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MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9

BEST GIFT EVER-Part 2
Holiday Special

LOCKED SCRIPT

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ACT ONE**SC. 1 - EXT. SWEET ACORN ORCHARDS - THE NEXT MORNING**

Rarity, in full winter regalia, walks up a barren path to Sweet Acorn Acres. It's outside of Ponyville, rural, with no other homes around. A shabby rusty gate creaks in the wind.

1 RARITY
How... rustic.

Past the creaky gate, a dirt path leads to a ramshackle home adorned with meager decorations. Behind it, a run-down barn stands next to a few scraggly acorn trees.

Rarity <KNOCKS>. Two ponies, OAK NUT and BUTTERNUT, open the door, unsure of what to make of their well-dressed guest.

2 RARITY (CONT'D)
Is this Sweet Acorn Acres?

3 BUTTERNUT
It is. But we've never had nopony like you visit before...

4 RARITY
Rarity. A pleasure. I'm actually here about a package that was recently delivered...

5 OAK NUT
That was from YOU?!

6 RARITY
(relieved)
So it DID arrive. If I could just-

Butternut hugs Rarity.

7 BUTTERNUT
We don't know how to thank you.

8 RARITY
(confused)
Thank me?

They usher her in. The interior is as meager as the exterior. Butter Nut sits Rarity down and pours some tea.

9 OAK NUT
I was just saying to Butternut I wished we knew who our Hearth's Warming Miracle was.

10 BUTTERNUT
Oak Nut and I couldn't believe it
when we opened it. Pistachio said
right away whoever sent it just
"got him".

11 OAK NUT
Says when he put it on, he could
feel his destiny!

12 RARITY
As an acorn farmer?

13 PISTACHIO (O.S.)
A FARMER?! Filly, please. <<ALT.
Surely you jest.>>

PISTACHIO enters sporting Rarity's hat. He is short, sassy
and utterly fabulous.

14 PISTACHIO (CONT'D)
This is a Fedora Felt ORIGINAL.
Look at this bold stitching! These
daring textures! It's a whole new
take on Western chic! There's no
way I would wear it in the grove.

He hugs the hat reverently. His parents beam proudly at him.

15 BUTTERNUT
We don't know where he got his
fashion sense.

16 OAK NUT
Far as we know, a hat's a hat.

17 PISTACHIO
Except when it's art.

18 BUTTERNUT
Thank you, Rarity.

Pistachio whips his head around to gape at Rarity.

19 PISTACHIO
Rarity? THE Rarity?

Rarity nods her head.

20 PISTACHIO (CONT'D)
You are LEGEND-MARE-Y! You have to
stay for lunch. I won't take no for
an answer!

They look at Rarity expectantly. She's at a loss but rallies.

21 RARITY
I... would be delighted?

SC. 2 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - LATER

Twilight wearily walks out of the library with a large book. Her mane is a mess and she has bags under her eyes. Boxes of decorations are still scattered everywhere.

22 TWILIGHT
The recipe for Chancellor
Puddinghead's MAGICAL pudding was
filed under magical SPELLS not
recipes. OBVIOUSLY. Only took four
hours to figure that out.

She flips through the book.

23 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Let's see. Nutmeg, Sugarplums,
Gingerbread, Candy Canes. Warning:
To avoid untold culinary
devastation each ingredient must be
measured with exact care.
 (she smiles)
Oh, book. Have you met me?

A <KNOCK> at the castle door stops her. She opens the door to find PRINCESS CADANCE, SHINING ARMOR and FLURRY HEART.

24 SHINING ARMOR & CADANCE/FLURRY HEART
HAPPY HEARTH'S WARMING! / <bubbles>

Shining Armor hugs his sister.

25 TWILIGHT
But... you're early! Your scroll
said you were coming tomorrow.

26 CADANCE
The scroll we sent yesterday?

27 TWILIGHT
Yesterday! Right. Welcome!

Shining Armor looks over Twilight's shoulder. Boxes of Hearth's Warming decorations are still scattered about.

28 SHINING ARMOR
Uh-oh.

29 CADANCE
Uh-oh?

Shining Armor studies Twilight, puts a hoof to her forehead as though checking a fever. She bats his hoof away, annoyed.

30 TWILIGHT
(annoyed)
What are you doing?

31 SHINING ARMOR
Decorations not up, frazzled mane, determined look. I've seen this before. What are you obsessing about this time Twily?

32 TWILIGHT
NOTHING!

33 SHINING ARMOR
So decorations aren't up because?

34 TWILIGHT
I thought... It would be more fun if we all decorated it together!

35 CADANCE
That sounds wonderful. We can start decorating right--

36 TWILIGHT
AFTER I finish one QUICK errand. Just a few ingredients. Nothing to obsess about here! Make yourselves at home. Be RIGHT back! Promise.

She TELEPORTS away - <POOF>!

37 CADANCE
She's definitely freaking out about something.

38 SHINING ARMOR
OH yeah.

SC. 3 - EXT. ANCIENT GIFT GIVER'S GROVE - LATER THAT DAY

The NORTHERN LIGHTS shimmer above. Enchanted trees surround a tiny cottage, decorated for every Equestria holiday ever. Pinkie climbs over a cliff, and bounces to the cottage. She's about to knock when the door flies open. An ancient looking pony with thick spectacles (AURORA) studies Pinkie Pie.

39 AURORA
By Blitzen's Beard! It took ya long
enough!

She pulls Pinkie inside the cottage.

SC. 4 - INT. REINDEER COTTAGE - CONTINUOUS

Holiday cards are strung up on the walls. Piles of wrapping paper, presents and open boxes filled with all kinds of gifts are stacked everywhere. It's Holiday Hoarders.

40 PINKIE PIE
Are you sure you were expecting me?
My name is-

41 AURORA
Pinkie Pie, I know. 'Cuz I know
everything.

An young adorable reindeer (ALICE) bounces over to them laughing.

42 ALICE
Oh, don't be silly! You only know
what's already happened. But you
don't know what she's about to ask!

43 PINKIE PIE/ALICE
What AM I about to ask?

Pinkie double takes.

44 PINKIE PIE/ALICE (CONT'D)
HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS GONNA SAY
THAT?

A reindeer Pinkie's age (BORI) enters, rolling her eyes.

45 BORI
Will you two stop showing off? She
doesn't have all Hearth's Warming!

46 PINKIE PIE
Who ARE you reindeer?

They all bow their heads as they introduce themselves.

47 AURORA
Aurora.

48 BORI
Bori!

49 ALICE
Alice.

50 AURORA
The gift givers of the Grove.

Pinkie claps her hooves in excitement.

51 PINKIE PIE
And you can help me get Twilight
the best gift ever?

Bori and Alice nod in unison. Aurora looks confused.

52 AURORA
What about those matching hats?
They were so cute!

53 PINKIE PIE
That was--

54 BORI
BEFORE she had to get just ONE gift
for Twilight. Try to keep up
Aurora.

55 ALICE
I'm gonna get that box Pinkie is
gonna say she likes.

Alice hobbles off. Bori sees that Pinkie looks confused.

56 BORI
Aurora remembers gifts that have
already happened. Alice knows the
gifts that are GOING to happen.
I... just stay in the moment and
keep the two of them in line.
(to the reindeers)
Speaking of. I believe we have a
request for a gift?

The reindeer sift through stacks of odds and ends on a table,
some wrapped as presents, some not.

57 AURORA
The best gift is more precious than
gold - but it cannot be sold.

58 BORI
When it breaks it's not ended, for
quickly it's mended.

59 ALICE
It can never be bought, yet is
easily sought. Ah! Here we go.

They spread their hooves - tada! There's a small box on the table. Pinkie leans toward it.

60 PINKIE PIE
Oooo. I like that box!

61 ALICE
(to Bori)
Told you!

Pinkie opens the box and stares inside in awe.

62 PINKIE PIE
The perfect gift. Wow.
(then)
I don't get it.

63 ALICE
You will.

SC. 5 - INT. RAINBOW FALLS WAREHOUSE - LATER

Applejack and Fluttershy approach Flim and Flam. Applejack clears her throat. Flim pulls his disguise back on - it ends up upside-down, so his moustache looks like a big eyebrow.

64 FLIM
We said NO REFUNDS! Oh. You.

65 APPLEJACK
What are y'all doin' with these
dolls and that ridiculous get up?
Don't you have a resort to run?

66 FLIM
It's off-season. Besides, we're
planning an expansion.

67 FLAM
Expansions cost bits.

They unveil a MODEL MOCKUP. A huge (and unsafe looking) water slide running down a swirl of frozen yogurt.

68 FLIM & FLAM
Flim and Flam's Fro Yo Flume Ride!

69 FLUTTERSHY
That sounds fun!

70 APPLEJACK
It ain't no excuse for sellin'
cheap dolls to ponies.

Flim and Flam flank Fluttershy - the mark. Gently:

71 FLIM
We're giving ponies what they want!

72 FLAM
Shopping for the perfect gift is
stressful.

73 FLUTTERSHY
(nods) That's true.

74 FLIM
You want to get something that
really stands out.

75 FLUTTERSHY
I do.

76 FLAM
And when you tell your friend you
got them the HOTTEST gift in
Rainbow Falls what'll they say?

77 FLUTTERSHY
Woo hoo?

Applejack rolls her eyes and squeezes the doll- Flim's voice:

78 FLIM (V.O.)
The more you spend, the more your
friend knows you love them!

79 FLUTTERSHY
Oh. Right. They really ARE good at
selling things.

80 FLIM
You may not like it.

81 FLAM
But technically, we aren't doing
anything wrong.

82 FLIM
Ponies are desperate for the right
gift.

83 FLAM
And who are YOU to tell them this
isn't it?

84 FLIM
If ponies get tired of Holly after
a few days...

Holly's arm falls off.

85 FLAM (CONT'D)
...Or she falls apart, who REALLY
got hurt?

86 FLIM AND FLAM
NOPONY!

They put their disguises on and head back to the stage.
Fluttershy looks at the dismembered Holly, upset.

87 FLUTTERSHY
Of COURSE Rainbow Dash wouldn't
want this. I'm so mad I could just--

She VERY gently kicks a rock on the ground. It barely budes.

88 APPLEJACK
Convincin' ponies to buy that doll
ain't in the holiday spirit.

89 FLUTTERSHY
But Flim and Flam have a point. We
can't TELL ponies what to buy.

Applejack considers that and grins. She's got an idea.

90 APPLEJACK
But maybe we can SHOW 'em!

OFF Fluttershy's confused expression...

SC. 6 - EXT. SNOWY MOUNTAIN - AFTERNOON

Rainbow Dash stealthily and silently follows a trail through
a snowy ravine. Discord loudly crashes through behind her.

91 RAINBOW DASH
No wonder you couldn't find
anything out here. Could you TRY to
make less noise?!

Discord snaps his fingers. He is dressed as SNAKE EYES,
Rainbow Dash as STORM SHADOW.

92 DISCORD
We'll move silently. Blend into the shadows. The winterchilla will never hear us coming.

93 RAINBOW DASH
Winter...chilla?

94 DISCORD
Small, adorable, fuzzy and FAST. But they're SO rare, there's NO telling where they might-- oh, there's one right there.

He points. Sure enough it is the CUTEST WINTER CREATURE YOU HAVE EVER SEEN IN YOUR ENTIRE LIFE.

95 DISCORD (CONT'D)
Now, if you're going to get it, I think the FIRST move is to--

Rainbow Dash zips away in a rainbow blur and returns with the winterchilla in hoof. It nuzzles next to her. <CUTE NOISES>.

96 RAINBOW DASH
Be super-fast?

SC. 7 - INT. SPIKE'S ROOM - LATE AFTERNOON

Spike sits in a pile of arts & crafts. Glitter, paste, scissors, cardboard. It's a mess. He manically glues ribbon to a pretty-hideous PARASOL he's constructing.

97 SPIKE
MAKING a gift is way more personal than buying it. Rarity loves things that take time and effort.

WHIP PAN over to a graveyard of other homemade gifts Spike has already tried to make, including a hand (er, claw) made guitar.

98 SPIKE (CONT'D)
I'm sure THIS one will be the one that works. (YAWN) I just... need... to stay focused and...

He falls asleep against his creation, collapsing it.

SC. 8 - EXT. RAINBOW FALLS - LATE AFTERNOON

Flim passes a Holly the Hearthwarmer to a grateful pony as Flam watches. A huge crowd waits their turn.

99 FLIM
Have a wonderful holiday and
remember, no refunds! NEXT?

It's Applejack and Fluttershy. Flam glares at them. (Note: AJ and FS speak their lines loud so the whole crowd can hear).

100 FLAM
What are you doing here?

101 APPLEJACK
Same as everypony else! I want a
Hearthwarmer! In fact, I want
THREE!

102 FLIM
Seriously?

103 APPLEJACK
After I saw my friend here with
hers I KNEW I had to buy some!

The crowd nods in agreement. Flim and Flam don't know what she's up to, but they hand her three dolls.

104 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
For my Granny, my brother and my
little sister!

105 FLIM
Yeah, great story. NEXT!

Applejack turns, but Fluttershy stops her (she speaks all of her lines as if she's reading from a script).

106 FLUTTERSHY
But Applejack. Your Granny, your
brother and your sister. They're
all so different!

Applejack stops, concerned.

107 APPLEJACK
That's RIGHT Fluttershy. They ARE
different.

108 FLUTTERSHY
How can the SAME doll be the right
gift for ALL of them?

The crowd starts to <MURMUR>. Flim & Flam look uncomfortable.

109 APPLEJACK
But Fluttershy. This is the MUST
HAVE gift of the season.

110 FLUTTERSHY
But just because it's must have for
one pony doesn't mean it's must
have for EVERYPONY. Does it?

111 APPLEJACK
That's TRUE!

A few ponies get out of line and walk away.

112 FLIM
Now hang on a moment...

113 APPLEJACK
I guess I need to put more thought
into gettin' the right gift for
each pony. Can I return these?

114 FLIM AND FLAM
NO REFUNDS!

She turns to the next pony in line.

115 APPLEJACK
Oh. Uh...You want 'em? I'm gonna go
pick out gifts that are just as
special as the ponies they're for.

The pony looks at the Dolls and shakes his head.

116 PONY SHOPPER
I... think I'm going to do some
more shopping too.

The <GRUMBLING CROWD> (just frustrated murmurs) walks away
and heads off to the other booths.

117 FLIM
Wait! Come back!

118 FLAM
We'll give you a great deal!

119 FLIM AND FLAM
BUY ONE GET ONE FREE?!?!?!?

Applejack smiles at Fluttershy.

120

APPLEJACK

Ah. The sweet sounds of the season.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO**SC. 9 - EXT. SWEET ACORN ACRES - LATE AFTERNOON**

Rarity stands on the porch with the family.

121 BUTTERNUT
It's a shame you gotta leave.

122 RARITY
You've been so generous, but I must
get home for a previous engagement.
I'll be keeping an eye on you,
Pistachio. I've a feeling you've
got quite the future in fashion!

Pistachio beams. Rarity leaves, but Pistachio runs after her.

123 PISTACHIO
RARITY! I love my parents, but they
don't understand that we just had
lunch with one of the most famous
ponies in Equestria.

124 RARITY
I don't know about "most famous"...

125 PISTACHIO
Modesty does NOT look good on you,
filly. <<ALT. Please.>>
 (it's hard but...)
I KNOW you didn't send a Fedora
Felt original to some nopony you've
never met from nowhere Equestria.
I'm sure this is ACTUALLY for
somepony special so if you want it
back, like, I get it.

Pistachio takes off the hat and holds it out to her. Rarity
takes it with her magic.

126 RARITY
The hat is indeed for somepony very
special. And I couldn't bear to see
him part with it.

Rarity uses her magic to lower the hat onto Pistachio's head.
He adjusts it, at a cool, rakish angle.

127 PISTACHIO
Oh thank Celestia, because I did
NOT want to give this up.

Rarity puts a hoof under his chin.

128 RARITY
But if I hear you call yourself a
no pony again you shan't be my guest
for fashion week in Manehattan.

Pistachio is speechless. Rarity hugs him. OVER HIS SHOULDER
we see her sotto wince--

129 RARITY (CONT'D)
 (sotto)
Sorry, Applejack...

SC. 10 - INT. FRIENDSHIP EXPRESS - LATE AFTERNOON

Applejack and Fluttershy look out the window. Flim and Flam
wait with BOXES of dolls. Applejack waves. They glare.

130 APPLEJACK
Puttin' those two in their place
makes me all warm and fuzzy inside.

131 FLUTTERSHY
Me too. But we never got gifts for
Spike or Rainbow Dash. And it's
already Hearth's Warming Eve.

Applejack holds up the four Holly the Hearthwarmers they
bought.

132 APPLEJACK
It probably ain't what they're
expectin', but we still got these.
 (doing her best
 Fluttershy)
Yay?

An eye on one of the dolls pops off. Fluttershy sadly shakes
her head. These are NOT 'yay' worthy.

SC. 11 - INT. TWILIGHT'S KITCHEN - SAME AFTERNOON

Twilight carefully mixes ingredients into a large cauldron.
Cadance and Shining Armor enter with Flurry Heart.

133 CADANCE
Flurry LOVED sledding!

134 SHINING ARMOR
Too bad her AUNT wasn't there...

Twilight holds a hoof up as she drops a candy cane into the pot, creating a <POOF> of glitter. Flurry Heart's eyes widen with curiosity.

135 TWILIGHT
There! Ingredients measured
EXACTLY! Just as directed. Now,
what were you saying?

136 SHINING ARMOR
Hi! Remember us? We came all the
way from the Crystal Empire for
some quality family time?

Flurry Heart reaches for the cauldron but it's too far away.

137 TWILIGHT
Okay. I DID get a little stressed
about Hearth's Warming this year.

138 SHINING ARMOR
What?! You? No!

139 TWILIGHT
So my friends decided we should do
a Hearthwarming Helper, and give
ONE pony a present to save time.

Cadance <GIGGLES>. Shining Armor BUSTS out <LAUGHING>.

140 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
What?

141 SHINING ARMOR
Let me guess. You got super worried
about making sure the present was
perfect and went all Twily-nanas
<<ALT. Twilight Stressball>>,
didn't you?

142 TWILIGHT
I wasn't Twily-nanas! <<ALT.
Twilight Stressball!>>

Shining Armor arches an eyebrow.

143 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Okay FINE. A little Twily-nanas.
<<ALT. Stressball.>>

BEHIND THEM, UNSEEN: Flurry Heart levitates random ingredients and drops them into the cauldron for more magical <POOFS>. She <CLAPS> her hooves.

144 CADANCE
Twilight, we're family. We know you
get overwhelmed. You should have
told us! We could've helped!

145 TWILIGHT
The good news is, Pinkie's present
is almost done! Then it's just
friends and family and a calm quiet
Hearth's Warming Eve!

None of them notice the cauldron <BUBBLING> dangerously.

SC. 12 - EXT. PONYVILLE - CONTINUOUS

Rainbow Dash (with the winterchilla) heads for the castle.

146 DISCORD
Enjoy your exclusive pony-only
holiday gathering! I'll just be
home... by the hearth... spending
quality time with... myself.

Discord splits in two. The Discords hold hands and sadly walk
away. Rainbow Dash looks at the winterchilla thoughtfully:

147 RAINBOW DASH
I wouldn't have this little fella
without you so...If you wanna join,
Fluttershy would love having you.
And I wouldn't totally hate it.

Discord, now dressed as Uncle Eddie from Christmas Vacation
<<ALT. dressed as nightgown post-revelation Scrooge>>, hugs
Rainbow Dash.

148 DISCORD
In THAT case... look! Sunset! It's
officially Hearth's Warming Eve!

As the last rays of the sun disappear, the winterchilla leaps
out of Rainbow Dash's hooves and runs around in circles.

149 RAINBOW DASH
What is it doing!?

Suddenly it <ROARS>. Claws and fangs appear as it TRANSFORMS,
werewolf-style. Discord smacks his forehead.

150 DISCORD
Did I forget to mention that the
Winterchilla transforms into a
winterZILLA when the sun sets?

The shadowy form of the fully grown winterZILLA <ROARS>.

SC. 13 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

Applejack, Fluttershy, Rarity and Pinkie Pie all approach the front of the castle. None seem too excited. Applejack rings the <DOORBELL>.

151 FLUTTERSHY
How did everypony's shoppin go?

152 RARITY
Well...

153 PINKIE PIE
Um....

154 APPLEJACK
Yeah....

155 SPIKE (O.S.)
COMING!!!!

Inside, the sounds of a dragon falling down the stairs. Spike opens the door covered in glue, paper, glitter and stuck to the parasol. He's an arts and crafts disaster.

156 PINKIE PIE
Did you get attacked by a party?

157 SPIKE
I fell asleep. On somepony's present.

Suddenly, a <BOOM> from the kitchen. Twilight, Cadance and Shining Armor (with Flurry Heart) gallop towards the others.

158 TWILIGHT
RUN! THE PUDDING IS COMING!!!!

A mountain of pudding oozes through the kitchen doorway. Everypony turns to run, but Rainbow Dash and Discord rush towards them.

159 RAINBOW DASH
RUN! THE WINTERZILLA IS COMING!

The monstrous winterzilla runs towards them, <ROARING>! The pudding <OOZES> overtaking everything. And we...

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE**SC. 14 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - RESUME**

Resume on the ponies. Rainbow Dash stares at the mountain of pudding. Twilight looks up at the angry winterzilla.

160 RAINBOW DASH
WHAT IS THAT?!

161 TWILIGHT
Magic pudding. What is THAT?!

162 RAINBOW DASH
A winterchilla.

163 TWILIGHT
They turn into winterZILLAS after
dark!

164 RAINBOW DASH
DOES EVERYPONY KNOW THIS EXCEPT ME?

The Winterzilla rushes towards them. Thinking fast, Twilight levitates Spike (sparkling with glitter) in front of the winterzilla, distracting it.

165 TWILIGHT
OOH SPARKLY! You like the sparkly?
Just follow it this way...

166 SPIKE
Is this honestly the best plan we
can come up with?

Mesmerized, the winterzilla reaches for the sparkly dragon. Twilight keeps Spike just out of reach, luring the creature away. Rainbow Dash glares at Discord, who munches on popcorn, enjoying the show.

167 RAINBOW DASH
Can't you do something?!

168 DISCORD
I DID. This is Fluttershy's gift!

169 RAINBOW DASH
WHAT?!

170 RARITY (O.S.)
A little help, please!

Rarity stands on top of a large chair, as pudding oozes around her. Shining Armor hands Flurry Heart to Cadance.

171 SHINING ARMOR
I've got this!

Cadance hands Flurry Heart back to Shining Armor.

172 CADANCE
Which one of us can fly, darling?

Cadance swoops over the pudding, grabbing Rarity and flying her to a balcony. Shining Armor beams to Flurry Heart.

173 SHINING ARMOR
Your mom sure is something.

Shining Armor leaps over the pudding, grabs a tapestry and swings to the balcony to join Cadance and Rarity.

174 CADANCE
You're not so bad yourself.

Flurry hugs both her parents, <BABBLING> happily.

175 TWILIGHT (O.S.)
No no, not THAT sparkly. This one!

ANGLE ON THE FOYER: Twilight has a slight problem. Spike floats outside the castle entrance, but the winterzilla is more interested in the sparkly Hearth's Warming decorations.

176 SPIKE
Uh, Twilight? I'm okay if he doesn't want to chase me anymore.

177 APPLEJACK
How we gonna get rid of this thing?

178 DISCORD
(eyeroll)
For Scorpan's sake. IF ONLY ONE OF YOU HAD A WAY WITH ANIMALS??

They all turn to Fluttershy.

179 FLUTTERSHY
Oh my.

Fluttershy flies up to get the winterzilla's attention.

180 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
Uh. Excuse me.

The winterzilla <ROARS> blowing her backwards. She glares at it, she's had enough.

181 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
This is supposed to be the happiest time of year. So if this is how you plan on behaving, you can march yourself right back where you came from.

The winterzilla's lip quivers and it bursts into tears. It mumbles something only Fluttershy can understand.

182 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
Oh. Your family is gone for the holidays and you're all alone? I'm so sorry. If you calm down I'm sure you could join us...

The winterzilla <SNIFFS> back tears and sits with a giant <THUD>. Meanwhile, pudding oozes around Twilight. She leaps in the air. Pinkie floats past on an INFLATABLE POOL CHAIR.

183 PINKIE PIE
Maybe leave baking to me next time?

Pinkie dips a hoof in the pudding and tastes it.

184 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Actually, it's pretty good!

185 TWILIGHT
Chancellor Puddinghead's recipe.

186 PINKIE PIE
Now THAT'S an impressive dessert!

187 TWILIGHT
(proud of herself)
I KNEW you would think so! It's your Hearth's Warming present!

188 PINKIE PIE
Really? WOW. That's so thoughtful!

189 TWILIGHT
It took a lot of research but I -

Shining Armor yells from the balcony.

190 SHINING ARMOR
MAYBE FOCUS ON THE TASK AT HOOF,
TWILY?

191 TWILIGHT
Right. The recipe needed to be exact. I think Flurry Heart added something while I wasn't looking but I have no idea what to add to adjust it. A teaspoon of nutmeg? Three sugarplums? Extra-

192 PINKIE PIE
Gingerbread? Four more Candy Canes?

193 TWILIGHT
How do you know the recipe?

Pinkie stares at the box and remembers her conversation.

194 PINKIE PIE (V.O.)
I don't get it.

195 ALICE (V.O.)
You will.

She opens the box and pulls out gingerbread, sugar plums, nutmeg, cinnamon and five candy canes.

196 PINKIE PIE
HAPPY HEARTH'S WARMING TWILIGHT!
I'M YOUR HEARTH WARMING HELPER!!!

She tosses the random ingredients into the pudding. It sparkles magically before shuddering and settling. The ponies take a relieved beat. Discord sits in a movie theater chair popcorn and taking notes.

197 DISCORD
A bit reindeer-ex-machina, but--
(thumbs fly into the air)
Two thumbs WAY WAY up! <<ALT. I give it ALL the thumbs!>>

FADE TO:

SC. 15 - INT. TWILIGHT'S FOYER - LATER

The bedraggled ponies (and dragon and draconequis) sit by the Hearth, eating bowls of pudding.

198 TWILIGHT
Sorry for failing as a
Hearthwarming Helper, Pinkie.

199 PINKIE PIE
What?! With no pudding disaster, my
gift with the EXACT ingredients
wouldn't have made any sense! This
way it was perfect!

Rarity turns to Applejack.

200 RARITY
At least Twilight has something to
show for her effort. I ordered a
fabulous farm hat for you,
Applejack. Alas, it decided it
belonged to somepony else.

201 APPLEJACK
Pop said sometimes the hat chooses
the pony when he gave me this.
 (she tips her hat)
Hopefully my gift inspired
whoever's wearin' it to be the best
farmer ever.

202 RARITY
Errr... Something like that.

Fluttershy and Applejack turn to Spike and Rainbow Dash, each
holding Holly the Hearthwarmer dolls.

203 FLUTTERSHY
We're really sorry about your
gifts.

204 APPLEJACK
We got a bit distracted with Flim
and Flam's shenanigans.

The arm on Spike's doll falls off. Rainbow Dash squeezes her
Holly the Hearthwarmer, and Flim's voice comes out.

205 FLIM (V.O.)
Commercialism is the greatest gift
of all.

206 RAINBOW DASH
Hey, they're better than my gift.
Sorry about the winterzilla.

Fluttershy smiles.

207 FLUTTERSHY
Oh, he's a big sweetheart. And he
ended up being really helpful!

Behind them, the winterzilla happily eats through the mountain of pudding, cleaning up the castle.

208 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
It was actually kind of nice to be
the pony who saved the day.

209 DISCORD
OH! So you mean a giant beast that
only FLUTTERSHY could tame, making
her the hero of Hearth's Warming
Eve was a great gift? Imagine that.

Rainbow Dash stares at Discord in disbelief.

210 RAINBOW DASH
You mean you tricked me into
putting my friends in danger on
purpose so you could --

Discord points. They both watch as the winterzilla stomps in
and nuzzles next to Fluttershy.

211 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Let's say it was from BOTH of us.

212 APPLEJACK
Sorry y'all. I guess Hearthwarmin'
Helper was kind of a disaster.

213 CADANCE
I don't know. Ponyville always
seems to have WAY more exciting
holidays than the Crystal Empire.

Flurry Heart claps her hooves together enthusiastically.
Shining Armor puts his hoof around Twilight.

Spike clears his throat. He's holding a small guitar.

214 SPIKE
There's one gift left. But I messed
up too.
(to Rarity)
Your present's only kinda-finished,
Rarity. But it's better than
nothing, I guess.

He starts <STRUMMING> the guitar.

215 SPIKE (CONT'D)
*I wanted to get you
Something oh so rare.
A gift to show I care
(MORE)*

SPIKE (CONT'D)

*But nothing can compare
to you that's easy to see.
So when I got stressed
I sorta overthought
Until the day was shot
So it was all for naught.
And now it's so clear to me*

*I'm not gifted at gifting
It's really pretty sad
I tried to show how much I care
But then it turned out bad
I'm not gifted at gifting
And all that's left to say
Is that I hope my gifting
Didn't ruin your Holiday.*

<SONG> ends. Spike looks up. Rarity applauds.

216 RARITY
Oh, Spike. A song is a lovely
present!

217 SPIKE
I wanted to get you the best gift
ever. I just couldn't figure out
what it was.

218 PINKIE PIE
Ooo! Ooo! The gift givers told me
that! Ummmm.... What was it?

Pinkie sings.

219 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
*The best gift is
More precious than gold
But it cannot be sold.
When it breaks it's not ended
For quickly it's mended
It can never be bought
Yet is easily sought.*

Twilight <CHUCKLES>.

220 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
What's so funny?

221 TWILIGHT
It's a riddle.

Twilight joins Spike as the <MUSIC SWELLS>, continuing--

222 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
*The most magical gifts
That I can recall
Could have been big or small
Or even nothing at all
It doesn't matter you see
As long as it's from you
Such amazing friends
on whom I depend
Won't matter what you spend
It will be perfect to me*

Everypony (and dragon and draconequis) join in.

223 ALL TOGETHER
*The true gift of gifting
Is what it means inside
So we can show how much we care
Share love and friendship far and
wide
The true gift of gifting
Is totally free
You're the best there is at giving
it
The Friendship you share with me*

SC. 16 - EXT. PONYVILLE - CONTINUOUS

A shooting star streaks across the sky.

224 ALICE (V.O.)
*And so it worked out!
The night was a success
And a lesson was learned
There's no need to obsess.
Gift giving is simple
As long as you recall--*

Pinkie suddenly POPS into FRAME - TO CAMERA:

225 PINKIE PIE
*Oh I GET IT! Friendship is the best
gift of all!!!*

THE END