

## **“Waves of Friendship”**

Animation Beatsheet By Ed Valentine

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### **SONG CONCEPT**

We’re all interconnected, and what we do matters! Every act of friendship - no matter how small – causes good feelings to spread out like ripples in a pond. Goodness comes back to us, sometimes when we least expect it.

### **VISUAL CONCEPT**

With Rainbow Dash and Rarity as the lead singers, the video is one long tracking shot as acts of friendship are passed from one person to the next. The colors are muted until each character gets helped by another. At that moment, a sonic wave ripples out of each helper, bringing the person they’re helping into full color. The focus shifts as the characters move on, spreading kindness through the mall. By the end of the song, everyone is in bright colors as the world fills with friendship.

### **STORY BEATS:**

1. **ATHLETIC STORE / MALL:** Music up, with Rainbow Dash and Rarity singing O.S. In the store, a frantic Rainbow Dash looks at the clock: it’s 2 minutes to 5. (NOTE: all the girls are in their mall job uniforms throughout.) She stocks the last of the sneaker boxes – but trips over a soccer ball, knocks over a shelf, and is swamped by a cascade of falling sneakers! Frustrated, Dash starts to clean up the mess – but she’s distracted as Fluttershy passes her window pulled by a bunch of rowdy puppies on leashes. Dash sees Fluttershy heading for danger: a wet floor, marked by orange cones – and busy as she is, Dash runs to help. Fluttershy slips on the wet floor and spins, tangled by the leashes – but Dash grabs her and steadies her! A colorful sonic pulse emanates from Rainbow Dash, bringing Fluttershy into full color. Fluttershy thanks Dash and goes on her way. RD (still in muted colors) goes back into her store.
2. **MALL / SMOOTHIE SHOP:** Track Fluttershy as she passes Applejack’s smoothie shop. She sees AJ (muted colors) through the window, finishing a smoothie. AJ hits a button on a blender - and smoothie mixture splashes out all over AJ and the store! Applejack is a frustrated mess - but Fluttershy thinks, motions “SIT” to the puppies (which they do), and goes into AJ’s shop. As she hands the dripping Applejack a rag to wipe her face, a colorful sonic wave emanates from Fluttershy. AJ goes into full color.
3. **SMOOTHIE SHOP / MALL:** As Fluttershy starts to clean, AJ hands a finished smoothie to a waiting customer: it’s Flash Sentry (muted colors). Flash hands AJ cash, but as he leaves he accidentally drop his wallet. AJ sees, rushes out to pick up the wallet, and runs after Flash Sentry. Track AJ from behind as she darts out, catches up to Flash, and hands the wallet back to him. Sonic ripple moves from AJ to the grateful Flash. He goes into full color, too.
4. **MALL / TECH STORE:** Track Flash Sentry as he passes Twilight’s tech store and notices her frazzled as she’s trying to assemble a big toy robot with wires hanging out of its instrument panel. Seeing her distress, Flash Sentry thinks for a second. He takes out his wallet, quickly buys a flower from a flower cart, and goes in and hands the flower to Twilight. Distracted, Twilight

blinks, smiles and goes full color. Flash smiles and goes on his way. Twilight, cheered up and revitalized, connects two wires. The robot's lights blink on as it shudders to life.

5. TECH STORE / ATHLETIC STORE: Twilight looks out her store window to see RD in the athletic store. Dash, looking stressed, is still picking up the huge pile of sneakers. Twilight looks at her clock – it's now almost 5 – and puts a "closed" sign on the door. Cut to RD picking up the sneakers – when suddenly she's surprised by two pairs of hands coming into frame to pick up boxes: Twilight's hands - and the robot's! Twilight and the robot pick up boxes of sneakers, with the robot working lightning-fast. Soon they're joined by other helping hands: Fluttershy with her puppies, Applejack, and Flash Sentry pick up boxes, too. A pulse goes out from all of them to the Rainbow Dash, who goes into full color as her act of kindness comes back to her.
6. ATHLETIC STORE / MALL: The clock hands hit five. Quick cuts of hands plugging cords into amps. Pull back to show Rainbow Dash with the Rainbooms, throwing a post-workday concert in the now cleaned-up athletic store. A huge colorful sonic ripple goes out from them, emanating into the mall and spreading kindness as it goes. We pull back, and the frame is filled with quick acts of kindness: two characters hug, one offers another a gift, one takes another's hand, one picks up another's dropped package, etc. Everyone's happy – and everyone is enlivened by the bright colors of friendship as we... *fade to black*.