

**MY LITTLE PONY
EQUESTRIA GIRLS
BATCH 5: Holiday Shorts**

"The Cider Louse Fools"

#416-250

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EXT. MALL - DAY

<JINGLE BELL> sounds and snowflakes falling.

INT. HARDWARE STORE - DAY

Applejack and Twilight peruse an aisle full of LADDERS...

1 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Thank you so much for inviting me
to your family's holiday party.
Would you say the *Apple Family
Annual Holiday Harvest and Cider-
Making Fest* more of a mulling fest
or a chilling fest?

2 APPLEJACK

Don't you fret, it's always a
blast. Well, aside from when the
Flim-Flam brothers make their
appearance.

Twilight cocks her head-- Hmm?

3 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

They make it a tradition to swindle
my family at the Harvest and Cider-
Making Party. One year they took
all our ladders in the middle of
the party...

Applejack looks into the middle distance (Twilight follows
her gaze, confused as to what they're looking at)... as we
DISSOLVE TO **A SERIES OF FLASHBACKS.**

EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - ORCHARD - FLASHBACK

FLASHBACK: The Apple Family picks apples by sitting on each
other's shoulders. Atop Big Mac's, Granny scowls, holding a
picture of her favorite ladder. <WAH WAH MUSIC CUE>.

4 APPLEJACK (V.O.)

We had to improvise.

(then)

Another year they de-bottomed our
baskets.

FLASHBACK: Granny Smith and Applejack pick apples from a
tree, toss them in a basket. The apples falls right through
to the ground.

ANGLE ON Granny and Applejack through the cut-out bottom of the basket, then Granny open up at a locket necklace and inside is a picture of her favorite basket bottom. <WAH WAH>.

5 APPLEJACK (V.O.)
Last year, they gave Apple Bloom a
pet worm. We shoulda known.

FLASHBACK: APPLE BLOOM plays with her pet worm until it jumps off her finger and climbs up into an apple tree...

6 APPLEJACK (V.O.)
Mister Wiggles and all his friends
ate up every apple we had.

SUDDENLY, thousands of little worms poke their heads out of every visible apple in the tree. Scowling, Granny opens her wallet which unfolds many times down the ground, revealing photos of every single apple sans worms. BACK TO SCENE...

INT. HARDWARE STORE - DAY

As Twilight helps AJ heft a LADDER off the shelf...

7 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
That's horrible! And to think, bow
ties used to be a symbol of
integrity that only cool people
wore.

8 APPLEJACK
Oh Honey, you're thinkin'a bolo
ties.
(smiling)
Anyway, this year we're settin'
traps for those no-good Flim Flam
brothers.

She holds up a BUCKET OF GLUE next to the ladder.

9 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
If they try anything slippery,
things are gonna get sticky.

Twilight 's eyes go wide with excitement.

10 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Applejack? I promise if you let me
come up with a plan, we can out-
bamboozle those bamboozlers.

11 APPLEJACK
...I was hopin' you'd say that!

<MUSIC UP> and we DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. APPLE ACRES - MONTAGE

Shots around the farm as TWILIGHT directs the APPLE FAMILY in setting up the booby-traps, intercut with repeated variations of TWILIGHT at a blackboard filled with equations and lines.

THE KITCHEN-- Big Mac (wearing oven mits or using pot holders) hefts a VAT of ROOM-TEMP APPLE CIDER, which Twilight tastes-- "mmmm!" Then she directs him to pour it into a BIG GLASS BOTTLE.

On the front porch, Apple Bloom crams a ROPE NET into a JACK-IN-THE-BOX. Twilight walks past carrying a box of junk, nodding in approval.

GRANNY SMITH fills the cider vat with water from the tap, then grinds PEPPER into it. Twilight tastes it a la the cider-- YECH!!! She gives her a thumbs up-- perfect.

They hide the REAL APPLE CIDER BOTTLE in a WOODEN TRUNK and cover it with a RED CLOTH, disguising it as a COFFEE TABLE.

Brushing off their hands, Twilight and the Apples look over the farm, proud of their work. END MONTAGE.

INT. APPLE ACRES - BARN - NIGHT

The party! Incidentals stand around as <HOLIDAY MUSIC> plays. Apple Bloom and AJ watch, concerned.

12 APPLE BLOOM

Nobody's talkin, they're just
standin' around! ...Guess a cider
party ain't much fun without cider.

13 APPLEJACK

(concerned, to Twilight)
You sure this is the best way to
fool the Flim Flam brothers...?

14 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

It is in fact the only way. I
triple-checked my game theory
matrix.

(acting it out)
Those no-good grifters are going to
offer a fake diamond for the party's
eponymous cider.

(MORE)

TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
We'll play along, and by the time
they figure out we sold them pepper
and salt water, WE'LL be celebrating
our victory with the real cider,
which is hidden in here.

Twilight <KNOCKS> on the red-cloth-covered trunk.

15 APPLEJACK
I hope you're right.

16 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Trust me.

Suddenly THE DOOR OPENS! In strut the Flim Flam Brothers.

17 FLIM
Greetings!

18 FLAM
Salutations!

19 FLIM
No tricks this year!

20 FLAM
Cross our hearts of gold.

21 FLIM
Speakin' of gold, how would you
feel about selling us your cider?

Twilight and Applejack light up at the sound of that.

22 FLIM (CONT'D)
For the generous sum of...

23 FLAM
Let's say...

24 FLIM
Ohhhh...

25 FLIM/FLAM
This genuine real-life DIAMOND?

They hold up a SPARKLING DIAMOND. Off Twilight/AJ's smirk...

CUT TO:

EXT. APPLE ACRES - NIGHT

Twilight and Applejack wave goodbye as Flim and Flam load the VAT OF PEPPER WATER onto their car.

26 APPLEJACK
Y'all come back next year, ya hear!

The Flim Flam brothers get in their car and <THE ENGINE STARTS>. Applejack and Twilight head back inside.

INSIDE, the other Apple family members wait with baited breath. As soon as she closes the front door behind her--

27 THE APPLE FAMILY
Yee-haw! / That was amazin'! /
Eyup! / We did it!

28 APPLEJACK
Twilight was one step ahead of 'em
from start to finish!
(then)
Let the REAL *Apple Family Annual
Holiday Harvest and Cider-Making
Fest* begin!

She opens the trunk. Looks down.

29 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Wuh-oh.

It's empty! <DUN DUN>!

30 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Where's the real cider...? Did they
take the real cider? How'd they get
the real cider?!

Big Mac lifts the trunk and they realize-- IT HAS A SECRET TRAP DOOR that leads to A HOLE IN THE FLOOR!

31 APPLE BLOOM
Awwwww, man!

32 APPLEJACK
That ain't fair! They musta known
about the switcheroo and double-
reverse switcherooed us right back!

33 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Unless I knew they'd doubled-back
and take the real cider using a
series of tunnels I dug knowing
they'd find them and use them,
ensuring that when they emerged
right outside the front door they'd
get... TRAPPED IN A NET!

34 APPLEJACK

Did you do that?

35 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

You tell me!

Twilight throws open the front door, revealing... THE FLIM
FLAM BROTHERS, just standing there. Definitely not in a net.

36 APPLEJACK

Nope.

37 TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Ummmmmmmm.

Flim and Flam smile, smug.

38 FLIM

Looking for this?

Flam holds up THE JACK-IN-THE-BOX TRAP. Slowly, he twists the
handle, playing the musical jingle.

39 FLAM

Nobody outsmarts the Flim Flam
brothers. Thanks for the cider.

BOOM! The box SPRINGS OPEN, shooting A NET past the Apple
Family-- and it ensnares the party guests!

40 FLIM

Time to go!

41 FLAM

See you next year!

42 FLIM

Oh, and one more thing...!

43 FLAM

Enjoy your pepper water!

They deposit the covered vat onto the front porch, do a
little jig, and drive off with the cider.

44 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Applejack...

45 APPLEJACK
...Guess this party's over.

46 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Actually... it never got started.

Twilight lifts the net, revealing... the guests were all
CARDBOARD CUTOUTS.

47 APPLE BLOOM
No wonder Scootaloo was so quiet...

48 APPLEJACK
But who-- how'd you--

49 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
These clocks are all wrong-- I
changed them this afternoon and
hacked the Flim Flam brothers'
remotely.
(changing the time)
The REAL party doesn't start for
another twenty minutes.

Twilight pours from the "Pepper Water" cider vat into two
cups. An amazed AJ watches her take a sip.

50 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
Mmmmmmm. Delicious.

51 APPLEJACK
You didn't switch the cider, did
you...?

Twilight nods. Granny Smith is overjoyed.

52 GRANNY SMITH
Surprise me once, shame on you.
Surprise me twice, shame on me.
Surprise me three times, the fourth
surprise is going to be on you!
(yelling outside)
You're the surprised ones! HAHA!

53 APPLEJACK
...I don't know what to say.

54 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
How about... cheers?

Grinning ear to ear, they cheers and drink cider. IRIS OUT.

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