

**THE EQUESTRIA GIRLS
BETTER TOGETHER SERIES
CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE**

**"Constructive Criticism"
Short #403-042**

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SET UP

INT. AUDITORIUM / BACKSTAGE - DAY

OPEN ON: THE SET FOR CLUB 57's DANCE FLOOR-- vaguely *Soul Train*-esque with a big DISCO BALL centerpiece. SUNSET SHIMMER and APPLEJACK admire it.

1 SUNSET SHIMMER
The Club 57 set is lookin' good,
Applejack.

2 APPLEJACK
Yeah, she's a *beaut...*

ANGLE ON THE SET AGAIN, THEN WIDEN TO REVEAL: We are actually looking at a PHOTO that Applejack is holding up. She lowers it, revealing the stage is a mess of lumber, tools, paint.

3 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
...now to just build it like this
photorealistic drawin' I made.

4 SUNSET SHIMMER
So yeah, one thing, little, kind of
huge important thing... is it going
to be ready by opening night?

5 APPLEJACK
You bet your britches!

Applejack gets to work lining up a nail, holding a HAMMER.

6 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
She'll be done in a jiffy!
(hmm)
'less of course I get hammered by
somethin' un-fore-see-able...

After a shrug, Applejack brings down her hammer and we hear a <THUNK>. SS's and AJ's eyes go wide and AJ's face goes red as she <HOLLERS>! CUT TO:

INT. AUDITORIUM / BACKSTAGE - MOMENTS LATER

NURSE REDHEART finishes bandaging up Applejack's hand. Sunset watches, concerned.

7 SUNSET SHIMMER
You got hammered all right.

Applejack winces as Nurse Redheart clasps the bandage.

8 NURSE REDHEART

I'm afraid there'll be no more
construction for you, young lady.
Not for a few weeks at least.

*
*
*

Nurse Redheart packs up. Applejack blinks, shocked.

*

9 APPLEJACK

But the play's this Friday! Grr. Don't
worry, Sunset-- I still got this.
(lifting the hammer)
OW!!!

*
*
*
*

10 SUNSET SHIMMER

Stubborn as always. I'll find you
some help. Promise.

*
*

11 APPLEJACK

(knows SS is right)
...If you insist...

*
*
*

Three options appear: RAINBOW DASH, PINKIE PIE, and PHOTO
FINISH.

*

ENDING A: RAINBOW DASH

INT. AUDITORIUM / BACKSTAGE - MOMENTS LATER

Applejack shows RAINBOW DASH her blueprints of the set.

12 APPLEJACK

Thanks a bushel for helpin' build
the set for me, Rainbow Dash.

13 RAINBOW DASH

No problem-o! I'll be done before
you can say "take a look at these
blueprints."

*
*
*

Rainbow Dash throws on GOGGLES and a HARD HAT, grabs a DRILL
and rushes over to start building.

*

14 APPLEJACK

Actually you really should take a
look at the blueprints.

*
*

15 RAINBOW DASH

No time.

*
*

As Rainbow Dash hammers and drills and saws, her PENDANT
GLOWS. She starts ZIPPING AROUND building an amazing stage in
double time! Applejack watches in frustration.

*

16 APPLEJACK

Slow down--

17 RAINBOW DASH

Why? I thought you needed it done
by this weekend...!

Rainbow Dash goes so fast she disappears in a blur of dust.
All AJ can hear is <CONSTRUCTION SOUNDS>.

18 APPLEJACK

But you-- how are you-- I-- STOP
IT!

Rainbow Dash STOPS right next to AJ as a cloud of speed-dust
begins to settle.

19 RAINBOW DASH

What's up?
(blasé, checking her nails)
I'm done by the way.

The dust clears on stage, revealing... THE FINISHED SET. AJ
is beside herself, incredulous.

20 APPLEJACK

You finished the whole thing?

21 RAINBOW DASH

Uh-huh.

22 APPLEJACK

And painted everything just right?

23 RAINBOW DASH

Uh-huh.

Applejack's CELL PHONE <RINGS>. As soon as she answers:
<GARBLED PHONE VOICE>.

24 APPLEJACK

And Granny Smith says you remodeled
the barn back home?

25 RAINBOW DASH

...I had a little extra time.

RD gives a wink and walks off, leaving AJ amazed.

IRIS OUT.

ENDING B: PINKIE PIE

EXT. AUDITORIUM / PIT - MOMENTS LATER

Applejack is with PINKIE PIE who is tweaking her drums.

26 APPLEJACK

Are you sure you have time to help,
Pinkie Pie? Don't you need to
practice your drum solo?

*

27 PINKIE PIE

I am going to practice my drum solo,
silly!

*

*

28 APPLEJACK

So you can't help me...?

*

29 PINKIE PIE

And I'm going to help you.

*

AJ is confused. Pinkie Pie picks up drumsticks and gets
ready.

*

*

30 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)

Count me in.

*

31 APPLEJACK

Huh?

*

*

32 PINKIE PIE

(after a shrug)

ONE TWO THREE FOUR!

*

*

*

Pinkie Pie starts a drum solo.

*

33 APPLEJACK

You're not helping!

*

*

Pinkie Pie begins one-handed drumming, using the other to
throw on GOGGLES and a HARD HAT. In mid-solo, she swaps out
her sticks for two hammers!

*

*

*

34 PINKIE PIE

(shouting)

I can't hear you! I'm busy building
the set!

Pinkie Pie keeps <HAMMERING> away as if she's <DRUMMING>.
Applejack looks around and notices... Sunset Shimmer and
others at rehearsal are tapping their feet.

*

*

35 APPLEJACK

(calling out)

But you're also practicing your
drum solo!

Finally, Pinkie Pie **finishes** off everything and **slams** the final pieces into place. Then she BACKFLIPS and lands in front of Applejack, breathing heavily.

*

36 PINKIE PIE
So? What do you think?

*

AJ is amazed to be in a perfectly constructed Club 57 set.

37 APPLEJACK
I'll be honest. I think... you
"drummed" up one heck of an awesome
set, Pinkie Pie.

*

At the drum set, Pinkie Pie grins and plays "bah-dum PSH!"

IRIS OUT.

ENDING C: PHOTO FINISH

INT. AUDITORIUM / BACKSTAGE - MOMENTS LATER

Applejack shows PHOTO FINISH, **wearing safety gear**, the two-by-fours, the beams, and all her tools.

*

38 APPLEJACK
All right, so what we got is a
basic disco layout with a light up
dance floor and recessed **cans** to
backlight the performers.

*

39 PHOTO FINISH
Bup-bup-bup! **Mouth closed, please!**

*

40 APPLEJACK
(murmured through closed
mouth)
But **how'm I supposed to tell you
what to do...?**

*

*

*

*

41 PHOTO FINISH
With your heart, Applejack. Open it and
let Photo Finish feel where zee lights
need to be... and then zee set will be
built where zee lights... are not.

*

42 APPLEJACK
So what do I do?

*

*

43 PHOTO FINISH
**You are the conductor. I am your
instrument.**

*

*

*

(MORE)

PHOTO FINISH (CONT'D)
The light is the music we play
together. Conduct me, Applejack.

*
*

Photo Finish walks around with her hands up like a director, scoping out the stage. She hangs a light and turns back to Applejack. Photo Finish cocks her head.

44 PHOTO FINISH (CONT'D)
No... not there...

She just drops it on the ground and has it face directly up.

45 PHOTO FINISH (CONT'D)
(inhaling)
Yes, there. Can you feel it?

46 APPLEJACK
Feel what?

47 PHOTO FINISH
ZEE PASSION!

*

QUICK POPS: Photo Finish hangs an INDUSTRIAL LIGHT... then points it DIRECTLY at a wall. Applejack facepalms. Photo Finish straps GLOW STICKS to a CEILING FAN. Photo Finish collapses a CHINESE LANTERN. Applejack tries to offer advice but Photo Finish puts her finger to Applejack's mouth.

*
*
*

48 APPLEJACK
You're makin' less sense than a
Jack Rabbit on Rollerskates. I--

*
*
*

49 PHOTO FINISH
--Shhh. It is time.

*

Photo Finish gestures to... three blank walls of the set.

*

50 APPLEJACK
This doesn't look anything like
it's supposed to!

*
*

51 PHOTO FINISH
Because you are looking at zee
lights. Not where zey aren't.

*
*

52 APPLEJACK
Uhhhhhhhhh...

*
*

Photo Finish turns on a power strip, the stage LIGHTS UP... and it looks like a cool abstract version of AJ's set! She compares it to the photo...

*
*
*

53 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
(in awe)
Whoa... How'd you do that?

*

54 PHOTO FINISH
You did it, Applejack. Zis is your
dream. I merely turned on zee
light.

*

*

*

CLOSE ON AJ, amazed. Then widen to reveal... she is ALONE!

*

55 APPLEJACK
Wait... is this a dream?

*

*

A spooky moment, then a LIGHT CLICKS ON in a shadow,
revealing Photo Finish.

*

*

56 PHOTO FINISH
Zat was a metaphor! I GO!

*

*

Photo Finish rushes off.

*

CUT TO BLACK.