

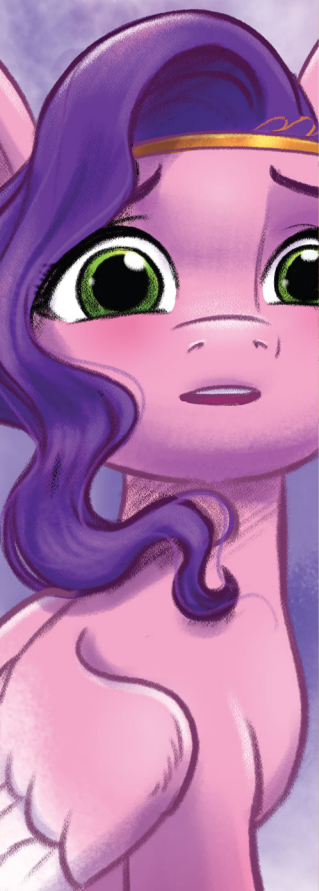
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9

COVER A

BRONFMAN • MEBBERSON • BRECKEL

MY LITTLE PONY



Art



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MY LITTLE PONY

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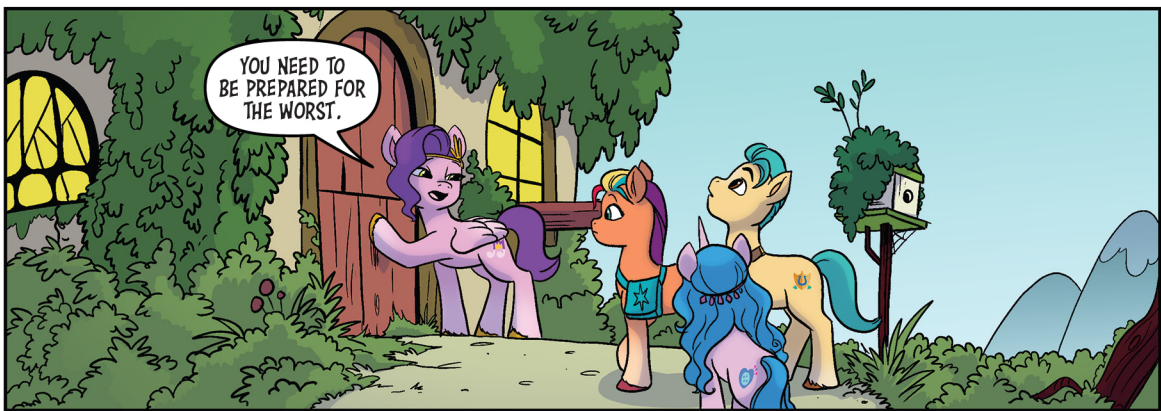
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YOU NEED TO BE PREPARED FOR THE WORST.



DISCORD'S ABOUT TO DESTROY A UNITY CRYSTAL, RIDDING EQUESTRIA OF MAGIC FOR THE REST OF ETERNITY. I THINK OUR THRESHOLD FOR CATASTROPHE IS AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH.



YOU BROUGHT THIS ON YOURSELVES...

KNOCK KNOCK



HOLD UP! THIS IS AN ACTIVE SCENE. IF YOU TOUCH ANYTHING, YOU'LL CONTAMINATE EVIDENCE AND WE'LL NEVER FIND DISCORD OR SAVE MAGIC IN EQUESTRIA.

DO NOT CROSS

DO NOT CROSS

DO NOT CROSS

DO NOT CROSS

DO NOT CROSS

DO NOT CROSS

EXHIBIT 5A

EXHIBIT 7

EXHIBIT 23

EXHIBIT 2



WHICH MEANS I'LL NEVER FLY AGAIN, OR ACHIEVE MY 100-WIN FLYBALL STREAK, OR PERFORM THAT AIR ROUTINE MOM ASKED ME TO DO FOR THE ROYAL BALL!

ZIPP STRESSING OVER ROYAL DUTIES? OKAY, THIS IS WORSE THAN I THOUGHT.



WE JUST POPPED IN TO... SAY A QUICK HELLO.

HI...

HEY...

WHAZZUP?



I TOLD YOU I'M FINE.

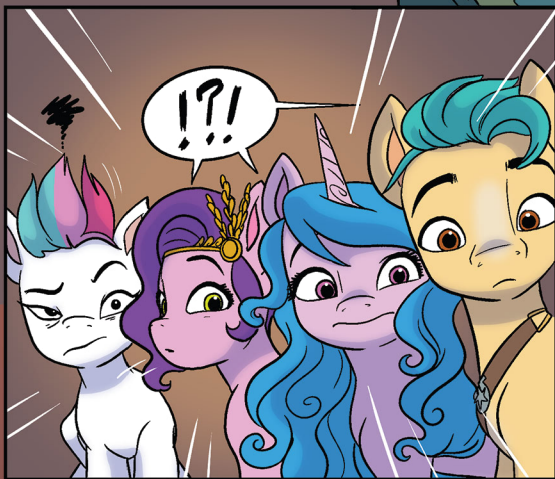


AND OBVIOUSLY, WE CAN SEE THAT. YOU LOOK AS PEACEFUL AS A PEGASUS IN A MUD BATH.

OR AN ORCHID IN A SUN-SOAKED FIELD.

OR A BEAR SURROUNDED BY HONEY POTS.

...OR A PONY WHO HASN'T EATEN OR SLEPT IN SEVERAL DAYS AND IS ON THE BRINK OF COLLAPSE.



!?!



LIKE WE WEREN'T ALL THINKING IT.

IF ZIPP'S GOING TO SOLVE THE CASE, SHE'S GOING TO NEED ALL OF US TO PITCH IN.



DISCORD RESEARCHED HOW TO DESTROY THE CRYSTAL IN THIS VERY ROOM. THERE'S GOTTA BE SOMETHING HERE THAT CAN POINT US IN HIS DIRECTION.

I FOUND A CLAW NAIL!

EW. CUTTING HIS CLAWS IN THE LIVING ROOM HAS GOTTA COUNT AS SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOR.

UNFORTUNATELY, I DON'T THINK IT DOES FOR DISCORD.



IF DISCORD WAS RESEARCHING...

...WOULDN'T THE ANSWER BE SOMEWHERE ON THIS BOOKSHELF?



I'VE READ THROUGH EVERY SINGLE SENTENCE ON EVERY SINGLE PAGE OF EVERY SINGLE BOOK HERE, AND I PROMISE THERE'S NOTHING HELPFUL IN THEM.

MAYBE IT'S NOT ABOUT THE BOOKS ON THE SHELF...



...MAYBE IT'S ABOUT THE ONE BOOK THAT'S MISSING.



AHA! DISCORD HAS EVERY SINGLE DARING DO BOOK EVER PUBLISHED ON THIS SHELF, EXCEPT FOR ONE.

HER NINTH BOOK, DARING DO AND THE CURSE OF THE BASALTIC CAVES.



HOW DID I MISS THAT?

SOMETIMES WE'RE SO BUSY LOOKING FOR THE INCONSPICUOUS, WE MISS THE OBVIOUS.



THERE'S, LIKE, ZERO INFORMATION ABOUT THE BASALTIC CAVES ONLINE.

THAT'S BECAUSE NOPONY'S BEEN THERE IN HUNDREDS OF YEARS.

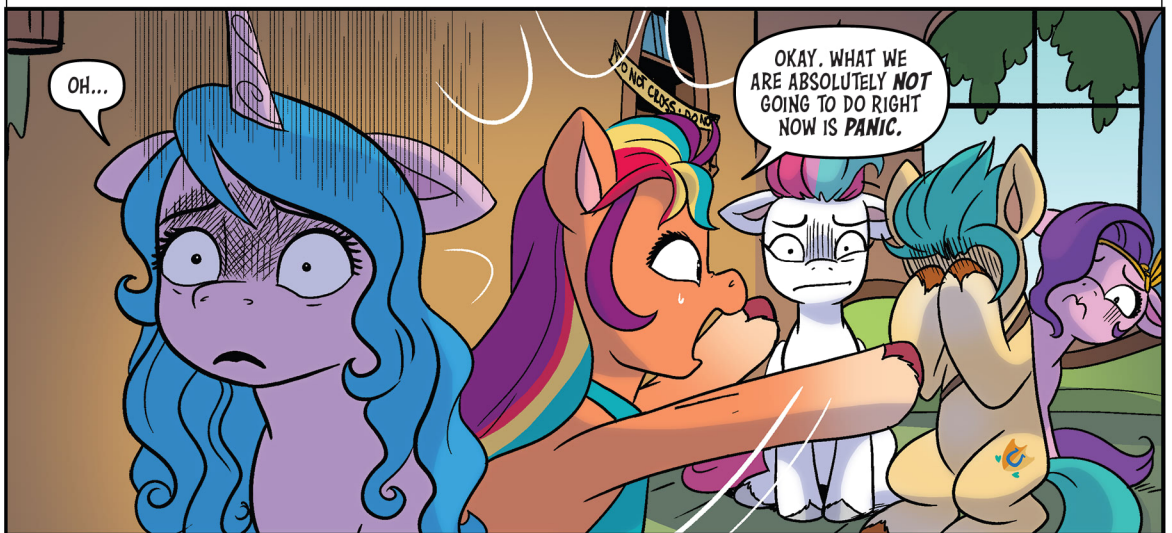


ACCORDING TO MY UNCLE FIZZY, THE CAVES ARE FULL OF THESE REALLY DANGEROUS LAVA CREEKS THAT ARE SO HOT THEY CAN MELT AN ENTIRE CASTLE, OR A GINORMOUS STONE SCULPTURE...



OR MAYBE EVEN A UNITY CRYSTAL...

OH YEAH, THEY COULD DEFINITELY DESTROY A UNITY CRYSTAL!



OH...

OKAY. WHAT WE ARE ABSOLUTELY NOT GOING TO DO RIGHT NOW IS PANIC.



WE KNOW DISCORD TOOK THE BOOK WITH HIM. SO IT PROBABLY HAS INFORMATION IN IT ABOUT HOW TO SURVIVE THE CAVES.

IF WE NEED A COPY, I CAN GET US A COPY!

TAK TAK TAK



ON OUR WAY!

GREAT! AND WHILE PIPP'S BUSY WITH THAT, THE REST OF US SHOULD PACK UP AND GET READY TO HEAD OUT.

YOU MEAN... YOU WANT TO GO INTO THE CAVES?

MY UNCLE FIZZY ONCE THREW A FLYING STAR BACK TO ITS HOME SOLAR SYSTEM USING HIS BARE HOoves, AND EVEN HE WAS TOO AFRAID TO GO TO THE BASALTIC CAVES.

DARING DO WAS ABLE TO SURVIVE THE CAVES. I'M SURE THAT BOOK WILL BE ABLE TO TELL US HOW.

BUT DARING DO'S A TRAINED EXPLORER...

IF WE DON'T EVEN TRY, WHO'S GOING TO SAVE MAGIC?



THERE ARE WORSE THINGS THAN LOSING MAGIC...



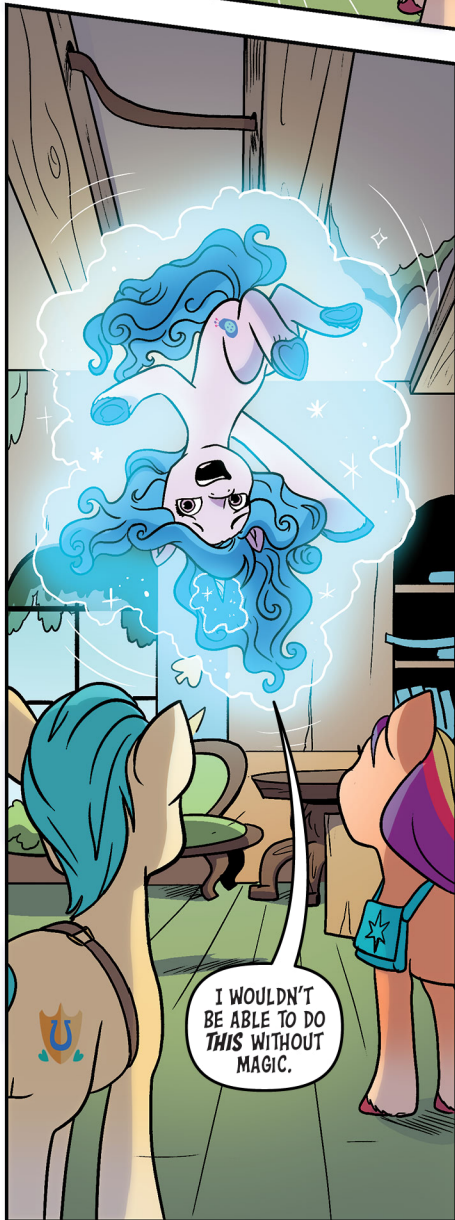
WE'VE LIVED WITHOUT MAGIC BEFORE, AND LOSING MAGIC WON'T CHANGE PONYKIND COMING TOGETHER OR ANY OF THE FRIENDSHIPS WE'VE MADE.

ISN'T THAT WHAT MATTERS?



DISCORD'S WORDS *DID* STICK WITH YOU...

I'M NOT SAYING I WANT TO GET RID OF MAGIC. I LOVE MAGIC!



I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO *THIS* WITHOUT MAGIC.



BUT EVEN GOOD THINGS LIKE MAGIC CAN COME WITH SOME NOT GREAT THINGS, TOO.

DISCORD SAID HE WANTED TO GET RID OF MAGIC BECAUSE HE DIDN'T WANT ANY PONY FEELING LESSER THAN BECAUSE OF THEIR POWERS.

HE ALSO SAID THAT'S HOW YOU FELT WHEN WE FLEW OFF WITHOUT YOU NEAR CANTERLOT.



MAYBE I FELT THAT WAY A TINY, LITTLE, ATOM-SIZED BIT.



I TOLD YOU, FLYING ABOVE THOSE TREES WAS ABOUT GETTING A BETTER PERSPECTIVE OF THE FOREST.

BUT...IT DIDN'T ACTUALLY HELP US FIND THE GATE OF THE ANCIENTS. ALL IT DID WAS SEPARATE US AND LEAVE IZZY AND HITCH ON THEIR OWN.



WE WERE FINE.

DON'T YOU SEE? THIS LINE OF THINKING IS EXACTLY WHAT DISCORD WANTS. YOU CAN'T LET HIM GET IN YOUR HEADS.



ALL DISCORD WANTS IS TO MAKE SURE EVERYPONY IS ON EQUAL HOOFING.

BY GETTING RID OF WHAT MAKES US SPECIAL.



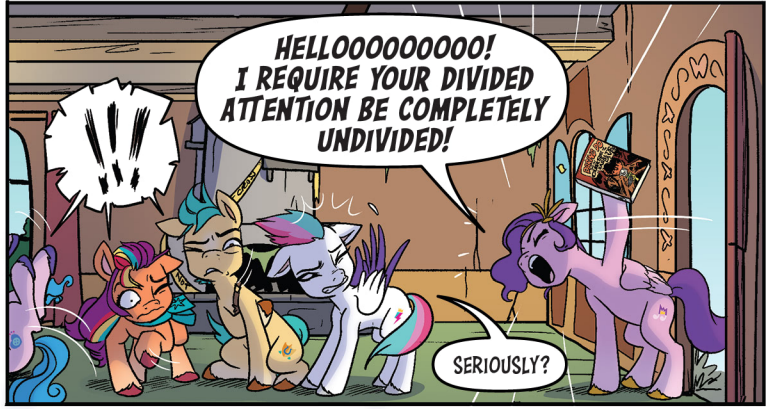
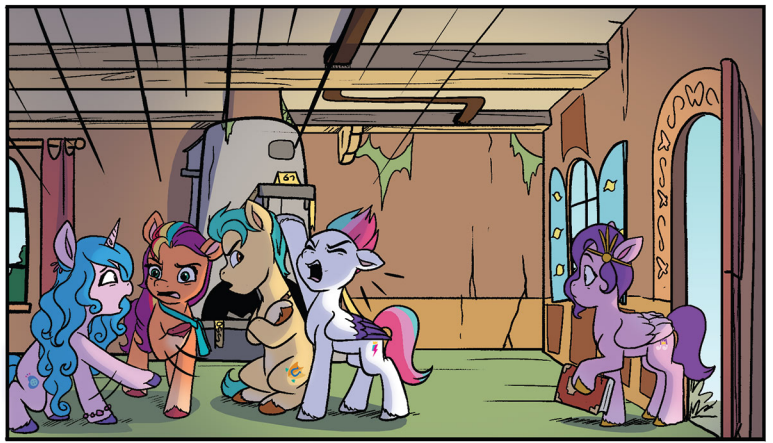
OUR MAGIC HAS ALREADY SAVED US IN SO MANY WAYS.

CHAPTER 21

COMMUNICATING WITH ANIMALS MAKES ME A BETTER SHERIFF.

IZZY'S NOT SAYING OUR POWERS HAVEN'T HELPED. BUT I'M SURE MAGIC HAS MADE ALL OF US FEEL LEFT BEHIND AT SOME POINT.

DON'T YOU WISH YOU COULD PLAY FLYBALL WITH EVERYPONY, TOO?

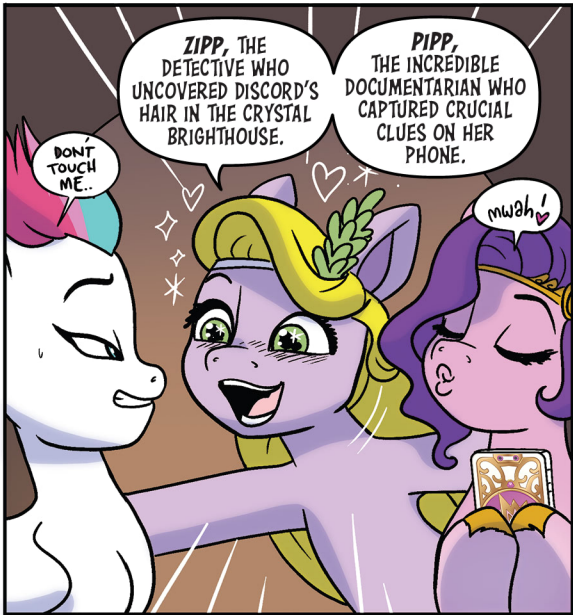




Hi, EVERYPONY. I'M--

SUNNY STARSROUT! WE KNOW WHO YOU ARE! YOU ARE ALL **TOTALLY** OUR HEROES.

SOME PONIES TALK THE TALK, BUT Y'ALL TROT THE TROT.



ZIPP, THE DETECTIVE WHO UNCOVERED DISCORD'S HAIR IN THE CRYSTAL BRIGHTHOUSE.

PIPP, THE INCREDIBLE DOCUMENTARIAN WHO CAPTURED CRUCIAL CLUES ON HER PHONE.

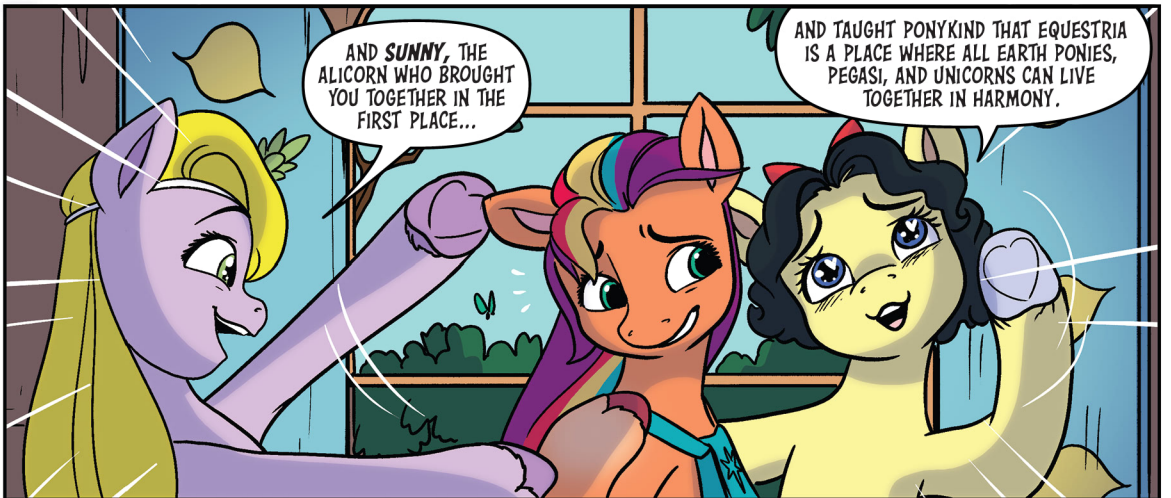
DONT TOUCH ME..

mwah!



HITCH, THE SHERIFF WHO FOLLOWED CLOUDPUFF STRAIGHT TO THE GATE OF THE ANCIENTS.

IZZY, THE OPTIMIST WHO BEFRIENDED A SQUIRREL AND FOUND FLUTTERSHY'S CRYSTAL MESSAGE.



AND **SUNNY**, THE ALICORN WHO BROUGHT YOU TOGETHER IN THE FIRST PLACE...

AND TAUGHT PONYKIND THAT EQUESTRIA IS A PLACE WHERE ALL EARTH PONIES, PEGASI, AND UNICORNS CAN LIVE TOGETHER IN HARMONY.





WE JUST HAD A MINOR DISAGREEMENT, BUT WHAT FRIENDS DON'T HAVE THOSE?

AIRING OUT YOUR ISSUES IS HEALTHY!



I DON'T THINK ANYPONY WOULD DIAGNOSE THIS AS HEALTHY.

SEEMS LIKE WHAT YOU ALL NEED IS TO TALK IT OUT.



WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THAT.



BUT THERE'S TRULY NO NEED TO WORRY.

IN A FEW HOURS, I PROMISE WE'LL BE BACK TO THE WELL-OILED, COMPLETELY IN-SYNC TEAM WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN.

A FEW HOURS LATER.

SORRY!

EXCUSE ME.

EYES ON THE ROAD, SUNNY.

I'M SORRY, BUT THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE REALLY CONFUSING.

YOU'VE GOT TIME UNTIL WE REACH THE BASALTIC CAVES.

THE INSTRUCTIONS AREN'T FOR THE CAVES.

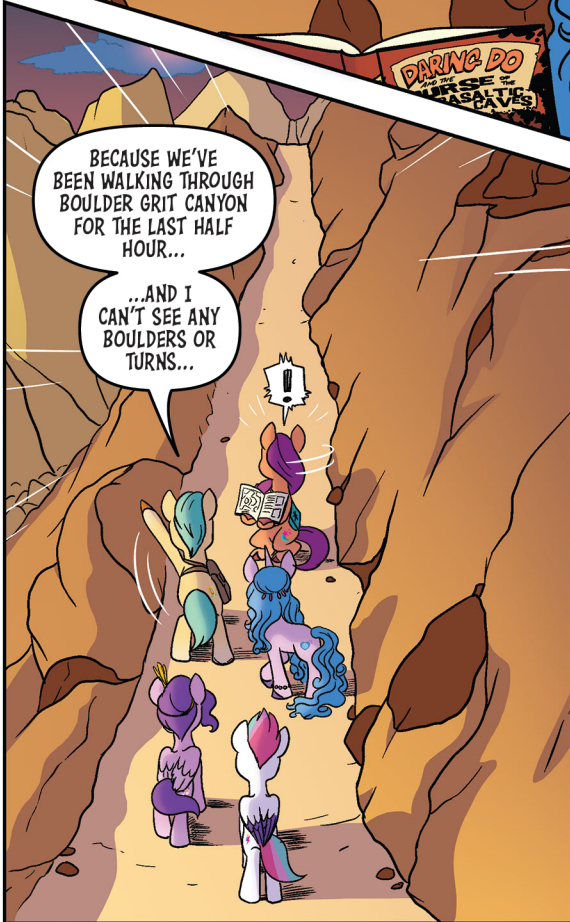
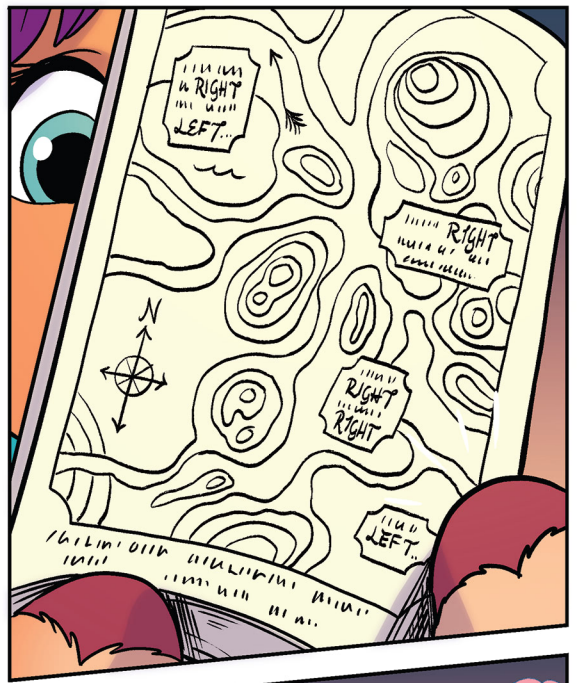
THEY'RE FOR BOULDER GRIT CANYON, WHICH WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO PASS THROUGH FIRST.

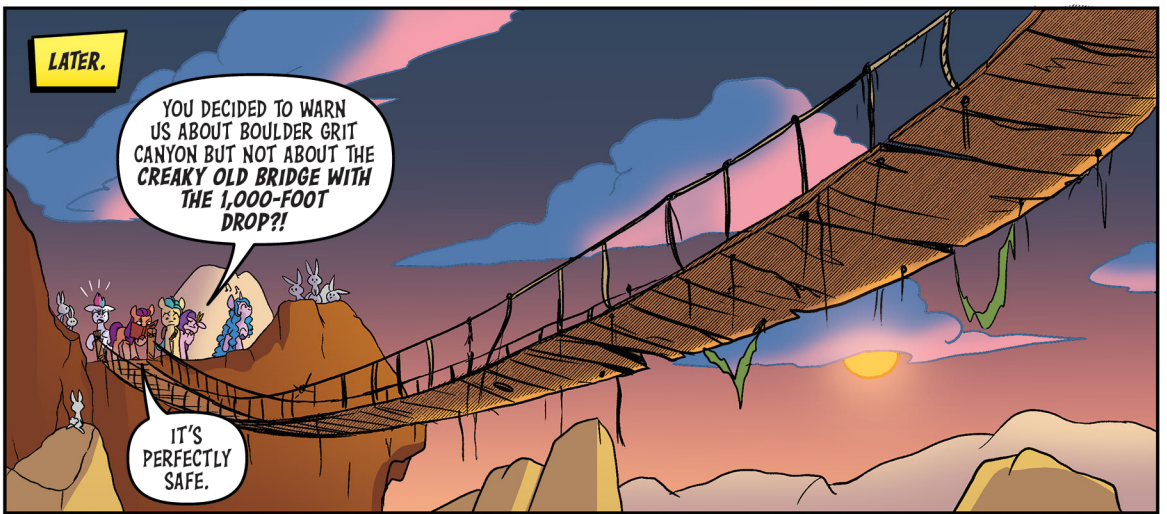
THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE THE LEISURELY SCENIC ROUTE I WANT IT TO BE.

DON'T WORRY. THE CANYONS AREN'T DANGEROUS.

BUT THERE ARE HUGE BOULDERS THAT SEPARATE THE ROAD. SO IF WE GO THE WRONG WAY, WE COULD GET VERY LOST.

AND WE'RE ALREADY RUNNING OUT OF TIME.





LATER.

YOU DECIDED TO WARN US ABOUT BOULDER GRIT CANYON BUT NOT ABOUT THE CREAKY OLD BRIDGE WITH THE 1,000-FOOT DROP?!

IT'S PERFECTLY SAFE.



OH, WAIT... IT ACTUALLY DOES SAY THERE WAS AN INCIDENT BACK IN--

HOW ABOUT WE PUT THE BOOK AWAY FOR NOW.



JUST FOLLOW MY LEAD, AND WHATEVER YOU DO...



...DON'T LOOK DOWN.

TURN RIGHT, THEN LEFT, THEN RIGHT, RIGHT, RIGHT, LEFT.



TURN RIGHT, THEN LEFT, THEN RIGHT, RIGHT, RIGHT, LEFT.



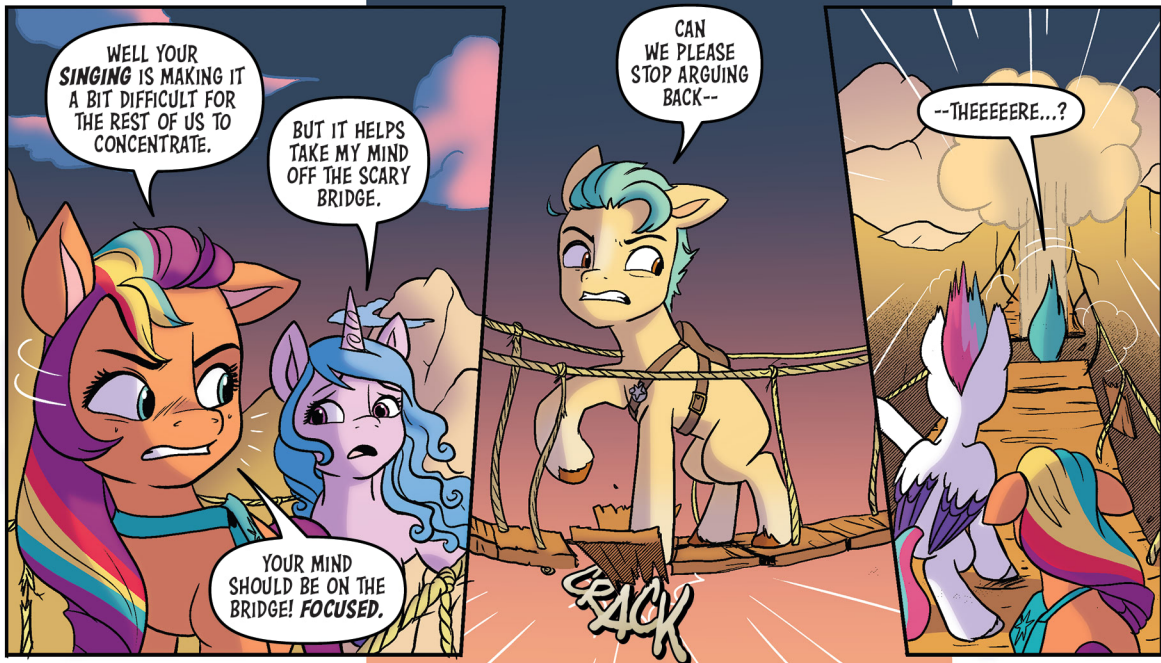
CAREFUL. THERE'S A ROTTING PIECE OF WOOD HERE.

COPY THAT.

RIGHT, THEN LEFT, THEN RIGHT, RIGHT, RIGHT, LEFT.

IZZY, WE REALLY NEED TO CONCENTRATE RIGHT NOW.

I'VE NEVER BEEN GOOD AT CONCENTRATING. THERE'RE ALWAYS TOO MANY FUN THINGS AROUND, AND HOW CAN YOU JUST PICK ONE THING? IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!



WELL YOUR **SINGING** IS MAKING IT A BIT DIFFICULT FOR THE REST OF US TO CONCENTRATE.

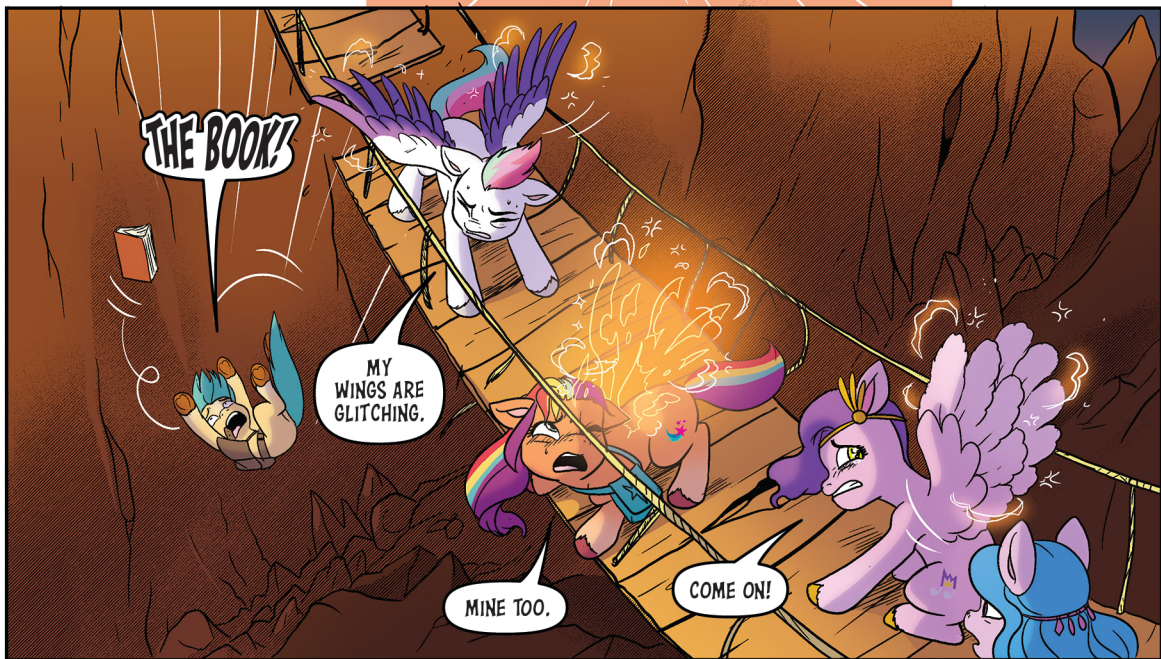
BUT IT HELPS TAKE MY MIND OFF THE SCARY BRIDGE.

CAN WE PLEASE STOP ARGUING BACK--

--THEEEERE...?

YOUR MIND SHOULD BE ON THE BRIDGE! **FOCUSED.**

CRACK

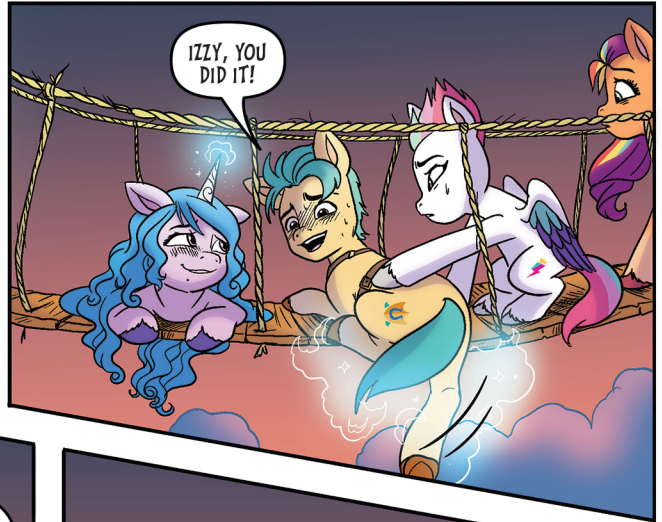
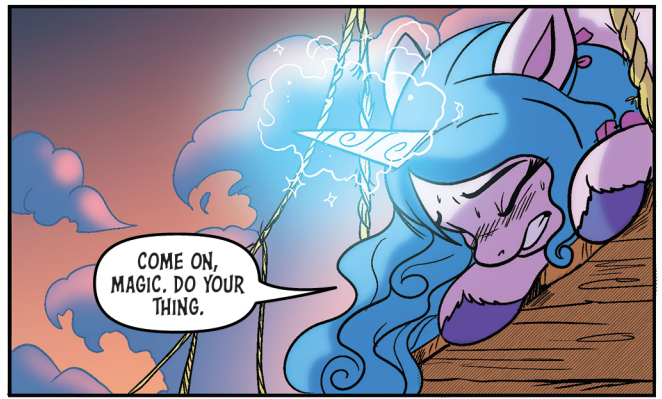
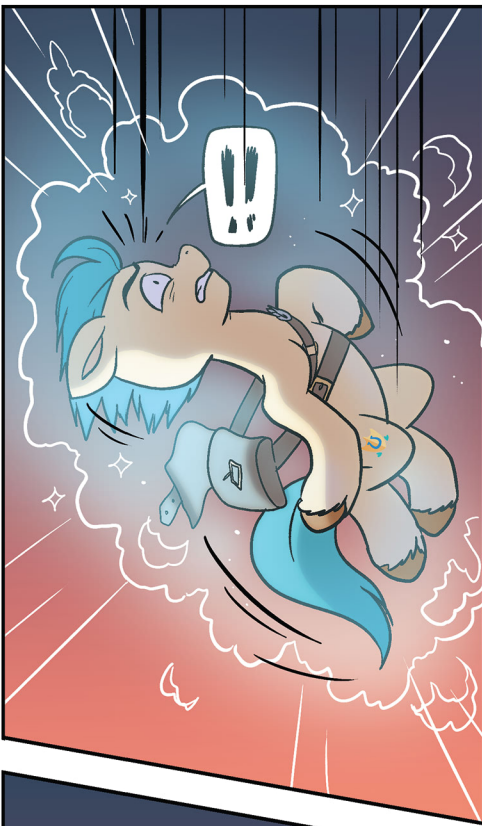


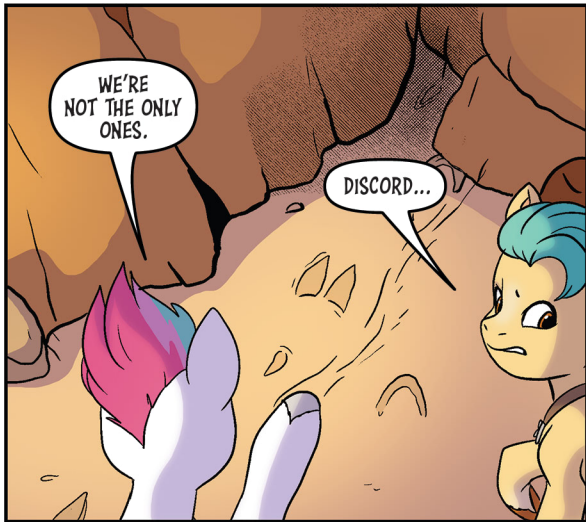
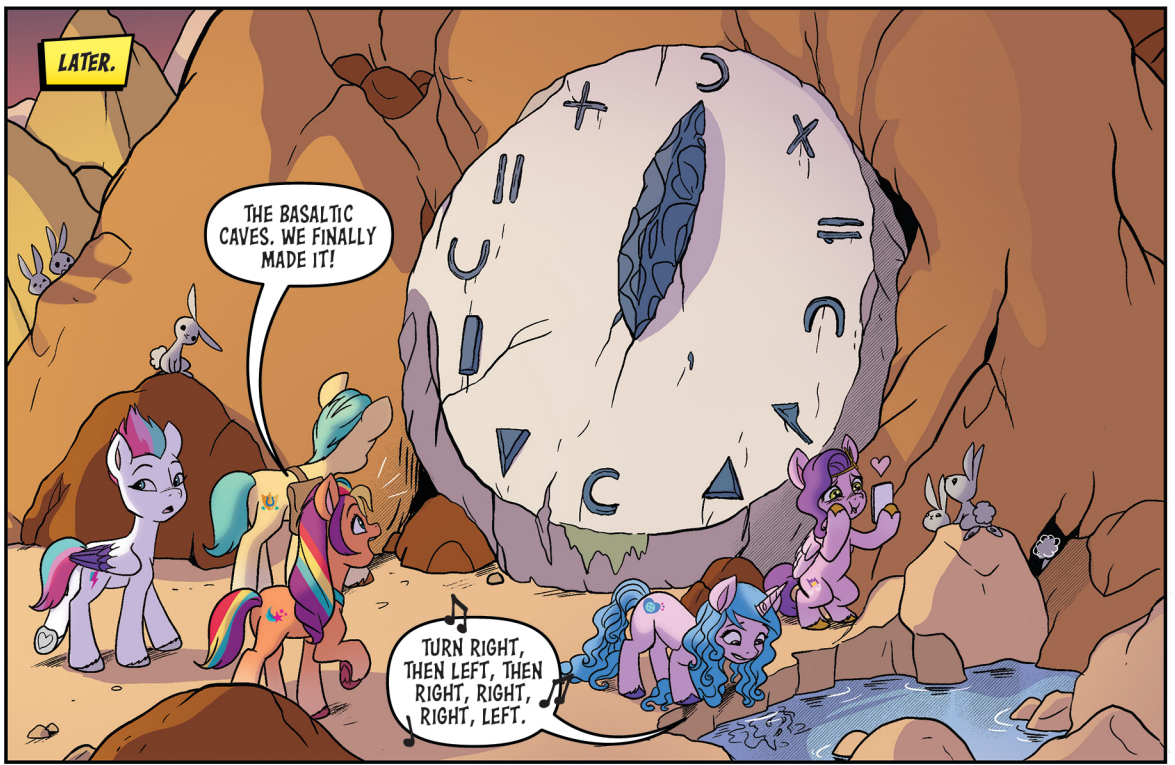
THE BOOK!

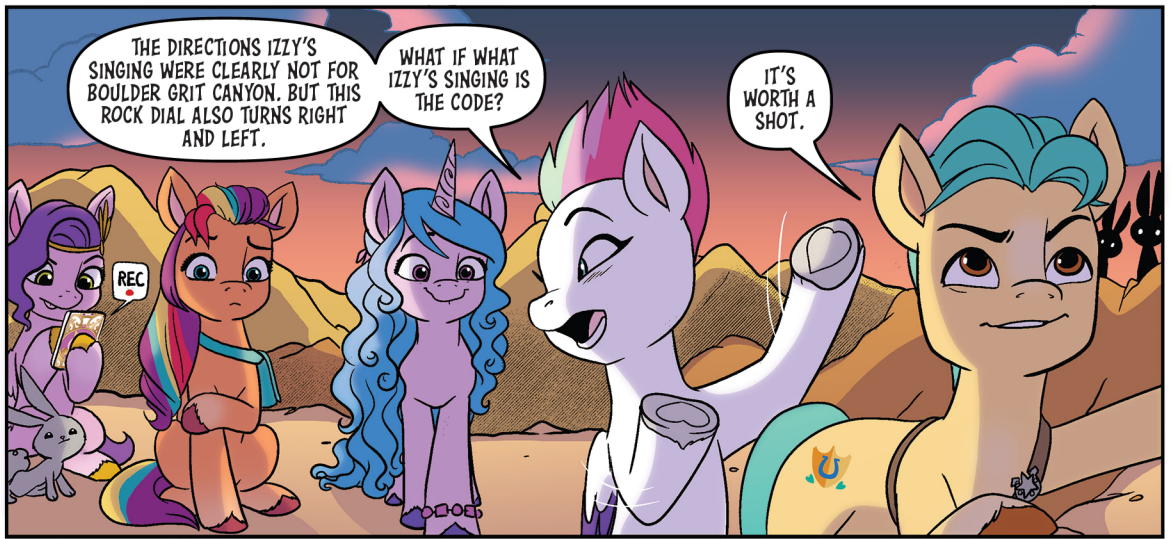
MY WINGS ARE GLITCHING.

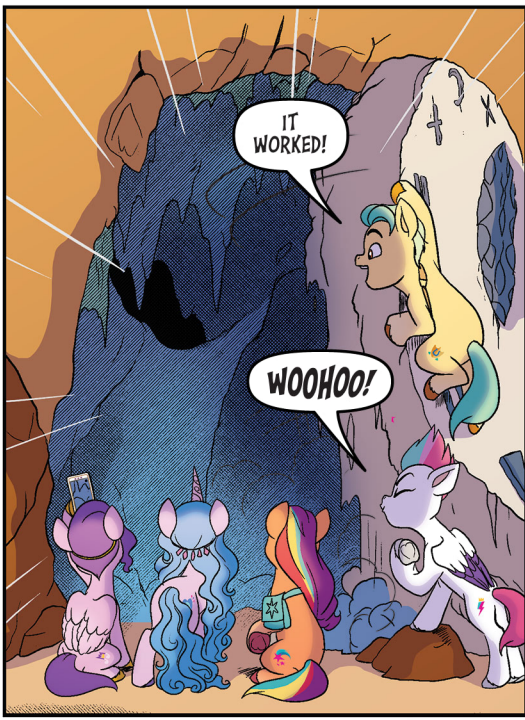
MINE TOO.

COME ON!









IT WORKED!

WOOHOO!

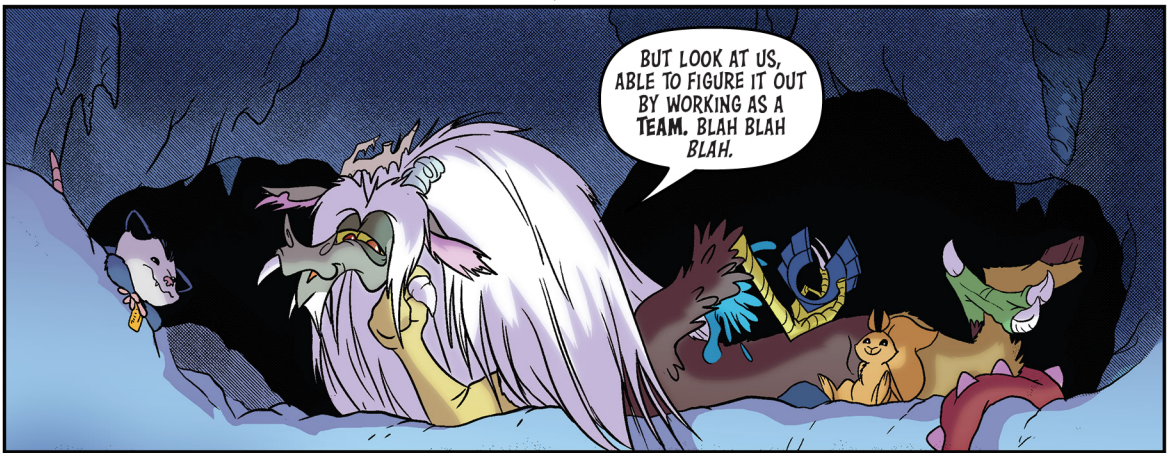


YES!

WE DID IT!

NICE ONE!

THAT CODE WAS A REAL HEAD-SCRATCHER!

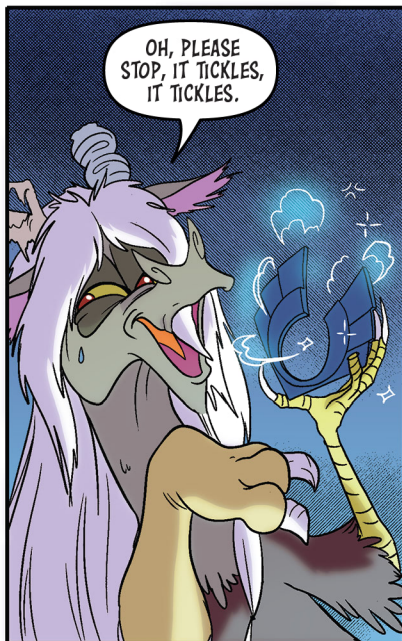


BUT LOOK AT US, ABLE TO FIGURE IT OUT BY WORKING AS A TEAM. BLAH BLAH BLAH.

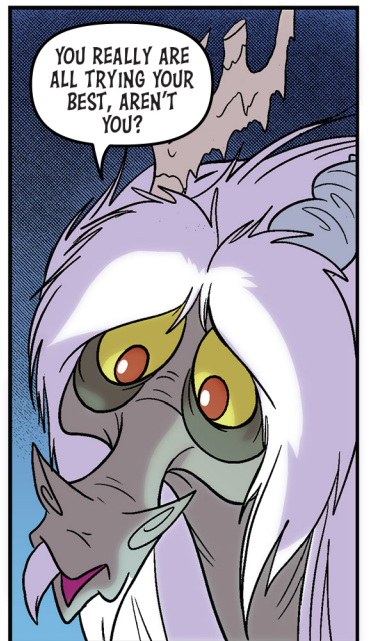


DISCORD.

GET THAT UNITY CRYSTAL!



OH, PLEASE STOP, IT TICKLES, IT TICKLES.



YOU REALLY ARE ALL TRYING YOUR BEST, AREN'T YOU?



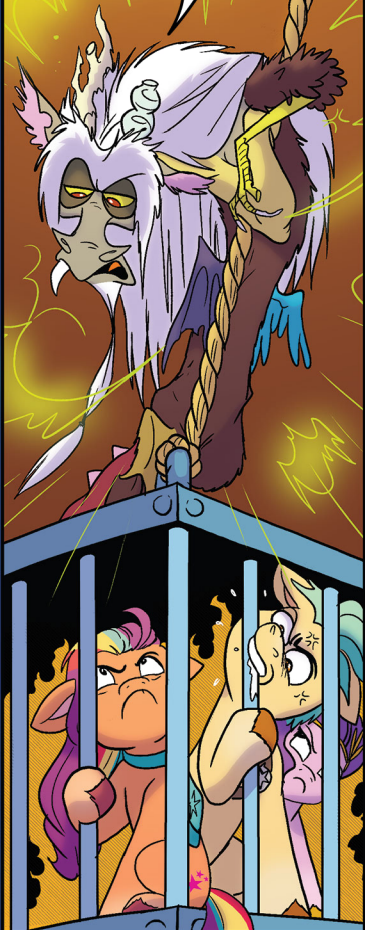
SNAP

LET ME SAVE YOU THE EMBARRASSMENT.



DON'T LOOK AT ME WITH THOSE WOE-BEGONE EYES. I'M DOING THIS FOR YOU.

FOR ALL OF YOU!



ONE DAY YOU'LL THANK ME FOR CREATING EQUALITY AMONG ALL PONYKIND. BUT IN THE MEANTIME...

...AT LEAST YOU CAN INDULGE IN THESE FLEETING MOMENTS OF MAGIC TRAPPED WITH THE ONES YOU HOLD DEAR.

YOU'RE WELCOME.



COME BACK!

DON'T DO THIS!

SOME PONY HELP US!

TO BE CONTINUED...

**NEXT MONTH:
ISSUE #10**

MY LITTLE PONY





ART BY **AMY MEBBERSON**



ART BY **JUSTASUTA**



ART BY **TRISH FORSTNER**

my LITTLE #1 PONY

Friendship is Magic

10TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

RETURN TO EQUESTRIA!

CELEBRATE TEN YEARS OF MY LITTLE PONY: FRIENDSHIP IS MAGIC WITH THIS MAGICAL ENCORE EDITION OF THE CLASSIC FIRST ISSUE!



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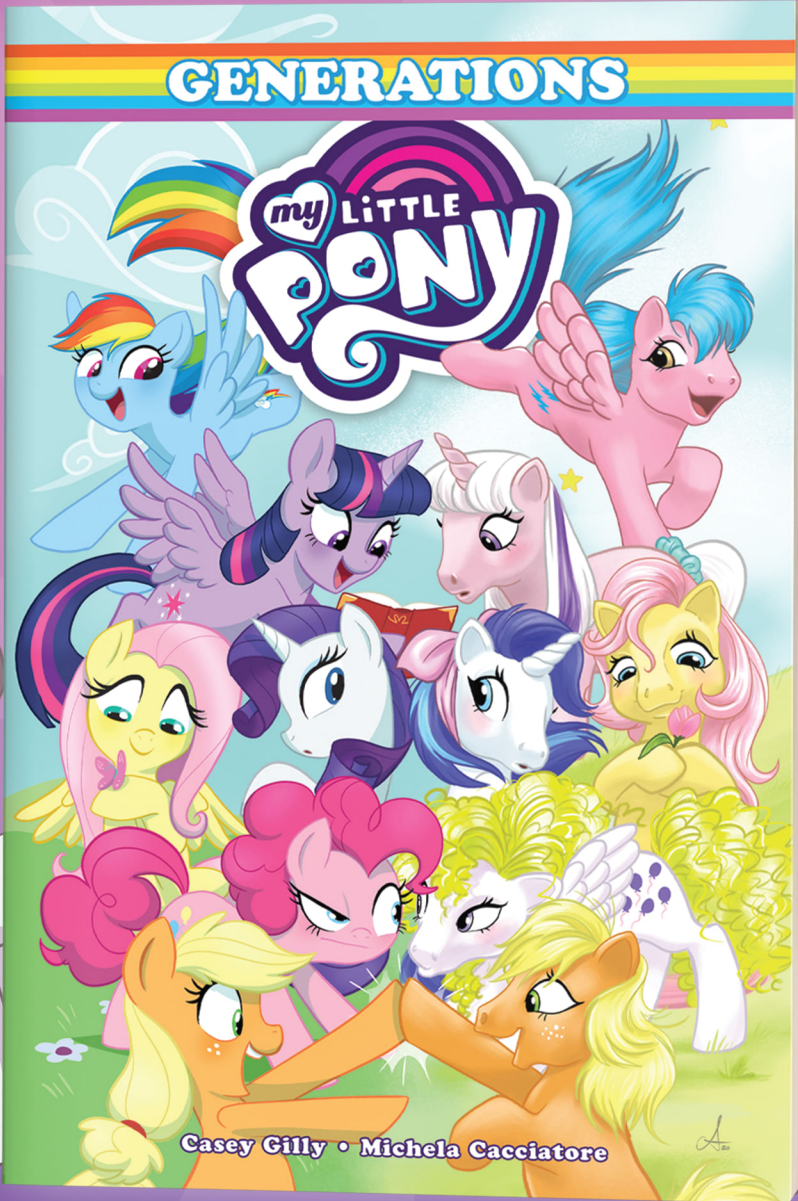
- EIGHT-PAGE COVER GALLERY
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GENERATIONS



NEW VILLAINS **GRACKLE** AND **DYRE** HAVE A NEFARIOUS SCHEME...
AND ONLY THE FAMILIAR FACES FROM **FRIENDSHIP IS MAGIC**
AND THE **ORIGINAL G1 PONIES** CAN STOP IT!

BY **CASEY GILLY** AND **MICHELA CACCIATORE!**

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