

IDW
ISSUE
43

my LITTLE PONY

Friendship
is
Magic



ZAHLER • FLEECES • BRECKEL



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WELL,
WE'VE SAVED
EQUESTRIA
ONCE AGAIN.

AND GOOD
NEWS IS THIS TIME
THEY AREN'T GOING
TO PROSECUTE.

THE KINGDOM
OF ABYSSINIA IS
STRANGELY
LITIGIOUS.

FWOOSH! **GURGLE!**
GURGLE!

WAS THAT A FWOOSH?

I DON'T REMEMBER THERE BEING ANY FWOOSHES AROUND HERE.

AND GURGLES! THOSE ARE DEFINITELY GURGLES.



AND THAT THERE IS SURELY NEW!

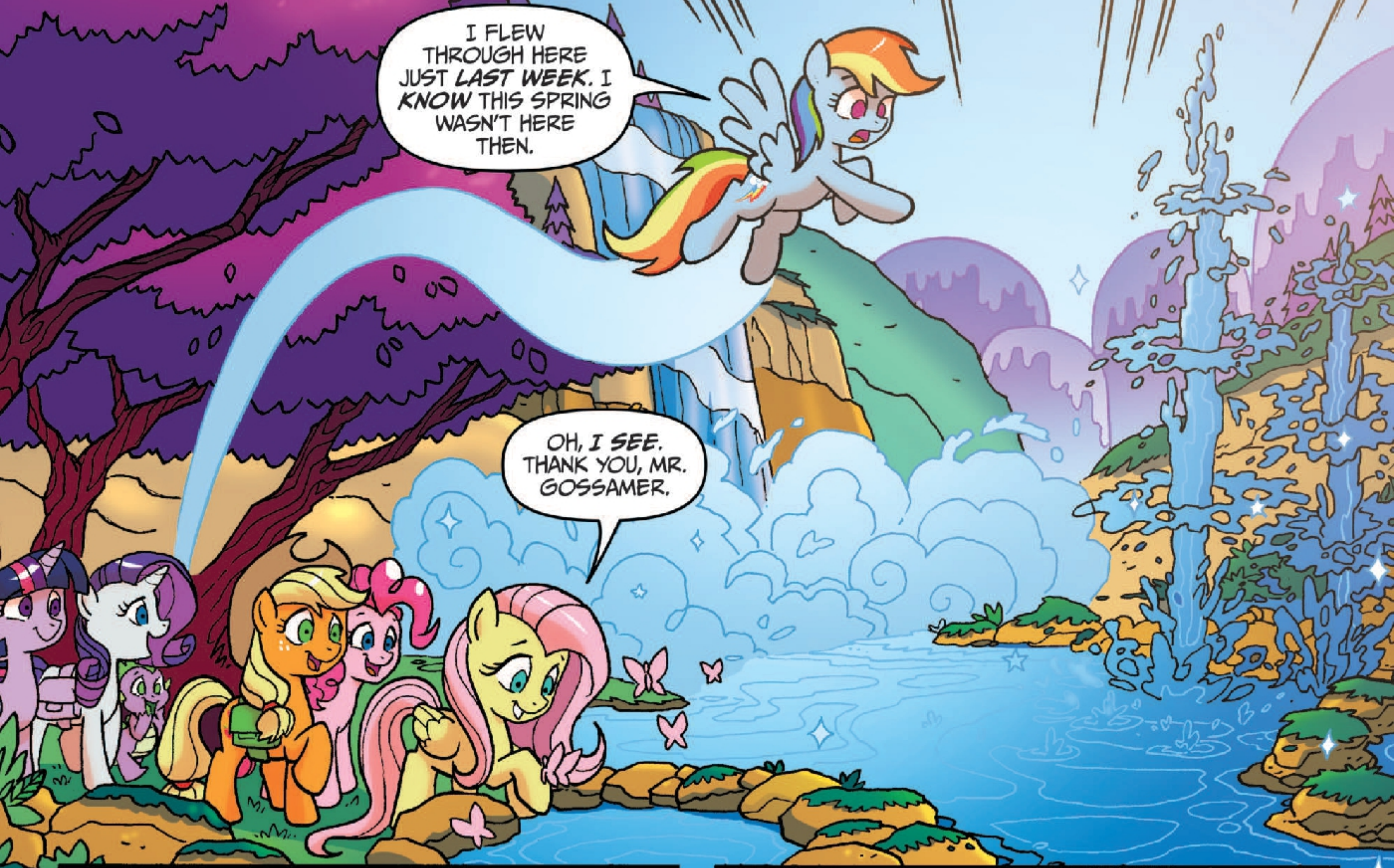
IT LOOKS SO PRETTY!



I FLEW THROUGH HERE JUST LAST WEEK. I KNOW THIS SPRING WASN'T HERE THEN.



OH, I SEE. THANK YOU, MR. GOSSAMER.



MR. GOSSAMER SAYS THAT THESE HOT SPRINGS HAVE JUST APPEARED IN THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS. APPARENTLY THEY CAUSED QUITE THE COMMOtion WHEN THEY ERUPTED.



THERE ARE A NUMBER OF UNDERGROUND RIVERS RUNNING THROUGH HERE. I SUPPOSE GEOTHERMAL PRESSURE COULD HAVE CAUSED THEM TO ERUPT.

HMM. IT'S NOT QUITE AS HOT AS I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE.





SURPRISE!

KER-SPLASH



WHY DID YOU DO THAT?

COMEDY IS SURPRISE! SO IT WAS FUNNY!

IT WAS NOT FUNNY.

ACTUALLY, IT KINDA WAS.



PINKIE, I'M VERY UPSET—

—AT LEAST I WOULD BE IF THIS WASN'T SO RELAXING. IT'S LIKE A GIANT HOT TUB!



IT'S LIKE A NATURAL DAY SPA. THIS WATER IS LOVELY!

MAYBE WE SHOULD TAKE SOME OF IT HOME. I BET MY APPLES WOULD REALLY TAKE TO THIS WATER.



I GUESS WE DESERVE A REWARD AFTER THAT ADVENTURE, DON'T WE?

WE DO INDEED!

THAT NIGHT...

ALL THE
BOOKS... ALL THE
KNOWLEDGE...

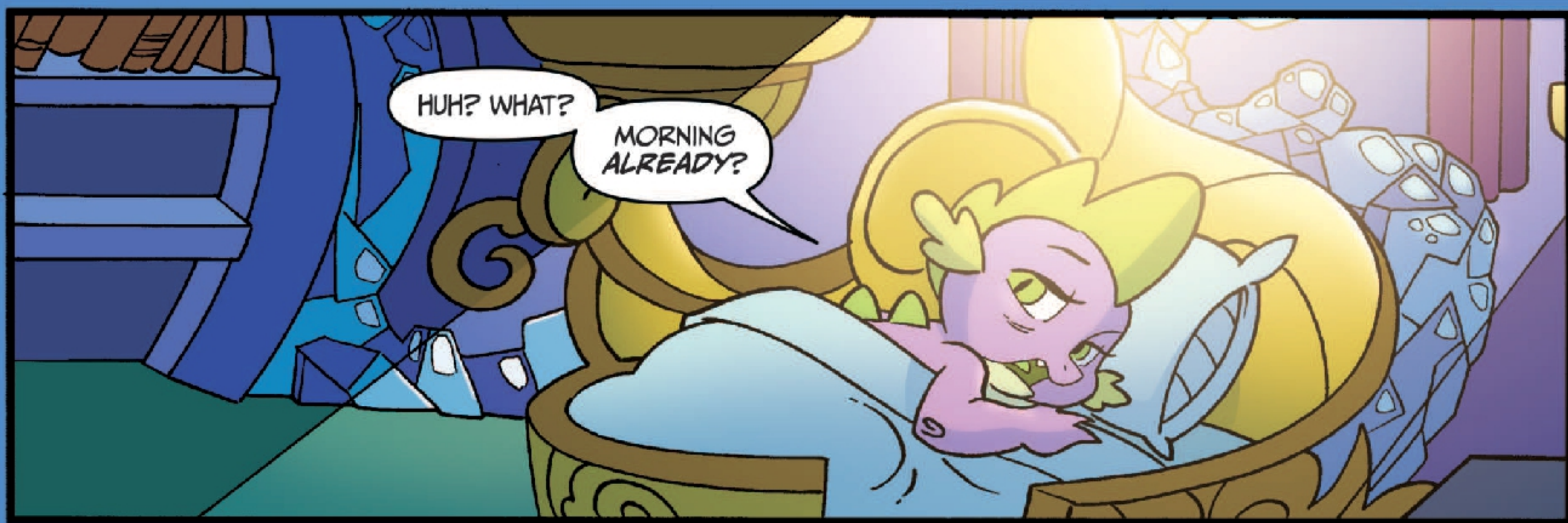
THE BEST
APPLES IN ALL OF
EQUESTRIA...

MY LITTLE
FRIENDS... I'LL
KEEP YOU
SAFE...

FLAWLESS...
NO ONE FINER...

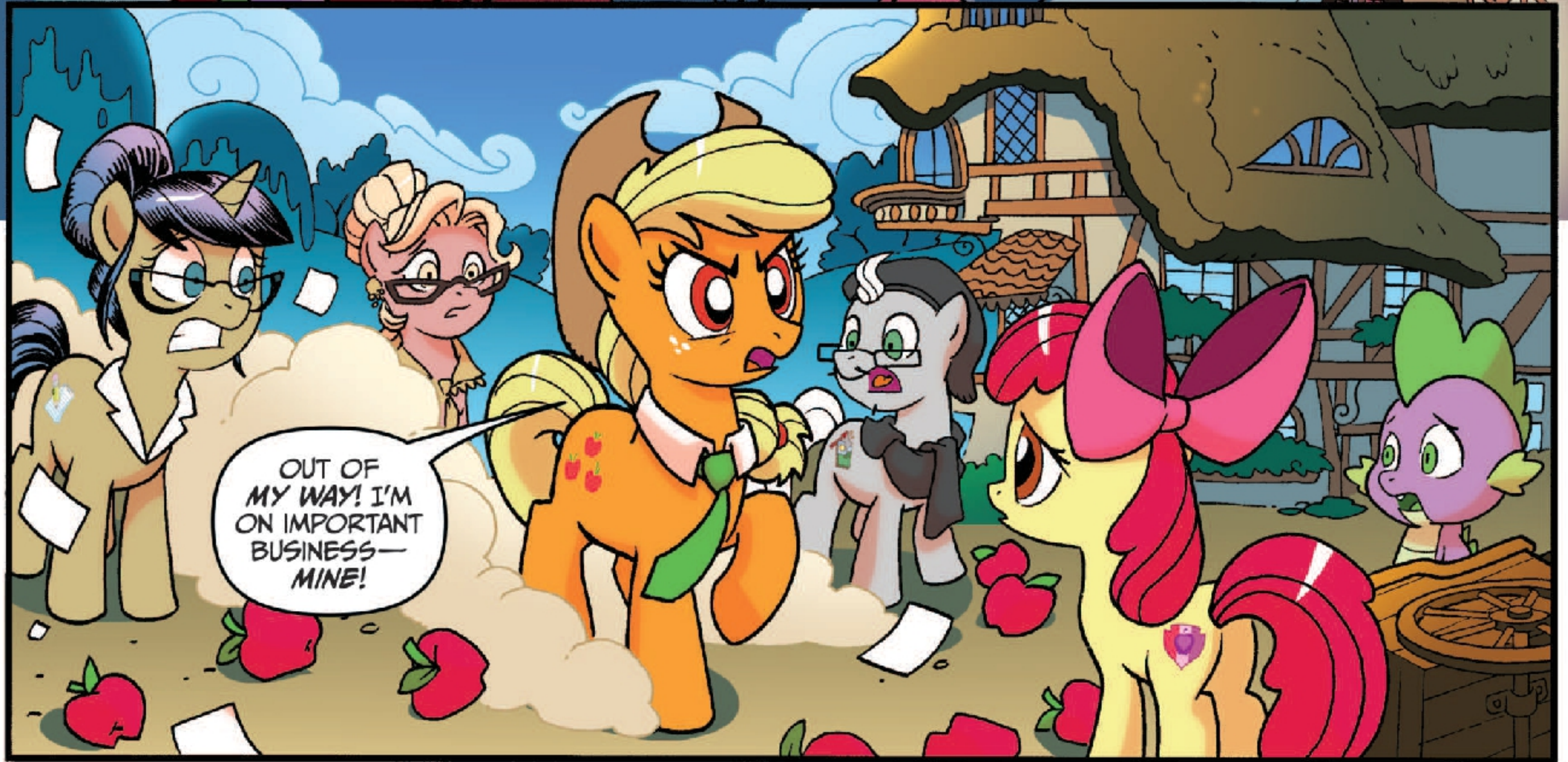
I FEEL THE
NEED... THE NEED
FOR SPEED...

HEH HEH HAH
HAHAHAHA
HA HA...



HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

—WOW!
WHAT'S THAT?!





WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO HER?

I DON'T KNOW. SHE'S BEEN ACTING WEIRD ALL MORNING. SHE GOT UP AND STARTED BUILDING A WALL AROUND THE TREES BEFORE I EVEN WOKE UP.



ATTENTION, EVERYPONY IN PONYVILLE...



I, TWILIGHT SPARKLE, AM APPOINTING MYSELF EMPRESS OF PONYVILLE. AS THE MOST INTELLIGENT PONY IN THIS TOWN, OR ANY OTHER, IT IS THE ONLY LOGICAL COURSE OF ACTION.

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL FOLLOW ABOUT THE NEW ORDER, BUT FOR NOW, KNOW I PROMISE A HARSH BUT FAIR RULE.



THAT'S DEFINITELY NOT NORMAL. WE NEED TO CHECK ON THE OTHERS.

I, TWILIGHT SPARKLE, AM APPOINTING MYSELF EMPRESS OF PONYVILLE.

APPLEJACK IS GOING TO FIRE ME FOR THIS.



HOW DARE SHE?!



THE ARROGANCE OF THAT PONY, THINKING THAT SHE CAN RULE PONYVILLE.

WHEN IT SHOULD BE ME. THERE'S NO ONE FINER, OR WITH FINER FINERY.



UM, WHAT'S WITH THE MASK?

I COULDN'T GET MY EYELINER PERFECT.

I CAN'T HAVE PEOPLE SEEING MY FACE WITH ANY KIND OF FLAW ON IT.

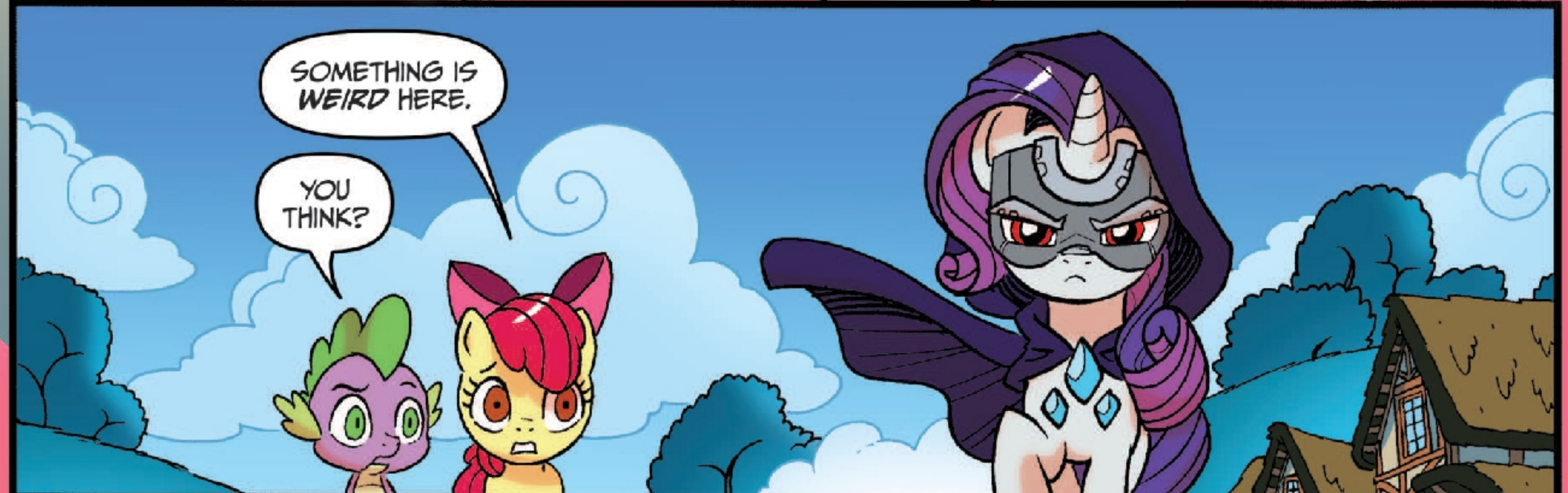


SURE. THAT'S NOT OVERREACTING AT ALL.



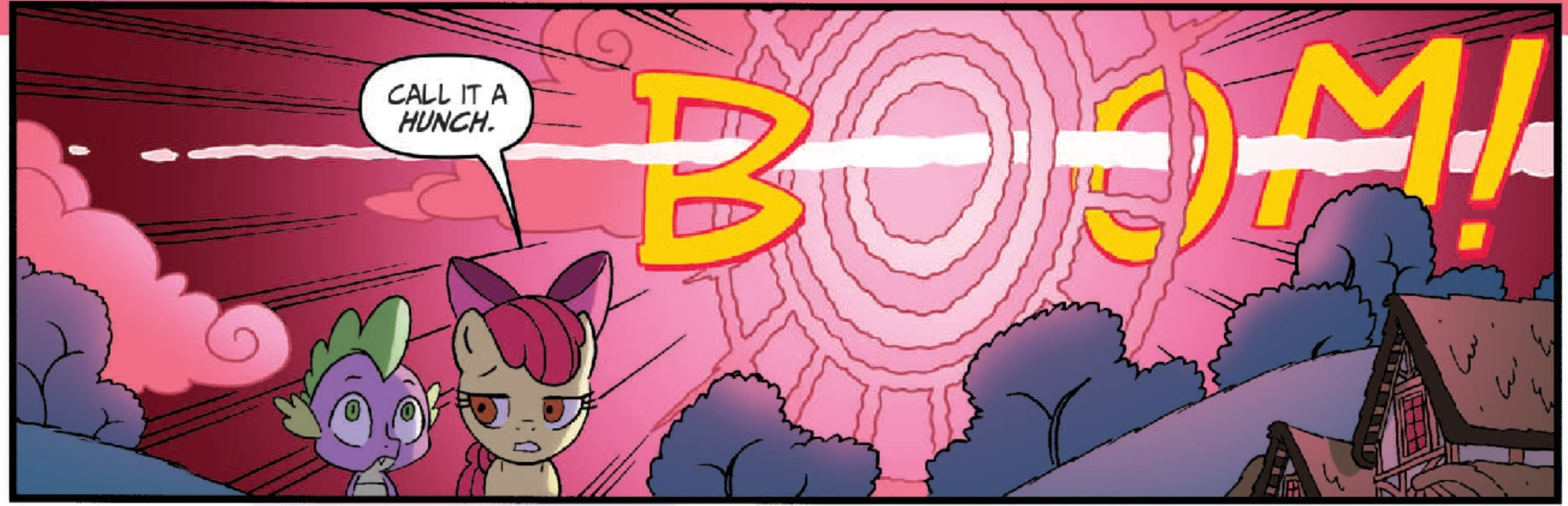
OVERREACTING IS TWILIGHT THINKING THAT HER *LIBRARY FIXATION* AND THAT *FIVE-YEAR-OLD HAIRSTYLE* IN ANY WAY ENTITLE HER TO RULE THESE PEOPLE.

I WILL CORRECT HER THINKING. AS SOON AS I FIND THE RIGHT OUTFIT TO DO SO.

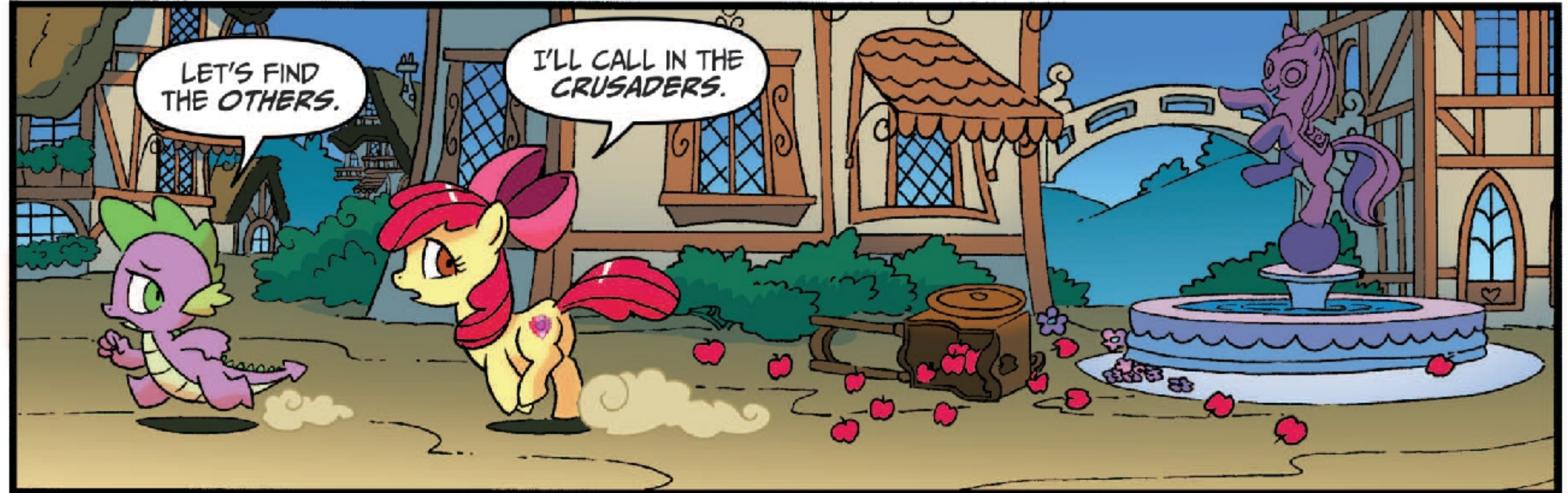


SOMETHING IS WEIRD HERE.

YOU THINK?

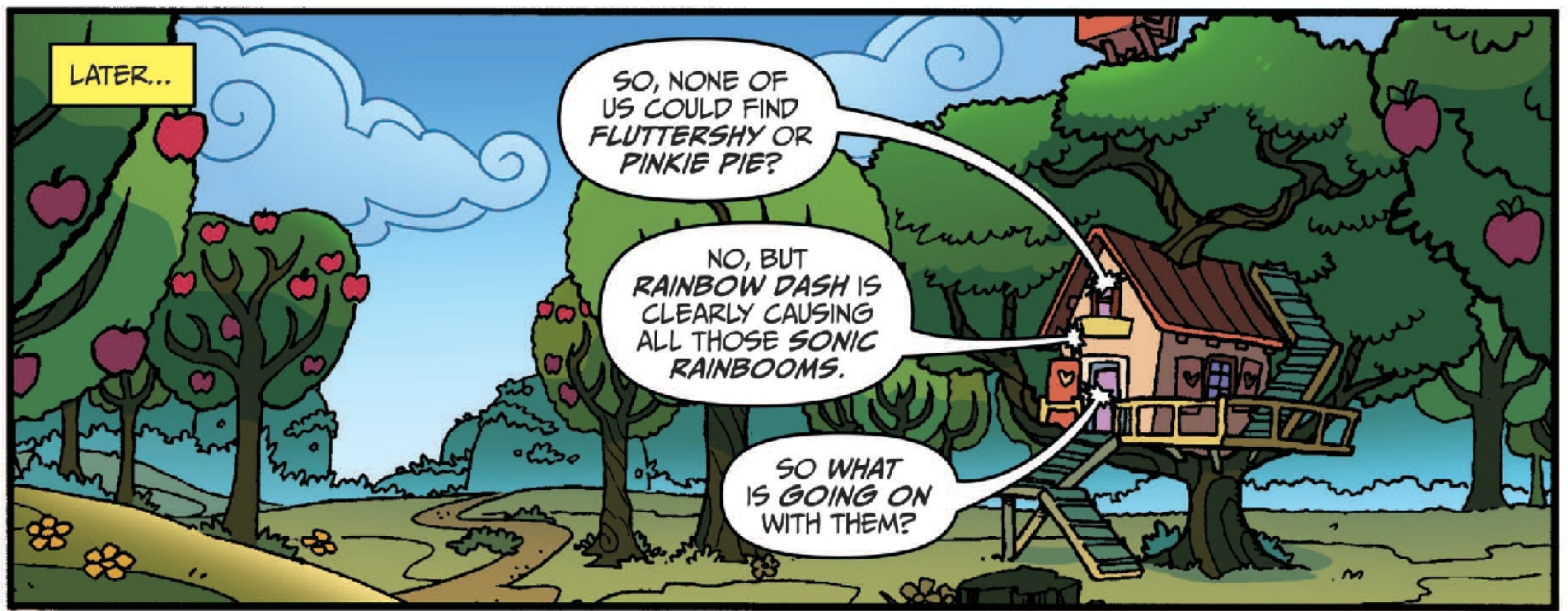


CALL IT A HUNCH.



LET'S FIND THE OTHERS.

I'LL CALL IN THE CRUSADERS.



CANTERLOT...

SOMETHING HAS TURNED TWILIGHT SPARKLE AND HER FRIENDS TO THEIR DARKER NATURES!

WHAT KIND OF SINISTER MAGIC COULD DO THAT?

SPIKE WRITES THAT THEY HAVE THEIR THEORIES. BUT I MUST SEND SOMEONE TO INVESTIGATE AND RESOLVE THIS. I MUST SEND—

—YOU.

ME? SISTER, IS THAT WISE? MY HISTORY IS ONE WITH ITS OWN DARKNESS.

PRECISELY. WHATEVER HAS HAPPENED HERE, YOU HAVE PERSONAL EXPERIENCE, TRAGIC THOUGH IT MAY BE, WITH SUCH FORCES. I CAN THINK OF NO ONE ELSE BETTER FOR THE TASK.

I SEE YOUR POINT.

I WILL GET MYSELF TO PONYVILLE AS SOON AS I CAN!

FAREWELL, MY SISTER. I KNOW YOU WILL PERFORM ADMIRABLY.

I JUST HOPE I HAVEN'T SENT YOU BACK INTO TEMPTATION.



WAIT! WE AIN'T EVEN *DISCUSSED* THE MATTER OF YOUR *BACK RENT*!

GIT BACK HERE!

I THOUGHT YOU WANTED US *GONE!*

GONE FROM MY *TREEHOUSE*, NOT FROM MY *FARM!* Y'ALL ARE GOING TO HAVE TO *WORK YOUR DEBT OFF!* YOU'LL BE *INDENTURED* UNTIL YOU'RE IN *DENTURES!*

I DON'T REMEMBER SIGNING A CONTRACT!

IT'S AN IMPLIED ORAL AGREEMENT!

IS IT JUST ME OR IS SHE MAKING LESS AND LESS SENSE?

I'LL SAY! AN ORAL CONTRACT REQUIRES *CONSIDERATION*, AND SHE'S NOT SHOWING US ANY!

NO, NOT THAT. SHE'S STARTING TO MAKE UP EVENTS. I THINK SHE'S GETTING WORSE.

WORSE, I
DON'T KNOW. BUT
SHE'S DEFINITELY
GETTING FASTER!
HOOF IT!

NO MATTER HOW
FOGGY IT GETS. I
KNOW THESE HERE ACRES
BETTER THAN ANYONE!
YOU CAN'T HIDE!

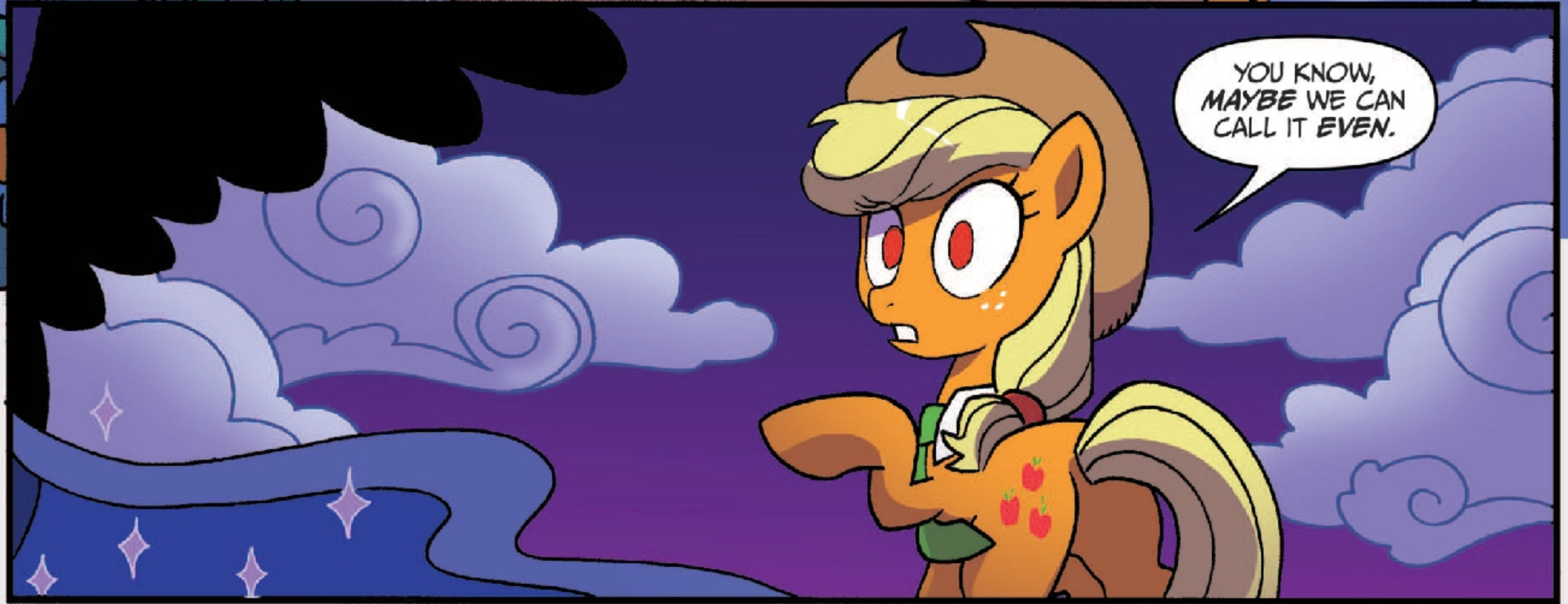
SKREEEEEE

I'M NOT
HIDING.



PRINCESS LUNA HIDES FROM NO PONY!

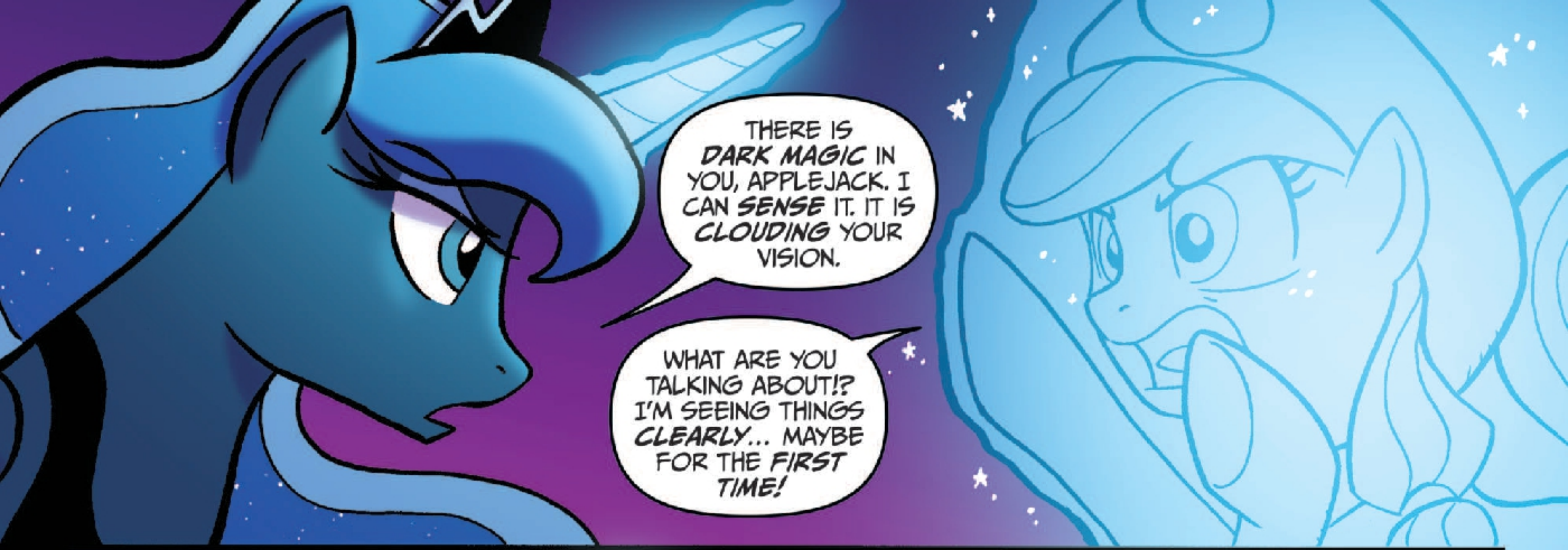
-SULP!-



YOU KNOW, MAYBE WE CAN CALL IT EVEN.

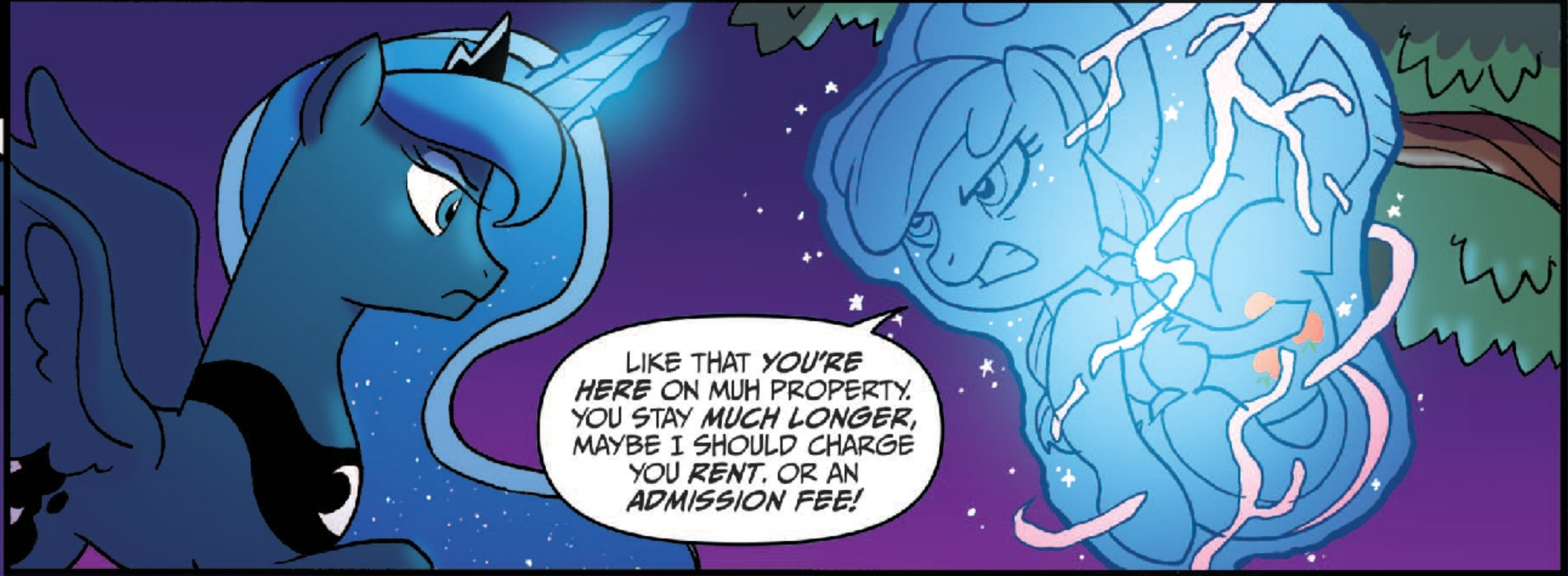


NO, I THINK WE NEED TO HAVE A DISCUSSION.



THERE IS DARK MAGIC IN YOU, APPLEJACK. I CAN SENSE IT. IT IS CLOUDING YOUR VISION.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!? I'M SEEING THINGS CLEARLY... MAYBE FOR THE FIRST TIME!



LIKE THAT YOU'RE HERE ON MUH PROPERTY. YOU STAY MUCH LONGER, MAYBE I SHOULD CHARGE YOU RENT. OR AN ADMISSION FEE!



WHAT'S WRONG WITH MY SISTER? THIS ISN'T HER.

I CANNOT TELL, AT LEAST NOT YET. THERE IS DEFINITELY SOMETHING WRONG. POWERFUL MAGIC. BUT IT'S UNFOCUSED. IT'S THE CAUSE OF HER PERSONALITY CHANGE.



IT'S WARPING HER NATURE. -UGH- DISTORTING HER, LIKE A FLAWED MIRROR.

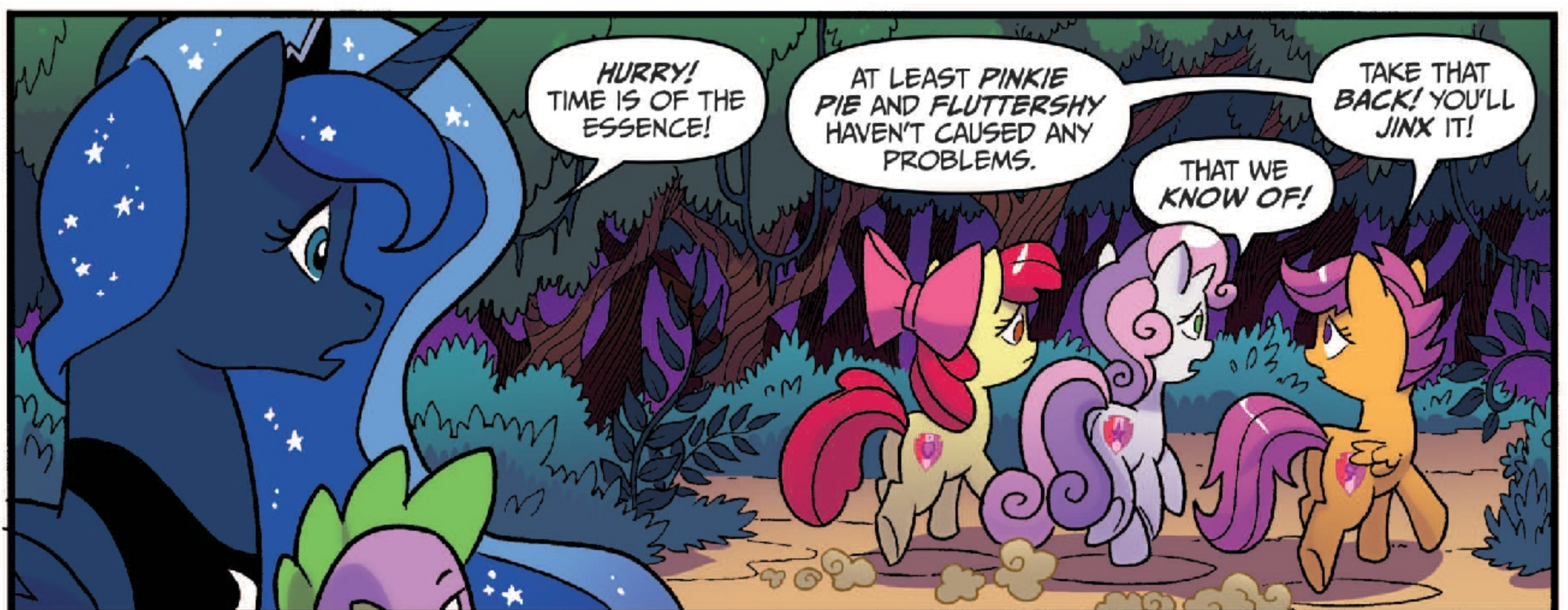
-UNNNH!-

MAYBE I CAN DRAW IT OUT. RETURN HER TO HER NATURAL STATE.

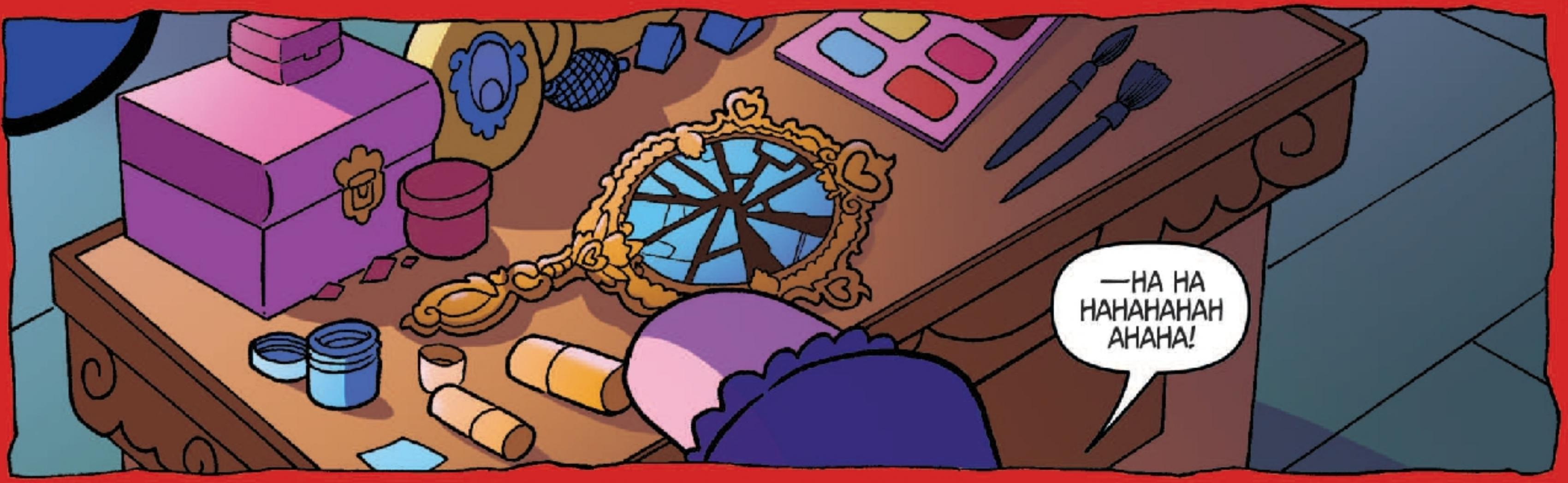


-UNNNH!-









FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

Ted Adams here. I'm going to be your monthly guide through the IDW/Top Shelf checklist, pointing out our big hits and bringing your attention to some gems that you might otherwise miss.

Kevin Eastman and I have been friends for longer than either of us would like to admit so it was a particular treat for me when IDW picked up the rights to publish *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* comics back in 2011. Kevin's been an integral part of our creative team for the entire run—co-writing the books with Tom Waltz and providing covers for



every issue. This month our regular series reaches issues #59—making it one of the longest-running comic series in stores today.

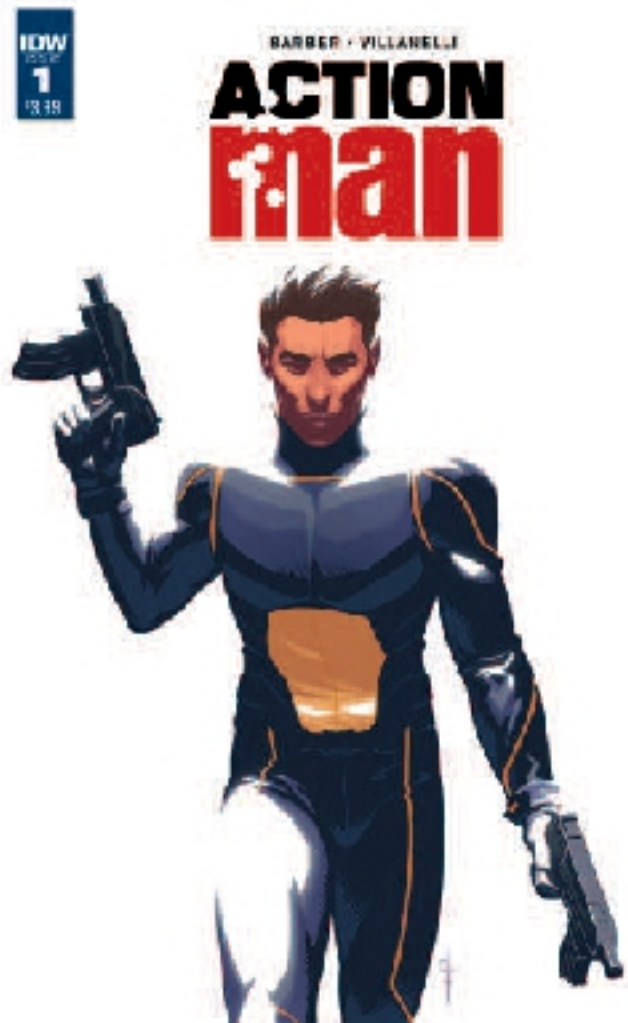
June 3rd sees the release of Paramount's *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows* and we've got a new Turtles mini-series that will be fun for fans new and old. Ben Bates and Dustin Weaver are writing the five-issue

Bebop & Rocksteady mini-series that will ship weekly throughout June. Ben and Dustin are joined by a great group of artists—Sophie Campbell, Giannis Milonogiannis, Damian Couceiro, Nick Pitarra, and Ryan Browne—and Nick Pitarra has turned in five amazing covers that make one enormous TMNT image. Kevin is also doing a rare variant cover for the first issue.

While we're talking about Kevin, I hope if you're ever in the San Diego area, you'll check out IDW's **San Diego Comic Art Gallery**. Curated by Kevin, the gallery has his replica studio—filled from floor to ceiling with TMNT memorabilia and the things that inspire Kevin—as well as a series of regularly rotating exhibits. In June, we're going to be featuring *Berkeley Breathed* and *Bloom County*.

While there isn't a new Transformers movie this year, June sees the launch of *Transformers: Till All Are One* by Mairghread Scott and Sara Pitre-Durocher. In our regular ongoing *Transformers* series, Optimus Prime is busy conquering Earth and the Lost Light is exploring space. This all-new series will explore what's happening on Cybertron.

In other Hasbro news, June also sees the release of *Action Man #1* by John Barber and Paolo Villanelli. In the U.S., we had G.I. Joe and in the U.K., they had Action Man. You may have already seen a preview of

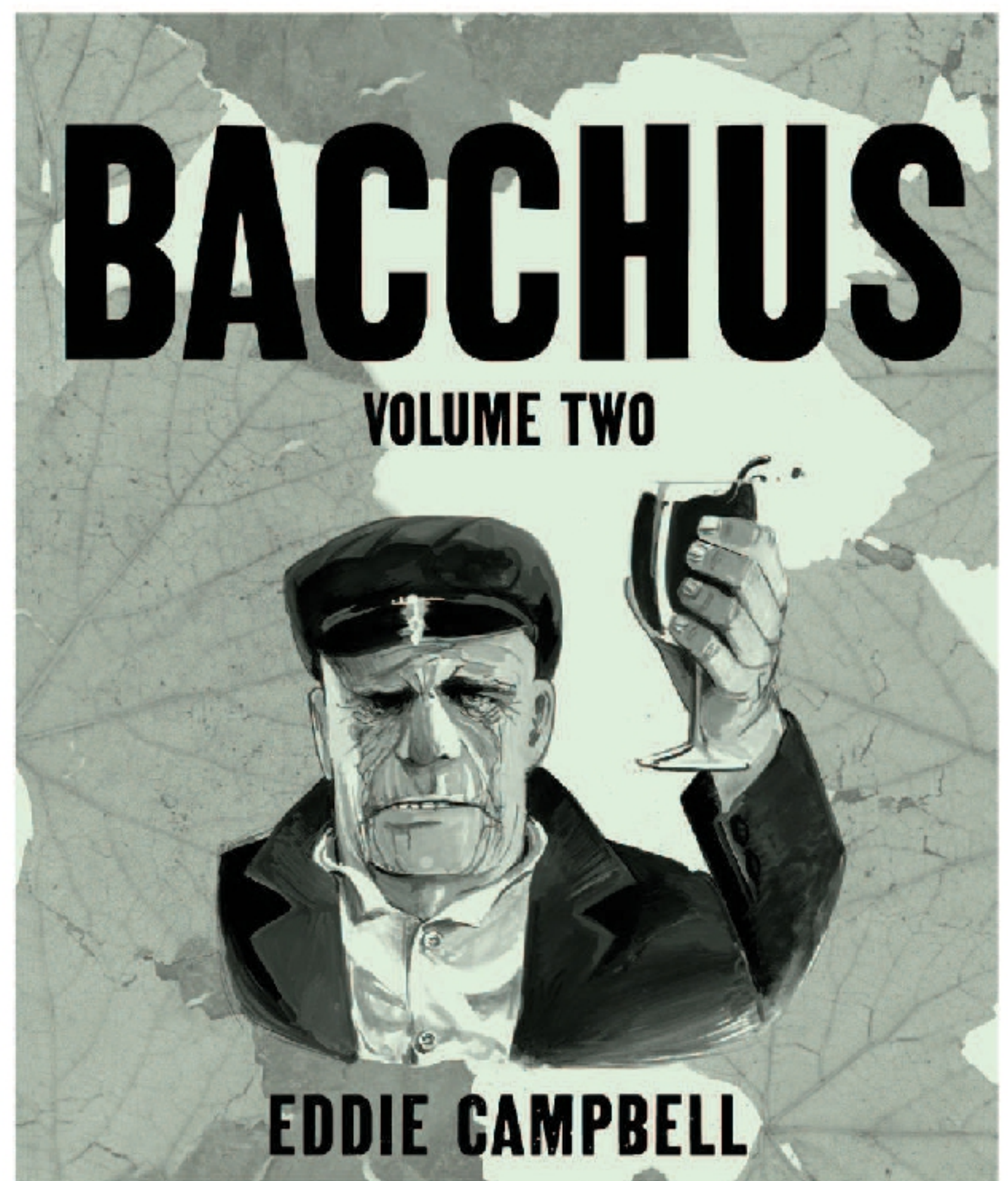


Action Man in our *Rom* #0 Free Comic Book Day comic but either way, get ready for an all-new take on the ultimate British special agent.

I'm very happy to report that *Locke & Key* creators, Joe Hill and Gabriel Rodriguez, have reunited to bring us *Tales From the Darkside*—a four-issue mini-series that re-imagines the classic TV series for an all-new audience. And if you haven't read *Locke & Key*, stop whatever you're doing right now and pick up a copy of the first book. I guarantee you won't be able to put it down.

Library of American Comics has the third volume of *Walt Disney's Donald Duck: The Daily Newspaper Comics* out in June. Over 750 sequential daily strips from 1943 to 1945, written by Bob Karp and beautifully illustrated by Al Taliaferro.

Top Shelf has two books this month—Eddie Campbell's *Bacchus: Omnibus Edition Vol. 2* and Benjamin Frisch's *The Fun Family*. With *Bacchus*, Eddie brings us more than 500 pages of the gods



and myths of ancient Greece brought to modern life. *Fun Family* is Benjamin's debut graphic novel and it explores the darker side of an artist who draws a comic strip about the quintessential wholesome American family.

I hope you've been enjoying *Wynonna Earp*—Friday nights at 10/9c on Syfy. Season one wraps up on June 24th with some big changes for all of our characters.

Another diverse month for us and I can't wait for next month's column where I'll be telling you all about the return of *Rom*!