MY LITTLE PONY
THE EQUESTRIA GIRLS

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

"Stressed in Show"
Short #403-037

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*NO CELLPHONES PERMITTED IN THE RECORDING STUDIO DURING SESSION

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SET UP

INT. AUDITORIUM - DAY

On stage, RARITY, TWILIGHT SPARKLE, FLUTTERSHY, and RAINBOW DASH hold scripts. Twilight's zoned out. SUNSET SHIMMER watches from an empty row in the front.

1 RARITY
(reciting)
"Mother? I fear I do not share your dreams of coal. Instead, my heartbeat calls for me to dance."
(off silence)
Ahem. "Calls for me to DANCE!"

Twilight SNAPS out of it.

2 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Oh, Sorry. Uh...
(reading)
"But Selphy Soot, my sweet summer child-- without your help, I'll never mine the mine in time."
(going off-book)
Or run lines with Flash Sentry in time, or help Applejack build the stage in time, or practice my monologue in time, OR FIND TIME FOR TIME IN TIME?!

<PANIC BREATHS>. Everyone stares down at their scripts.

3 RAINBOW DASH
Am I missing a page...?

Sunset Shimmer climbs on stage and reassures Twilight...

4 SUNSET SHIMMER
(reassuring TS)
...It's going to be okay, Twilight...

Sunset touches her arm and <WHOOSH>, she has an empathy flash.

INT. TWILIGHT'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Twilight is under the covers, reading her play-script by the light of a mining headlamp, clutching a plush pick-axe (or just by flashlight if that's too weird/obsessed!)

5 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
"But Selphy Soot, my sweet summer child, without yo--" <YAWWWWWWN>

<THUNK>! She face-plants asleep, SNORING. BACK TO:

INT. AUDITORIUM - SAME

Sunset recoils her hand, considering frazzled Twilight...

6 SUNSET SHIMMER
Ummm... when was the last time you took a break from the play?

Twilight's eye twitches.

7 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Take a break. Break a leg. Break a take?

8 RAINBOW DASH
(to Fluttershy)
I think she's broken.

FS gives a worried look. Sunset puts her arm around Twilight.

9 SUNSET SHIMMER
Breathe, Twilight. You just need something to take your mind off the play a little while. We're here for you, right everyone?

10 RAINBOW DASH
Of course!

Fluttershy nods. Suddenly, Pinkie Pie's head pops through the auditorium door.

11 PINKIE PIE
You bet!

Three options appear: Fluttershy, Rainbow Dash, & Pinkie Pie.

<u>ENDING A: FLUTTERSHY</u>

EXT. FOREST BEHIND SCHOOL - DAY

Fluttershy moves a blindfolded Twilight Sparkle into a path and then gently lifts off the blindfold.

12 FLUTTERSHY
Ta-da! Just what you needed... an escape to nature!

Birds CHIRP in the distance, chipmunks CRUNCH on nuts, water FLOWS. Twilight takes a sigh of relief. A <SQUISH> of mud.

13 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
Oh dear, I got mud on my boots...

Twilight's eye twitches.

14 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Boots? That reminds me, I need to help Rarity design Selphy Soot's magic boots for the play!

15 FLUTTERSHY
Oh! Oh, no. Don't think about all that! Think about... this!

Fluttershy scoops up a nearby BUNNY. Her necklace GLOWS.

16 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
(whispering)
Be as cute as you can possibly be.

The bunny nods with stern determination. His eyes get watery and big. He rabbit-purrs. Fluttershy hands him to Twilight.

17 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Aw, he's adorable!

18 FLUTTERSHY
It's why I love nature so much more than big cities.

TS's eye twitches... AGAIN!

19 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Shiny <u>City</u>--! Applejack is building the city sets while we're out here lost in the woods--

Fluttershy makes a nervous <SQUEAL> as her necklace SHINES.

20 FLUTTERSHY
ANIMALS, UNITE!

In a mad dash, forest animals line up, military style, awaiting command.

21 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
(hushed whisper)
Dazzle her with your tranquility.

Twilight covers her head--

22 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Dazzled is the name of the play!

The animals go into ACTION! A woodpecker gives Twilight a back massage, squirrels style her hair with COLORFUL LEAVES, a quartet of birds sing in perfect four-part harmony.

23 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
Oh! This... This is nice. So relaxing. So calm. So...

Twilight slowly drifts off to sleep. Fluttershy smiles.

24 FLUTTERSHY
Shhhh! Let her take a little nap, everyone. All we need now is some volunteers to keep her warm! Spunky and Plunky, are you up to the task?

Two nearby skunks SMILE and NOD in agreement.

IRIS OUT.

<u>ENDING B: RAINBOW DASH</u>

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - DAY

Rainbow Dash jogs next to Twilight. RD's geode GLOWS as she sprints away, a blur, running a lap around the field in less than a second. As she comes up behind Twilight again...

25 RAINBOW DASH
Come on, Twilight! Only ten laps to go.

26 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
(out of breath)
I'm fasting as lap as I can.

27 RAINBOW DASH
A great practice always clears my head. I promise, you'll feel great soon. Right, guys?

REVEAL: Sunset Shimmer and SPIKE, trailing super behind, catching their breath.

28 SUNSET SHIMMER
We'll catch up...!

TRAINING MONTAGE!

INSPIRING 80'S ANTHEMIC MUSIC moves the scenes along.

EXT. TENNIS COURTS - DAY

Rainbow Dash SERVES a tennis ball-- <WHACK>! It ZIPS right past Twilight, Spike, and Sunset who dodge in fear. The ball BOUNCES off the back. Rainbow Dash WHACKS it again and again. They cower.

INT. BASKETBALL COURT - DAY

Spike PASSES Twilight a basketball. Rainbow Dash RUSHES FORWARD. Twilight <SQUEALS> and places the ball on the ground. Rainbow SNATCHES the ball and does a SICK LAYUP! Sunset presses a button and a BUZZER goes off. REVEAL: the scoreboard, 99 TO 0.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Rainbow Dash stands by a wooden plank with two cinder blocks holding it up. With a mighty karate chop, she BREAKS IT! PAN DOWN: Twilight rears back and-- OW! She cradles her hand. PAN DOWN: Sunset looks at TS, down at her board, then shakes her head like "nuh uh." Spike carries the board off like a stick.

EXT. TENNIS COURTS - DAY

Twilight WHACKS the tennis ball back at RD, who ducks! Proud!

INT. BASKETBALL COURT - DAY

TS finally THROWS the ball in the air! <SWISH> in the basket! Rainbow Dash BEAMS as the basketball PLOPS down on her head.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Twilight chops the board in half! Sunset plays fetch Spike.

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - END OF THE DAY

The montage music fades down as Twilight Sparkle runs up the bleachers. She reaches the top and raises her arms in VICTORY. RD catches up.

29 RAINBOW DASH
Look at that. You beat me! And I only sort of let you win!

Twilight takes a moment.

30 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I feel completely de-stressed! AND we managed to give Spike some exercise!

REVEAL: Sunset Shimmer and Spike lay face-up in the field of grass, staring off into space, EXHAUSTED.

31 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
And I guess Sunset too.

Sunset and Spike give simultaneous thumbs-ups. The girls crack up.

IRIS OUT.

<u>ENDING C: PINKIE PIE</u>

INT. SCIENCE CLASS - DAY

Pinkie Pie BOUNCES down the busy hallway, jumping on every side of the STRESSED Twilight.

32 PINKIE PIE
Ooo! I know what we could do to get your mind off the play! We could ask Rarity for a makeover... Oh! Or ask Bulk Bicep for massage. He gives such GOOD massages. ORRRR we could ask Applejack to whip you up an apple face mask. There's so many options! Maybe TOO many options. It's kinda stressful just thinking about it! RIGHT?

Pinkie Pie looks arond, confused. Twilight's nowhere to be found.

33 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Where'd you go...?

INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

Twilight arranges her lunch tray, making sure the milk and food are perfectly lined up. The moment she takes a step--

34 PINKIE PIE
TWILIGHT! There you are. I've been looking ALL OVER for you! Take a look at THIS.

Pinkie rolls out a LARGE ROLL OF PAPER.

35 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
I made an anti-stress list! You love lists, don't you? Well, to start, this is a list of lists we could make! We could make lists about color, lists about numbers, lists about buckets, lists... Twilight? Twiiiiilight...

Again, Twilight has disappeared.

INT. CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

The class bell RINGS. Twilight takes a DEEP BREATH and prepares herself for the worst. She exits the classroom into the hallway and...

INT. HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

Nothing. It's completely still. Not a soul in sight. Twilight EXHALES and opens her locker to--

36 PINKIE PIE
TWILIGHT!

37 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
AHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!

Twilight STUMBLES backward, her notes and books scattering about. Pinkie steps out of her locker.

38 PINKIE PIE
I had a FEELING you'd be here!

39 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Pinkie, listen, I really appreciate what you're trying to do and everything, but it's too much! All day, all I've been able to think about is "Where's Pinkie Pie!?
(MORE)

TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
Where's Pinkie Pie!???" I haven't even had one moment to...

Pinkie Pie slowly smiles a HUGE SMILE as TS gets it...

40 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
...think about the play. Ahhhhhhh.

41 PINKIE PIE
YOU'RE WELCOME!!!

CUT TO BLACK.