

Episode 15

The Traveler's Prison

[SCN 1]

[TARDIS landing]

[Atmosphere: TARDIS interior]

Doctor: Alright gang, are you ready for planet Paradise?

Derpy: So when you say the whole planet is a luxury resort...

Doctor: I mean the *whole* planet is a luxury resort! And I already booked the room and picked up the key so just beyond those doors is the VIP suite for three! Even I haven't seen what it looks like yet!

Tick Tock: Don't delay any longer, let's see it.

Doctor: Alright eager beaver, I get it. Feast your eyes...!

[TARDIS door opens]

Derpy: [gasps]

Tick Tock: Ooh...

Derpy: This is bigger than a house!

Doctor: Fancy that!

Tick Tock: I've never seen anything so sophisticated.

Doctor: Aaaand check out the view behind the curtains!

[Doctor pulls the curtains open]

Derpy: There's... So much to do out there. Is that a theme park? And the ocean beach! The water's pink!!!

Doctor: It's more than just pink, you'll see how special it is don't you worry.

Tick Tock: How are we supposed to choose what to do first?

Doctor: Don't worry, I already made a schedule for us! First on the agenda is trying out their room service! We start small though, save our appetites for the 3rd largest buffet in the universe. I was looking through the menu and look! They have a platter of exotic butters! What do you think?

Derpy: It's not just butter Doctor, there are biscuits.

Doctor: Yeah I figured telling them no biscuits.

Tick Tock: Order the biscuits.

Doctor: You sure?

Derpy: Order. The biscuits.

Doctor: Fiiiiine...

[INTRO THEME]

Doctor: Those were fantastic, I was in butter heaven.

Derpy: Did you have to smack so loud while you were eating it? Urgh.

Doctor: Sorry, I was lost in buttery bliss.

Tick Tock: Where are we going now?

Doctor: I figured after everything we've been through we deserve a trip to the spa. They have mud baths, hot springs, hooficures, these creatures they put on you to groom your fur until it's as soft as when you were children, and a delightful 8 armed massage! By the end you'll feel like a brand new pony!

Derpy: The grooming thing seems a tiny bit weird but what the heck, I'll try it.

Tick Tock: I feel like I'm about to commit something very forbidden, everycreature in Neighers couldn't even dream of such a place.

Derpy: Hey, what if that massage loosens up those stiff joints of yours?

Tick Tock: That would be incredible.

Doctor: Well let's find out!

[scene transfer]

Doctor: [sigh in relief]

Tick Tock: [groan in relief]

Derpy: [sigh in relief]

[Note: all at the same time]

Derpy: You were right, Doctor, I DO feel like a new pony.

Tick Tock: I'm feeling things in places I couldn't feel before.

Doctor: Now that we're all fresh and ready to take on the world, our next destination is the beach! The water is certainly something special, you have to experience it for yourself to really understand. I mean I could explain it easily but it's better to be surprised. The sand is special too! You saw from a distance but when you see it up close you'll notice it's all pure white! You'll also notice something else about it that I find just adorable.

Derpy: Ooo I can't wait.

[scene transfer]

[Atmosphere: ocean waves]

[other creatures playing on the beach]

Derpy: Oh my gosh this sand is so soft!

Tick Tock: On closer examination, look, all the grains are shaped like stars.

Doctor: Correct, star sand! It's really the empty husks of millions of tiny single celled organisms called protists. The ones on your planet aren't really soft like these ones here are.

Derpy: So they're uh, like skeletons?

Doctor: More or less.

Derpy: And you called that adorable.

Doctor: Come on, you can't deny the star shapes are cute.

Derpy: Yeah I guess...

Doctor: Now come put your hooves in the water!

Tick Tock: I'm only putting my hoof in, I am not going swimming.

Derpy: Still not over your experience as a sea pony?

Tick Tock: Not in the slightest.

Doctor: I still can't believe I missed that.

Derpy: Okay let's see what all the fuss is about.

[Small splash, Derpy dipping her hoof in the water]

Derpy: The water, it's... Fizzy!

Tick Tock: [tiny giggle] It tickles. [serious] More reason not to swim in it.

Doctor: That's right, this ocean is carbonated! It's not everyone's cup of tea but for most it's quite pleasant! Just don't open your eyes in it.

Derpy: Is it safe to drink?

Doctor: It is, but-

Derpy: [sip] Ack! [cough] So bitter!!!

Doctor: I tried to warn you. It doesn't taste good. Some folks have developed an acquired taste for it though and they sell it in bottles, they call it Paradise Pink. I hear it's good for digestion.

Derpy: To each their own I guess. ... Tick Tock, you gotta try it.

Tick Tock: Do I really?

Derpy: I dare ya.

Tick Tock: You give me no choice then. [sip] Hm. Yes. That is most unpleasant.

Derpy: Your eye is twitching.

Tick Tock: So it is.

Doctor: [laughs] You two are a riot, never change.

[....]

Doctor: Well since we don't seem interested in swimming in fizzy water, why don't we play at the water park instead?

Tick Tock: What is a 'water park'? I envision a tranquil location in nature, not exactly a place to play.

Derpy: 'Park' in this case is a place of entertainment. Amusement parks and theme parks are places you go on rides or play games. Water parks have water things you can play with, like slides!

Tick Tock: I'm still unclear in what you mean, 'rides'? 'Slides'?

Derpy: Oh wow you didn't even have playgrounds in Neighers... I guess we'll just have to show you!

[Scene transfer]

[Atmosphere: running water]

Derpy: This is a water slide!

Tick Tock: [nervous] This doesn't seem much different than the tunnels when we were sea ponies.

Derpy: You won't go out of control I promise.

Tick Tock: And I have to go alone.

Derpy: I can go first and wait for you at the bottom. If you do it, I'll make you a peach cobbler later.

Tick Tock: ... Alright.

Derpy: Okay, see you on the other side! Weee!!

[Tunnel of water splashing]

Doctor: Wait a bit, you'll see her come out below right as rain.

Tick Tock: Oh, there she is! Alright. [breathe] I can do this. Just on the count of three. One. Two... Count of ten. Ten... Nine... Eight...

Doctor: AVANTE!

[Shuffle as Doctor shoves Tick Tock, splashing that fades out with Tick Tock]

Tick Tock: [screaming from the tunnel] DOCTOR WHYYYY?!

Doctor: He would have count to 100 if I didn't give him a nudge. Alright, my turn! Yahoo!!

[water splashing]

[Doctor comes out of the slide, indicate with a tube pop sound]

Doctor: Howdy you two, Tick Tock still alive?

Tick Tock: I am, but you won't be for long.

Doctor: Was it that bad?

Tick Tock: ... At first. But I could have enjoyed it properly if I went on my own terms.

Doctor: There was a line, Tick Tock. Now come on before the next guy comes out of the slide.

Derpy: You did at least enjoy some of it right?

Tick Tock: I suppose. I really don't like to get wet, though.

Derpy: Then maaaybe the normal theme park would be a better option.

Doctor: We'll get to that tomorrow! You need a whole day set aside for a theme park!

Derpy: Makes sense. So then what next?

Doctor: After we dry off I was thinking we'd go see a 4D movie at the theater.

Derpy: What's 4D?

Doctor: In this case it means the movie will use more than your sense of hearing and sight, you'll smell it, sometimes feel it, and you'll be fully immersed in it. The screen almost surrounds you and puts you in the movie.

Derpy: Oooohhh that sounds really neat!

Tick Tock: Fascinating.

[scene transfer]

Doctor: [laughing]

Tick Tock: [chuckling]

Derpy: [giggling]

[All at the same time]

Derpy: When he mistook that book for his sandwich I think I almost died.

Doctor: They perfected the awkward silence.

Tick Tock: I didn't realize watching someone face a multitude of misfortunes could be funny.

Derpy: The garden scene smelled so good!

Tick Tock: I liked the factory, I'm not sure how they made the air smokey without it being smoke.

Doctor: Dry ice does wonders. Ah-ah, wait, not that way, we're not leaving yet.

Tick Tock: I don't think I can watch another 4D movie right after that, my senses are still... sensitive.

Doctor: No no, not another movie, the arcade!

Tick Tock: You need to stop saying things as if I know what they are.

Doctor: It's games, puzzles and challenges and things like that! You just need to try it yourself.

Tick Tock: Puzzles? I am intrigued.

[sounds of the arcade]

Derpy: This is way more advanced than what we have in Equestria! Look at the graphics, woah!

Doctor: Over here, Tick Tock! This one's a classic, good to start with. Well I think it's a classic, it resembles a classic back home, Pac Man they called it. Here it's Hungry Fish. Anyway you use these controls here to move around and eat the pellets, you have to avoid the predatory fish but if you eat a worm you can eat the other fish for a time. Eat all the dots, and you get to the next level. Get eaten 3 times, and you'll lose the game.

Tick Tock: That seems simple enough.

Doctor: Now, to play any of the games, use these cards. Don't worry about how much you spend, they're for lifetime memberships.

Derpy: While Tick Tock's playing Hungry Fish, I challenge you Doctor, to a game of air hockey!

Doctor: Oh I love air hockey! I never played it as a pony before. I was very good at it in my other lives, if I still had my hands it wouldn't have been a fair fight.

Derpy: Keep bragging, it'll only make my win sweeter.

Doctor: Ohoh, you're on, missy!

[Air Hockey machine powers on, air whooshing, the clack of pucks going back and forth from left ear phone to right]

[Pucks and arcade sounds fade out]

[time skip]

[Arcade fades back in]

[Tick Tock playing Hungry Fish, death noise]

Tick Tock: Darn, I almost got to level 15...

[sound of air hockey being played in the background]

Tick Tock: Are they still playing??? Hey how many rounds has it been now?

Derpy: Lost count, but I've won every single time!

Tick Tock: You are a force to be reckoned with.

[Derpy gets a goal and wins the game, the sound of the puck being hit, clattering, and a winning jingle goes off]

Derpy: I win again!

Doctor: Agh, fine, fine, I give up, either I'm the worst player or you're the best.

Derpy: Probably both.

Tick Tock: I wouldn't stand a chance.

Derpy: That's why I challenge you, Tick Tock, to a space racing match! I've never played that one before, so we'll be on even ground!

Tick Tock: We'll see.

Doctor: I've got to see this, cheer you both on.

[scene transfer]

Tick Tock: Derpy, you are an arcade monster.

Derpy: Haha, well, I *might* have gone to the Ponyville arcade on occasion.

Doctor: Several occasions, I'm sure. We have three choices next, and since bowling has far too many variables that narrows it down to two. Tennis, or mini golf?

Tick Tock: Do you keep forgetting where I came from, Doctor?

Doctor: Sorry, sorry. Both games involve hitting a ball, one is over a net against an opponent and the other is on the ground trying to get it into a hole through various obstacle courses.

Derpy: I'd say mini golf, tennis gets boring fast.

Tick Tock: Golf does sound more entertaining.

Doctor: Then mini golf it is. After that? The buffet!

[scene transfer]

Derpy: I can't believe you and Tick Tock tied for top score, Doctor.

Doctor: Me neither, you're surprisingly good at golf, Tick Tock!

Tick Tock: I've done enough experiments to gauge where the ball was going to go.

Doctor: Oh, here comes the waiter. Let's head in.

Derpy: I've never seen so much food in my life!

Tick Tock: Ditto, obviously.

Derpy: H-how am I supposed to choose from all of this when everything looks so interesting?

Tick Tock: How many types of cuisines are here?

Doctor: Around 500. The best way to choose is by asking one of the guides what they recommend based on your preferences.

Derpy: Wow, I'm glad they have guides or this would be impossible. I'm gonna pig out.

Tick Tock: Let's all pig out.

Doctor: I'm all for it!

[scene transfer]

Derpy: [groan] Oooohhh...

Doctor: Urp- excuse me... Oh dear goodness...

Tick Tock: Have mercy...

Derpy: I don't think I've ever eaten so much in my life...

Tick Tock: I know I haven't.

Doctor: I have, but I'm a lot older than both of you so I've had more to experience. We're going to head back to our suite to crash, and then when our stomachs have all settled we'll be going to the hotel ballroom!

Derpy: [gasp] We're gonna dance?

Doctor: Now that I know how to, we must.

Tick Tock: All I can think about now is taking a nap.

Doctor: And that's exactly what we're going to do.

[SCN 2]

Derpy: [snoring]

Doctor: [snoring]

Tick Tock: [snoring]

[At the same time]

Doctor: [mumble] Pilot fish... Nnn shut up...

Derpy: [wakes up] [whispers] Mmn Doctor?

Doctor: Brain collapsing... something is coming...

Derpy: [whisper] Doctor it's okay, you're dreaming.

Doctor: Nnnh... [relaxed sigh, goes back to snoring]

Derpy: ... sleep well, Doctor.

[Doctor and Tick Tock continue to snore for a little bit, fades out]

[scene transfer]

[ballroom music]

Tick Tock: Shall we have this dance, Lady Bright Eyes?

Derpy: Hehe, we shall, Sir Tick Tock!

[hoof beats in a rhythm]

Derpy: You're a good dancer, where did you learn?

Tick Tock: Sometimes we needed entertainment and celebrations in Neighers to keep morale high. Dancing was one of the ways we tried to enjoy ourselves. I taught myself, I never had a dance partner back then. You're also a good dancer.

Derpy: Thanks, my dad taught me. He hopes I get to go to the Grand Galloping Gala some day.

Tick Tock: Perhaps that should be a future destination for us, then.

Derpy: Oh-oh wow I didn't think of that.

Doctor: Ahem. May I steal Tick Tock to dance?

Derpy: Oh... Pff, okay!

Tick Tock: Since you asked so bluntly.

[hoof beats]

Tick Tock: You've improved.

Doctor: I practiced on my own time.

Derpy: You two are cute together.

Tick Tock: Oh quiet...

Doctor: Take the compliment, cutie!

Tick Tock: Never call me that again.

Derpy: Cutie!

Tick Tock: ... Derpy is allowed.

Doctor: Hey...!

Derpy: Hehe sorry Doctor, what Tick Tock says, goes.

Doctor: Hey why don't you come on in here and join us, no one saying we can't make this a three pony dance.

Derpy: Okay!

Tick Tock: Heheh. This is really nice.

Derpy: It is!

Doctor: Good, after everything, this vacation is my gift to you, I want all the best for you. After this, there's just one more thing to do before we turn in for the night. We're going to watch a stage magician!

Derpy: Ohh!

Tick Tock: Now magicians I am familiar with. This will be most interesting.

[scene transfer]

Derpy: I can't figure out how Tokbar the Magnificent did ANY of his tricks!

Doctor: Well the disappearing act was simple, all he had to do was have a mmf!

Derpy: Never tell a magician's secrets! What's wrong with you?

Tick Tock: Even I know that rule!

Doctor: Sorry, sorry... I got too excited there. I shall keep it to myself then. So, all and all, good day?

Derpy: Great day.

Tick Tock: Fantastic.

Doctor: Perfect! Tomorrow we go to the theme park! Get ready for greasy food, thrills, and fond memories!

[scene transfer]

Doctor: I'm the go-cart champion!

Derpy: Kicked your butt in bumper cars though.

Tick Tock: Bumper cars gave me motion sickness from all the whiplash.

Doctor: You two dried off from the water ride yet?

Tick Tock: Yes.

Derpy: Me too.

Doctor: Then I suggest our next ride, the Thunder Dragon Typhoon!

[Roller coaster running, folks screaming]

Tick Tock: What... is that...?

Derpy: That's a roller coaster, really fast, and this one has three loopdy loops! Doctor this isn't a good starter coaster for Tick Tock!

Tick Tock: I'll do it.

Derpy: Are you sure?

Tick Tock: On one condition. Derpy holds my hoof during the ride.

Derpy: Aww of course I'll hold your hoof.

[scene transfer]

[roller coaster running slowly]

Derpy: Get ready for the drop!

Tick Tock: A-alright!

[Roller coaster drops and speeds up]

Derpy: Waaaah!

Tick Tock: [screams at first but starts laughing]

Derpy: [cheers]

Doctor: [cheering as well]

[scene transfer]

Doctor: Wake up, sleepy heads, we don't want to be late for our luxury cruise!

Derpy: [yawn] I'm up, I'm up...

Tick Tock: You did it again. You just keep talking about things I don't understand. Explain first *please*.

Doctor: Agh, it's been a while since I've had a companion from so far in the past. A cruise is a vacation on a big boat that has lots of things to do.

Derpy: It sounds just lovely!

Tick Tock: Just as long as the boat doesn't sink...

Doctor: They've got emergency responders keeping close by at all times.

Tick Tock: Alright, that's better.

Derpy: I can't wait!

[scene transfer]

[Atmosphere: out on the ocean, sound of sea birds]

Derpy: Ah, this is nice, what a view.

Doctor: The resort looks fantastic in the distance.

Tick Tock: What are those creatures in the water?

Doctor: Kielworfs. They're a bit like seals, but much longer necks.

Derpy: So weird, it's like they're part swan or something.

Doctor: They have about the same number of neckbones as one.

Derpy: So... while we're relaxing out here, let's talk.

Tick Tock: Aren't we already talking?

Derpy: I mean let's get into deeper topics, really connect, you know? Ask me something!

Tick Tock: Hm. How did you get your cutie mark?

Derpy: Oooh that's a good one. So I'm 8 or so, and I'm on a field trip. We're going to a lake to go swimming, yeah? And then came this storm out of nowhere, the pegasi couldn't get it under control so the whole field trip was ruined. Well, during the trip back I was able to cheer everyone up enough that we all came up with an alternative to the lake, a family fun center! When I saw how happy everypony was, I earned my cutie mark. So... I'm not really entirely sure what it means my talent is.

Doctor: Well you told me it was your bubbly personality, so maybe that's all there is to it.

Tick Tock: Or, perhaps it has a deeper meaning. Bubbles are something that make ponies happy when they see them. Throughout our adventures, you've always tried to look on the brighter side of things, you want other ponies to be happy more than anything. You've turned things around for the better, like bubbles on a cloudy day.

Derpy: Wow... I like that a lot... Hehe...

Doctor: Me too, yours was better than mine.

Derpy: What about you, Tick Tock, did you get your cutie mark after you lost your memories?

Tick Tock: I did, yes. One day, a scavenging team came back with a bunch of scraps from one of the old towns that was destroyed. I took some for myself and followed the tick in my head. I was able to invent a small box that turns itself off with a metal arm whenever you turn it on. A useless box, but I found it amusing and it did what I wanted it to do. That's how I got my cutie mark.

Doctor: I wish I had a cutie mark story, I was just here and it was already on my butt.

Derpy: Well at least it's obvious what your talent is.

Doctor: True, true.

Derpy: ... Hey... Speaking of when you first got here... Was there anyone... like us? You know, traveling with you, before you came here.

Tick Tock: You did mention not having a companion from so far in the past in a while.

Doctor: ... Ah. Well I've never had pony companions before you, but I have had others, yes. Quite a few.

Derpy: What happened to them?

Doctor: Oh they all had various reasons for not traveling with me any more, some by choice, some not.

Derpy: What about the last one you had? What happened to them?

Doctor: [silence] ... She didn't like the way I changed, and then... Well I came here. On accident. Pushed the TARDIS too hard I think, I was having a rush. Aaaanyway...

Derpy: What? You should go back, try to fix things with her, I'm sure she'd like you if she gave you a chance!

Doctor: If. But don't worry, I'm not planning on going back until I've had a good dose of this universe, not until you're both sick of me. I have a time machine, it's not like I'm wasting any time!

Derpy: I guess.

Tick Tock: Doctor, I've heard you refer to your other lives. What does that mean?

Doctor: [sigh] Well, I don't really die like you ponies do. When I die, of old age or an accident or something, I'm... sort of reborn, regenerating it's called, I get a new face, new personality- fundamentally I'm still me, still got all my memories, I just handle them differently than I did in the previous life. That's part of being a Time Lord.

Derpy: And this other companion, the change you had, was it a regeneration...?

Doctor: ... You know, the kielworfs are very strange marine creatures. They don't feed on fish or anything in the water for that matter. The only thing they do with fish is gather them up to toss them into the air and lure the birds down so they can leap up and eat them.

Derpy: Eesh.

Tick Tock: Sea creatures are horrifying.

Derpy: Doctor, you know, if you don't want to talk about something it's okay if you just say you don't.

Doctor: Eh-? I wasn't- I mean...

Derpy: We're not gonna pry if it's hard to talk about, we're your friends, we wouldn't want to make you uncomfortable.

Tick Tock: Derpy is right, deflecting is a much less honest way of avoiding a topic.

Doctor: I wasn't trying to be dishonest... Sorry, I guess I'm used to the prying. Humans really like to pry.

Derpy: Well we're not just your companions, we're besties. It's not just you looking out for us, we look out for you too. I know you've been through a lot, as much as you smile there's a lot of pain in those eyes, so I wanna make sure you enjoy yourself as much as you can with us.

Tick Tock: You can be frustrating at times, but my loyalty to you is like no others.

Derpy: We'll take on whatever comes our way hand in hand!

Doctor: Haha, yes I suppose- did you just say hand?

Derpy: Did I?

Tick Tock: You said hand.

Derpy: I swear I said hoof though. Must have picked it up from the Doctor.

Doctor: [suspicious] Must have, yes...

Derpy: My point is we're all in this together.

Doctor: Indeed!

Tick Tock: What's the plan after this little vacation?

Doctor: Oh I don't know, I was thinking I'd let you both decide on something.

Derpy: Hmm, I think I might have an idea... But I'm saving it for when we're ready to go.

Tick Tock: This will be interesting.

[SCN 3]

[TARDIS door opens, hoofbeats, TARDIS door closes]

[Atmosphere: TARDIS interior]

Derpy/Tick Tock: [laughing]

Doctor: And that's why pears are the worst fruit! Aside from being watery syrup potatoes. AND why pear butter is an insult to butter.

Derpy: But what about yellow pears? That's not a green fruit.

Doctor: Still a watery syrup potato. Not even being not-green can save them. Anyway, how are we feeling, best vacation ever?

Derpy: Best vacation ever!

Tick Tock: Agreed.

Doctor: And look at you Tick Tock, after that spa treatment and proper rest and fun, I'd say your joints and muscles have loosened up. You're almost smiling.

Tick Tock: Really?

Derpy: Huh, yeah, pretty close but not quite! The Doctor's right though, your movements are a lot more fluid, and you're more expressive.

Tick Tock: Well, I admit it wasn't just the vacation. When we were sea ponies, the potion that transformed us also seemed to cure a bit of my paralysis. Before we left I asked Pixel for some more of the potions, and in my spare time I've been experimenting with it, and managed to turn it into a medicine that I take every night. There's not enough to change me, but it does make a difference for my movement. Perhaps a few more doses will allow me to smile. I hope so.

Derpy: Oh how I long to see a Tick Tock smile...

Doctor: I might go into shock for a bit seeing that. Now then.

[Doctor fiddling with the controls]

Doctor: What do you think? Ready for another adventure or do we just want to do some sight seeing?

Derpy: I... dunno if I'm ready just yet for another adventure. Sightseeing sounds nice though.

Tick Tock: I will have to agree with Derpy.

Doctor: That's fine, it's fine...! I made a list just in case so I was prepared for either answer! First stop, a beautiful planet of diamonds!

Derpy: Actually Doctor...

Doctor: Yes?

Derpy: You know.

Doctor: I do?

Derpy: *You know...*

Doctor: ... Oh! Right, muffin planet, right right...

Tick Tock: Muffin planet?

Doctor: It's a planet where trees grow warm fresh muffins.

Derpy: The Doctor promised he'd take me since we first met but we've never gone! So that's where I wanna go next.

Doctor: That's fair. That's very fair. Alright then! To the muffin planet!

[Doctor uses the controls, TARDIS takes off]

Doctor: Alright, prepare yourselves for-

[rumble, an alarm or alert goes off]

Derpy: Oh come on, really? Now what?!

Doctor: There's nothing wrong with the coordinates, the muffin planet isn't to blame for this.

Tick Tock: Then what is?

Doctor: Something's pulling us!

[Doctor frantically uses the controls, more error noises pop up]

Doctor: She's fighting but the TARDIS can't pull away from this, whatever's doing this is practically moving the force of a star! Hold on to the console!

Derpy: [whining] Why now, it's not fair, we're never gonna see the muffin planet!

Tick Tock: I think our main concern should be whatever is doing this.

Derpy: I'm gonna give them a piece of my mind, whoever or whatever it is!

[TARDIS lands]

Doctor: Both of you stay here, I'm going to check if it's safe.

Derpy: Be careful Doctor.

Tick Tock: We'll back you up if we need to.

Doctor: Ok. Let's see what's behind this.

[TARDIS door opens]

[the sound of weapons being pointed at Doctor]

Doctor: Oh. Spears. Always a good start. Wait, isn't this-

Celestia: Arrest him, now.

Doctor: Princess Celestia?! Hey, easy on the fur!

Derpy: Doctor! Hold on, we're-

[the sound of magic, then the TARDIS door closing and cutting Derpy's voice off]

Doctor: Hey! What are you doing, what's wrong? What did I do?

Celestia: I won't have you getting away. Nnnh... [strains]

[larger spell is cast, the TARDIS makes a single warping sound before there's the sound of sparks and a boom]

Doctor: Wh- where did the TARDIS go?! What did you do with her?! My companions are in there!

Celestia: [exhausted] Stop asking questions, you will cooperate if you wish to see them again...

Doctor: Rrrrh... Fine... What do you want?

Celestia: [exhausted] I said no questions. Guards, take him to the dungeon.

Doctor: [mumble] This better not be another wedding related thing.

[SCN 4]

[Atmosphere: TARDIS interior]

Derpy: What just happened?!

Tick Tock: I think we were relocated...

Derpy: Without the Doctor though?!

Tick Tock: Appears so.

Derpy: What are we gonna do?!

Tick Tock: I'm sure The Doctor will find a solution.

Derpy: That's not good enough, we need to make an effort to get back! Let's see, he uses this lever, a-and then this one? No, that one..? Then this button I think...

[TARDIS making various reaction noises to the things Derpy is trying]

Tick Tock: We best not make it worse, let's at least assess our situation, see if we can recognize where we are.

Derpy: Okay... [breathe] Hoo... Let's do it.

[TARDIS door opens]

[Atmosphere: Cavern with lava river]

[Vocal effects: slight echo because of cavern]

Derpy: A cave?

Tick Tock: Is that lava...?

Derpy: That looks like lava.

Tick Tock: We've got company.

[creatures snarling]

Derpy: A lot of company. Um, hiya varied sized fellas...?

[creatures give attack cries and growls]

Tick Tock: Nope.

[door slam]

[creatures pounding and clawing on the door]

Derpy: Sssoooo... I have a theory.

Tick Tock: As do I...

Derpy: You first.

Tick Tock: I believe Celestia sent the TARDIS to Tartarus.

Derpy: Oof, say that ten times fast.

Tick Tock: ... Why?

Derpy: Oh it's- hm- kind of a tongue-twister. Ahem but very serious, yes, and exactly what I was thinking!

Tick Tock: If we've been banished to Tartarus, the chances of escape are slim to none...

Derpy: ... Well, at least we have the TARDIS.

Tick Tock: Yes, at least we have that...

[the sound of monsters trying to get in fades out]

[SCN 5]

Doctor: Heeeelllloooo, guard? Are you just going to ignore me? You know, this is all very informal, I would have expected more from Celestia.

Guard: You must call her Princess Celestia.

Doctor: So it speaks! You expect me to be respectful when all I've gotten since I was dragged here is disrespect? [long pause] Ignoring me again, huh. Well then. [pops with his lips a few times] How long is this going to take? Someone's going to tell me something eventually, aren't they? The Princess sure looked worn out after forcing the TARDIS to move twice. Just so you know, if my friends are harmed in any way, I don't care what the future states, I'm going to give you all a very hard time. Oh such a serious face, I wonder how your sense of humour is? [improv some puns, possibly related to prison, guards, and royalty]

Guard: [groan]

[SCN 6]

[the sound of monsters trying to get through the door fades in]

[Atmosphere: TARDIS interior]

Derpy: So what should we do now?

Tick Tock: There's no way those monsters will be getting in here, so I suppose we can search the TARDIS for a possible solution, though I feel chances of finding anything are slim.

[monsters stop attacking the door, they attack something else, some die, others run in fear]

Derpy: Do you hear that?

Tick Tock: They're attacking something else? [pause until there are no more monsters] ... Something more powerful than all of them...

Derpy: I feel... weird...

Tick Tock: Weird?

Derpy: Kinda like I'm not really in my head...

[Door knock]

Stranger: [on the other side of the door, muffled] Hello? Is someone unfortunate enough to be in there?

Tick Tock: [whisper] Should we answer?

Derpy: [whisper] We're safe as long as the door's closed so I don't see why not.

Tick Tock: ... We are here, but who are you and why should we trust you?

Stranger: Call me Stranger, for that is what I am even to myself. I can give no reason to trust me, other than the fact that Tartarus is my enemy and I can tell this box is not meant to be here.

Tick Tock: And what are you here for? Creatures aren't generally banished here without reason.

Stranger: I couldn't tell you, I woke up in this hell with no memories and have been fighting my way through the 7 gates. I know that I have a mission here, there are things I need to find, artifacts, and answers that will come with them.

Tick Tock: And what do you want with us?

Stranger: It's difficult to explain. I suppose I felt you arrive here, which is significant and I want to know why.

Tick Tock: What are you, exactly?

Stranger: I don't know. Nothing that I've encountered yet in Tartarus. I have four hooves. And a long enough horn that I can see the tip of it when I look up. I don't think I belong here. This box was closer to where I belong, it doesn't belong here either.

Tick Tock: Derpy, are you okay? You're shaking.

Derpy: I am? Oh, I guess I am. Um, wow, guess I'm just shaken up by the monsters.

Stranger: Who are you? How many are there?

Tick Tock: Just two, I am Tick Tock.

Derpy: And I'm Ditzzy Doo.

Stranger: I assure you, as long as you are no threat to me, I am no threat to you. All I am looking for are answers to who I am and why I am here, clearly displaced from my true reality, wherever that may be. As you too are now displaced.

Tick Tock: More than you know. Humour me, describe to me what this memory loss is like.

Stranger: Everything that I was is a cold void, all I am is whatever I am now which is not much other than a survivor. I don't know if I'm meant to find answers, or was meant to forget. If this was done to me or self inflicted. But what I lost is not what's most important to me, it's what I am meant to do now.

Tick Tock: ... Well put. I know from experience. Alright, 'Stranger', we're going to come out now.

Derpy: We are?

Tick Tock: I believe him, I think he truly did lose his memories.

Derpy: Okay, if you say so...

[TARDIS door opens]

[Atmosphere: Cavern with lava]

[Vocal effects: slight echo because of cavern]

Derpy: Oh. A tall old unicorn. For some reason I was expecting something totally different...

Stranger: Like what?

Derpy: I dunno, something more threatening?

Stranger: I can be plenty threatening when I need to be.

Derpy: [ulp] Right, noted.

[TARDIS door closes]

Tick Tock: Where did you get the black robes?

Stranger: Spoils from a fight with a lamia.

Tick Tock: The sword on your back, it's like no blade I have ever seen.

Stranger: It was forged here, from the fang of a basilisk.

Derpy: How long have you... been here...?

Stranger: I can't say, months, perhaps years, it is impossible to tell how time passes down here.

[silence]

Derpy: Why are you s-staring at me...?

Stranger: You all feel strange, you and the box, you really don't belong here. Yet you do, and yet you don't. And you, especially, you're like a ghost, but alive.

Derpy: Wh... what are you talking about? Who... Are you?

Stranger: I told you, I am a stranger.

Derpy: No you're... you're someone, you're- I-I don't know.

Stranger: [annoyed] Yes, very useful information, thank you.

Derpy: Sorry... I'm really really sorry...

Stranger: ... Not having memories is simply something I live with, I need no apology.

Derpy: No it's-- Nevermind...

Tick Tock: Derpy are you sure you're alright?

Derpy: I don't know, Tick Tock, I just feel this heavy sadness and unease...

Stranger: [grunt] Well I couldn't tell you why.

Derpy: Maybe it's just this place.

Stranger: Perhaps.

Tick Tock: Hm. ... so you wouldn't happen to know anything about a way out, would you?

Stranger: There are a number of ancient tools of Tartarus that are said to give someone a way out should they figure out how to use them. I have found 3 so far, but none have yielded an escape.

Derpy: Maybe we can help you find them?

Stranger: It is no easy feat to obtain these tools, finding them alone is treacherous, obtaining them is a guaranteed threat to one's life.

Derpy: So, three people is better than 1.

Stranger: People?

Derpy: Huh?

Tick Tock: You said people...

Derpy: Why would I say that? [panic] I meant ponies, not people! I meant ponies! I didn't mean people, not people, why people? Doctor's infecting me!

Tick Tock: Derpy?

Derpy: Haha, I dunno! My head, my head is all scrambly wambly. Woah!

[Hooves scrambling]

Tick Tock: Ack, Derpy!

[thud] [clatter] [crack]

Derpy: Oooh sorry, I just got really dizzy, and- Oh no, Tick Tock, your goggles!

Tick Tock: [upset] I... I can't believe it...

Derpy: I am SO sorry, m-maybe we can get them fixed? I don't know what's wrong with me, I'm so so sorry Tick Tock!

Tick Tock: [breathes] No it's... I don't blame you Derpy... You're right, we can get them fixed.

[clomp] [key clatters to the ground]

Derpy: Eh, something fell out of them?

Tick Tock: ... It's a key.

Stranger: The spider's web...

Tick Tock: What?

Stranger: [anger] You're the spider's web! And you!

Derpy: Ah?!

Tick Tock: Don't touch her!

Stranger: [angrier] You are a beacon but you shine the wrong direction! You are not doing what you are supposed to!

Derpy: Let go! Who are you?!?

Stranger: [voice fluctuates between pain, confusion, sadness, and anger, all of it sounds overall aggressive and spoken fast as if he's shaking her while saying it] I don't know! I don't know! I don't know! I don't know! I don't know!

Derpy: [noises of confusion and unease as she's being shaken]

Tick Tock: Let. Her. GO!

[buck]

Stranger: Oof!!

Tick Tock: Come on Derpy, I've got you.

Derpy: It's so bright!

[TARDIS door opens and slams shut]

[Atmosphere: TARDIS interior]

Stranger: [on the other side of the door] You let the spider take everything! You weaved the web! It matters not, you won't stop me from finding my own way out! I will find my mission and fulfil it! I will kill the spider and destroy its web!

[kick at the door]

[hooves walk away]

[silence]

Tick Tock: I think he's gone.

Derpy: [mumble] So bright, I see everything...

Tick Tock: Derpy? Come on, snap out of it...

Derpy: Huhh...? Ohh... that was so weird...

Tick Tock: What happened?

Derpy: I'm not sure, I just started seeing flashes and saying things that I know I said but I know I didn't say...?

Tick Tock: That stranger seems to have had an odd effect on you...

Derpy: He knew me somehow, yet not... Oh I don't know, I just wanna get out of here...

Tick Tock: Well... In the meantime, I have a suspicion of where this key goes.

Derpy: Eh...? [gasps] You mean the mystery box?

Tick Tock: Exactly. Let's find out.

[SCN 7]

Doctor: [singing] 23 sticks of butter on the wall, 23 sticks of butter, take one off the shelf, eat it yourself, 22 sticks of butter on the wall!

Guard: Celestia have mercy...

[heavy dungeon door opens]

Celestia: Guard, please wait outside the dungeon.

Guard: Oh *thank you* Princess, this one likes to jabber.

[Guard leaves, door closes]

Doctor: Finally! What's wrong, was kidnapping the TARDIS too strenuous for you? You really stretched your neck out for that one, because, you know, you have a long neck.

Celestia: Ah, and there it is, what they say is true, you really are The Laughing Pierrot.

Doctor: A sad clown? Who's calling me a giggly sad clown?

Celestia: You have a reputation, you know. Your meddling, your destruction, your heroics, you smile the brightest when you're agitated and when you are made angry you show no mercy. Your other name, Doctor, is The Smiling Demon.

Doctor: [cheerful] I do seem to be making more of an impression than I thought I would. And because of that, you should know what you did with my TARDIS and my companions was very stupid. [serious] Tell me where they are.

Celestia: Ah, there's your true face. I banished them to Tartarus.

Doctor: Wait, as in, hellish prison of titans and monsters Tartarus?!?

Celestia: The very same.

Doctor: Have you gone mad?!

Celestia: I have heard legends of your TARDIS as well, that armies could not break through its doors. Your companions should be safe for now, yes?

Doctor: If anything happens to them-

Celestia: I will return them and let you go back to your usual meddling only if you do something for me.

Doctor: Wait, so I'm not in trouble? You just want to blackmail me?

Celestia: You must understand, this means everything to me, I need you to say yes, I cannot risk you saying no so I took what is most precious to you.

Doctor: I'm listening but I'm not happy about it.

Celestia: 300 years ago, my dear sister was taken over by The Nightmare, and I had to banish her to the moon. Filling in her place has been difficult, it took me nearly 100 years alone to perfect cycling both the sun and moon. Luna was also the negotiator of the two of us, she used her night patrols to learn about everything she could and she faced monsters and discovered new things. She was in charge of Equestria's defenses.

Doctor: [almost accusingly] You want me to bring back your sister, don't you?

Celestia: You could not, even if you wanted to. The magic is too powerful. I have resigned myself to the knowledge that she will be gone for 1,000 years, and I can only do my best to prepare for her return, to save her from the Nightmare. But I can no longer use the Elements of Harmony, the tree which bared them that we needed so long ago no longer responds to me. I believe I lost the tree's respect after what I used the elements to do.

Doctor: So then what are you expecting from me?

Celestia: Let me tell you the story of Equestria... Ponies did not come from here, they were pilgrims.

Doctor: Ah, this I know from your Hearth's Warming history.

Celestia: Yes, and once they did settle here in harmony, they toiled to keep control of Equestria and of their truce amongst their kind. Before Luna and I, it took a large group of powerful unicorns to control the sun and moon.

Doctor: What... did they do exactly before they were under control?

Celestia: Day and night would last far far longer, and be completely unpredictable. You could have a winter last a night, but that night would equate to a year's time. Earth ponies were valuable in this time because they could grow food even in the winter nights. It took a large group of unicorns to control the sun and moon, but over time they would lose their magic in doing so. And ponies were still struggling to find leadership, that was when their most powerful wizard was chosen to travel to the Alicorn lands to take two fillies under his care and raise them to become the princesses of Equestria, teaching us his magic and giving us the sun and moon to govern, as our magic was not drained in doing so. Now let me get to my point. Many creatures feel that ponies have invaded their lands and pushed them out. There is unrest right now, diamond dogs, griffins, and a fair number of other creatures have been proving to be problematic and want the land to themselves, and my own citizens have been forming rebel groups because they do not think I am fit to rule on my own like this. Along the southeastern boarder, Equestria had been taken over by hoards of monsters. Many creatures banded together against it, while I can do nothing because of the political risks. The ponies trapped there have lost faith in me, and some ponies who heard of it here think I do not care. There are even Nightmare cults who think Nightmare Moon was in the right.

Doctor: ... So what are you asking of me?

Celestia: You solve impossible problems, you've negotiated between armies, ended wars, inspired change. Help me.

Doctor: I might have done that BEFORE you took my companions away from me. Bring them back, maybe I'll consider some quick tips.

Celestia: That's not good enough, promise to help me and I will return them.

Doctor: I can't make that promise. I don't just magically make things better, you know.

Celestia: Grhh...!

[hoofbeats]

Doctor: Hey, where are you going? Hey! What about my friends?!

[dungeon door slam]

Doctor: [sigh] ... 22 sticks of butter on the wall, 22 sticks of butter...

[fade out]

[SCN 8]

[TARDIS interior and a clock ticking, maybe some kind of machinery because this is Tick Tock's workshop]

Tick Tock: The key looks to be the right size...

Derpy: What do you think it is? We heard what sounded kinda like the start of a music box last time, do you think it's a music box?

Tick Tock: That's a lot of precaution to go through for a music box. But perhaps it was supposed to pair with the honeycomb...

Derpy: Honeycomb?

Tick Tock: Oh. When the first part of the box was opened, a strange thing was inside it that resembled a honeycomb, some kind of stone or crystal yet mechanical in nature somehow. It made noises when it was fiddled with.

Derpy: You're using the past tense.

Tick Tock: Yes... My brother, Lightwing, he became angry with me one day and threw it out into the swamp. I tried to find it, but things that are lost to the swamp are rarely found.

Derpy: Oh... I'm so sorry...

Tick Tock: [sigh] Well at least I got to see it. So if this is supposed to be a music box to pair with it, we'd never know.

Derpy: Maybe the Doctor can find it with some kind of nifty contraption!

Tick Tock: That... [hopeful] Might be a possibility!

Derpy: [gasps] Tick Tock! The left corner of your mouth, it's about half a smile!

Tick Tock: Oh? Well that is encouraging.

Derpy: Well, are you going to use the key or not?

Tick Tock: ... I'm a bit scared to... What if I don't get any answers? But then, what if I do and it's something horrible?

Derpy: I'll be here for you either way.

Tick Tock: ... Alright... Let's get this over with...

[key goes into lock and clicks]

Tick Tock: It... worked...

Derpy: Okay, open it on three. One. Two. Three!

[music box plays for a little bit]

Derpy: Ooh, it really is a music box! Is it helping you remember anything, Tick Tock? [silence] ... Tick Tock? Helloooo...

[closing the lid, the music box stops]

Tick Tock: [deep breath] Yes I'm here, sorry. I was trying to remember. It sounds familiar, it does, but overall I think it really is just a music box. We'll certainly see if we can get the honeycomb to go with it.

Derpy: It's pretty, at least.

Tick Tock: Yes, it is...

Derpy: Sorry it didn't give you any answers...

Tick Tock: I'm okay, I've learned to expect it. Anyway, now we can focus on finding a way out of here. We have to figure out how to move the TARDIS.

Derpy: Easier said than done, I imagine.

Tick Tock: Well, I've been thinking, actually. I don't think the TARDIS can travel out of Tartarus because of its magical seal. Our universe is made up of three things, space, time, and magic. The TARDIS lacks one of those. If we can get it to manipulate magic, then I think we have a chance out of here.

Derpy: Where do we start?

Tick Tock: I love how you just jumped right on it. We'll have to find a few things on the TARDIS, once we gather them you can help me build it.

Derpy: Y-you sure that's a good idea? I don't know tinkering as well as you do, and I can't focus my eyes all too well.

Tick Tock: I trust you.

Derpy: ... Okay, I'll help. Heheh...

Tick Tock: I'll write up a list of what I need you to find.

[scribble]

Tick Tock: Here.

Derpy: Okay, this doesn't look too hard, I'll be back soon!

[flap]

[door close]

Tick Tock: ... Fascinating...

[music box opens and plays again, fades out]

[SCN 9]

[Atmosphere: TARDIS interior]

Derpy: That was *fast*, Tick Tock. I don't think I've ever seen you be that efficient and confident before.

Tick Tock: I just have a really good feeling about this one, all I've learned so far has accumulated to this. I've been studying the TARDIS whenever I can, I even observe how the Doctor uses the console. She is both machine and alive, so if she wants to get us out of here and we have the right tools, she'd surely do it. Especially if we let her use magic, we can use our emotional intent to connect with her since our emotions and magic are intertwined. So we connect this magic upgrade to the console

Derpy: [awe and admiration] Oohhh...

Tick Tock: ... Your eyes are going straight.

Derpy: Weh?

Tick Tock: Well, not any more. But why the sparkly eyed gaze?

Derpy: Sometimes I think you could be just as smart as the Doctor, but you're a lot cooler than him when you ramble.

Tick Tock: O-oh. I see. That's appreciated. Ahem. Anyway, let's get this hooked up.

[clink, click, some kind of magical noise]

[TARDIS makes a single warp noise]

Tick Tock: I think it's working! Now we have to put our hooves on this panel, and focus on getting back to The Doctor!

Derpy: Okay! Please Miss TARDIS, if you can get back, try to do it as quick as possible. The Doctor needs us!

[TARDIS warps a couple of times]

Tick Tock: Oh, right, I should pull the lever...

[lever switches]

[TARDIS takes off]

Derpy: Yes!

Tick Tock: Haha! I knew it would work!

[SCN 10]

Doctor: [improv melody] This song goes round and round and upside down, twisty turny, nothing to learn, because this song goes round and round and upside down, twisty turny, nothing learn, because this song goes-

[Dungeon door opens]

Guard: Please tell me my shift is over- hold on a minute, intruders!

[gallop]

Tick Tock: My apologies but you're an obstacle.

[thunk]

[tweeting birds]

Derpy: Sorry...!

Doctor: Derpy, Tick Tock! I take it by the knocked out guard, Celestia didn't let you go?

Derpy: No, it was incredible, Tick Tock found a way to let the TARDIS manipulate magic and we were able to get back here! She even brought us to a discreet location that would let us sneak in undetected!

Doctor: You both... Flew the TARDIS?

Tick Tock: It was more of an emotionally driven autopilot. Now let's get you out of here.

[Sonic screwdriver, possibly with a different sound]

Doctor: What is- Where did you get a different sonic screwdriver?

Tick Tock: I admit to tinkering a bit with yours in order to learn how to build my own. It doesn't have as many functions, just unlocks things, but that's all I need it to do.

Doctor: That's incredible but also I told you not to mess with my sonic. On a side note you could have just stolen the guard's keys.

Tick Tock: I wanted to impress you.

Doctor: Okay, that's very fair. Now let's go before the guard wakes up.

Tick Tock: The TARDIS isn't far, come on.

[hoofbeats]

[ponies screaming and shouting in the distance]

Pony 1: Call as many of the guards to the west wing as quickly as you can!

Pony 2: They're too powerful!

Pony 3: Run, just run, there's no fighting them!

Doctor: ... That doesn't sound good.

Derpy: And when something doesn't sound good...

Tick Tock: We help.

Doctor: I adore you guys.

[commotion goes quiet]

Derpy: Did they all run away?

Doctor: Let's take a peek.

[hoofbeats]

Derpy: What the heck is that?

Doctor: Oh no. No not here...! Get behind me!

Dalek: EXTERMINATE!

[Dalek laser fires]

[END PART 1]

Part 2: Battle's End

[laser fires]

[hoofbeats as Tick Tock leaps in front]

Tick Tock: No! GHKKH!

Doctor: Tick Tock!

Derpy: [screams]

Doctor: [very angry] Dalek! How DARE you show your disgusting self in this universe!

Dalek: YOU ARE A TIME LORD. THIS WAR ENDS WITH DALEKS AS THE VICTORS. YOU WILL BE EXTERMINATED!

Doctor: [battle cry]

[hooves galloping]

[laser fires]

Doctor: Too slow!

[impact, crunch]

Doctor: Kind of useless without your laser, aren't you?

[impacts repeat as the Doctor hits over and over]

Doctor: You know! The great thing! About being a pony! Is that I have! NICE HARD HOOVES!

Dalek: [screaming] [screams gurgle out]

Doctor: [panting heavily] [sniffle] ... Tick Tock...!

Derpy: He's still breathing but it sounds bad!

Tick Tock: [gasping for air weakly]

Derpy: Tick Tock, Tick Tock please wake up, can you hear me?

Tick Tock: [strained] Ditzzy...

Doctor: We're here, Tick Tock, we'll get you on the TARDIS and we'll take you to the best hospital there is, you'll- you'll be okay.

Tick Tock: No... Sorry Doc... I don't think so...

Derpy: [starting to cry] W-what are you saying?

Tick Tock: I'm... not sorry for protecting both of you... but I am sorry... that I have to leave you...

Doctor: Don't you dare say that...!

Tick Tock: Listen... Ditzzy... I wish I could tell you... what I wanted to but... now would be the worst time to say it. And I don't want to hurt you more. [weak laugh] You should take my goggles...

Derpy: J-just let us take you to the TARDIS, it probably feels worse than it is!

Tick Tock: I never thought it would happen before I met the two of you... But I can say without a doubt... You made me so happy...

Derpy: [gasp, crying] Y-you're smiling...! See you'll get better for sure, you'll-!

Dalek: [in the distance, getting closer] EXTERMINATE!

[explosion sound]

[rumbling]

Tick Tock: Please, both of you... Run. Now. Go. Leave me.

Derpy: No...! No no no! This isn't happening!!!

Doctor: I don't think the building's going to hold, we need to go Ditzzy!

Derpy: But we can't leave him! We just can't!

Tick Tock: Go... [last breath]

Derpy: Tick Tock!

Doctor: I'm sorry but there's no time!

Derpy: [screaming and crying] Let me go! Let me go!

Minuette: You two, quickly, follow me!

Doctor: Who are you?

Minuette: Someone who knows a good hiding place now come on!

Derpy: [still crying]

[galloping]

[another explosion, crumbling rubble]

Derpy: No! Tick Tock was in there! We have to go back!

Doctor: Not right now, Ditzzy, I'm sorry!

[grinding noise of a large stone being moved]

Minuette: In here. This leads to catacombs under the castle.

[hoofbeats, stone grinding again to close the enter]

[their voices echo in the catacombs]

Minuette: I'm sorry about what happened. The daleks can only take from this world.

Doctor: You know what they are?

Minuette: Of course I know what they are. You know what they are, don't you?

Doctor: Well yes but... I'm confused, ponies shouldn't know about them, right?

Minuette: No of course not, but we're different from them.

Doctor: Wait, do you know what I am?

Minuette: ... Does she know?

Derpy: [weakly] I know...

Doctor: Hold on, your cutie mark... An hourglass... Are you telling me you're a time lord?

Minuette: You couldn't tell? I could sense you right away.

Doctor: ... Guess my senses aren't working right. So you're. From *here* yes? Not as in this planet but this universe, always equine?

Minuette: That's a strange question, of course. I'm going to assume you had some head injuries in the war.

Doctor: ... The Great Time War, you mean?

Minuette: No other.

Doctor: And there are still other time lords? What about Gallifrey? I know these are probably weird questions but let's just assume I've been very out of the loop in all of this.

Minuette: You mean you're a deserter.

Doctor: Absolutely *not*. But... Erm, circumstances out of my control.

Minuette: [sigh] Well, there are 9 of us besides you that we know of.

Doctor: Only... 9?

Minuette: Gallopfrey was destroyed, and we destroyed Skaro so the Daleks too have no home planet. We're not sure how many of them are left, a few stragglers perhaps, but we fled from them and they have been hunting us down, determined to win the war. I had a feeling they'd find us when I felt time being bent the wrong way.

Doctor: When Celestia relocated my TARDIS...

Minuette: TARDIS?

Doctor: Right, sorry, my granddaughter came up with that name. My timeship.

Minuette: You... You still have a TT Capsule? So that's how you managed to hide away.

Doctor: So there aren't any more of them??

Minuette: All of them destroyed. The last one we had died when we got here. This is good news, you can take us somewhere safer! And we can grow more of them from yours!

Doctor: And leave the daleks to destroy the ponies? I don't think so.

Minuette: We don't have any weapons to fight them!

Doctor: Oh I'll think of something. I always think of something.

Minuette: Who are you?

Doctor: I'm The Doctor.

Minuette: ... I've heard of you, whispers on the wind... I wasn't sure if you were a time lord though... I'm Minuette. And... [grunts as she moves a large stone]

[grinding as another stone is moved]

Minuette: This is our gathering place in case this ever happened.

[SCN 12]

[large doors open]

Guard 2: Princess, I'm sorry, we tried to keep them away but-

[dalek laser]

Guard 2: Hrrghh!

Dalek 1: YOU ARE THE COMMANDER OF THESE 'PONIES' ARE YOU NOT?

Celestia: [stern] I am. Why are you killing my subjects?

Dalek 1: OUR COMMANDER WILL SPEAK TO YOU.

Dalek Commander: MOVE ASIDE.

Dalek 1: I OBEY.

Dalek Commander: WE CAN OBLITERATE YOUR PLANET, BUT THERE IS SOMETHING YOU CAN DO TO LET US SPARE YOU.

Celestia: ... What do you want? There is no need to kill anyone else.

Dalek Commander: YOU WILL SURRENDER THE TIME LORDS.

Celestia: Time lords? Who are they?

Dalek Commander: THEY ARE NOT FROM YOUR WORLD, WE HAVE BEEN AT WAR WITH THEM AND WE HAVE COME TO FINISH THAT WAR. WE KNOW YOU HAVE THEM, WE DETECTED ONE OF THEIR SHIPS GIVING OFF A TEMPORAL SIGNAL HERE. IF YOU DO NOT SURRENDER THEM, WE WILL DESTROY EVERYTHING, ONE CITY AT A TIME.

Celestia: How would I know to recognize these time lords?

Dalek Commander: THEY LOOK LIKE YOUR KIND, BUT THEY HAVE TWO HEARTS.

Celestia: ... I will see what I can do.

Dalek Commander: YOU HAVE UNTIL ONE DALEK BREAKS DOWN YOUR LARGEST STRUCTURE OUTSIDE THE CASTLE TO ASHES BEFORE WE CONTINUE OUR DESTRUCTION, AND WE WILL ONLY STOP IF YOU GIVE US WHAT WE WANT.

[Sound of Dalek laser and destruction in the distance]

Celestia: Of course. Do not harm any of my subjects until then, and I will cooperate fully.

Dalek Commander: IT IS AGREED.

[trotting]

Celestia: [mumble] If I hadn't used all my magic on the Doctor's box I could have done something about these monsters...

[SCN 13]

Minuette: I'm here, everyone!

Fuschia: Minuette! And who are they? One of them is a mere pony.

Doctor: She's my companion and I'm not going anywhere without her.

Fuschia: Looks a little under the weather.

Derpy: Please leave me alone, I just lost someone really important...

Fuschia: [uncomfortable] Hmn fine then.

Doctor: I'm The Doctor, and this is Ditzzy.

Inquiry: You mean THE Doctor?

Doctor: The one and only.

Inquiry: You're a gamble to encounter, it's either trouble or salvation.

Doctor: Usually it's a bit of both.

Inquiry: Well, then let's hope for the latter. I'm Inquiry. I used to be in charge of the academy library before the war. Now I'm a librarian in the castle, but their knowledge is so few and so primitive that it feels like a library for fools.

Doctor: You ever think of picking a different hobby?

Inquiry: There aren't many options on this planet.

Doctor: Now you're just being lazy, I have plenty of hobbies from planets like these.

Corsair: Here, here, I say there's plenty to do if you just do it!

Doctor: This guy gets it! Didn't notice you in the shadows there, who are you?

Corsair: I'll introduce myself last, never you mind me.

Doctor: Aaaalright then, what about you?

Fuschia: I am Fuschia. I worked in the timeship nursery, I tried to save some coral from them to grow them somewhere safe, but I barely escaped with my life and lost all of them.

Sepia: Call me Sepia. I was a medic in the war. Not a good enough one, obviously. And that's Sandstorm, she can't speak, vocal chords were damaged when she fought in the war.

[clomp clomp]

Insoma: Insoma. I had only just become a time lord when the war happened so I had no occupation yet.

Perfection: I'm Perfection!

Doctor: There's that Time Lord ego.

Perfection: We are nothing if not perfect beings.

Doctor: Yeah you keep telling yourself that. What's your story?

Perfection: I was a council member. You had better show more respect.

Doctor: Ranks mean nothing without a society so don't talk down to me.

Perfection: Hmph.

Doctor: And what about you, Mr. Dark Broody corner?

Corsair: I'm not brooding, I just think better in the dark.

[trotting]

Corsair: Hello there, Doctor, you're more handsome than I would have expected I must say, and it is my pleasure to introduce myself to you as The Corsair!

Doctor: [gasps] The Corsair?!? Oh I am a big fan!

Corsair: Oh, you've heard of me?

Doctor: I practically know you! Your escapades are legendary to me!

Corsair: Those were the days, I miss my TT Capsule.

Doctor: Do you have an ouroboros tattoo?

Corsair: Always have it with every life somewhere on my body, it's on my chest this time. Take a look.

Doctor: Yes, that's the one! We need to spend some time together when we're not all fearing for our lives from daleks.

Corsair: From what I've heard of you, we do.

Derpy: Can we please focus on what's going on right now...?

Doctor: Of course...

Minuette: Everyone, The Doctor has a TT Capsule.

All Time Lords: [mumble in shock]

Perfection: So we have a way out?

Inquiry: All we need to do is find our way to it undetected.

Sepia: That shouldn't be too difficult.

Fuschia: That depends on where it is.

Doctor: Woah woah, hold on, I never said I'd just let you all run away from this.

Insoma: Are you mad?! Don't you care about the preservation of our kind? We're the last Gallopfreyans!

Doctor: Gallopfrey. Oh I wish I had the energy to laugh. I do care, but I also know if you keep running all you'll do is continue to endanger whatever planet you wind up on. I'm going to help you, but I'm helping by getting rid of the threat so you don't have to run any more.

Minuette: I saw ten of them, just ten alone is enough to destroy the whole planet if they really wanted to.

Derpy: Can somepony explain to me what the daleks are?

Doctor: While they may look like bedazzled trash bins with plungers and whisks for arms, they're one of the most deadly threats in the universe. They're mutants who encase themselves in weaponized mobile armor made of polycarbide and dalekanium. They hate anything that is not a dalek, and want to destroy it all.

Derpy: So really bad then...

Perfection: To think they think THEY are perfect. They're insane.

Fuschia: The only thing they can feel is hatred.

Inquiry: They're so mutated that they can't even use magic, and they want to destroy that too.

Insoma: I have no idea what you think we can do against them. All of our weapons were used or destroyed.

Corsair: I'd like to hear your thoughts though, they should prove entertaining at the least.

Doctor: Well I don't know, I managed to smash one up with my hooves.

Minuette: A lower ranked old dalek with weaker armor, and your hooves are split and bleeding.

Doctor: Ah. So they are. Honestly they went numb.

Minuette: So clearly that isn't a solution, it's too risky and might not even be possible with the other daleks.

Doctor: They don't have magic, yes? Maybe magic is the answer. Powerful enough magic to destroy them. But how we're supposed to get that much magic in one place, I'm not sure. I would have suggested Celestia, but she's pooped from moving the TARDIS.

Derpy: Tick... [shaky breath] Tick Tock... made something to get us out of Tartarus.

Doctor: Oh, yes, that allowed the TARDIS to use magic!

Minuette: Your timeship didn't have magic?

Doctor: Er, she's a very old model. But that's besides the point, maybe I can work with this device to give us enough magic to work with to get rid of the daleks once and for all! The only problem is we need to get to the TARDIS. So who's with me?

[silence]

Corsair: Aye, I will. Cowards, the lot of you, no sense of adventure, all you want is your silly books.

Minuette: It's kept us alive hasn't it?

Corsair: If you call it living.

Doctor: You have no idea how pleased I am about this.

Corsair: I must see how you work. Just let me get prepared.

Doctor: Yes, we need a moment too. [pause] Ditzzy, we should talk.

Derpy: I feel like I'm in a dream, Doctor, or not in my body... Tick Tock... Tick Tock... It's not fair...

Doctor: No, it's absolutely not fair...

Derpy: You said you'd keep us safe!

Doctor: Don't be like that, I couldn't have foreseen this happening. I know I made a promise and I'm sorry I couldn't keep it.

Derpy: I'm sorry I just... I don't know... how to feel... there's so many things at once...

Doctor: Tick Tock's death won't be in vain, he will be avenged.

Derpy: I don't want vengeance. [starts crying] I just want Tick Tock...!

Doctor: I... I know, I do too, and I'm sorry...

Derpy: I don't know what I'm gonna do...

Doctor: Just do the best you can for now...

Derpy: [sniffle] Okay...

Corsair: Are we ready?

Doctor: Yes.

Derpy: It's gonna be harder to find the TARDIS with that hallway destroyed, we'll have to find our way around the castle.

Doctor: I think I know another way around, they brought me in a different way. Let's go.

[SCN 14]

Guard: Nnnhhgh, wha...? Oh no, the prisoner...! Princess Celestia will be-

Celestia: Furious?

Guard: P-Princess! I was ambushed! I tried to fend them off but one of them was a skilled combatant!

Celestia: The Doctor is probably our only hope now, and he's probably already gone. This is all my fault, if I hadn't summoned him here those monsters wouldn't be here.

Guard: Monsters?

Celestia: It is best that you stay here for now, it is not safe out there.

Guard: But what about you, Princess?

Celestia: I must protect my subjects at any cost...

Guard: ... Yes, Princess...

Celestia: Stay safe.

Guard: I will do my best.

[trotting, door close]

Celestia: What am I to do? Am I really so helpless?

[voices in the distance]

Corsair: And that's why I never bring a parrot to a party. I couldn't see straight for a week.

Doctor: That sounded more like a you problem than a parrot problem.

[scene swaps to their point of view so they're suddenly full volume]

Corsair: It's the combination of me and a parrot.

Derpy: I know where we are now, the TARDIS isn't far.

[trotting]

Doctor: There she is, oh it's so good to see her...! Corsair. You stay put, knowing you, you'd try to steal the TARDIS the first chance you got.

Corsair: I can say my impulse control might be that bad, yes.

Doctor: Don't worry, I can relate.

[door open]

[TARDIS interior]

[Door close]

Doctor: Alright where's this devi-- Ah, the big thing sticking out of the console, of course.

Derpy: Tick Tock's really smart...

Doctor: ... Yes... He was, this might have been one of his greatest inventions. I'm not even entirely sure how it works but I'm sure I can figure out just enough to modify it. You say it connects to emotions, yes?

Derpy: Uh-huh...

Doctor: So we just need to change what's receiving those emotions to power up with.

Derpy: [sniffle] [cries]

Doctor: ... I won't tell you not to cry. In fact, let it all out. I'm sure you've been holding back. It's just me here.

Derpy: [cries louder and then screams]

[sound of tinkering while Derpy cries]

[Doctor stops tinkering]

Doctor: [struggled sigh]

Derpy: [crying fades in to sniffles]

Doctor: You're so brave.

Derpy: I am...?

Doctor: I'm too scared to feel anything.

Derpy: ... I'm sure you just need time...

Doctor: ... Yeah... Look, when this is over, we'll try to recover his body. And we'll have our own funeral for him either way.

Derpy: I don't want to think about funerals right now.

Doctor: Sorry. Ah-hah. I think I see how this works, it powers up from magic in the area and channels it through whatever this is connected to. If we fill up a cart with useful scraps and bring it back to the time lords we should be able to work with them to build something useful against the daleks.

Derpy: But what do we connect it to?

Doctor: I'm not sure, it has to be something that magic can be channeled through. We'll ask the time lords.

Derpy: Doctor...? I don't mean to pry but... How did you know about the Time War, if you're not from here?

Doctor: [pause] ... Ah. Well. That's because it happened in my universe too. I... was a part of it. A big part of it, in the end.

Derpy: What do you mean?

Doctor: I was the one who ended it.

Derpy: ... How?

Doctor: I took drastic measures. You have to understand, this war was ripping apart time and reality and if I didn't stop it, most of the universe might have been destroyed.

Derpy: ... What kind of... drastic measures, Doctor?

Doctor: ... I... Let's just say I'm the last of my kind. I really had no choice! I'm not proud of myself for it, it's the burden I must carry.

Derpy: [horror] O-oh...

Doctor: But this time... *This* time is different. There are survivors on both sides, not many, but they're there. And the universe is still relatively intact as far as I can tell, but I have no idea what might have existed here before the war. Whatever the damage, this is what happens when I'm not a part of it. If I didn't stop them, they would have fought to the point of almost completely destroying each other. And maybe... Maybe this time I can do something different. Maybe this time, I can save the remaining Time Lords. Surely they've learned from their massive losses that they can't just wield time like a weapon.

Derpy: [cautious] ... I see...

Doctor: Please don't look at me like that, Derpy... it was a different life, a different me... I-

[knock on door]

Doctor: What do you want, Corsair?

Corsair: It's an emergency.

[door opens]

Corsair: It seems I've been taken captive by a tall beauty.

Doctor: Celestia... We don't have the time for this, I can't solve your politi-

Celestia: Help my kingdom. Help me. I have made a terrible mistake and lives have been lost because of it. I don't want to lose any more. Those monsters-

Doctor: The daleks.

Celestia: The daleks demanded I surrender the 'time lords' to them, and I don't know anything about that.

Doctor: Well we're not going to do that, we're not going to let them commit the genocide of what's left of an entire race. Mark my word, even if you gave them what they wanted, they will still kill everything on this planet, they never hold up their end of a bargain.

Celestia: If I hadn't used my magic I could have done something.

Doctor: ... That gives me an idea. See I've already been working on a way to help, and now I think I know the solution. This device I'm holding, it allows something to channel and manipulate magic, something organic. It's powered by the magic around it. Maybe you can get it charged enough to be back at full power or more!

Celestia: Then do it.

Doctor: Glad you're being reasonable now. All I need to do is make a few adjustments, won't take more than 20 minutes.

Celestia: Hurry, the daleks have given me 3 hours before they start killing again but I don't trust they'll keep that promise if they find out I'm not going to help them.

Corsair: My lady princess I do appreciate your long embrace.

Celestia: Ugh... Right no reason to be holding you hostage any more.

Corsair: Doctor, if you let me help I can knock it down to ten minutes.

Doctor: Fine but don't try anything. Ditzzy, guard the console.

Derpy: Mhm...

Celestia: I have faith in you, Doctor.

Doctor: Good.

[Doctor shuts the door]

[SCN 15]

Minuette: We need to come up with a plan with the expectation that The Doctor's contraption fails.

Perfection: I agree, the daleks will eventually find us if we're not-

[TARDIS warps in]

Inquiry: The time travel capsule!

[door opens]

Doctor: Please just call her a TARDIS, time and relative dimension in space, two syllable word, sounds more mystical than 'TT Capsule'.

Sepia: Huh that does sound better.

Insoma: Definitely better.

Fuschia: TARDIS it is.

Perfection: Not that it entirely matters what they're called any more since this is the last one.

Doctor: Just have some manners, Perfection.

Perfection: And who were you? What was your rank?

Minuette: Were you a medic?

Doctor: Didn't have one, I took off long before the war to explore. Doctor is more of a researcher title with some saving lives on the side.

Corsair: A bit like me, I see. Renegade. Ahh I can't tell you how much I enjoyed being in a TARDIS again.

Doctor: Hold it right there. Don't think I didn't notice you swipe the key.

Corsair: Haha, how did that get there?

Celestia: We must not dawdle!

Minuette: Princess Celestia?!

Celestia: Time lords... The daleks want me to surrender you to them in exchange for keeping my subjects safe. But you are refugees of war, and I will protect you like any of my citizens. All I ask is if you offer your aid to end this threat.

Doctor: I have a device here that should theoretically work. I'd like you all to look it over to approve or improve it. We're going to hook it up to Celestia and offer our emotional magic to her, and convince as many ponies as we can to do the same.

Inquiry: I see, a supercharged magic spell focused on all the daleks could work.

Sepia: Let's have a look...

[Tinkering]

Fuschia: Hmm, I see, yes...

Insoma: Maybe if this went here instead...

Perfection: Oh no no no, that is completely unnecessary.

Minuette: A little magical fix here...

[clomp clomp]

Sepia: Yes, Sandstorm, that's an excellent idea.

Derpy: [sadly] Tick Tock would have loved to have been a part of this...

Doctor: He'd be proud of you for thinking of his device.

Perfection: I'd say we've modified it as much as we could. The chances of it not working are very slim.

Doctor: Excellent, then let's test it out. Celestia, if you would...

Celestia: Of course.

Doctor: Not too tight?

Celestia: It's fine.

Doctor: Alright now turning it on...

[magical/mechanical noise]

Doctor: Now, everyone, put your emotions towards defeating the daleks into it!

[power up]

Celestia: I can feel magic coursing through me again, not as much as I usually have but it's quite a bit.

Doctor: Try using a spell.

Celestia: Alright.

[unicorn magic] [flapping]

Doctor: Woah, I'd say it's working alright...! How do I turn these wings off?

Celestia: It should be easy, here.

Doctor: Thank you. Been a while since I've flown. So, theoretically if we were to gather ponies so Celestia could give a speech, we could get enough magic to take out the daleks.

Derpy: I don't think just feelings of wanting to defeat them is enough, the most powerful magic is hope and love.

Celestia: ... I'm not sure what to say, I don't think my kingdom has much faith in me as a ruler at this point...

Doctor: Princess, trust me, you will be well loved in the future, you will be an amazing sister and a wise ruler. And this could be your turning point.

Derpy: I know it's hard to... lose someone. Even if she'll be back it must feel like she died. But for her sake, you've got to move on and be strong. You need to... Accept the reality that she won't be coming back... Not for a long time at least. Equestria needs you more than ever right now, you're going to live another day and Equestria will flourish, the daleks won't win.

Celestia: But what if that's because I gave up the time lords to them?

Doctor: The daleks wouldn't have spared you, they just wanted confirmation of their victory. Unless you give up, the reality of them winning won't happen.

Celestia: [breathe] I think... I might know what to say. And I'll delay saying anything that will alert the daleks of our true intention.

Doctor: So now our job is to gather the Canterlot ponies.

Derpy: I'm good at delivering messages, it's too risky for all of you to be out in plain sight. I'll do it.

Doctor: Ditzzy... Are you sure...?

Derpy: I'm sure. I want this to be over.

Doctor: ... Alright, then good luck, we won't be far from Celestia.

Derpy: Okay.

[SCN 16]

[knocking]

Derpy: Princess Celestia has requested as many citizens to gather for an emergency announcement at the castle! I think that's the last door, better make my way to the plaza.

[flapping]

Crowd: [crowd mumbling and whispering]

Derpy: [gasp] So many of them came, this is great! Oh, there's Celestia, right on time...!

Celestia: [using Canterlot royal voice] My subjects! As many of you now know, we were under attack. The threat is not over, they have made a request of me in exchange for sparing all of you.

[Ponies whisper in fear]

Celestia: They seek a group of refugees and want me to bring them forward. I know that many of you have your doubts in me, and I will not defend myself, I realize I have only ruled in a necessary way but I have kept my distance and acted rashly on strong emotions. I do not want to be that kind of princess any more, and I ask for another chance and for your forgiveness. I know it may be difficult but I need you to believe in me, to have hope in the future, the determination to make good changes, and the love of your home and fellow ponies to keep us all safe and thriving. With your aid, we can make this threat go away. I have failed to do so in the past, but I believe in all of you!

[ponies cheer]

[device powers up]

Celestia: Thank you, you have given me the strength to do what I must! [whispers] Now?

Doctor: Now.

Celestia: Daleks! I have what you want, come and take them!

Dalek Commander: YOU WILL SURRENDER THEM IMMEDIATELY!

Crowd: [crowd starts to panic]

Celestia: They're right here.

Corsair: Daleks, this ends here!

Dalek Commander: YOU ARE CORRECT. DALEKS, EXTERMINATE THEM!

Daleks: WE OBEY! EXTERMINATE!

[a number of daleks saying exterminate]

Crowd: [crowd panics]

[magic spell, the lasers fizz out]

Celestia: I don't think so.

Dalek 1: COMMANDER THEY ARE BEING PROTECTED BY A MAGIC BARRIER.

Dalek Commander: A BETRAYAL! SHE CANNOT PROTECT ALL OF THEM, EXTERMINATE ANYTHING ALIVE!

Crowd: [Crowd starts screaming]

Celestia: [Canterlot voice] Believe in me!!!

Crowd: [hopeful cheering]

[power up]

Celestia: This energy, it feels almost as powerful as the elements of harmony...!

Doctor: Use it now!

Celestia: [yells]

[large spell power up and blast]

Daleks: [screaming]

[silence, some incoherent whispering from the crowd]

Doctor: ... Why are they still there? They're not moving though, did it work?

Celestia: I don't know, the magic did what it wanted, it wasn't mine to control but the will of the kingdom.

Dalek 1: CO...MMAN...DER!

Crowd: [Crowd gasping in shock and horror]

Doctor: What? No...

Derpy: It didn't work?!

Celestia: Wait.

Dalek 1: COMMANDER! [panic] I FEEL. A SICKNESS! I CAN NOT TAKE YOUR ORDERS.

Dalek 2: I CAN SEE BEAUTY. AND UGLINESS.

Dalek Commander: I CAN FEEL IT TOO. THIS IS COMPASSION. THIS IS GUILT. THESE EMOTIONS ARE NOT DALEK.

Doctor: What did you do to them?

Celestia: I believe they were filled with the emotions in the magic...

Derpy: So they're good now?

Doctor: No, to their core, a dalek is always a dalek.

Dalek 1: WE ARE INFECTED!

Dalek 2: DALEKS ARE SUPERIOR, WE DO NOT APOLOGIZE!

Dalek Commander: NO. I SEE IT NOW SO CLEARLY. DALEKS ARE THE INFECTION. IF WE ARE TO HAVE COMPASSION THERE IS ONLY ONE OPTION.

Dalek 2: GIVE US ORDERS. I-I CAN'T STAND IT!

Dalek Commander: WE MUST BE EXTERMINATED.

Daleks: EXTERMINATE! [screaming]

[lasers and daleks yelling exterminate and screaming until there are none left]

Crowd: [confused whispers]

Derpy: Th-they all... why? Why would they all kill each other?!

Doctor: When something so vile gains compassion the only mercy it can give is getting rid of itself. I've seen something like this before, daleks are not meant to feel anything but the emotions that fuel their hatred.

Celestia: It makes me wish they just would have been destroyed.

Derpy: At least they didn't hurt anypony else... and look out at the citizens...

Celestia: Oh?

Crowd: [crowd cheers, some cheer out Celestia's name or long live the princess, things like that]

Derpy: I'd say their faith in you has been restored.

Doctor: Told you you'd be a good leader.

Celestia: I just needed to believe in myself and my subjects more...

Minuette: Finally, the war is over...

Fuschia: We're free.

Doctor: What are you going to do with that freedom?

Corsair: Well you *could* lend us some coral from your TARDIS so we can grow them again.

Doctor: Ah um, sorry but no, she's much too old, doesn't even have a proper functioning star of harmony any more and gets her energy from rifts and other time events. I'm afraid she'd be no use to you.

Corsair: She could at least take us somewhere else.

Doctor: Do you really want to go somewhere else? You don't have to hide in one place any more, you can explore the planet to your heart's content and I'm sure you'll find a way to travel the stars again. If I just took you somewhere else you'll be stuck in a new place.

Corsair: I suppose more time here wouldn't be too bad.

Minuette: I can't think of another place to call home right now anyway...

Perfection: I suppose I can give it a chance.

Sepia: Sandstorm and I have wanted to see Zebrica.

Inquiry: Maybe I can improve upon Canterlot's library, find more knowledge for it and add some of my own.

Insoma: I'm going to find a way to make us vortex manipulators.

Doctor: Now those sound like plans. I can lend you some materials for those manipulators and you'll be hopping about in no time. I have a question, Minuette said there were 9 of you that she knew of, but there are 8 of you here. Who's the 9th?

Minuette: Ah... We don't know much about him, he doesn't want to associate with us, has more arrogance than Perfection.

Perfection: I will not even deny that fact.

Minuette: We have no idea where he is but I would not bother seeking him out, he is only on his own side.

Doctor: Well then, I'll keep that in mind..

Derpy: Doctor... I'm sorry to interrupt but... can we please try to... recover Tick Tock's body now...?

Doctor: ... Right, of course... Princess? Do you mind helping us...?

Celestia: ... it is partially my responsibility that you lost your friend, so of course I will help however I can.

Doctor: [breathe] Alright, let's go.

[SCN 17]

Derpy: It was just around this corner.

Doctor: What... What happened here? The whole area's been cleared!

Celestia: The daleks did this to a few sections of the castle, blasting it all to nothing...

Derpy: No... then that means... [crying] We can't even give him a proper burial?!

Doctor: ... We'll still give him a funeral.

Derpy: Why did this have to happen? Why couldn't we just have gone to the muffin planet? Why did it all go so wrong?!

Celestia: It was my selfishness... I should never have tried to control something as delicate as time. If there is anything I can do for you...

Derpy: You can't bring him back. There's nothing you can do.

Doctor: Sorry Celestia. It may take me some time to forgive you.

Celestia: ... I understand... I will leave you two alone now, thank you for all that you did.

[hoofbeats as Celestia leaves]

Derpy: ... Defeating the daleks only made me feel emptier...

Doctor: It's the calm after the storm, the storm may be over but now you have to look at the damage.

Derpy: Yeah... I just want to wake up now, please, please just let me wake up...

Doctor: ... Come on, let's get out of here and figure out how we're best going to say goodbye.

Derpy: Yeah...

[hoofbeats]

Doctor: Someone's up ahead, who is that?

Tophat: Doctor!

Doctor: Oh, Tophat, bit late to the party you know. You're a mess, did you get caught up in it then?

Tophat: What? Well, yes I did, although-

Doctor: That coat's a bit big for you don't you think?

Tophat: It was the only-

Doctor: And dull, you look better in brighter colors aaaand ummm no offense but... [whisper loudly] You really need the hat, mate, your hair looks like it could become sentient any moment.

Tophat: Is it that bad?

Doctor: Um, yes. Derpy, it's bad isn't it...?

Derpy: Er, okay yeah but-

Doctor: See? Get the hat back. Oh, Derpy, you don't know him but-

Derpy: Actually I kinda-

Doctor: This is Tophat, we had a small adventure together when you were swimming about as fish ponies. He's a bit persnickety, this one, but it seems like we'll be meeting up a few times out of order.

Tophat: Persnickety? Look if you'd just listen-

Doctor: Waaait a minute, hold on! You wouldn't happen to be a time lord, would you?

Tophat: Ah, okay yes, but besides that-

Doctor: I might have guessed that if I knew they existed here! Well well, you're the arrogant number nine! I take it you don't have your vortex manipulator yet, then. If you actually socialized with the other time lords you could get some materials from them to make one. I don't blame you for not socializing though, I mean, cringe, right?

Tophat: Rrrh you're the cringy one!

Doctor: Wow, that was rude, why are you always so rude to me Tophat? And in front of Derpy too?

Tophat: I'm sorry but-

Doctor: Never follow up 'I'm sorry' with 'but', it totally negates the whole apology. Look, frankly I've had a bad day so could you maybe cut me a little slack? We can have our dynamics antics another time but right now I am just-

Tophat: SHUT UP.

Doctor: And you're always telling me to shut up too I mean honestly after I just told you I had a bad day you go and-

Tophat: Shut up, shut up, shut up! You enormous clown with no respect! Impatient, incapable of detecting personal boundaries, rash, an egomaniac who only ever wants everything his way! You think everything should be some kind of joke, that your humour can fix any problem and mask any darkness! Well I'm sick if it, I'm sick of you getting away with it! [panting] Oh that felt SO good to say!

Doctor: ... Seems we're both having a bad day, then.

Tophat: Oh you would not BELIEVE!

Doctor: I'm really not in the mood for this, alright? And Derpy's a lot worse off than me so if not for me, then please, for her, just drop this peacefully and let us move on.

Tophat: ... I'm sorry for your loss. I... suppose I'll see you again some day. And catch you in the right mood, hopefully.

Doctor: I look forward to it.

Tophat: Tata...

[hoofbeats]

Doctor: [sigh] Sorry you had to see that.

Derpy: Are you? I mean, did you really have to drag it on and interrupt us?

Doctor: No, I suppose not...

Derpy: I was trying to tell you, I've met him before.

Doctor: Really? When?

Derpy: When we were in Neighers, after I ran off on my own, he comforted me and then ran off. I think he's a good pony, if you would just give him a chance.

Doctor: [sigh] You're right, even if he was uptight he did try to do things fairly with the least amount of damage. Hopefully one of these days we can have a good encounter with him.

Derpy: Yeah... Let's just go, okay...?

Doctor: Yes, yes of course...

[hoofbeats]

[TARDIS door opens and closes]

[SCN 18]

Doctor: We are here today to honor the life of our dear friend Tick Tock, who stopped running today. When we first met, Tick Tock was

antisocial, mistrusting, and without a friend in the world. But when he was put to the test, he showed more bravery than all of us and was willing to go down with the monster that threatened his home. Taking him with us was one of the best decisions of my life, watching him grow in his confidence and overall well being was a treasure and I am so happy that we got to share those moments with him. He was intelligent, bravehearted, and witty, and while I could never tell what he was expressing on his face I know he was a deeply emotional pony who absolutely loved us. We are all made up of stars, and I want to believe that he went back to the stars. He will be missed, but never absent in our hearts.

Derpy: [sniffle] That was beautiful, Doctor.

Doctor: Thank you, I hope I didn't take away from anything you wanted to say.

Derpy: It's okay.

Doctor: Alright, well, your turn then.

Derpy: [breathe] Tick Tock's biggest mystery was who he used to be, and this box was one of the few things connected to his past. By luck, we found the key and opened it to reveal a music box. I don't know what this song meant to him, but I will play it in his memory.

[music box plays, Derpy starts speaking over it]

Tick Tock... was one of my best friends. He was intelligent, yes, but never arrogant about it, never making anyone feel dumb in his presence. He was brave, but also scared of the things he didn't know about himself... And of sharks, hehe... And it's true he had a lot of wit, but when he really let his guard down he showed me that he was actually a pretty big dork too, which made him so fun to be around. He was always there for me, always patient and kind, and I think we could have grown really close. I loved him. We both loved him. And... [sniffle] Ohh... [cry] I'm sorry, that's all I can say...

Doctor: That's fine, you did well... Why don't we have a peach pie in his memory?

Derpy: I'm not really hungry.

Doctor: That's fine, that's fine, then maybe we can go to the prettiest gardens I know to have a nice place to think and heal?

Derpy: Actually... Doctor I... I don't think I can do this any more...

Doctor: Eh?

Derpy: I mean-! Not now, I just... I just want to go home, okay? I just need some time... Right now all I can think of is Tick Tock's smile, that it shouldn't have been his last but it was and now I don't even get to have a happy memory of his first smile...! It's not fair, why, why did he have to smile right then? Please, please I just want to go home and try to make sense of everything. I can't do adventures or explore wonders or try the galaxy's best apple pie, I can't...

Doctor: Ah... Yes I... I understand perfectly.

Derpy: It's just... I know how you cope with things and I just... can't deal with it. It's too painful. You keep throwing on this mask for everyone when I really think you need to let yourself feel this stuff, so maybe you need time alone too you know? So don't just drop me off and pop up in the future without any time passing for you, I want you to promise me you'll take care of yourself and come back when you're really ready and not just when you want a distraction.

Doctor: ... Of course... I can do that.

Derpy: Thank you for understanding.

Doctor: I owe it to you. In fact, maybe it's better if I went back to do a more thorough search for him after this, really try to give him a proper burial... Now... come on, let's get you home...

[SCN 19]

Radio: Today was the spectacular dragon migration! Let me tell you, the sight of hundreds of dragons in the sky is both breathtaking and horrifying. We estimated there were about 270 dragons in the flock, which is 30 more than last year's migration. [improv some news]

[radio keeps going quietly in the background]

[knock] [door opens]

Derpy: I'm home...

Carrot Top: Ditzzy! I haven't been seeing your face as much lately, could it be you're spending more time with- oh. What's wrong? You look awful.

Derpy: It's... it's just terrible...

Carrot Top: I'm here for you, Ditzzy, just tell me what happened.

Derpy: Tick Tock, he's... He's dead... He died in an accident...

Carrot Top: [small gasp] Oh no... Oh Ditzzy I'm so sorry... Is there anything I can do? I can make you some carrot cake, or carrot soup...

Derpy: Right now, Carrot Top? I just... I just need time... I just... Need time...

[END CREDITS]