

1.

The forest of April awakened from sleep, and flowers unfolded through snow.

"The forest of April" is oddly specific. Also, I don't really know if flowers can live by unfolding THROUGH snow. It's more like the snow has to melt beforehand. Anyway, these oddities do not increase my interest in the story, more let me doubt the author's authority. Not a good start. There's very little of interest here that would make me want to read on. 2/10

2.

There's a wall at the edge of the forest.

Okay, this leads me to the question: why? I immediately have to think about fencing something in. Maybe there are monsters in the forest? I'm curious, and that's a good place to have me. The only thing missing is some immediacy, a sense of urgency that would lead to some tension. Therefore: 7/10

3.

A gentle breeze tugs at Twilight's mane.

This creates a picture, and a sensation. I can feel the breeze tugging at my own mane uhh... hair, I mean. That said, it's not a hook: I don't feel very intrigued to read on. For all I know, Twilight could be out doing something completely boring. 4/10

4.

In the course of my association with Mr. Fetlock Holmes, I have often been the subject of his keen insight.

The parallels to Sherlock Holmes are so pronounced that I can't help but pre-judge the story on basis of the original. I think this can be a good thing or a bad thing, depending on the reader. That gamble failed with me: I never liked detective stories, let alone ancient ones. It also comes across as non-original. The POV is the same, the tone is the same. Why would I want to read this instead of the original? You could give a Holmes character a new spin by having someone with Rainbow Dash's personality be the narrator, but this? It's just unappealing on all fronts. 0/10

5.

This is everything I ever wanted.

This is also a double-edged sword. On one hand, it's quite effective in making me ask: what is it you wanted, what is it you have right now? On the other hand, most people's wishes are mundane, and wish fulfillment stories are a dime a dozen. I'd probably scan the next two paragraphs to see where the story is heading, then decide. 6/10

6.

On December 14th, at 3:15 AM, Adams woke me with a loud knock on my front door.

Instead of including details needlessly, this here signifies that the date had an impact on the narrator. I can feel this is the start of something life changing. The time also tells that Adams isn't just coming for a teatime visit. There's something going on, and I want to know what it is. 10/10

7.

With a light step, Princess Celestia strode into Sugarcube Corner and made her way past the showroom and kitchen and on to the living area.

First: 3 'and' in an opening sentence: nu-uh. It's a bit odd for Celestia to go to Sugarcube Corner all by herself, and to the living area of all things. However, there is no real tension yet. She might just want to order the party service and there was nopony in the showroom or kitchen to talk to. 3/10

8.

The grimy mirror in this locker room's got three big cracks running across it, and when I look back at myself, my pieces don't fit together right.

This is taking a good image and using it to hint at the narrator's mental state. This makes me think of an internal conflict, and I love those. Also, a locker room and the surrounding environment is notoriously unforgiving, which already hints at real-world problems rising from the internal struggle. 9/10

9.

"Again?"

I think starting with dialogue is a good choice to launch a story immediately, and this here works pretty well since it creates a lot of questions. That said, I think this is a bit too minimalistic. I wouldn't count this as an opening line in itself, because this one word is

even less reader investment than a story's title. Still, in terms of making me progress to the next line, it's very effective: 8/10

10.

She wasn't sure what was wrong with it.

So, a pony who's fixing something... or maybe has to take care of a baby foal? that would be fun. Anyway, the protagonist is clearly having trouble with something, and that could make for an amusing scene which I might want to read. 8/10