

IDW  
ISSUE  
**72**  
COVER A

# my LITTLE PONY

Friendship  
is Magic



ZAHLER • GARBOWSKA • BRECKEL

2  
A  
GNEB



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written by  
**Thom Zahler**

art by  
**Agnes Garbowska**

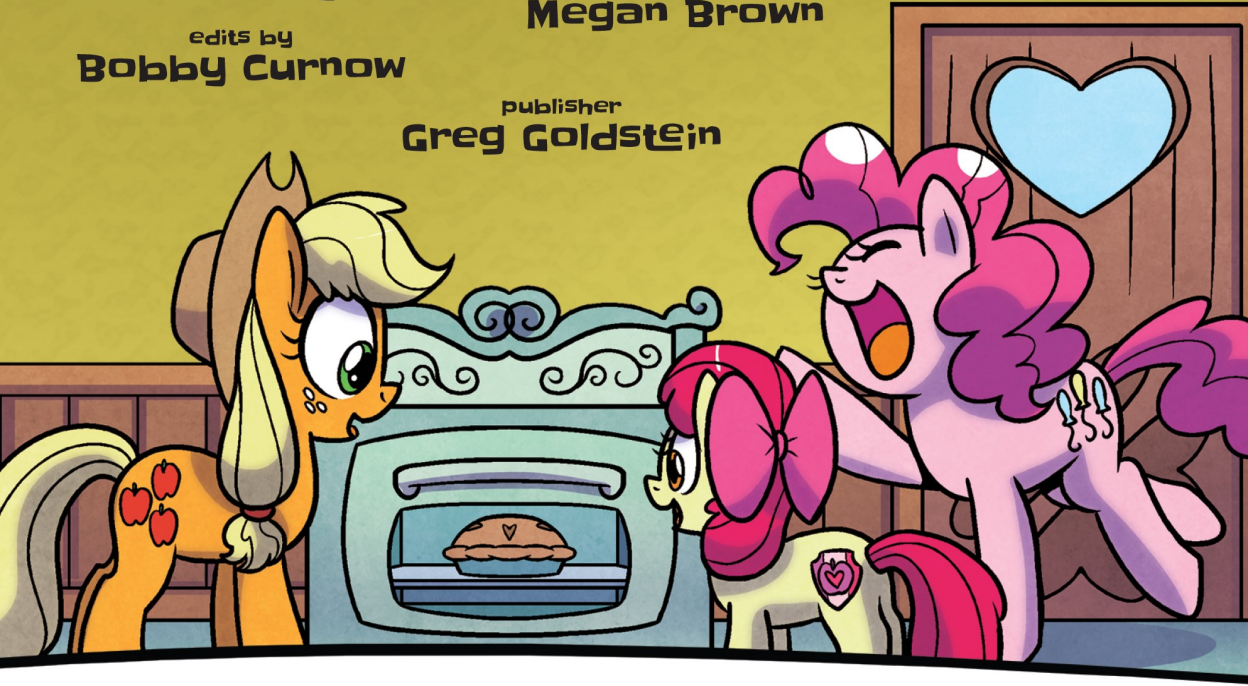
colors by  
**Heather Breckel**

letters by  
**Neil Uyetake**

edit assists by  
**Megan Brown**

edits by  
**Bobby Curnow**

publisher  
**Greg Goldstein**



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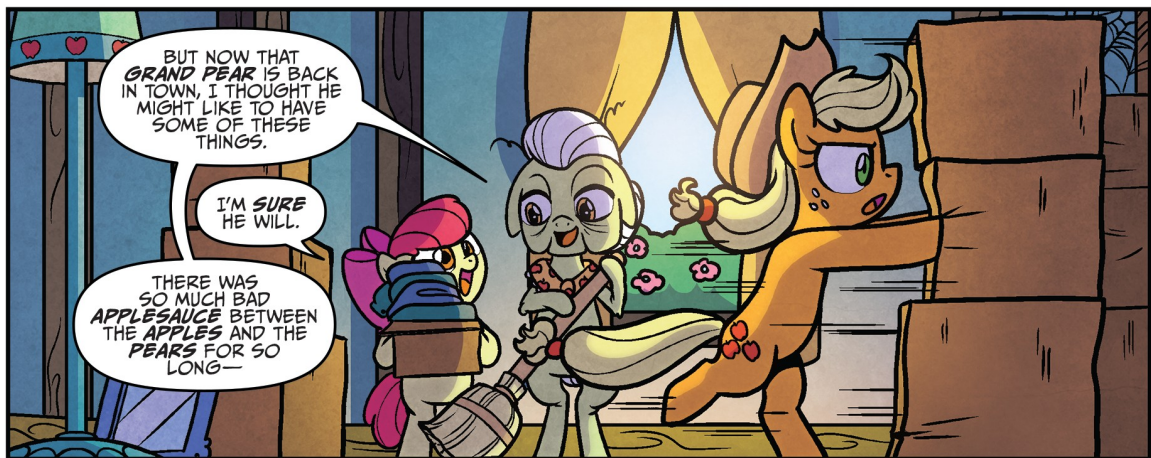


WHOA NELLY!  
THESE BOXES HAVE  
BEEN SITTING SO  
LONG THAT EVEN  
THEIR DUST HAS  
DUST.

I THINK  
SOME OF THESE  
CLOTHES ARE  
OLDER THAN ME,  
GRANNY.

I'M SURE THEY  
ARE, APPLE BLOOM.  
THEY WERE YOUR  
MOTHER'S, AND I  
HAVEN'T TOUCHED  
THEM IN YEARS.





BUT NOW THAT **GRAND PEAR** IS BACK IN TOWN, I THOUGHT HE MIGHT LIKE TO HAVE SOME OF THESE THINGS.

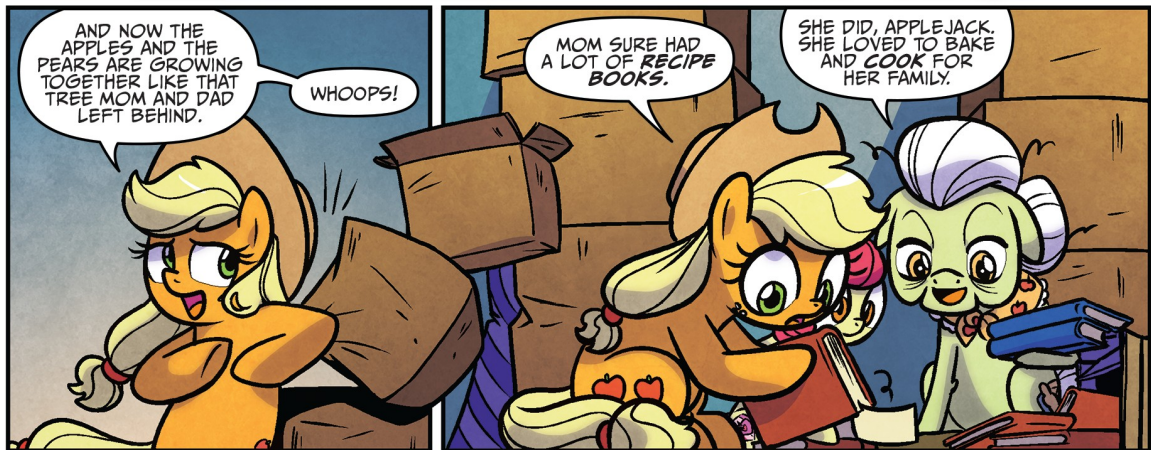
I'M SURE HE WILL.

THERE WAS SO MUCH BAD **APPLESAUCE** BETWEEN THE **APPLES** AND THE **PEARS** FOR SO LONG—



"—AND IT ONLY GOT WORSE WHEN YOUR MOTHER MARRIED INTO OUR FAMILY AND HER PAPPY LEFT HER BEHIND."

"I'M JUST PLEASED AS **FRUIT PUNCH** WE FOUND A WAY TO RECONCILE."



AND NOW THE **APPLES** AND THE **PEARS** ARE GROWING TOGETHER LIKE THAT TREE MOM AND DAD LEFT BEHIND.

WHOOOPS!

MOM SURE HAD A LOT OF **RECIPE BOOKS**.

SHE DID, **APPLEJACK**. SHE LOVED TO BAKE AND **COOK** FOR HER FAMILY.



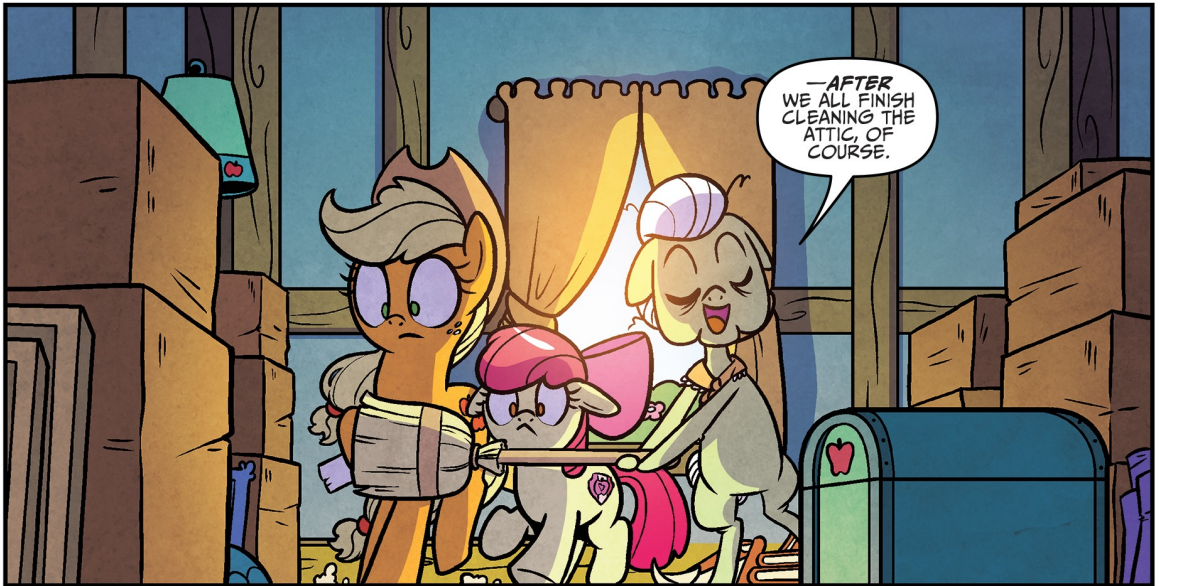
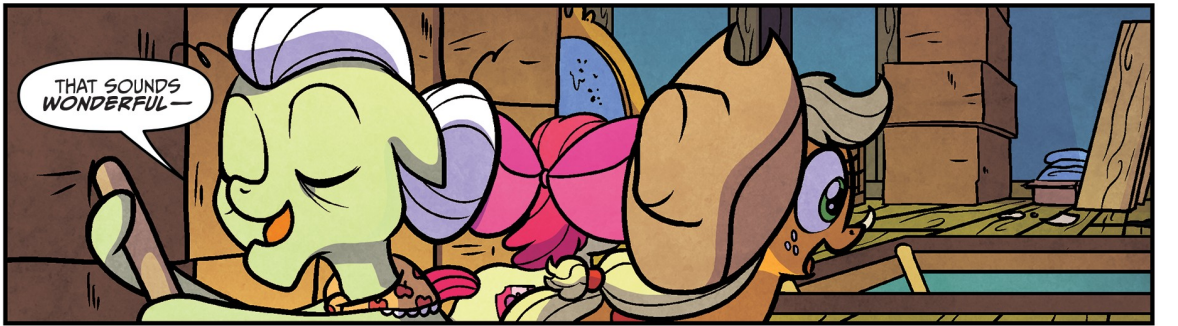
WHAT'S THIS? **BUTTERCUP'S FAMILY APPLE PIE**.

**Buttercup's Family Apple Pie**  
1/2 cup butter  
3 TBS flour  
1/2 cup sugar  
pinch of cinnamon  
12 family apples  
A little bit of love

TARNATION! YOUR MOTHER MADE THE **BEST** APPLE PIE!

I TRIED TO FIGURE OUT HER RECIPE FOR YEARS, AND I **NEVER** COULD. I LIKE TO THINK I MAKE SOME POWERFULLY GOOD APPLE PIES, BUT **HERS** WERE THE **BEST** I EVER HAD.







THE NEXT MORNING...

DID YOU EVER HAVE MOM'S APPLE PIE?

AH'M SURE AH DID, BUT AH CAN'T FOR THE LIFE OF ME REMEMBER IT. MUST'VE BEEN TOO YOUNG.

IT SEEMED REALLY SPECIAL TO GRANNY. I CAN'T WAIT TO LET HER HAVE IT AGAIN!

PINKIE PIE!  
WE—!

OH, MY! YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ON A MISSION! ARE YOU ON A MISSION? ARE WE GOING ON A MISSION?

WHAT'S THE MISSION? IS IT A SECRET MISSION? CAN WE TELL ANYPONY? DOES THE MISSION HAVE A CODE NAME? DO I HAVE TO SIGN AN NDA?

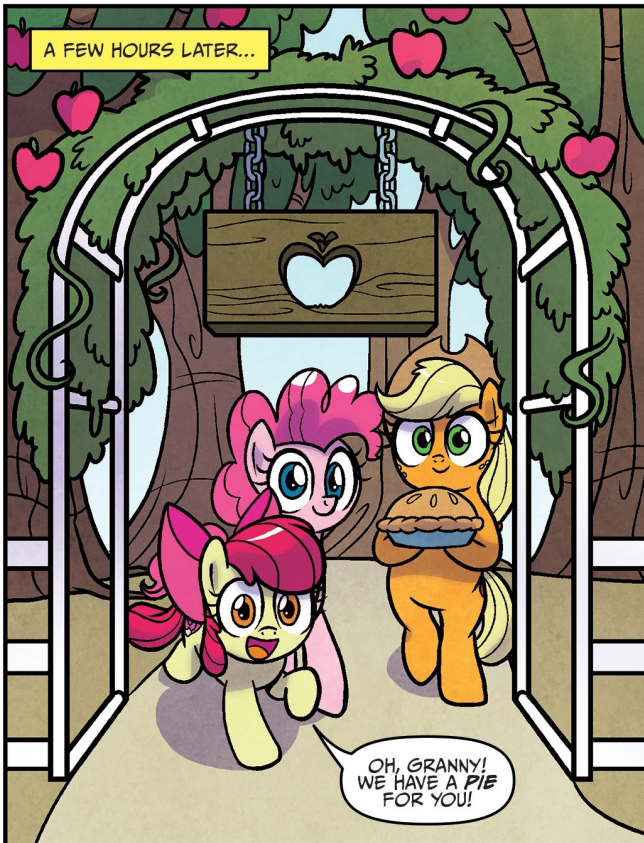
FIRST, WE'VE DISCUSSED THIS BEFORE: A BOWL OF FROSTING IS NOT BREAKFAST.

BUT IT'S SO TASTY!

SECOND, YES, AH NEED YOUR HELP IN MAKING A PIE. A SPECIAL PIE.

SPECIAL PIES ARE MY SPECIALTY! SO THEY'RE DOUBLE SPECIAL, OR MAYBE SPECIAL SQUARED. I'M NOT SURE HOW THAT MATH WORKS.

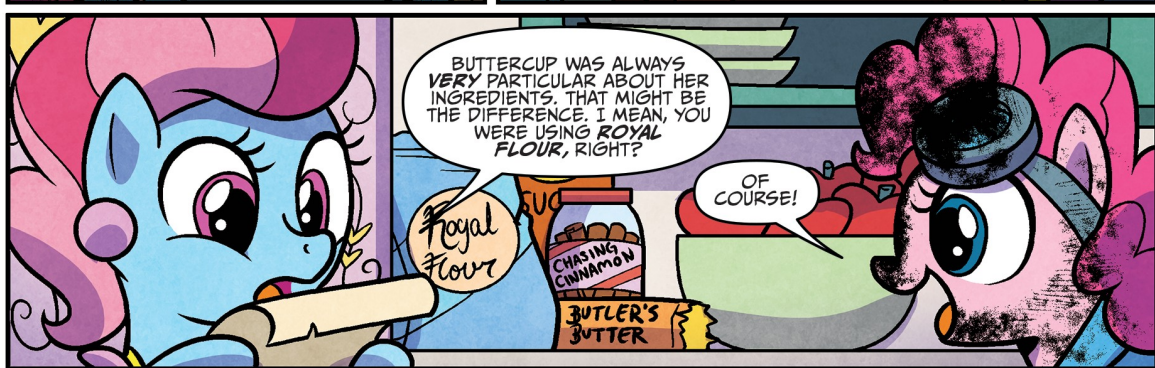
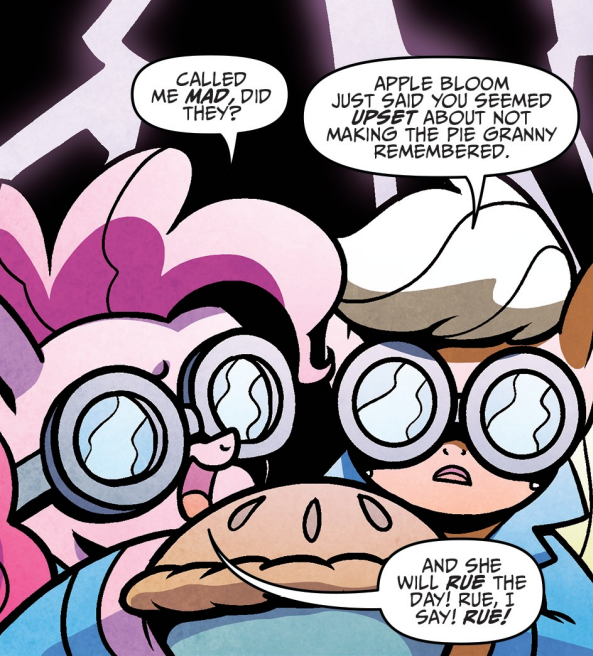




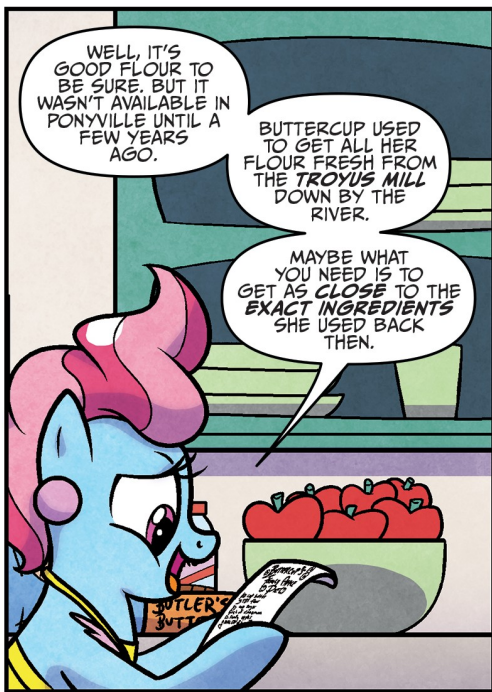








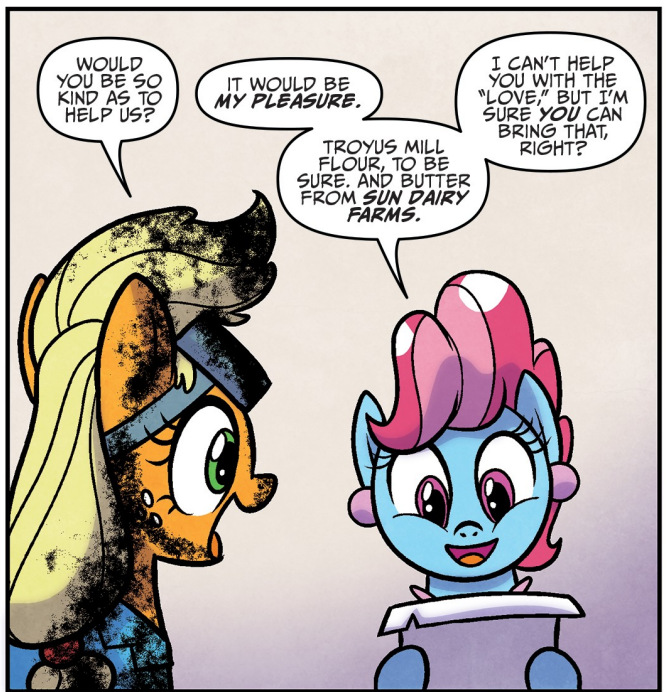




WELL, IT'S GOOD FLOUR TO BE SURE. BUT IT WASN'T AVAILABLE IN PONYVILLE UNTIL A FEW YEARS AGO.

BUTTERCUP USED TO GET ALL HER FLOUR FRESH FROM THE TROYUS MILL DOWN BY THE RIVER.

MAYBE WHAT YOU NEED IS TO GET AS CLOSE TO THE EXACT INGREDIENTS SHE USED BACK THEN.

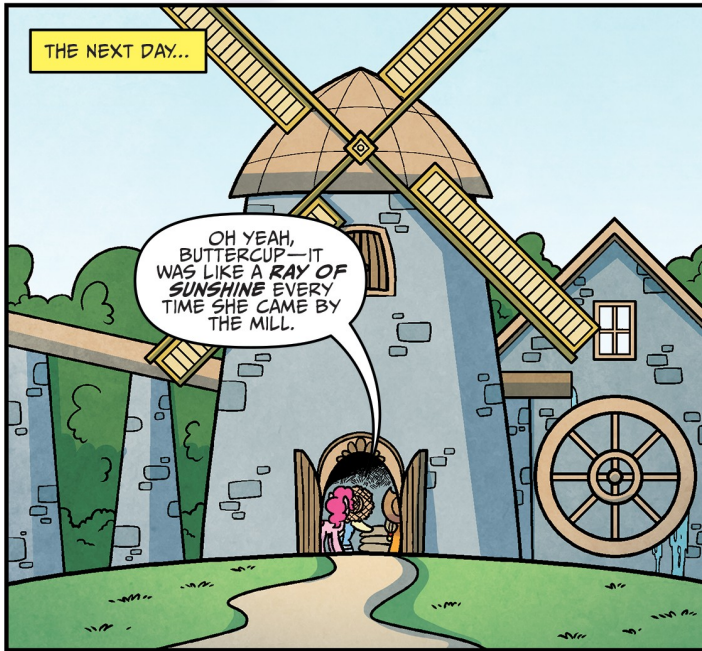


WOULD YOU BE SO KIND AS TO HELP US?

IT WOULD BE MY PLEASURE.

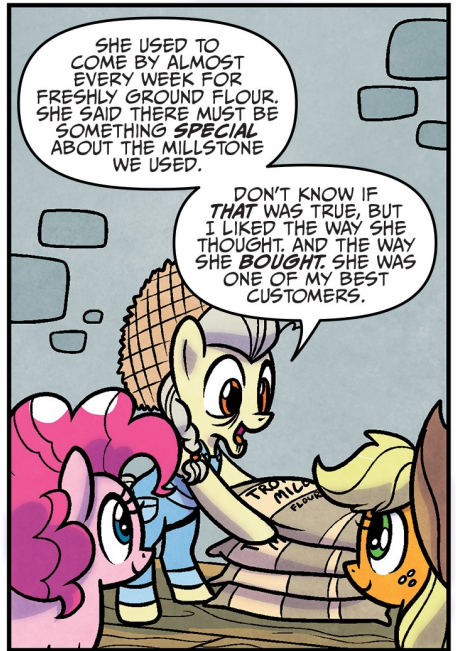
I CAN'T HELP YOU WITH THE "LOVE," BUT I'M SURE YOU CAN BRING THAT, RIGHT?

TROYUS MILL FLOUR, TO BE SURE. AND BUTTER FROM SUN DAIRY FARMS.



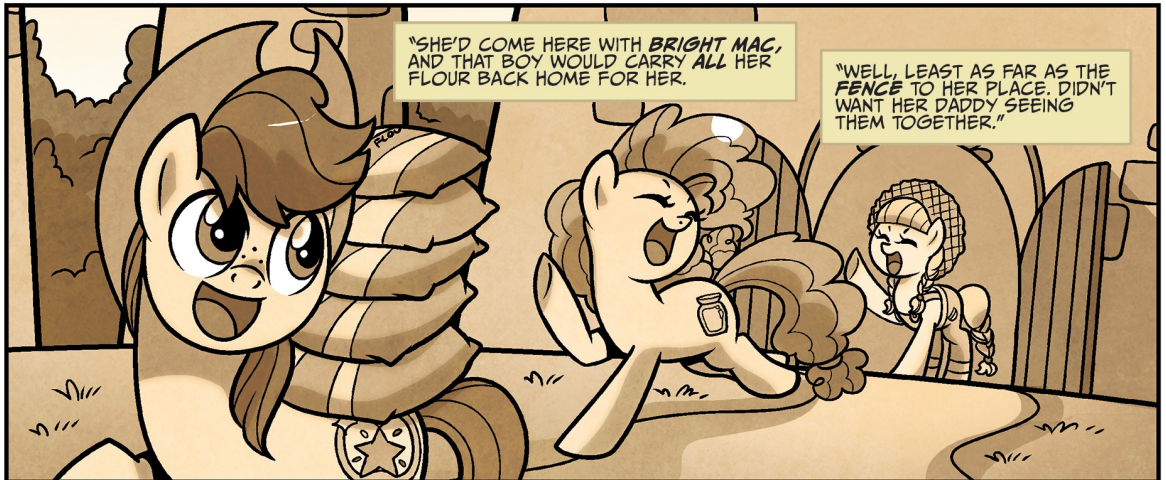
THE NEXT DAY...

OH YEAH, BUTTERCUP—IT WAS LIKE A RAY OF SUNSHINE EVERY TIME SHE CAME BY THE MILL.



SHE USED TO COME BY ALMOST EVERY WEEK FOR FRESHLY GROUND FLOUR. SHE SAID THERE MUST BE SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT THE MILLSTONE WE USED.

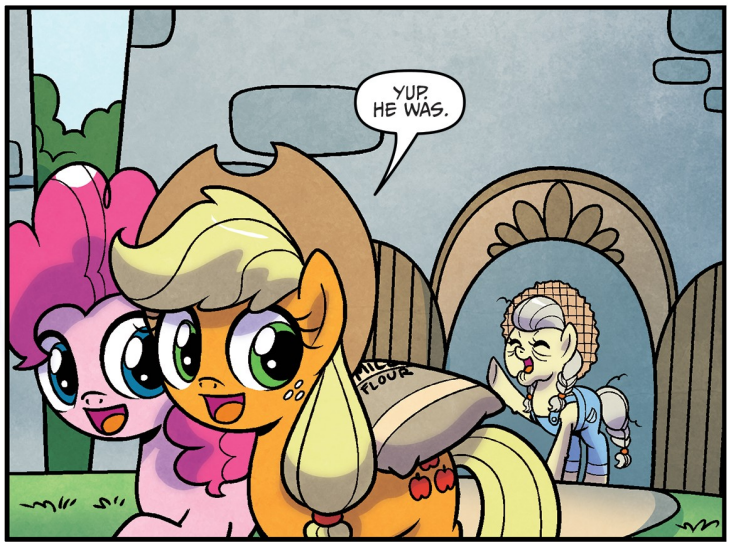
DON'T KNOW IF THAT WAS TRUE, BUT I LIKED THE WAY SHE THOUGHT. AND THE WAY SHE BOUGHT. SHE WAS ONE OF MY BEST CUSTOMERS.



"SHE'D COME HERE WITH BRIGHT MAC, AND THAT BOY WOULD CARRY ALL HER FLOUR BACK HOME FOR HER.

"WELL, LEAST AS FAR AS THE FENCE TO HER PLACE. DIDN'T WANT HER DADDY SEEING THEM TOGETHER."









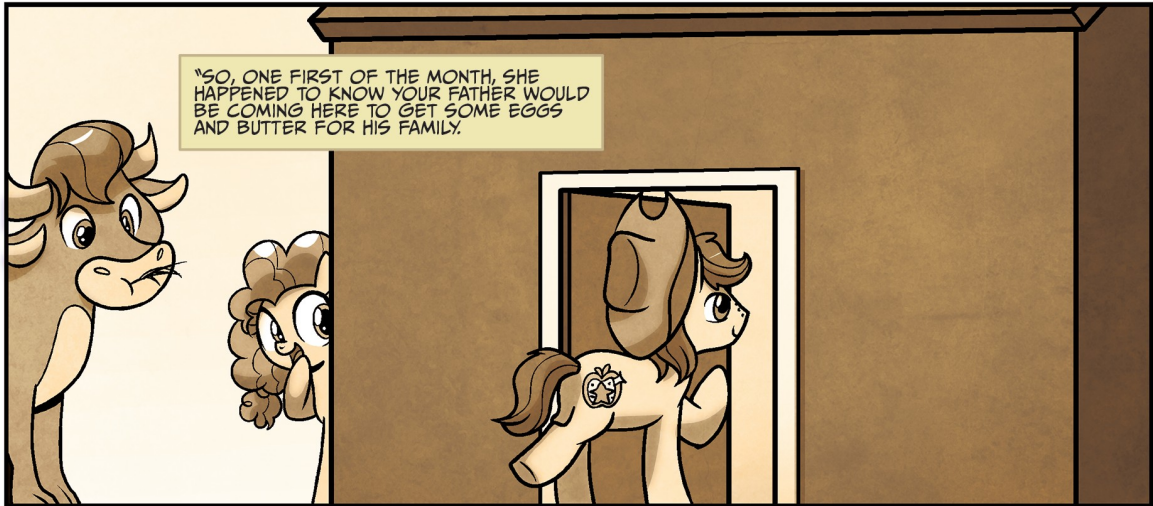
YOU'VE GOT YOUR MOM'S SENSE OF HUMOR, YOU KNOW?

SHE WAS ALWAYS PLAYING JOKES ON YOUR DAD. SHE EVER TELL YOU ABOUT THE **WHITE RABBIT** GAME?

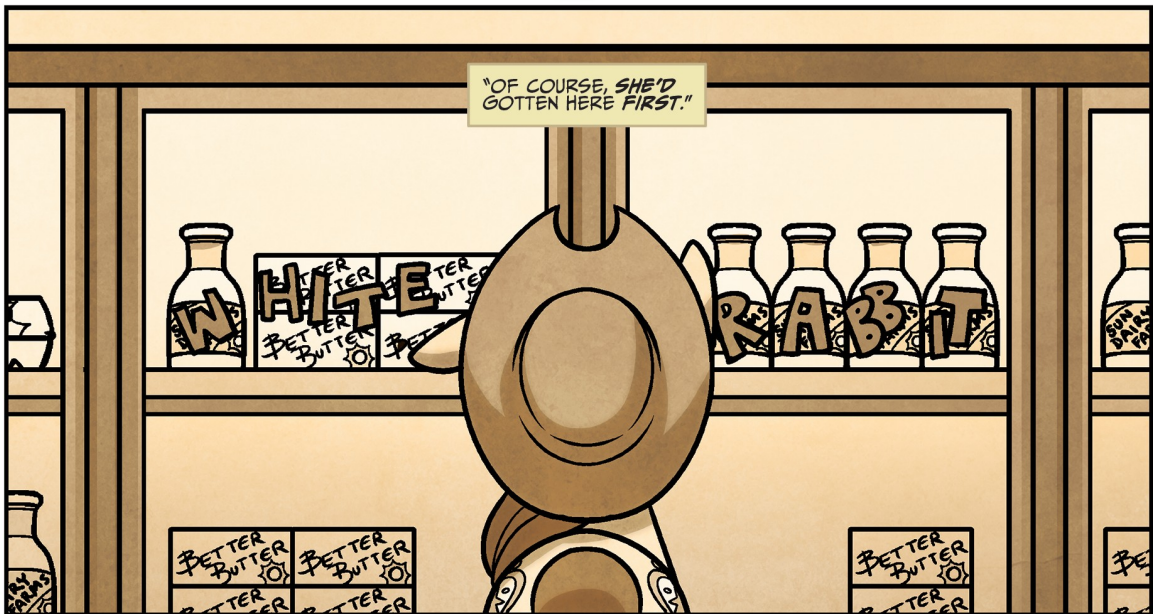
NO, WHAT'S THAT?



ON THE FIRST OF THE MONTH, YOU TRY TO GET YOUR OPPONENT TO SEE, HEAR, OR READ THE WORDS "WHITE RABBIT" **BEFORE** THEY DO THE SAME TO YOU. YOUR MOM AND DAD TRIED **ALL SORTS** OF CLEVER WAYS TO DO THAT WHEN THEY WERE COURTING.



"SO, ONE FIRST OF THE MONTH, SHE HAPPENED TO KNOW YOUR FATHER WOULD BE COMING HERE TO GET SOME EGGS AND BUTTER FOR HIS FAMILY.



"OF COURSE, SHE'D GOTTEN HERE FIRST."

**WHITE**

**RABBIT**

BETTER BUTTER  
BETTER BUTTER

BETTER BUTTER  
BETTER BUTTER









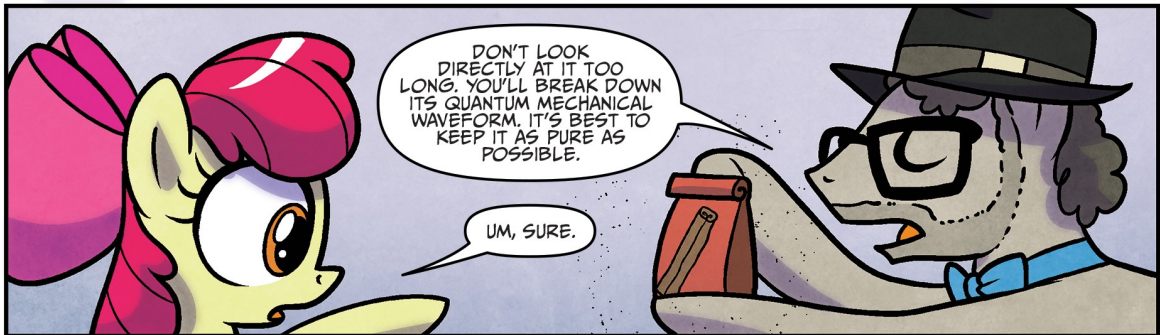
OUR MOM USED TO COME HERE TO GET IT. IT WAS CALLED *SPINNAMON CINNAMON*.

THAT'S ONE OF THE MOST *ARTISANAL* SPICES WE CARRY. VERY LOW YIELD, ONLY ALL-NATURAL, ORGANIC FARMING MATERIALS. *QUITE SPECIAL*.

YEAH, BUT IT'S *STILL* CINNAMON, RIGHT?



OH, IT'S THE MOST CINNAMON-Y CINNAMON THERE IS. IT'S THE *PURE ESSENCE* OF CINNAMON.



DON'T LOOK DIRECTLY AT IT TOO LONG. YOU'LL BREAK DOWN ITS QUANTUM MECHANICAL WAVEFORM. IT'S BEST TO KEEP IT AS PURE AS POSSIBLE.

UM, SURE.



YOU DIDN'T KNOW OUR MOTHER, DIDJA?

CAN'T SAY AS I DID.



THAT'S TOO BAD.

NO BUTTERCUP AND BRIGHT MAC STORIES TODAY.

WE'D GOTTEN USED TO LEARNING ABOUT OUR PARENTS FROM THESE TRIPS.



BUTTERCUP?!





I KNEW BUTTERCUP! AND BRIGHT MACI! THEY WERE TWO OF MY FAVORITE CUSTOMERS.

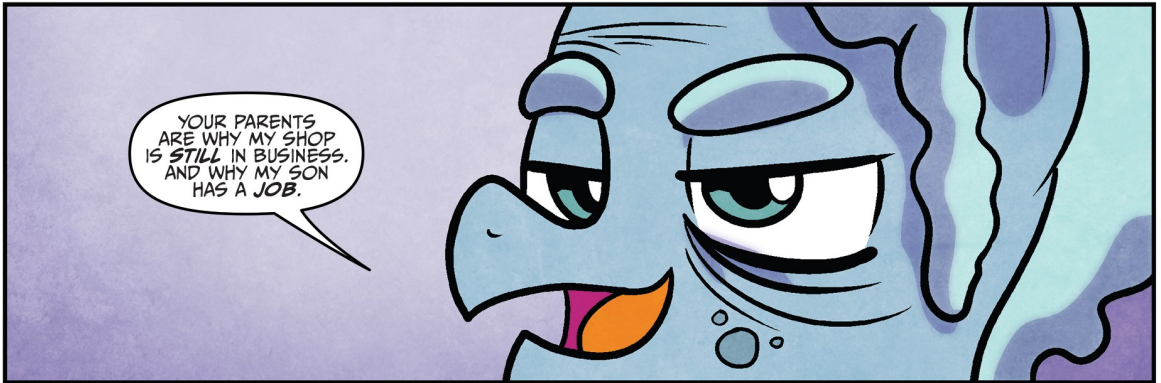
MY NAME'S TRADE CRAFT. THIS IS MY STORE. ARTY HERE'S MY SON.

POP! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?



THIS IS STILL MY SHOP. I WAS SELLING SPICES AND HERBS HERE LONG BEFORE I LET YOU MAKE IT ALL HIP AND TRENDY.

YOU'RE TOTALLY HARSHING OUR RETRO-STYLE BUZZ, POP!



YOUR PARENTS ARE WHY MY SHOP IS *STILL* IN BUSINESS. AND WHY MY SON HAS A JOB.



WHAT AM I DOING WRONG?

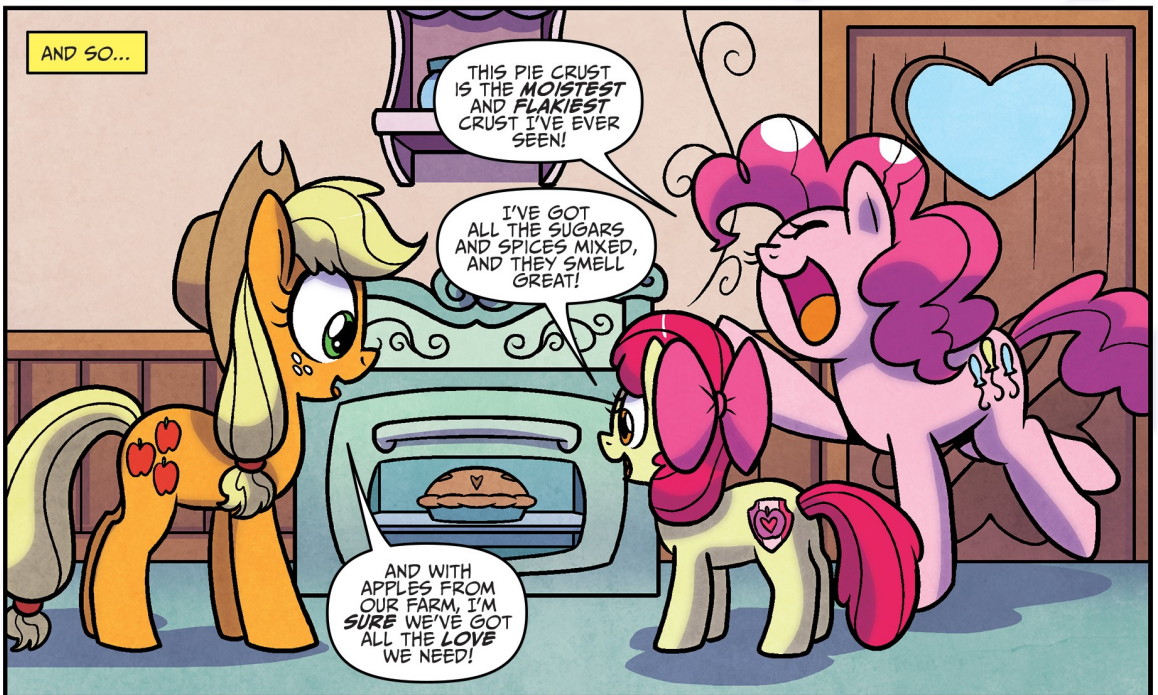
YOU'VE GOT A GREAT PLACE, TRADE CRAFT. YOUR SELECTION CAN'T BE BEAT!



BUT YOUR STORE IS A LITTLE... DRY.

OF COURSE! IT'S A DRY GOODS STORE!









AND THIS IS THE SAME MODEL OF OVEN YOUR MOTHER USED TO USE. I BORROWED IT FROM MRS. CAKE.

THIS IS GOING TO BE THE **GREATEST APPLE PIE** IN THE LONG HISTORY OF APPLE PIES.



SO THEN...



THIS IS WONDERFUL. IT MIGHT BE THE **BEST APPLE PIE** I'VE EVER HAD—



—NEXT TO YOUR MOTHER'S.

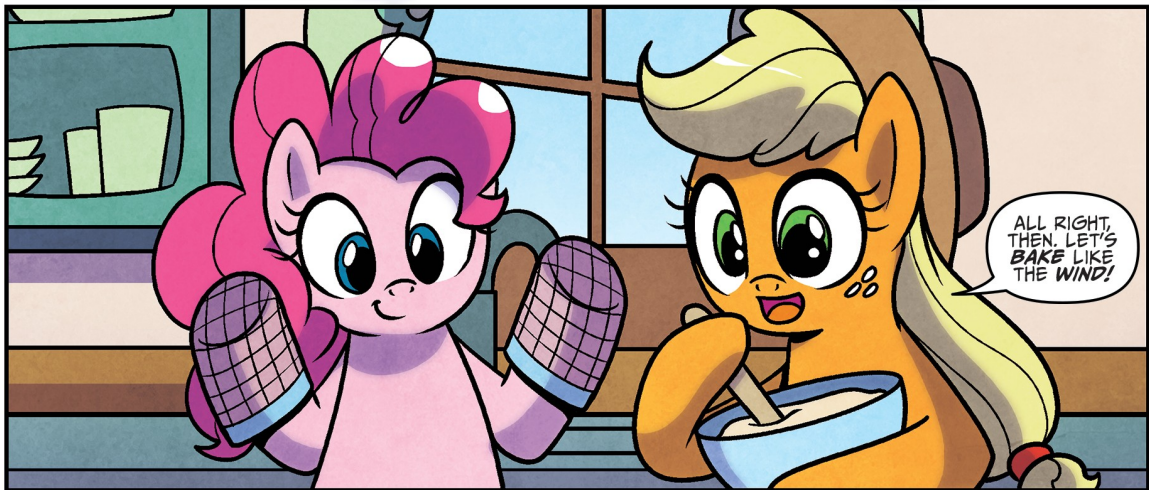
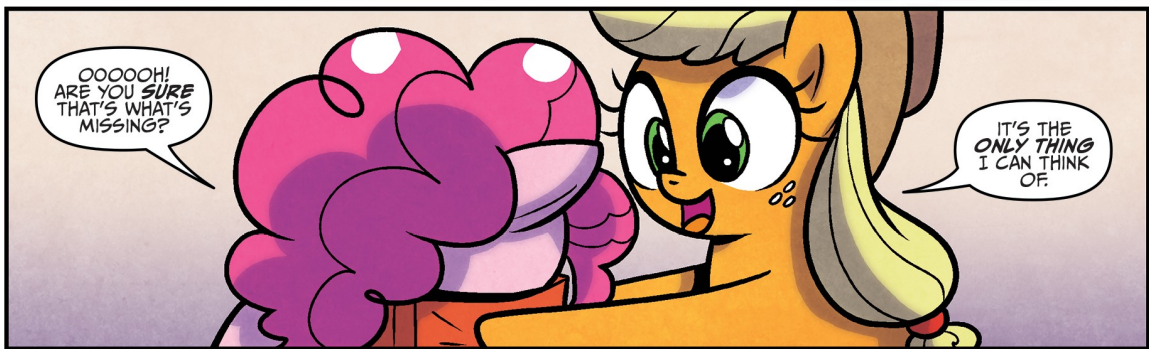
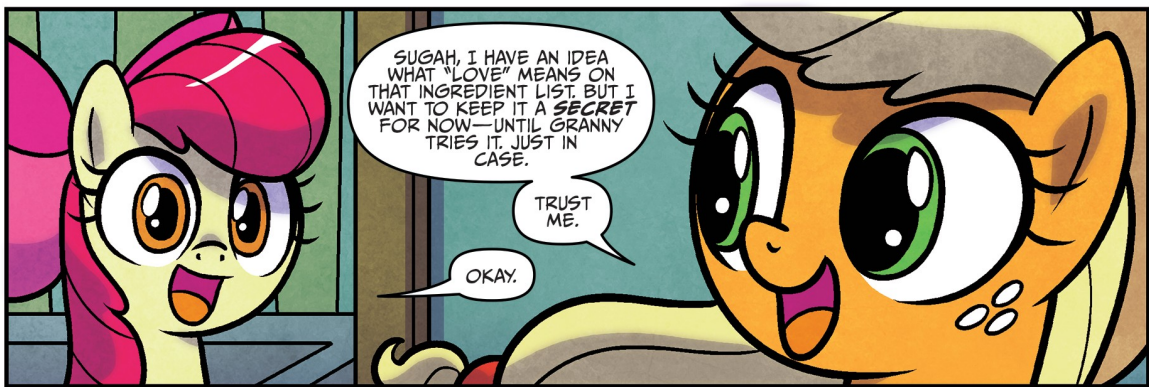


YOU'VE ALL DONE SO WELL. MAYHAPS THERE WAS SOMETHING YOUR MOTHER DIDN'T WRITE DOWN THAT GAVE IT THAT SPECIAL ZING. SOME SECRET INGREDIENT SHE NEVER WROTE DOWN.





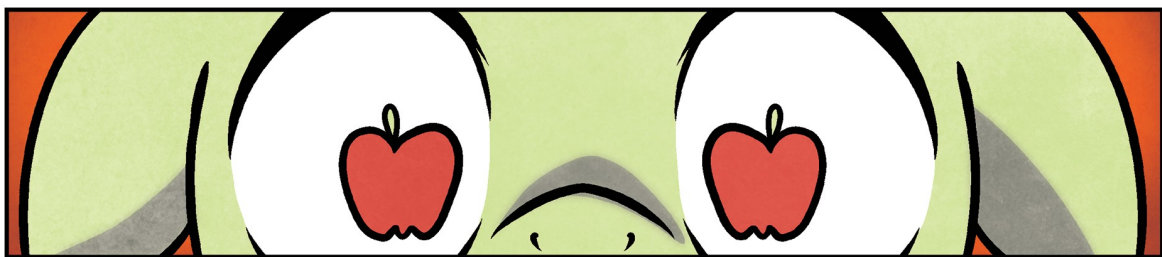




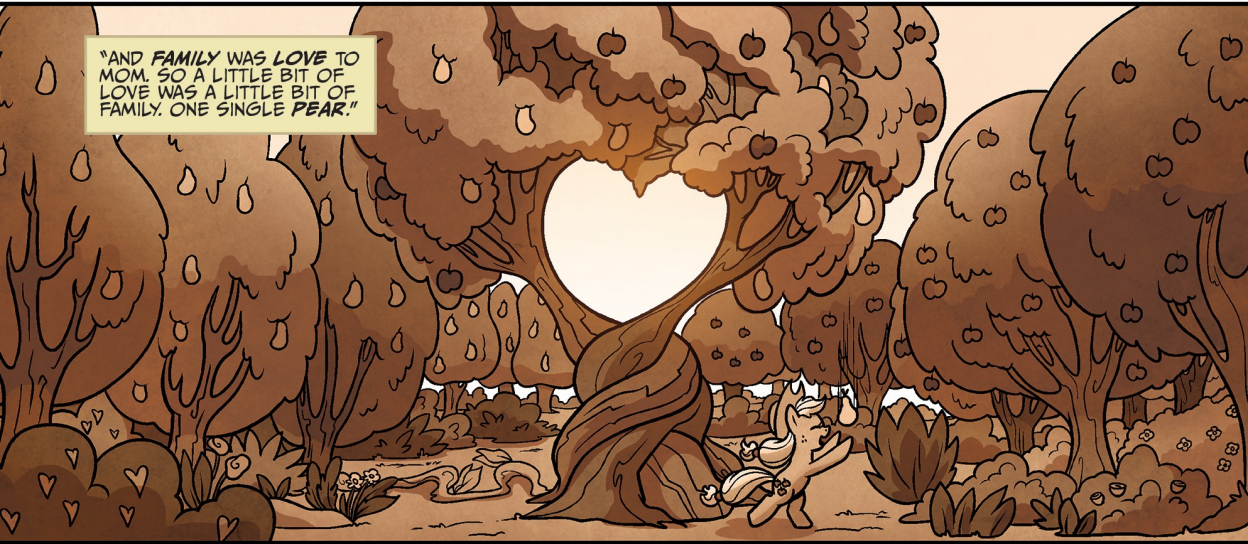
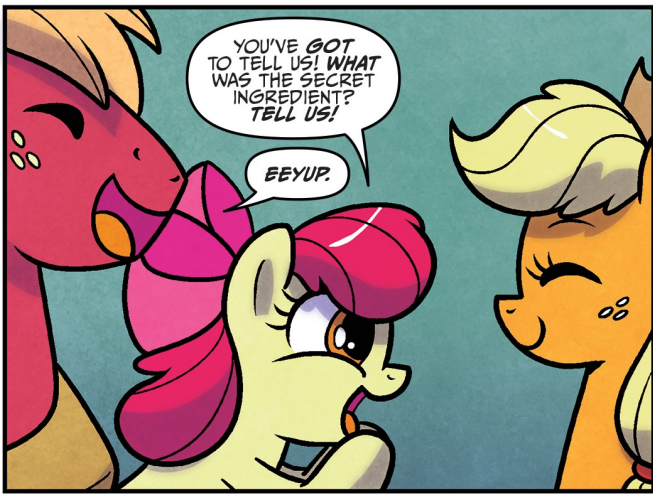














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## Nightmare Knights



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## Nightmare Knights



written by  
**Jeremy Whitley**

art by  
**Tony Fleecs**

colors by  
**Heather Breckel**

letters by  
**Neil Uyetake**

edit assists by  
**Megan Brown**

edits by  
**Bobby Curnow**

publisher  
**Greg Goldstein**

Special thanks to Meghan McCarthy, Eliza Hart, Ed Lane, Beth Artale, and Michael Kelly.

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LET'S SEE, HOW SHOULD WE ORGANIZE THESE?

I KNOW! LET'S DO ALPHABETICAL BY SUBJECT! IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE DID THAT.

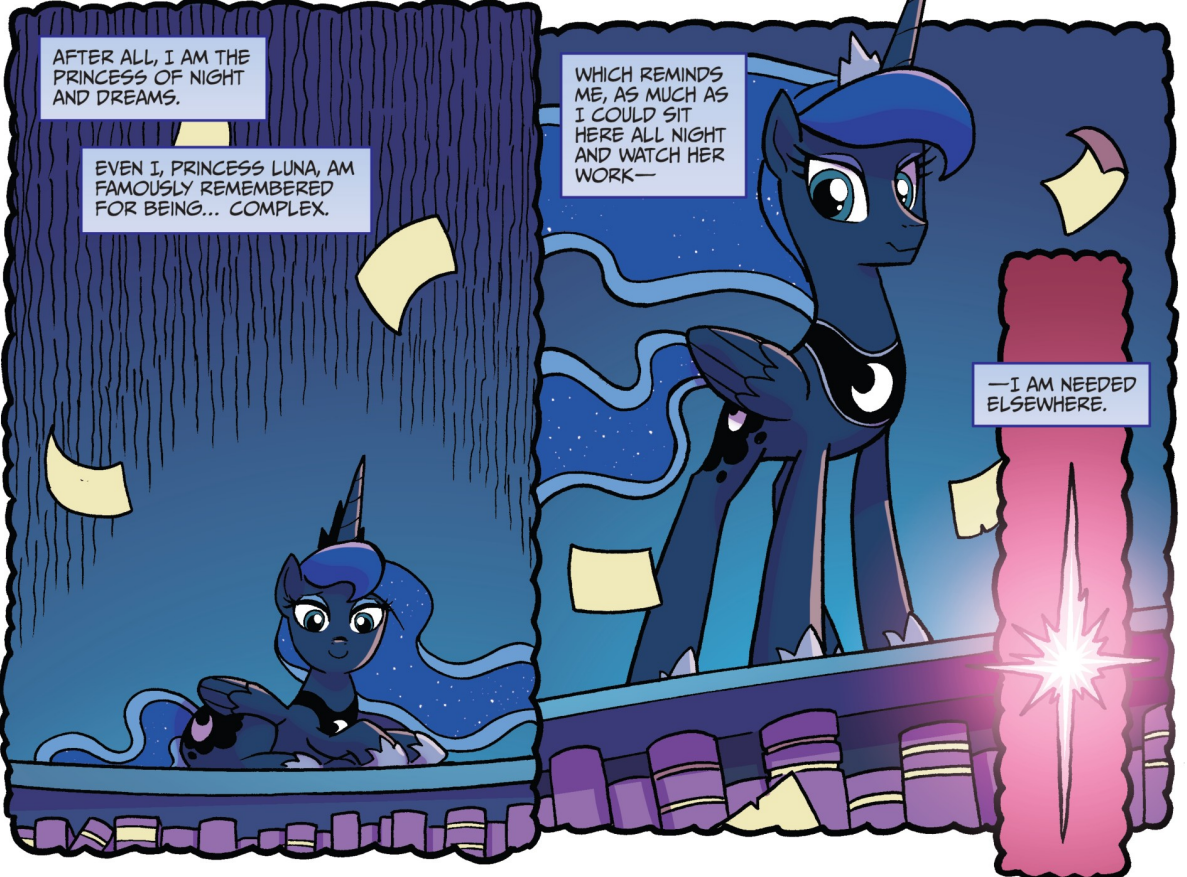
IT MAY SEEM STRANGE TO YOU, LOOKING IN FROM THE OUTSIDE, BUT THIS IS WHERE I COME WHEN I WANT TO RELAX.



THE DUTIES OF A PRINCESS CAN BE TAXING. IMPORTANT THINGS CAN BE INCONSISTENT. BUT HERE, THERE IS CONSISTENCY. HERE, THERE IS ORDER.

LET'S PULL OUT EVERYTHING FROM AARDVARKS TO ALICORNS JUST TO GET STARTED.

SOMETIMES I WONDER IF IT'S TOO CONSISTENT, BUT WHO AM I TO JUDGE?



AFTER ALL, I AM THE PRINCESS OF NIGHT AND DREAMS.

EVEN I, PRINCESS LUNA, AM FAMOUSLY REMEMBERED FOR BEING... COMPLEX.

WHICH REMINDS ME, AS MUCH AS I COULD SIT HERE ALL NIGHT AND WATCH HER WORK—

—I AM NEEDED ELSEWHERE.

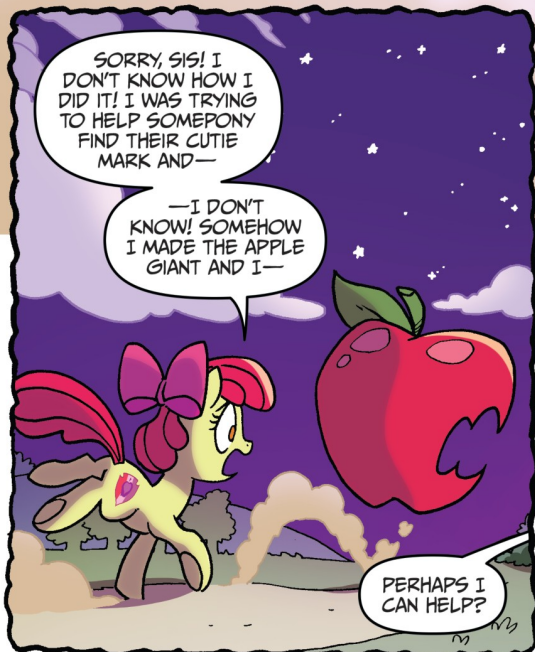


SOME PONY IS HAVING A BAD NIGHT.

APPLES AIN'T SUPPOSED TO HAVE TEETH! IT AIN'T NATURAL!

NOPE!  
NOPE!  
NOPE!

APPLE BLOOM, WHAT DID YOU DO?!





THE PROBLEM WITH MONITORING THE DREAMS OF ALL OF THE PONIES IN EQUESTRIA IS THAT SOMETIMES I FIND MYSELF IN SOME PONY ELSE'S MEMORIES. SOMETIMES THAT MEANS I'M SOMEWHERE UNFAMILIAR.

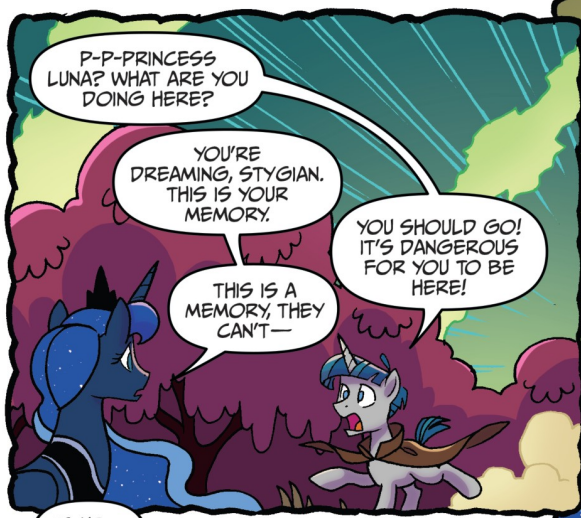
HELLO?  
IS ANY PONY  
HERE?

WHICH MAKES IT EXTRAORDINARILY STRANGE TO SEE YOURSELF INSIDE SOME PONY ELSE'S MEMORY OF AN EVENT YOU DON'T REMEMBER.



I'LL GET  
THEM!





P-P-PRINCESS LUNA? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

YOU'RE DREAMING, STYGIAN. THIS IS YOUR MEMORY.

YOU SHOULD GO! IT'S DANGEROUS FOR YOU TO BE HERE!

THIS IS A MEMORY, THEY CAN'T—

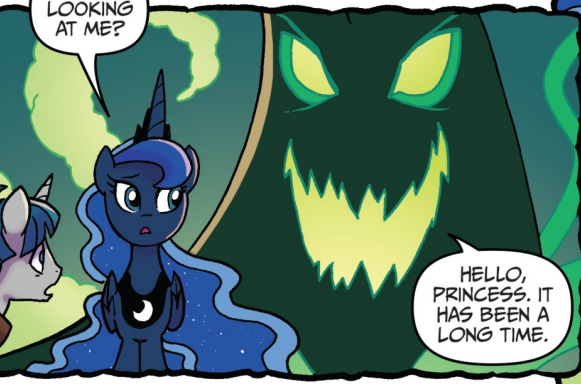
IS HE... LOOKING AT ME?



WHO ARE YOU?

I WAS TO BE YOUR TUTOR. I SOUGHT YOU AND YOUR SISTER OUT ON MANY WORLDS. I SOUGHT TO DRAW OUT THE CAPACITY FOR DESTRUCTION EACH OF YOU HELD.

WHY?



HELLO, PRINCESS. IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME.



I HOPED TO BRING THE SAME SHADOW AND DESTRUCTION TO EVERY WORLD I BROUGHT TO THIS ONE. I WOULDN'T STOP UNTIL I HAD SUCH A WEAPON.

BUT WE RESCUED LUNA AND CELESTIA. WE STOPPED YOU!

DID YOU?



YOU SAVED YOURS, BUT I'M NOT PICKY.

WELL, I AM, THAT'S WHY I ONLY ENDED UP WITH ONE OF THE SISTERS.



THE BLUE ONE WAS TOO WEAK TO SURVIVE.

TO SURVIVE WHAT?



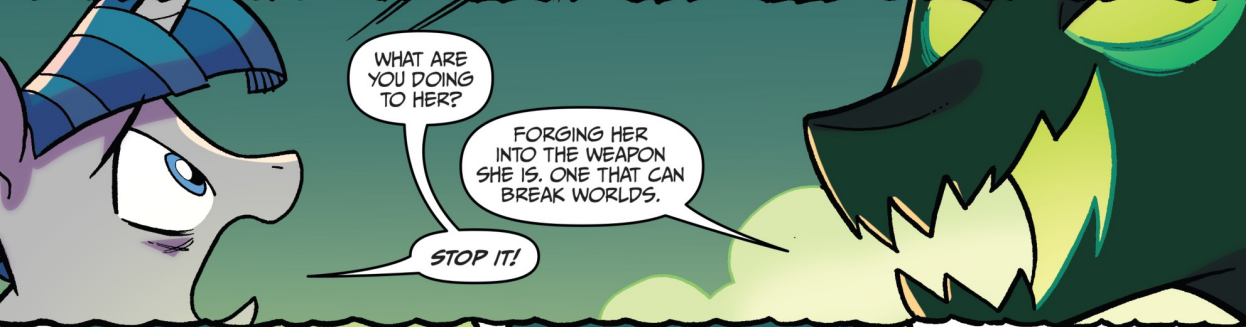


CORRUPTION.

SISTER!  
WHAT IS HE  
DOING?! HELP  
ME, SISTER!

AAAAAHHH!

CELESTIA!



WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING  
TO HER?

FORGING HER  
INTO THE WEAPON  
SHE IS. ONE THAT CAN  
BREAK WORLDS.

STOP IT!



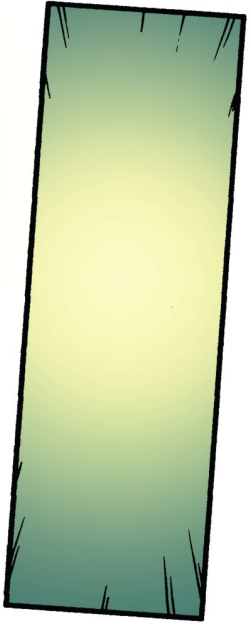
YOU HAVE  
EVERYTHING  
YOU NEED TO  
STOP ME. JUST  
LOOK IN THE  
MIRROR.

AND LUNA, BE  
SURE TO BRING  
YOUR SISTER. WHY  
SETTLE FOR ONE  
WHEN I COULD  
HAVE TWO?

WHERE ARE  
YOU GOING?!  
BRING HER  
BACK!



HA HA HA HA!





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## Nightmare Knights



**TO BE CONTINUED IN...**

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