

FAMILY ROOM EXCLUSIVE

A Little Princess

Brony alert! The children's show/toy franchise (and unexpected cult fave) *My Little Pony Friendship Is Magic* turns into a royal affair. (Go to ew.com/family for more family-oriented entertainment analysis and news.)

It's reigning Twilight Sparkle! The season 3 finale of *My Little Pony Friendship Is Magic* (airing Feb. 16 on The Hub) will see everyone's favorite unicorn being named a princess—and gaining a new pair of regal wings in the process. "She was set up from the very beginning to be on an important journey," explains *MLP* head writer Meghan McCarthy. "It's really about her earning this new status by combining all the things that we've seen her learn over the course of the series."

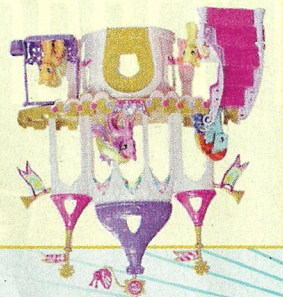
followed by the coronation episode itself at 10:30 a.m. (The network is also throwing a coronation concert in Los Angeles on Feb. 9, hosted by newly crowned Miss America Mallory Hagan.)

adult fans known as bronies) needn't worry, however: Though Twilight will undergo a physical transformation, her personality will remain the same. "I don't think becoming a princess really changes her," McCarthy says. "I think it's going to introduce some new challenges for her." Those challenges will include living up to that lofty new title. "We're building a very unique mythology around being a princess," she continues. "Every little girl wants to be a princess, and not everybody can get to be a princess—but you can live up to the ideals that should come along with being a princess." —Hillary Busis



My Little Pony's Twilight Sparkle

Hasbro is releasing a new line of toys this fall tied to Twilight's ascension, including a *My Little Pony* Crystal Palace (pictured).



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