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MY LITTLE PONY  
Season 8

**Horse Play**  
Ep 807

**LOCKED SCRIPT V2**

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Teleplay 1st Draft: Kaita Mpambara  
Teleplay 2nd Draft: Kaita Mpambara  
Teleplay Final Draft: Kaita Mpambara

Premise: October 11, 2016  
Outline: October 26, 2016  
Teleplay 1st Draft: November 18, 2016  
Teleplay 2nd Draft: November 30, 2016  
Teleplay Final Draft: December 9, 2016  
Locked Script: January 6, 2017  
Locked Script V2: January 10, 2017

**TEASER****SC. 1 - EXT. PRINCESS CELESTIA'S CASTLE - ESTABLISHING - DAY****PUSH IN as we hear TWILIGHT inside:**

1 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Princess Celestia, I have an idea  
for your Onesversary!

**SC. 2 - INT. PRINCESS CELESTIA'S CASTLE - THRONE ROOM - CONT.**

TWILIGHT beams at PRINCESS CELESTIA, who stands on the dais.  
SPIKE stands next to Twilight, holding a BASKET. Celestia  
cocks her head, slightly amused.

2 CELESTIA  
My...Onesversary?

3 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
The one thousand one hundred  
eleventh year anniversary of when  
you first raised the sun.

4 SPIKE  
Good thing Pinkie Pie reminded us,  
or we woulda forgot to celebrate!

5 CELESTIA  
You're not the only ones. (then)  
What did you have in mind?

6 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
To commemorate your first sunrise,  
I've written a play. We'd like to  
perform it at my School of  
Friendship. (hopeful) If you don't  
mind...

Celestia surprises Twilight and Spike by giving an excited  
prance like a young filly.

7 CELESTIA  
Mind?! Of course not. I think a  
play is a fantastic idea!

Spike's jaw is still open. He sottoms to a shocked Twilight--

8 SPIKE  
Did she just...Prance?

Celestia notices their surprise, and covers, regal again.

9 CELESTIA  
Forgive me for getting so excited.  
It's just...

Twilight watches as Celestia gazes wistfully out a window, remembering...

10 CELESTIA (CONT'D)  
When I was a filly, my friends often put on plays. It was so wonderful; everypony coming together to create a magical experience to share with others...  
(then, to Twilight)  
I've always believed theatre brings out the best in us, and forges a special bond of friendship.

Twilight is surprised at this revelation, and intrigued!

11 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
I didn't know you used to act.

12 CELESTIA  
(shakes her head)  
Oh, not me. I was always too busy with my magic lessons to be part of any plays myself.  
(wistful)  
But still, it's something I always wished I could experience.

13 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
(getting an idea)  
And you still can! Princess Celestia... We would be honored if you would be the star of our play!

Celestia looks surprised. Spike whips his head to Twilight in shock--

14 SPIKE  
WE WOULD?!

**END TEASER**

**MAIN TITLES**

**ACT ONE**

**SC. 3 - INT. PRINCESS CELESTIA'S CASTLE - DAY - RESUME**

Spike is still looking at Twilight in astonishment. But Celestia's eyes are shining with hope.

15 CELESTIA  
You want me to star in your play?

16 SPIKE  
(to Twilight)  
Yeah, when did that happen exactly?

17 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
(to Celestia)  
If you'll excuse us for a second...

Twilight floats Spike over to a corner of the room and puts her head near his in conference. This is all STAGE-WHISPERED:

18 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)  
(sotto)  
Don't you see, Spike? It's perfect! Princess Celestia has always wanted to be in a play, and this one's about her!

19 SPIKE  
(sotto)  
I guess... But how are we supposed to give her directions? She's the ruler of Equestria!

20 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
(sotto)  
She's also our friend. Celestia's always kind to everypony. So if we have a chance to finally do something for her, we should!

Spike considers this.

21 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)  
(sotto)  
C'mon, how many times has Celestia helped us? Guided us. Been a warm calming voice over our shoulder--

Celestia pokes her head right behind Twilight's shoulder.

22 CELESTIA  
Twilight?

23 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
<startle> (then) I mean, yes Princess Celestia?

24 CELESTIA  
Your invitation is very kind. But  
are you certain it's wise? I have  
no acting experience at all.

25 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Experience? Pssh! You'll be playing  
yourself. And we'll all help you.  
Please? It'd mean so much to the  
students if you were in our show.

Celestia takes this in - and then beams, truly excited.

26 CELESTIA  
Well, if you're sure...

Twilight nods hard, then nudges Spike, who also nods.

27 CELESTIA (CONT'D)  
Then I would be delighted to join  
your theatre troupe!

**SC. 4 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL - OUTDOOR THEATRE - DAY**

PINKIE PIE happily <BLASTS> herself out of a confetti cannon!

28 PINKIE PIE  
Confetti is ready! Hee hee!

Pinkie reaches maximum altitude up in the air, then pulls out an umbrella to float gently back toward the ground in a cloud of confetti, landing on a flat set piece that APPLEJACK is painting. (The set piece rests on the stage of an outdoor theatre, on the grounds of Twilight's School of Friendship.) Applejack spits the paintbrush out and frowns at Pinkie.

29 APPLEJACK  
Wormy applecores, Pinkie! How many  
times have I told ya to keep your  
special effects away from my sets?

30 PINKIE PIE  
Three hundred twenty seven. Ooh!  
Unless you just DID. Then it's  
three hundred twenty eight!

Applejack rolls her eyes. NEARBY, STARLIGHT GLIMMER flips through a script with FLUTTERSHY.

31 STARLIGHT GLIMMER  
I can't believe you've memorized  
your lines already, Fluttershy.

Fluttershy smiles - "it's nothing".

32 FLUTTERSHY  
Once you get past terrifying,  
paralyzing stage fright, the rest  
is easy. Now I just hope Princess  
Celestia says we can do our play.

RARITY, sewing costumes, speaks up--

33 RARITY  
As soon as she sees these fabulous  
costumes I'm making, all she'll be  
able to say is 'brava!'

RAINBOW DASH is hanging lights above. She calls down,  
pointing at who she sees approaching --

34 RAINBOW DASH  
Heads up! Here comes our answer.

Twilight runs up to the stage, Spike riding along.

35 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Wonderful news, everypony!

36 APPLEJACK  
Yeeeha! We get to put on our show?

37 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Even better. Princess Celestia is  
going to be our star!

Everypony's jaw drops. Spike nods.

38 SPIKE  
Yeah, that's how I felt too.

39 RAINBOW DASH  
Celestia? Is going to be starring?  
In our play? This is huge!

As Rainbow Dash gapes, Twilight waves a hoof - no big deal!

40 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
She was a little nervous at first,  
but I told her not to worry. With  
us helping, it'll all go smooth as--

41 RARITY  
SILK!

Rarity hurls aside the costume she was working on, and dives  
head-first into a TRUNK of fabric, tossing swatches and  
swathes aside in a frantic search for the perfect one.

42 RARITY (CONT'D)  
I simply must find the silk! If Celestia is going to be in our play, none of my old costume ideas will do! We have to take everything up to the next level!

43 PINKIE PIE  
Yeah! Forget my regular party cannon. For princess-size effects, we're gonna need "Big Bertha!"

Pinkie rushes off-screen... Then comes back, trying to wheel a GIGANTIC 890 CALIBER CONFETTI CANNON on stage, only to have it get stuck half-way in the wings due to its massive size!

44 APPLEJACK  
PINKIE!

45 PINKIE PIE  
Three hundred and twenty-nine!!!

46 RAINBOW DASH  
Our play is gonna be AMAZING! I gotta go tell everypony I know! And even the ones I don't!

Rainbow Dash zooms off into the sky, creating a <SONIC RAINBOOM> in her excited wake. Applejack shakes her head.

47 APPLEJACK  
Why in tarnation are y'all gettin' so star-struck? We've met Princess Celestia before. Plenty-a times.

48 STARLIGHT GLIMMER  
Those were formal things - galas, world-saving. This is different. Imagine doing sweaty warm-ups with a princess. Blowing your nose in front of a princess. Sitting around just...talking with a princess.

49 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
I'm a princess. You talk to me.

50 STARLIGHT GLIMMER  
That's different. You're not a PRINCESS princess.

Twilight raises a sardonic eyebrow.

51 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
...Thanks.  
(then, to her friends)  
Celestia wants to experience the special friendship that theatre ponies have. To give her that, you just need to be yourselves.

52 FLUTTERSHY  
You...you really think so?

53 APPLEJACK  
Aw, quit frettin'. It's only a coupla pals gettin' together and puttin' on a Onesversary play. What could go wrong?

**SC. 5 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL - OUTDOOR THEATRE - NEXT DAY**

Twilight and Spike sit in DIRECTOR chairs, looking at the fully completed theatre stage. Spike is dressed like an old-timey DIRECTOR - riding pants, beret. Into a MEGAPHONE:

54 SPIKE  
Places, everypony. We're here to rehearse "A New Day in Equestria!"

Twilight <COUGHS>. Spike rolls his eyes.

55 SPIKE (CONT'D)  
Directed by, written by, and produced by Twilight Sparkle.

Twilight smiles. Uses her magic to open the script.

56 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Page 1, Act 1, Scene 1. ACTION!

The curtains open, and Fluttershy begins narrating.

57 FLUTTERSHY  
Once upon a time, before Celestia, Equestria was suffering terrible hardship.

Twilight's students, GALLUS, YONA, SMOLDER, OCELLUS and SILVERSTREAM (all dressed as unicorns) And SANDBAR (dressed as STARSWIRL THE BEARDED) come sadly trudging onto the stage.

58 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)  
Raising the sun every morning was so hard, it took five great sorcerers plus Starswirl the Bearded to do it.

The six young actors form a circle on stage and strain their faces, concentrating with all their might.

BACKSTAGE: Pinkie Pie pulls a switch.

ONSTAGE: A TRAP DOOR opens in the stage, and up through the trap door rises a tall pole, on top of which spins "The Sun" (a shiny Disco Ball).

59 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)  
And every day, the unicorns helping  
Starswirl would use so much magic,  
they lost their powers... Forever!

The five "unicorns" around "Starswirl" (over-acting a little) all faint dramatically.

60 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)  
Things looked bleak. Soon,  
Equestria would lose all its magic-  
users! Then, the land would be  
covered in darkness for eternity.

BACKSTAGE: Pinkie flips the switch again, and "The Sun" drops back down below the stage.

IN THE DARK AUDIENCE, Twilight giddily whispers to Spike:

61 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Even I can't believe how good my  
play is. The sets, the props, the  
outfits, they're all great!

Spike points to Celestia, stepping majestically on stage.

62 SPIKE  
And here comes the best part.

63 FLUTTERSHY  
But then, a student named Celestia  
discovered she had the power to  
raise the sun herself - without  
draining her magic!

Celestia stands on stage, looking regal and...does nothing.

There's a long silence as everyone looks at her. Twilight prompts her kindly.

64 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Um...that's your cue, Celestia.

Celestia looks surprised, then nods--

65 CELESTIA  
Oh! Right! Of course. <ahem>  
(then, super-quiet)  
It's time for a new day in  
Equestria.

Twilight and Spike look at each other.

66 SPIKE  
Um. What?

67 CELESTIA  
I said...  
(super-quiet)  
It's time for a new day in  
Equestria.

Twilight's jaw drops. She covers and cheerleads:

68 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
And your delivery was...great. But  
maybe you should try it a tiny bit  
louder. For the ponies in the back  
row.

69 CELESTIA  
Ah, yes. My Royal Canterlot Voice.  
Thank you for the reminder,  
Twilight.  
(super loud)  
IT'S TIME FOR A NEW DAY IN  
EQUESTRIA!!!!

All the "collapsed" students on stage jump up, covering their ears in surprise. Celestia looks around, embarrassed.

70 CELESTIA (CONT'D)  
Oh goodness, this theatre does have  
strong acoustics. My apologies. I'm  
still learning to "hone my craft."

71 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
No, no you're doing...fine. Why  
don't we try it just one more time.  
Just like you're talking to me.

72 CELESTIA  
(flat, emotionless)  
It's time for a new day in  
Equestria.

73 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
One more time. A bit more energy.

74 CELESTIA  
(near-hyperactive)  
It's time for a new day in  
Equestria!

ANGLE ON THE WINGS-- Applejack, Pinkie, Starlight, and Rarity  
are watching, AGHAST at how bad this is.

75 CELESTIA (CONT'D)  
Um...How was that?

Applejack steps forward to offer her opinion--

76 APPLEJACK  
Honestly...?

Twilight <TELEPORTS> on stage to cover Applejack's mouth with  
a wing.

77 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Great! Wow! It's hard to believe  
you've never done this before!  
Let's move on to the dance number.

**SC. 6 - EXT. THEATRE STAGE - LATER**

ON SPIKE, holding his megaphone as he choreographs the  
student "unicorns" OS. Music <VAMPS> behind him.

78 SPIKE  
Again! Step, buck, leap touch...  
Again! Step, buck, leap touch...  
Got it? Going on. Five, six,  
seven, eight!

REVEAL: As happy <MUSIC> plays, Celestia and the six student  
"unicorns" stand in a line on stage, and DANCE in  
choreography (this can be as simple as a kickline).

79 CELESTIA  
(awful acting)  
Come ON, StarSWIRL! Throw OFF that  
musty HAT, and let's have A dance!

Celestia grabs "Starswirl's" hat in her teeth and playfully  
tosses it off-stage.

Unfortunately, the hat lands on Pinkie's LEVER backstage...  
which opens the theatre's TRAP-DOOR!

Twilight's students ALL plummet through the trap-door!

80 ACTORS  
<YELL>

<CRASHHHH!!!>

REVEAL: The actors are in a comical heap - okay but not happy. <RECOVERY GROANS>.

Celestia looks down through the hole in the floor, concerned, and calls to Twilight, who is watching backstage (with Starlight, AJ, PP and Rarity).

81           CELESTIA  
Oh dear. I think we have a problem.

Applejack leans over and whispers to Twilight.

82           APPLEJACK  
Yeah. Our lead actress is a  
disaster.

Twilight, who knows it's true, looks suitably horrified.

**END OF ACT ONE**

**ACT TWO**

**SC. 7 - EXT. THEATRE - BACKSTAGE - NIGHT**

Twilight paces in worry in front of Starlight, Rarity, Pinkie, Fluttershy, Applejack and Spike.

83           TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
What are we gonna do? If I tell Celestia she's terrible, it'll hurt her feelings. And I'll be a bad friend. But if I keep her in the show, she'll be the laughingstock of Equestria. And I'll be a worse friend!

84           APPLEJACK  
Ya need to tell Celestia the truth, Twilight.

85           TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Any other suggestions?

86           SPIKE  
Why don't we just cancel the show?

87           TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Real suggestions?

88 SPIKE  
No, think about it. Right now, most of Equestria doesn't even know we're doing a Onesversary play. If we shut it down-

89 RARITY  
Nopony will ever miss it!

90 STARLIGHT GLIMMER  
So they'll never find out Princess Celestia is a bad actress.

91 FLUTTERSHY  
And she won't be embarrassed.

92 PINKIE PIE  
It's the perfect plan!

Just then, Rainbow Dash comes ZOOMING IN!

93 RAINBOW DASH  
Alright! I just finished telling everypony to come to our play!

94 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
You...did?

95 RAINBOW DASH  
Yeah! You shoulda seen how excited they got when they found out Celestia was in it! They said they'd tell their friends, and then their friends'd tell their friends! Everypony in Equestria is gonna see this thing!

Rainbow notices all the other ponies looking at each other.

96 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)  
Uh...did I miss something?

97 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Just a bright light of hope being snuffed. But that's okay. If we can't cancel the show, I know what I have to do.

98 APPLEJACK  
Be honest with Celestia and give the lead role to somepony else?

99 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Not a chance.

Applejack shakes her head in disbelief--

100           APPLEJACK  
Twilight, you know truth is a huge  
part of friendship.

101           TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
And so is making another pony's  
dreams come true! Look, I promised  
Celestia that this time she could  
be a part of the play instead of  
just watching it. And I plan to  
keep that promise.

102           FLUTTERSHY  
But...How?

**SC. 8 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - HALLWAY - NEXT DAY**

Twilight, Spike and Celestia walk through the school.

103           CELESTIA  
You want to give me acting lessons?

104           TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
No ho ho! More like, a special  
workshop with other actors. To...  
Take your performance from good to  
flawless!

105           CELESTIA  
Thank you so much, Twilight! This  
is what I always knew theatre must  
be about. That special stage pony  
bond of shared trust and honesty.

Twilight and Spike glance at each other, guiltily.

106           SPIKE  
Yeah. That's what it is.

Twilight quickly pushes open the door to her classroom -  
where ON STAGE and RASPBERRY BERET (two members of a pony  
acting troupe called The Method Mares, from Ep. 517) are.  
Spike glances at Twilight. She looks away guiltily.

107           TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Princess Celestia-- meet Method  
Mare performers On Stage and  
Raspberry Beret.

**SC. 9 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS**

As the others walk in, ON STAGE and RASPBERRY BERET bow to Celestia.

108           ON STAGE  
A pleasure, your majesty.

She nods gratefully to them.

109           CELESTIA  
The pleasure is all mine! If there's anything I can do to become a better Equestrian thespian I will. What do you have planned?

110           ON STAGE  
I thought we'd make it up as we go along... Otherwise known as (jazz hooves)  
"Improv!"

111           RASPBERRY BERET  
YES, and...We can start as soon as we get out of this box!

Instantly the Method Mares surround Celestia and pantomime placing their hooves on an imaginary glass box that's holding them all trapped. Celestia simply walks outside the "Prison" and looks at the Method Mares, confused.

112           CELESTIA  
What box?

Spike face-palms. Twilight grimaces. This won't be easy.

**SC. 10 - MONTAGE I/C EXT. STAGE / INT. CLASSROOM - DAY**

1. ONSTAGE: An increasingly-stressed-out Twilight walks up to Starlight and the Mane 5, working on the sets/props. The sun-disco ball is SMASHED inside the trapdoor, where the wizards fell on it.

113           TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
How's it going over here?

114           RAINBOW DASH  
That sun will never rise again.

115           PINKIE PIE  
That's why I have something even better!

Pinkie produces a huge, BEAUTIFUL YELLOW BALLOON on a string.

116 RARITY  
It's the perfect substitute!

A bird flies by and accidentally POPS the balloon with its beak! All the ponies (especially Twilight) look distraught as the balloon <TSEEEEEEEWS> its way down to the floor.

117 RARITY (CONT'D)  
It was the perfect substitute.

Twilight <SIGHS> heavily and turns to go.

2. INT. CLASSROOM - A frazzled Twilight marches up to Spike.

118 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Please give me something to be happy about.

Spike (depressed) points to On Stage, who is giving instructions to both Raspberry Beret and Celestia.

119 ON STAGE  
Let's try visualization! You're skiing!

Raspberry Beret weaves back and forth as if slaloming on a slope. Does a little hop over a mogul.

120 RASPBERRY BERET  
Whooh! Oh, it's so snowy today!  
Brrr...I'm getting chilly!

Celestia looks at her quizzically.

121 CELESTIA  
Should I get you a blanket?

On Stage takes over, sitting in a chair. She motions Celestia to get on another chair.

122 ON STAGE  
Alllll aboard! The Ponyville Express is leaving the station!  
<CHUGGA CHUGGA WOO WOO!>

On Stage pretends to pull an imaginary train whistle.

123 CELESTIA  
It is?  
(moves to the window)  
I don't see anything.

Raspberry Beret takes over again, drooping her head and swaying, emoting furiously.

124 RASPBERRY BERET  
Let's be weeping willows in the  
wind! We are strong in adversity,  
yet supple as we bow to fate.

On Stage notices Celestia is just standing still.

125 ON STAGE  
Well? What do you feel?

Everyone leans in, hopeful, as Celestia closes her eyes and concentrates-- And then...

126 CELESTIA  
Nothing.

Twilight slumps.

127 CELESTIA (CONT'D)  
Oh! The classroom floor under my  
hooves. Does that count?

Twilight slumps further.

3. ONSTAGE: A near-defeated Twilight walks up to see her friends working on yet another sun. She gives Pinkie a pleading look.

128 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Do I want to know?

Pinkie nods and throws the switch and opens the trap door. Up rises a pole, and on top of the pole: A GIANT MARSHMALLOW!

129 PINKIE PIE  
Wait for it...

<FWOOM!> The Marshmallow "magically" ignites in FLAME.

Applejack races in with a bucket of water on her back and bucks it up to SPLASH ON THE MARSHMALLOW, putting it out. She does a slow-burn-glare to Pinkie.

130 APPLEJACK  
PINKIE PIE...

131 PINKIE PIE  
Whaaaat? It's realistic! The sun's  
just like a burning marshmallow.

REVEAL a DRIPPING Twilight (soaked from AJ's bucket) as she stares into space, nearing an eye-twitching breaking point.

4. CLASSROOM: A worn down and put-upon Twilight trudges toward Spike and On Stage. All three of them stare at Celestia, who is making a series of bizarre incomprehensible gestures in front Raspberry Beret.

132 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
What are they doing now?

133 SPIKE  
The simplest acting exercise they  
could think of: A game of Charades.

Raspberry Beret tries her best to guess what Celestia is acting out.

134 RASPBERRY BERET  
A puppy! A duck-billed platypus!  
Antidisestablishmentarianism! Oh, I  
give up! What?!

135 CELESTIA  
My love for Equestria and all the  
ponies in it! (Notices Twilight)  
Twilight, you felt what I was  
emoting, didn't you?

Twilight uses her last ounce of energy to force a smile.

136 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
...Yeah!

Spike leans over to On Stage.

137 SPIKE  
Now that's the best acting we've  
seen all day.

#### **SC. 11 - EXT. THEATRE - BACKSTAGE - PERFORMANCE NIGHT**

Twilight, clearly at the end of her rope, addresses Spike, Starlight, Fluttershy, Applejack, Rainbow Dash and Rarity.

138 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Ok. I tried, and tried, and tried.  
But we have to face facts. We can't  
make Celestia an actress. So  
there's only one thing to do.

139 APPLEJACK  
Tell her the truth? Finally?

140 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
No.

141           APPLEJACK / RARITY / SPIKE /  
              FLUTTERSHY / RAINBOW DASH / STARLIGHT

<groan>

Twilight magically conjures a script.

142           TWILIGHT SPARKL  
I've re-written the script to give  
Celestia a "more artistic" part.  
With no lines.

143           PINKIE PIE (O.S.)  
And to make sure the show's a hit,  
I've whipped up the biggest,  
bestest, flashiest fake sun ever!

Everyone looks up to the catwalk, sees Pinkie has taped together a HUGE BALL OF GLOWING (almost radio-active looking) FIREWORKS (which dangles from the backdrop by a rope) and the fuse on the main firework is LIT!

144           TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Pinkie, that looks...unsafe.

145           PINKIE PIE  
Why would untested magic fireworks  
that I bought in a back-alley from  
Trixie at midnight be unsafe?

Twilight TAKES in horror, but before she can say anything--

<SHOOM!!> The fireworks ERUPT, BLASTING off the stage and carrying the backdrop with them as they EXPLODE over the horizon! Twilight takes in the ruination of the set. Her eyes get big, she shakes... And then the eruption comes...

146           TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
AAAAAAAAAAHHH!!! I CAN'T TAKE IT  
ANYMORE!! IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A  
SIMPLE PLAY! JUST ONE SIMPLE PLAY!  
AND THEN EVERYTHING GOES WRONG!  
FROM THE STAGE, TO THE PROPS, RIGHT  
DOWN TO THE WORST LEAD ACTRESS IN  
EQUESTRIA!

Twilight suddenly notices everyone's staring at something behind her.

Twilight turns to sees CELESTIA standing behind her, a look of hurt and betrayal on her face. It's clear she heard the whole thing.

ON TWILIGHT'S horror...

**END OF ACT TWO****ACT THREE****SC. 12 - EXT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT - RESUME**

The Mane 5, Starlight and Spike watch awkwardly as a deeply hurt Celestia confronts Twilight.

147           CELESTIA  
Twilight. If you honestly felt I  
was a bad actress, why didn't you  
tell me?

148           TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Princess Celestia, I'm so sorry. I  
didn't mean to insult your acting.  
It's just...I got so stressed...

Twilight bows her head in shame.

149           TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)  
But that's no excuse for what I  
said. You have every right to be  
upset with me.

150           CELESTIA  
I'm not upset because you insulted  
my acting.

151           TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
(hopeful)  
You're not?

152           CELESTIA  
I'm upset because...In all the time  
we've known each other, I thought  
I'd taught you about the importance  
of friendship, trust, and honesty.

Celestia turns and flies away into the night sky.

153           TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Celestia! Wait!

Twilight starts to fly after Celestia, but Pinkie Pie grabs Twilight's hind legs.

154           PINKIE PIE  
No! You can't fly away now! Look!

Pinkie points to a small gap in the curtain.

Looking through it, the ponies can see a large audience sitting in front of the stage, waiting for the show to start.

155 FLUTTERSHY  
Ponies are taking their seats for the show!

156 RAINBOW DASH  
Standing room only! Did I do a good job advertising this thing or what?

Rainbow Dash notices everypony frowning at her.

157 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)  
Sorry.

158 STARLIGHT GLIMMER  
We can't put on a show with no lead actress.

Applejack takes charge and tells Twilight--

159 APPLEJACK  
You go find Celestia. We'll figure a way to stall 'til ya get back.

Twilight nods and takes off flying as fast as she can.

Spike looks at all the remaining ponies and jerks a thumb at the audience outside the curtain.

160 SPIKE  
Good luck. No pony's gonna volunteer to try to tame that!

The Ponies look at him, thoughtful.

161 RARITY  
NoPONY indeed.

Spike gulps.

**SC. 13 - EXT. THEATER STAGE - NIGHT**

Spike tiptoes timidly out onto the stage, surveys the crowd.

162 SPIKE  
So...Who likes juggling?

Spike pulls a series of bowling pins out from behind his back and commences a (kind of lame) juggling act. No response from the audience. It's gonna be a long night.

**SC. 14 - EXT. THE SKIES OVER EQUESTRIA - NIGHT**

Twilight catches up with Celestia soaring through the clouds.

163 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Princess Celestia! Please wait!  
Can we talk?

164 CELESTIA  
I'm afraid I haven't much to say,  
Twilight.

165 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Alright then, just listen. You've  
guided me since I was a filly.  
You've given me knowledge, and  
advice, and friendship. Just  
once... I wanted to be able to give  
something back to you.

Celestia looks at Twilight, surprised and moved by this.

Twilight hangs her head and continues--

166 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)  
I know what I did was wrong. I  
should've told you the truth. But  
I promised you could be in our  
play! I had to make it work.  
Nothing would make me feel worse  
than knowing I disappointed you.

Celestia lands on a cloud. Twilight follows suit.

167 CELESTIA  
You really mean that?

168 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Of course! I look up to you more  
than anypony I've ever met. I'd  
hate to let you down... Like I did.

Celestia sighs. There's no way she can stay angry at her  
favorite pupil after that.

169 CELESTIA  
You had good intentions, Twilight.  
But you know that the truth is  
always better than a well-meant  
lie. Didn't Applejack remind you?

170 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
About a hundred times. And now,  
because I didn't listen to her,  
I've ruined your whole Onesversary.

171 CELESTIA  
Well, I don't know about that.  
Isn't there an old saying, "The  
show must go on"? There may be a  
way for us to save the play yet.

172 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
But how? I mean, if I'm being  
completely honest...  
(Celestia nods - go ahead)  
You're not an actress.

173 CELESTIA  
(Grinning) No, but I am a princess.

**SC. 15 - EXT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT**

Spike retreats backstage, dodging a hail of FRUIT that's  
being thrown by the audience.

174 AUDIENCE  
<BOOS!>

Spike bites into a thrown tomato.

175 SPIKE  
Good news, free food. Bad news?  
This play is officially a disaster.

176 CELESTIA (O.S.)  
Fortunately, I know a thing or two  
about how to deal with those.

Spike, Starlight, Rarity, Fluttershy, Pinkie, Rainbow Dash  
and Applejack all look up to see Twilight returning with  
Celestia! They float down to the stage from up above, ready  
to save the day.

177 STARLIGHT GLIMMER  
You came back!

All the ponies rush towards Celestia happily!

178 CELESTIA  
Yes. But let's celebrate later.  
Right now, we have a show to do!

179 RARITY  
But how? The audience is about to riot! We have no backdrop! And our lead actress is...!

Rarity freezes. The ponies all look at each other awkwardly. No one wants to say anything unkind. Celestia nods, it's ok.

180 CELESTIA  
No longer in that role.

181 CELESTIA (CONT'D)  
(Royal Canterlot Voice)  
Rarity, Applejack, Pinkie Pie, Twilight, go calm the audience. Let them know the play will start in just a minute.

The selected ponies race to follow her command as Celestia clearly takes charge, a ruler in her new stage domain.

182 CELESTIA (CONT'D)  
Rainbow Dash, bring us some clouds and place them behind the stage.

Rainbow Dash does this instantly at blinding speed. The clouds form a new BACKDROP for the stage.

183 CELESTIA (CONT'D)  
There. That's our new backdrop. Starlight, do you have a copy of the script?

Starlight levitates one over. Celestia gives it to Spike.

184 CELESTIA (CONT'D)  
Spike, you narrate the play. Fluttershy will be our new lead.

Spike nods, but Fluttershy starts to quake and get small.

185 FLUTTERSHY  
Oh my. Me? Playing you? While you watch me playing you? I think my stage fright is coming back...

Celestia puts a reassuring hoof on Fluttershy's shoulder.

186 CELESTIA  
Visualize with me. You're a Princess. Regal, commanding, confident. Feel the rising sun's warmth. Equestria needs you.

With each word, Fluttershy straightens, "becoming" more of the Princess that Celestia commands her to be. She's ready!

**SC. 16 - EXT. THEATRE STAGE - SOON - NIGHT**

The curtains open, and Spike begins narrating.

187           SPIKE  
Once upon a time, before Celestia,  
Equestria was suffering terrible  
hardship. Raising the sun every  
morning was so hard that it took  
five Unicorn Sorcerers plus  
Starswirl the Bearded to do it.

Twilight's students in their "unicorn wizard" costumes (still limping, bandaged and bedraggled from their earlier fall through the trap door) come trudging onto the stage.

THE AUDIENCE LAUGHS at the bedraggled wizards.

188           AUDIENCE MEMBER  
You call those great sorcerers?

189           AUDIENCE  
<LAUGHTER>

**SC. 17 - EXT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT**

Twilight panics to Celestia--

190           TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Oh no. Hecklers! What should we do?

191           CELESTIA  
(calls to Spike)  
Spike! Do some improv!

**SC. 18 - EXT. THEATRE STAGE - NIGHT**

So Spike drops the script and goes off book--

192           SPIKE  
And...raising the sun each day was  
super-draining. But you can see  
that for yourselves, right? I mean  
do these guys look beat up or what?

<CHUCKLES> from the audience.

Sandbar (or rather "Starswirl") happens to walk through a puff of cloud that's floating around on stage. The grey cloud gets stuck in his long brown beard.

193 SPIKE (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Look! Starswirl is so stressed  
he's already going grey!

<LAUGHTER> from the audience. Fluttershy walks out on stage wearing gold horseshoes and a crown.

194 SPIKE (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
But that's ok. Because it turns  
out, Celestia had the special power  
to raise the sun all by herself!

195 FLUTTERSHY  
It's time for a new day in Equestria!

Fluttershy's voice rings out boldly and...nothing happens!

**SC. 19 - EXT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT**

Twilight gapes, sweating bullets as she realizes--

196 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
In all the commotion we forgot we  
don't have a sun! What do we do?

197 CELESTIA  
We play charades.

Celestia makes eye contact with Fluttershy and STRIKES a DRAMATIC POSE. Fluttershy gets the hint and strikes the same pose. Then Celestia closes her eyes, concentrates...

AND THE AUDIENCE <OOHS AND AHHHS> as THE REAL SUN comes rising up over the horizon!

The Method Mares (in the front row) are deeply impressed.

198 ON STAGE  
Goodness! I had no idea this  
production would have such  
elaborate special effects!

As everypony in the audience <CHEERS WILDLY>, the sun gives off a BRIGHT FLASH and we cut to:

**SC. 20 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL - OUTDOOR THEATRE - LATER**

The show has ended. The audience has left. And Celestia, Spike, Starlight and the Mane Six are cleaning up a large array of flowers that have been thrown onto the stage.

199 CELESTIA  
Judging by how many flowers the audience threw, it seems our play was a success.

200 FLUTTERSHY  
I just feel bad you never got a chance to actually be in it.

201 CELESTIA  
(smiles)  
You shouldn't. I never felt I had to be on stage to be part of the show. All I ever wanted was to share an honest bond of creativity, artistry, and happiness with my friends. And that's exactly what I got to do.

202 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
Thank you for saving our play, Princess Celestia.

203 CELESTIA  
You're welcome, Twilight. But from now on, none of you will have to call me "Princess" anymore.

204 SPIKE  
We don't?

205 CELESTIA  
No. I had so much fun tonight I've decided to give up my crown, step down from the throne, and devote all of my time to the theatre!

Everyone stares at Celestia, slack-jawed.

206 TWILIGHT SPARKLE  
You...what?

207 CELESTIA  
Gotcha.  
(then, smiles)  
Maybe I'm not such a bad actress after all.

As the friends share a good <LAUGH>, we pull back and FADE OUT!

**THE END.**