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MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9

FRIENDSHIP, ACTUALLY
Holiday Special

Teleplay 1st Draft

Premise: Michael Vogel
Beatsheet: Michael Vogel
Outline: Michael Vogel
Teleplay 1st Draft: Michael Vogel

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Premise: August 16, 2017
Beatsheet: August 21, 2017
Outline: August 28, 2017
Teleplay 1st Draft: October 2, 2017

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ACT ONE

SC. 1 - INT. PONYVILLE HOME - DAY

*

<MUSIC UP> as a fire roars in the fireplace, with
HEARTH SWARMING DOLLS on the mantel. The title FADES UP:

*

MY LITTLE PONY FRIENDSHIP IS MAGIC: FRIENDSHIP, ACTUALLY

Then we pan to a frost-coated window and PUSH THROUGH TO:

**SC. 2 - EXT. PONYVILLE - FIVE DAYS BEFORE HEARTH'S WARMING
EVE - DAY**

*

A gorgeous winter day in Ponyville. PONIES decorate the town
as they prepare for HEARTH'S WARMING EVE. There's a buzz of
excitement in the air as ponies whisper how excited they are:

SONG: "ALMOST TIME TO CELEBRATE":

1 PONYVILLE PONIES
 (whisper/chanting)
It's almost time
It's almost here
It's nearly time
The day's so near
Hearth's Warming Eve
Is almost here!

LYRA and BON-BON carry bags filled with gifts, wrapping
paper, etc.

2 LYRA
It's almost time! It's almost here!
I can't believe it's been a year.

Bon-Bon looks warily at all of their bags.

3 BON-BON
I can't believe there's still so
much to do.

Ponies everywhere hurry to get things ready.

4 PONYVILLE PONIES
No time to waste
Can't take it slow
Shopping! Wrapping!
Come on let's go!
Let's get it done, don't have
forever

(MORE)

PONYVILLE PONIES (CONT'D)

*We can hardly wait,
Hardly wait to celebrate!*

All around, ponies get into the spirit. MUFFINS delivers packages. DR. WHOOVES and BULK BICEPS put lights up on buildings. DJ-PON3 and OCTAVIA play Hearth's Warming music.

5 ASSEMBLED PONIES
*The wait is almost over, it's
almost here.
A day that's filled with joy, magic
and cheer.
Before we can enjoy the fun
There's still so much that must be
done
Hearths to decorate
It's almost time to celebrate!*

At the Train Station, PINKIE PIE, MAUD PIE, MUD BRIAR, APPLEJACK, BIG MACINTOSH, GRANNY SMITH, APPLEBLOOM AND GRAND PEAR (non-speaking) watch as ponies get off the train. Pinkie bounces high and points excitedly as THE PIE FAMILY (IGNEOUS ROCK, CLOUDY QUARTZ, LIMESTONE PIE, MARBLE PIE) approaches.

6 PINKIE PIE
It's almost time I see them there!

7 APPLEJACK
Pies and Apples AND a Pear!

The Pie family and Apple family embrace.

8 MAUD PIE
(deadpan)
*These Holiday traditions are the
best.*

9 APPLES AND PIES
*We gather close
And share the spirit
Laughing! Singing!
Can't you hear it?
Friends and family come together
We can hardly wait,
Hardly wait to celebrate!*

In town, the preparations take on a choreographed feel as the decorating ponies sing and dance in unison.

10 ASSEMBLED PONIES
*The wait is almost over, it's
almost here.
A day that's filled with joy, magic
and cheer.*
(MORE)

ASSEMBLED PONIES (CONT'D)

*Soon we can enjoy the fun
Once all our work is finally done
So let's cooperate
It's almost time to celebrate!*

THE CAKE FAMILY passes out holiday treats outside their shop. The students, GALLUS, SMOLDER, SANDBAR, OCELLUS, YONA, SILVERSTREAM stand nearby caroling. TRIxie and STARLIGHT GLIMMER take several boxes of treats and load them into Trixie's cart. Mrs. Cake tastes some batter.

11 MRS. CAKE
*Needs more spice for the treats we
are baking!*

12 STUDENTS
(Fa la la la la la la la la)

13 STARLIGHT
*Pack those up for the trip we are
taking.*

14 STUDENTS
(Fa la la la la la la la la)

15 CAKES/STUDENTS/STARLIGHT/TRIXIE
*Staying home or on vacation
This Holiday takes preparation
Having fun and spreading cheer is
more work than you think this time
of year!*

Music soars and CAMERA PUSHES IN towards Twilight's castle.

SC. 3 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

*

Preparations are clearly a work in progress. Boxes filled with decorations lay on the floor, etc. TWILIGHT SPARKLE levitates decorations while SPIKE holds her to-do list.

16 TWILIGHT
It's almost time and I'm not ready!

17 SPIKE
Come on Twilight, slow and steady.

18 TWILIGHT
*There's no WAY to get everything
done!*

19 SPIKE
*You made your list
You checked it twice.*

20 TWILIGHT
IT'S NOT ENOUGH!

21 SPIKE
So check it thrice?

Twilight abruptly turns to Spike.

22 TWILIGHT
*I'm never gonna finish ever.
I'm running really late
I hope there's still some time to
celebrate.*

The doorbell rings in a <DING DONG DING> festive kind of way.

23 SPIKE
 (spoken)
I'll get it.

Pinkie Pie, Applejack, FLUTTERSHY, RAINBOW DASH and RARITY burst in dressed to go out and enjoy the snowy weather.

24 MANE 6 (MINUS TWILIGHT)
*The wait is almost over
It's almost here!
It's time to spread the joy, magic
and cheer.
(joy magic and cheer)
The time for prep is nearly done
So come with us and have some fun
Today will be so great!
We'll sing carols and sled and
skate
There's no room for debate!
It's finally time to celebrate!*

MUSIC <ENDS> as the five ponies strike poses. Twilight appreciates their enthusiasm, but shakes her head:

25 TWILIGHT
*Sorry. I'm SO behind right now. I
just don't have time to celebrate!*

26 PINKIE PIE
NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!

Pinkie collapses on the floor, breaking the tableau.

27 RAINBOW DASH
What's left on your to-do list?

28 SPIKE
We're about HERE.

Spike points where the scroll hits the floor in front of him.

29 FLUTTERSHY
That's good!

30 SPIKE
The end of the list is there.

Spike points where the scroll wraps around the corner.

31 RAINBOW DASH
That's not so good.

32 RARITY
Darling, Hearth's Warming is still
days away. There's plenty of time
to prepare.

33 TWILIGHT
(building speed/stress)
I know, but I got WAY behind
schedule grading midterms. And
Cadance and Shining Armor are
coming HERE with Flurry Heart for
Hearth's Warming Eve. And I haven't
even STARTED shopping and I don't
know what to get ANY of you, and --

Applejack puts a hoof over Twilight's mouth, stopping her.
She's done this before.

34 APPLEJACK
Stop. Take a breath.
(Twilight takes a breath)
Let it out slow.
(Twilight exhales)

35 FLUTTERSHY
Is there anything we can do to help
you, Twilight?

36 TWILIGHT
Thanks, Fluttershy. But I know you
all have your hooves full with your
own preparations.

37 RAINBOW DASH
You sure there's nothing we can
take off this list?

Dash grabs the scroll to look, but TS rolls it up with magic.

38 TWILIGHT
It's down to the BARE minimum.

Spike rolls his eyes.

39 APPLEJACK
What about presents? Maybe we
change it up this year, do a
Hearthwarmin' Helper!

40 PINKIE PIE
THAT'S A GREAT IDEA! One question.
What IS a Hearthwarming Helper?

41 APPLEJACK
We used to do it at Apple Family
gatherins. There were SO many of us
it didn't make sense to buy gifts
for everypony. So we'd put our
names in a hat...

42 PINKIE PIE
Go on...

43 APPLEJACK
And each pull a name from the hat.

44 PINKIE PIE
A game of chance! Tell me more.

45 APPLEJACK
You keep the name you get secret.

46 PINKIE PIE
A dash of mystery. Good. Good.

47 APPLEJACK
Instead of buyin' everypony a
present, you JUST get one for the
pony you pulled from the hat!

48 PINKIE PIE
WAIT. So instead of LOTS of
presents I only buy ONE of you a
present? WHAT KINDA GAME IS THIS?!!

49 RARITY
It WOULD save time.

50 SPIKE
And you could get the pony you pick
something REALLY nice.

51 RAINBOW DASH
The less shopping the better! IN!

52 FLUTTERSHY
Would that help you, Twilight?

53 TWILIGHT
I WAS stressed about the shopping.

54 PINKIE PIE
(EXTENDED SIGH) Fine. For TWILIGHT
I will ONLY buy ONE present for my
secret Hearthwarming Helper buddy.

55 APPLEJACK
We just need to put everypony's
name in this here hat.

Applejack flips her hat off into her hoof.

Twilight uses magic to draw each pony's cutie mark on a
scroll (using a dragon wings for Spike). She neatly rips them *
into matching squares and drops them into Applejack's hat.

56 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Y'all ready? NO peekin!

They nod. Each one pulls from the hat, checks it and looks at
each other with "poker" faces. Pinkie rocks back and forth
with excitement.

57 PINKIE PIE
SO. Excited. AHHH! TOO EXCITED! I
DON'T WANT TO GIVE ANYTHING AWAY!

Pinkie rushes out.

58 RARITY
When will the gift exchange occur?

59 APPLEJACK
Hearth's Warmin' Eve? Right here at
the castle?

60 RAINBOW DASH
Works for me.

61 TWILIGHT
And thanks to you all, I'll be done
and ready to celebrate by then!

62 FLUTTERSHY
Oh, this is so exciting.

As the ponies turn to leave, Spike rushes after Applejack,
holding the paper slip he drew.

63 SPIKE
Uh. Applejack? Is it against the
rules to trade ponies?

64 APPLEJACK
Why would you wanna do that?

65 SPIKE
If I had a better idea for somepony
special? Er, specific?

66 APPLEJACK
I guess if you can figure out who
has the pony you want, and they're
okay tradin', it's fine.

67 SPIKE
Great! So... who do you-

68 APPLEJACK
I don't have Rarity.

69 SPIKE
What? How do you... That's not -

70 APPLEJACK
 (knowingly)
Uh-huh.

And as Spike comically blushes--

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 4 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - THE NEXT MORNING

*

The castle is more decorated than the day before. Twilight opens a box, humming to herself. Spike slides into frame.

71 SPIKE
Hey Twilight. Gonna go
Hearthwarming Helper shopping this
morning?

72 TWILIGHT
I want to make the castle ready for
my family first. THEN I'll shop.

73 SPIKE
Gotcha. Sooo, what are you planning
to get YOUR secret pony? Something
shiny? Sparkly? Fashionable?

74 TWILIGHT
I don't think so. Those aren't
really the kind of things my
Hearthwarming Helper likes.

75 SPIKE
 (disappointed)
Oh.

Twilight smiles at Spike's enthusiasm.

76 TWILIGHT
Spike, if YOU want to go--

Before she can finish, Spike is headed off!

77 SPIKE
Thanks, Twilight! Wish me luck!

78 TWILIGHT
For shopping?

79 SPIKE
Well, yeah! Since each pony is only
getting ONE gift, we all have to
pick EXTRA SPECIAL good ones!

80 TWILIGHT
I ...didn't think of it that way.

Spike heads out as that sinks in for Twilight. She looks at her parchment. Balloons: Pinkie Pie's cutie Mark.

81 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
This is a huge responsibility. The
present I get Pinkie Pie could make
or break her holiday!

She rushes to the window and watches ponies shopping in town.

82 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
I can't just go shopping and hope I
find the right gift. This needs
forethought, planning, research!

She looks back at the decorations.

83 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
I can decorate later. Knowing
Pinkie, she probably already has a
perfect idea what to get her pony.

SC. 5 - INT. PINKIE PIE'S HOUSE - LATER

*

Pinkie throws herself on her bed dramatically.

84 PINKIE PIE
I have NO IDEA what to get my pony!

Reveal Maud, Limestone, Marble and GUMMY are in the room too.

85 LIMESTONE
There's a PILE of presents right
there. Pick one and you're done.

WHIP PAN to a pile of wrapped gifts. Pinkie rips them open,
showing off ridiculously decorated hats, each one a color of
the Elements of Harmony.

86 PINKIE PIE
THOSE were for when I was getting
ALL of my friends Matching Harmony
Hearth's Warming Hats!

She waves the purple hat around.

87 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
I can't give ONE pony a matching
present with nothing to match it! I
need something special JUST for
Twilight!

88 MAUD
I've got it.

89 PINKIE PIE
I don't think Twilight likes rocks
as much as you do Maud.

90 MAUD
I wasn't going to say a rock.
 (then)
Just kidding. I was definitely
going to say a rock.

Gummy licks his eye.

91 PINKIE PIE
Thanks for the vote of confidence,
Gummy, but this is the biggest
Holiday challenge I've ever faced.
 (she brightens)
HEY! THIS IS THE BIGGEST HOLIDAY
CHALLENGE I'VE EVER FACED! HOW
EXCITING IS THAT?

92 MAUD
Just like that time I found pyrite.

Pinkie gets ribbon stuck to her hoof as she paces around the
room. It wraps around her sisters as she walks and thinks out *
loud.

93 PINKIE PIE
Am I up for the challenge? I know
I'm good at gift giving. But am I
the BEST at gift giving?

94 LIMESTONE
Who would say they're the BEST at
gift giving? That's ridiculous.

95 MARBLE
Ummm...

Pinkie grabs Marble and hugs her.

96 PINKIE PIE
MARBLE, YOU'RE A GENIUS! YAKS would
say they were the best at gift
giving! If ANYPONY knows what to
do, it's them. I gotta go to
Yakyakistan! Thanks, these Pie
sister talks are the BEST.

She grabs her scarf and rushes out the door, leaving her
sisters tied up to each other with ribbon.

97 LIMESTONE
You ever wonder if she was adopted?

SC. 6 - EXT. PONYVILLE STREETS - CONTINUOUS

*

Pinkie rushes past Spike. He waves her down.

98 SPIKE
Hey, Pinkie!

She stops and reverses back to where Spike is.

99 PINKIE PIE
Talk fast. No time. Got a quest.

Spike shuffles his foot and slowly talks around what he wants. Pinkie gets more anxious until she LITERALLY vibrates.

100 SPIKE
Well... I was kinda wondering who
you had for your Hearthwarming
Helper. Cuz... I was thinking...

101 PINKIE PIE
I have Twilight shhh don't tell
anypony especially Twilight OK bye!

Pinkie zips away, dashing past Rarity and SWEETIE BELLE.

102 SWEETIE BELLE
She seems like she's in a hurry.

103 RARITY
Some ponies tend to get a bit
overwhelmed this time of year.

Rarity sighs contentedly. Sweetie Belle looks at her funny.

104 SWEETIE BELLE
Aren't you usually like that?

105 RARITY
Yes. But Hearthwarming Helper means
that this year, I only have to
worry about ONE pony.
(leans in to whisper)
APPLEJACK.

106 SWEETIE BELLE
Ooo. What are you making her?

107 RARITY
I DID consider using this as an
opportunity to expand Applejack's
fashion horizons. But I realized
that was more of a gift for ME than
her. So instead... I ordered a hat!

108 SWEETIE BELLE
You didn't make it?

109 RARITY
I could have. But there's a divine
milliner in Manehattan, FEDORA
FELT. I asked him for a one-of-a-
kind hat that will be the envy of
every farmpony in Equestria.

110 SWEETIE BELLE
That's perfect!

111 RARITY
Indeed. Now I have time to treat my
sister to a spa day while I wait
for my gift to arrive! Shall we?

112 SWEETIE BELLE
Indeed!

As the sisters walk into the Ponyville Day Spa together, we
PAN ACROSS the street where Fluttershy tries to get shopping
done with Rainbow Dash trailing after her.

113 RAINBOW DASH
What about your favorite color?

114 FLUTTERSHY
I like different colors for
different reasons.

115 RAINBOW DASH
Favorite food?

116 FLUTTERSHY
Oh I couldn't pick ONE. What if it
hurts the other foods' feelings?

*

117 RAINBOW DASH
Tell me SOMETHING you like most!?

118 FLUTTERSHY
I like everything equally.

119 RAINBOW DASH
 (teeth gritted)
Okay. What DON'T you like?

120 FLUTTERSHY
Not liking things.

Rainbow Dash face-hooves. Spike walks up behind them.

*

121 SPIKE
How's the shopping going?

122 RAINBOW DASH
Great. Everypony loves EVERYTHING.
Whatever you get is FANTASTIC. It's
the THOUGHT that counts.

As a very annoyed Rainbow Dash flies off--

123 FLUTTERSHY
I couldn't agree more.

Fluttershy looks in the window of a store. A JEWELRY store.
Spike pops up next to her.

124 SPIKE
That for your Hearthwarming Helper?

125 FLUTTERSHY
Mmm-hmm. She loves shiny things.

Spike grins, he may have found his pony.

126 SPIKE
Bet she knows lots about jewelry.

127 FLUTTERSHY
She does!

Spike leans against the window dramatically - woe is he.

128 SPIKE
I wish I knew what MY secret pony
wanted. She's SO hard to shop for.

129 FLUTTERSHY
Oh no. Maybe I could help? Unless
you don't want to tell me who your-

130 SPIKE
Rainbow Dash.

131 FLUTTERSHY
Oh! I was JUST talking to Rainbow
Dash about what we both like!

132 SPIKE
Great idea! We SHOULD trade ponies!

133 FLUTTERSHY
I-- Wait. Trade?

134 SPIKE
Applejack said it's not against the
rules. And you know what Rainbow
Dash likes, so it's perfect!

He trades names with Fluttershy and looks at his.

135 SPIKE (CONT'D)
Rarity? What. A. Surprise! Thanks,
Fluttershy!

Spike runs off.

136 FLUTTERSHY
What just happened?

Applejack comes rushing over to Fluttershy.

137 APPLEJACK
There you are. I need your help!

138 FLUTTERSHY
Do you want to trade names too?

139 APPLEJACK
What? No. I just need help
figurin' out what to get Spike.

Fluttershy sighs in relief and we CUT TO--

SC. 7 - EXT. PONYVILLE SHOP - SOON AFTER

*

Rainbow Dash flies out the door, candle in hoof. Sniffs it.

140 RAINBOW DASH
A gardenia candle. Something
Fluttershy will like as much as
anything else. Shopping DONE.

Eyes and a mouth appear on the candle and glare at her.

141 GARDENIA CANDLE
You can't HONESTLY be serious?

142 RAINBOW DASH
AHHHHHH! GHOST CANDLE!

Rainbow Dash hurls the candle. When it lands, it grows arms and legs and brushes itself off.

143 GARDENIA CANDLE
A CANDLE is what you buy when you
have no idea what to get somepony.

Rainbow Dash rolls her eyes. She knows who this is.

144 RAINBOW DASH
What do you want, Discord?

The candle <POPS> into the form of the DRACONEQUIS.

145 DISCORD
To make sure my good friend
Fluttershy gets a quality gift for
this Hearth-Whatever-it's-called.

146 RAINBOW DASH
I TRIED asking her what she likes,
but she likes EVERYthing.

147 DISCORD
She SAYS that. But her REAL friends
know what she ACTUALLY likes.

148 RAINBOW DASH
"Real friends"?! I've known her a
lot longer than you have.

149 DISCORD
Well then you surely know gardenias
make her sneeze. Don't you?

150 RAINBOW DASH
 (grits her teeth)
Fine. I'll get her something else.

She flies away. Discord floats after her.

151 DISCORD
You know, I think I'll tag along.
Just to make sure you get it right.

SC. 8 -INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

*

Spike is on cloud nine, practically strutting.

152 SPIKE
I can't wait to give Rarity her
gift. It'll be just as special,
beautiful and amazing as she is!
 (dreamy)
Just imagine when she opens it, and
sees-- uh-- Sees--
 (freezes, realizing)
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT TO GET HER!

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC. 9 - EXT. RAINBOW FALLS - THE NEXT DAY

*

Applejack and Fluttershy make their way through Rainbow Falls. All of the booths are decked out for the Holidays.

153 APPLEJACK
Rainbow Falls! Great idea
Fluttershy! Where should we start?

154 FLUTTERSHY
I usually take it all in and wait
until something pops out at me.

155 APPLEJACK
And that works?

Fluttershy nods. Several booths back, a long stream of green fire shoots into the air.

156 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Well I'll be. Looks like it DOES
work! Be right back!

Applejack rushes off to check out the fire. Fluttershy takes a deep breath and walks along the booths.

157 FLUTTERSHY
Okay. A gift for Rainbow Dash.

She passes a booth with rainbow knick-knacks, a Daring Do booth, and a Wonderbolts booth (with posters OF Dash). As she browses, a few PONY SHOPPERS rush past her, headed OS.

158 PONY SHOPPER #1
Hurry up! There's only a few left!

Curious, Fluttershy follows the crowd to a colorful booth MUCH larger (and ostentatious) than the rest.

A strange (yet somehow FLIM-iliar) pony in full Dickensian Holiday garb (including a fake moustache, etc to mask his face) stands onstage above the assembled shoppers.

159 FLIM
Fillies and gentlecolts! We are
doing everything we can! We want
you ALL to have the best holiday
your bits can buy! But there are
only a limited number left!

160 PONY SHOPPER #2
I'LL PAY WHATEVER YOU WANT!

Fluttershy turns to the pony next to her.

161 FLUTTERSHY
What are they selling?

162 PONY SHOPPER #3
You don't know about HOLLY THE
HOLIDAY HEARTHWARMER?!?!?!?

The crowd around Fluttershy <GASPS>.

163 FLUTTERSHY
No! What is that?

The pony on stage focuses his attention on Fluttershy.

164 FLIM
Only the BIGGEST craze to hit
Hearth's Warming since wiping out
the Windigos! It's the MUST HAVE
GIFT everypony is talking about!

The crowd <MURMURS> with excitement.

165 FLIM (CONT'D)
Are you looking for the perfect
present for an awesome friend that
is 20% cooler than any other gift?

166 FLUTTERSHY
Actually, I am!

167 FLIM
Look no further. THIS IS IT!

Fluttershy gets wrapped up in the excitement of the moment!

168 FLUTTERSHY
Really? How much is it?

169 FLIM
(grinning)
How much do you have?

SC. 10 - EXT. YAKYAKISTAN - DAY

*

PRINCE RUTHERFORD watches a group of yaks pile furniture in
the center of the village. One yaks places a chair on top.

170 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
YOJAN! IS THAT GOOD ANGLE FOR
OPTIMAL SMASHING?!

The other yaks stare at Yojan. He bows his head in shame.

171 PRINCE RUTHERFORD (CONT'D)
Go decorate bale of hay and think
about what you--

A pair of pink hooves covers Rutherford's eyes.

172 PINKIE PIE
Guessssssssssss who!

173 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Yojan!

174 PINKIE PIE
No, silly!

175 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Yngvild! Tormund! Grunhorn!

176 PINKIE PIE
Nopety nope and NYET! It's me!!!!

Pinkie uncovers Rutherford's eyes.

177 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Prince Rutherford knew it pink pony
all along. Yaks BEST at guessing!

178 PINKIE PIE
Yaks best at everything! That's why
I'm here! Sorry to interrupt
Snilldar Fest, but I need help.
Can you tell me where to find
 (Does yak impersonation)
BEST GIFT EVER?

Prince Rutherford looks around nervously. Whispers close--

179 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Not here. Follow this way.

Prince Rutherford attempts to sneak into a nearby hut but
<SMASHES> and <BREAKS> several things on the way. Pinkie
follows behind, <SMASHING AND BREAKING> the same things.

SC. 11 - INT. YAK HUT - CONTINUOUS

*

Prince Rutherford shuts the windows and bars the door.

180 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Prince Rutherford about to tell
honorary yak friend something VERY
TOP SECRET.

181 PINKIE PIE
Honorary yak friend listening!

182 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Yaks best at all things EXCEPT one.
Yaks not best at giving gifts.

Pinkie's jaw literally hits the floor. She is shocked.

183 PINKIE PIE
Whaaaaaaaaaaaaat?

184 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
I know it hard to believe. But JUST
this one thing. Everything else
yaks still best at.

185 PINKIE PIE
Then how am I gonna figure out how
to get Twilight the best Hearth's
Warming gift EVER?

186 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
No worry, honorary yak. Prince
Rutherford keep secret map in
perfectly organized files.

He rummages through a disorganized pile of papers, hay and
garbage and pulls out a map.

187 PRINCE RUTHERFORD (CONT'D)
Best gift givers up northern
mountain, where sky shimmers and
glows. There, secret gift giver
grove. Only Yak princes and pink
honorary yak know.

Pinkie mimes zipping her lips. Through closed ones:

188 PINKIE PIE
My lips are sealed!

PINKIE busts open the door and at the top of her lungs:

189 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
TIME FOR MY TOP SECRET QUEST UP THE
MOUNTAIN!

SC. 12 - INT. PONYVILLE POST OFFICE - SOON AFTER

*

Rarity rings the bell for service. Muffins pops her head up.

190 MUFFINS
Hi Rarity! How can I help you?

191 RARITY
I'm expecting a package, and I was wondering where it might be.

192 MUFFINS
Okaaaay. Let's check. Name?

193 RARITY
... Rarity?

Muffins obviously flips through a bunch of papers.

194 MUFFINS
AH! Here we go. Your package was delivered to Sweet Apple Acres.

195 RARITY
WHAT?! It was supposed to be delivered to Rarity's Boutique!

196 MUFFINS
But your package was for Applejack! She's at Sweet Apple Acres.

197 RARITY
Yes, it's for Applejack, but I will be delivering it.

198 MUFFINS
Why? That's my job.

199 RARITY
It's a GIFT FOR Applejack FROM me.

200 MUFFINS
OH NO! What if she opens it? It shouldn't go to Sweet Apple Acres!

201 RARITY
I am well aware.

202 MUFFINS
I feel terrible...
 (checks papers)
OH! Wait. It DIDN'T go to Sweet Apple Acres, it went to Sweet ACORN Acres. THAT'S a relief!

203 RARITY
Why is that a relief?

204 MUFFINS
Because Applejack's not IN Sweet
Acorn acres.

205 RARITY
Neither. Is. Rarity.

206 MUFFINS
You want me to get it and deliver
it to Sweet Apple Acres?

207 RARITY
No. I... Just... May I have the
address for Sweet ACORN Acres? I
think it may be best if I collect
the package myself.

208 MUFFINS
You sure? I'm happy to do it.

209 RARITY
You have helped so much already.

210 MUFFINS
That's why I'm here!

Muffins hands over the address. Rarity rushes out. Muffins
looks at the line of ponies with packages.

211 MUFFINS (CONT'D)
Who's next?

The ponies all glance at each other nervously.

SC. 13 - INT/EXT. VARIOUS PONYVILLE SHOPS - SAME DAY

*

Spike walks into Ponyville town square and looks around at
all the shops. He wears a serious expression.

212 SPIKE
Okay. A gift worthy of Rarity. How
hard can it be?

SMASH CUT TO:

213 PONY VENDOR
Brand new top of the line sewing
equipment?

214 SPIKE
Too obvious.

SMASH CUT TO:

215 PONY VENDOR #2
A priceless rhinestone necklace?

216 SPIKE
Too flashy.

SMASH CUT TO:

217 PONY VENDOR #3
A sculpture of Rarity made from
smaller sculptures of Rarity?

218 SPIKE
Too... weird.

SMASH CUT TO:

Spike collapses in the center of town. Ponies look surprised.

219 SPIKE (CONT'D)
NOTHING is good enough!

An annoyed Rainbow Dash and Discord fly over Spike. Rainbow Dash heads towards a shop.

220 DISCORD
 (under his breath)
Oh goodness, no.

She grits her teeth and flies towards the Ponyville Day Spa.

221 DISCORD (CONT'D)
 (coughing)
Even worse.

222 RAINBOW DASH
C'mon, Fluttershy would LOVE a spa
day!

223 DISCORD
She'd be so worried about being the
perfect client, she would hardly
enjoy it.

224 RAINBOW DASH
She's FLUTTERSHY! Everything makes
her worried!

225 DISCORD
NOW you sound like somepony who
knows her!

226 RAINBOW DASH
If you're SUCH an expert on
Fluttershy what did YOU get her?

He snaps his fingers.

SC. 14 - INT. DISCORD'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

*

Rainbow Dash and Discord appear in Discord's living room. He gestures grandly to the corner of his living room. A few potted plants sit next to a comfy armchair.

227 DISCORD
Drat, where DID I put it?

He snaps his fingers and the plants and chair turn into a Jurassic Park style gateway with palm trees on either side. Discord (now dressed as John Hammond) stands next to Rainbow Dash (now dressed as Ellie Sattler).

228 DISCORD (CONT'D)
The Fantastical Nature Preserve of
Creatures that NEVER existed!
Spared NO expense.

The gates open slowly. Strange noises emanate from within. They peer inside (we stay on their production friendly POV).

229 DISCORD (CONT'D)
Fluttershy can meet ANY creature
that has never actually existed.

A feathered tentacle wraps around Rainbow Dash's hoof.

230 RAINBOW DASH
That's..... really weird and creepy.
But also very cool.

231 DISCORD
I suppose it will do as my backup.

232 RAINBOW DASH
THIS is your BACKUP? What were you
going to get her?

233 DISCORD
Oh, just the rarest pet in
Equestria.
(MORE)

DISCORD (CONT'D)

But you would have to be the fastest pony in Equestria to even have a CHANCE at catching it.

234 RAINBOW DASH

You're TALKING to the fastest pony in Equestria! If there's some fast animal out there Fluttershy would love to meet, I'm getting it.

235 DISCORD

Well, if you INSIST...

He snaps his fingers and they disappear.

SC. 15 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE/LIBRARY - SAME DAY

*

Towers of books are stacked EVERYWHERE. A chalkboard covered in "Holiday Equations" stands next to a bulletin board with string connecting photos of Pinkie Pie to photos of gifts. A book tower levitates out of the way as Twilight walks beneath it writing calculations on a scroll.

236 TWILIGHT

The ideal gift for Pinkie Pie needs to be A) Unique, B) Specific to her personality and C) Food-based.

Several books fly out of the staggered piles and open in front of Twilight. She flips through the pages frantically.

237 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)

What is a unique food? Cupcakes? No. Cookies? No. Pies? Pastries? Pudding? WAIT! PUDDING!

Twilight flies up and pulls a book off a high shelf.

238 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)

After defeating the Windigos, the Earth Pony, Pegasi and Unicorns nations prepared the FIRST Hearth's Warming meal together. Chancellor Puddinghead made a PUDDING SO delicious, legends were written about it!

Twilight rushes to the chalkboard.

239 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)

This checks all the boxes! Unique. TOTALLY Pinkie! Possibly the most legendary dessert ever!

She looks back at the book and flips through it.

240 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
So where's the recipe?!

SC. 16 - EXT. RAINBOW FALLS - LATE AFTERNOON

*

Applejack searches the crowd. She rushes over to Fluttershy.

241 APPLEJACK
I got it narrowed down to fire
dancin' sticks or a Power Ponies
comic. Can you help me--

Fluttershy turns revealing HOLLY THE HEARTHWARMING DOLL.

242 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
<FRIGHTENED SCREAM> WHAT IS THAT?!

The doll is creepy, poorly made and falling apart!

243 FLUTTERSHY
It's a Holly Holiday Hearthwarming
Doll. Isn't she sweet?

Fluttershy squeezes the doll.

244 HOLLY
 (in FLIM'S voice)
I LOVE being an expensive toy!

245 APPLEJACK
You thought THAT was a good gift
for Rainbow Dash?

246 FLUTTERSHY
It's the MUST HAVE gift of the
season! And in short supply!

Applejack looks around. A few ponies carry the hideous doll.

247 APPLEJACK
How much did you pay for that?

248 FLUTTERSHY
All my bits. Can I borrow some for
the train ride home?

249 APPLEJACK
Something about this here doll
seems fishy. Where'd you get it?

SC. 17 - EXT. FLIM & FLAM'S BOOTH - MOMENTS LATER

*

A line of ponies wait at the closed booth. Applejack and Fluttershy walk around back. The Dickensian vendor pony removes his "disguise," revealing FLIM. FLAM enters, wheeling a cart with several boxes of Holly Hearthwarmer dolls.

250 APPLEJACK
 (sotto)
 Flim and Flam. I shoulda known!

END ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

SC. 18 - EXT. SWEET ACORN ORCHARDS - THE NEXT MORNING

*

Rarity, in full winter regalia, walks up a barren path to Sweet Acorn Acres. A shabby rusty gate creaks in the wind.

251 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.

252 BUTTERNUT
Are you lost?

253 RARITY
This IS Sweet Acorn Acres?

254 BUTTERNUT
It is but... we've never had nopony like you visit before.

255 OAK NUT
I'm Oak Nut. My wife, Butter Nut. What can we do for you...?

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

257 BUTTERNUT
That was from YOU?!

258 RARITY
(relieved)
So it DID arrive. Good! If I could just-

Butternut hugs Rarity.

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

260 RARITY
Thank me?

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

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

262 BUTTERNUT
We couldn't believe it when we
opened it.

263 RARITY
You opened it?

264 BUTTERNUT
Pistachio said right away whoever
sent it just "got him".

265 RARITY
Pistachio?

266 OAK NUT
Our son. He loves that hat to
pieces. Says when he put it on he
could feel his destiny!

267 RARITY
As an acorn farmer?

268 PISTACHIO (O.S.)
A FARMER?! Filly, please.

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

269 PISTACHIO (CONT'D)
Look at these stitches! And the
distressing? This is a Fedora Felt
ORIGINAL. There's no way I would
wear it in the field.

His parents beam proudly at him.

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

271 OAK NUT
Certainly not from us. Far as we
know, a hat's a hat.

272 PISTACHIO
Except when it's a statement.

273 BUTTERNUT
So, thank you, Rarity.

Pistachio whips his head around to gape at Rarity.

274 PISTACHIO
Rarity? THE Rarity?

Rarity nods her head.

275 PISTACHIO (CONT'D)
You are LEGEND-MARE-Y! And you
absolutely MUST stay for dinner. I
simply WON'T take no for an answer.

They all look at Rarity expectantly.

SC. 19 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - LATER

*

Twilight stuffs some quills and scrolls in a bag.

276 TWILIGHT
NO pudding recipe in MY library.
But I bet I know where I CAN --

A knock on the front door of the castle stops her.

277 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Wonder who that is.

She opens the door to find PRINCESS CADANCE, SHINING ARMOR
and FLURRY HEART.

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

Shining Armor hugs his sister.

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

280 CADANCE
The scroll we sent yesterday?

281 TWILIGHT
Yesterday! Right. Welcome!

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

282 SHINING ARMOR
Uh-oh.

283 CADANCE
Uh-oh?

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

284 TWILIGHT
 (annoyed)
What are you doing?

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

286 TWILIGHT
NOTHING!

287 SHINING ARMOR
And decorations aren't up because?

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

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

290 TWILIGHT
AFTER I finish this one QUICK errand I need to run. Official Princess stuff. Make yourselves at home. I'll be RIGHT back! Promise.

She TELEPORTS away - <POOF>!

291 CADANCE
She's definitely freaking out about something.

292 SHINING ARMOR
OH yeah.

SC. 20 - INT. CELESTIA'S LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

*

Twilight flies down the shelves, scanning them--

293 TWILIGHT
Celestia's library HAS to have a copy of that recipe...

She uses magic to bring down an ANCIENT book and riffles through the pages until - *

294 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Basilisk Bites, Timberwolf Tapas...
Yes! Earth Pony Eats!
 (reads)
Recipe for Chancellor Puddinghead's
Pudding... Each ingredient must be
measured with exact care, or else.
 (she smiles)
Oh, book. Have you met me?

SC. 21 - 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 elderly REINDEER (AURORA) studies Pinkie through thick spectacles. *

295 AURORA
FINALLY! Took you long enough.

She pulls Pinkie inside the cottage.

SC. 22 - 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.

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

297 AURORA
Pinkie Pie, I know. I know
everything.

Another elderly reindeer with a red and white striped walker hobbles aggressively towards them.

298 ALICE
Everything my antler! You only know
what's already happened. You don't
know what she's about to ask!

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

Pinkie double takes.

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

A third elderly reindeer hobbles over, rolling his eyes.

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

302 PINKIE PIE
Who ARE you guys?

They all bow their heads as they introduce themselves.

303 AURORA
Aurora.

304 BORI
Bori!

305 ALICE
Alice.

306 AURORA
The gift givers of the Grove.

Pinkie claps her hooves in excitement.

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

Bori and Alice nod in unison. Aurora looks confused.

308 AURORA
What about the matching hats? They
were so cute!

309 PINKIE PIE
That was--

310 BORI
BEFORE she had to get just ONE gift
for Twilight.

311 AURORA
Ah, yes.

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

Alice hobbles off. Bori sees that Pinkie looks confused.

313 BORI
Aurora remembers gifts that have
already happened. Alice remembers
gifts that are GOING to happen.
I... just stay in the moment and
keep the two of them in line.

314 PINKIE PIE
Wow. (plays cool) Y'know, I'm kind
of a gift-giver too. Self-taught.

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

315 AURORA
The best gift is more precious than
gold, but can never be sold.

316 BORI
When it breaks it's not ended, and
it's easily mended.

317 ALICE
And can't be bought, but is easily
sought. Ah! Here we go.

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

318 PINKIE PIE
Oooo. I like that box!

319 ALICE
 (to Bori)
Told you!

Pinkie opens the box and stares inside in awe.

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

321 ALICE
You will.

SC. 23 - INT. RAINBOW FALLS WAREHOUSE - LATER

*

Applejack and Fluttershy approach Flim and Flam.

322 APPLEJACK
'Scuse me --

Flim tries to pull his disguise back on - it ends up upside-down, so his moustache looks like a big eyebrow.

323 FLIM
We said, NO REFUNDS!

AJ frowns and steps forward.

324 APPLEJACK
What are you two up to with these
dolls and that ridiculous get up?
Don't you have a casino to run?

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

326 FLAM
Expansions cost bits.

They unveil a MODEL MOCKUP of an added area to their casino.
A huge (and unsafe looking) brightly colored water slide
running down what appears to be a swirl of frozen yogurt.

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

328 FLUTTERSHY
That sounds fun!

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

Flim and Flam flank Fluttershy - the mark. Gently:

330 FLIM
We aren't doing anything wrong.
We're giving ponies what they want!

331 FLAM
Shopping for the perfect gift is
stressful.

332 FLUTTERSHY
(nods) That's true.

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

334 FLUTTERSHY
I do.

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

336 FLUTTERSHY
Woo hoo?

Applejack shakes her head.

337 APPLEJACK
Fluttershy...

Applejack squeezes the doll.

338 HOLLY
 (Flim's voice)
The more you spend, the more your
friend knows you love them!

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

340 FLIM
It's not OUR fault we're
convincing.

341 FLAM
And if ponies get tired of Holly
after a few days...

Holly's arm falls off.

342 FLIM
...Or she falls apart, who REALLY
got hurt?

343 FLIM AND FLAM
NOPONY!

344 FLAM
So if you'll excuse us, no hard
feelings? Have a doll on the house.

Flim slides a box of dolls toward them--

345 FLIM
In fact, have a box of them. We've
got PLENTY.

346 APPLEJACK
So they ain't "in short supply"
then?

Flim and Flam look at each other.

347 FLAM
Give our holiday best to everypony
in Sweet Apple Acres!

They put their disguises on and head back to the stage.

348 APPLEJACK
They may not be breaking any law,
but convincin' ponies to buy that
doll ain't in the holiday spirit.

349 FLUTTERSHY
She isn't THAT bad. She just needs
to be stitched up. And re-painted.

She squeezes her.

350 HOLLY
 (Flam's voice)
Buy me a friend!

351 FLUTTERSHY
And say something more...festive.

Applejack perks up.

352 APPLEJACK
Fluttershy, you're onto somethin'!

SC. 24 - EXT. SNOWY MOUNTAIN - LATE IN THE DAY

*

Rainbow Dash stealthily and silently follows a trail through a snowy ravine. There's a loud <CRASH> behind her as Discord smashes through the trees in a large red sleigh.

353 RAINBOW DASH
Could you be a LITTLE quieter?

Discord snaps his fingers. The Sleigh vanishes. He's dressed as SNAKE EYES from GI JOE, Rainbow Dash as STORM SHADOW.

354 DISCORD
"Covert op" it is. Look at us.
Quite the team. It is SO good for
Fluttershy that we're hanging out.

355 RAINBOW DASH
How is US hanging out good for
Fluttershy?

356 DISCORD
Isn't it obvious? Fluttershy can't
choose a favorite inanimate object,
how do you think she feels about
choosing between friends?

357 RAINBOW DASH
What are you even talking about?

358 DISCORD
Fluttershy enjoys spending time
with me. I'm ridiculously fun. She
ALSO likes spending time with all
of you for... reasons.

359 RAINBOW DASH
And?

360 DISCORD
AND she has to constantly pick
between us. But IF we were all
TOGETHER more often, she wouldn't
have to choose.

361 RAINBOW DASH
So, you're saying you're helping me
with Fluttershy's gift cause you
wanted to... hang out together?

362 DISCORD
That AND you really are HORRIBLE at
buying presents for your friends.

Rainbow Dash is surprised (and honestly a little touched) by
this. But she's still not gonna have a "moment" with Discord.

363 RAINBOW DASH
What are we looking for anyway?

364 DISCORD
A winterchilla. Small, adorable,
fuzzy, friendly and FAST. But
they're SO rare, there's NO telling
where one might-- oh, there's one.

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

365 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>.

366 RAINBOW DASH
Be super-fast?

SC. 25 - INT. SPIKE'S ROOM - EVENING

*

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.

367 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. A guitar is among the supplies.

368 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. 26 - EXT. RAINBOW FALLS - LATER THAT EVENING

*

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

369 FLIM
We're sorry. That's the last one!

The crowd goes crazy.

370 CROWD PONIES
<What?!/ I'll pay ANYTHING for one!
/ Me too! / I'll pay two times
anything!>

Flim and Flam grin at each other and glance behind the stage, where boxes of Holly Hearthwarming Dolls wait.

371 FLAM
Well, we MAY be able to find a FEW
more!

372 APPLEJACK (O.S.)
No need to wait for them...

The crowd turns to see Applejack and Fluttershy at a HOMEMADE BOOTH of their own.

373 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Maybe what y'all need is a Homemade
Hearthwarmer. Each one's unique,
special, and made with love.

Applejack reveals one of the Holly Hearthwarming dolls Flim
and Flam gave them. But now it's stitched up, re-painted,
decorated and 100% unique - and actually adorable.

374 FLUTTERSHY
They even have different sayings.

She squeezes one.

375 HEARTHWARMER
 (Fluttershy's voice)
Hearth's Warming. Yay.

376 APPLEJACK
Pick out the one that's JUST right
for your special someone.

The crowd moves away from Flim and Flam to AJ and FS's booth.

377 FLIM / FLAM
Waitamminute! / Hold on now!

A pony squeezes a different Holiday Doll.

378 HEARTHWARMER
 (Applejack's voice)
Y'all have a great holiday, y'hear?

379 PONY SHOPPER #1
These are AMAZING!

380 PONY SHOPPER #2
WAY better than those other dolls!

The crowd starts buying the new dolls. Flim and Flam fume.

381 APPLEJACK
Sorry, fellas. We're just givin'
ponies what they want. And y'all
are out of dolls.

382 FLAM
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! You
saw all the boxes back here. We
still have HUNDREDS of dolls!

Applejack smiles. Got 'em! The crowd turns to Flim and Flam.

383 PONY SHOPPER #4
I thought you said there weren't
any left?

Flim and Flam get nervous.

384 FLIM
We, uh, JUST got a new shipment!
Now, who wants the ORIGINAL Holly
Holiday Hearthwarming doll?

The crowd glares at them, not buying it.

385 FLAM
Buy one get one free?

386 PONY SHOPPERS
I WANT MY MONEY BACK! / THESE DOLLS
ARE FALLING APART! / WHO WOULD WANT
THIS OLD THING ANYWAY?! Etc.

As the crowd angrily charges Flim and Flam, AJ smiles.

387 APPLEJACK
Ah. The sweet sounds of the season.

END ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

SC. 27 - EXT. SWEET ACORN ACRES - MORNING

*

Rarity stands on the porch with the family.

388 BUTTERNUT
It's a shame you gotta go.

389 RARITY
You've been more than generous, but
I must be on my way. 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.

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

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

392 PISTACHIO
Filly, please. Modesty does NOT
look good on you.
 (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.

393 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.

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

Rarity puts a hoof under his chin.

395 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--

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

SC. 28 - INT. FRIENDSHIP EXPRESS - LATER THAT MORNING

*

Applejack and Fluttershy look out the window. Flim and Flam are waiting for their train with BOXES of Holly Hearthwarmer dolls. Applejack waves. They glare.

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

398 FLUTTERSHY
I'm just happy we made enough bits
for me to get a ticket home!

399 APPLEJACK
'Course, we never did get Spike or
Rainbow Dash gifts. And here it is
already Hearth's Warmin' Eve.

400 FLUTTERSHY
Oh no! But that means neither of
them will get ANYthing!

401 APPLEJACK
 (chuckle)
Well, not exactly.

Applejack rummages through her bag and pulls out two Holly Hearthwarmers, along with their paint and sewing supplies.

402 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
It probably ain't what they were
expectin', but we still got these
along with the supplies we bought.

403 FLUTTERSHY
Rainbow Dash DID say it's the
thought that counts.

404 APPLEJACK
And you believed her?

405 FLUTTERSHY
Oh. We'd better get to work.

They both <LAUGH> as they start to sew and paint their dolls.

SC. 29 - INT. PINKIE PIE'S HOUSE - SAME MORNING

*

A low-energy Pinkie shuffles into her house where Cloudy, Maud, Limestone and Marble stack rocks into buckets.

406 PINKIE PIE
I'm home...

407 LIMESTONE
FINALLY. We've been stacking rocks
for the Apple family all day!

Cloudy studies Pinkie's face.

408 CLOUDY QUARTZ
What's wrong, daughter? Was thy
trip not successful?

Pinkie holds up the perfect gift box.

409 PINKIE PIE
Well, I got this from the greatest
gift-givers in the world. But I
don't know WHY it's the greatest.

410 MAUD
Is it a rock?

411 PINKIE PIE
No.

412 MAUD
Then it's not the greatest.

Pinkie opens the box. The Pie family looks inside. (But WE don't see - just their unimpressed expressions).

413 CLOUDY QUARTZ
I'm sure thy friend shall find thy
gift satisfactory.

414 PINKIE PIE
I don't know...

415 CLOUDY QUARTZ
Pinkamena, many of thy choices have
confounded myself and thy father.
But we have accepted that thou art--

416 LIMESTONE
REALLY strange?

417 CLOUDY QUARTZ
Unique in thine outlook.

418 MAUD
We trust your Pinkie sense. So you
should trust these gift-givers.
Great advice Mom.

419 MARBLE
Um....

420 PINKIE PIE
Oh Marble, you always know JUST
what to say.

They all embrace for a BIG Pie family hug.

SC. 30 - INT. TWILIGHT'S KITCHEN - SAME MORNING

*

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

421 CADANCE
Flurry LOVED sledding in Ponyville!

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

423 TWILIGHT
One second...and...DONE!

Twilight drops a sprig of holly into the pot, creating a
<POOF> of glitter. Flurry Heart's eyes widen with curiosity.

424 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.

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

426 SHINING ARMOR
What?! You? No!

427 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>.

428 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
What?

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

430 TWILIGHT
I wasn't Twily-nanas!

Shining Armor arches an eyebrow.

431 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Okay FINE. A little Twily-nanas.

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

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

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

None of them notice the cauldron <BUBBLING> dangerously.

SC. 31 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

*

Dash, Discord and the winterchilla approach the castle.

434 DISCORD
I guess I'll be off. I hope you all
enjoy your holiday together.

Rainbow Dash looks at the winterchilla thoughtfully, then:

435 RAINBOW DASH
Hey! I wouldn't have this little
fella without you so... If you
wanted to come as my guest...

436 DISCORD
I wouldn't want to impose.

437 RAINBOW DASH
Fluttershy would love having you.
And I wouldn't totally hate it.

438 DISCORD
Well in THAT case... Oh 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.

439 RAINBOW DASH
What is it doing?

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

440 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. 32 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

*

Applejack, Fluttershy, Rarity and Pinkie Pie stand in the
foyer. All of them act awkward and nervous.

441 APPLEJACK
Happy Hearth's Warming y'all!

442 PINKIE PIE
How did everypony's shopping go?

443 RARITY
Well... That is... Um....

444 SPIKE
I fell asleep! Did I miss
everything?

Spike trips and falls down the stairs. He lands in a gluey,
glittery pile in front of the others.

445 FLUTTERSHY
No. Why are you covered in glitter?

Before he answers there's a <BOOM> from the kitchen.
Twilight, Cadance and Shining Armor (with Flurry Heart)
gallop towards the others.

446 TWILIGHT
RUN! THE PUDDING IS COMING!!!!

A mountain of pudding oozes through the doorway. Everypony
rushes towards the front doors, but they fly open. Rainbow
Dash and Discord rush in.

447 RAINBOW DASH
RUN! THE WINTERZILLA IS COMING!

The monstrous winterzilla crashes through, <ROARING>! The
pudding <OOZES> overtaking everything. And we...

END ACT FIVE

ACT SIX

SC. 33 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - RESUME

*

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

448 RAINBOW DASH
WHAT IS THAT?!

449 TWILIGHT
Magic pudding. What is THAT?!

450 RAINBOW DASH
A winterchilla.

451 TWILIGHT
They turn into winterZILLAS after
dark!

452 RAINBOW DASH
DOES EVERYPONY KNOW THIS EXCEPT ME?

The Winterzilla rushes towards Fluttershy and Applejack. Thinking fast, Twilight levitates Spike (who sparkles with glitter) in front of the winterzilla, distracting it.

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

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

The winterzilla is mesmerized by the sparkly floating dragon, reaching out to grab him. Twilight keeps Spike out of reach, luring the winterzilla away.

Rainbow Dash turns to Discord, who munches on popcorn, enjoying the show.

455 RAINBOW DASH
Can't you do something?!

456 DISCORD
<sigh> I suppose.

Discord snaps his fingers. A tiny bucket appears in his hand. He scoops up pudding with it and tosses it out the window.

457 RAINBOW DASH
Seriously?

458 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.

459 SHINING ARMOR
I've got this!

Cadance hands Flurry Heart back to Shining Armor.

460 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.

461 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.

462 CADANCE
You're not so bad yourself.

Flurry hugs both her parents, <BABBLING> happily.

463 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 Warming decorations.

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

465 APPLEJACK
How we gonna get rid of this thing?

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

They all turn to Fluttershy.

467 FLUTTERSHY
Oh my.

Fluttershy flies up to get the winterzilla's attention.

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

The winterzilla stops <ROARING> and stares at Fluttershy.

469 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
I know this all must seem very
overwhelming to you, but if you
calm down, we can be friends.

The winterzilla studies Fluttershy, then suddenly smiles
wide, showing VERY sharp teeth.

470 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
Oh. Aren't you.... Sweet...

Meanwhile, pudding oozes around Twilight's hooves. She leaps
in the air to avoid it. Pinkie rows by on an overturned
table, using a broom for an oar.

471 PINKIE PIE
Maybe leave baking to me next time?

Twilight lands on the table. Pinkie dips a hoof in the
pudding and tastes it.

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

473 TWILIGHT
Chancellor Puddinghead's recipe.

474 PINKIE PIE
Now THAT'S an impressive dessert!

475 TWILIGHT
 (proud of herself)
I KNEW you would think so! It's
your Hearthwarming present!

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

477 TWILIGHT
It took a lot of research but I -

Shining Armor yells from the balcony.

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

479 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. Too much
nutmeg? More sugarplums? Not enough-

480 PINKIE PIE
Gingerbread? Candy Canes?

481 TWILIGHT
Yes! How do you know the recipe?

Pinkie stares at the box and remembers her conversation.

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

483 ALICE (V.O.)
You will.

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

484 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 finally settling.

485 TWILIGHT
How... How did you know?

486 PINKIE PIE
Well.....

FADE TO:

SC. 34 - INT. TWILIGHT'S FOYER - LATER

*

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

487 TWILIGHT
So... the best gift givers in
Equestria knew I was going to need
those exact ingredients?

488 PINKIE PIE
Yeah. I'm glad they helped stop the
pudding. But... I'm not sure that
makes it the best gift EVER.

489 CADANCE
It's the most well-timed gift ever.

490 PINKIE PIE
But that was just ingredients! The
best gift is more precious than
gold, can never be sold. When it
breaks it's not ended, it's easily
mended and it can't be bought, but
is easily sought.

Twilight <CHUCKLES>.

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

492 TWILIGHT
That's an old riddle. The answer is
Friendship.

493 PINKIE PIE
Ooohhhhhhhh! NOW I get it!

Rarity turns to Applejack.

494 RARITY
I had the perfect designer hat for
you. Alas, it decided it belonged
to somepony else.

495 APPLEJACK
Pop said when he gave me his hat
that sometimes the hat chooses the
pony. I'm sure whoever has my gift
is the best-dressed farmer ever.

496 RARITY
Errr... Something like that.

Fluttershy turns to Spike and Rainbow Dash.

497 FLUTTERSHY
I hope the gifts Applejack and I
made are okay?

498 SPIKE
Are you kidding?

499 RAINBOW DASH
These are AWESOME!

They each hold Homemade Hearthwarming dolls painted to look
like Flim and Flam. They squeeze them.

500 HOMEMADE HEARTHWARMER #1
 (Flim voice)
We've been foiled again!

501 HOMEMADE HEARTHWARMER #2
 (Flam voice)
Curse you Fluttershy and Applejack!

Rainbow Dash turns to Fluttershy.

502 RAINBOW DASH
Uh... Sorry about the winterzilla.

503 FLUTTERSHY
Oh he's a big sweetheart. And he
ended up being pretty helpful!

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

504 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
And to be honest, it was nice to be
the pony that saved the day.

505 DISCORD
So you mean a giant beast that only
FLUTTERSHY could tame, making her
the hero of Hearth's Warming was a
good gift? Imagine that.

Rainbow Dash stares at Discord in disbelief.

506 RAINBOW DASH
You did ALL of that on purpose!?

507 DISCORD
Mostly. The pudding was a surprise.

Shining Armor gently nudges Twilight in the shoulder.

508 SHINING ARMOR
Thanks for a calm, quiet Hearth's
Warming, Twily.

509 CADANCE
Can't wait to see how you simplify
things next year.

Spike clears his throat.

510 SPIKE
I sorta have something. For Rarity.

511 RARITY
Oh, Spike...

Spike grabs a small guitar and crawls up on a stool.

512 SPIKE
I had a hard time deciding what to
get you. And uh.. It's only partly
done. But...

He starts <STRUMMING> the guitar.

513 SPIKE (CONT'D)
*I could buy the latest fashion
trend
Dig up a gem that shimmers bright
It could be the rarest
or the fairest
And still not be quite right
None of those come even close
No gift could dare compare
I guess I just could not come
through
I couldn't find the perfect gift
for you*

He looks at everpony.

514 SPIKE (CONT'D)
That's as far as I got.

515 RARITY
Oh Spike. It's lovely.

Twilight joins in and the <MUSIC SWELLS>, continuing--

516 TWILIGHT
I could bake an ancient recipe...

517 RARITY
Or buy a hat with flair and bling

518 RAINBOW DASH
It could be the weirdest

519 PINKIE PIE
Or reindeerest

520 APPLEJACK AND FLUTTERSHY
Or dolls sayin cute things

521 ALL TOGETHER
*Still they don't come even close
They just don't dare compare
(MORE)*

ALL TOGETHER (CONT'D)
*These gifts may be unique, it's
true
But still not quite the perfect
gift for you*

*It's very easy to get wrapped up
In all the things we want to buy
To share this holiday
This jolly day
And forget the reasons why
The gifts are just a symbol
they could never dare compare
Simple or fancy, big or small,
It's our friendship that's the
greatest gift of all*

SC. 35 - EXT. PONYVILLE - CONTINUOUS

*

A shooting star streaks across the sky as three elderly reindeer fly across the full moon.

522 PINKIE PIE (O.S.)
HAPPY HEARTH'S WARMING TO ALL AND
TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!!!

THE END