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#27 • CVR A

COOK
PRICE
BRECKEL

my LITTLE PONY

Friendship
is Magic



The REVENGE of
LAVARADO

Andy Price 14



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Friendship
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AMF/14

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THANK YOU, SPIKE!

MAKE SURE TO GIVE ME THE PIECE WITH THE **BIG FROSTING FLOWER**... NOT THAT ONE, THAT **BIG ONE**.

WHAT A LOVELY DAY! THE WEATHER IS PERFECT FOR A RELAXING DAY OUT...



CRASH!
CRACKLE
FWOOSH

WHAT IN TARNATION?!



HELP!

SNARL!

YIP YIP

ZECORA!

WELL, THAT DIDN'T RHYME.

IS NOW REALLY THE TIME FOR THAT?!

AWAY FROM THE WOLVES, YOU MUST **RUN!** TWILIGHT SPARKLE, PREPARE TO **STUN!**



THAT'S BETTER.



RIGHT. I'VE GOT THE ONE ON THE RIGHT, THE REST OF YOU GET THE ONE ON THE LEFT!

WHY DO I HAVE TO HELP?!

SAVE THE CAKE!

ONLY TWO OF 'EM? THIS'LL BE EASIER THAN COW TIPPIN'!

THOSE POOR COWS...

IS NOW REALLY THE TIME FOR THAT?!



FWOOSH!

ARROOOOOOOO



DO YOU NEED MY HELP!?

NOPE! WE GOT THIS!

POF



BOOM!

AND THAT'S HOW WE DO THINGS IN PONYVILLE!

IT HAS SOME WOLF DUST ON IT, BUT I THINK IT'S FINE.

OOO! IT'S LIKE SPRINKLES!

SPIKE?! IS THE CAKE OKAY?!

ZING!

POOF

UM, I HATE TO BRING THIS UP... BUT SHOULD THESE VINES BE DOING THIS?

ZECORA! WHAT'S HAPPENING?

MANY THANKS, MY PONY FRIENDS. PLEASE GIVE ME A MOMENT AS MY STORY EXTENDS...

I WAS HOME ALONE WHEN THE VINES RAGED THROUGH, THEIR THORNS DESTROYED EVERYTHING AS THEY FLEW! I HAD TO RUN AS FAST AS I COULD, BEFORE I WAS SWALLOWED UP WHOLE BY THE WOOD.

YOUR HOME! OH NO!

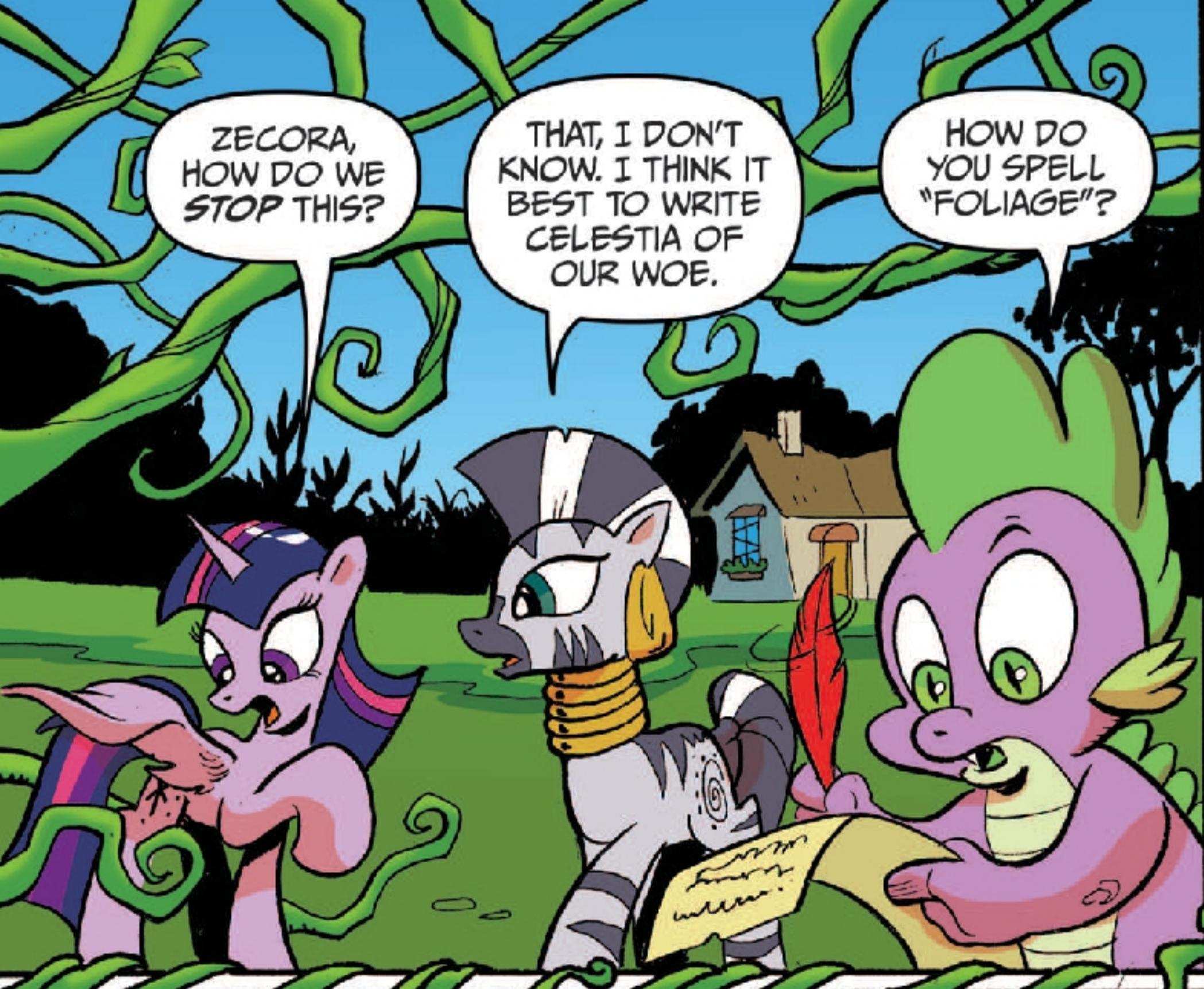
THE EVERFREE FOREST HAS CAST ME OUT, I CAN'T GO BACK, I HAVE NO DOUBT. AND NOW, I THINK, IT WANTS YOUR HOME TO SHRINK.

PONYVILLE!

Pow!

RUN FOR!
THE
ROSES
COPPER
ROSES

LRP.
?



ZECORA, HOW DO WE STOP THIS?

THAT, I DON'T KNOW. I THINK IT BEST TO WRITE CELESTIA OF OUR WOE.

HOW DO YOU SPELL "FOLIAGE"?



FOLIAGE!



URP!



Twilight-

We have recieved reports of this from every town that shares a border with the Everfree Forest. Vines and huge trees have sprouted up to overtake everything in thier path.

The vines are, as I write, making thier way up the mountains to Canterlot. Luna and I are both headed to help, but not to Ponyville.

Twilight, you **MUST** go into the Everfree Forest. Find the Heart of the Forest and ask for his help. We have to hope he knows what to do.

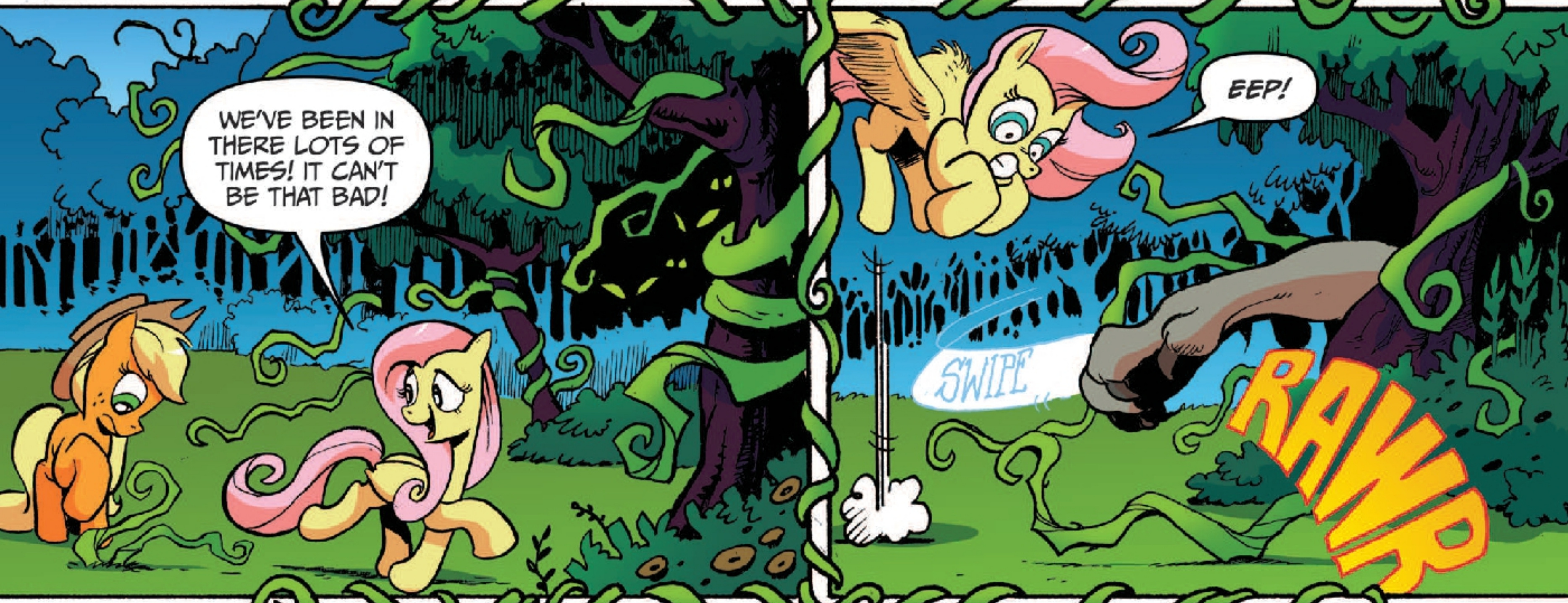
Stay Safe- Princess Celestia

CC: Luna, Kibitz

NO TOUCHING!



SHE WANTS ME TO GO IN THERE?! TO FIND WHO?!



WE'VE BEEN IN THERE LOTS OF TIMES! IT CAN'T BE THAT BAD!

EEP!

SWIPE

RAWR



ZECORA, WHO'S THE HEART OF THE FOREST?

MANY THINGS ARE STILL, TO ME, A MYSTERY. OF THE EVERFREE FOREST, I DON'T KNOW THIS HISTORY.

COME ON! YOU DON'T KNOW?!

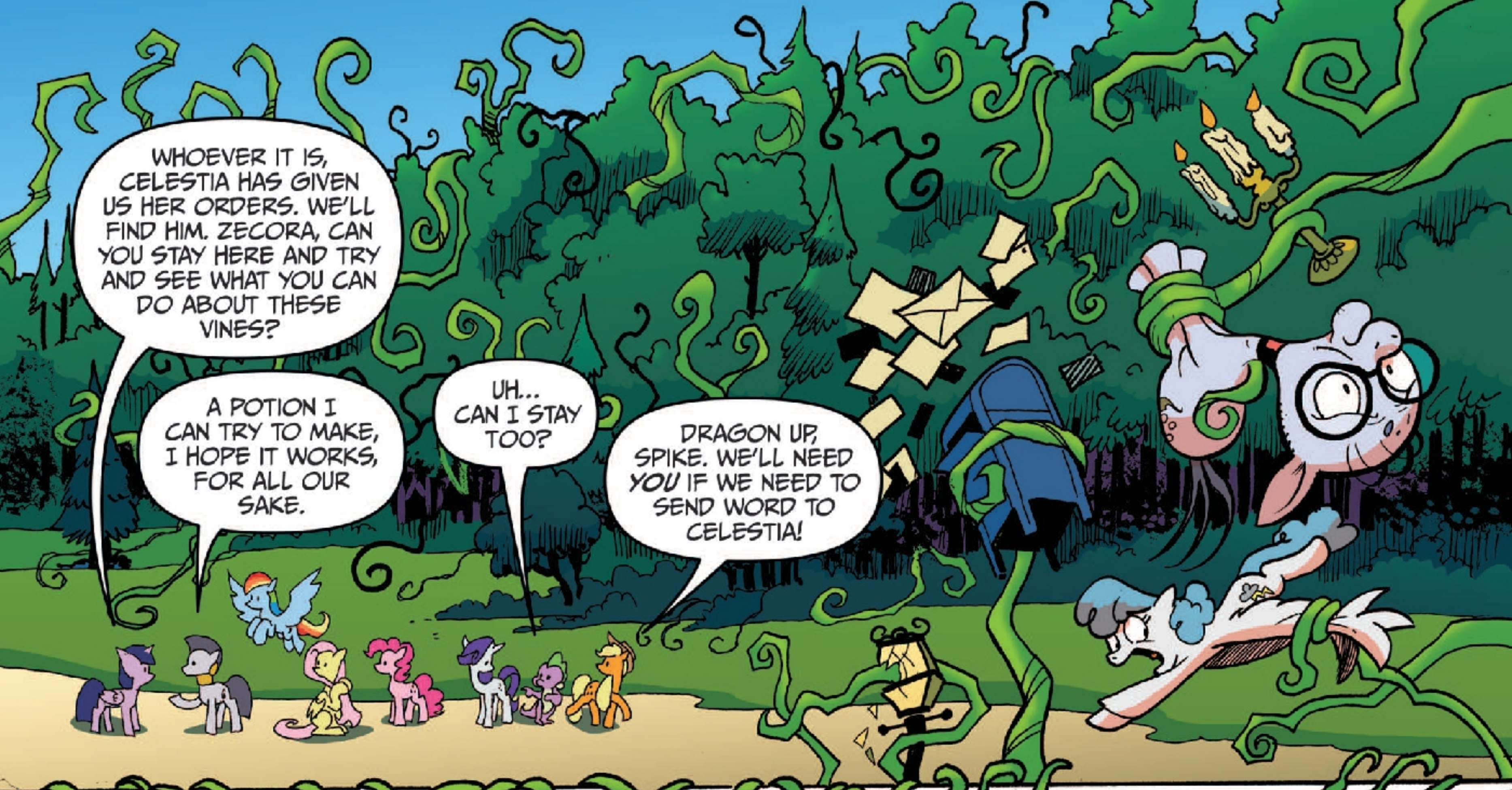
IT'S A CLASSIC GHOST STORY! THE HEART OF THE FOREST IS A HORNED AND HOOVED DEMON! EIGHT PONIES TALL! GLOWING GREEN EYES! SCARY STUFF!

I KNOW THIS STORY! YOU REALLY SHOULD BE TELLING EVERYONE THIS AT NIGHT OVER A CAMPFIRE. DAYLIGHT IS RUINING THE MOOD!

ANYWAY, HE'S THE CREATURE THAT LIVES IN THE CENTER OF THE FOREST! EVERY LITTLE FILLY KNOWS NOT TO GO TOO FAR INTO THE WOODS, LEST YOU MEET THE HEART OF THE FOREST. HE'LL EAT THE CUTIE MARK RIGHT OFF YOUR FLANK. OOOOOHHHHH! SPOOOOKY!

AND CELESTIA WANTS US TO FIND THIS THING?!

I'M SURE IT'S AN EXAGGERATION.



WHOEVER IT IS, CELESTIA HAS GIVEN US HER ORDERS. WE'LL FIND HIM. ZECORA, CAN YOU STAY HERE AND TRY AND SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT THESE VINES?

A POTION I CAN TRY TO MAKE, I HOPE IT WORKS, FOR ALL OUR SAKE.

UH... CAN I STAY TOO?

DRAGON UP, SPIKE. WE'LL NEED YOU IF WE NEED TO SEND WORD TO CELESTIA!



RIGHT! LET'S GO!

SO... UH... HOW DO WE GET IN?

HRM...



WHOOSH



IT'S ALREADY CLOSING BACK UP! EVERYPONY HURRY!



A BIT DARKER THAN USUAL IN HERE, ISN'T IT?

OH DEAR...



YOU KNOW... RUNNING AWAY WOULD PROBABLY BE A GREAT IDEA RIGHT NOW...

I SECOND THAT PLAN. LET'S GO.



APPLEJACK!
HELP ME KNOCK
OVER SOME TREES!
WE'LL BLOCK
THEIR PATH!

ON IT!

FWISH

KRAK



THEY'RE
GETTING TOO
CLOSE!

HURRY!

ZOT



IT
WORKED!

HOORAY!

WHAT IS *WRONG*
WITH THEM? ATTACKING
LIKE THAT WITH NO
PROVOCATION?! BAD
MONSTERS! NO!

TEAM
PONY



SWIPE!

!

SOMEONY HAS
DONE *SOMETHING*
TO MAKE THEM MAD.
LOOK AT THEM!

MAYBE IT'S THE
CREEPY MAGICAL VINES
THAT ARE OVERTAKING
EVERYTHING? THEY'D
MAKE ME MAD.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

?

THOSE POOR TREES.

THEY NEVER SAW IT COMING.

AW YEAH, THOSE MONSTERS DIDN'T SEE IT COMING!

OOH! A LITTLE DEER! HOW CUTE!



AW, POOR THING. HE MUST BE STUCK IN HERE SINCE THE FOREST HAS GROWN SO DENSE!

WE'LL KEEP YA' SAFE, KIDDO! WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

MY NAME IS BRAMBLE. AND I AM NOT A FAWN, DON'T TREAT ME LIKE ONE, PONIES.



YOU PONIES *MUST* LEAVE THE EVERFREE FOREST. YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE... THE HEART OF THE FOREST WON'T LIKE IT.

THE HEART OF THE FOREST? DO YOU KNOW HIM?!

WELL, YES. HE'S MY...



WELL, COME ON, SHORT STUFF! TAKE US TO HIM!

OH YES, PLEASE!



NO. HE WON'T ALLOW IT. I KNOW HE WON'T.

PLEASE? PRINCESS CELESTIA SAID WE *MUST* TALK TO HIM!



PRINCESS CELESTIA SAID THAT? WELL... OKAY. BUT I WOULDN'T EXPECT MUCH. HE WON'T BE HAPPY TO SEE PONIES RIGHT NOW.

NEAT! IS IT TRUE THAT HE EATS CUTIE MARKS? I BET MINE TASTES LIKE *CUPCAKES!*



EAT... WHAT? NO!

BRAMBLE, DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THE FOREST? IS IT SICK? IS THERE AN EVIL MAGICAL FORCE LURKING BENEATH IT?



THE FOREST IS NOT *SICK*. IT IS STRONGER THAN EVER!

WHY IS EVERY CREATURE IN HERE SO MAD? AND WHY ARE THE TREES GROWING SO FAST? AND WHY ARE THESE VINES EVERYWHERE?



LET'S SAVE THE QUESTIONS FOR WHEN WE GET TO THE HEART OF THE FOREST. HE CAN ANSWER THINGS BETTER THAN I CAN.

WOULD HE LIKE IT IF I ORGANIZED OUR QUESTIONS ON INDEX CARDS FIRST? I CAN COLOR CODE THEM!



OH GOODY. A DEEP, DARK MYSTERIOUS HOLE IN THE GROUND! AND NO WAY TO GET ACROSS... FUN!

I COULD PROBABLY FLY EVERYPONY ACROSS IT ONE-BY-ONE.

ECHOOOOOOOOO!



NO NEED, RAINBOW DASH! I'LL MAKE A BRIDGE! THAT WAY, OTHER PONIES CAN USE IT LATER TOO!

THAT'S VERY THOUGHTFUL, TWILIGHT!



FWOOSH

SMASH

I'VE GOT A LOT OF PRACTICE AT THIS TODAY!

HA! MY GREAT UNCLE WAS A LUMBERJACK! YOU'VE DONE HIM PROUD TODAY!



NO! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!

SHE JUST GAVE US A WAY TO CROSS THAT THERE BIG HOLE, PARTNER! LET'S GO!

STOP IT!



YOU... YOU'RE KILLING IT.

WHAT?!



OH NO! WE'RE MONSTERS.

A TREE IS NOT JUST A TREE, YOU RECKLESS PONIES! LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE. THAT TREE WAS SOMEONE'S HOME. YOU JUST EVICTED DOZENS OF ANIMALS FROM THEIR HOME.



EEP!

HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF YOUR HOME WAS DESTROYED?!

HISS



I'M SORRY! I... I WASN'T THINKING OF..

OF COURSE YOU WEREN'T. NEGLIGENT. INDIFFERENT. MY FATHER WAS RIGHT ABOUT PONIES. YOU'RE JUST LIKE THEM.

IT'S OKAY, LITTLE GUY. I CAN FIX THIS.



WHAT'S HE DOING?

FIXING THIS! HE JUST SAID SO.



WHOA.



HEAD HOME, LITTLE FRIENDS!

YOU... YOU... THAT WAS MAGIC!

BUT HE'S A DEER!



SURELY YOU WEREN'T SO ARROGANT AS TO THINK ONLY PONIES COULD HARNESS THE POWER OF MAGICAL POTIONS?



BLACKTHORN!

OUR MAGIC IS NOT UNLIKE THAT OF THE POTIONS OF THE ZEBRAS. WE HARVEST OUR MAGIC FROM THE EARTH AND PLANTS AROUND US.



THAT'S INCREDIBLE!

ALTHOUGH MAYBE YOU COULD USE YOUR POTIONS TO MAKE SOMETHING PRETTIER? ROSES? TULIPS? LUPINS?



WELL, I'M NOT ONE FOR THE FANCY FLORAL WORK. THE YOUNG PRINCE HERE, THOUGH, HAS QUITE THE TALENT FOR IT.

COME! I'M HERE TO ESCORT YOU THE REST OF THE WAY. A LITTLE BIRD TOLD THE HEART OF THE FOREST THAT BRAMBLE HAD "GUESTS" WITH HIM.

SPRINGY!



A LITTLE BIRD?

YES! THIS IS CALVIN! HE'S VERY NICE. HE LIKES TO KEEP US INFORMED ON WHO'S WALKING AROUND IN THESE WOODS.

I KNOW! MAYBE HE'S BEHIND IT?

HIS HORNS ARE NEAT! POINTY!

HANDSOME?!

HE'S RATHER HANDSOME FOR A NON-PONY, ISN'T HE?

THOSE VINES BRAMBLE MADE LOOK EXACTLY LIKE THE ONES INVADING THE REST OF EQUESTRIA.

THE BRANCHES ARE SO THICK AROUND HERE I CAN BARELY FLY. I HATE THIS PLACE.



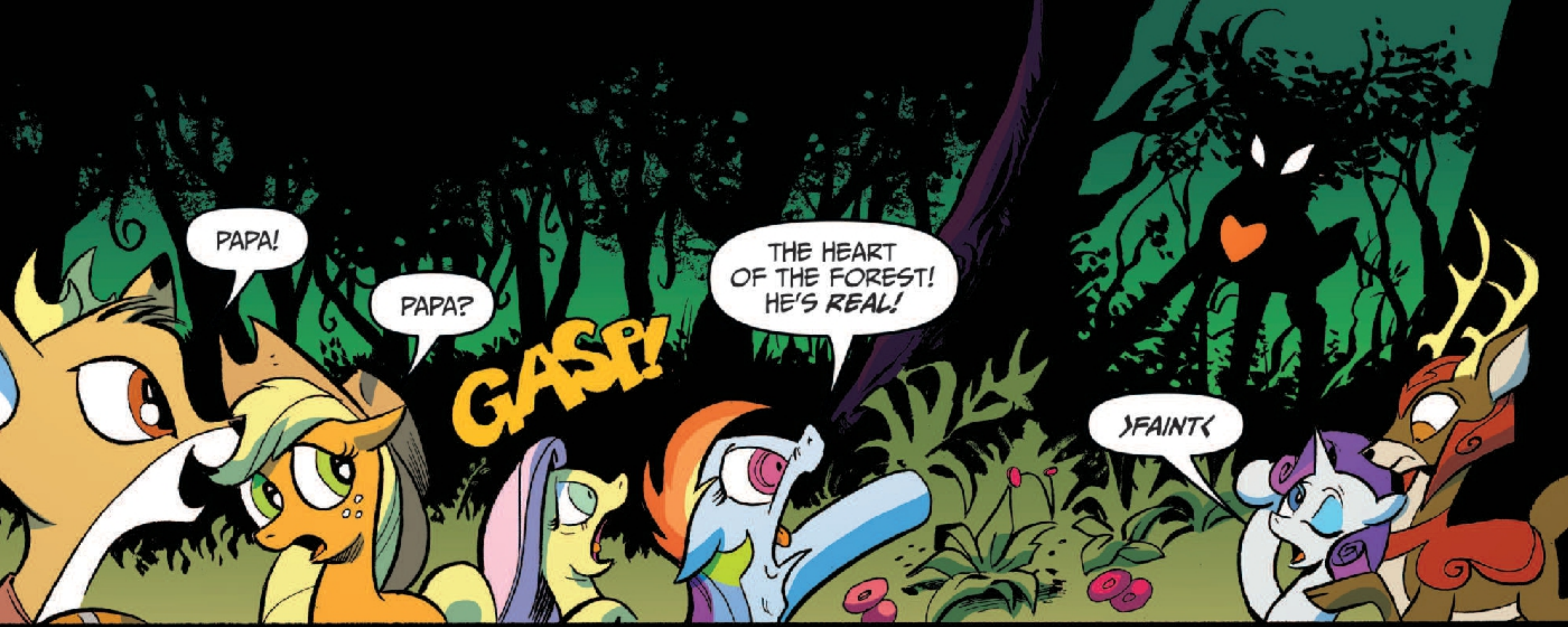
WE'RE HERE.

WELCOME TO THICKET, LITTLE PONIES.

THIS IS OUR HOME!

THIS IS INCREDIBLE!

ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL!



PAPA!

PAPA?

GASP!

THE HEART OF THE FOREST!
HE'S REAL!

>FAINT<



KING ASPEN!
THESE ARE THE
PONIES THAT WERE
SPOTTED IN THE
FOREST!



KING ASPEN? YOU'RE THE HEART OF THE FOREST?

PRINCESS TWILIGHT SPARKLE, I PRESUME? I'VE HEARD MENTION OF YOU FROM CELESTIA.



OH... YOU HAVE?

...AND I DO NOT WISH TO BE RUDE, BUT YOU ALL MUST LEAVE. PONIES ARE NO LONGER WELCOME IN THIS FOREST.



HEY NOW!
WE JUST GOT
HERE!

NO! PLEASE! WE
HAVE TO ASK YOU ABOUT
THE VINES AND TREES THAT
ARE SPILLING OUT OF
THE FOREST! THEY'RE
DESTROYING OUR
HOMES!



THAT IS CALLED "TIT
FOR TAT," YOUNG PRINCESS.
PONIES HAVE BROKEN THE
GOLDEN RULE. PONIES HAVE
SHOWN THEIR TRUE
COLORS... YOU CAN BE
JUST LIKE THEM.



"THEM"?
WHO'S THEM?
AND WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT?!

PERHAPS YOU
DON'T KNOW?
HMM.

PAPA? I THINK
WE SHOULD HEAR
THEM OUT. JUST FOR
A MINUTE... THEN YOU
CAN OUST THEM
FROM THE
FOREST.



VERY WELL,
WE'LL HAVE A TALK.
FOLLOW ME. I HAVE
SOMETHING FOR
YOU TO SEE.



YOU SEE, THE EVERFREE
FOREST IS A VERY DELICATE
ECOSYSTEM. WE THAT LIVE HERE... NOT
JUST THE DEER, BUT EVERY CREATURE FROM
THE TINIEST GRASSHOPPER TO THE LARGEST
HYDRA, NEED THE LAND THAT WE HAVE TO
SURVIVE. WE CANNOT AFFORD TO
LOSE ANY MORE OF OUR
HOMELAND.

LATELY, THE FOREST
HAS BEEN DISAPPEARING AT
A PACE THAT HAS ALARMED US
ALL. RESOURCES ARE THINNING
AND CREATURES ARE
PANICKING.

THE DEER HAVE TAKEN IT UPON OURSELVES TO REPLENISH THE FORESTS. WE NORMALLY USE OUR MAGICS TO HEAL THE WOODS AND HELP THINGS GROW... BUT WE'VE HAD TO TAKE A MORE AGGRESSIVE HOOF. THE FOREST IS LOOKING TO US TO HELP.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU'RE LOSING LAND? WHAT'S HAPPENING?



THIS IS HAPPENING.

GASP!



COMING SOON!
FUN FUN LAND
AMUSEMENT PARK and
EQUESTRIA'S LARGEST
PARKING LOT!
Brought to you by Mighty Minotaur Construction,
A Well-to-Do Company.



MINOTAURS AND PONIES? PONIES ARE HELPING DESTROY THE FOREST?! DOES CELESTIA KNOW ABOUT THIS?!

I HAVE SENT HER MANY MESSENGER BIRDS, I HAVE RECEIVED NO REPLY.

THEN LET US GO TALK TO THOSE PONIES DOWN THERE!

AND THE MINOTAURS! I'M SURE THEY'LL ALL LISTEN TO REASON!

I HAVE TALKED TO THEM. OVER AND OVER. NEGOTIATIONS HAVE FALLEN ON DEAF EARS. THE DESPICABLE BEING IN CHARGE OF THAT LOT DOESN'T DESERVE ANOTHER CHANCE. HE'S PRACTICALLY KILLED THAT SOIL. EVEN WITH OUR POTIONS, WE CAN BARELY GET A DANDELION TO GROW THERE NOW.

PLEASE, LET US GO DOWN THERE AND TALK TO WHOEVER IS IN CHARGE. I'M SURE WE CAN GET THEM TO SEE THINGS FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE!

YEAH! TWILIGHT'S A PRINCESS! THEY HAVE TO LISTEN TO HER!

I'M A KING AND THEY DIDN'T LISTEN TO ME.

EEP!



SO! UH... MR... WELL-TO-DO! I'M PRINCESS TWILIGHT SPARKLE! AND THESE ARE... ER, MY FRIENDS!

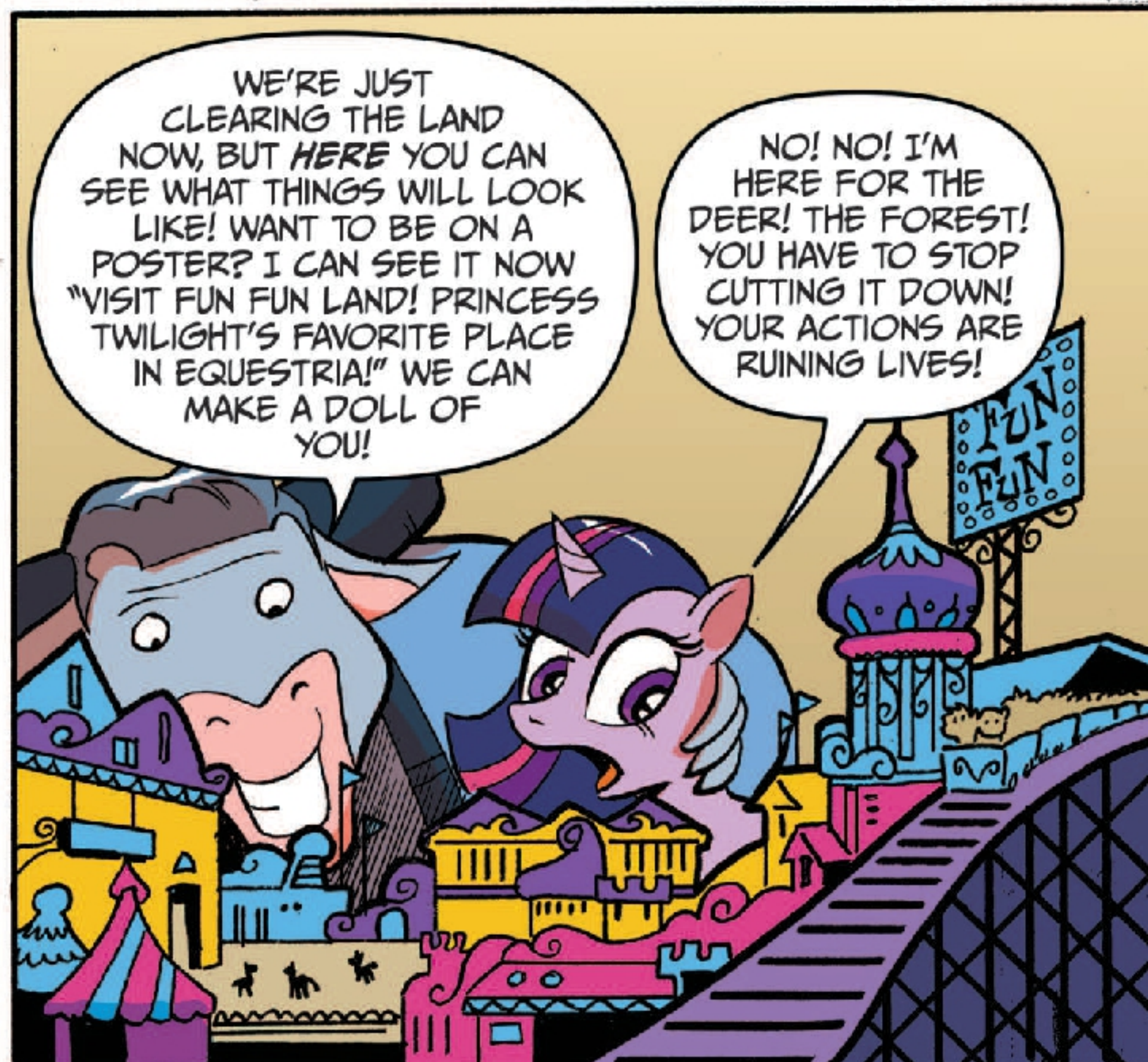
PRINCESS?



YOU MUST BE HERE TO LOOK AT THE SITE AND GIVE US AN ENDORSEMENT! BETCHA HEARD ALL ABOUT OUR VISION FOR FUN FUN LAND AND THOUGHT "WELL NOW, I JUST HAVE TO POP ON OVER AND TAKE A LOOK!" WE'RE GOING TO GIVE WHINNY WORLD A REAL RUN FOR THEIR BITS!

I LOVE WHINNY WORLD!

NOT NOW, RARITY.



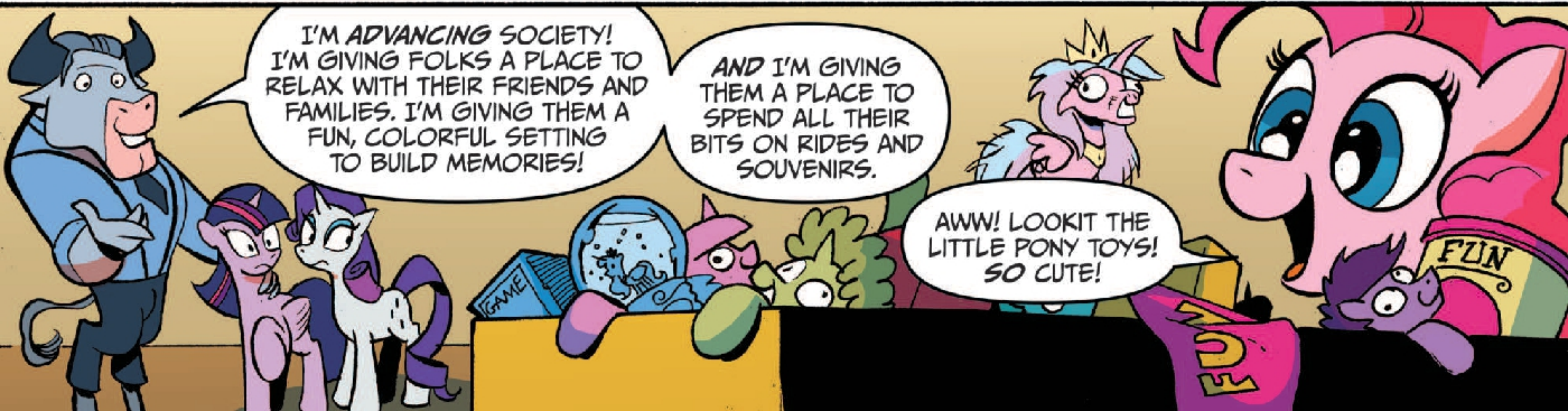
WE'RE JUST CLEARING THE LAND NOW, BUT **HERE** YOU CAN SEE WHAT THINGS WILL LOOK LIKE! WANT TO BE ON A POSTER? I CAN SEE IT NOW "VISIT FUN FUN LAND! PRINCESS TWILIGHT'S FAVORITE PLACE IN EQUESTRIA!" WE CAN MAKE A DOLL OF YOU!

NO! NO! I'M HERE FOR THE DEER! THE FOREST! YOU HAVE TO STOP CUTTING IT DOWN! YOUR ACTIONS ARE RUINING LIVES!



NO CAN DO, PRINCESS! IT'S PROGRESS!

OVERPRICED GRADE B TCHOTCHKES



I'M ADVANCING SOCIETY! I'M GIVING FOLKS A PLACE TO RELAX WITH THEIR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES. I'M GIVING THEM A FUN, COLORFUL SETTING TO BUILD MEMORIES!

AND I'M GIVING THEM A PLACE TO SPEND ALL THEIR BITS ON RIDES AND SOUVENIRS.

AWW! LOOKIT THE LITTLE PONY TOYS! SO CUTE!

FUN



BESIDES, I OFFERED TO BUILD THOSE DEER AN APARTMENT BUILDING RIGHT OVER HERE! SEE? I CAN CHOP DOWN ALL THESE TREES AND USE THOSE MATERIALS TO BUILD WITH! THAT'S SUSTAINABLE AND ALL THAT OTHER STUFF THAT FANCY DEER LIKES TO TALK ABOUT!

THAT'S HORRIBLE!

AND YOUR COLOR SCHEMES ARE AWFUL!

YOU CAN'T DO THIS! I WON'T ALLOW IT.



LISTEN, PRINCESS... LET ME PUT IT THIS WAY...



EQUESTRIA DOESN'T NEED TREES AND FLUFFY BUNNIES...

YOU'RE HORRIBLE.



...IT NEEDS EASY PARKING, PAVED ROADS, AND AFFORDABLE FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT. IT'S CALLED PROGRESS.

WELL, YOU'RE PROGRESSING TOO FAST. EVERY TREE YOU TEAR DOWN, THE FOREST POPS UP ANOTHER ONE THROUGH SOMEONY'S WINDOW SOMEWHERE ELSE!



WELL, THAT'LL KEEP MY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IN BUSINESS, WON'T IT?

IT'S BEEN LOVELY CHATTING WITH YOU ALL, BUT I HAVE A BUSINESS TO RUN. HERE, TAKE MY CARD!

LOCKE & KEY



THAT'S 200 LB CARD STOCK, GOLD EMBOSSED. YOU LIKE THE SERIF ON THE FONT? IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND ABOUT THE ENDORSEMENT, CALL ME! OR YOU CAN GET AHOLD OF MY ASSISTANT HERE, JARGON!



WELL, THAT DIDN'T GO WELL.

NOPE! NOT AT ALL!

OH, DEAR...



DO YOU MEAN "OH, DEER" OR "OH, DEAR?"



BOTH.



NO! I MEAN, I KNOW PROGRESS IS IMPORTANT... BUT AT WHAT COST? WHAT'S TO SAY HE WON'T JUST TEAR DOWN THE ENTIRE FOREST? WHERE WOULD ALL THOSE ANIMALS GO? THE MAGICAL CREATURES? WOULD THEY ALL JUST... GO AWAY?

WELL-TO-DO IS GOING ABOUT THIS THE WRONG WAY. HE'S HURTING PONIES AND HE'S HURTING THE ANIMALS THAT LIVE IN THE FOREST. WE HAVE TO STOP HIM.

WELL, I HATE TO BE THE ONE TO SAY IT, I CAN KINDA SEE WHAT HE'S SAYING. EQUESTRIA WILL EAT THIS PLACE UP.

THIS COMING FROM THE PONY WHO HAS A WHINNY WORLD SNOW GLOBE COLLECTION?

RAINBOW DASH! DON'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT!

COMING TO THIS SITE
FUN FUN LAND



HEY, YOU!
HOW CAN YOU
WORK FOR THAT
MINOTAUR? HE'S
A JERK!

HEY! I'M
JUST DOING
MY JOB!



SIGH, I CAN
TELL FROM YOUR
CRESTFALLEN FACE
THAT YOU DIDN'T
SUCCEED.

I WAS... TAKEN BY
SURPRISE BY HIM. THAT'S
ALL. HE'S A WHIRLWIND.
GIVE ME ANOTHER
CHANCE!



I'M SORRY, YOUNG
PRINCESS, BUT I'VE DECIDED.
THE FOREST WILL NOT BACK
DOWN. WE WILL CONTINUE TO
REPLANT OUR WOODS AND EXPAND
AWAY FROM THIS PLACE. ANY PONY
AFFECTED BY IT WILL JUST
HAVE TO RELOCATE.

YOU SHOULD
ALL RETURN
HOME.



IF WE HAVE A
HOME TO GO
BACK TO...



KING ASPEN, I
KNOW WE CAN HELP
YOU. WE'LL BE RIGHT
HERE BY YOUR SIDE
UNTIL WELL-TO-DO HAS
PACKED UP HIS LAST
BRICK PAVER!

TWILIGHT IS
RIGHT! PONYVILLE
IS OUR HOME!
WE'VE GOT TO
SAVE IT!

AND THE
EVERFREE
FOREST IS YOUR
HOME! WE HAVE
TO DO WHAT WE
CAN TO HELP
YOU!



AND WHAT OF THIS "PROGRESS" THAT
WELL-TO-DO LOVES TO TALK OF? YOU WILL
UPROOT ALL HIS HARD WORK? YOU'LL LET
THE MINOTAURS AND PONIES HE EMPLOYS
SUFFER? WOULD YOU PICK HELPING
US OVER ALL THAT?

I KNOW THAT I FEEL
THAT WHAT HE'S DOING IS
WRONG. I CAN'T LET HIM
GET AWAY WITH IT.

AND I THINK THAT
CELESTIA DOESN'T KNOW
ABOUT ANY OF THIS. THERE'S
NO WAY SHE'D TURN A
BLIND EYE TO IT.



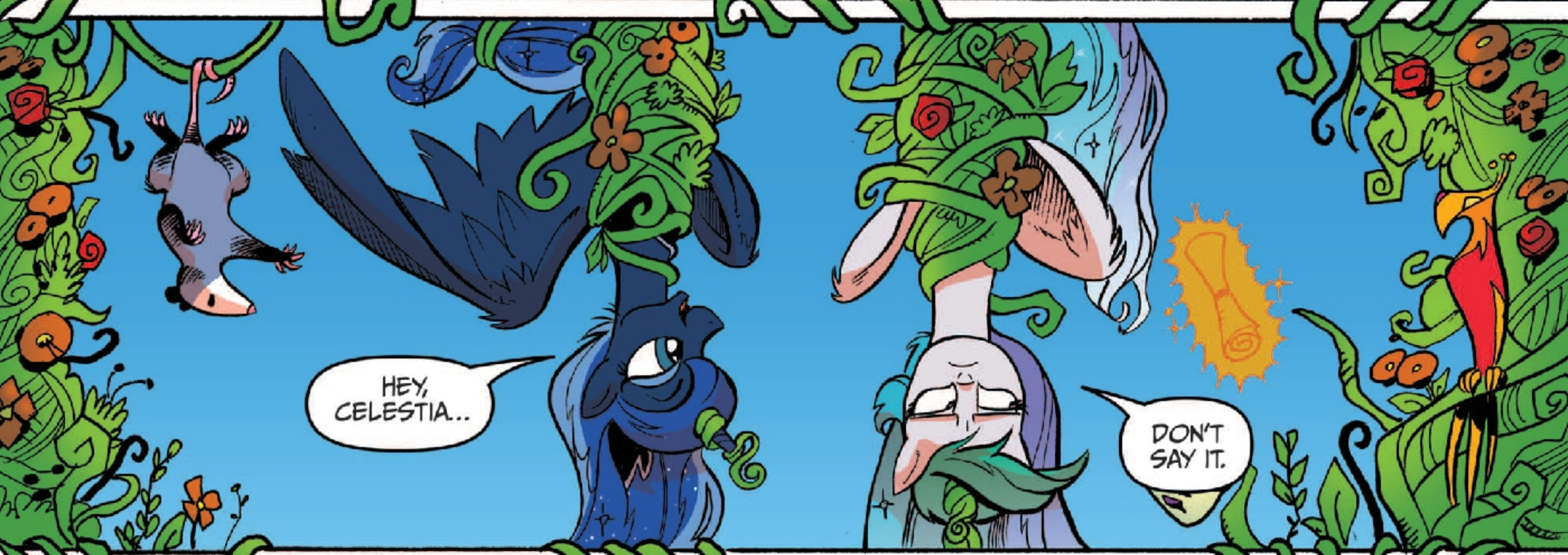
SPIKE! TAKE
A LETTER!





HEY, CELESTIA...

DON'T SAY IT.



HEY CELESTIAAAAA...

DON'T SAY IT.



YOU CAN REPLY BACK THAT WE'D LOVE TO HELP, BUT WE'RE TOO BUSY HANGING AROUND! HA!

YOU SAID IT.



KONK!

TO BE CONTINUED...

my LITTLE PONY

Friendship is Magic

NEXT MONTH:
ISSUE #28



#14

RETRO
UP-LOGO

FUNFUNLAND
Equestria's Funnest Place

BREEZY HABITAT

is "funnest" a word?

PUPPET
AMPHITHEATRE

GLUTEN
FREE

FUTURE
HOTEL SITE

HALL OF
PRINCESSES

TRAIN

LICENSING?
(nevermind)

TRAM TO
PARKING "A"

PARKING B to RIGHT





from the desk of Well-to-Do