

Mine, Little Pony!: Crafting Is Magic
Chapter 1: The Smell of Muffins
By I'm Only Kidding

“Group teleportation?” wondered a small lavender unicorn out loud as she studied the book in front of her. Twilight Sparkle had been methodically reading her way through every book in the library. If there was one thing she could appreciate, it was knowledge. Suddenly, her stomach began to rumble. If there was another thing she could appreciate, it was food.

“Spike!” she shouted loudly. Twilight’s call startled a purple and green baby dragon, who jumped, dropping the pile of books he had been carrying in the process.

“What, Twilight?” Spike asked in an exasperated voice.

“It’s time for lunch. But you sound busy, so if you want to keep working...” Spike was already out the door. Twilight followed the cloud of dust that led to Sugarcube Corner. As she passed the Carousel Boutique, she noticed Rarity was having lunch as well. Rarity happened to glance out the window and gave Twilight a wave (which she returned) before turning back to her salad. Finally, Twilight arrived at Sugarcube Corner. As she entered, she saw Spike waiting for her, tapping his foot impatiently.

After a quick lunch of sandwiches (vegetable for Twilight, ruby for Spike), Twilight returned to her studying. *If this spell works*, she thought, *the girls and I could go anywhere, anytime!* The prospect excited Twilight; the group wouldn’t have to go on day-long journeys to get to other cities like Fillydelphia or Manehattan. After a few more hours of studying, Twilight decided it was time to test the spell out.

“Spike!” After the sound of something heavy being dropped, the dragon walked into the room.

“What?”

“Go get all the girls. Tell them I have a new spell I want to try out!”

“Couldn’t you go do it yourself? I have to... organize the books by... knowledge content.” Twilight looked at Spike and sighed.

“Okay, but I bet Rarity will be hurt by your absence.” Before she finished her sentence, he was gone. Twilight decided to use the waiting time to double-check that she had memorized how the spell worked. In about a half-hour, the door burst open and Spike walked in, flanked by Rarity, Pinkie Pie, Rainbow Dash, Applejack and Fluttershy.

“Thanks for coming on such short notice, girls. Did Spike tell you why I asked you to come over?”

“He said somethin’ about bein’ able to go places without walkin’ there,” Applejack said. The rest of the ponies nodded.

“Well, he didn’t get very detailed, but that’s the gist of it, yes. I found a group teleportation spell

that would allow me to take us all to any location nearly instantly. You've all seen me teleport at some point. It's just like that, but with all of us."

"And this spell... could it be used to take us to, say, Manehattan?" Rarity asked, her eyes growing distant with wonder as she spoke the city's name.

"Yes, it could be used to go there or anywhere else. I just wanted to get you all here for a test run first. If you're all okay with it, I would just take us to somewhere in Ponyville. Outside Rarity's boutique, maybe?"

All the ponies nodded again. Fluttershy was nervous, but she was thinking of all the wonderful animals she could see that weren't found near Ponyville.

"Okay, then! Let's try it," Twilight said. She trotted next to the other ponies and closed her eyes in concentration. Her horn began to glow with a powerful light, and with a bright flash Spike was left alone in the library.

"They could have at least taken me," he said in indignation.

With a second flash, the group reappeared a few feet from Rarity's doorstep.

"Whoa! Even I can barely move that fast," exclaimed Rainbow Dash. Twilight stared at her.

"Rainbow Dash, I don't think you can move instantly."

"Have you ever even seen my Sonic Rainboom? I can move *faster* than instantly." Twilight decided to give up. Bragging was Dash' nature, after all.

"This will be marvelous, darling! We can visit Canterlot, Manehattan, all of the cities that really *matter!*" said an excited Rarity.

"Ah could sell mah apples in other cities without havin' ta wait fer us to take a trip!"

"Oh... I could see lots of lovely animals that don't live in Ponyville..."

"I could watch every Wonderbolts show no matter where it was!"

"I could go to all kinds of parties in all kinds of different cities! Like the Gala, but better, with ponies that like to **PAR-TAY!**"

"Right... I think we should take this one step at a time," Twilight said. The others reluctantly nodded their agreements. "I think we can have our first real trip soon, though! Is everybody free on Friday?" The others grinned and nodded.

Having decided to go to Canterlot on their first trip because it was closer than all of the other options (and because they didn't want to press their luck on the first try), the ponies were all properly prepared. Pinkie had brought the most, her saddlebags filled to the brim with sweets of all shapes and colors.

“Alright, is everypony ready?” asked Twilight. After receiving a chorus of “yes” from her friends, she opened the library door and they all stepped outside. It was still early in the morning, as the group had no idea how long the teleportation spell might take (plus they wanted to fit as much into their day as possible).

“Okay, gather round!” Twilight said. As the others crowded next to her, her horn began to glow. Twilight closed her eyes in thought as she worked the complex spell through her head, channeling the magic through her horn. A pink mist began to slowly spread over the group of ponies, leaving them with a tingling feeling.

Ditzy Doo flew through the air, headed towards her first stop of the day: Twilight Sparkle’s library. As she passed Sugarcube Corner, she smelled the sweet scent of freshly baked muffins. The mail mare couldn’t wait until her route was over for the day, then she could get some chocolate chip muffins for breakfast! Ditzy closed her eyes and inhaled the smell. Ditzy was in luck today, as the wind blew the scent towards the library, and she kept her eyes shut. Suddenly, the mare felt a tingling feeling, then an impact.

Twilight Sparkle was nearly done with the spell, now focusing on her destination. Suddenly, she was knocked off her feet, losing her concentration. Her eyes burst open to find a wall-eyed gray pegasus giving her an awkward apologetic smile, moments before a bright flash engulfed them all.

Rarity groaned inwardly and slowly got to her feet, rubbing her head gently with her right forehoof. She opened her eyes to see a devastating site. All around her lay her friends, groaning and struggling to stand, the spell leaving them all somewhat drained. Even more, they were all... blocky. They had somehow lost their curves, and were now constructed of small cubes. The only triangles in sight were Twilight’s horn and the wings of Rainbow Dash.

A quick survey of the landscape revealed similar construction. What appeared to be trees, constructed completely out of cubes, along with everything else in sight. In the distance Rarity could see some sand, followed by a massive body of water. After a few seconds, her friends let out a collective gasp as they noticed each other and the environment. Rainbow Dash flared her wings, trying to make certain they still worked.

“Ugh... what happened? We were just getting ready to go to Canterlot and then there was a bright flash like there was when we tried this before but this time it didn’t take us where we wanted to go, it took us to here and now we all look funny and everything is all square and I don’t see anybody around here and—“ but Pinkie was cut off by Twilight’s hoof in her mouth.

“We know, Pinkie. But... what is this place? And why do we look different?” Twilight said. She noticed that Fluttershy was a wreck, shivering and staring around like something would come charging at her at any second. Rainbow Dash was hovering a few feet above the ground, Pinkie was investigating a flower that seemed to turn to face her no matter where she moved, and Applejack closely inspected a tree, her ears twitching as Twilight spoke.

“Uh, Twilight? Ah think that spell didn’t work,” Applejack said.

“It worked, I just lost control after Ditzy knocked into me. Wait, where *is* Ditzy?” All the ponies looked around as though she would suddenly materialize. “Well, if she isn’t with us I think the spell didn’t

get her. Lucky pony.” Rarity gathered herself and spoke.

“Twilight, darling, can you take us back now? This cube style must make me look awful!”

“The sooner we get home the sooner we aren’t here,” Rainbow Dash said. Still, the chromatic-maned mare was interested in everything she saw, including some very square clouds. As Pinkie Pie was looking towards a hill in the distance, a shape appeared on top of it, moving closer.

“Hey, everypony! I think that’s Ditzzy over there!” she said, pointing. All of the ponies ran closer, but as they drew near and the shape grew clearer they saw it was brown. “That can’t be right. Ditzzy isn’t brown!” Pinkie Pie said again. The shape walked towards them, then let out a “moo”.

“A cow? It’s only a cow?” Applejack asked. “Hello! Can you tell us where we are?” she asked. The cow responded with another moo. “Doesn’t wanna talk, ah guess.”

“Whatever. The important thing is getting home,” Twilight said. The group all gathered around her as they had earlier, and her horn began to glow once more. Then, nothing.

“Uh, Twilight? You do remember how to use your horn, right?” asked Rainbow Dash.

“Yes, I do,” Twilight responded with a hint of irritation in her voice. “I just... I can’t seem to gather the energy to do it again.”

“WHAT?!” yelled all of the ponies at once (with the exception of Fluttershy, who whispered it. She still felt like a loudmouth).

“I said... I can’t get us home.”

“How is that possible, Twilight? What could be stopping you?” Rarity asked her.

“Well, it could be any number of things... the spell might have taken up too much energy, or it might be something about this... this place... that does it.”

“Isn’t there anything you can do?” asked Fluttershy, so quietly that Twilight almost missed it.

“Well, we could try to boost my power. I remember a room in Princess Celestia’s castle when I was an apprentice. It was made of diamonds, and the princess said that they amplified a unicorn’s magical power, while keeping it controllable. So if we can find a room made of diamonds... but that’s hopeless!” All of the ponies hung their heads after she said this. Then Rarity’s horn began to glow.

“There are diamonds down there! But they are all so deep... I could never dirty my hooves with this... this... dirt!” she said. As Rarity spoke the last part, she gave the others a meaningful stare. Rainbow Dash was the first to pick up on this, and began to paw at the ground where Rarity’s horn was pointed. Rainbow Dash frowned as she wondered why she was having no effect on the grass or the dirt beneath it. Then, cracks began to appear on the grass, spreading farther and farther, until a loud “pop” rang out and a cubed area of the ground disappeared.

“What the...” Rainbow Dash trailed off, then a tiny cube of dirt appeared. She cautiously reached

for it, and as she got close it flew towards her saddlebag, which opened by itself and allowed the cube in. Surprisingly, it added almost no extra weight. “What just happened?”

“Well, the block of grass and dirt broke and it left a small block of dirt that flew into your saddlebag,” Pinkie summarized. Rainbow Dash reached into her saddlebag to pull out the dirt, and held it on top of her hoof as she inspected it. It was, indeed, dirt. She set it on the ground, and jumped back as it became full-sized again once it hit the ground.

“Is this some kind of magic?” Twilight wondered aloud. Rainbow Dash continued to inspect the block of dirt, wondering if it would change size again. Pinkie seemed even more curious, and started pawing at another patch of grass to see if she could replicate the result. She did, then picked it up. As it flew to her saddlebag, Pinkie made a heart-wrenching discovery: her candy was gone.

“My candy is gone!” she announced. The other ponies didn’t seem to take this grave matter as seriously as she did, and began to discuss how they could leave instead. Pinkie sulked.

“I’m sure if we waited a few days I’d be able to save up enough magical energy to get us all home,” Twilight said.

“That’s easier said than done, Sugarcube. We have no idea what’s goin’ on here, and even the ground works different than it does back in Equestria,” Applejack said. Suddenly, they all heard the sound of wings flapping. They glanced at Rainbow Dash, who was currently on the ground. Then a loud thud rang out, and as Fluttershy ran to hide behind Rarity part of a nearby tree shattered and became a smaller block, which flew into the mail bag of Ditzy Doo.

“Ow,” Ditzy said simply. She was used to knocking into things. Her poor depth perception had led her to believe that she wouldn’t have to swerve to avoid the tree for quite a while.

“Ditzy!” all the ponies cried out in unison, running to check on her. Her head seemed fine, as fine as a head that has just hit a tree can be.

“That’s me!” Ditzy said, smiling at the attention she was getting. The mail mare briefly wondered if she should preen, but decided that it wouldn’t do to show off. “Say, why is everything... weird?” she asked.

Twilight set about explaining all about the spell and how a certain mail mare had messed it up.

“I’m sorry! I didn’t mean to hit you! The smell of muffins, I closed my eyes, I’m sorry!” Ditzy cried. She felt terribly guilty about causing this.

“It’s... alright, Ditzy,” Twilight said. “If we can live through a few days here, we should be fine. I’ll have saved up the power to get us all home, and then everything will be fine.” She didn’t want Ditzy to start crying. Ditzy had always been very sensitive, and her eyes and kind nature served to make everypony around her feel as if they were personally responsible for everything that was wrong with the world when they made her cry. Ditzy seemed to get control of her sobbing, and cleared her throat.

“So... we just stay here for a while? What’ll we eat?” she asked.

“Well, um... I don’t know... those flowers look tasty,” Twilight said. Pinkie Pie bit one, and

quickly gave a nod of approval.

“See? We’ll be fine here. I’m exhausted, though. Anypony else want to get to sleep? This grass is awfully soft.” The ponies all settled down for the night as the sun began to set...

[\[Chapter 2\]](#)