

Prologue: The Tale Of The Crystal King

[Storyteller:]

Hello weary traveler,
You strike me, an admirer, of ancient lore
With a penchant I see
For old history
As you've never heard it told before

It's a familiar tale
Of a once mighty king
But the story you know
Goes much deeper, so
Sit back as I tell you and sing

There once was a colt with coat dark as coal
Who had eyes of a bright burning red
Courageous and strong, it was not very long
'til the crown was bestowed on his head

For the king in the North had to be a great force
To survive all the harsh elements
But the power he held from the keep where he dwelled
Would lead to his people's lament

But there was a time
When his rule was kind
When the kingdom was wealthy and thrived
Someone caught his eye,
And he soon realized,
That he wanted a wife by his side

He thought all was right,
They saw eye to eye,
A princess from a Southern ally.
His heart had grown fond,
As they fostered a bond,
That the world could not ever defy

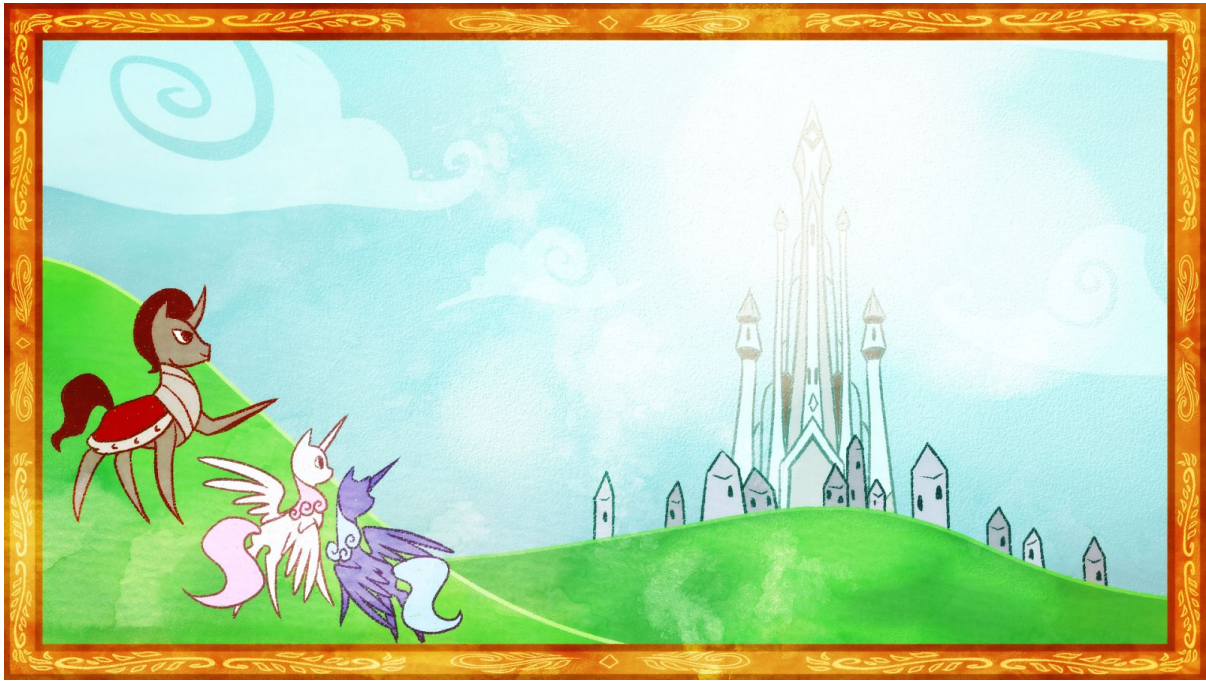
[Choir:]

Grand Regent
Unequaled
Transcendent
Eternal

[Storyteller:]

Both hearts longing for simple love to soar
But nothing's simple for kingdoms and kings.
What stands certainly?
For eternity?
Fear what a veiled future brings

One thing's for sure,
As the ages move on
The harshest of debts
Is to live with regret
So chase what you love,
Or you'll find it's departed and gone...



Chapter 1: Welcome to the Empire

[Luna:]

The North is beautiful, the land at rest so peacefully
Why did we wait so long to travel up to see?

[Celestia:]

Oh yes, it's overdue, but now we're making history
To draw much closer ties, and join our people's as they're meant to be

[Sombra:]

My warmest welcome to you dears,
I hope safe travels brought you here
Come feast your eyes, there's much to show, of our oasis in the snow

[Sombra and Choir:]

Shining crystal peaks, down to the frozen ground below
We've worked the arctic earth and reaped the bounty that we've sown

[Celestia:]

My lord, you're much too kind... you needn't go through such fanfare,
You've clearly marked your reign with acumen and care,

[Luna:]

No wait, we've just arrived, I'm sure we still have much to see,
Lead on, oh gracious king, acquaint us with your kingdom's majesty

[Sombra]

Why not, it's time to celebrate
Our nations joined to commemorate
A future gilt in brightest gold, forged here amongst the winter cold

[All:]

Gleaming in the sun our colors shine in every hue
We've fought off every foe and seen our troubles through
Standing side-by-side, two nations fortunate and free,
A righteous pony empire spanning sea to sea!

[Guitar solo: Secret Metal]

[All:]

Gleaming in the sun our colors shine in every hue
We've fought off every foe and seen our troubles through
Standing side-by-side, two nations fortunate and free,
A righteous pony empire spanning sea to sea!



Chapter 2: Crossroads of Life

[Luna:]

Finally we end a long and busy day,
Let the moon rise, slumber all the world away
Watch the colors dance from the vast and great unknown
Now, for once it feels like I am not alone

Through all the pain and strife,
On these crossroads of life,
We've finally met to make the journey side by side

[Viola solo: Marc v/d Meulen]

[Sombra:]

After all this time, the long and distant years,
Fate has finally brought us both together here

No more royal talks, or visiting through charms,
Soon I'll always hold you tightly in my arms

[Luna + Sombra:]

Through all the pain and strife,
On these crossroads of life,
We've finally met to make the journey side by side

As all the world is right
Our future's shining bright
The heavens waltz with the auroras in the night

[Luna:]

So much to do, a wedding to muse!
I'll talk to you soon, once I break the news

[Sombra:]

Go, and take your time, my lovely future bride
Soon we'll make that journey walking side by side

Interlude I: Adoration

[Storyteller:]

Those days in the empire,
Her sister, saw an instance, of what it was
As a fleeting desire
And not their true fire
Or the wedding bells' ringing applause
And so she hoped
To stop things as they are
But her failure to see
Their true love, so deep
Would leave an unhealable scar...



Chapter 3: Heavy Is The Crown

[Celestia:]

Luna, come sit here
It's become quite clear
You've let your heart grow far too fond

[Luna:]

How can you say this?
Don't we deserve bliss?
Is it a crime to share a bond?

[Celestia:] You know that is not the way

[Luna:] Can we never love, never just disobey?

[Celestia:] Duty takes priority

[Luna:] But he is a king, the same royalty

[Celestia:] Bound by his mortality

[Luna:] That doesn't matter, at least, not to me

[Celestia:] But it will

[Luna:] Even still

[Both:] You must know that

[Celestia:]

Heavy is the crown we wear
It is the price, the burden we bear
Stop this or else it will break your heart

[Luna:]

Heavy is the crown we wear
Why must it be, the burden I bear?
How can I live with a broken heart?

[Viola solo: Marc v/d Meulen]

[Sombra:] Why hello my dear, I thought that you had gone

[Luna:] Yes I did but now we need to talk

I have been thinking,
My heart's been sinking
and I don't think we can go on

[Sombra:]

What are you saying?
You must be playing...
What could have changed, what did I do wrong?

[Luna:] Please, you do not share the blame

[Sombra:] Tell me that you're wrong, that we are still the same

[Luna:] It's already killing me

[Sombra:] Or was it the "queen", your dear sister's decree?

[Luna:] I'll watch you grow old and gray

[Sombra:] I don't have to die, there still might be a way

[Luna:] But you will

[Sombra:] Even still

[Both:] You must know that

[Sombra:]

Heavy is the crown we wear
Why just discard the life we could share?
Must we flee before eternity?

Heavy is the crown we wear
At any cost, I'll take it and bear
Luna, I will never let you go...

[Luna:]

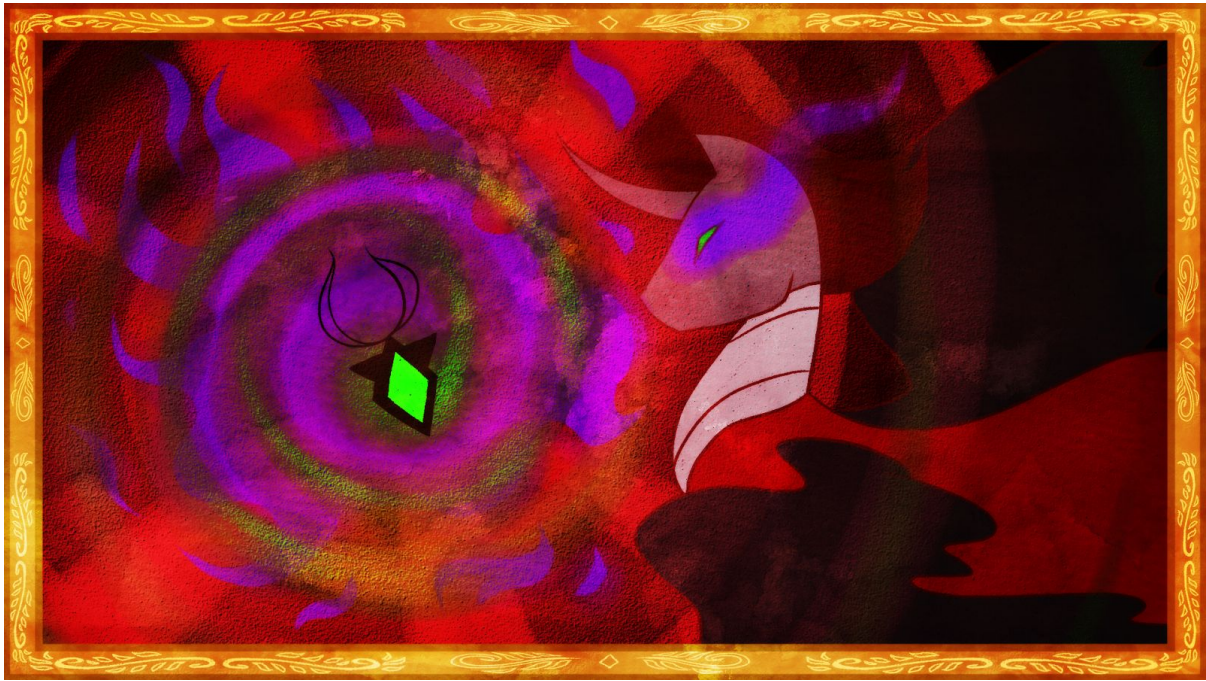
Heavy is the crown we wear
Missing the short-lived life that we share
Left to grieve for all eternity

Heavy is the crown we wear
That is the cost, the burden I bear,
Sombra, please, you have to let me go...

Interlude II: Vindication

[Storyteller:]

And so she left him
Both of them silent and destitute
His spirit maligned,
it ravaged his mind
Which started to twist and unwind...



Chapter 4: At Any Cost

[Sombra:]

My midnight angel
How could you leave me here alone,
Your love is made blind
By stories divined
To force you to leave me behind

What exactly is her aim?
Does she think this is just a game?
And to cast on me the blame
For lighting a lover's flame

Well she can't keep you away,
Drop us both into dismay,
Whatever the heavens say,
We'll be joined as one, one day

If being with her means divine ascension
If I have to cross the sun, then I'll do what must be done.
I'll claim her love, at any cost!

"And from the black veil,
He channeled his power to the stone
Oh jewel of the night
The giver of life
Grant me dominion o'er the light"

[Guitar solo: The L-Train]

[Sombra and Choir:]

As the candles cry in pain
Shadows fall before his name
One by one their embers wane
Feed the fire, the violet flame

[Choir:]

Their echoes carry softly
As light bows down before him
They dim while his grows brighter
The flame that burns eternal

[Choir:]

Sombra! Arise, Sombra!

[Sombra:]

Now I am free of any limitations,
She can see what I've become, into love we can succumb
We'll fight through the frost, at any cost!

But will I meet her sister's expectations?
Would she still see us apart, never change her empty heart
Then peace will be lost, at any cost!



Chapter 5: Regents of the Darkness

[Luna:]

Oh, my king, what miracle is this?
Here I thought we'd share our final kiss
Now to see you draped in onyx wings,
You cannot know the joy it brings

[Sombra:]

How could I just let you slip away?
When, no matter what, I'd find a way
Nothing known could disagree, and
Keep you away from me

[Sombra:] Why spend these ages trapped in loneliness?

[Luna:] Why should it be?

[Both:] When we could rule as regents of the darkness

[Sombra:]

Think of how the world could really be
Why should light command the raven sea?
Why should shadows hide away, when they give light its stay

[Sombra:] When it's the sun that should bow down to us!

[Luna:] What do you mean?

[Sombra:] And fall before the regents of the dark

[Luna:] Sombra, please answer me

[Sombra:]

Every blessing has its cost,
Though I bear its every weight,
I will face this “queen’s” accost
We’ll be forced to separate, and face her wishes handed down as fate
It can be just you and me,
Once we’re finally left alone,
We’ll command eternity!
We can shape it as our own, as we both share the seat of darkness’ throne

[Guitar solo: The L-Train]

[Luna:]

Do you understand the words you say?
Must this spell have lead your mind astray?
Wait there safe beloved king, I’ll find the cure and bring

[Luna:] Then once I have you back we can profess,

[Sombra:] Soon you will see

[Both:] Eternal love as regents of the darkness!



Chapter 6: Kingdoms Divided

[Luna:]

Look what your piety has wrought
Driven him into recklessness
Through some strange talisman he brought
On a curse while trying to ascend!

[Celestia:]

If he has dabbled in this way
How am I the one that you condemn?
Whatever price could he have paid?
Do you even know what you defend?

[Sombra:]

March now, ever faster,
This is war against divinity!
She will see
Every soul I've mastered
As their shadows fall and bow to me!
And my Queen!

[Choir:]

March now
Faster
Oh please, release
Every
Shadow
Bow to him

[Luna, Celestia, Sombra:]

We cannot stand apart
Like kingdoms divided by
Your arrogant heart!
So you'll stand there and fight?
Believing you really know
What is and what isn't is right!

[Celestia:]

Now you have seen the reason why
We must rise above their mortal ways
It turns corrupted when we try
You must leave these feelings in the past!

[Luna:]

It doesn't matter what you say,
All I see is error in his haste
Then once I fix the fault he made,
You will see the ages that we last!

[Sombra:]

Feed me greater power,
Know your lives will pay to make the change!
When she wanes
Soon the north aurora
Will replace the sun in great exchange
For my reign!

[Choir:]

Feed me
Power
Our king, rising
Soon the
(Au)rora
Great exchange

[Luna, Celestia, Sombra:]

We cannot stand apart
Like kingdoms divided by
Your arrogant heart!
So you'll stand there and fight?
Believing you really know
What is and what isn't is right!

[Sombra:]

Soon she'll face us
Since I've loosed my mortal chains
Now who'll fear death
When just two of us remain

[Guitar solo: The L-Train]

[Luna, Celestia, Sombra:]

We cannot stand apart
Like kingdoms divided by
Your arrogant heart!
So you'll stand there and fight?
Believing you really know
What is and what isn't is right!

[Choir:]

We cannot stand apart
Like kingdoms divided by
Your arrogant heart!
So you'll stand there and fight?
Believing you really know
What is and what isn't is right!

Interlude III: Desperation

[Storyteller:]

As weeks did pass,
and the princess carried on,
Growing more withdrawn

Her sister saw,
The painful tears in her eyes
And empathized.

They took her back,
To a far and distant place
Searching for embrace

And truly hoped
there was an answer too,
for all their sakes,
That she might break,
Their heavy chain...



Chapter 7: The Calling

[Crystal Ponies:]

Forgive us please, we've come so far,
There's nowhere else to go
(Sanctuary!)

But if you are his Queen, then
You should know the truth!

All the gems and the coal
Every mare and every foal
Toil on under the weight of their shackles!
We once lived so proud and free!
But now the dark and vicious king
Has their minds captured in shadow and enslaved!

[Crystal Ponies and Choir:]

So we come
To call on you
Only then
Will they make it through
Save us!
For only you can
Save us!
From the shadow king

[Celestia:]

Luna, what say you?
It's your path to choose
Knowing what we might have to do.

We cannot delay,
Though I feel dismay,
We both know there's no other way

[Trumpet solo: TheMusicReborn]

[Luna:]

Forgive me please,
He's gone too far,
I truly didn't know

Above all else,
My duty lies with all of you.

[Celestia:] Then it's time to prepare,

[Luna:] By the snow and by the air

[Celestia:] We must march upon the gates of his empire

[Celestia:] With the magic we face,

[Luna:] A wicked evil he's embraced

[Celestia:] We must fight to set the crystal ponies free!

[Celestia and Choir:]

So we go,
To heed the call.
Knowing we
Must free them all!
Save them!
For he must fall, to
Save them!

[Luna:] From what he's become



Chapter 8: Heaven's Fury

[Choir:]

Grand Regent
Unequaled
Transcendent
Eternal

[Sombra:]

Oh, what a sight to see,
That you would offer up your armies and
renounce your sovereignty

At least hold onto your dignity
And just surrender yourself and
your power willingly

We revoke your infernal doctrine
Renounce the mantle you have laid.
Your laws, your rule, will be forgotten,
As your light is left to fade!

[Sombra and Choir:]

Heaven's fury raining down
Kneel before the aurora's crown
Sun and shadow both will bow
Living as my queen and I allow

[Guitar solo: Dylzal, The L-Train]

[Celestia:]

How could you fall to this,
That you would desecrate your kingdom,
Bring them into this abyss

Reverse this curse that afflicts them all,
Or in this battle you face,
I promise, you will fall!

Your emotions have left you blinded,
Would you just throw this peace away?
Tonight, it ends, so loose their bindings,
Don't prolong this sad display!

[Celestia and Choir:]

Heaven's fury raining down
Cast aside this corrupted crown,
You forsake your royal vows,
For a crime I simply can't allow!

[Guitar solo: The L-Train, Dylzal]

[Sombra:]

Know that in the end, you can't make us relent,
We won't let you take away our love again!
For above all else, it's the only covenant
I would ever keep and follow to my grave

[Luna:]

Once I simply thought, that we could rise above,
All the trials that we might face together
But this dark descent, consumed the one I love
Return to me, before this brings the end

[Luna:]

Heaven's fury raining down
We can't ignore our heavy crowns

[Luna and Choir:]

We can make it work somehow
If your pride would only just allow

[Guitar solos: Dylzal, The L-Train]

[Sombra:]

You sacrifice your fate, abandon our future,
You choose to desecrate, and let our love fade away

But you won't win this day,
Despite your treachery
No matter what you say,
The empire belongs to me.

Come to the darkness, all who have offered up
Of their souls to me
Into the starless tundra, you'll follow
Your true and rightful king

Come to the darkness, all who have offered up
Of their souls to me
Into the starless tundra, you'll follow
Your true and rightful king

[Choir:]

Come to the darkness, all who have offered up
Of their souls to me
Into the starless tundra, you'll follow
Your true and rightful —

Epilogue: The Fall of the Shadow's Veil

[Storyteller:]

With his final defiance
The empire was all swept away
Their spirits were drained, as his own soul was stained
And suffer together his fate

To lie in wait,
Outside time, far behind, shadow's veil
For in their return, deep within they will yearn
That their crystal hearts may prevail

Heavy is the crown she wears
Knowing the cost, the sadness she bears
Left to ache while weeping for his fate

Perhaps one day
The shadow will be sent away
When light will have won, maybe there in the sun
The king will revive in its rays

One thing's for sure,
As the ages move on,
The harshest of debts is to live with regret,
So chase what you love
And fight on, for the one, that you lost...

Fall Of An Empire

Performed by the Royal Canterlot Symphonic Metal Orchestra:

The L-Train (<http://bit.ly/1TnyiGF>, <http://bit.ly/1VcMQxi>) - composer, producer, arranger

SkyBolt (<http://bit.ly/1Rcp1ir>) - lyricist, story

Mastered by Secret Metal (<http://bit.ly/27GbcVk>)

Musicians

The L-Train (<http://bit.ly/1TnyiGF>, <http://bit.ly/1VcMQxi>) - guitar, bass, keyboards; orchestral and drum programming

TheMusicReborn (<http://bit.ly/1sv7k94>) - trumpet (Ch 7)

Marc v/d Meulen (<http://www.marcvdmeylen.com/>, <http://bit.ly/1Tr1S0e>) - viola (Ch 2, Ch 3)

Secret Metal (<http://bit.ly/27GbcVk>) - guitar solo (Ch 1)

Dylzal (<http://bit.ly/1XnhYKK>) - guitar solo (Ch 8)

Lead Vocalists

SkyBolt (<http://bit.ly/1Rcp1ir>) - The Storyteller

TrueSailorComet (<http://bit.ly/1U2RueZ>) - Celestia

Hayley Nelson (<http://bit.ly/1UNwASK>) - Luna

DaWillstanator (<http://bit.ly/1TKhdGn>, <http://bit.ly/1sEeZTc>) - Sombra

The L-Train, Francis Vace, Swedely, Northbound, Jacob W / Adir Nasiykh, Secret Metal, Chris Hau, Emily Barnaby, Sheriff Pilcrow - Crystal Ponies (Ch 7)

Choir

CxDr (<https://www.youtube.com/user/ph3r0x>)

Chris Hau (<https://www.youtube.com/user/Qweeqkk>)

Citric Acid (<https://www.youtube.com/user/CitricAcidMusic>)

DaWillstanator (<http://bit.ly/1TKhdGn>, <http://bit.ly/1sEeZTc>)

Dylzal (<http://bit.ly/1XnhYKK>)

Emily Barnaby

Francis Vace (<https://www.youtube.com/user/FVaceslav>)

Jacob W / Adir Nasiykh (<http://bit.ly/1OQfd35>, <http://bit.ly/22hNavK>)

Matthew Eater (<https://soundcloud.com/matthew-eater>)

Neighrator Pony (<https://www.youtube.com/user/NeighratorPony>)

Northbound (<http://northboundsail.deviantart.com>)

Secret Metal (<https://www.youtube.com/user/SecretMetalFromAbyss>)

Sheriff Pilcrow (<http://seriff-pilcrow.deviantart.com/>)

Swedely (<https://www.youtube.com/user/FlameLionheart>)

The L-Train (<http://bit.ly/1TnyiGF>, <http://bit.ly/1VcMQxi>)

TrueSailorComet (<http://bit.ly/1U2RueZ>)

Wind sound effects taken from <http://soundbible.com/634-Wind-Blowing.html>

Cover art: Viwrastupr (<http://viwrastupr.deviantart.com/>)

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Lyric video: SkyBolt (<https://www.youtube.com/user/SkyBoltsMusic>)

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