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MY LITTLE PONY 6

"The Crystalling, Part One"

Episode 601

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**TEASER**

**SC. 1 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - MORNING**

STARLIGHT wanders through one of the Castle's long halls, more than a little unsure of where she's going.

1                   STARLIGHT  
Okay. Library... library... Where  
did they put the library?

She reaches the end of the hall and makes a turn to reveal-- another hallway.

2                   STARLIGHT (CONT'D)  
<SIGH> This Castle looked a lot  
smaller from the outside.

Starlight comes to a door and yanks it open to reveal--

SPIKE - standing on a step stool with towel around his waist, brushing his teeth.

3                   SPIKE  
                  (mouth full of toothpaste)  
Morning, Starlight.

4                   STARLIGHT  
Whoops!

Starlight quickly shuts the door, then talks through it.

5                   STARLIGHT (CONT'D)  
Sorry, Spike. I guess I'm still  
trying to find my way around. You  
don't happen to know where the  
library is, do you?

Spike sticks his head out and points with his toothbrush.

6                   SPIKE  
Next door on the left.

Starlight follows Spike's gaze to an open doorway through which SHELVES OF BOOKS are clearly visible.

7                   STARLIGHT  
                  (embarrassed)  
Oh. Thanks.

**SC. 2 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS**

Starlight peeks inside to find TWILIGHT SPARKLE at a table going over a list.

8 TWILIGHT  
(to herself)  
...Acceptance, mm-hmm, Altruism,  
definitely...  
(noticing Starlight)  
Starlight! Good morning! Come in!

Twilight puts the list down and comes to greet Starlight.

9 STARLIGHT  
Morning, Twilight. Sorry I'm late.  
I got a little turned around.  
I still can't believe you're  
letting me stay here. As your  
pupil. After everything I did.

10 TWILIGHT  
Well, I'm not one to dwell on the  
past and neither should you. The  
castle is your home now and as far  
as being my pupil goes...

Twilight rushes back to the table and levitates up the list.

11 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)  
I was just trying to figure out  
what your first friendship lesson  
should be!

Starlight joins Twilight at the table and realizes that the piece of parchment is just one of several from a small STACK.

12 STARLIGHT  
(hopeful)  
Oh. Well, it looks like you're  
really narrowing it down.

13 TWILIGHT  
Oh, these are just the As. After  
this, I move on to the Bs!

Twilight points to another table behind them with TWENTY-FIVE OTHER STACKS of parchment.

Off Starlight's shock and Twilight's blush...

**END TEASER**

**MAIN TITLES**

**ACT 1**

**SC. 3 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - LIBRARY - RESUME**

Starlight stares at the stacks and stacks of parchment as Twilight looks on.

14 STARLIGHT  
I know I'm just learning about friendship, but I didn't think there were this many lessons for anything. How do we chose?

Starlight shuffles through the parchment, not really paying attention to their neatly organized piles. Twilight starts to get anxious and steps forward to reorganize them.

15 TWILIGHT  
Actually, maybe I should pair things down a bit before we go through them.

Starlight sees Twilight straightening the piles and sets down the scroll she's looking at then takes a step back, not really sure what to do with herself. Twilight notices her unease.

16 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)  
Why don't you join the others in the throne room? They're planing our trip to the Crystal Empire when Shining Armor and Princess Cadance have their baby.

17 STARLIGHT  
Throne room. Got it.

Starlight walks through the doorway and turns left. After a beat she reappears from the right.

18 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)  
Um... Which way is the throne room?

**SC. 4 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - THRONE ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Starlight walks in and finds the others gathered around the map. RAINBOW DASH points to the Crystal Empire.

19 DASH  
Well, I think we should leave ASAP!  
I don't want to miss the Crystalling!

20 FLUTTERSHY  
But shouldn't we wait for the  
invitation?

21 RARITY  
Yes. It is my understanding that  
receiving the invitation is an  
integral part of the ceremony.

22 APPLEJACK  
Frankly, I'm not exactly clear on  
all the customs and traditions of  
the Crystal Empire. Especially when  
it comes to a Crystalling.

Starlight looks down at the map.

23 STARLIGHT  
Um... What's a Crystalling?

24 RARITY  
That's just it, Darling. Princess  
Cadance and Shining Armor's baby is  
due any day and we're still not  
sure. The Crystal Empire was gone  
for a thousand years. A lot of  
their customs are a bit... murky.

25 APPLEJACK  
We know it's got something to do  
with the new baby.

26 PINKIE PIE  
And a party!

27 FLUTTERSHY  
And the Crystal Heart.

28 PINKIE PIE  
And a party!

29 DASH  
And some kind of cool, energy.

30 PINKIE PIE  
And...

They all look are her.

31 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)  
A PARTY!!!

32 SPIKE (O.S.)  
It's not hard to understand.

They all turn to see Spike enter.

33 SPIKE (CONT'D)  
Most things in the Crystal Empire  
aren't. Like how I'm a big hero  
there, for example.  
(off the others looks)  
Plus, I've had to help Twilight do  
a lot of research on Crystallings.

As Spike talks we PAN UP and...

DISSOLVE TO:

**SC. 5 - A STYLIZED SCENE**

In a stylized series of shots we see a 2D rendering of what Spike describes (think: paper puppets with hinged joints).

34 SPIKE (V.O.)  
Whenever a baby is born in the  
Crystal Empire, the parents bring  
it before the Crystal Heart.

2D versions of Cadance and Shining Armor stand in front of the CRYSTAL HEART holding their foal.

35 SPIKE  
They get the purest shard of  
crystal they can find, then pick a  
Crystaller to present the baby to  
everypony who comes.

A 2D version of Twilight takes the baby and holds it up (a la Lion King) before a collection of other ponies (2D versions of the Mane Six, probably).

36 SPIKE (CONT'D)  
Then they all share the light and  
joy they feel, feeding it into the  
crystal that joins with the Heart  
and increases it's power.

The 2D depictions of Cadance and Shining Armor touch horns. Magic flows from them and from the other ponies into a small floating crystal. The small crystal joins the Crystal Heart and the magic glows brighter, filling the screen as we...

DISSOLVE BACK:

**SC. 6 - TO THE THRONE ROOM**

37 SPIKE (CONT'D)  
And this is going to be a Royal Crystalling, so pretty much the whole Empire will show up. That hasn't happened in a millennia.

38 APPLEJACK  
Because there hasn't been a Royal Family in the Crystal Empire for a millennia.

39 RARITY  
The entire Empire? Goodness, that is a lot of joy and light!

Starlight looks down at the Crystal Empire on the map, then up at Spike.

40 STARLIGHT  
What do you mean it increases the Crystal Heart's power?

41 SPIKE  
(shrugs)  
The energy it uses to protect the Crystal Empire, I guess.

42 STARLIGHT  
Protect it from what?

The others all look to Spike who shrugs.

43 SPIKE  
I didn't help Twilight with that part.

**SC. 7 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - LIBRARY - LATER**

Starlight enters to find Twilight looking down at her table once more.

44 STARLIGHT  
Hey, Twilight, can I ask you something about the Crystal Empire?

45 TWILIGHT  
Funny you should mention it...

Twilight walks around the table, levitating a list in front of her.

46 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)  
Because I just narrowed your first  
friendship lesson down to three  
options and one of them is in the  
Crystal Empire.

47 STARLIGHT  
Really?

48 TWILIGHT  
(nods, excited)  
I found out that's where the first  
pony you ever cared about lives!

Starlight's expression drops.

49 STARLIGHT  
Sunburst?

Twilight shuffles through her parchment, not noticing  
Starlight's disquiet.

50 TWILIGHT  
Of course that's just one idea. We  
could also go to Griffinstone.  
Making friends with a Griffin is a  
challenge all by itself.

51 STARLIGHT  
(not listening)  
Sure.

52 TWILIGHT  
Or we could tag along with the CMCs  
the next time they help a pony who  
can't figure out why they're  
special...

53 STARLIGHT  
(distracted)  
Yeah.

Twilight finally looks up at Starlight and sees her  
uncomfortable expression.

54 TWILIGHT  
Starlight, is something wrong?

55 STARLIGHT  
What? Oh, no. Those all sound  
great.

56 TWILIGHT  
I know! I guess you were right. It  
is going to be hard to chose one.

57 STARLIGHT  
(nervous laugh)  
Yeah.

Off Starlight's worried expression...

**SC. 8 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - DAY**

Starlight walks down another hall, clearly distraught. She comes to a door and opens it to reveal Spike, checking out his snout in a mirror.

58 STARLIGHT  
Ugh! I am never going to find my  
way around this place!

With that she slams the door and starts to sulk off. Spike sticks his head out.

59 SPIKE  
Gee, Starlight, what's wrong?

60 STARLIGHT  
I don't know, Spike. Twilight's  
figuring out what my first  
friendship lesson is and I guess  
I'm not exactly thrilled with the  
options. Well, with one of them.

61 SPIKE  
Which one is that?

62 STARLIGHT  
Reuniting me with my first friend.

63 SPIKE  
What's so terrible about that?

Starlight <SIGHS> as we...

DISSOLVE TO:

**SC. 9 - INT. COTTAGE - FLASHBACK**

A YOUNG STARLIGHT and another pony (YOUNG SUNBURST) sit on the floor. Young Starlight levitates a wooden block over her head, while Young Sunburst looks through dozens of scrolls laid out on the floor.

64 STARLIGHT (V.O.)  
When we were foals, he knew  
everything there was to know about  
magic.

Young Starlight tries to levitate a second block, but the first one falls onto her head.

Young Sunburst hands her one of his scrolls. She looks at it and then levitates THREE BLOCKS, spinning them in a circle.

**SC. 10 - INT. COTTAGE - ANOTHER TIME**

The two young ponies finish eating. Young Starlight tries to clear the table, but misses the sink, levitating the dishes into the wall instead, breaking them.

Young Sunburst rushes over and hands her a scroll that she uses to cast a spell that fixes the dishes and cleans up the whole kitchen.

65 STARLIGHT  
He always knew just what to do.

A GROWN UP PONY enters, looks at the clean kitchen, and pats Starlight on the head. Starlight casts an admiring glance at Sunburst.

**SC. 11 - INT. COTTAGE - ANOTHER TIME**

Young Starlight and Young Sunburst sit working their way through a giant stack of books.

[NOTE: this should be the same scene as when Starlight visits Sunburst in MLP526, but from a different angle.]

66 STARLIGHT  
And he was always there to help me.

Young Starlight tries to levitate a book from the bottom of the stack, causing the whole pile to wobble and fall.

As the giant stack of books falls toward Starlight, Sunburst looks to one of his scrolls and concentrates. His horn GLOWS dimly and a pillow appears beneath Starlight, cushioning her fall. The books hang in the air for a moment, then fly onto a nearby shelf, organizing themselves in a neat row.

Starlight gives Sunburst a thankful look, when suddenly his CUTIE MARK appears and he rushes out of the room, excited.

67                   STARLIGHT (CONT'D)  
I guess it's not surprising that he  
got his cutie mark in magic and  
went off to Princess Celestia's  
school...

**SC. 12 - EXT. VILLAGE - CONTINUOUS**

Starlight watches from the cottage doorway as Sunburst runs  
outside to meet his parents. A crowd of ponies gather and  
excitedly congratulating him. Off Starlight's sad expression  
we...

**END FLASHBACK**

**SC. 13 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - RESUME**

Starlight looks to Spike, continuing...

68                   STARLIGHT  
But when he left...

69                   SPIKE  
You blamed cutie marks and stripped  
a whole village of theirs and when  
Twilight and the others stopped  
you, you went back in time and  
almost destroyed Equestria.

70                   STARLIGHT  
(nods)  
Not really stuff I'm super eager to  
tell Sunburst about. I mean, he's  
probably some big, important wizard  
now and I can't even find my way  
around Twilight's Castle.

71                   SPIKE  
Well, if Sunburst is that good at  
magic, maybe he'd appreciate your  
<AHM> exploits.

72                   STARLIGHT  
Somehow I doubt it.

73                   SPIKE  
You should talk to Twilight about  
it. I'm sure she'd want to hear  
what you have to say.

74 STARLIGHT  
I know, but I don't want her to think I'm not ready to learn, or that I'm not grateful for everything she's doing...

Suddenly, Twilight shouts from another part of the Castle.

75 TWILIGHT  
SPIKE! COME QUICK!

**SC. 14 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - DAY**

Spike and Starlight arrive just as Twilight rushes inside from a balcony, followed by a MAGICAL ARCTIC BREEZE.

The frosty wind swirls around and converges in the center of the room to form a giant, glowing, CRYSTALLINE SNOWFLAKE that floats down and unfolds in Twilight's hooves like a card.

76 SPIKE  
It's a Crystalling invitation!

77 TWILIGHT  
I know! Spike, Shining Armor's a father! I'm an Aunt!

Twilight turns to Starlight.

78 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)  
Well, this settles it. Since we're going to the Crystal Empire, your first friendship lesson is going to be reuniting with Sunburst!

79 STARLIGHT  
Great.

Off Starlight's less than excited expression we...

**END ACT ONE**

**ACT TWO**

**SC. 15 - INT. FRIENDSHIP EXPRESS - DAY**

The Mane Six all sit together as the landscape of Equestria shoots past the windows. Dash looks over at a giant package sitting next to Applejack.

80 RAINBOW DASH  
Um, Applejack, what is that?

81           APPLEJACK  
Oh, just a little something for the  
youngin'.

She unwraps it enough for everypony to see an old-fashioned,  
BASSINET.

82           APPLEJACK (CONT'D)  
Made from genuine Sweet Apple Acres  
apple trees. We make 'em for all  
the Apples, and anypony related to  
Twilight is practically family.

The others gather around, impressed.

83           TWILIGHT  
That's pretty special, Applejack.  
I'm sure the baby will love it.

84           DASH  
Yeah. It's okay. I mean, it's no  
Cloudsdale Mobile...

Dash pulls the cover off of a collection of MINIATURE CLOUDS  
connected together by rainbows. The others OOH and AAH.

85           APPLEJACK  
Well, a mobile is real nice...  
(patting her bassinet)  
As long as you have something to  
lay in so you can look at it.

REVEAL - Rarity, embroidering tiny horseshoes on a blanket.

86           RARITY  
And a fetching blanket to keep you  
warm...

Twilight looks from to Pinkie with a GIANT WRAPPED PRESENT  
and Fluttershy holding a small covered BIRD CAGE with a bow  
on it.

87           TWILIGHT  
I'm sure Shining Armor and Princess  
Cadance will love all our gifts,  
but I think they're more happy  
we'll be attending the baby's  
Crystalling.

As the others nod in agreement. Pinkie hops up and down.

88 PINKIE PIE  
I can't wait to see all that light  
and love make the Crystal Heart  
even more sparkley and shiny!

89 TWILIGHT  
Actually, Pinkie, the Crystal Heart  
is an ancient and powerful relic.  
Without it's magic the Crystal  
Empire would be lost to the Frozen  
North.

90 STARLIGHT  
Wow. This Crystalling sounds pretty  
important. I'd understand if you  
wanted to wait to do a different  
friendship lesson when we get back.

91 TWILIGHT  
Are you kidding? This trip is  
perfect. Not only do I get to see  
the baby and take part in a  
ceremony that helps maintain the  
magic of the Crystal Empire, but  
I'm starting my new pupil off with  
the most amazing friendship lesson  
ever. I can't wait!

92 STARLIGHT  
(forced)  
Right. Me neither.

Spike puts his claws on his hips and shoots Starlight a look.

93 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)  
Actually, Twilight, I am a little  
worried about meeting Sunburst...

94 TWILIGHT  
(cutting her off)  
Oh, trust me, I know what it's like  
to see old friends, but I'll be  
right there to help things along.

95 STARLIGHT  
What kind of things?

96 TWILIGHT  
You'll see. I've broken the whole  
lesson down into a few easily  
manageable steps to ensure this  
reunion goes off without a hitch.

Twilight pulls out a long piece of parchment that unrolls and hits the floor. She looks to Starlight, smiling brightly. Starlight smiles weakly back.

**SC. 16 - EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE STATION - DAY**

Steam rises as the Friendship Express pulls into the station. The doors slide open and ponies disembark-- Spike, Starlight and Twilight among them. Twilight turns to Starlight, referencing her list.

97 TWILIGHT  
Okay, step one, head to Sunburst's house and get you two started on the right hoof. Step two, get to the Castle with enough time to visit the baby before the Chrystalling.

98 SHINING ARMOR (O.S.)  
(weakly)  
Twilight?

They all turn to see Shining Armor emerge from the steam. He rushes forward and embraces his sister with a desperate hug.

99 TWILIGHT  
Shining Armor? I didn't know you were meeting us.

100 SHINING ARMOR  
(slightly manic)  
Of course I am. It's me. Right here. Here I am. Why wouldn't I come meet my sister?  
(trying to joke)  
Though we have met before. Am I right?

Twilight looks at her brother, noticing how frazzled he is.

101 TWILIGHT  
Are you all right?

102 SHINING ARMOR  
Never better! Being a father is amazing and wonderful and amazing and confusing and amazing and stressful and, um...

103 STARLIGHT  
Amazing?

104 SHINING ARMOR  
YES!

(suddenly introspective)  
But surprising too, you know? I mean, not that you'd know. You wouldn't know, I know. You know?

Twilight, Starlight, and Spike all exchange looks.

105 SHINING ARMOR (CONT'D)  
Sorry. I haven't really slept since Cadance had the baby. Come to think of it, she hasn't either. We're both pretty spent. It sure would be great to get a break...

Shining Armor looks expectantly at Twilight.

106 TWILIGHT  
Oh. Of course. I don't know what I was thinking. You two probably need all kinds of help!

Twilight turns to Starlight.

107 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)  
I'm sorry, Starlight, but I guess combining your first lesson with this visit wasn't such a good idea.

108 STARLIGHT  
Don't be ridiculous! You're an aunt now. That's way more important than some friendship lesson.

109 TWILIGHT  
I just wish there was a way to do both.

110 SPIKE  
Maybe there is.

Spike takes the parchment from Twilight.

111 SPIKE (CONT'D)  
You've already done the work for Starlight's lesson with this list. All we have to do is follow it.

112 TWILIGHT  
(brightening)  
Spike, you're a genius!

113 STARLIGHT  
(darkening)  
Yeah. Genius.

114 TWILIGHT  
Then it's settled. Shining Armor  
and I will head straight to the  
castle and you two can head  
straight to Sunburst's. Once things  
with the baby get sorted out, I'll  
come check on your progress.

115 SPIKE  
Aye, aye, princess.

Spike turns on his heels and starts off then stops, realizing Starlight isn't following. He looks back at her. Starlight <SIGHS>, casts a meek smile at Twilight, then follows.

116 TWILIGHT  
All right, big brother. Let's go  
see this amazing baby pony.

Twilight turns to see Shining Armor is asleep on his feet. She nudges him awake and he looks at her, surprised.

117 SHINING ARMOR  
Twilight! I am so glad you're here!

118 TWILIGHT  
Me too.

With that, she picks up her suitcase and starts off. Shining Armor shuffles after her.

**SC. 17 - EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE - DAY**

Spike heads down the street dragging Twilight's long list, and Starlight, behind him.

119 SPIKE  
I know you're a little worried  
about this reunion, but I'm sure  
Twilight's got everything covered.

120 STARLIGHT  
Everything except how I'd rather do  
absolutely anything else.

121 SPIKE  
I bet she's taken that into account  
too. It's all part of the lesson.  
Trust the lesson.

122 STARLIGHT  
(unconvinced)  
Right.  
(noticing something O.S.)  
Hey, is that you!?

Spike looks over to see the statute commemorating his role in saving the Crystal Empire.

123 SPIKE  
Oh. Yep. It sure is. Now...  
according to the list, Sunburst's  
house is--

124 STARLIGHT  
(cutting him off)  
Why is there a statue of you in the  
Crystal Empire?

One of the CRYSTAL PONIES walking by pipes up.

125 CRYSTAL PONY  
Because Spike, the brave and  
glorious, saved all of us from King  
Sombra.

A pony going the other way chimes in.

126 CRYSTAL PONY 2  
And then again during the Equestria  
Games.

127 STARLIGHT  
Really?

A third pony walks by.

128 CRYSTAL PONY 3  
Really!  
(shaking Spike's claw)  
Big fan.

129 STARLIGHT  
Um, when were you going to tell me  
about this?

130 SPIKE  
(blushing)  
Oh, it's no big deal.

All three crystal ponies pop back in.

131 CRYSTAL PONIES  
IT MOST CERTAINLY IS!

132 STARLIGHT  
That's it. We're not going anywhere  
until I get the whole story.

With that Starlight magics Twilight's list away from Spike as the other Crystal Ponies sit at his feet. They look up at the dragon expectantly. Off Spike's flattered expression...

**SC. 18 - INT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - DAY**

Shining Armor leads Twilight and the rest of the Mane Six up to the door of the nursery and stops.

133 SHINING ARMOR  
Before we go in, I should probably  
tell you, seeing the baby might be  
a bit of a shock.

134 TWILIGHT  
Come on, big brother, I've met  
babies before...

Twilight walks past Shining Armor and opens the door to...

**SC. 19 - INT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - NURSERY - DAY**

Twilight enters to see Cadance cradling a TINY UNICORN in her hooves. CELESTIA and LUNA stand by looking on.

135 TWILIGHT  
(continuing)  
...I expect meeting this one won't  
be any different.

Twilight heads right over and picks up the baby. Immediately a FULL SET OF ALICORN WINGS pop out from the infant's back with a WHOOSH.

136 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)  
(surprised)  
Of course, I could be wrong.

**SC. 20 - EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE - DAY**

Spike stands in front of his statue addressing Starlight and what has turned into a small CROWD of adoring crystal ponies.

137 SPIKE  
...and that's how we found the  
Crystal Heart, defeated King  
Sombra, and saved the Empire.

The crowd breaks into spontaneous applause and cheers.  
Several CRYSTAL FOALS run up.

138 FOALS  
Tell the one about the Equestria  
Games!

Spike shakes his head and walks over to Starlight, taking  
back Twilight's list and putting it in his pack.

139 SPIKE  
As much as I love reliving my  
heroic deeds, Starlight and I have  
an important lesson to do by order  
of the Princess of Friendship.

140 FOALS  
AWWWWW!

141 STARLIGHT  
Oh, come on, Spike. I want to hear  
about the Games too. Actually...

Starlight uses her magic to surreptitiously levitate the top  
of Twilight's list out of Spike's pack.

142 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)  
(reading)  
...it, ah, might be an inspiring  
story that helps me work up the  
courage to meet Sunburst.

143 SPIKE  
Well...

Spike turns to see Starlight is reading the list.

144 SPIKE (CONT'D)  
Hey!  
(rolling it back up)  
I know you're nervous about seeing  
Sunburst, but it says right in step  
three to, "deal with your fears by  
facing them," not by putting it  
off.

Starlight looks at Spike struggling with Twilight's list.

145 STARLIGHT  
Ugh. Fine. Let's go get this over  
with.

With that she walks off. Spike bunches up the rest of the  
list as he hurries to keep up.

**SC. 21 - INT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - NURSERY - RESUME**

Twilight stares down at the tiny alicorn, still in shock. Cadance walks up and gives Twilight a kiss on the cheek as she takes the baby back.

146 TWILIGHT  
The baby is an alicorn!?

147 CADANCE  
It looks that way.

148 RARITY  
But I thought alicorn wings had to be earned by accomplishing some great princess-worthy deed.

149 APPLEJACK  
Yeah, how can you just be born with them?

150 CELESTIA  
The birth of an alicorn is something Equestria has never seen.

151 LUNA  
It is beyond even our understanding.

152 FLUTTERSHY  
That's not very reassuring.

Pinkie bounces around behind Cadance and the baby.

153 PINKIE PIE  
Wow, a unicorn and a pegasus! So, she could be a super strong flyer and have crazy baby magic.

154 DASH  
Well, I know all about super strong flying.

155 TWILIGHT  
And I can help keep tabs on her magic.

Suddenly the tiny baby snuffles and her horn GLOWS as she cuts loose with a terrific SNEEZE that sends a BOLT OF MAGICAL ENERGY out of her horn and into the floor.

Everyone gathers around the SMOKING HOLE in the floor to see that it extends several floors down-- other ponies on the floors below sticking their heads in and looking up.

156           APPLEJACK  
Ah... Maybe "keeping tabs" won't be  
enough.

**END ACT 2**

**ACT 3**

**SC. 22 - INT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - NURSERY - RESUME**

Everypony stares in shock at the still smoking hole in the  
floor.

157           CELESTIA  
It appears her magic is more  
powerful than that of a newborn  
unicorn.

Luna walks over toward the window and looks out.

ANGLE ON - Crowds of CRYSTAL PONIES gathering outside the  
castle.

158           LUNA  
The crowds have already started to  
gather.

PAN OVER - to reveal Pinkie, also looking out while blowing  
up a balloon.

159           PINKIE PIE  
This Crystalling is gonna be some  
party!

Worried, Cadance looks to Shining Armor who puts his hoof  
around her. Cadance turns to Celestia.

160           CADANCE  
Do you think we should call it off?

Dash steps up.

161           DASH  
Um... We've all faced a lot worse  
than baby magic.

162           RARITY  
Indeed. I can't imagine cancelling  
such beautiful and important  
ceremony over something so  
potentially adorable.

163 ALL  
Yeah! Of course! Come on!

164 CELESTIA  
In light of the little one's  
abilities, this Crystalling might  
be more important than ever.  
(to Cadance)  
Perhaps you should address your  
subjects and remind them of that.

Cadance nods and follows Celestia and Luna out. Twilight  
turns to her brother, asleep again on his feet. She jostles  
him awake.

165 TWILIGHT  
Shining Armor, do you have  
everything you need for the  
ceremony?

Shining Armor looks up groggily, then...

166 SHINING ARMOR  
(waking)  
Huh? Oh! NO! I still have to  
interview the Honor Guards, chose  
the Purity Crystal and pick a  
Crystaller!

167 TWILIGHT  
All right. Take it easy. Pinkie can  
stay here with me and keep an eye  
on the baby.

168 APPLEJACK  
And we'll all help you with  
everything else.

They all look over to see Shining Armor is asleep again.  
Twilight jostles him awake again.

169 RARITY  
Assuming you can stay awake long  
enough to tell us how.

**SC. 23 - EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE - SUNBURST'S HOUSE - DAY**

Starlight walks up to a large intimidating door on a quite  
street. As she takes a breath, and prepares to knock, Spike  
finally catches up, out of breath.

170 SPIKE  
Wait!

171 STARLIGHT  
(startled)  
What!?

Spike flips through the list.

172 SPIKE  
Knocking on the door isn't the next  
thing on the list.

173 STARLIGHT  
Seriously?

174 SPIKE  
I know Twilight can be a little  
nitpicky, but this is your first  
lesson as her pupil and it's  
important that we do it right.

175 STARLIGHT  
Fine. What's the next thing on the  
list?

176 SPIKE  
(reading)  
"Before they see each other, make  
sure to highlight the importance of  
the meeting."

177 STARLIGHT  
I'm pretty sure we can skip that.

178 SPIKE  
I don't know. I mean, if we skip  
it, the whole lesson could go  
south. And then you might end up  
taking a giant step backwards  
instead of forwards. Maybe you'll  
never be able to learn anything  
about friendship at all. It's  
almost like your whole future  
depends on this moment.

Starlight looks down at him with mounting angst. Spike nods.

179 SPIKE (CONT'D)  
"Highlight the importance of the  
meeting." Check.

He crosses the item off of the list, shaking his head.

180 SPIKE (CONT'D)  
I can't believe you wanted to skip  
that.

More anxious than ever, Starlight reaches up and knocks on the door. After what seems like an eternity, the door slowly creaks open.

181            STARLIGHT  
Sunburst?

A pony (SUNBURST) wearing round spectacles emerges from the darkened doorway.

182            SUNBURST  
Yes? What can I do for you?

183            STARLIGHT  
It's me. Starlight.

Sunburst squints at her.

184            STARLIGHT (CONT'D)  
We used to be friends?

185            SUNBURST  
Of course! Starlight. My goodness it's been a long time. What have you been up to?

186            STARLIGHT  
(evasive)  
Me? Oh, you know, some of this, some of that. Different stuff. Right now I'm sort of, Twilight Sparkle's new pupil.

187            SUNBURST  
(taken aback)  
The Princess of Friendship?

188            STARLIGHT  
(nervous laugh)  
Yeah. That's actually kind of why I'm here. I mean, I know you're probably very busy.

189            SUNBURST  
What do you mean?

190            STARLIGHT  
Well, I figured after Magic School, you'd go on to do important wizard work, but...

191            SUNBURST  
(equally evasive)  
Oh. No. Yes. That's me. Yep.  
(MORE)

SUNBURST (CONT'D)

Important wizard. Really busy with lots of, ah... wizarding stuff.

Starlight looks to Spike.

192           STARLIGHT  
See?

Sunburst stares at them for an awkward moment, then...

193           SUNBURST  
Right, well... good to see you.

With that, Sunburst steps back inside and shuts the door. Starlight stares at it, confused.

194           SPIKE  
Huh. Maybe we should have skipped "highlighting the importance of the meeting" after all.

195           STARLIGHT  
(brightening)  
Whelp, I guess that's that!

Starlight turns to go, but Spike grabs her tail.

196           SPIKE  
(pleading)  
Starlight, come on! We have to at least explain what Twilight wants!

Starlight stops with an exasperated <SIGH>. Spike reaches up and knocks on the door. After a beat the door creaks open and Sunburst tentatively sticks his head out again.

Off Starlight's embarrassed expression...

**SC. 24 - EXT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - BALCONY - CONTINUOUS**

Princess Cadance steps forward, flanked by Celestia and Luna.

197           CADANCE  
(to the crowd)  
Dearest Citizens, I am sure that you are all just as thrilled and ready for this Crystalling as myself and Shining Armor...

The crowd CHEERS as we PAN DOWN TO:

SHINING ARMOR peeking out of the HUGE CURTAINS that have been draped across the arches at the base of the castle, obscuring the causeway. Worried, he ducks back in.

**SC. 25 - INT./EXT. CASTLE CAUSEWAY - SAME**

Shining Armor turns to the others in a panic.

198 SHINING ARMOR  
I'm not ready!

Nearby, Applejack and Rainbow Dash review a group of crystal pony CASTLE GUARDS standing at attention.

199 DASH  
Take it easy. Just pick whoever looks the most like Honor Guard material.

200 SHINING ARMOR  
Right.

Shining Armor levitates ELABORATE HELMETS to two of the guards, who bow and walk out.

201 SHINING ARMOR (CONT'D)  
(to Applejack and the rest)  
I'm sorry, fatherhood is way more stressful than I ever thought.

202 FLUTTERSHY  
I can only imagine.

Rarity steps forward with a small black jewelry case.

203 RARITY  
Now, I know choosing the crystal of purity is a very important decision, so I've gone through the trouble of arranging them in order from incredibly pure to outrageously pure.

Rarity opens the case to reveal five ABSOLUTELY IDENTICAL CRYSTAL SHARDS.

204 FLUTTERSHY  
Um, Rarity? Don't they all sort of look the same?

205 RARITY  
To the untrained eye, perhaps,  
Fluttershy. What do you think  
Shining Armor?

Shining Armor looks at them, panicked again.

206 SHINING ARMOR  
I DON'T KNOW!

As Shining Armor frets, Rarity turns to Fluttershy.

207 RARITY  
<SOTTO> I hope Twilight and Pinkie  
are having better luck with the  
baby.

**SC. 26 - INT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - NURSERY - SAME**

CLOSE - on Pinkie moving fast through the nursery, while the  
sound of the BABY LAUGHING can be heard.

208 PINKIE PIE  
Well, at least she's having fun!

CUT WIDE TO REVEAL - the baby flying around and around the  
nursery, Pinkie clinging for dear life to its hooves.

Twilight gallops back and forth, shooting magic from her horn  
to contain the BLASTS of energy that fire from the baby's  
horn with every peel of laughter.

209 TWILIGHT  
Pinkie hold her still!

210 PINKIE PIE  
I'm tryyyyiiiiiiinnng!

**SC. 27 - INT. SUNBURST'S - LIBRARY - MOMENTS LATER**

Starlight and Sunburst sit at a small table in Sunburst's  
library. Books line the walls from floor to ceiling.

211 SUNBURST  
So, the Princess of Friendship  
wants you and I to be friends  
again?

212 STARLIGHT  
I know. Weird, right?

213           SUNBURST  
I don't understand. Did something  
happen to you after I left for  
Magic School?

214           STARLIGHT  
(defensive)  
What? No! I don't see what that has  
to do with anything. Why would you  
even ask that? I mean, did  
something happen to you after you  
left for magic school?

215           SUNBURST  
(equally defensive)  
What? Um... No. Obviously not. Like  
you said, I'm a <AHEM> important  
wizard.

The two of them just stare at each other. PAN OVER to reveal  
Spike holding the list.

216           SPIKE  
I'm sure there's something on  
Twilight's list that can help here.  
I just have to find it...

Spike lets the list drop and it unspools across the floor.  
Off Starlight's and Sunburst's exasperated expressions...

**SC. 28 - EXT. CRYSTAL CASTLE - DAY**

The crowd watches with mounting excitement as the HONOR GUARD  
ponies take up position on either side of the curtained  
archway under the castle (think Buckingham Palace).

**SC. 29 - INT./EXT - CASTLE CAUSEWAY - SAME**

Princess Cadence enters from a stairwell, followed by  
Celestia and Luna. Shining Armor rushes up.

217           SHINING ARMOR  
Okay. I chose the Honor Guard,  
picked the Purity Crystal, and I  
know exactly who I want to be our  
Crystaller. So, all we need is...

218           CADANCE  
The baby?

Shining Armor's look of shock is quickly allayed by  
Twilight's voice.

219 TWILIGHT (O.S.)  
We're here!

They all turn to see Twilight enter, casting a magical bubble around the still flying baby-- Pinkie still hanging from the giggling alicorn's legs.

220 PINKIE PIE  
She's a really strong flyer!

Cadence cast a STREAM OF MAGIC at them, bringing the baby and Pinkie over. Pinkie looks up at her.

221 CADANCE  
You can let go now, Pinkie.

But as Pinkie let's go, the baby's expression quickly turns sour. Her lip quivers as her eyes begin to fill with tears and her horn starts to GLOW.

Suddenly, the baby let's out a massive WAIL and waves of MAGICAL SONIC ENERGY blast out, bursting her protective bubble, as everypony covers their ears against the noise.

CLOSE - on the CRYSTAL HEART as the SONIC WAVES blow past.

Suddenly, the Heart stops turning and after a beat-- SHATTERS INTO A MILLION PIECES.

They all stare at the broken pieces in horror as the baby's magical crying trails off.

222 APPLEJACK  
I'm guessing that's gonna make it hard to do the Crystalling.

Twilight looks up at the sound of distant THUNDER.

223 TWILIGHT  
It's worse than that...

Twilight pokes her head out from behind the curtain and looks to the sky where MASSIVE STORM CLOUDS build on the horizon. Twilight ducks back inside.

224 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)  
Without the Heart, the Crystal Empire is about to be buried under a mountain of ice and snow!

Off everypony's shocked expressions we...

**END PART 1**