

IDW
ISSUE
1

my LITTLE PONY

Legends of Magic



BRENDA HICKEY

WHITLEY • HICKEY • BRECKEL



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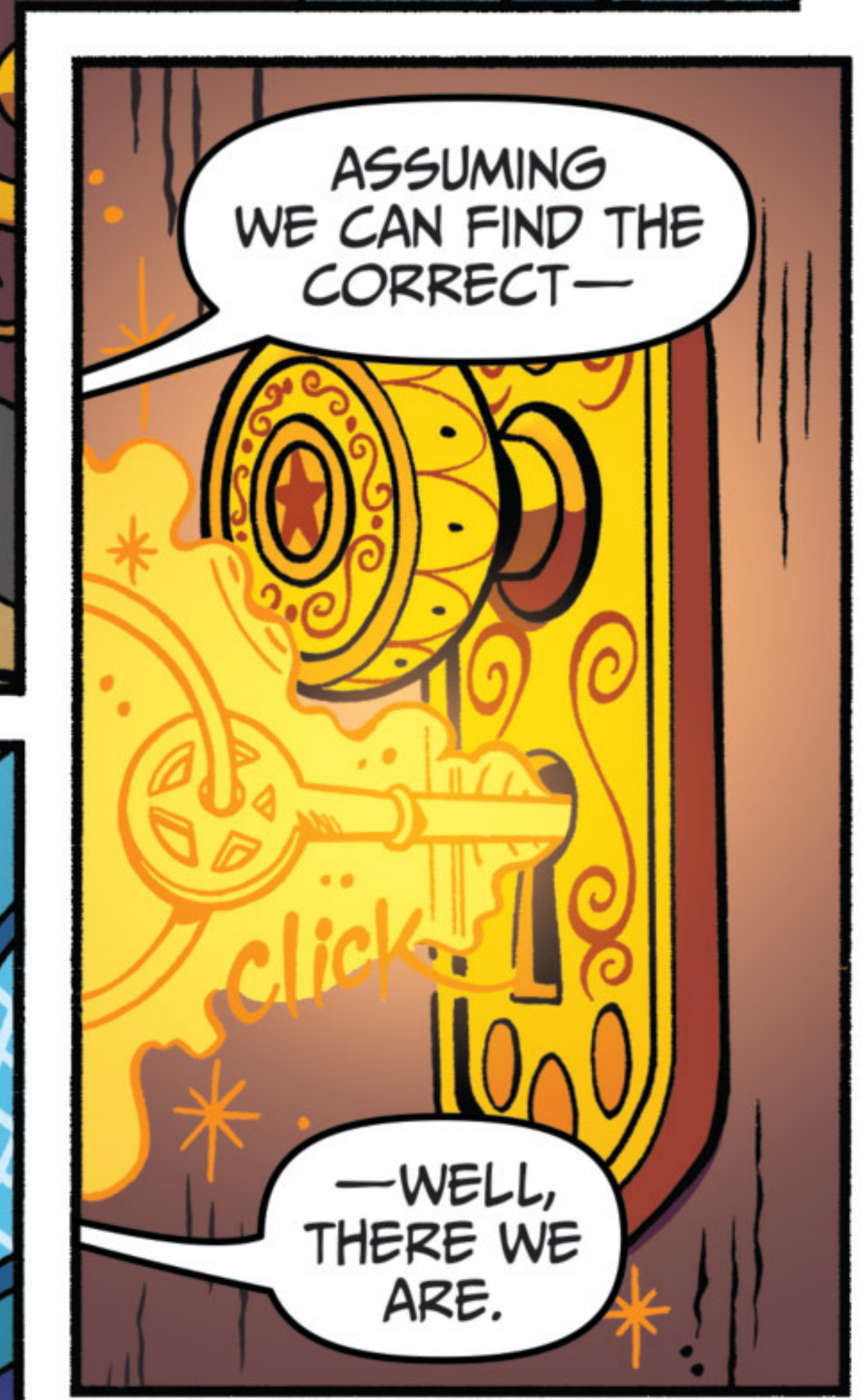
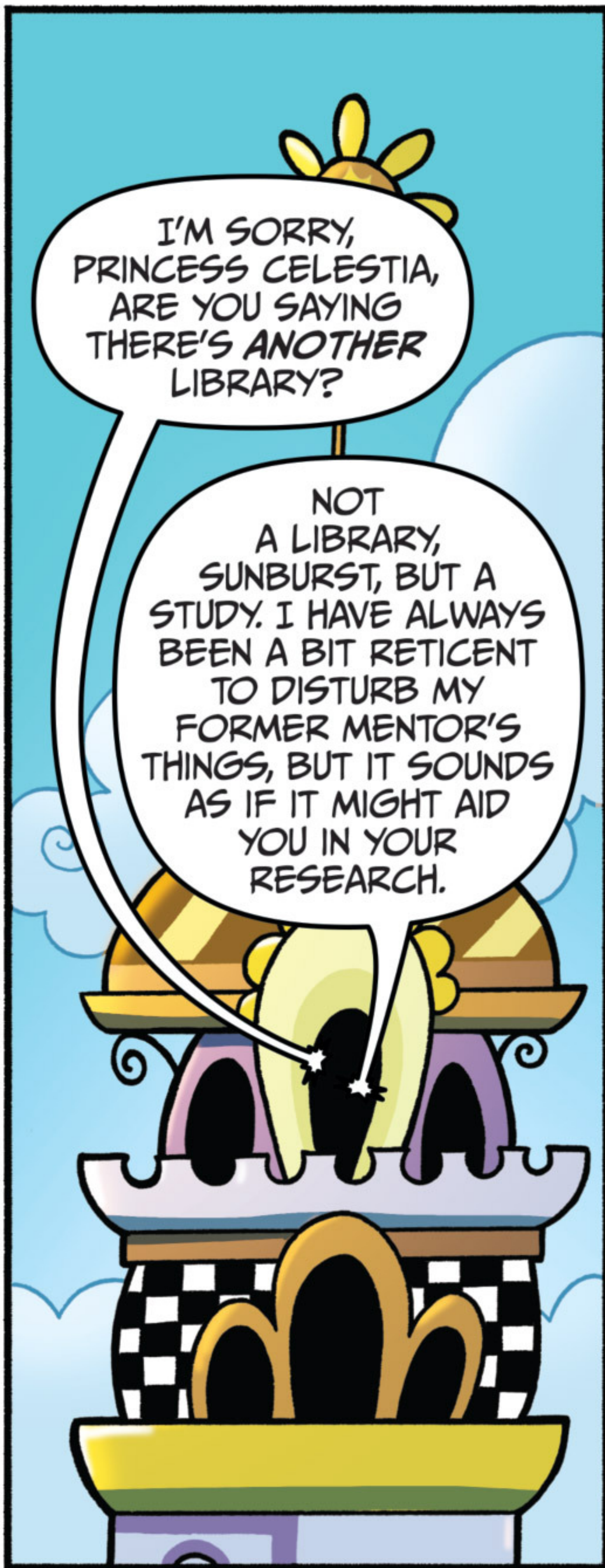
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THIS IS AMAZING!
WHO KNOWS WHAT
COULD BE IN
HERE!

WELL, I AM CERTAIN
THAT LUNA AND I READ
SEVERAL OF THESE
STORIES WHEN WE WERE
UNDER STARSWIRL'S
TUTELAGE.

WHY
WOULD YOU
KEEP ALL OF
THIS LOCKED
AWAY?



WHEN STARSWIRL
DISAPPEARED, LUNA AND I
WERE CONVINCED HE WOULD BE
BACK ANY DAY. HE WAS OFTEN
PULLED AWAY ON ADVENTURES,
JUST TO TURN UP A FEW
WEEKS LATER.

AND WHEN
HE DIDN'T
RETURN?

AT FIRST, WE WERE
SURE HE WOULD. THEN, ONCE
A FEW MONTHS HAD PASSED,
WE STOPPED LOOKING. BUT WE
WERE STILL YOUNG, AND DIDN'T
DARE TO DISTURB OUR
TUTOR'S THINGS.



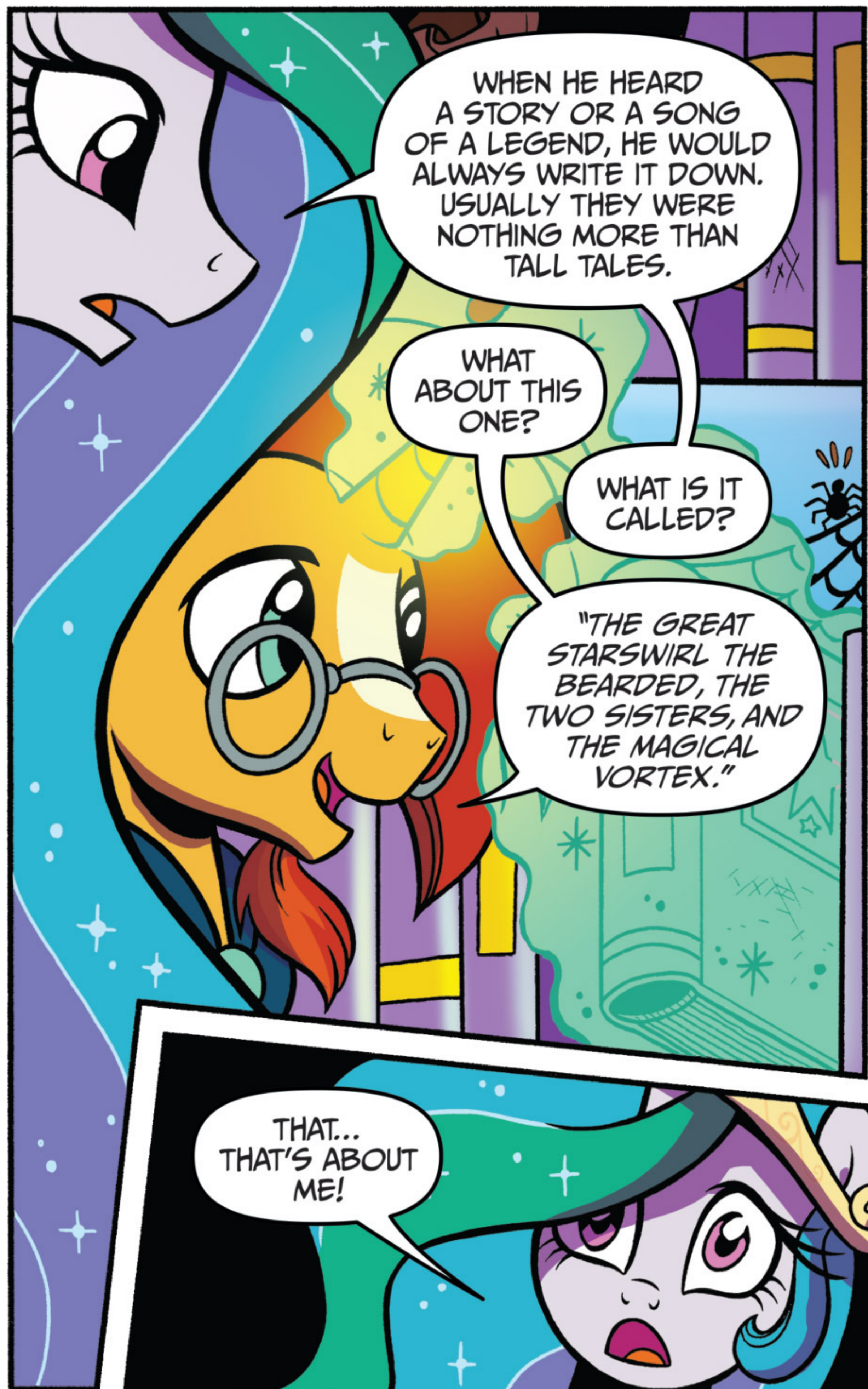
THEN THERE WAS
THE FIGHT, AND I EXILED
LUNA TO THE MOON. AFTER
THAT I WAS TOO BUSY... OR
PERHAPS IT HURT TOO
MUCH TO THINK OF
THOSE DAYS.

"LEGENDS
OF MAGIC"?

STARSWIRL
WAS FOND OF
MYTHS AND
LEGENDS. STORIES
OF PONIES WITH
EXCEPTIONAL
POWER.

*Legends
of Magic*

IT LOOKS LIKE
HE WROTE THESE
HIMSELF.



WHEN HE HEARD
A STORY OR A SONG
OF A LEGEND, HE WOULD
ALWAYS WRITE IT DOWN.
USUALLY THEY WERE
NOTHING MORE THAN
TALL TALES.

WHAT
ABOUT THIS
ONE?

WHAT IS IT
CALLED?

"THE GREAT
STARSWIRL THE
BEARDED, THE
TWO SISTERS, AND
THE MAGICAL
VORTEX."



THAT...
THAT'S ABOUT
ME!

LATER THAT NIGHT.

FASCINATING!
THIS WAS WRITTEN
BY STARSWIRL, BUT
IT DOESN'T READ
LIKE A JOURNAL
HERE.

HE'S WRITTEN
AN ACCOUNT
OF HIS OWN
LEGEND.



"NOW, WITHOUT A
DOUBT, MANY AMONG YOU
WILL KNOW THE LEGENDS
OF STARSWIRL THE
BEARDED."

"ONE OF THE
GREAT HEROES OF
OUR TIME, STARSWIRL WAS
KNOWN FOR FACING DOWN
MAGICAL CREATURES AND
FORCES NO OTHER PONY
WOULD DARE."

~~SNORT~~
HE CERTAINLY
WASN'T KNOWN
FOR HIS SMALL
EGO.



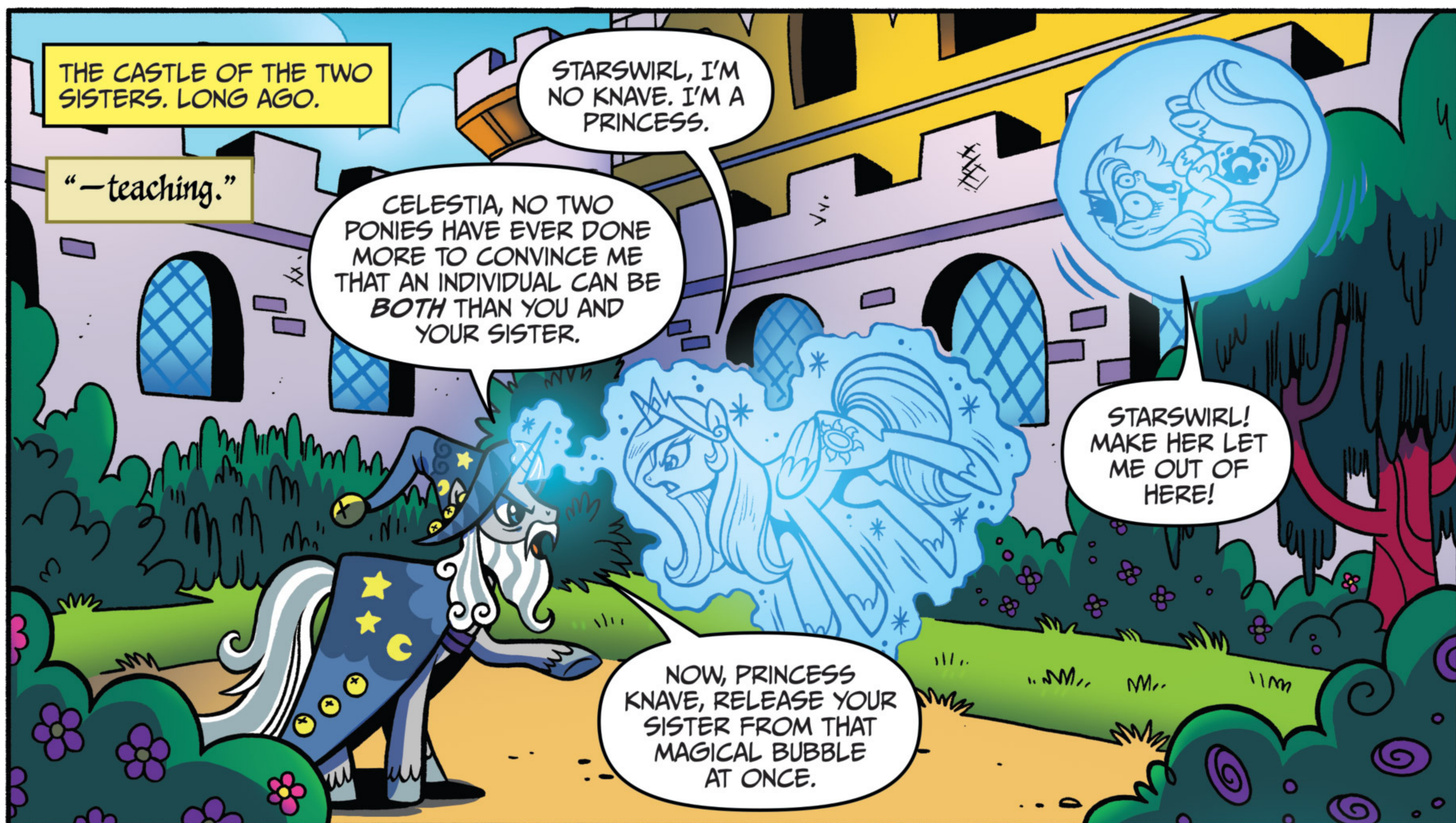
But perhaps the most challenging
role for Starswirl was not that of
mage, or wanderer, or hero. But the
most dangerous of all professions—

Indeed, Starswirl was one of the
great pony heroes. His feats will
be sung long after he has left us.



HALT, KNAVE!
GO NO FURTHER!





THE CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS. LONG AGO.

"-teaching."

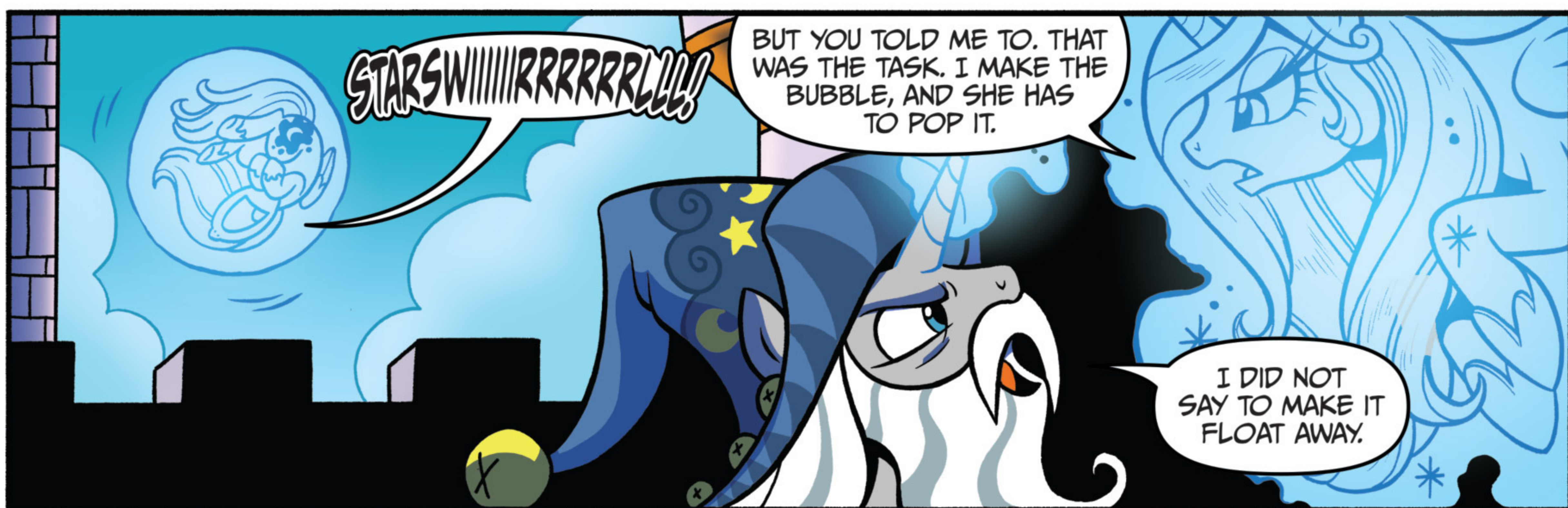
STARSWIRL, I'M NO KNAVE. I'M A PRINCESS.

CELESTIA, NO TWO PONIES HAVE EVER DONE MORE TO CONVINC ME THAT AN INDIVIDUAL CAN BE BOTH THAN YOU AND YOUR SISTER.



STARSWIRL! MAKE HER LET ME OUT OF HERE!

NOW, PRINCESS KNAVE, RELEASE YOUR SISTER FROM THAT MAGICAL BUBBLE AT ONCE.



STARSWIRLRRRRRRRL!!!

BUT YOU TOLD ME TO. THAT WAS THE TASK. I MAKE THE BUBBLE, AND SHE HAS TO POP IT.

I DID NOT SAY TO MAKE IT FLOAT AWAY.



IT'S MEANT TO BE A SIMPLE TRAINING EXERCISE, NOT A CHANCE FOR YOU TO MAKE YOUR SISTER PANIC.

WELL, IT'S NOT MY FAULT SHE CAN'T KEEP UP.



POP!
GAAAH!!



IT IS NOT YOUR JOB TO MONITOR OR COMMENT ON YOUR SISTER'S PROGRESS. I AM THE INSTRUCTOR HERE.

WELL, THAT MUST BE FRUSTRATING FOR YOU.



ARE YOU OKAY, PRINCESS LUNA?

THANK YOU FOR GETTING ME DOWN. HOW CAN MY OWN SISTER BE SO MEAN? CAN YOU BELIEVE HER?

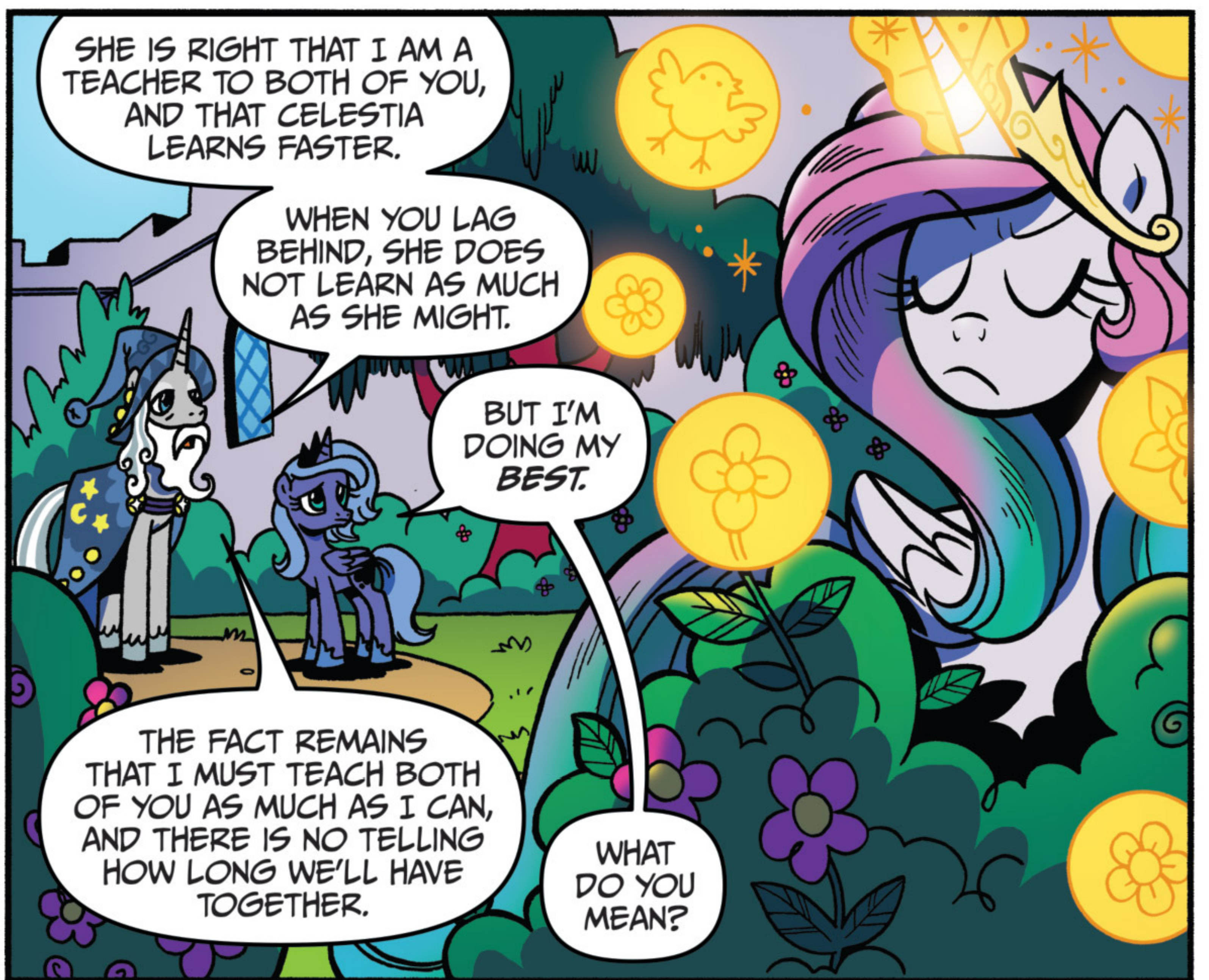
TO BE FRANK, HER COMPLAINT HAS MERIT.



I... I THOUGHT YOU WERE ON MY SIDE.



THERE ARE NO SIDES HERE, PRINCESS LUNA.



SHE IS RIGHT THAT I AM A TEACHER TO BOTH OF YOU, AND THAT CELESTIA LEARNS FASTER.

WHEN YOU LAG BEHIND, SHE DOES NOT LEARN AS MUCH AS SHE MIGHT.

BUT I'M DOING MY BEST.

THE FACT REMAINS THAT I MUST TEACH BOTH OF YOU AS MUCH AS I CAN, AND THERE IS NO TELLING HOW LONG WE'LL HAVE TOGETHER.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



WHEN A CRISIS ARISES, I MAY BE CALLED ON TO DEAL WITH IT, AND SOMEDAY I MIGHT NOT RETURN.

SOMETIMES OUR LIVES REQUIRE US TO DO THINGS THAT DO NOT SEEM IMMEDIATELY POSSIBLE TO US.



AS A PRINCESS, SOMEDAY THOSE THINGS MIGHT BE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SURVIVAL OF YOUR KINGDOM OR THE FALL OF ALL OF EQUESTRIA.

IF YOUR BEST IS NOT UP TO THE TASK, EITHER YOU MUST FIND A NEW BEST, OR BE WILLING TO LIVE WITH THE CONSEQUENCES.





OH! I HOPE THERE WERE NO CREATURES IN THAT BUSH!

THIS IS REALLY SAD.



YOU'RE SNEAKING OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT TO PRACTICE, AND YOU STILL CAN'T DO BASIC MAGIC.

GO AWAY, CELESTIA!



HEY, I WANT YOU TO GET BETTER. IF YOU CAN FIGURE OUT THIS KID STUFF, MAYBE WE CAN GET TO SOME REAL MAGIC.

YOU THINK YOU'RE SO GREAT.

I DIDN'T SAY I WAS SO GREAT, JUST A LOT BETTER THAN YOU.



IT'S JUST THIS SPELL. I CAN DO HARDER SPELLS.

OH, STOP. DON'T EMBARRASS YOURSELF, SISTER.

I'LL SHOW YOU. LET'S SEE... SOMETHING HARDER.



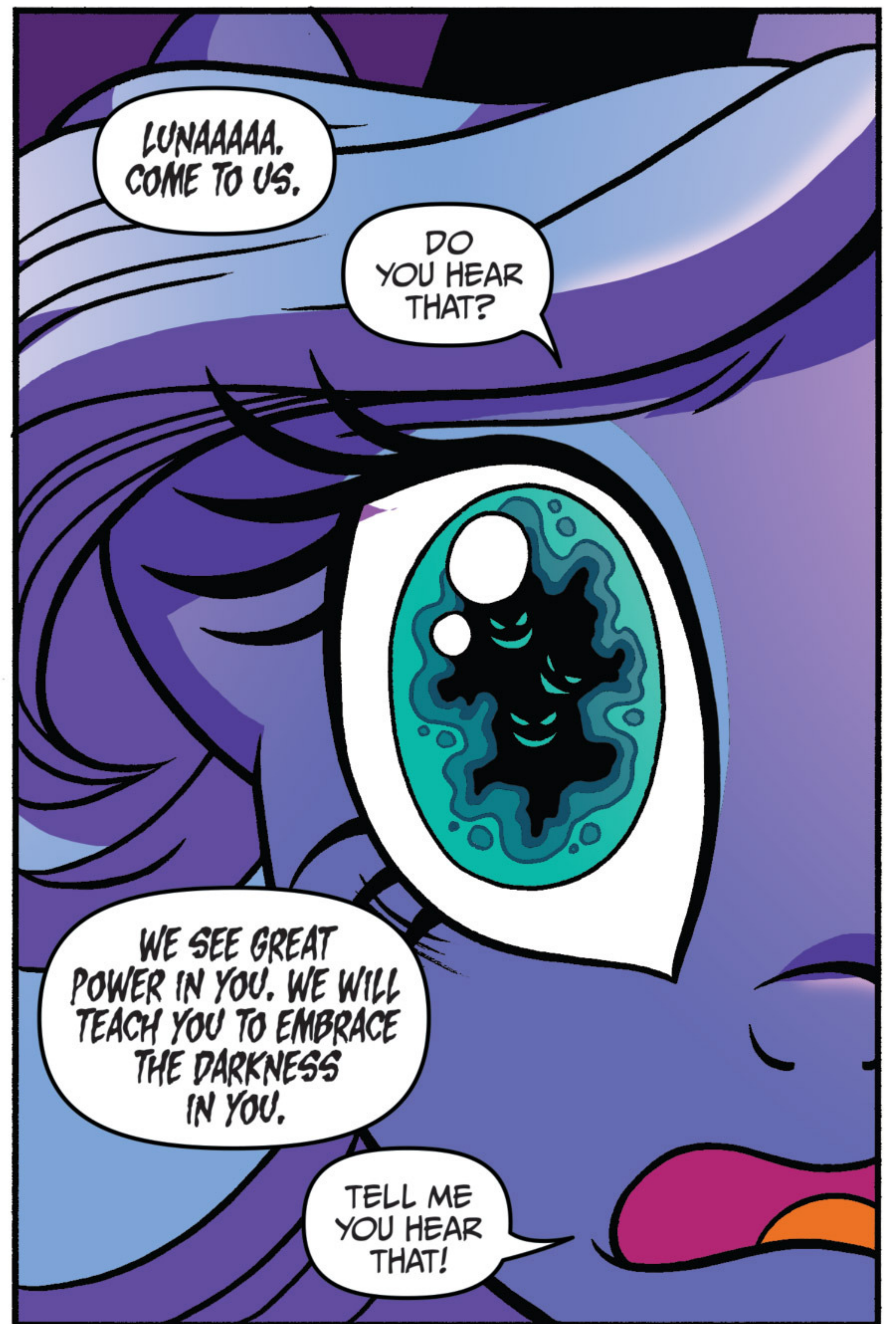
AHA! DIMENSIONAL DOORWAY! I'LL DO THAT ONE!

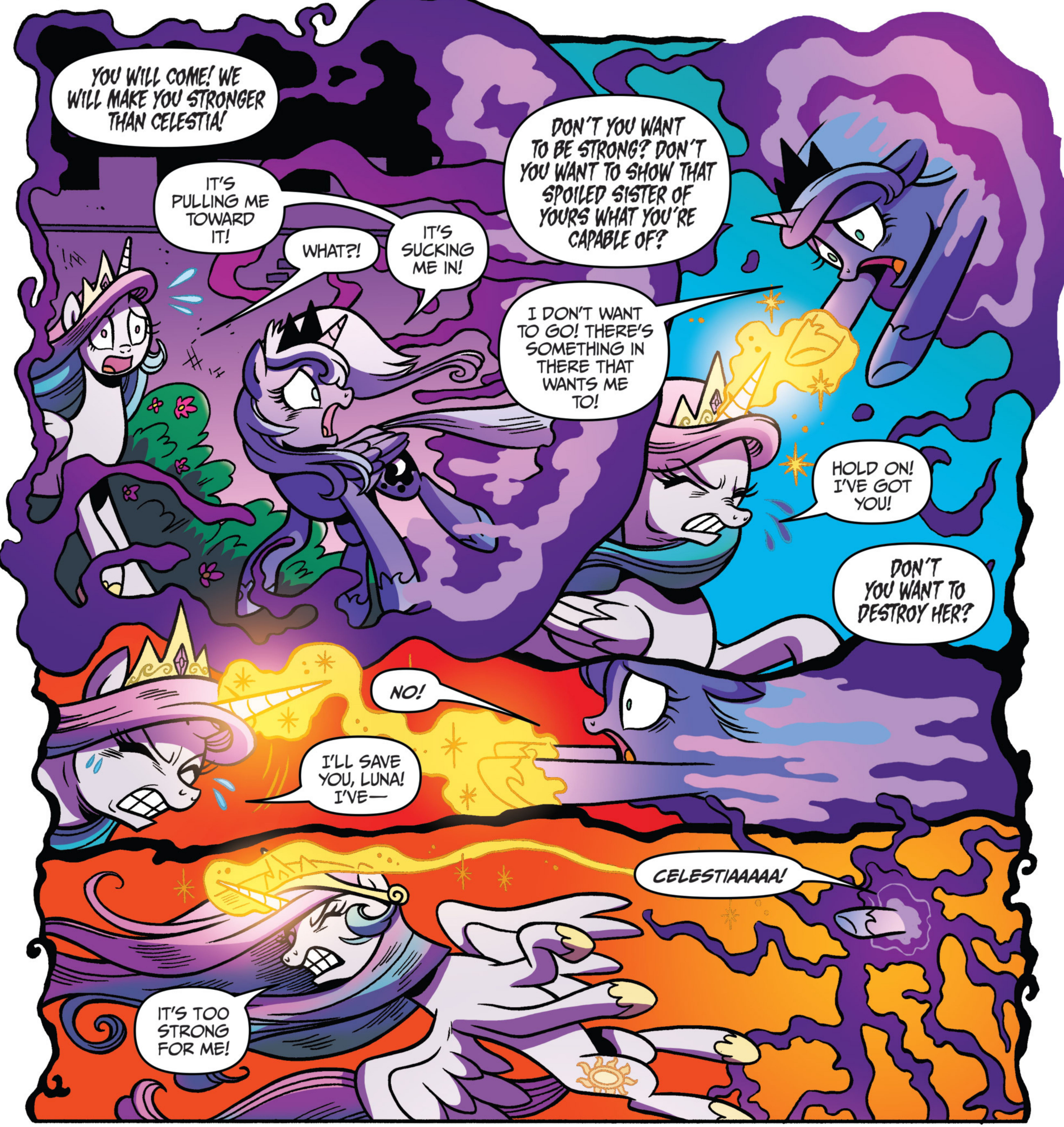
THAT IS ONE OF THE HARDEST SPELLS IN THE BOOK. I CAN'T EVEN DO THAT ONE.

THEN GET READY TO EAT YOUR WORDS, SISTER.



HRRRRRGGGHHH!





YOU WILL COME! WE WILL MAKE YOU STRONGER THAN CELESTIA!

IT'S PULLING ME TOWARD IT!

WHAT?!

IT'S SUCKING ME IN!

DON'T YOU WANT TO BE STRONG? DON'T YOU WANT TO SHOW THAT SPOILED SISTER OF YOURS WHAT YOU'RE CAPABLE OF?

I DON'T WANT TO GO! THERE'S SOMETHING IN THERE THAT WANTS ME TO!

HOLD ON! I'VE GOT YOU!

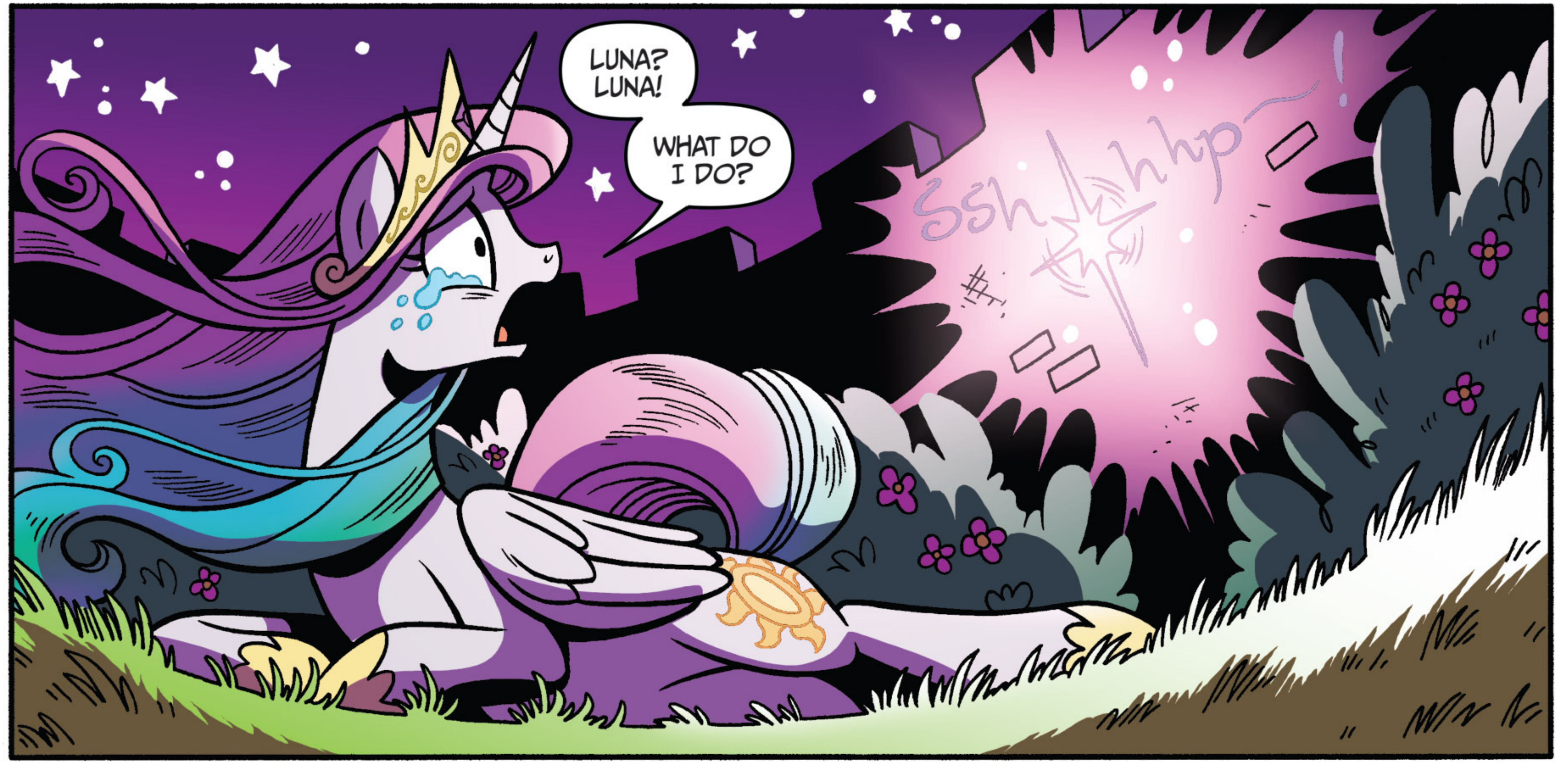
DON'T YOU WANT TO DESTROY HER?

NO!

I'LL SAVE YOU, LUNA! I'VE—

CELESTIAAAAA!

IT'S TOO STRONG FOR ME!



LUNA? LUNA!

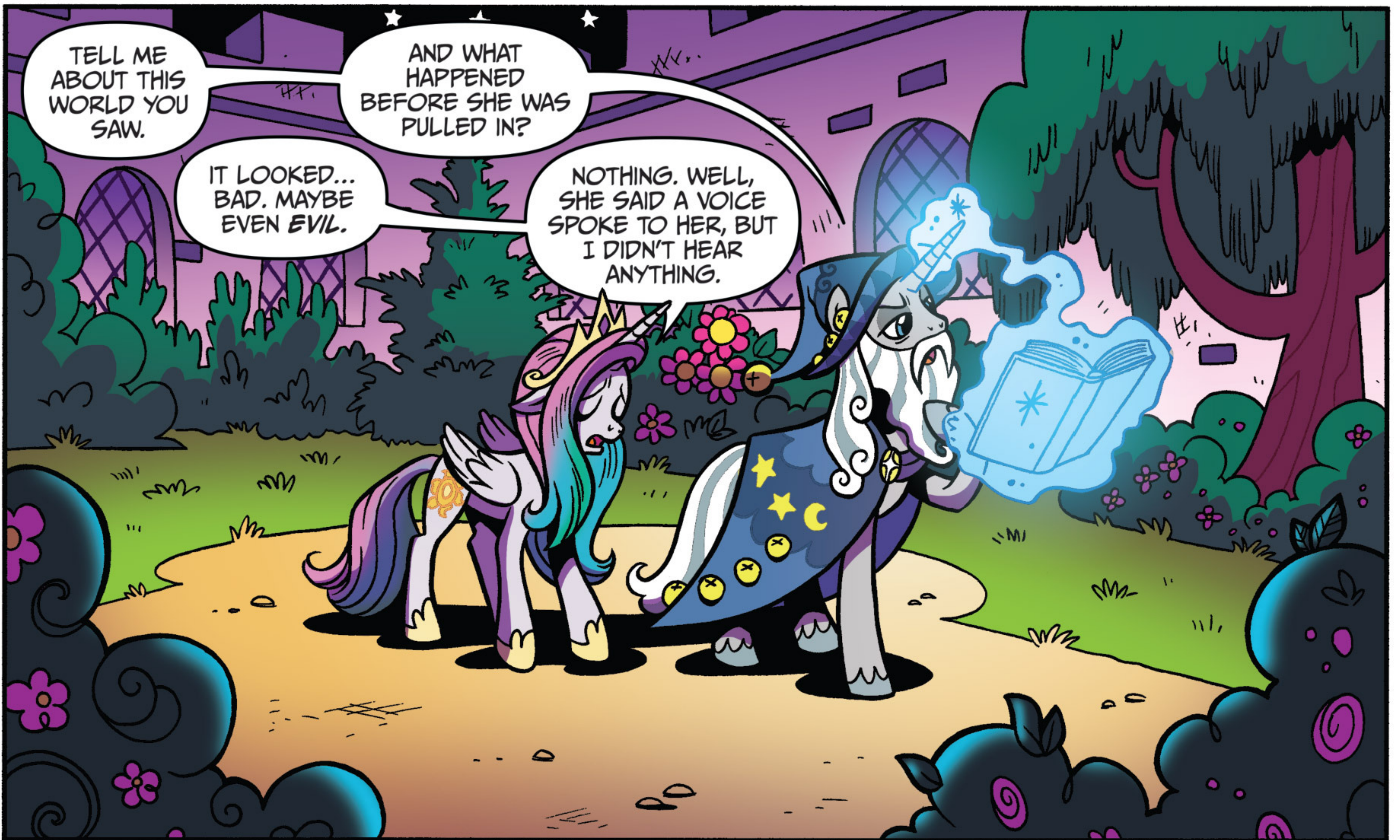
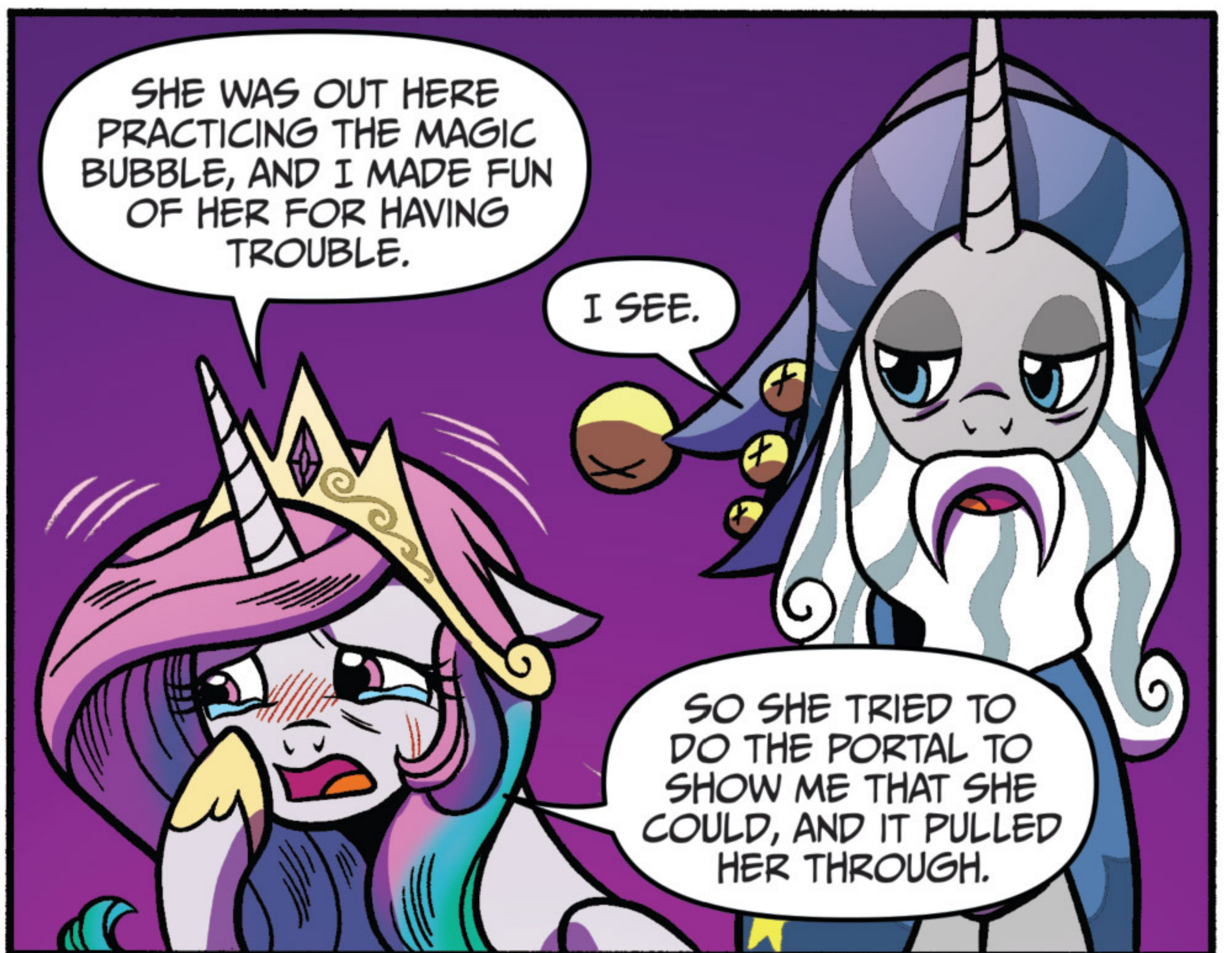
WHAT DO I DO?

Sshhhhhp



**KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK!**







WHAT DO I DO?

FIRST, YOU MUST REALIZE THAT YOU ARE A BIG SISTER, AND THAT YOU WILL SOMEDAY BE THE LEADER OF EQUESTRIA.

AND YOU MUST REMEMBER THAT THE TRULY STRONG DO NOT REGARD WEAKNESS AND EFFORT WITH DERISION, BUT WITH ENCOURAGEMENT AND COMPASSION.



YOUR SISTER IS LOST TO YOU TODAY BECAUSE YOU FAILED TO SHOW COMPASSION. BUT SHE IS ONLY PHYSICALLY LOST. THE PHYSICALLY LOST CAN BE PHYSICALLY RETRIEVED.

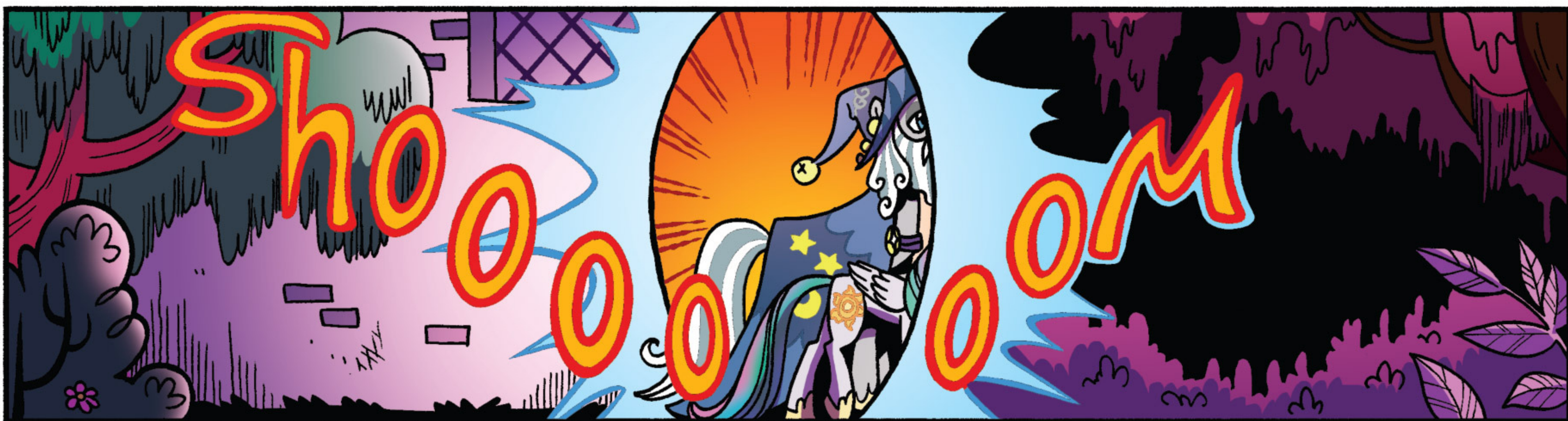
HOWEVER, IF YOU FAIL TO PROVIDE THE CARE NEEDED, YOU MAY LOSE YOUR SISTER EMOTIONALLY.

AND YOU MAY NEVER BE ABLE TO GET HER BACK.



BUT FOR THE MOMENT, WE MUST BE HER CHAMPIONS.

I AM READY.

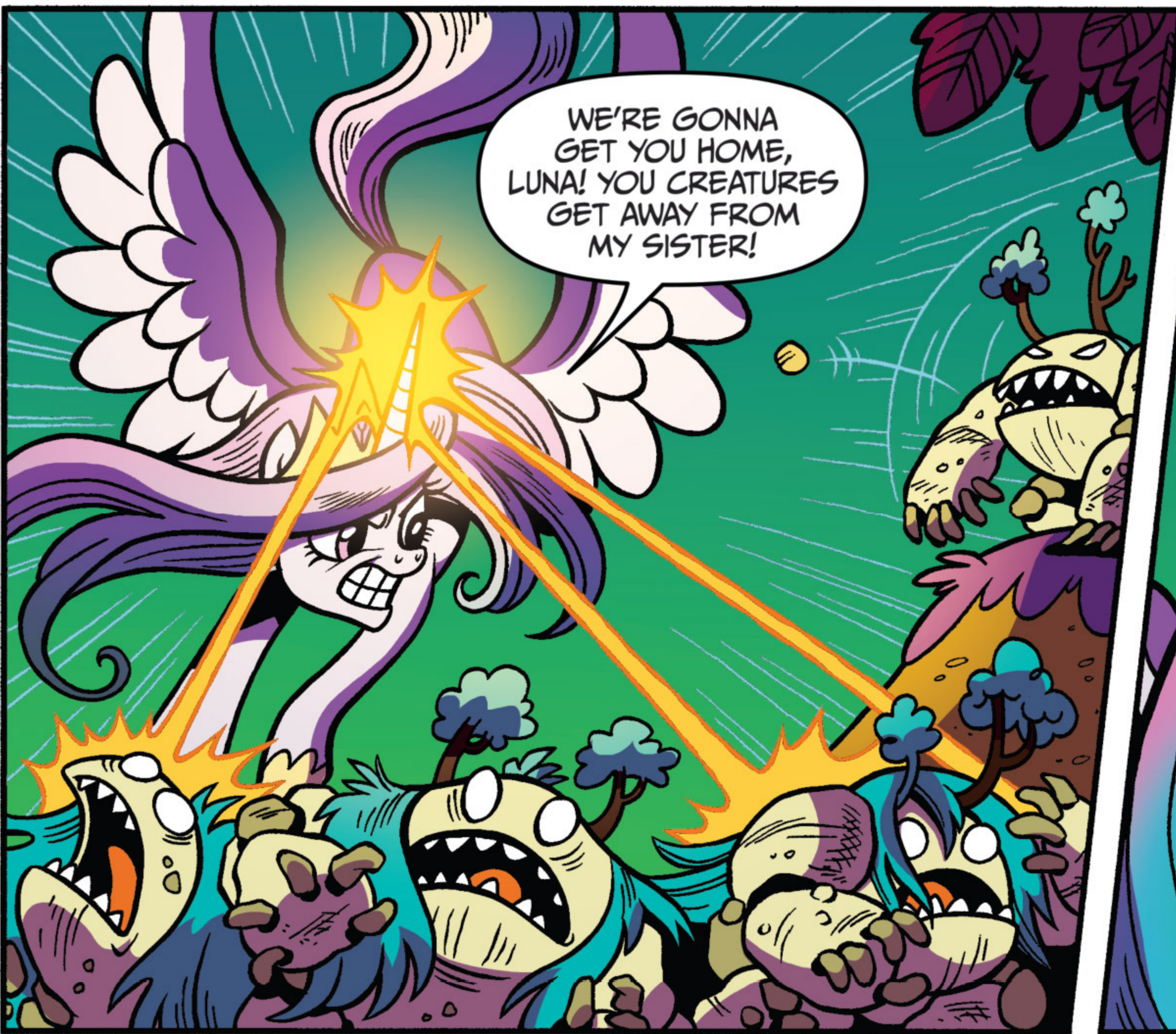


WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

ANOTHER WORLD. SOMEWHERE FULL OF POWERFUL DARK MAGICS.

WE HAVE TO FIND MY SISTER! SOMETHING TERRIBLE COULD HAPPEN!







YOU CAME FOR ME!

OF COURSE I DID. YOU'RE MY SISTER. NOW, WATCH YOUR HEAD!



FWIP!



THANKS FOR THE RESCUE. NOW WHAT?

I DON'T KNOW. I DIDN'T REALLY HAVE A PLAN. I KIND OF RAN OFF AND LEFT STARSWIRL BEHIND.

OH! THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE YOU AT ALL.

WHAT CAN I SAY? WHEN MY SISTER'S IN DANGER, I DON'T STOP TO THINK EVERYTHING THROUGH.



WHAT DID YOU SAY THEY WANTED WITH YOU?

THEY THINK I'M SOMEBODY ELSE. LIKE, I HAVE SOME SORT OF POWERFUL DARK MAGIC.

WELL, IF THEY THINK YOU'RE SO POWERFUL, THEY'LL LET YOU GO, RIGHT?

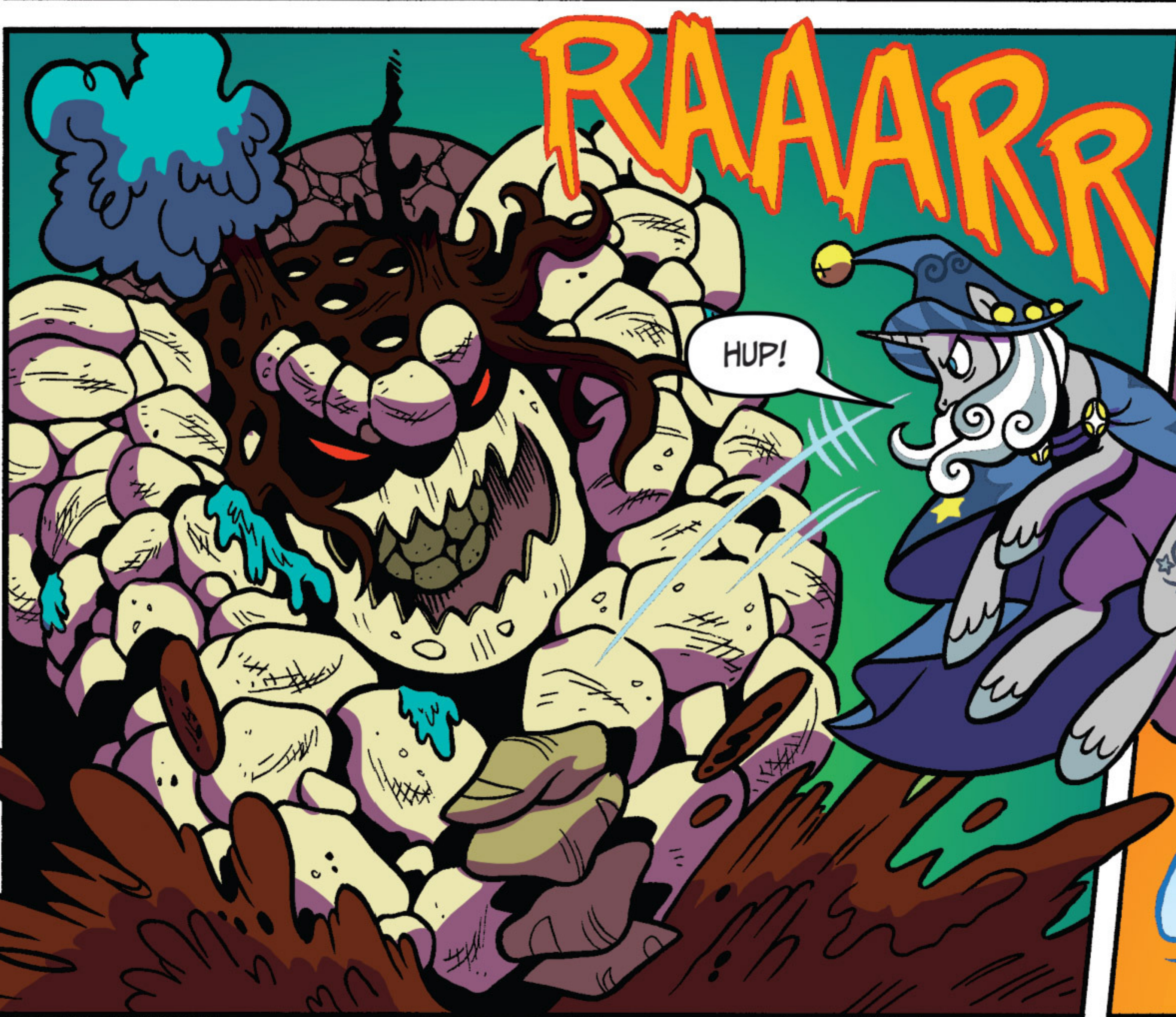
DO NOT ALLOW HER TO LEAVE!

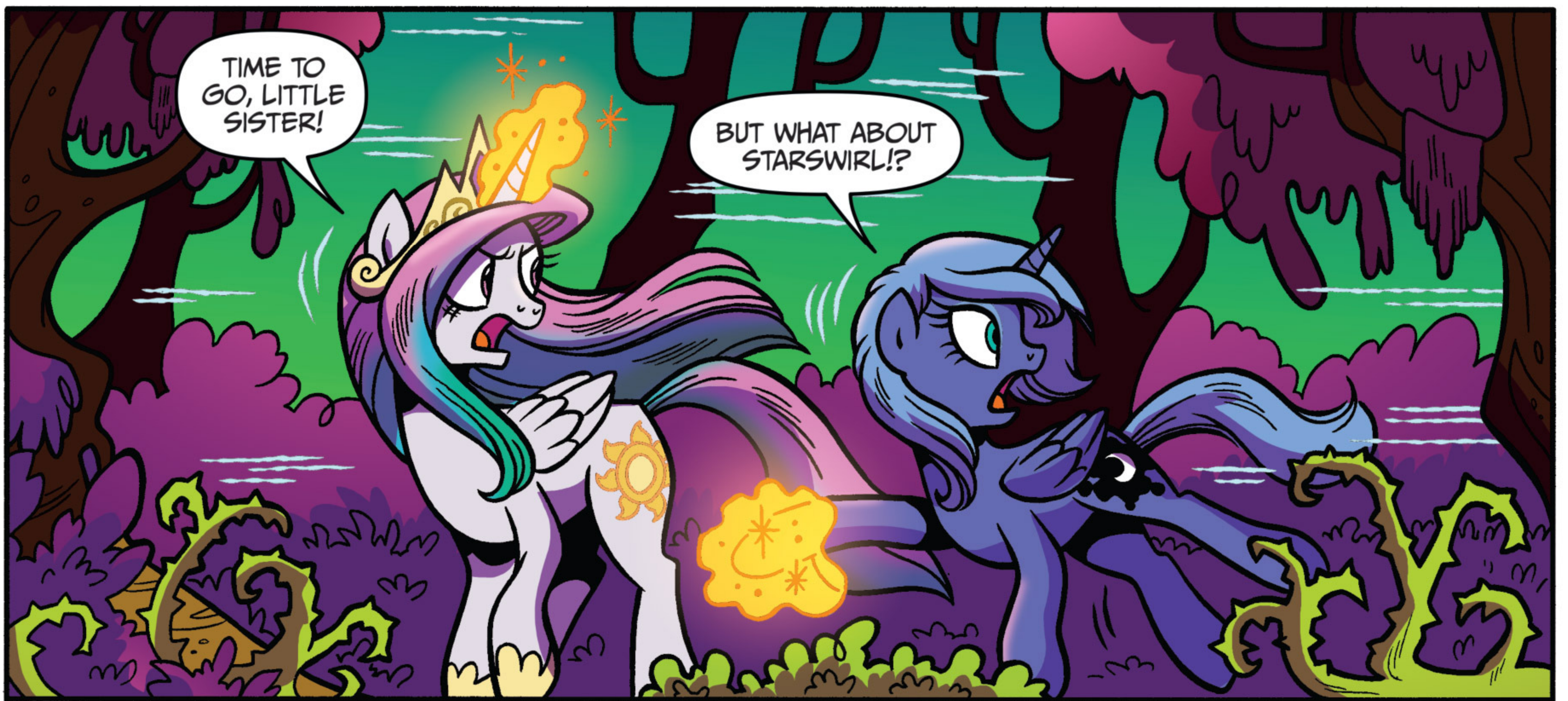


I... UH... I DON'T THINK THEY'RE GOING TO LET ME LEAVE.

I GOT THE SAME IMPRESSION.







TIME TO GO, LITTLE SISTER!

BUT WHAT ABOUT STARSWIRL!?



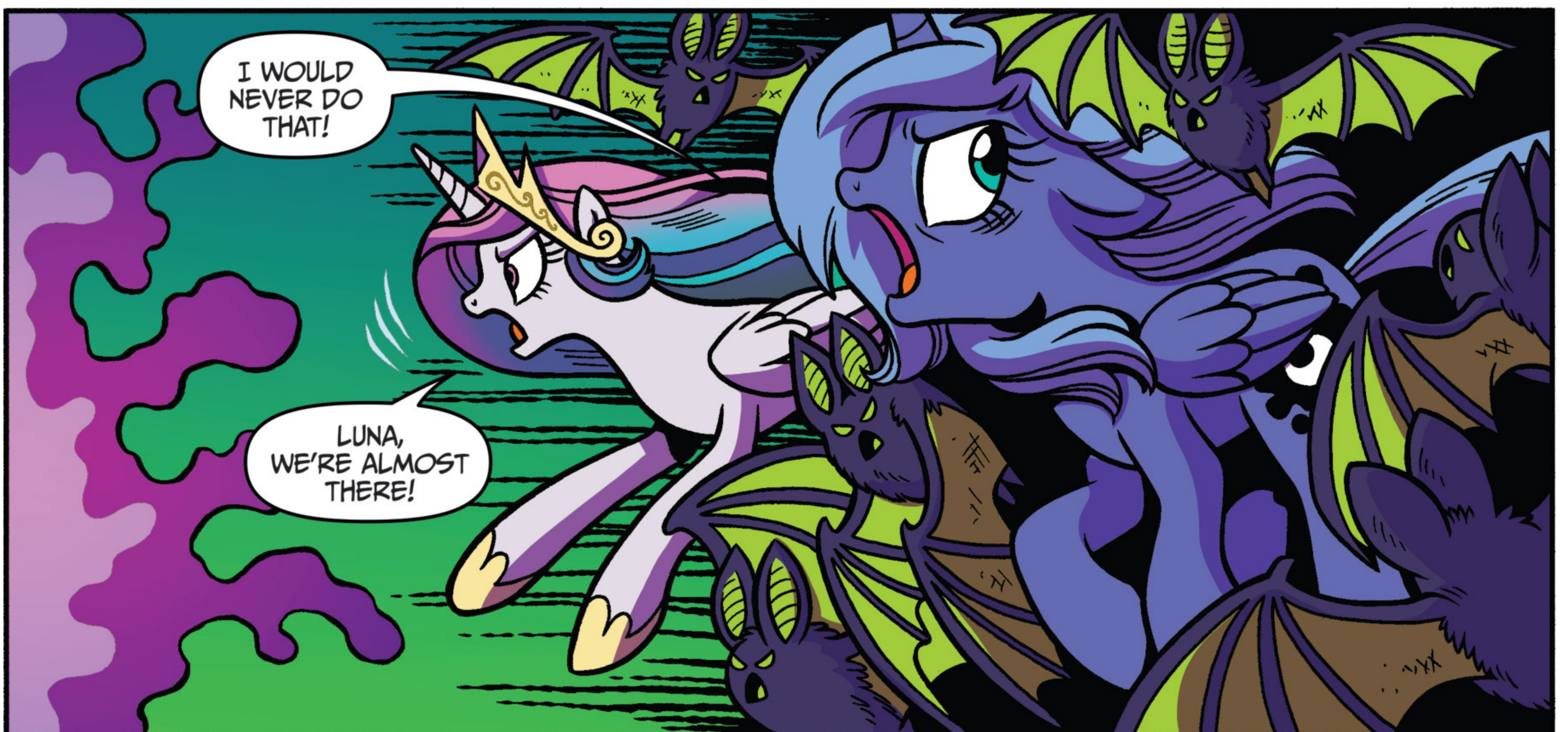
STARSWIRL CAN TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF.



YOU CAN'T LEAVE! YOU ARE MEANT FOR GREATNESS!

LEAVE ME ALONE!

YOU WILL TURN ON YOUR SISTER! YOU WILL BE MIGHTY!



I WOULD NEVER DO THAT!

LUNA, WE'RE ALMOST THERE!





"AND THAT, READER, IS WHERE THIS TALE OF STARSWIRL AND HIS PUPILS ENDS.

THE SISTERS ARE RECONCILED AND I AM CONFIDENT THAT NOTHING WILL EVER DRIVE THEM APART AGAIN.

AND IF THAT VOICE THAT LUNA HEARD IS TO BE BELIEVED, WE MAY HAVE AVOIDED A GREAT TRAGEDY FOR BOTH SISTERS."



I am writing this here rather than in my journal in hopes that it may find its way back to them some day.

Or perhaps to two such sisters or leaders in need.



For in a leader, there is no greater quality than compassion.

Order can be obtained through strength and fear.



But harmony? Harmony can only be maintained when we strive to be compassionate.



Only when we strive to understand one another, can we all become greater.

TO BE CONTINUED...

FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

by Ted Adams



I hope you're enjoying *Animal Noir* and *Helena Crash*, the creator-owned books I told you about in February and March. This month, I'd like to introduce you to James Venhaus and Pius Bak, the creators of *Night Owl Society*.

It's the story of a group of misfit high school kids who decide to take on their local mob boss. Imagine a Quentin Tarantino version of *The Breakfast Club*—great characters who actually sound and act like real high school kids and a complex bad guy who isn't just a mustache-twirling villain.

TA: James, the characters you've created in *Night Owl Society* take some of the usual character tropes and turn them on their head. Was that your intention?

detailed sketch of the page, I would send it to James. If he approved and no changes were needed, I would ink and color the page. That's about it.

TA: Both, what were your influences when you created the *Night Owl Society* world?

James: Absolutely. I wanted to give the reader a group of characters that they thought they knew, only to see that there is much more to them than meets the eye. I teach at a private high school that is a lot like the school in *Night Owl Society*. And, what I love about my students is how they are so much more complex than their outward appearance would lead you to believe.

James: The school where I teach and my students are a huge influence on the *Night Owl Society*. My students are the perfect subject for a story about crime fighters. They are smarter than the average teenager, have copious amounts of both free time and disposable income, and an overdeveloped sense of right and wrong. They see everything in black and white and aren't

TA: Pius, I'm impressed with your panel layout and storytelling. What's your work process?

Pius: With *NOS*, James gave me the freedom to plan the pages by myself. I would divide each scene from the script into separate possible storyboards at first, while trying to visualize them as illustrations in my head. Then I would group the storyboards into comic pages. If there were a storyboard that I thought could look exceptionally interesting, I would consider doing a full-page spread.

Once I have figured out how many panels I want to put on a page, I would start sketching out all the options for layouts. That's when I decide sizes and shapes of the panels. Some panels will be smaller; some will be bigger, depending on its importance and how much dialogue has to fit in it. Knowledge on composition and graphic design becomes somewhat important at this stage.

After finding the layout I like the most, I would start sketching the content into panel frames. At this stage, I think about camera angles, composition and what would be the focal points in the panels. Once I had a somewhat



afraid to take action when they feel that there is an injustice in their community.

Pius: I think at the time I was drawing the *Night Owl Society*, I was really influenced by comic book artists David Aja and Toni Infante. A lot of it shows in the pages I drew.

TA: Both, anything else you'd like to tell our readers?

James: I love comics, and there are so many truly original and compelling new books out now. I encourage you to read what you love and to broaden your horizons and to try something new. And, as always, support your local comic shop!

Pius: Working with James on *Night Owl Society* was a fun experience and I learned a lot while working on it. Give it a read and I hope you will enjoy it.



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Strawberry Shortcake



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CHECK OUT A SNEAK PEEK OF THE AWESOME NEW SERIES...

Strawberry Shortcake™

The Baby Berrykin Baking Challenge

(Part 1 of 2)



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COLORS BY: Fernando Peniche

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I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE PLANS FOR THE INTERIOR.

THEY LOOK RIGHT TO ME, SOUR...

I WAS SURE IT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE A DUCK PATTERN, SQUIRRELS JUST LOOK WEIRD ON A BOAT.



I LIKE SQUIRRELS.



I LIKE SQUIRRELS TOO BUT THAT'S NOT THE POINT, SWEET...

HEY PLUM—



≡GASP≡





HOW OLD IS THIS THING? SEEMS A LITTLE SHAKY...

NONSENSE, IT'S STILL GOT PLENTY OF PEP!



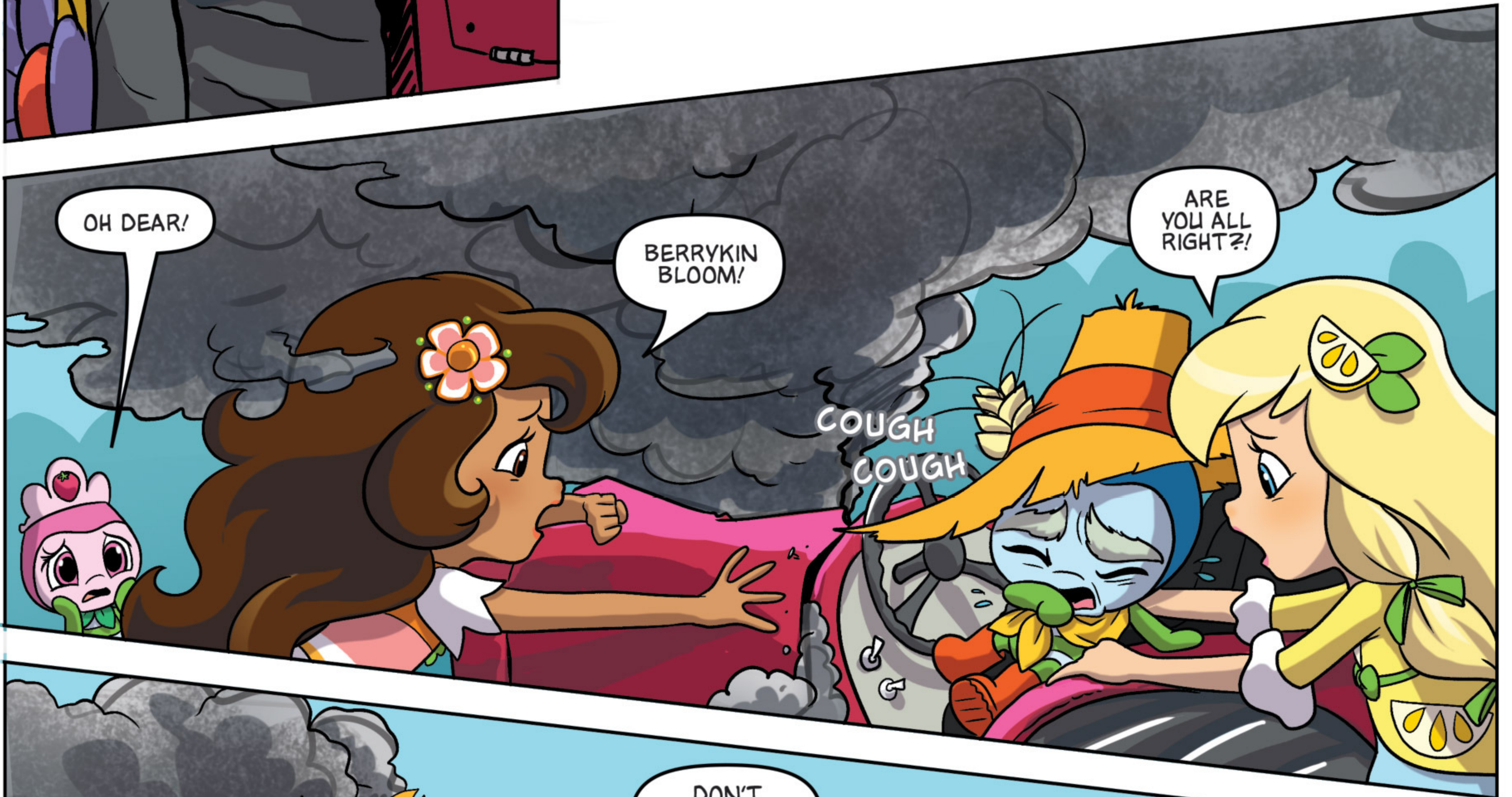
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BRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR



POP KA-PUNG POO

AWWWWWW



OH DEAR!

BERRYKIN BLOOM!

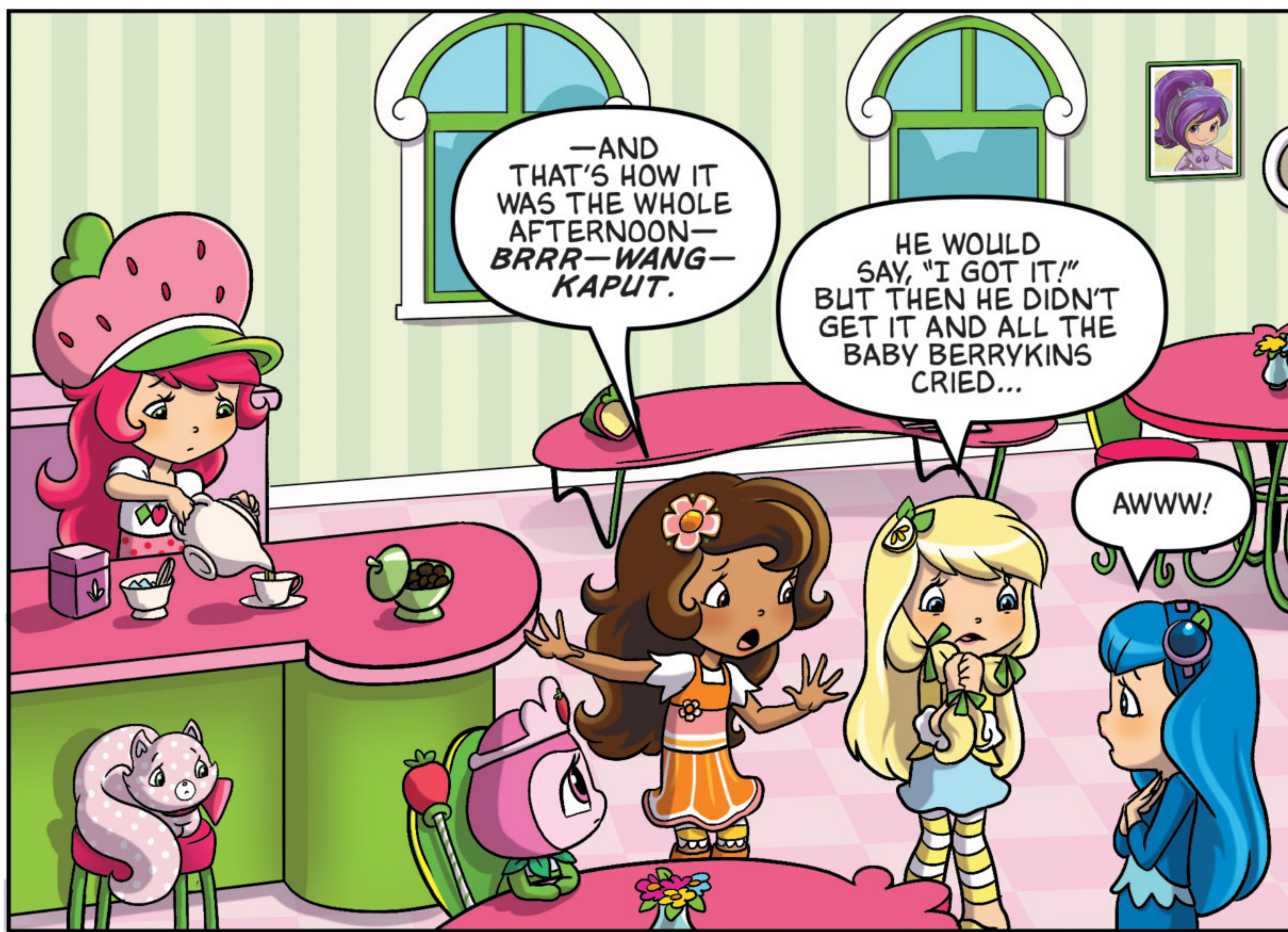
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

COUGH COUGH



DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT ME.

HAPPENS ALL THE TIME! I'LL GET THIS PUPPY UP AND RUNNING TOOT SWEET.



—AND THAT'S HOW IT WAS THE WHOLE AFTERNOON—**BRRR—WANG—KAPUT.**

HE WOULD SAY, "I GOT IT!" BUT THEN HE DIDN'T GET IT AND ALL THE BABY BERRYKINS CRIED...

AWWWW!



IT WAS RATHER TRAGIC. WE REALLY NEED A NEW BABY RIDE FOR THE NURSERY.



WE COULD HAVE A FUNDRAISER!

MMM, YES WE *COULD* DO THAT...



BUT AFTER THE BAKE SALE, THE CANDY CANE GIVING TREE, AND THE EAT-A-MARSHMALLOW-MARATHON, I THINK BERRY BITTY CITY MAY BE TAPPED OUT FOR THE YEAR.



I REMEMBER THE MARATHON.

SO MANY MARSHMALLOWS...

WE COULD PULL THE BABY BERRYKINS AROUND THE YARD OURSELVES?



WE'LL SEE HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT THAT AFTER AN HOUR OF TRYING IT, LEMON MERINGUE.



IN FIVE MINUTES YOU'D HAVE JELLY ARMS!

TEE-HEE

RAILROADS!



I'M TALKING ABOUT THE RAIL DAYS BAKING COMPETITION!

WE'RE GOING TO NEED SOME CONTEXT FOR THAT ONE, BLUEBERRY MUFFIN.



BIG APPLE CITY IS BIG BECAUSE IT WAS FOUNDED ON THE RAILROAD LINE.

STILL NOT FOLLOWING THIS...



EVERY YEAR THEY CELEBRATE THEIR HISTORY WITH A BAKING COMPETITION—

—LOOK AT THIS YEAR'S PRIZE!



THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT WE NEED!

WIN A COMPETITION LIKE THAT IN A MAJOR CITY? IT WON'T BE EASY...

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, STRAWBERRY?



WE HAVE THE BEST BAKER IN THREE COUNTIES RIGHT HERE!

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Strawberry Shortcake



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