL GLITCH OUT MORE AND MORE.

WE NEED TO USE EVERY ADVANTAGE WE HAVE. THAT MEANS USING OUR MAGIC.



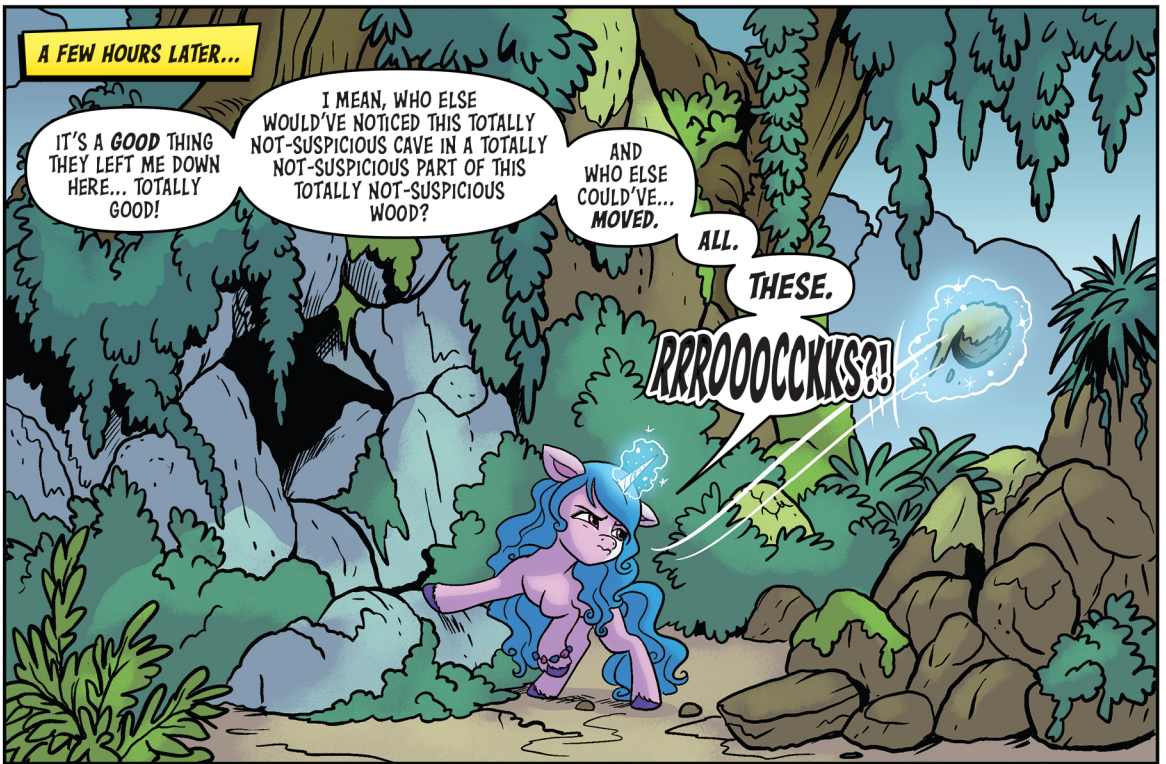
I STILL THINK--



--WELL THAT'S OKAY!

I'LL JUST LOOK FOR A PLACE TO USE MY MAGIC DOWN HERE, OKAY?!

LEAVE IT TO ME!



A FEW HOURS LATER...

IT'S A **GOOD** THING THEY LEFT ME DOWN HERE... TOTALLY GOOD!

I MEAN, WHO ELSE WOULD'VE NOTICED THIS TOTALLY NOT-SUSPICIOUS CAVE IN A TOTALLY NOT-SUSPICIOUS PART OF THIS TOTALLY NOT-SUSPICIOUS WOOD?

AND WHO ELSE COULD'VE... MOVED.

ALL. THESE.

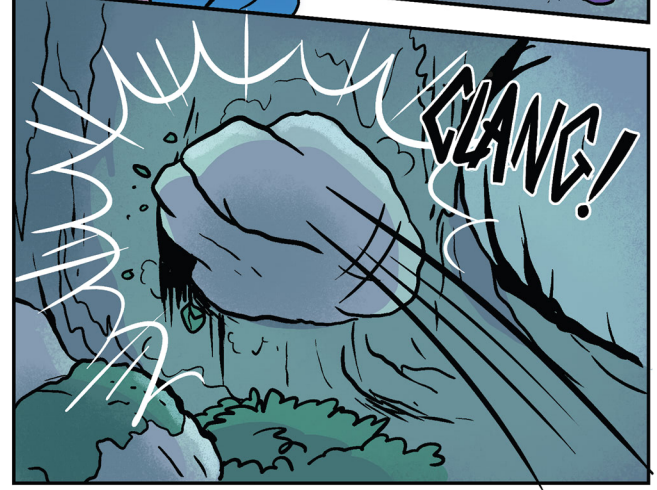
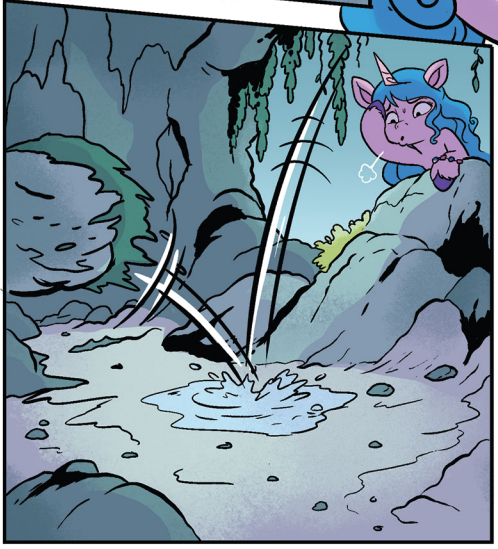
RRROOCCCKKS?!



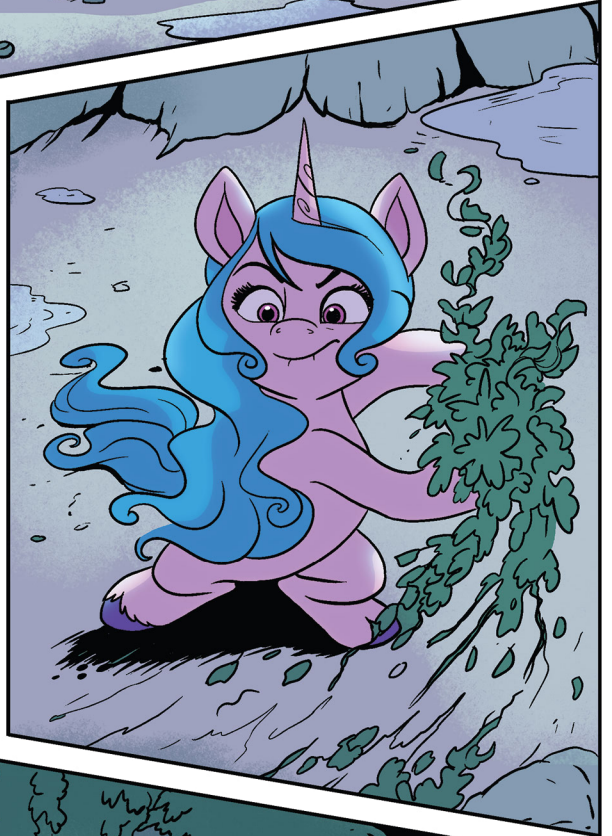
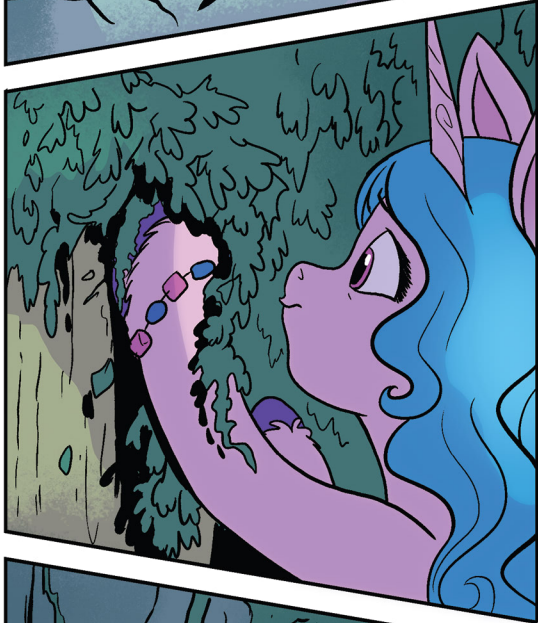
HELLOOOO, CRYSTAL THIEF. I COME IN PEACE AND WITH A SONG IF YOU'D LIKE TO HEAR IT!



OOPS!



CLANG!



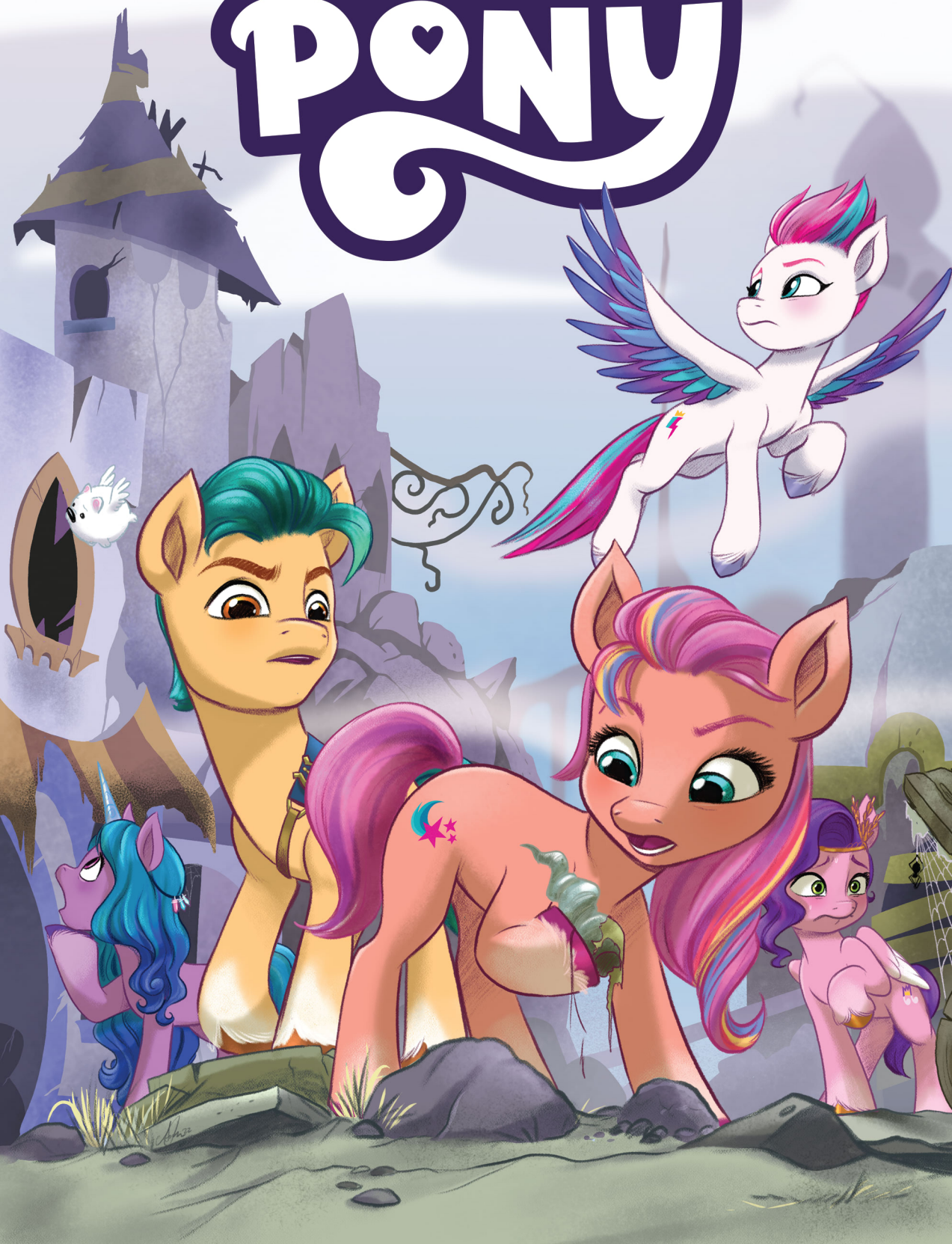
A CREEPY GATE
FOR A CREEPY CRYSTAL
THIEF, A CREEPY GATE FOR
A CREEPY CRYSTAL THIEF,
A CREEPY GATE--

CANTERLOT?!

TO BE CONTINUED
IN ISSUE #2...

NEXT MONTH:
ISSUE #2

MY LITTLE PONY





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ART BY **JUSTASUTA**



ART BY **BRIANNA GARCIA**