“Hurry! Get on stage! You’re next!” said the Director pony, shoving Twilight onto the stage. The Bright lights already beating down on her made her sweat. The looks and murmurs of the crowd were daunting. She felt her legs shake and her whole body wobble as she tried to walk to the center of the stage “Go on!” said the Director, again, reminding Twilight of where she was.

“U-uh… t-thi, t-t-this is…” Twilight said, struggling to find her courage. The crowd began to grow impatient with her and a few mean ponies began to boo. Shame was already washing over her as she tried to speak. She took a few steps back then she heard a whisper.

“Psst! Twilight!” Twilight turned her head over to the right, it was Trixie. Trixie was in a rectangle box on wheels in the center of the stage. The box had multi colored starts and was had a base color of purple. A crease ran down the middle width wise separating the box in two.

“Come on! You can do this! We’ve practiced for days!” Trixie said trying to reassure her friend. Twilight just stared in fright at Trixie, then slowly moved her head back to the audience which was growing louder. The bright light blinding her, causing her to squint, sweat droplets fell off her face. Trixie didn’t know what to do she looked at her friend then over to the Director who was looking nervous biting his hooves. Trixie looked back at Twilight, “Looks like I’ll have to do this myself…” Trixie muttered to herself, “Ahem! It is I! The Great and Powerful Trixie! And her friend, Twilight Sparkle!” she announced. The audience hushed and quieted down to hear Trixie. The bright lights shined over to Trixie, Twilight blinked and shook her head, knocking her out of her trance. She looked over to Trixie and gave a smile.

“But it isn’t about me this time; I’ll let Twilight lead this demonstration of magic!” Trixie announced once more. The bright light shifted over to Twilight, her eyes were blinded at first, readjusting to the light. Then after a moment, her eyes got used to the light, and kept her eyes slightly squinted. Sweat from the intensity of the light ran across her face. Twilight realized she had to be brave for the show to be a success, and she managed to keep her wits.

“Hello, I’m Twilight, and tonight we are going to show you an amazing feat of one of our favorite tricks!” Twilight said her voice getting firmer and her confidence returning. Her fears of failure drifted away, and her mind grew calm once more. “I am going to slice Trixie in half, leaving her perfectly intact!” the audience gasped and murmured once more. “But not by and traditional means, since they’ve been exhausted, we decided to add more *thrill* to the worn act! We will be using a guillotine!” she lifted her front hooves and pointed over above Trixie the curtain rose up and revealed a long diagonal blade shimmering in the bright stage light, “Neither of us have any control over the guillotine, it is automatically preset to fall in a certain amount of time, which I assure you, it’s soon.” Twilight started to gleam, her smile grew slowly as her eye shined as she watched the audience cheered.

Trixie took a deep breath, “Psst, Twi”

Twilight shook her head, and blinked, then turned to her friend, still holding strong. “Oh!” Twilight looked to stage left just over Trixie, Twilight nodded her head and the assistant ponies were knocked out of there trance, then jumped to their positions. One at the ropes one pulled the timer so that Twilight could see how much longer till the guillotine dropped. She looked back to her friend, not taking her focus off the sharp blade dangling above her. She seemed to have complete faith in Twilight’s measurements and alignments, even if Twilight was even the tiniest mistakes and the show would be a disaster, or worse.

Twilight looked back off sage to the clock, she mouthed “21 seconds” she said aloud to herself. She stepped back and walked over to Trixie. Trixie looked over and gave Twilight a warm smile, Twilight face gave in a smile also.

“Another few seconds and we’ll be the most famous ponies of our time. Given that this will shock them…” Trixie said.

“I’m sure this will shock them, We are throwing a guillotine threw you… Why am I here? I don’t really do anything.” Twilight said.

“Well, it would be awkward for me announcing to them when they can only see my head, wouldn’t it?” Trixie said holding back a chuckle.

“Suppose your right.” Twilight said looking down.

The clocked was at 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 Suddenly an air horn went off, off stage. “Ahh!” Twilight screamed and jumped then fell behind Trixie’s box. Twilight reached out by instinct to grab the box, she grabbed it and turned it horizontally. The hook holding the blade up clicked, releasing the massive blade allowing it to fall down towards Trixie. All Trixie could do was stare into pure shock of what was flying towards her face.

Thwack!