

PREMISE
My Little Pony: Equestria Girls
#403-064 thru #403-068 – 5 x 10 Minute Shorts
“Me, My Selfie, and I”
1/24/17
Written by Nick Confalone

SUMMARY OF THE AJ/RV STORY: When Rarity takes a new job at the Theme Park, Applejack realllllly doesn't like her new work friends. But trusting Rarity's judgment, Applejack makes a sincere effort to befriend these mean girls, only to realize... they're not just mean, they're EVIL (Equestrian Magic-style)! Rarity doesn't believe AJ, and the conflict between them grows as Rarity's new friend gets up to no good harnessing Equestrian Magic! AJ and RV have a full-on fight over whose fault this is; deep down Applejack feels hurt that Rarity didn't believe her, and Rarity feels embarrassed for letting herself get duped by all the flattery. Finally, Rarity and Applejack embrace their differences and save the park, their friends, and the day!

1.

We actually start *in medias res*, where a THEME PARK (with a TBD awesome name) has been absolutely wrecked, pulsing with magical energy, filled with lifelike statues of uhhh... Principal Celestia, Maud, and even Spike! WAIT, THESE AREN'T STATUES, THEY'RE FROZEN PEOPLE! In the park's security office, we find out who's responsible for this: The Mane 7!? Applejack and Rarity are in a fight, both accusing the other, so the GUARD decides to question them all individually. They begin telling their stories as a framing device, and we flashback to the events leading up to this (periodically cutting to a talking head in the present a la *THE SADDLE ROW REVIEW*, MLP ep 610).

Yesterday morning, at the mall: the Mane 7 (minus Rarity) hang out on break when they notice that Rarity's not there. Scrolling her social media timeline, they see she's been at the new Theme Park a lot, having fun... without them? Their questions are answered when Rarity shows up... SHE GOT A NEW JOB! In charge of ALL costumes for the new Theme Park at the edge of town. (AJ: “You mean gettin’ people dressed?”) Rarity ignores AJ's slight and explains why it's so important: for the first time in her life, someone saw and appreciated her passion. Who knows where this could lead! (CUT TO Rainbow Dash's talking head in the present: “probably didn't think it would lead to the end of the world, but here we are.”) Rarity invites them to the Park's Grand Opening tomorrow, where her costumes will be on display in the Opening Day Parade. Honored, of course her friends will be there to support her!

THE NEXT DAY AT THE PARK, the Mane 7 (less RV) discuss their goals for the day: RD will help FS get over her fear of the Cloudsdale Coaster. Meanwhile, PP and Sci Twi want to taste every dessert in Sugarcube Country and check out the adjacent Hall of Civil Engineering, respectively. Meanwhile, AJ and Sunset ask a helpful employee what SHE recommends doing... but she turns out to be completely mean and snobby: “I have over two million followers on picturegram, oh it's new, you look like you might not have heard of it.” They're glad to be done with this girl, until Rarity shows up: “I see you've already met VIGNETTE! I absolutely adore her-- she's my best friend at the park!” AJ is stunned. <A MUSIC STING> and we fade out.

2.

AJ and Sunset learn that Vignette is actually Rarity's boss, but “boss” in name-only-- she wants everyone here to be besties! “Selfie! Oh yeah that's getting 5 likes a second.” Vignette introduces her helper/employee, a laid-back, DREAMY guy named EASY PEASY who runs the Cloudsdale Coaster. Sunset is INSTANTLY gaga for him, but plays it cool, like maybe she'll see

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him later when she rides the coaster, which, psh, she’s not even scared of cause that would make her uncool, which isn’t something she... is...n’t? (NOTE: Sunset’s “crush” will be played for laughs, not serious romantic feelings at all.)

AJ pulls Sunset and Rarity aside to tell her how Vignette was kind of mean, but Rarity tells her that Vignette comes off as distant at first, but that’s just because she’s so popular online. But even with all those adoring fans, she still appreciated RY’s fashion designs so much that she put her in charge of costumes for the entire park parade tonight! Fine, AJ promises to give Vignette a chance. Sunset promises to give Easy Peasy a chance too.

Rarity goes off by herself to prepare costumes for the parade. PP and Sci Twi head off to Sugarcube Country, while Sunset joins RD & FS in hopes of running into Easy Peasy later. Meanwhile, AJ really makes an effort to befriend Vignette, but she’s so snobby and passive aggressive with backhanded “compliments,” AJ has to take deep breaths and remind herself this is a very important night for Rarity, so maybe she can pretend to like Vignette. It’s not like her new friend is literally EVIL. But then AJ catches Vignette (who thought she was alone) LITERALLY CASTING AN EVIL SPELL WITH AN EVIL MAGIC SCEPTER, FREEZING EVERYONE ON THE RIDE INTO LIFE-SIZE DOLLS. AJ: “So, yeah, literally evil.”

3.

Meanwhile, Pinkie Pie and Sci Twi have no idea what’s about to go down—they have a blast eating desserts and learning about resonant bridge harmonics. They marvel at their differences, a theme which continues over with the fearless Rainbow Dash helping scared Fluttershy and nervous Sunset Shimmer, as the latter two psych themselves up to ride the intimidating Cloudsdale Coaster (practicing on the 4-and-under “lil’ nimbus” swings).

Meanwhile, AJ hurries to find Rarity, who’s behind-the-scenes prepping costumes. But she runs right into Vignette instead! AJ sweats her way through a super-tense but funny scene where she doesn’t know if Vignette is on to her or not. Vignette offers to take AJ to RY... (or is she leading her something BAD!?) At the last moment, sensing danger, AJ runs off, lost behind the scenes, until she thankfully runs right into Rarity, who... DOESN’T BELIEVE HER ABOUT VIGNETTE! (Even after she shows her PROOF, a picture she took!!! RY: “They’re not moving because nobody moves in a picture, Applejack.”) Rarity accuses AJ of being too stubborn and trying to ruin her parade. AJ says this has NOTHING to do with the parade—this is about **Equestrian Magic**! Vignette must have found this scepter somewhere, somehow...

Rarity refuses to believe her... but she trails off as she sees magic tendrils levitating frozen park guests in the air. The other Mane 7 join them, knowing trouble when they see it. Rarity decides that Vignette isn’t behind this... in fact, someone needs to WARN Vignette—she might be in danger! Rarity summons PARK SECURITY. But instead of helping her, The Mane 7 are suddenly placed under arrest (well, “park arrest”)! They’re dragged away, Rarity watching helplessly as she finally sees the cause of the magic. She’s heartbroken to see AJ was right—it’s Vignette.

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4.

We’ve caught up to the present. Finished with their one-on-one stories, the guard throws them back together and reads them the riot act. Rarity and AJ have a full-on falling out in front of everyone. They blame each other for this. Pinkie Pie hates seeing them fight and wishes they could just stay strong like a cantilever spar cable-stayed bridge (Sci Twi’s proud of her, despite the circumstances). AJ and Rarity ignore her, going after each other’s core values... AJ thinks Rarity has never liked her, and vice versa... after all, they’re so different and opposite, how could they be friends!? Well, maybe they’re not. Fine! Fine!

SUDDENLY THE POWER GOES OUT. Magic tendrils are snaking through the halls of the theme park jail, coming for them. FOOTSTEPS...! The guard goes to check, and then they hear ZAPOW! He’s turned into a statue! Around the corner comes... Easy Peasy! Sunset breathes a sigh of relief. EP: “Actually, bummerrrrr, I’m totally evil or whatever cause Vignette’s my boss and I really need the job.” Vignette gave him the magic scepter to help him capture the Mane 7, and despite an exciting sequence where they fight back, his magic overpowers them and he FREEZES Sci Twi, Fluttershy, Rainbow Dash, Sunset Shimmer, and Pinkie Pie (“Avenge Meeeeeee! And also feed Gummy for meeeeeeee!”). Only AJ and RY escape, but they decide to solve things their own way, going their separate ways into the darkness of the destroyed theme park...

5.

The final chapter opens with Vignette enjoying her perfect little world. The distinct areas of the park (e.g., Sugarcube Country, Cloudsdale Stratos) are all under the banner of “Vignette World” now. Why’d she do this? Maybe through song, she poses “friends” like she’s having fun with them, snapping primo picturegram snaps, reveling in how great it is to look perfect.

We find Rarity hiding in the Hall of Civil Engineering (cause “Other than Twilight, who’d check for me in a place like this?”). Rarity scrolls on her phone, looking at Vignette’s pictures, realizing it’s all a lie. Even the ones with RY. She faces up to a sad fact: She got played. Vignette was just using her to bring people to the park--she doesn’t have fashion talent, obviously. But then, behind her comes AJ... “That ain’t true.” (AJ had the same idea about hiding here, which makes them realize they at least have ONE thing in common.) AJ tells her that she might not understand fashion, but she DOES understand hard work, and she’s seen all the nights Rarity’s clocked--and all the dead-end designs she’s thrown away. And then we find out the origin of Applejack’s APPLE BELT: back when AJ didn’t have any friends in fifth grade, Rarity made her this belt, which Applejack’s kept and updated ever since. Rarity is touched, and apologizes for not listening to AJ about Vignette. She was so blinded by Vignette’s flattery that she didn’t listen to her best friend, who was looking out for her. Can AJ ever forgive her? (Revealing her Apple Belt, on underneath her costume: “Already have.”) Together, they go find a way to save their friends.

AJ and Rarity confront Vignette together, who monologues about her motivations: “It’s not enough to be perfect some of the time... I want everyone to think I have a perfect life all the time!” She shows them how she can use the frozen people to pose selfies that get tons of likes: “You of all people should understand the need for validation, Rarity.” But Rarity schools her on

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friendship: **Vignette is so focused on showing off the perfect picture, she’s not even doing anything worth photographing.** Rarity shows off her friend’s pictures from the day: PP with Sci Twi eating giant desserts, Sunset terrified in line for the Cloudsdale Coaster, Rainbow Dash having fun despite herself with Fluttershy on the baby-coaster... these are all memories of fun times they had.

Vignette tempts Rarity one final time: “Why don’t you just like, join me, Rarity-- we can look perfect together all the time! Are you really happy with like, NO followers? You don’t have to be seen with someone who shops at Stinky Bottoms’ Discount Hat Emporium.” But Rarity takes AJ’s hat off her head and puts it on herself, saying she doesn’t care how she looks, so long as she’s with her friend! KRA-POW! They Crystal-Up... along with the other Mane 7, as their magic geodes free them from their frozen state! Friendship, what what!? Rarity throws the scepter in the air, and then RAINBOW LASERS break that scepter into pieces, turning everyone else and everything back to normal. In the end, AJ and Rarity offer to march in the parade with Vignette, who realizes how dumb and complicated her plan was, considering she could have just been nice. Together, along with RY and AJ, they take a picture that may not get many likes, but means something to all of them. Also, Easy Peasy reveals he kinda has a crush on one of them who was hanging around his coaster all day... Fluttershy. (Sunset is aghast, but is super supportive!) EVERYTHING’S AWESOME NOW AND AJ/RY HAVE A DEEPER FRIENDSHIP! Yay! (The end.)