

Me, My Selfie, and I Second Draft Breakdown

Part 1: All Bite and No Theme Park

Cold Open: At Equestria World, Vignette is stressed planning the grand opening first day at the park, which is fast approaching. Clarity on her job: “I’m the PR person, it’s my job to make sure the world knows how amazing this place is!” And super important is THE LIGHT PARADE, because it’s the last thing they’ll see on opening night. Which is why she’s so glad she has the perfect costume designer... who quits. V: “Uh, good! Fine! You’re SO outdated anyway, I need someone with VISION!” Frustrated, Vignette sits down, putting her phone on the table. This day is the worst! Even her SALAD isn’t good. While she’s complaining about it... EQUESTRIAN MAGIC SEEPS INTO HER PHONE, which she then uses to take a photo of her food... and HER FOOD DISAPPEARS. Her face: OH SNAP, WHAT!? CUT TO:

The Mall. The Mane 6 are hangin’ out talking about their plans for the end of summer. RY and AJ have applied to work side-by-side at the theme park that’s opening in two weeks: Candy Apple Girls. AJ is like “how could I NOT get that job?” But then RY gets hired and AJ doesn’t. She acts like she doesn’t mind... she’ll just ask for her old job back at the shake place. Punchline: they’ve already filled her spot. Snips and Snails! D’oh!

THE THEME PARK: Rarity’s first day... we see the scope of the job. She wasn’t hired as a Candy Apple Girl. Vignette wants her to do the costume designs for the light parade! Vignette reassures her: you can do this, you have a good energy, I know these things. It’s the first sign that Vignette is going to be putting the pressure on Rarity that this event is SO IMPORTANT.

Feeling that pressure, Rarity calls AJ... who pretends like her NEW job is going great. (Reveal: she’s working at the apple farm doing something demeaning and hilarious). AJ pretends it’s amazing. RY: “Oh good, I’m so happy for you!” AJ: “And I’m so happy for you!” They’re both covering how they feel. RY is looking for reassurance/loneliness at her new job, and AJ is trying to cover her feelings of being left behind. Rarity has the great idea that AJ and the girls should come on opening night to see the parade! VIP passes, they could cut the lines. AJ agrees!

OPENING DAY AT THE PARK: The Mane 6 arrive. AJ is slightly condescending about the whole situation, telling everyone they’re not here for fun, they’re here to support Rarity: “I get the sense she’s overwhelmed, which is understandable, I mean she’s all alone here without any of her friends. Which is why *I wouldn’t have taken the job, but that’s just me, heh.” They meet Vignette, who blows them off. The girls recognize her for various funny-character-specific reasons. AJ doesn’t like her... which is why it’s so terrible for her when Rarity shows up and introduces Vignette as her boss and ‘Best Friend at the Park!’ – “you’re going to love each other!” AJ’s like HUH?

Part 2: Frenemy Request

Pick up where we left off, dealing with the fallout of meeting Vignette. Vignette is totally uninterested in RY’s friends, which kind of flusters her so she drops the Rainbooms name and

mentions their following online. V perks up and suddenly blows smoke up their butts and offers them a spot in the parade, which they accept! Meanwhile AJ is still hung up on the whole “BFF at the park” comment... which kind of annoys RY (“Aren’t you happy to be playing? This is a huge opportunity after all”) And so feeling like AJ doesn’t get it, RY leaves, busy with preparing for tonight... reminding them to meet up for their fittings later this afternoon. The girls inadvertently rub it in to AJ: “Welllll Rarity doesn’t need our support as much as you thought, so... we’re gonna go have fun bye!”

First scene of FS and RD on the roller coaster story. Ends with FS/RD riding the kiddie coaster.

The parade prep warehouse: AJ, RY, and Vignette. AJ wanted to hang out but Rarity is insanely super duper busy. This is where we’ll look at placing Rarity’s song, but might not. RY is feeling like “AJ you’re at a theme park, go have fun, can’t you see how busy me and V are?” AJ is miffed.

Second scene of FS and RD roller coaster story, ends with Rainbow Dash going on the coaster with FS, and RD is the one who gets scared and makes them stop it. A win for FS, who then gets a text from Vignette...

AJ wanders the park, alone, bored. She runs into the Candy Apple Girl stand to find out that Micro Chips got her job... and knows nothing about being a good candy apple “girl.” Then she sees FS and Vignette walking together and is kind of miffed when FS ignores her...

But it’s because FS is confused by what Vignette’s saying. Vignette pitches FS her vision for her “new role in the band, for the parade.” It’s Fluttershy as the bad girl. Playing a guitar with skulls on it. Spiked hair, etc. FS was already nervous about being in a parade (“I don’t like performing on moving platforms”) so now she wants to back out. Vignette can’t convince her to do it the way she wants, so she gets an idea and promises FS that she knows a way to get her in the parade without feeling any nervousness at all. FS is relieved, until Vignette takes her picture and magic sparks make her disappear!

Part 3: Applejack Investigates

Open on SciTwi and SS – start the Carnival Game story from 1st draft of part 3 (minus RD). SS is super dubious of these games, but SciTwi is confident in the power of physics. But... doesn’t work. SS is like “so close though, maybe try one more time?”

RY in the warehouse: things are starting to fall apart. And that’s when AJ comes in... have you seen Fluttershy? “I think she went off with Vignette but I haven’t been able to find her.” RY can’t believe she’s bothering her right now. AJ can’t believe she’s so unconcerned. “If you’re not gonna worry about her, I will.” (It’s kinda like AJ has chosen to create this problem so she’ll look like a better friend and show Rarity what she should be doing.)

AJ checks in with SciTwi and SS, and we get the second beat of their story. Now SS is totally rabidly into this, urging SciTwi to unify particle physics and string theory just so they’ll be able

to win this thing—“WE WERE SO CLOSE!” And she’s taking it personally with the guy who works there. But when AJ comes around being all serious and worried, Sunset reassures her: “There’s not always a villain with Equestrian Magic out to get us.”

AJ checks in with RD, who’s just hanging out by the cloudsdale coaster “not being scared of it.” She last saw FS around here but she went off with Vignette. (we’re at a fun park... try to have fun!) She’s thinking it’s just AJ unable to stop working and relax. End the carnival game story – They give up, and SS tosses the ring over her shoulder and it wins.

AJ is wandering and bumps into PP, who’s “working” at the bumper cars now? WTF? But PP is actually the park’s Fun Inspector... a volunteer position she made up that no one really knows about so maybe she’s not actually working for the park, but still... this place is FUN! She gives AJ an all-access fun inspector badge and pins it to her chest.

And as AJ tries to decide what to do next, a security guard spots her and we play this part super-silly... he sees her FUN INSPECTOR badge and insists that she come inspect his workstation and make sure the security staff is as fun as they’re supposed to be. (He’s super nervous and intimidated by applejack, and no matter how much she tries to clear up the confusion, it only makes him more certain he’s about to lose his job.) So he brings her to the security room where she sees all the monitors... and then gets an idea, I mean, since he’s insisting...

In the security office, AJ sees live security footage of Vignette with Rainbow Dash... hmmm? The scene she’s seeing: V pitches RD on an idea for the rainbooms: making RD super girlie. Uhhhhh, not gonna happen... and then AJ sees Vignette shrug and ZAP rainbow dash into her phone with equestrian magic! HUH!?

Part 4: Captured Images

SciTwI, PP, and SS show up at the Parade Prep warehouse for the final fittings / parade prep. RY is annoyed: AJ is off playing detective instead of being here for the fitting. SS: “But RD and FS aren’t here either.” RY: “DON’T TELL ME WHO TO BE ANNOYED WITH!” SS: yikes (RY’s stressed!). And then Vignette shows up and puts the pressure on RY even more: there’s gonna be all these amazing internet celebs there tonight, fashion bloggers, it’s gonna be huge... “Don’t let me down, this is our big chance. I mean your big chance.”

AJ confronts V in front of everyone. (When she first shows up, RY is like “You’re here! Finally! Hurry, get on the platform!”) But no, Applejack knows something is up with Vignette’s phone. They don’t understand what she’s trying to tell them, so in a big ah-ha moment, AJ tries to prove it: “Watch this!” CLICK. Nothing happens. Asks vignette to help her show how evil she is. RY can’t believe this is happening when the parade is in 20 minutes. They finally have it out in a big fight, where the subtext becomes the surface argument: RY says AJ doesn’t “about my parade!” AJ: “mine mine mine, this is all about you! What happened to it being about US!?” (Vignette backs off: gonna let you two sort this out...) The argument escalates until they both say the worst thing possible under the circumstances, despite the others trying to calm everyone down. AJ: “She doesn’t think your talent, she’s just using you to make herself look good.” And then AJ

“Fine, I can tell you don’t want me here.” RY: “You’re right. I don’t.” ouch! Noooo! AJ leaves. They both are mad at each other and feeling miserable.

Meanwhile, with the clock ticking down, it’s time for Vignette to set everything up perfectly. She starts making changes. With AJ out of the picture and not causing trouble anymore... “we’ll be better off without her.” - WE? Yeah, she’s taking AJ’s spot. With a song she wrote... “I’m a multi-hyphenate triple threat.” The girls refuse to perform without AJ, so Vignette shrugs it off and decides she might as well just go all the way through with what she started. She captures them in her phone. And then... time to make the magic happen!

She “prints” the holograms/digital versions of the girls, after first playing with them on her phone and manipulating their poses and outfits into exactly her perfect vision of what the band should be.

RY comes over and sees what’s happened. V is totally blasé about it, more excited: “isn’t this amazing? Now we can make the parade exactly how I want it!” RY: but you hired me for MY vision...? “Welllll I wanted YOUR vision to bring out MY vision, I guess.” – “I needed you to make me look good, but now with this, *I can make me look good!” Vignette explains the WHOLE THING: Her phone became magic somehow and now it has this power where it can do all this great stuff blah blah blah. Finally she can look like she has the perfectly curated life she’s always looked like she’s had. RY feels betrayed and terrible, refusing to go along with this, so Vignette does what she always does (“this is getting repetitive,” she muses)... and we end with the cliffhanger of her ZAPPING rarity with the phone photo—as magic encircles her we FADE OUT!

Part 5: No Filter

OPEN in the white room – RD, FS, PP, SS, and SciTwi, trapped. Piecing together they’re in the phone, just like when they were trapped in the mirror before. PP is eating the salad from part one that Vignette captured (Wishing there were tomatoes just like Vignette did). They wonder what’s going on out there, hoping RY and AJ can patch things up and fix this...

OUT IN THE REAL WORLD... we see the moment where Vignette is zapping Rarity into the phone... except this time we reveal that RARITY’S GEODE GLOWED AND HER SHIELD CAME UP AT THE LAST SECOND, protecting her! No matter how much she tries, Vignette can’t capture her! Whatever, she says: “I don’t need you, or Applejack.” Which makes RY remember... “applejack...!”

Leaving the park, AJ is on her way out, sad. RY catches up to her and makes amends. So does AJ. Then they get A CALL FROM SCI TWI! Intercut with the white room (We’re in the cloud!)? Sci Twi found a way to hack through all these different apps and get a call out to them. They come up with an elaborate third act plan: destroy Vignette’s phone to free them. Sounds good! But then AJ notices the caller ID is from the room next door, hang on... she opens the door and there are the girls IRL, just locked in a white room. “Oh, or maybe the phone sent us here. Heh, guess I was wrong.” And then suddenly... Micro Chips appears in the white room!

“Apparently she wanted a cool nerd running the apple stand” Sci Twi: “Ugh, cool nerds.” Wait, so that means she is replacing Micro Chips? They realize it means she’s on the parade route... which means she’s capturing people during the parade!? Sunset knows what’s next: “Guys, she’s getting corrupted by Equestrian Magic. I’ve been there. (checking time) Right about now she’s probably working on her evil laugh...” CUT TO:

Vignette working on her evil laugh. She’s on the Rainbooms platform for the parade as it’s about to start, and she’s going to just capture the entire parade route... might as well have everyone trapped in my phone, right? Everything has to be perfect!

The girls on their way to stop her. AJ makes it explicit for Rarity, the theme of this series: “You realize we’ll be ruining the parade if we do stop Vignette.” Rarity doesn’t care, and she’ll sacrifice it. “What’s the point without you all?”

Vignette tries to tempt Rarity one last time. This is the version of her friends that will be popular. Besides, it doesn’t matter what you do IRL, its only what you show people online. This is your chance, Rarity, your chance to be everything you’ve always wanted! “No, it’s my chance to LOOK like everything I’ve always wanted. It’s not worth it without my friends.”

PEW PEW PEW rainbow lasers blows the phone right out of her hands!

Forgiveness, the corruption fades.

The parade seems ruined, except then all the fashion bloggers and trendy people are amazed: that rainbow laser thing was the coolest light show at a parade they’ve ever seen. AJ: “It was all RY’s idea.” But RY gives the credit to all of them, they did it together.

END WITH SUNSET WRITING TO TWILIGHT IN THE MAGIC JOURNAL, summing up everything in an epilogue (this could also be a Rainbooms song, but let’s keep it simple for now). We see AJ has a job now as Candy Apple Girl. PP Fun Inspector, SS and TS working the carnival games, and FS and RD on the coaster together. Sunset explains the photobooth metaphor as we see them taking photos in the crowded photobooth (inviting Vignette to join them) – “A photobooth is like a selfie for a group of friends. But the picture is nothing... without the real friendships it photographs.”