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#23

ANDERSON
FLEECES
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my LITTLE PONY

FRIENDS
EVER



Art



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WRITTEN BY
TED ANDERSON

ART BY
TONY FLEECES

COLORS BY
HEATHER BRECKEL

LETTERS BY
NEIL UYETAKE

EDITS BY
BOBBY CURNOW



Special thanks to Brian Lenard, Ed Lane and Michael Kelly for their invaluable assistance.

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THERE!

TENT'S
ALL SET UP,
FLUTTERSHY!



THANK YOU,
BEAVER FAMILY!

THIS SHOULD
BE PLENTY OF
FIREWOOD!



THIS HERE'S
JUST ABOUT THE
PRETTIEST-LOOKING
CAMPSITE WE EVER
SET UP!

OH, YES!

THIS IS
GOING TO BE A
WONDERFUL
VACATION!





SPLENDOR WOODS IS BEAUTIFUL THIS TIME OF YEAR!



AH SURE DO LOVE THESE TRIPS OF OURS, FLUTTERSHEY.

IT'S NICE TO GET AWAY FROM IT ALL...

...ESPECIALLY WITH ANOTHER PONY WHO REALLY APPRECIATES NATURE!



YEP...

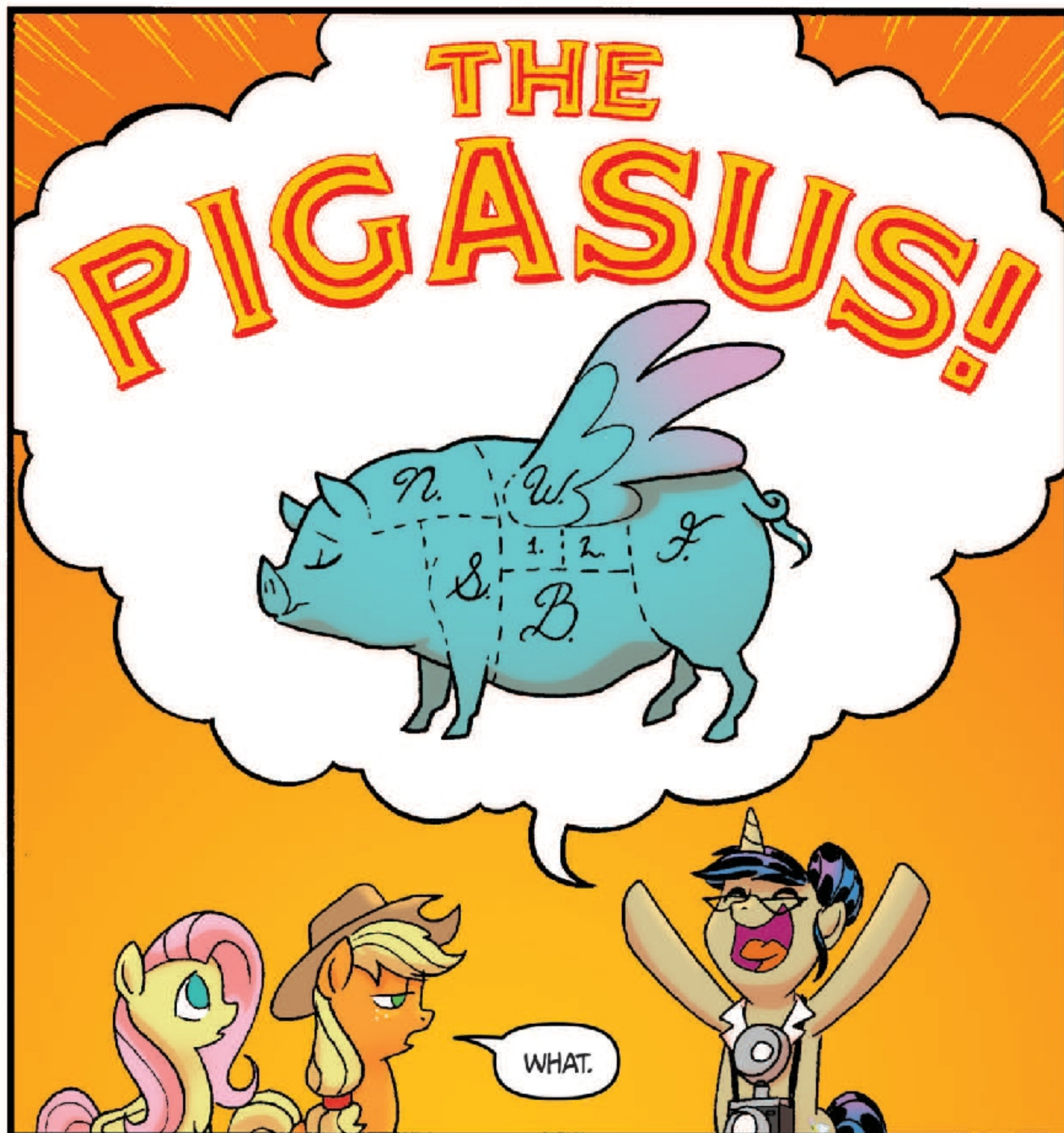
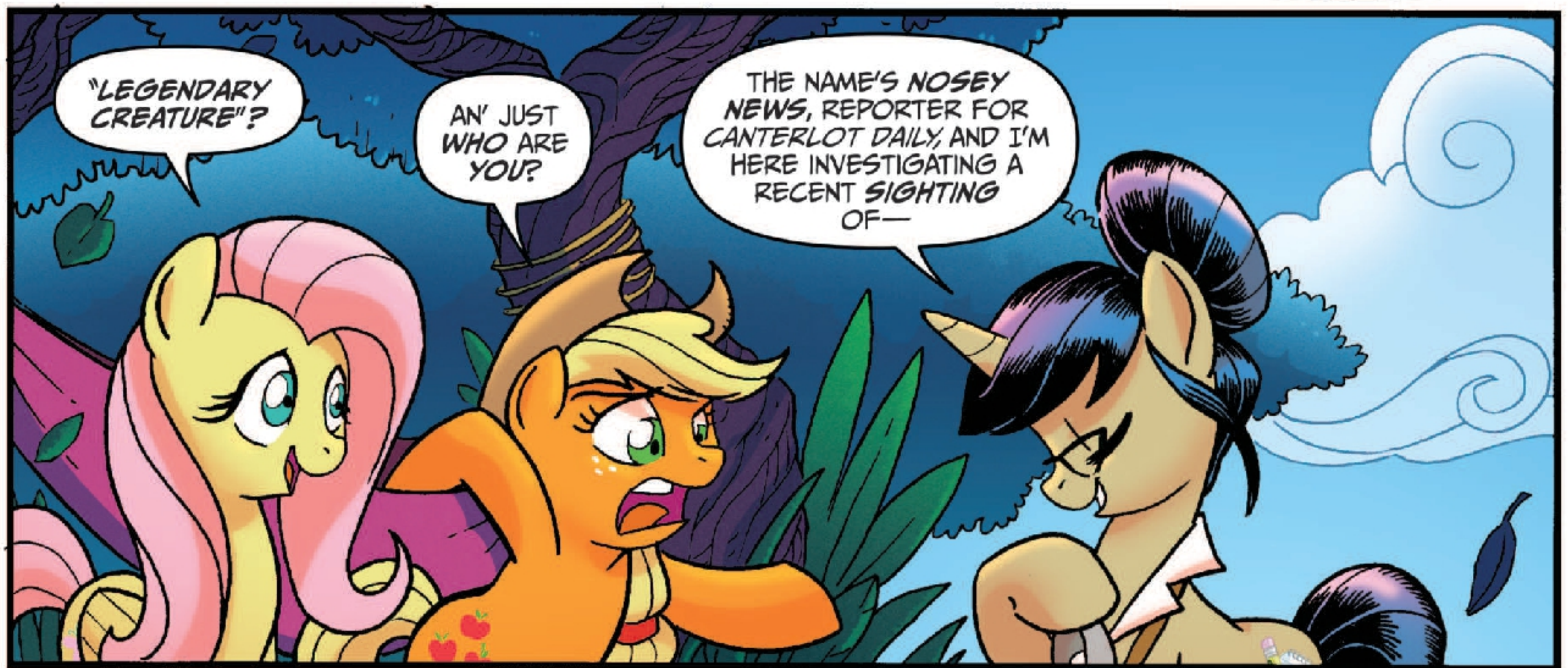
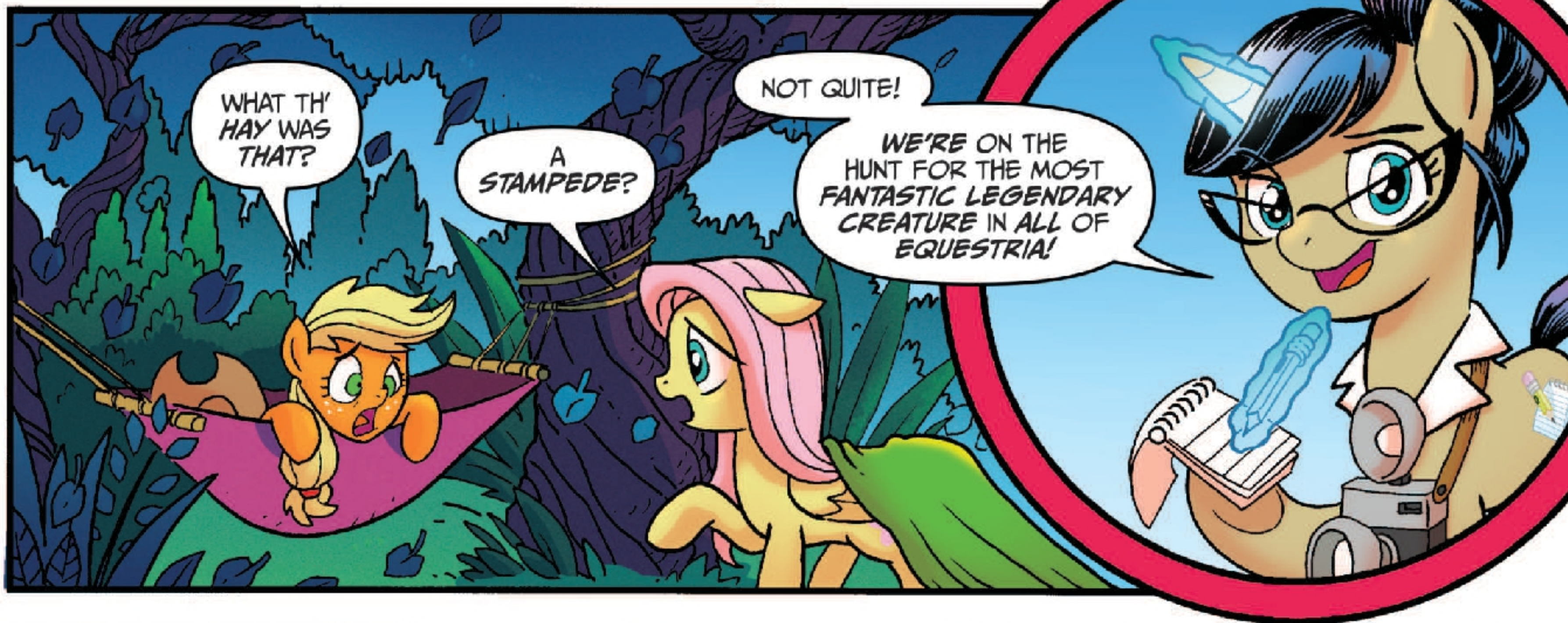
NOTHIN' BUT THREE DAYS OF REST AND RELAXATION FOR US!

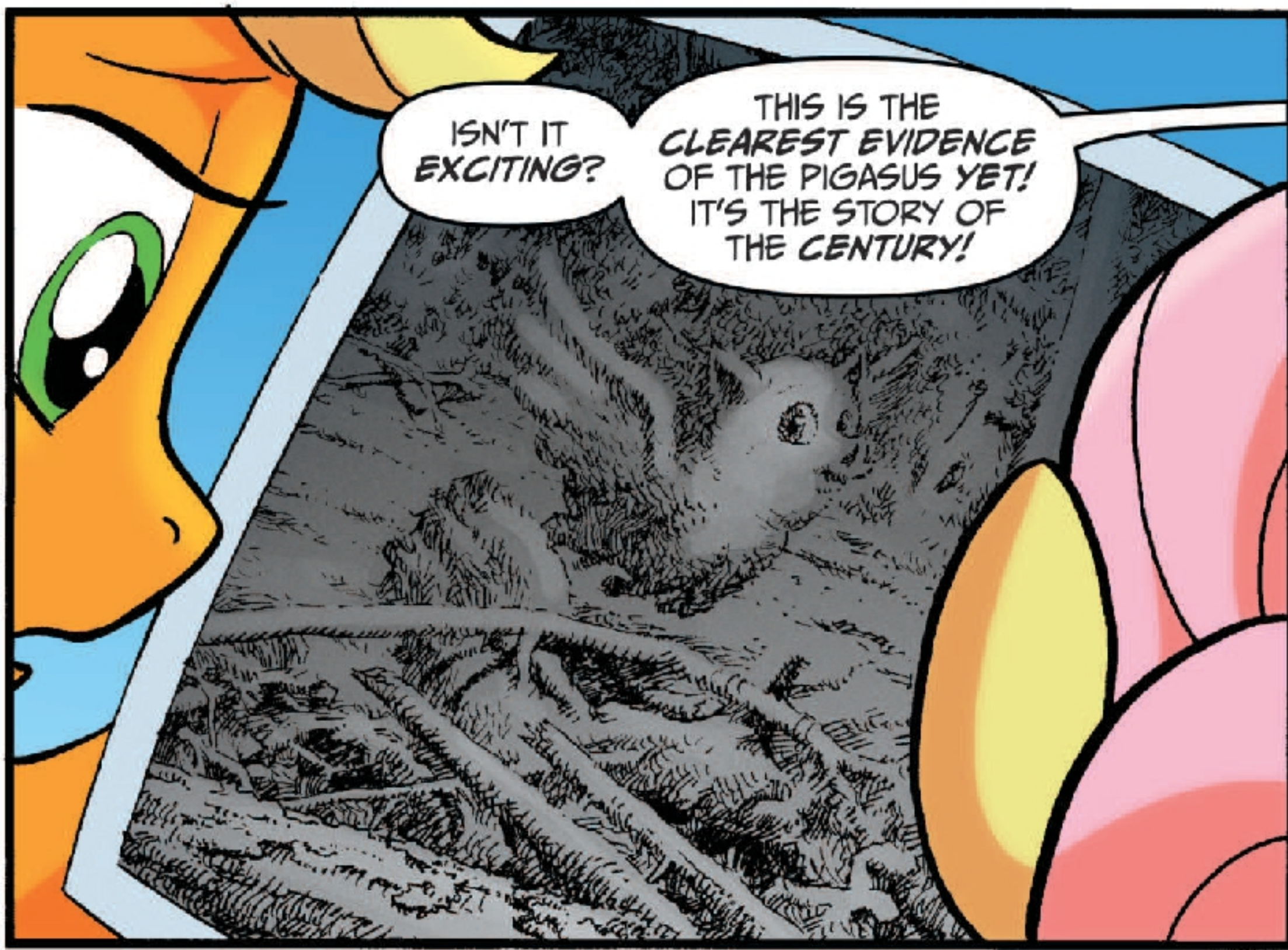


WHERE IS IT?

IT'S MINE!

I'LL CATCH IT!





ISN'T IT EXCITING?

THIS IS THE **CLEAREST EVIDENCE** OF THE **PIGASUS** YET! IT'S THE **STORY OF THE CENTURY!**



THIS IS YER "PROOF"?

THIS DON'T LOOK ANYTHING LIKE A PIGASUS!

LOOKS MORE LIKE... A **SQUIRREL** WEARIN' A **TRENCHCOAT** TO ME.



IF YOU TURN IT **SIDWAYS**, IT LOOKS KIND OF LIKE **TWO HEDGEHOGS DANCING...**

YES! WELL!

SNATCH!



REGARDLESS OF HOW YOU MAY FEEL ABOUT MY **PROOF**—



—PLENTY OF **OTHER PONIES** BELIEVE IN THE **PIGASUS!**

PLUSHE HUT

PIGASUS HUNT!



WH—! TH—!
HOW—!

WHAT IN TH' NAME OF HAY BALES IS THIS?!

OTHER PIGASUS-CATCHERS, OF COURSE!



ALL THESE PONIES HAVE BEEN INSPIRED BY MY PICTURE TO COME AND SEARCH FOR THE PIGASUS!

AND WE WON'T LEAVE UNTIL WE FIND IT!

PLUSHIE HUT



"WON'T LEAVE"?

Y'MEAN YOU AND THIS BUNCH ARE GONNA KEEP RUININ' OUR VACATION—

—FOR AS LONG AS IT TAKES!

LIKE I SAID, THIS IS THE STORY OF THE CENTURY!



NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'D LIKE TO TRY AN OFFICIAL PIGASUS FUNNEL CAKE!

UM... DON'T WORRY, APPLEJACK!

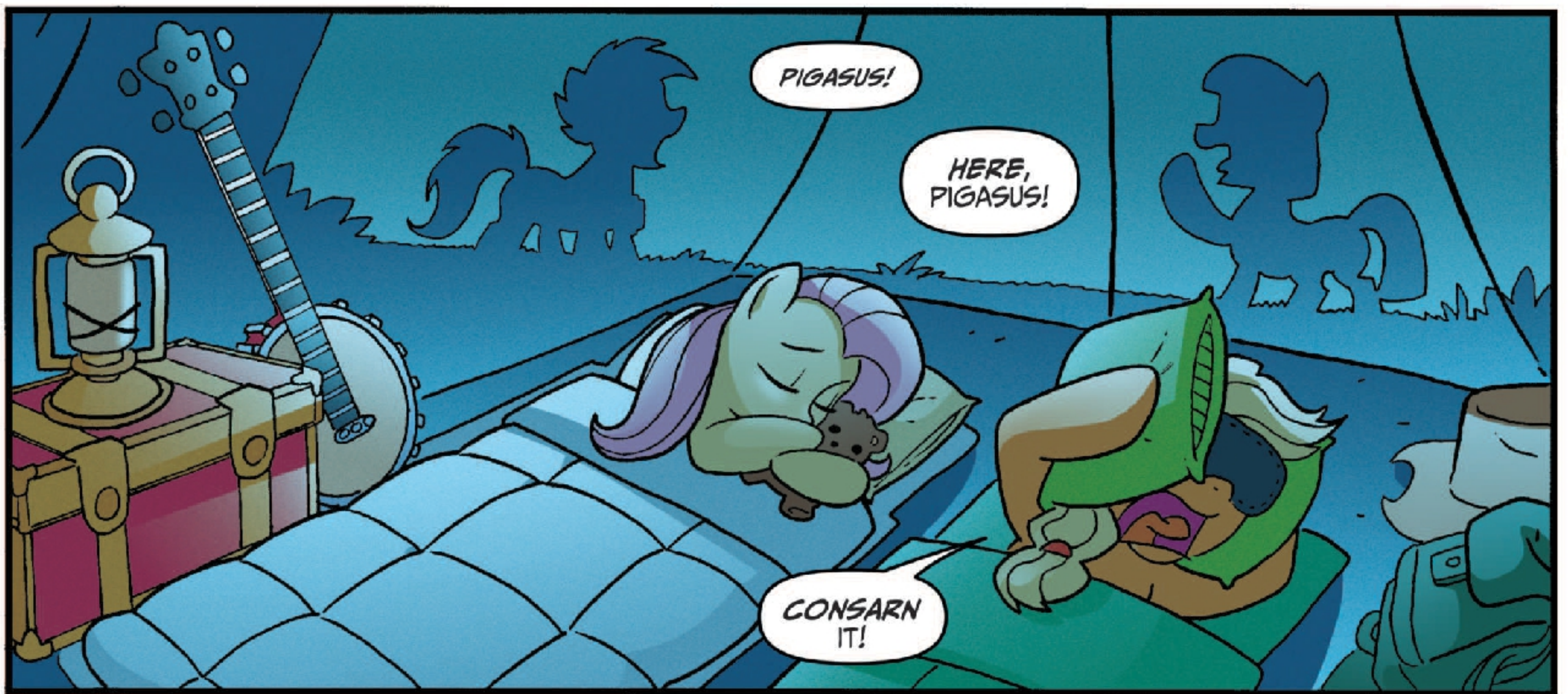
I'M SURE THEY WON'T BE TOO MUCH OF A DISRUPTION TO OUR... VACATION...



S.S. PIGASUS

RARE BIRDS
RARE BIRDS
RARE BIRDS
OF
EQUESTRIA
(AND IRRADIATA)

TOP SECRET



PIGASUS!

HERE,
PIGASUS!

CONSNARN
IT!



M-MAYBE
THEY'LL BE GONE
TOMORROW!

O-OR
NEXT WEEK,
MAYBE...

IT'S NOT JUST
THE *CATCHERS*,
FLUTTERSHY.



YOU KNOW
I DON'T
LIE.

I USED TO LIE,
WHEN I WAS A FILLY,
BUT I STOPPED WHEN
I REALIZED...

LIES
HURT.



EVEN IF
THEY'RE *SMALL*,
EVEN IF YOU'RE
TRYIN' TO
HELP—

SOMEPOONY
ALWAYS ENDS
UP *HURT* WHEN
YOU *LIE*.



AND MY *GUT* IS
TELLIN' ME THAT THIS *NOSEY
NEWS* IS LYING THROUGH
HER *TEETH*!

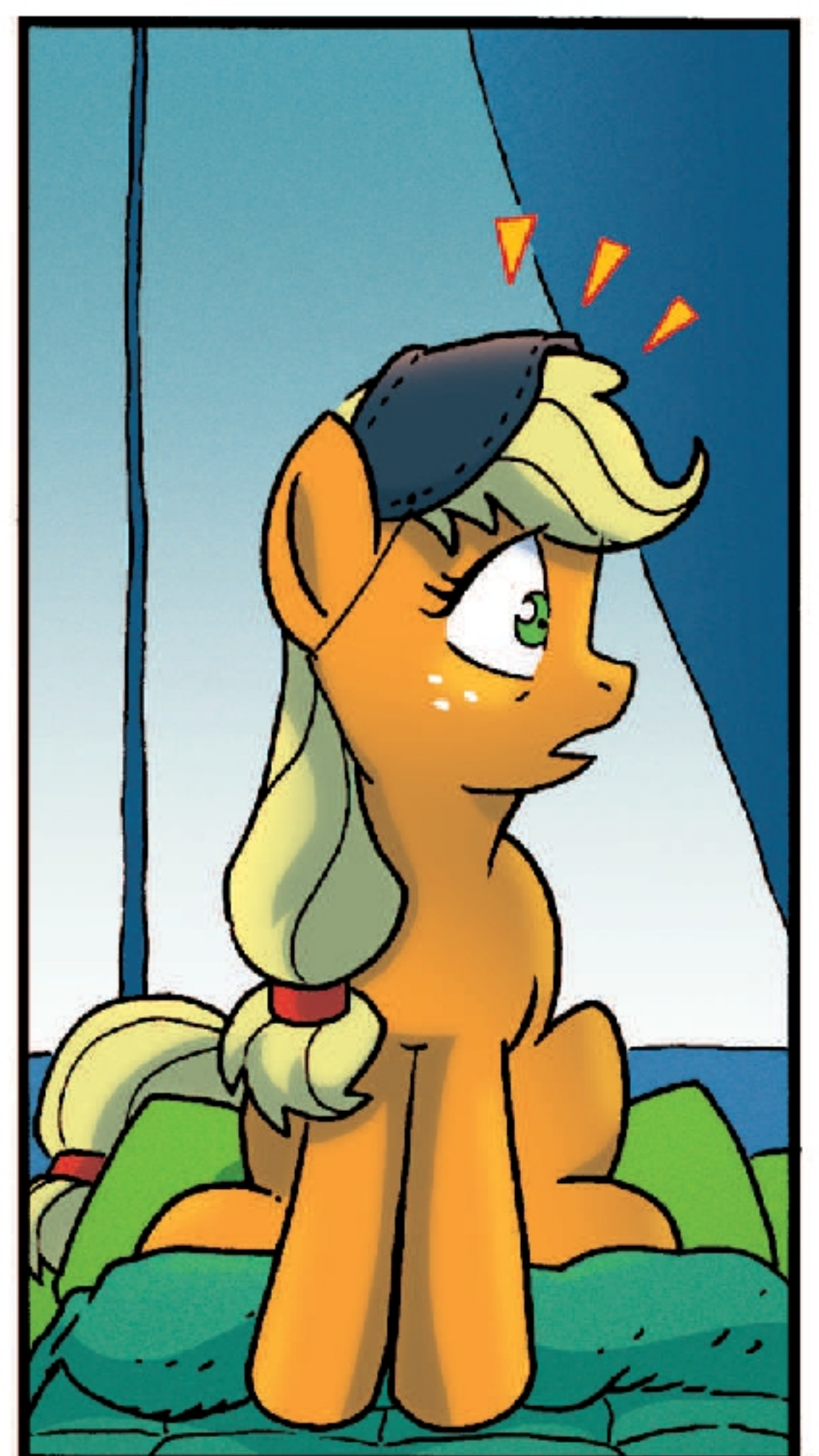
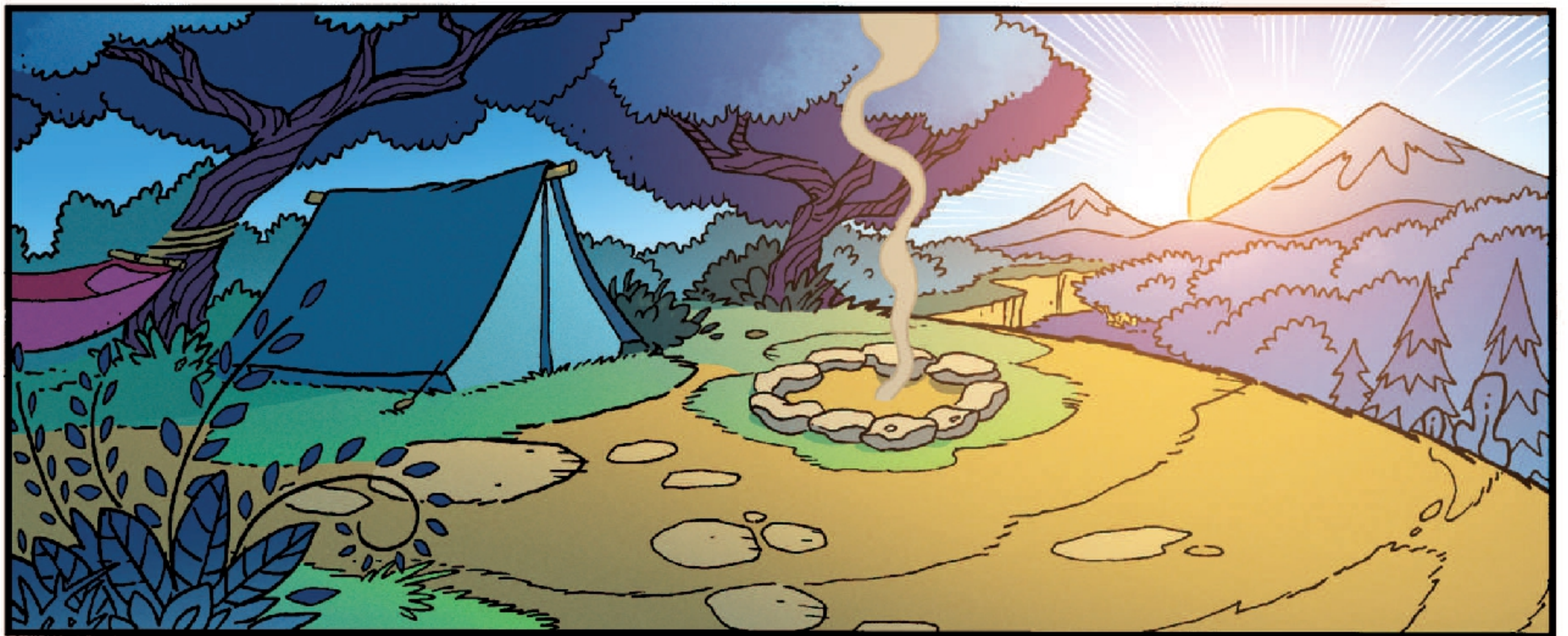
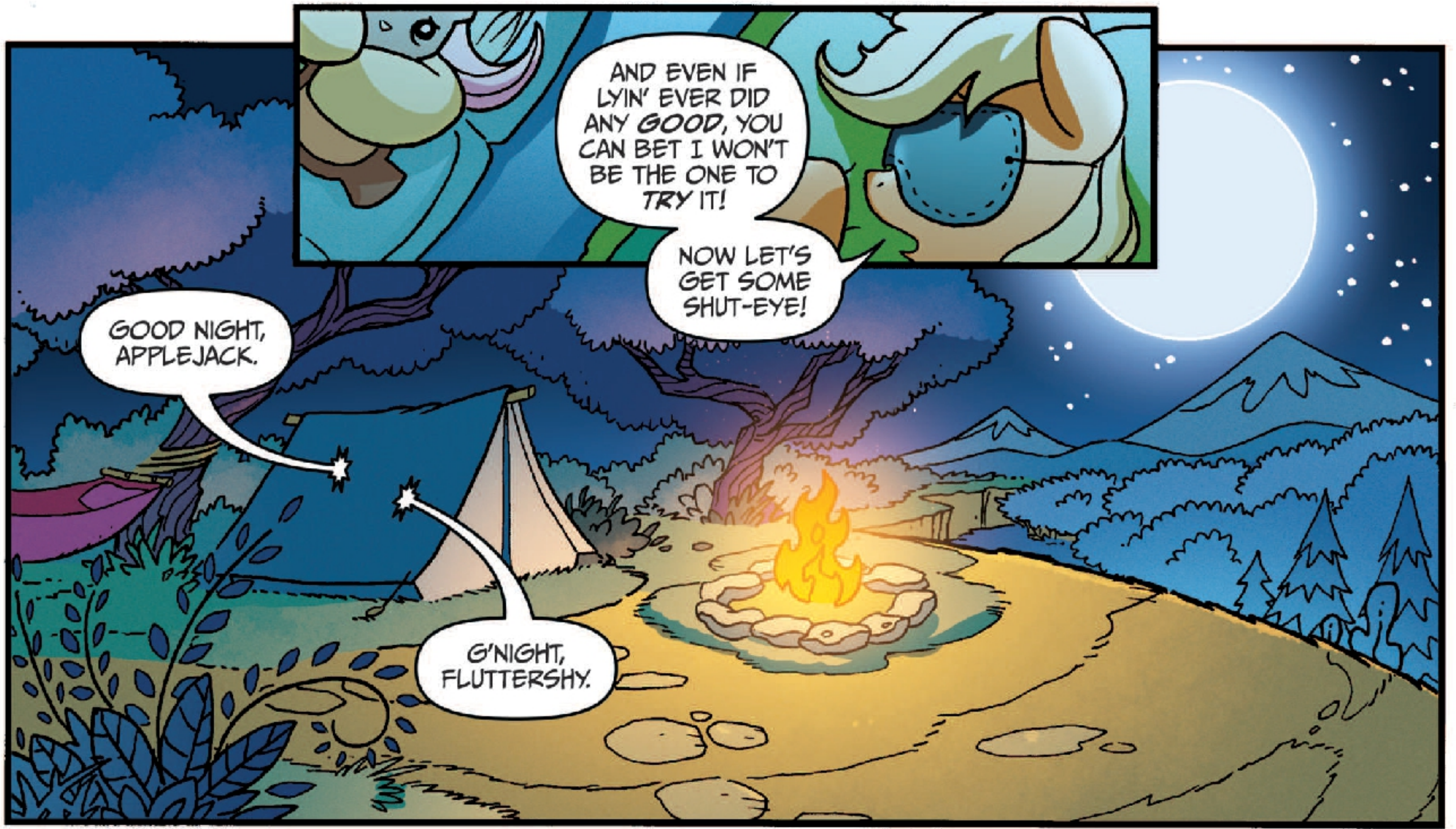
THIS WHOLE
PIGASUS-HUNT IS
ONE BIG BARREL O'
HOGWASH!

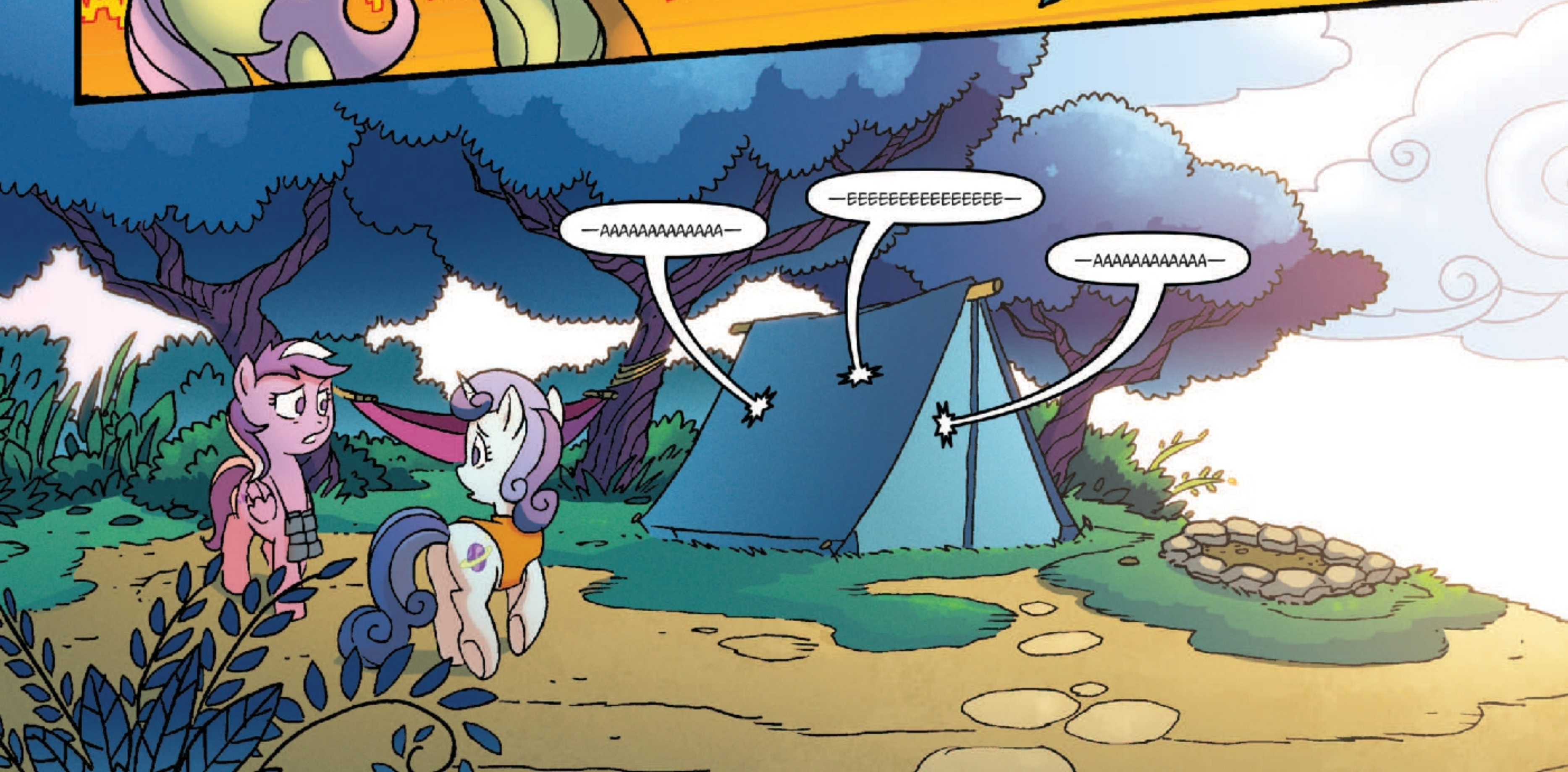
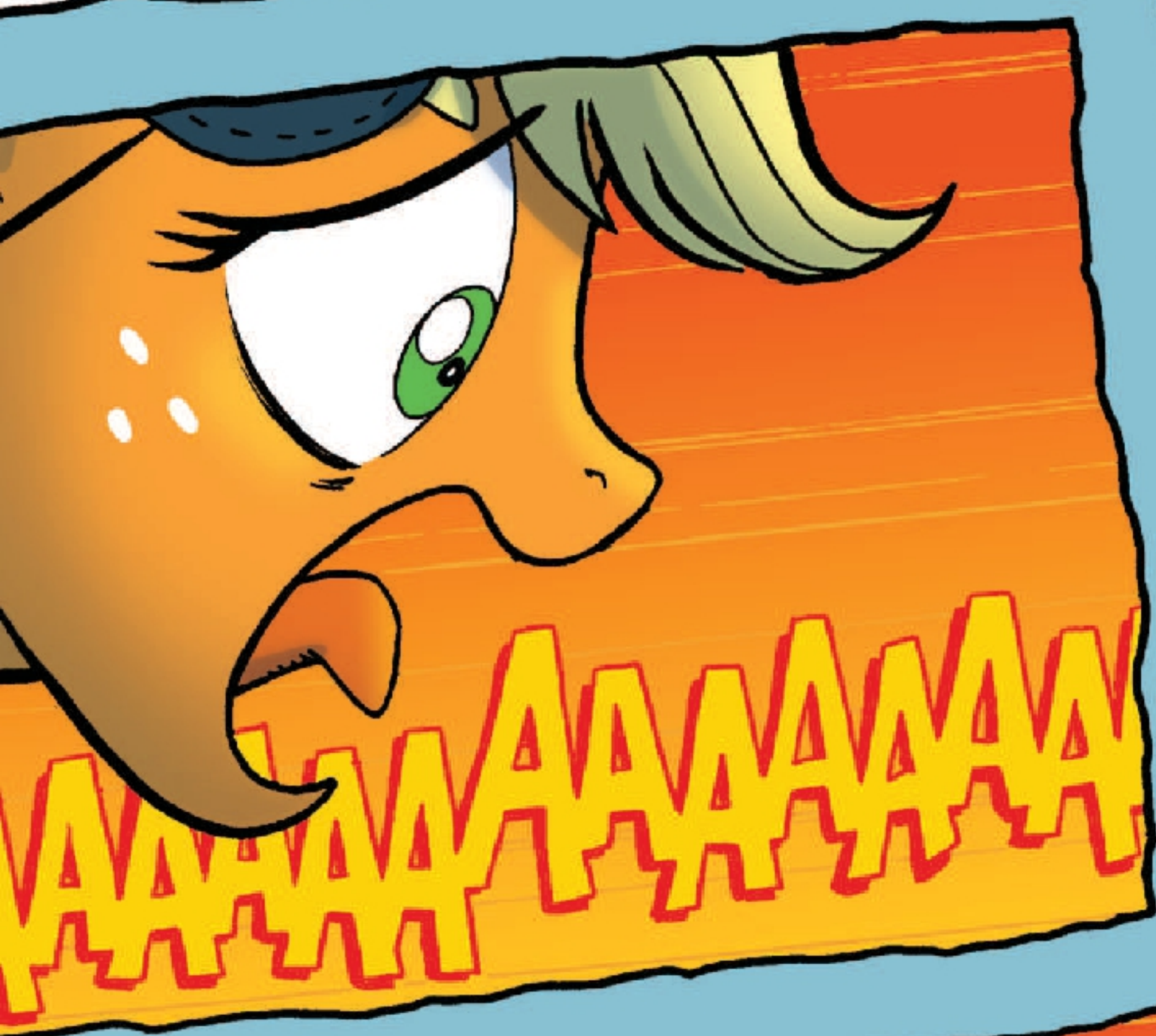


YOU DON'T THINK A
LIE COULD EVER *HELP*
SOMEPOONY? NOT
EVER?

WELL ...
MAYBE, I
SUPPOSE...

BUT I'VE
NEVER *SEEN*
IT HAPPEN!







WELL, I GUESS THIS SETTLES WHETHER OR NOT THE PIGASUS IS REAL.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!



I THOUGHT NOSEY JUST MADE IT UP AS A STUNT, BUT IT— IT'S REAL!

SHE'S RIGHT! THIS IS THE STORY OF TH' CENTURY!



I DON'T KNOW HOW WE'LL MANAGE TO KEEP THIS SECRET!

MAYBE SHE'D WANNA LIVE ON SWEET APPLE ACRES? WE COULD PROTECT IT THERE.

NO, APPLEJACK! WE CAN'T!



THIS IS THE PIGASUS' NATURAL HABITAT!

IF WE MOVE HER, IT MIGHT DISRUPT THE ENTIRE ECOSYSTEM!



OKAY, OKAY, YOU'RE RIGHT...

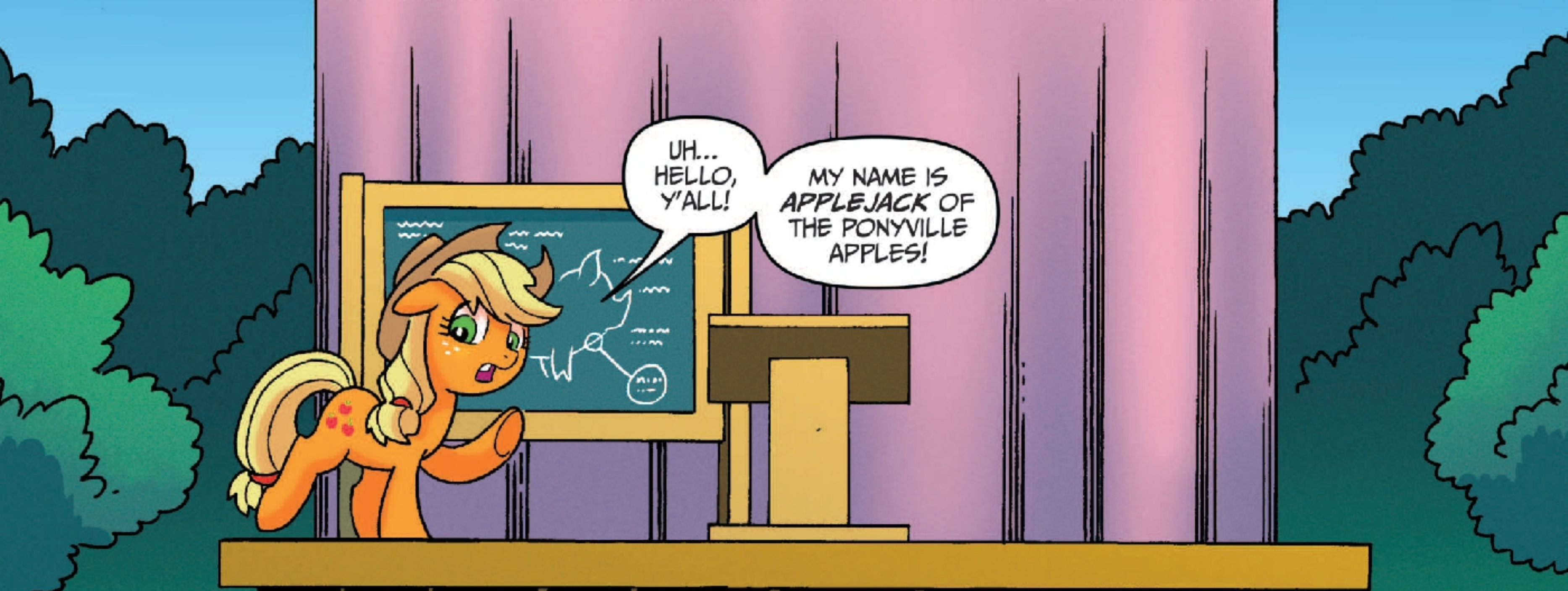
ALL THOSE PIGASUS-CATCHERS ARE SCARING HER...

SHEESH, IT'S THE BATS ALL OVER AGAIN.

SHE NEEDS TO BE KEPT SAFE!







UH... HELLO, Y'ALL!

MY NAME IS APPLEJACK OF THE PONYVILLE APPLES!



I COME TO YOU AS A FELLOW NATURE-LOVER!

I MUST ASK Y'ALL TO STOP HUNTING FOR THE PIGASUS!

UH—IF IT'S EVEN REAL, THAT IS!



ARE YOU SAYING THE PIGASUS ISN'T REAL?

UH—

I'M SURE, IF THE PIGASUS DOES EXIST, IT WOULDN'T WANT Y'ALL TEARIN' UP ITS FOREST!



BUT IF IT DOESN'T EXIST, THEN IT DOESN'T MATTER!

NO! I MEAN, IT DOES! I MEAN—I, I CAN'T COMMENT ON WHETHER OR NOT THE PIGASUS IS REAL!

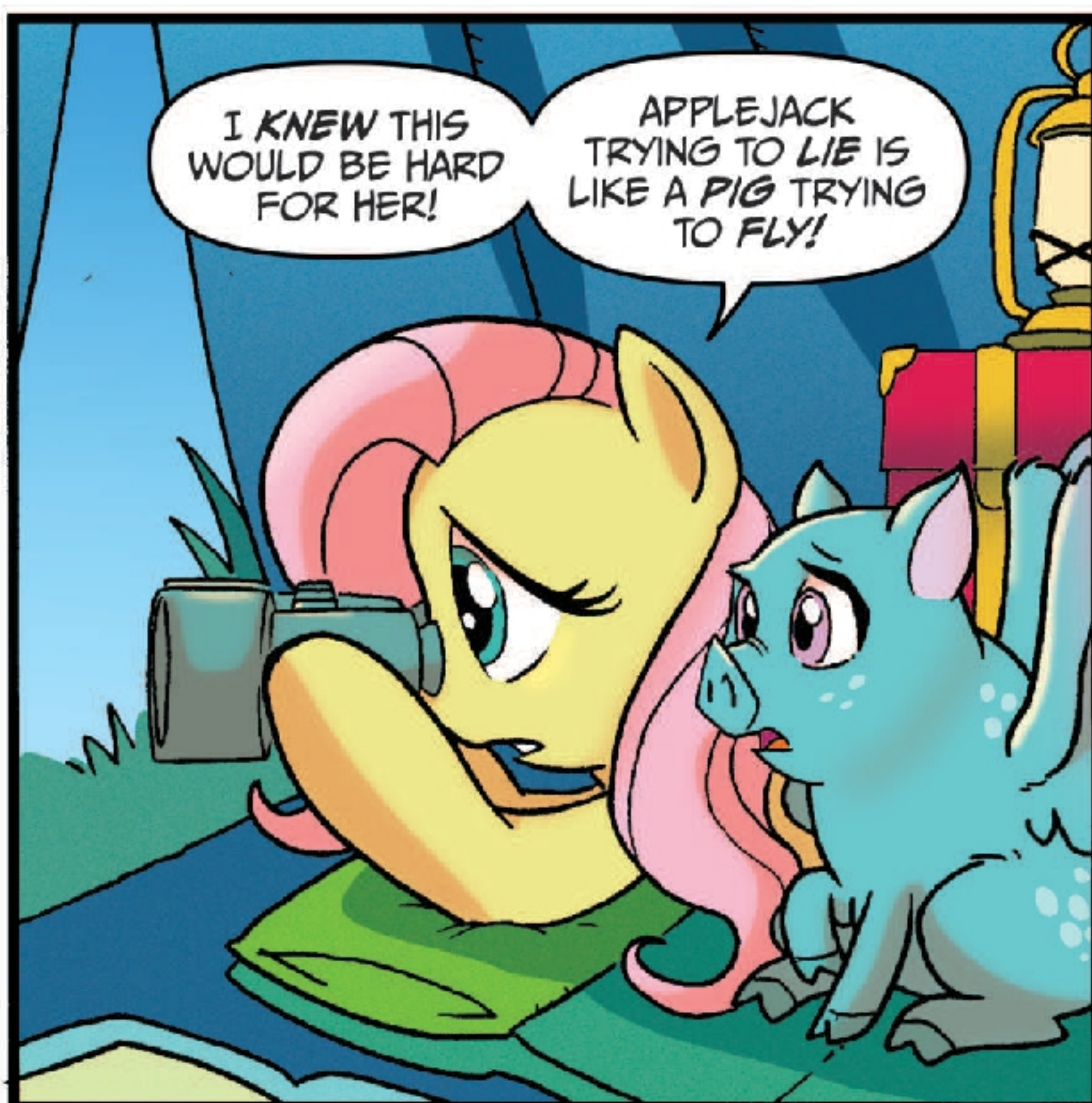
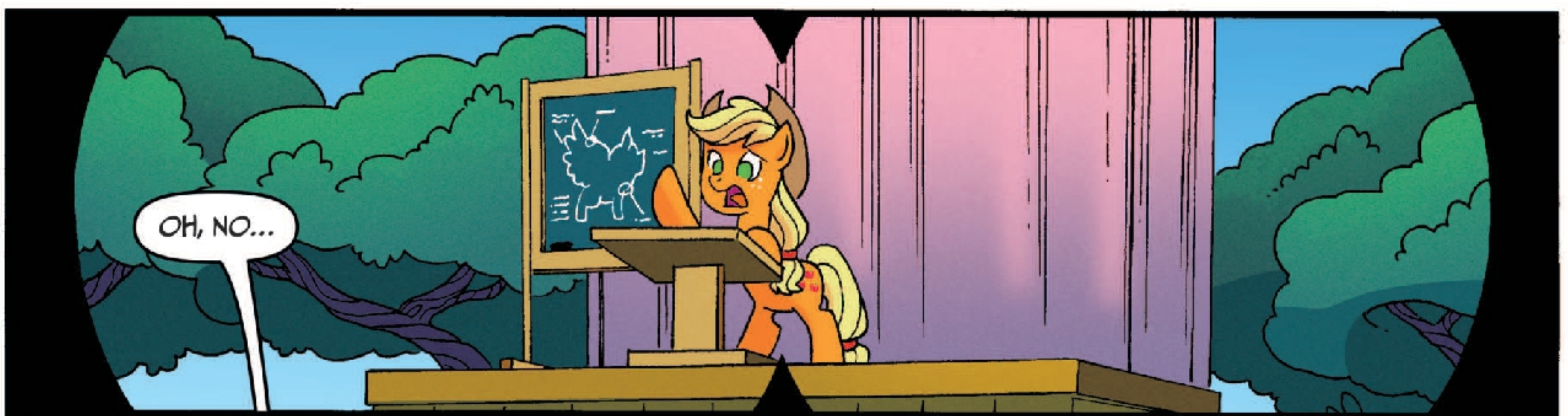
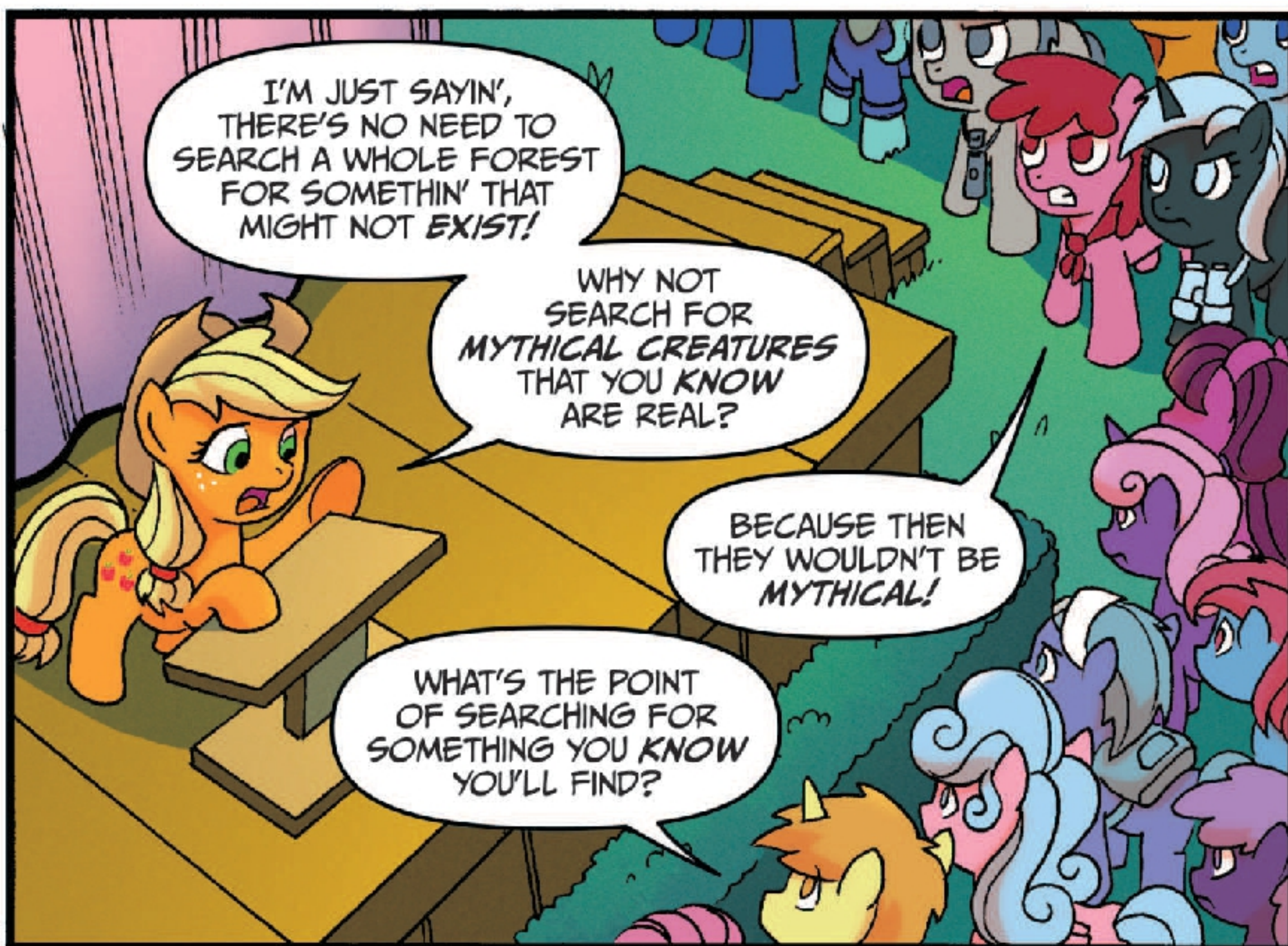
I MEAN, UH, I'VE NEVER SEEN A PIGASUS ON ANY OF MY OTHER TRIPS TO SPLENDOR WOODS!



JUST BECAUSE YOU HAVEN'T SEEN IT DOESN'T MEAN IT DOESN'T EXIST!

ABSENCE OF EVIDENCE IS NOT EVIDENCE OF ABSENCE!

IT BELONGS IN A MUSEUM!





BOO!

GET OFF THE STAGE,
PIGASUS-DENIER!

HECKLE!



WELL!

DONE
ALREADY?

I'M NOT IN
THE MOOD,
NOSEY.



WHY ARE YOU
SO SURE THAT THE
PIGASUS DOESN'T
EXIST?

'CAUSE I'M A
SKEPTIC AND A
DEFENDER OF
NATURE, NOSEY.



AND I WOULDN'T
WANT NOPONY
RUNNIN'
THROUGH MY
BACKYARD
LOOKIN' FOR ME!

IF I WERE A
MYTHICAL
CRITTER,
THAT IS!



H-HOW
DID IT GO?

SQUONK?









IT'S THE
PIGASUS!
AFTER IT!



WAIT!
IT WENT
THIS WAY!



Y'DON'T
UNDERSTAND!
Y'CAN'T TAKE HER
OUTTA HER NATURAL
HABITAT!

GET IT!



WHONK!

OW!

THIS WAY!
I THINK IT HIT
A TREE!



FINALLY, THE
PIGASUS IS—
GASP!



OW...



THAT'S NO PIGASUS!

IT'S JUST A CHEAP COSTUME!



OH, GOSH! I'M SORRY, EVERYPONY!

I—I WAS JUST GOING FOR A FLY IN MY SLEEPING BAG!

I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WOULD BE ANYPONY WATCHING!



JUST "GOING FOR A FLY," EH?

SEEMS LIKE YOU WERE TRYING TO MAKE YOURSELF LOOK LIKE THE PIGASUS!

WHO—ME? N-NO, I WASN'T!



WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

WELL—
UM—

YOU'RE GOING TO RUIN EVERYTHING!



YOU AND YOUR PARTNER ARE JUST HERE TO GET IN ON MY SCHEME, IS THAT IT?

WELL, FORGET IT! THIS IS MY SCOOP!



"SCHEME"?

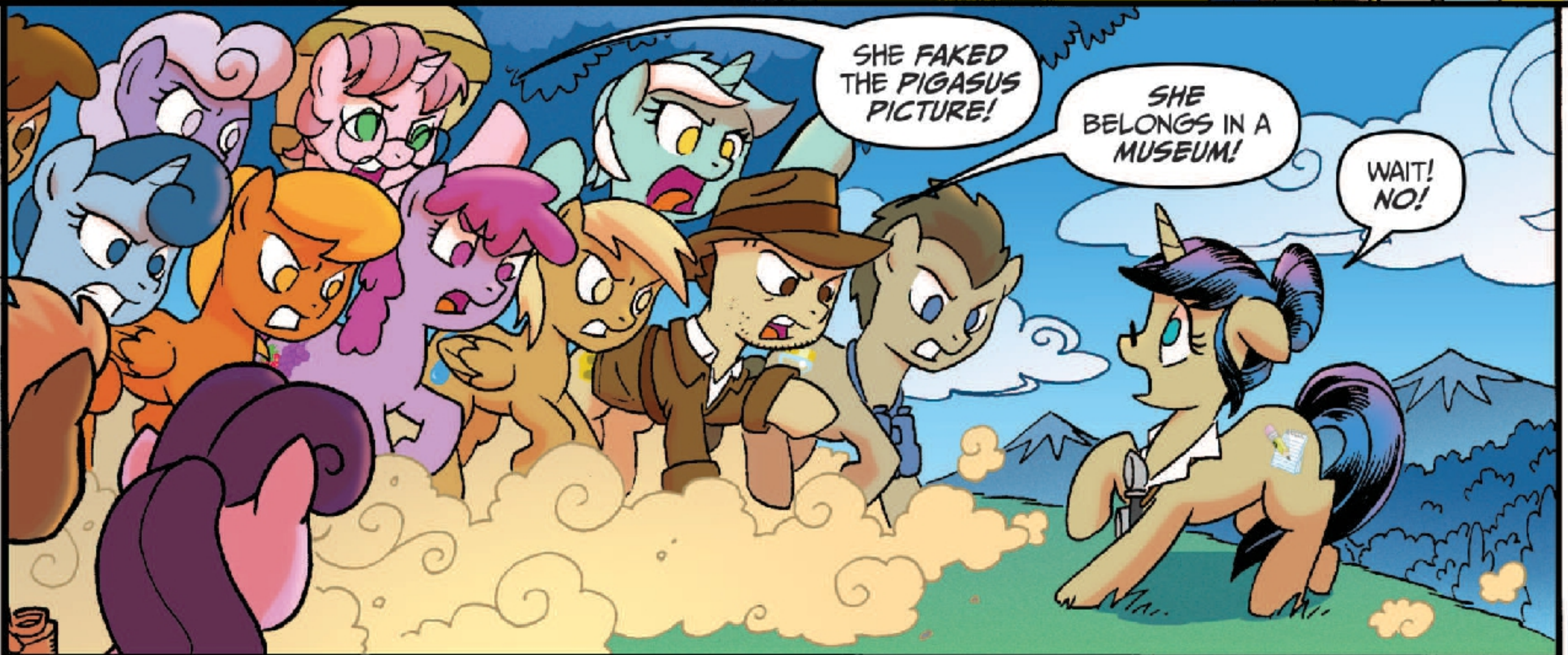
IS THIS FAKE PIGASUS YOUR DOING, NOSEY?

OF COURSE NOT! I ONLY FAKED THE PHOTOGRAPH!



I MEAN, UH—

WHAT I MEANT TO SAY IS...



SHE FAKED THE PIGASUS PICTURE!

SHE BELONGS IN A MUSEUM!

WAIT! NO!

LATER.

...SO THE PIGASUS-CATCHERS HAVE ALL PACKED UP AND LEFT?

YEP!

ONCE THEY FOUND OUT NOSEY *FAKED* THAT PHOTOGRAPH, THEY PULLED UP *STAKES*.

SPLENDOR WOODS IS *QUIET* AGAIN!

OH, MY...

IT LOOKS LIKE *SOME* OF THE CATCHERS ARE *STILL* CHASING NOSEY!

WELL, IT'S LIKE I SAID:

WHEN YOU LIE, *SOME*PONY ALWAYS ENDS UP PAYIN' THE *PRICE*!



The End