

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

**"Happily Ever Afterparty"
Short #403-044**

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SET-UP

INT. AUDITORIUM - NIGHT

On stage APPLEJACK, RARITY, RAINBOW DASH, APPLE BLOOM, SWEETIE BELLE, and SCOOTALOO take their final bows to RAUCOUS APPLAUSE and BOUQUETS. But the CMCs look glum.

INT. BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

AJ, RD, and Rarity high five as they walk backstage. Trailing behind them, the CMCs cast their eyes down.

1 APPLEJACK

Whew-wee! I sure am ready to cut loose at the cast and crew party y'all planned. Is it gonna be the best night ever, or what?

2 AB/SB/SCOOTALOO

S'pose so./Perhaps./Meh.

3 RARITY

Whatever is the matter, girls? I thought you were excited to plan the soirée!

4 SWEETIE BELLE

We were! We even put together a super special slideshow of all the great memories we made while doing the play.

5 APPLE BLOOM

It's got enough nostalgia to play your heartstrings like a fiddle!

6 SCOOTALOO

But Mr. Cranky Doodle locked the projector in his desk. He won't let us use it. We tried to reason with him but he has a heart of stone!

INT. CRANKY DOODLE'S CLASSROOM - EARLIER

CRANKY DOODLE scowls as in QUICK CUTS the CMCs form a cheer pyramid, then wear mustache disguises, and finally flat-out beg with teary eyes.

CD holds out the KEYS. The CMCs light up, hopeful. But he continues the motion into a STRETCH and YAWN. BACK TO:

INT. BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

RD frowns and shares a glance with AJ and Rarity.

7 RAINBOW DASH
What's his problem? Maybe one of us
can convince him.

Three options appear: Applejack, Rarity, and Rainbow Dash.

ENDING A: APPLEJACK

INT. CRANKY DOODLE'S CLASSROOM - NIGHT

Cranky Doodle sits at his desk, writing a math test under a festive display of streamers.

8 CRANKY DOODLE
If you invite 300 friends to your
birthday party, and .01% attend, how
many friends are the worst? All of
them.

Applejack enters with SB, AB, and Scootaloo behind her.

9 APPLEJACK
Hey there, Mr. Cranky Doodle. Care to
have a nice, honest conversation?

10 CRANKY DOODLE
Not really.

11 APPLEJACK
(pulling up a chair)
Great, I'll go first. We feel like
you should let us use the projector.
These girls worked awfully hard on a
slideshow, and it'd be a shame not to
see it! It'd ruin their night. See?
Now you share.

Cranky looks at the balloons, snacks, and party hats.

12 CRANKY DOODLE
Balloons? Punch? General festivity?
This night is already ruined.

13 APPLEJACK
Come on, Mr. Cranky Doodle. I know
it's tough to open up but it takes
two to tango here.

14 CRANKY DOODLE
I hate the tango. And all dancing for
that matter.

15 SWEETIE BELLE
Even disco?

16 CRANKY DOODLE
Especially disco.

AJ pokes him in the forehead.

17 APPLEJACK
Maybe the Mr. Cranky Doodle up here-
(pointing to his heart)
Needs to get in touch with the Mr.
Cranky Doodle in here. What's your
earliest memory? Were you a happy
child?

18 CRANKY DOODLE
I'm not going to answer that.

He goes back to his test but AJ puts an INK BLOT TEST under
his nose.

19 APPLEJACK
What do you see?

20 CRANKY DOODLE
Nothing.

She flips through more cards. CD's increasingly annoyed.

21 CRANKY DOODLE (CONT'D)
Nothing. Nothing. Nothing.
(long pause)
Zilch.

He throws his hands up and unlocks the desk.

22 CRANKY DOODLE (CONT'D)
All right! If it'll make you stop,
you can use the darn projector.

23 SCOOTALOO/SWEETIE BELLE
Woohoo!/Huzzah!

24 APPLE BLOOM
And all it took was annoying him-
(AJ elbows her)
I mean having an honest conversation.

INT. CRANKY DOODLE'S CLASSROOM - LATER

APPLE BLOOM, SWEETIE BELLE, and SCOOTALOO proudly pass out slices of cake to RAINBOW DASH and RARITY.

25 RAINBOW DASH
Great party, you guys!

The SLIDESHOW starts as the MANE 6, the CMCs, FLASH SENTRY, TRIXIE, SNIPS and SNAILS gather round to watch. They laugh and get sentimental in response to SLIDES of our BEST MOMENTS from the MLP EG BETTER TOGETHER SERIES.

With a slice of cake, Cranky Doodle walks up to AJ.

26 CRANKY DOODLE
You know, this reminds me of my tenth birthday party. Except there are significantly more people here.

Off AJ, triumphant. IRIS OUT.

ENDING B: RARITY

INT. BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Rarity pulls her hair into a ponytail and puts on her glasses with a determined smirk.

27 RARITY
Don't worry girls. In the fashion industry there is no room for compromise, and I happen to be an expert negotiator.

INT. CRANKY DOODLE'S CLASSROOM - NIGHT

Rarity strides into Cranky Doodle's decorated classroom. SB, AB, and Scootaloo scamper in behind her.

28 RARITY
Good evening Mr. Cranky Doodle.

29 CRANKY DOODLE
Hello Rarity.

30 RARITY
So you agree. It is a good evening.

31 CRANKY DOODLE
I... I guess?

32 RARITY

I'm here representing the Cutie Mark Crusaders. I understand you authorized them to hold the party in your classroom?

33 CRANKY DOODLE

Yes.

34 RARITY

And is it fair to reason that, as an extension of your classroom, should they need to use, say-
(tapping her nails on a desk)
This desk, for example. That would be okay with you?

35 CRANKY DOODLE

I don't see why not.

Rarity takes the pen out of his hand and holds it aloft.

36 RARITY

And what about this pen?

37 CRANKY DOODLE

Well, sure, but-

38 RARITY

(drama building, triumphant)
Then shouldn't it stand to reason that unless you specifically defined which items did or did not fall under the umbrella of "your classroom" you are obligated via verbal contract to allow their use of the entire room, including but not limited to the projector?!

The CMCs exchange an excited glance.

39 CRANKY DOODLE

It's expensive and it could be damaged if not cared for properly.

Rarity stares at CD. Then she laughs, realizing.

40 RARITY

I see what you're doing, you master of negotiation! If you wanted an invitation to the party, you could've asked outright! Of course you can attend!

41 CRANKY DOODLE
No, that's not at all what I-

42 RARITY
Say no more! Game respects game.

INT. CRANKY DOODLE'S CLASSROOM - LATER

At the party, LYRA rubs a balloon on BON-BON's hair, and it sticks there. They giggle.

INTERCUT with the SLIDESHOW of our BEST MOMENTS from the MLP EG BETTER TOGETHER SERIES.

Sweetie Belle, Apple Bloom, and Scootaloo high five.

43 SWEETIE BELLE
We did it!

CD stands by the projector, glaring as Snips and Snails walk by with punch. After they pass he puts on a party hat and smiles despite himself.

Rarity pops up and he covers up with a frown. IRIS OUT.

ENDING C: RAINBOW DASH

INT. BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Rainbow Dash wheels out a CHALKBOARD. It has sketches of Rarity's costume designs. Rarity beams.

44 RARITY
Good idea, Rainbow Dash! Like all true art, my gorgeous designs have the power to resolve even the toughest conflicts.

45 RAINBOW DASH
Nope! Distraction's the name of the game!

Rainbow Dash ERASES the designs and starts drawing Xs, Os, and arrows. Without looking back, RD draws a particularly big X and an arrow pointing off the board.

46 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Rarity, you storm off in a huff...

Rarity HUFFS and storms off.

47 RARITY

They were top-tier designs!

RD and the Cutie Mark Crusaders huddle up.

48 RAINBOW DASH

Here's what we do: Scootaloo, you'll run point. Sweetie Belle, hang back to make sure the coast is clear. Give the signal and I'll...

FADE TO:

INT. CRANKY DOODLE'S CLASSROOM - NIGHT

Cranky Doodle twirls the keys on a finger, grading tests.

49 CRANKY DOODLE

Wrong. Wrong. Right, but... minus ten because my foot hurts right now.

Scootaloo, Apple Bloom, and Sweetie Belle BURST in.

50 SCOOTALOO

Mr. Cranky Doodle, come quick! There's a full blown math emergency backstage!

51 CRANKY DOODLE

A Mathmergency!?

52 APPLE BLOOM

Bon-bon's fixin' to divide by zero!

Mr. Cranky Doodle stands up, urgent and serious.

53 CRANKY DOODLE

But that's impossible! Lead the way.

He drops the keys and they all run out the door. Before it closes, RD sticks her SNEAKER in the crack. She finds the keys and OPENS A DESK DRAWER: full of CD's HEADSHOTS.

54 RAINBOW DASH

Ooooookay.

Then she OPENS ANOTHER: the PROJECTOR!

55 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

Score.

INT. CRANKY DOODLE'S CLASSROOM - LATER

Snips and Snails chow down on cookies.

INTERCUT with the SLIDESHOW of our BEST MOMENTS from the MLP EG BETTER TOGETHER SERIES. One SLIDE highlights Rarity's COSTUMES. Rarity and Rainbow Dash cheers cups.

56 RARITY

Looks like they threw a splendid party after all.

57 RAINBOW DASH

Yep. They just needed a little coaching.

58 RARITY

Indeed, all's forgiven. Where are those girls, anyway?

RD and Rarity glance around. CUT TO:

INT. BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Cranky Doodle does a complicated math problem on the chalkboard while the CMCs struggle to pay attention.

59 CRANKY DOODLE

Which means that X must equal...

60 SCOOTALOO

Twelve! It's twelve! Welp, thanks Mr. Cranky Doodle. We've got to get back to-

61 CRANKY DOODLE

But here's where the problem really shifts into high gear. Take that solution and plug it into this function...

The CMCs awkwardly back away while he's facing the chalkboard. CUT TO BLACK.