Anna Mik, "Entry on: My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic (Series, S04E25 and S04E26): Twilight's Kingdom Part 1 and Part 2 by Lauren Faust", peer-reviewed by Elżbieta Olechowska and Susan Deacy. Our Mythical Childhood Survey (Warsaw: University of Warsaw, 2020). Link: http://omc.obta.al.uw.edu.pl/myth-survey/item/1049. Entry version as of November 21, 2026.

Lauren Faust

My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic (Series, S04E25 and S04E26): Twilight's Kingdom Part 1 and Part 2

United States of America (2014)

TAGS: Centaur(s) Pegasus





My Little Pony: Friendship Is Magic, Ukrainian Logo by Hasbro, 2017. Retrieved from Wikipedia, licensed under CC BY-SA 4.0 (accessed: January 26, 2022).

General information	
Title of the work	My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic (Series, S04E25 and S04E26): Twilight's Kingdom Part 1 and Part 2
Studio/Production Company	Hasbro
Country of the First Edition	United States of America
Country/countries of popularity	worldwide
Original Language	English
First Edition Date	2014
First Edition Details	*Twilight's Kingdom Part 1*. Directed by Jayson Thiessen, Jim Miller. Script by Lauren Faust, Meghan McCarthy. Hasbro Studios, May 10, 2014, 22 min. *Twilight's Kingdom Part 2*. Directed by Jayson Thiessen, Jim Miller. Script by Lauren Faust, Meghan McCarthy. Hasbro Studios, May 10, 2014, 23 min.
Running time	Part 1 – 22 min; Part 2 – 23 min
Format	Available as video on demand on Netflix, also DVDs (multiple editions) are available
Official Website	mylittlepony.hasbro.com (accessed: August 7, 2020)

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Available Onllne	On Netflix - 6 seasons (accessed: August 7, 2020). On Amazon Prime (accessed: August 7, 2020). On iTunes (accessed: August 7, 2020).
Genre	Animated films, Television series
Target Audience	Crossover (Children)
Author of the Entry	Anna Mik, University of Warsaw, anna.m.mik@gmail.com
Peer-reviewer of the Entry	Elżbieta Olechowska, University of Warsaw, elzbieta.olechowska@gmail.com Susan Deacy, University of Roehampton, s.deacy@roehampton.ac.uk

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Creators



Lauren Faust, photographed by Rfaust76 on July 1, 2014 (accessed: January 7, 2020). The file is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike.

Lauren Faust , b. 1974
(Animator, Producer)

Lauren Faust is the creator of: *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magi*c, a TV-series primarily for children, broadcast in 2011-2019, produced by Hasbro. She also has worked for the Cartoon Network Studios in the production of: *The Powerpuff Girls* (her husband, Craig McCracken, is the creator of this series) and for Warner Bros (she is responsible for the reboot of: *DC Super Hero Girls*). Her philosophical outlook could be described as feminist (as she states herself on social media and in various interviews).

Bio prepared by Anna Mik, University of Warsaw, anna.m.mik@gmail.com

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Additional information

Casting	Twilight Sparkle – Tara Strong, Applejack/Rainbow Dash – Ashleigh Ball, Pinkie Pie/Fluttershy – Andrea Libman, Rarity/Nightmare Moon/Princess Luna – Tabitha St. Germain, Spike/Mayor Mare – Cathy Weseluck, Princess Celestia – Nicolve Oliver, Lord Tirek – Mark Acheson.
Adaptations	*My Little Pony. Friendship is Magic* is a TV series, with multiple spin-off movies which all together provide the background for toys called "My Little Pony" produced by Hasbro; a similar phenomenon of cross-promotion also occurs in the case of *Monster High* (toys are accompanied by a TV series which reinforces popularity and sales of the toys).
Sequels, Prequels and Spin-offs	The previous episode: *Equestria Games*. The next episode: *The Cutie Map (Part 1).*
Summary	**Summary of the series (see here)** **Summary of the episode:** In this two-part story, Twilight faces another significant challenge associated with her responsibilities of being one of Equestria's royals. In the beginning, she struggles with the fact that she has no essential tasks assigned to her. At the same time, the other three princesses Celestia, Luna and Cadence, are respected and visible in the kingdom's everyday affairs (they greet distinguished guests, make

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crucial decisions, and so on). They explain to the youngest pony that her time is about to come, and she needs to learn how to be patient. Little do they know that Twilight's time is nigh.

While sleeping, the three princesses (excluding Twilight) have a vision of the evil centaur, Lord Tirek, sucking the life out of ponies, whose magic gives him strength and power. In a flashback, ponies are acquainted with Tirek's past: he has attempted taking over Equestria before, however, betrayed by his brother, he was sent to Tartarus instead. The ponies suspect that he escaped when Cerberus got loose and for a while, the gates of Tartarus were not adequately guarded (*It's About Time*). Afraid of the centaur coming for their powers (the greatest in Equestria), they let Twilight "store" their magic until Lord Tirek is defeated.

Unfortunately, the task to imprison Lord Tirek gets more complicated, as he has already got hold of the power of almost every pony in the kingdom. Twilight, even with the royal powers of her fellow princesses, does not stand a chance in a fight with the mighty centaur. In order to defeat the monster, the ponies need to join forces and use the magic of friendship, the most potent force in the universe. Tirek does not stand a chance with the magical bond between the girls, loses his powers and gets back to Tartarus. Twilight proves her ability to be a real princess and becomes a genuine member of the Equestrian royal team.

Analysis

Centaur in *My Little Pony* is a typical villain. Although he has a backstory, his motivation was evil from the beginning (at least that we know so far). His depiction, based on the idea of a monstrous centaur, is interesting, as he has the lower body of a horse, but instead of a human torso, head and hands, he looks a bit like Satan, with red skin, horns and a fiery glance. Lord Tirek coming from Tartarus to destroy Equestria, is a hybrid between a horse and the devil, not a human.

Casting a centaur in the role of a villain is interesting from the perspective of the principal inhabitants of Equestria – ponies. To them, Lord Tirek must not only be an evil force trying to take over the world – he is also a monstrous hybrid, a mix between a pony and some other unknown creature (as far as we know, ponies do not know humans). Tirek is a mythical distortion threatening the harmony of the pony world. In this respect, his character has a similar function as he

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	did in ancient times (except of course Chiron, who was wise and helpful towards humans). Lord Tirek takes away the power from the ponies, and only a union between friends can hold him back. Experiencing the power of friendship is undoubtedly an important lesson for young audiences, often encountering "centaurs" on their way.
Classical, Mythological, Traditional Motifs, Characters, and Concepts	Centaur(s) Pegasus
Other Motifs, Figures, and Concepts Relevant for Children and Youth Culture	Femininity Friendship Good vs evil Magic powers Past Relationships Values Violence
Further Reading	"Centaurs" on Theoi.com (accessed: August 10, 2020). Hodkinson, Owen and Helen Lovatt, *Introduction* in C*lassical Reception and Children's Literature: Greece, Rome and Childhood Transformation*, London: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2018. Maurice, Lisa, "From Chiron to Foaly: The Centaur in Classical Mythology and Fantasy Literature" in *The Reception of Ancient Greece and Rome in Children's Literature: Heroes and Eagles*, Leiden; Boston: Brill, 2015.
Addenda	The series proved to be very popular among teenagers and adults as well: fans call themselves: "bronies"; because of this popularity, it could be considered as having reached a crossover audience. Translations: Multi-language soundtrack

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