

The Sun is Tired
Part 8.5:
Celestia's Nightmare (Hyper Mode)

WARNING: THINGS GET REALLY BAD. READ AT YOUR OWN RISK

I'm diving, my wings tucked in, gaining speed. I must escape. I need to escape. My life depends on me flying as far away as I can as fast as I can. They cannot catch me.

The world around me is a canvas of dim purple light. It's the middle of the night, and I am being chased by an unknown force. I force my wings out, breaking the dive, and flap hard. I use my magic to aid my flight, reaching speeds that I never thought possible. But still they gain. Their leader grabs me.

"You murdered me." The white pony says, ash leaking from his burned eye sockets. "You killed me in front of everypony I knew."

I want to beg for mercy, but he's right. I go limp, waiting for him to hit me. He does, his charred hoof making contact with my chest. Another blow, a hoof to the face. I can feel my bones breaking, my wings being torn off. I am near death. I beg for it to come, to remove the guilt and pain, but it doesn't. I continue being beaten. He forces my eyes open. Blood and ash pour from his mouth and eyes. Then, he drops me.

I fall into a room. I'm suddenly fine now, but this fact seems to have no effect. A pegasus couple is eating dinner in silence. The mare is crying. I realize the stallion is snow-white, and know who he is. Suddenly, he turns around.

"*You!*" he screeches. "Come to finish the job?"

Snowflake's mother sees me too. "You bitch, you killed my colt! You killed him! And I had to watch, I couldn't tear my eyes away! My poor little Snowy..."

She breaks into a new fit of sobs as the father stands up. He has a knife in his mouth. I get into a defensive pose, then relax. I deserve this.

He advances to me. Metal pierces flesh, and my blood is spilled all over his floor. He stabs me again, between my ribs. I feel it puncture my heart. I give into death gladly.

I'm standing in the courtyard of my palace. Ponies in cloaks are bowing all around me.

"All hail Celestia, the holy one!" they begin chanting.

"No, I'm just a pony!" I'm screaming. "Just... No!"

One of them brings a small filly up to me. She doesn't even have her cutie mark yet.

"Accept this sacrifice, oh great one!" he says, placing her at my feet. I try to run away, but I can only get outside of the circle before my legs stop working. I am forced to turn around and watch.

"I want my mommy!" The filly begins to cry. "Mommy..."

A gray pony walks up to her. She suddenly stops sniffing. "Mommy!"

"Yes, sweetie, mommy's here," she coos. Maybe it's not that bad after all.

The filly is still laying on the ground. "Mommy!" She says happily.

The pony suddenly pulls a knife from her cloak. "For Celestia!" She screams, then drives the knife downwards, impaling her filly's neck, just missing the tracea. It makes a dull *thunk*

The filly screams. "Mommy! You said you loved me! You said you-"

Her mother puts a hoof over her mouth. The filly is writhing on the ground in intense pain.

The mother tries to whisper so I can't hear, but I do anyway. "I'm sorry, but Celestia demands it. I need to save your sisters and everypony else in equestria. I still love you."

The mother hugs her filly for the final time. The filly is trying to escape her mother's embrace, though she knows she's dying. The mother holds her tightly, then releases. The filly has gone limp.

She lets out a few tears, before gaining resolve. She puts on a determined face, ponies behind her prompting her to finish the job.

The mother brings her knife up and around her skull. It stops cutting in a few places, and she has to force it. After the cut is done, she struggles with tearing the skin off. She has to use the knife to help in a few places, covering herself with the blood of her daughter. Finally, she removes her daughter's face and brings it to me.

"Are you satisfied, princess?" She looks up, eagerly awaiting approval.

"No, I would never-" I manage to choke out, but then my body freezes again.

The mother looks down. "Sorry, princess. I know!"

She stabs herself as well. When I don't say anything, she tries to twist the knife in her chest, causing more pain to herself for my pleasure.

Suddenly, I'm in a small room, strapped to a table. Twilight is next to me.

"Princess, are you sure you want to-" She says, her voice depressed.

I cut her off. "Yes, Twilight. I can't... I can't..."

She nods. I see her horn glowing, and suddenly I've left my body. I can see her work.

She makes a clean incision around my neck, removing my head. She grabs a machine from a nearby table.

"As long as she is kind of alive..." Twilight says, starting to cry.

She places the machine on my neck. My body is still alive, but Twilight thinks Celestia, the pony, is gone.

But she is wrong. My immortality has trapped my personality in my body, not my brain. I can see nothing and I cannot communicate with the world. I will be trapped there, forever, fully conscious.

I'm in Ponyville. I look around. I'm in the town square, ponies surrounding me. They are holding rocks in their mouths.

Twilight approaches me, holding a paper. "For the murder of Snowflake, you are hereby sentenced to death by stoning."

She looks me in the eye, and I see she is crying. "How could you? I loved you." She whispers, then gallops off.

A stone hits my flank. I don't see who threw it. Another hits my ribs. I feel them crack.

More rocks fly, propelled by magic and kicks. They hit my legs, neck, face. My vision is going dark. I look back. My ribs are sticking out of my chest. Everything goes black.

Twilight's friend Applejack has a noose around her head. The hooded pony pulls a lever.

I try to scream "No," but it comes out as "Yes!"

I am forced to look to my right. Her sister is standing there. "That's what she gets for growing rhubarb."

The voice is mine. The filly begins to cry, and I hear myself laughing. "Guards, she's annoying me. Remove the problem!"

A white pegasus in uniform brings down a hoof hard on her head. Her skull cracks open. She's dead before she hits the ground. I begin to laugh again.

Sudden darkness, my laughter still ringing then a crack of light and silence. I am floating above my palace. I glance downwards.

I'm dead. I have hung myself from the balcony outside my window. I can still somehow see the scene out of body. Luna is trying in vain to raise the sun, but it no longer exists. Ponies all around scream, hug each other, share one last kiss. The planet drops in temperature. Ponies begin to weep, mother sobbing for the short lives of their fillies and colts. Ice forms everywhere. Some ponies decide that immediate death would be preferable to freezing, and jump off the various cliffs. A few pegasi fly high, then plummet to their deaths. I see one unicorn couple stab each other with their horns. The world goes black.

I'm flying, away from Equestria. I'm not even on the planet anymore. I know what I must do to escape the fear.

I find what I am looking for, and touch down. I can live on this comet for as long as I need to. I had to leave. I had to relieve them of their fear.

I put my head in my crossed legs. I am going to be here. Alone. For the rest of my life. It's the only way things can be normal there.

I look up. My sister flies by. We were considering being together, but it would get too painful, only having one to talk to. Going mad from loneliness will be preferable if it comes sooner rather than later.

I'm back in ponyville. Twilight and Luna stand above me. They're both Alicorns, somehow.

"Dear Princess Celestia," Twilight begins, her tone mocking, "Today I discovered that friends with power are the best friends. I also found out how much I hate you."

Luna laughs. "Twilight, shall we do it together?"

Twilight laughs as well. "But of course!"

Their horns both glow, and I am vaporized by the only two people who love me.