

IDW
ISSUE
4
COVER A

my LITTLE PONY The MOVIE Prequel



andy price
AFTER
PEAK

The Pony Adventure is Just Beginning...

ANDERSON • PRICE • BRECKEL



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Dear journal:

I have come so far...

...and yet still I have not found what I seek.



I can't remember how many moons it's been...

...since I left Equestria.

My home.



I've seen so much, been to so many places...



...after I lost so much...



...and now I am far from Equestria...

TEMPEST

of EQUESTRIA

... but never have I seen something like this.

BY THE STARS...

Something terrible happened here.

I do not need magic to tell me that.

In a way, it's almost comforting...

... knowing that I am not the only one who has suffered loss.

Still, perhaps something useful remains...

... perhaps even something that might heal me.

WHAT IS THIS...?

HEY! YOU!

WHAT?





GET YOUR HANDS OFFA THAT GEM!

THAT'S THE PROPERTY OF TH' STORM KING!



HALT!

≡HUFF PUFF≡

YER UNDER ARREST!

THAT GEM BELONGS TO THE STORM KING!



DOES IT?

HE SHOULD'VE TAKEN BETTER CARE OF IT, THEN.

GRRR...

HAND IT OVER, LADY! OR FACE THE STORM KING'S WRATH!

THAT GEM'S GOT A LOTTA MAGIC, AND HE NEEDS IT!



MAGIC...?

THEN... IF HE WANTS IT SO BADLY...



...HE CAN COME AND TAKE IT!

ACGK!

FWOOSH!



Apparently I have incurred the wrath of this "Storm King," whoever he might be.

But, more importantly...

DOCK OFFICE

I have learned that this gem contains powerful magic.

How powerful, I do not know...

...but perhaps it will be enough.

For now, I need information and quiet...

NOW ENTERING
THE FREE CITY OF
KLUGETOWN
NO WEAPONS
NO SQUARE DANCE
CALLING
NO CHANGELINGS
NO UMBRUM

Hopefully this "Klugetown" has at least one of those.

WEIRD TRINKETS!

PLOT DEVICES!

THINGS!

'SCUSE ME, MISS—

YOU GOT ANY STRANGE MAGICAL ARTIFACTS YOU WANNA SELL?

NO.

ESPECIALLY NOT TO YOU.



This place is so strange...

... so unlike Equestria.

There's an air of fear and desperation here...

... as if they know something is approaching.



Y'ALL HEARD THE NEWS ABOUT THE STORM KING?

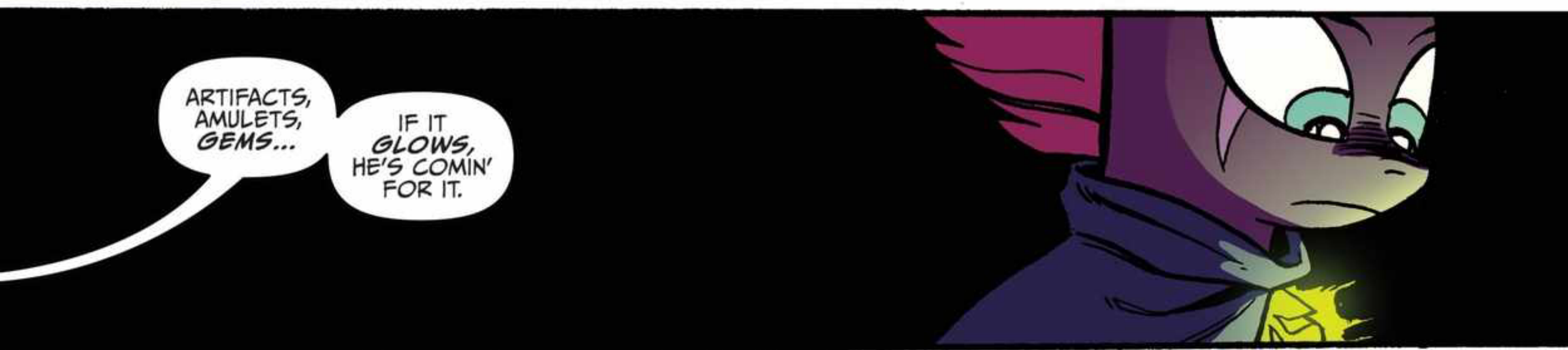
WHAT'S HE DOING NOW?

HE'S ALREADY GOT HALF THE WORLD UNDER HIS THUMB.



WELL, APPARENTLY, THAT AIN'T ENOUGH.

HE'S GOT ALL HIS GOONS OUT, LOOKING FOR MAGIC.



ARTIFACTS, AMULETS, GEMS...

IF IT GLOWS, HE'S COMIN' FOR IT.



That explains the Storm King's interest in this gem.

Perhaps I should investigate it further...



Even with my damaged horn, I can tell...

...there is deep magic in this gem.



I hesitate to use my own magic —
—unpredictable as it has been since I lost my horn—
—but I must risk it.



There are strange energies within it...

I can only hope my magic works as it should —



BEWARE.

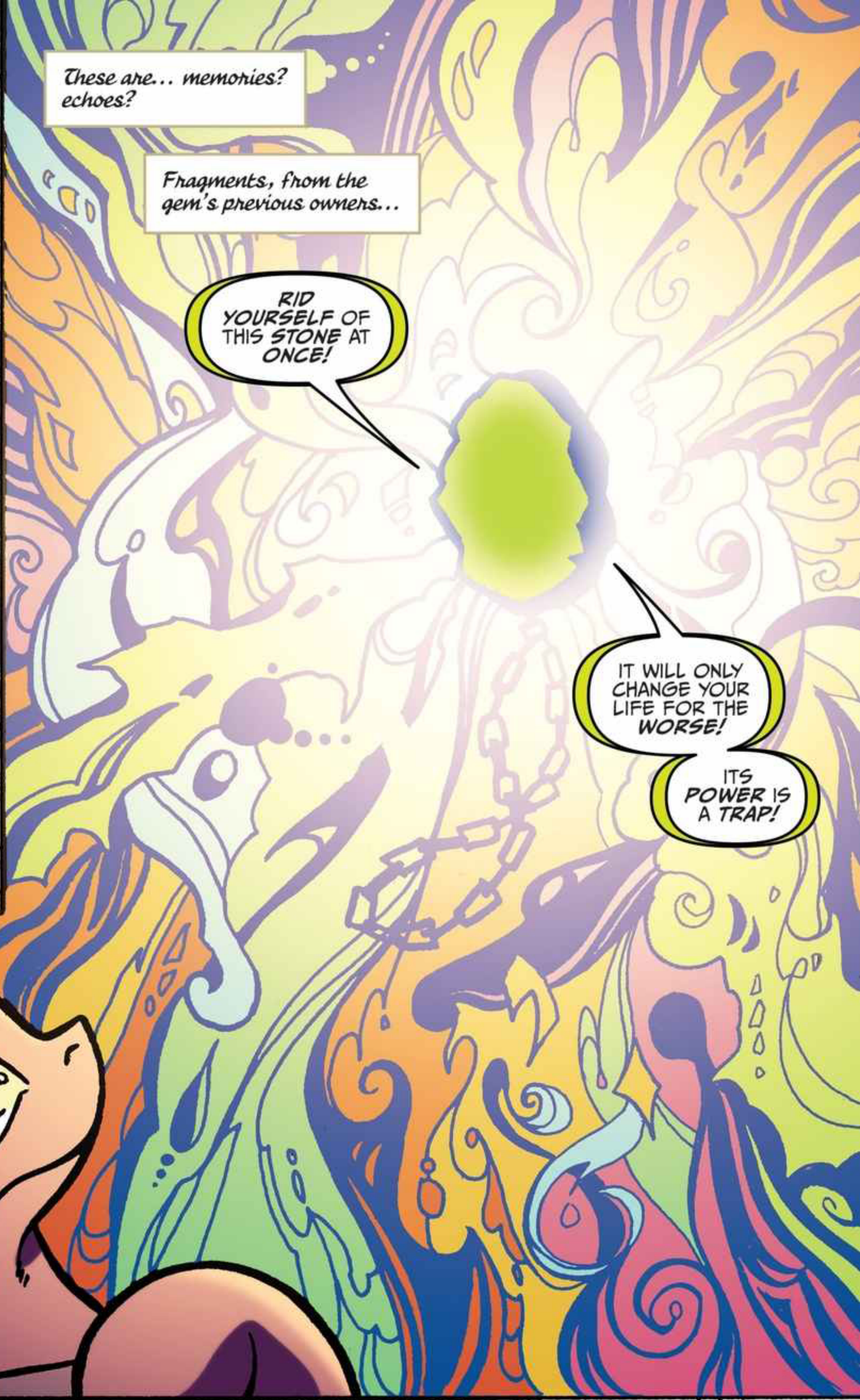
BEWARE THE MISFORTUNE MALACHITE.



I THOUGHT TO USE THE GEM'S POWER FOR MY OWN GAIN...

... BUT I FOUND ONLY RUIN.

THE MALACHITE'S MAGIC BECAME MY UNDOING.



These are... memories? echoes?

Fragments, from the gem's previous owners...

RID YOURSELF OF THIS STONE AT ONCE!

IT WILL ONLY CHANGE YOUR LIFE FOR THE WORSE!

ITS POWER IS A TRAP!



ALL POWER IS...

...A TRAP...



So this is the Misfortune Malachite.

I thought the gem was a legend...

But apparently it is all too real.

The malachite is cursed, they say.

It brings bad luck to any who carry it.

I don't believe in bad luck...

...but I do believe that the Storm King will be coming for me.

I'll need to outrun or hide from him somehow.

HEY! YOU THERE!



EH?

YOU'RE A PONY, AREN'T YOU?

I THOUGHT SO! I HAVEN'T SEEN ANOTHER PONY IN YEARS!

TH' NAME'S RAMBLER!



WHAT A COINCIDENCE! MY CARAVAN WAS JUST ABOUT TO LEAVE FOR BLEAK VALLEY, AND—

DID YOU SAY CARAVAN?

COULD I JOIN YOU?

WHY, SURE! TH' MORE THE MERRIER!

AND US PONIES GOTTA STICK TOGETHER, AM I RIGHT?





YOU LOST SOMETHIN' BACK IN EQUESTRIA?

YES... SOMETHING PRECIOUS.

AND WITH IT, I LOST EVERYTHING ELSE.

I LOST WHAT I DEFINED MYSELF BY...

THEN I LOST THOSE WHO STOOD BY ME...

AND NOW, I'M SIMPLY...

...LOST.



I FEEL AS THOUGH THERE IS ALMOST NOTHING LEFT OF ME.

OUT HERE, I'LL EITHER LOSE MYSELF COMPLETELY...

...OR FIND SOMETHING NEW TO BE.



I...
...I'M SORRY—I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

THAT'S ALL RIGHT.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WANT TO HEAR.



WELL... KEEP YOURSELF BUNDLED UP, MISS.

IT'S LOOKIN' LIKE A REAL STORM OUT THERE.

THANK YOU, RAMBLER. I WILL.





SURRENDER TO THE STORM KING!

WAUGH!

IT'S AN AMBUSH!



OH, NO—

THEY FOUND ME.

GIVE US THE GEM!

WHAT GEM?!



MISS!



WHAT IS GOING ON?

I... I DON'T KNOW!

IT SOUNDS LIKE THEY'RE SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING!



I HAVE AN IDEA.

I THINK WE CAN ESCAPE!





OH.

YOU KNOW, YOU'VE BEEN LEADING ME ON QUITE A CHASE!

SERIOUSLY, I'VE HAD TO PUT MY BEST CREATURES ON YOU!



OF COURSE, EVEN MY BEST CREATURES AREN'T THAT GREAT.

GOOD HELP AND ALL THAT.

BUT SERIOUSLY, YOU'VE PUT SOME OF MY MOST IMPORTANT PROJECTS ON HOLD!



ALL FOR YOU.

SO WHAT ARE YOU, LITTLE PONY?

ARE YOU WORTH MY TIME?



I... I AM A UNICORN.

I'VE COME A VERY LONG WAY, IN SEARCH OF POWERFUL MAGIC.

I'VE FACED MANY DANGERS TO FIND IT.



DANGERS!
I'LL SAY!

YOU WENT
UP AGAINST
ME AND MY
ARMY!

AND YOU'VE
DONE A PRETTY
GOOD JOB,
TOO!



THAT TRICK WITH
YOUR CLOAK AND
THAT OTHER PONY,
JUST NOW?

THAT WAS
DARN CLEVER.
BUT WHY DIDN'T
YOU JUST ASK
HIM TO HELP
YOU?

BECAUSE...



...BECAUSE
I LEARNED A
LONG TIME
AGO...

...YOU
CAN'T RELY
ON ANYPONY
ELSE.



"ANYPONY."
THAT'S CUTE.

I'LL BE
HONEST WITH
YOU, UH—

—WHAT'S
YOUR NAME? I
DON'T THINK I
EVER CAUGHT
IT.

MY
NAME...



...TEMPEST.

CALL ME
TEMPEST.



"TEMPEST"! OH,
THAT'S GREAT! THAT'S
WONDERFUL!

HOW
PERFECTLY
ON BRAND!



I'LL BE
HONEST WITH
YOU, TEMPEST:

I COULD USE
SOMEONE LIKE
YOU.

SMART,
TALENTED,
DRIVEN.





...WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

WELL, I'VE HAD SOME PERSONNEL SHAKEUPS LATELY.

A HIGH-LEVEL EXECUTIVE JUST DROPPED OUT, AND I NEED HIS POSITION FILLED ASAP.



TINK

HOWEVER, IF YOU ARE GOING TO JOIN, I HAVE A CONDITION.

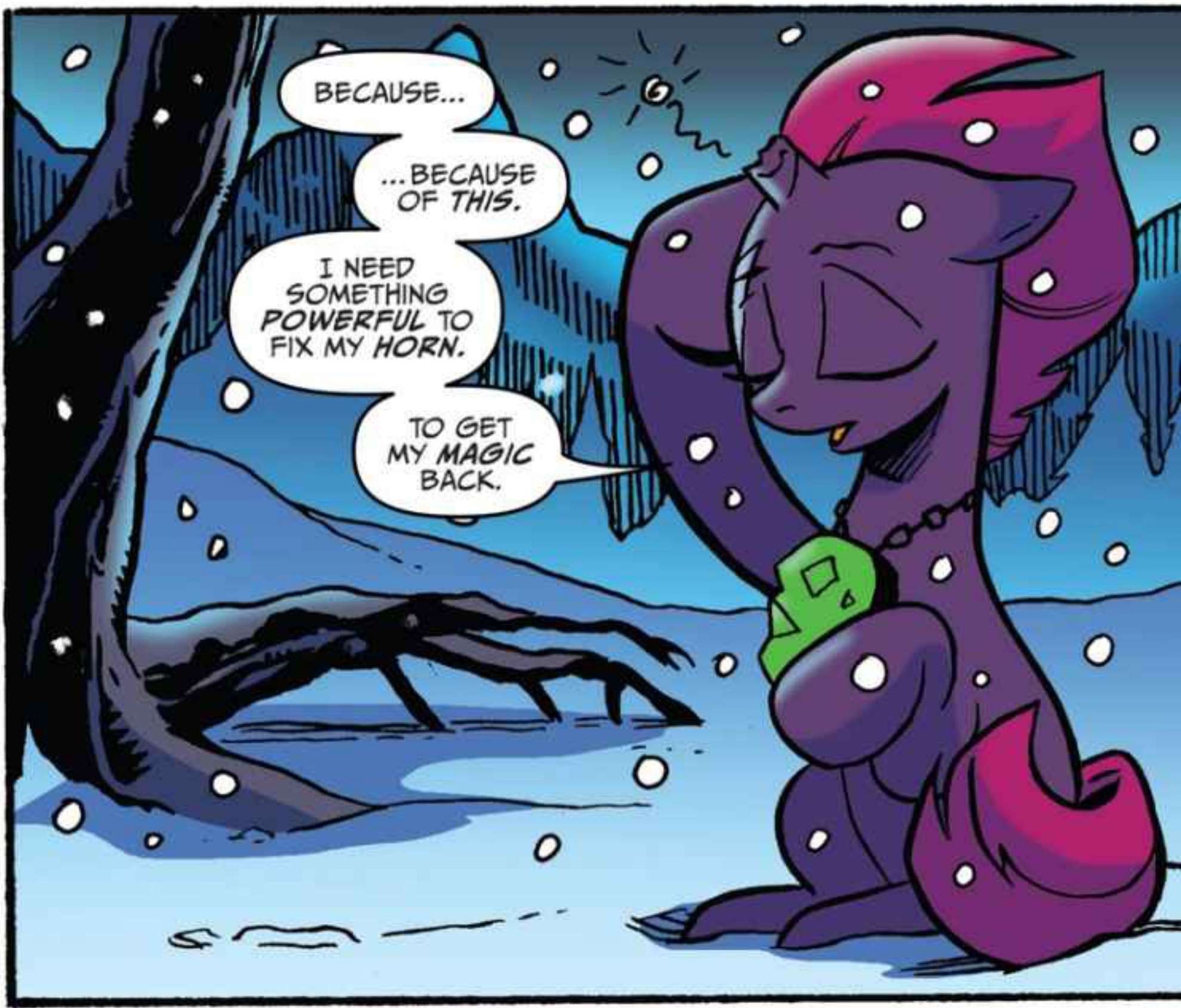
I'LL NEED YOU TO GIVE UP THE MALACHITE.



THE GEM? NO!

I NEED ITS MAGIC!

BECAUSE—



BECAUSE...

...BECAUSE OF THIS.

I NEED SOMETHING POWERFUL TO FIX MY HORN.

TO GET MY MAGIC BACK.



IS THAT ALL?

WELL, I CAN DO THAT FOR YOU.



YOU CAN?!

OF COURSE!

ONCE I'VE FINISHED CONQUERING, I'LL HAVE MORE POWER THAN ANY OTHER CREATURE IN THE WORLD!



IS THAT WHY YOU'RE SEARCHING FOR MAGIC?

JUST FOR... POWER?

WHAT OTHER GOAL IS THERE?



POWER. CONTROL.

THESE ARE THE ONLY THINGS WORTH SEEKING IN THIS WORLD.

I'LL FIX YOUR HORN AND RESTORE YOUR MAGIC...



...IF YOU PAY MY PRICE.



... YOU KNOW, IT'S RUMORED TO BE CURSED.

THEY SAY IT CAUSES BAD LUCK.

DO THEY?



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

I THINK "BAD LUCK" IS SUPERSTITION.

I DON'T BLAME CURSES.

EVERYTHING BAD THAT'S HAPPENED TO ME...

... HAS BEEN SOMEONE'S FAULT.

SOMETIMES MINE.

SO YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN BAD LUCK.



I DO.

KRAK



AND IF I'M GOING TO BE CONQUERING, THE LAST THING I NEED IS BAD LUCK.

BESIDES, IT WAS REALLY MORE OF A CONVERSATION PIECE, YOU KNOW?

SO.

YOU WANT MAGIC.

THAT I DO.

I CAN HELP.



I KNOW A PLACE FILLED WITH MAGIC.

PRINCESSES. CRYSTALS. THE CLOUDS THEMSELVES.

TEMPTING.

IF IT'S SO FILLED WITH MAGIC, WHY HAVEN'T YOU ALREADY GONE THERE?

BECAUSE IT'S THE PLACE I CAME FROM.

EQUESTRIA.



CONQUER EQUESTRIA, AND YOU'LL HAVE ENOUGH MAGIC TO DO WHATEVER YOU WANT...

...AND FIX MY HORN.

PROMISE ME.



I PROMISE—

—COMMANDER TEMPEST.

THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES IN MY LITTLE PONY: THE MOVIE...