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! What's the lowdown on the after-party hoedown? I'm ready to throw down!

2 RAINBOW DASH
Is it gonna be the best night ever, or what?

3 AB/SB/SCOOTALOO
S'pose so./Perhaps./Meh.

4 RARITY
Whatever is the matter, girls? I thought you were excited for the soirée!

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

6 APPLE BLOOM
It's got enough nostalgia to pluck your heartstrings like a fiddle!

7 SCOOTALOO
But Mr. Cranky Doodle says parties are not an "appropriate appropriation of his expensive projector."

RD frowns and shares a glance with AJ and Rarity.

8 RAINBOW DASH
Maybe one of us can turn that heart of coal... into a diamond. That's a thing, right? From the play?

<u>Three options appear:</u> Applejack, Rarity, and Rainbow Dash.

<u>ENDING A: APPLEJACK</u>

INT. CRANKY DOODLE'S CLASSROOM - NIGHT

Cranky Doodle sits at his desk, grading papers. Applejack enters with SB, AB, and Scootaloo behind her.

9 APPLEJACK
If he's gonna be stubborn about it, so can we.
(then, to Cranky D)
Hey there, Mr. Cranky Doodle. I heard you won't let us borrow your projector for our party.

10 APPLE BLOOM
Oooooh, she's going to have a good ol' fashioned "stubborn-off."

The following is FAST back and forth. Meanwhile, the CMCs are in the bg, unnoticed by Cranky Doodle... slowly lifting the projector (swapping it *Indiana Jones*-style with a cardboard box with flashlight duct taped to it), then slowly walking out the door with it.

11 CRANKY DOODLE
You heard right.

12 APPLEJACK
I'm askin' nice.

13 CRANKY DOODLE
The answer's no.

14 APPLEJACK
Not leavin' without it.

15 CRANKY DOODLE
You're gonna be here a while.

16 APPLEJACK
Fine by me.

17 CRANKY DOODLE
Talking overnight.

18 APPLEJACK
Got a sleeping bag.

19 CRANKY DOODLE
Floor's not comfortable.

20 APPLEJACK
Air mattress too.

21 CRANKY DOODLE
You'll hyperventilate.

22 APPLEJACK
Got an air pump.

23 CRANKY DOODLE
Won't let you plug it in.

24 APPLEJACK
Foot-powered.

25 CRANKY DOODLE
You'll get a cramp.

26 APPLEJACK
Eat bananas for potassium.

27 CRANKY DOODLE
They're. Not. In. SEASON.

BOOM. He's got her there. But... the CMCs get out the door with the projector. AJ smiles, seeing that.

28 APPLEJACK
You're right. Even though we live in a global economy where bananas are available all year round... I give up.

29 CRANKY DOODLE
HA!

He gestures her out and goes back to grading papers.

INT. BAND ROOM - LATER

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

30 RAINBOW DASH
Great party, you guys!

The SLIDESHOW starts as the MANE 7, 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.

Cranky Doodle kicks open the door.

31 CRANKY DOODLE
HEY!

Everything and everyone freezes... BUSTED.

32 CRANKY DOODLE (CONT'D)
Thanks for finding my flashlight.

He pulls it out and clicks it on/off a few times.

33 CRANKY DOODLE (CONT'D)
I've missed this.

Happy, he walks off. Long beat, then the girls laugh and the music/party resumes. AJ and Apple Bloom share a wink. IRIS OUT.

<u>ENDING B: RARITY</u>

INT. BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

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

34 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 classroom. SB, AB, and Scootaloo scamper in behind her.

35 RARITY
Good evening, Mr. Cranky Doodle.

36 CRANKY DOODLE
Hello Rarity.

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

38 CRANKY DOODLE
I... I guess?

39 RARITY
I'm here representing the Cutie Mark Crusaders. I understand you are denying them use of a projector?

40 CRANKY DOODLE
Yes. My projector.

CD points at the PROJECTOR, sitting on his desk.

41 RARITY
Let the record show that Mr. Cranky Doodle has identified the projector in question.

Out of nowhere, Sweetie Belle pulls out a STENOTYPE and takes notes like a court recorder. CD is baffled.

42 RARITY (CONT'D)
So if I'm understanding you correctly, this is <u>your</u> projector?

43 CRANKY DOODLE
Yes!

44 RARITY
And you take it home with you when the school day ends?

45 CRANKY DOODLE
Well no, I can't do that--

46 RARITY
(playing dumb, leading him along)
Hmm, that's right. You <u>can't</u> do that, can you? In fact, this projector cannot leave school premises.

Rarity paces, almost forgetting that CD is even there. Sweetie Belle struggles to keep up with her monologue.

47 RARITY (CONT'D)
Because it isn't your projector at all. It's the property of Canterlot High School, a <u>public</u> school, funded by hardworking taxpayers like Applejack and myself. So technically is this not the taxpayers' projector? My projector?! APPLEJACK'S PROJECTOR?!

Sweetie Belle's stopped typing, enrapt.

48 CRANKY DOODLE
Uh...

49 RARITY
Therefore, did you not LIE under oath when you identified it as your own?!

50 CRANKY DOODLE
I didn't take an oath! You're out of order!

51 RARITY
This whole projector situation is out of order! I'm confiscating it as evidence!

The CMCs exchange an excited glance as Rarity grabs the projector. Cranky Doodle stands. Rarity FREEZES.

52 CRANKY DOODLE
WAIT!
(tense beat)
It's expensive and it could be damaged if not cared for properly.
(quick)
Also, I pay taxes too.

53 RARITY
You'd feel more comfortable if someone were there to supervise it...?

INT. BAND ROOM - 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.

54 SWEETIE BELLE
We did it!

55 RARITY
Delighted we could reach a settlement. In exchange for the projector, we he could attend the party to "supervise said projector."

She points-- STUDENTS CLAP and encircle Mr. Cranky Doodle, who dances and wears a LAMPSHADE on his head.

He does an impressive arm-wave dance, then lifts the lampshade OFF and ON like a robot. Rarity smirks, shaking her head.

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.

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

57 RAINBOW DASH
Nope! Distraction's the name of the game! Huddle up!

Below the costume designs, Rainbow Dash draws an X and an arrow pointing off the board.

58 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Step one? Rarity, you storm off in a huff.

59 RARITY
Why ever would I do that?

Rainbow Dash ERASES the designs. Rarity <HUFFS> and storms off.

60 RAINBOW DASH
Step two....

RD draws Xs and Os as the Cutie Mark Crusaders huddle up.

61 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Scootaloo, you'll run point. Sweetie Belle, hang back to make sure the coast is clear. Apple Bloom, brush up on your fractions.

FADE TO:

INT. CRANKY DOODLE'S CLASSROOM - NIGHT

Cranky Doodle twirls keys on a finger, grading tests.

62 CRANKY DOODLE
Wrong. Wrong. Right, but... minus ten because my foot hurts.

Scootaloo, Apple Bloom, and Sweetie Belle BURST in.

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

64 CRANKY DOODLE
A Mathmergency!?

65 APPLE BLOOM
Bon-bon's fixin' to take the square root of negative one!

Mr. Cranky Doodle stands up, urgent and serious.

66 CRANKY DOODLE
It's worse than "*i*" could have imagined!
(then, stopping to explain)
I say "*i*" and "imagined," because...

He drops the keys as they push him out the door. As it's about to close, a SOCCER BALL wedges it open. Rainbow Dash slinks in, finds the keys. She opens A DRAWER: the PROJECTOR!

67 RAINBOW DASH
Score.

INT. BAND ROOM - LATER

Snips and Snails arc cookies into each others' mouths.

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.

68 RARITY
Looks like they threw a splendid party after all.

69 RAINBOW DASH
They just needed a little coaching. Oh, and by the way...

RD hands Rarity a Poloroid-esque picture of Rarity's designs on the chalkboard.

70 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
I had Photo Finish take a snapshot of your designs before I erased them.

71 RARITY
(had no idea)
...I know. I was just following your plan.

They laugh.

72 RARITY (CONT'D)
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.

73 SCOOTALOO
We got to get back to...

74 CRANKY DOODLE
Ah, ah, ah! <u>Here's</u> where the problem <u>really</u> 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.