

Distribution:

Production:

Lauren Faust
Chris Bartleman
Kirsten Newlands-Davidson
Rob Renzetti
Sarah Wall
Jayson Thiessen
James Wooton
Angela Belyea
Ridd Sorensen
Kimberly Small

Discovery/Hasbro:

Donna Ebbs
Scott Pennington
Chris Mehl

Hasbro Studios:

Stephen Davis
Lisa Licht
Linda Steiner
Mike Riley
Brian Lenard
Robert Fewkes
Sophia Hussain

Habro IP:

Mark Wiesenbahn
Matt Mattus

Hasbro Global Brand:

Valerie Jurries
Michelle Hogue
Donna Tobin

Hasbro Design:

Liz Knight
Dean Carley

Educational Consultant:

Jordan Brown

MY LITTLE PONY

"Call of the Cutie"

EP012

Story by

Meghan McCarthy

1st Draft: January 29, 2010
Notes Due: February 2, 2010

TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. SCHOOLHOUSE - ESTABLISHING - MORNING

INT. CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

YOUNG PONIES take their places behind their desks. APPLE BLOOM is between class snobs SILVER SPOON and TIARA.

1 PONIES
<WALLA>

As the students get ready for class to begin, we are able to get a glimpse of Silver Spoon and Tiara's Cutie Marks, as well as those of several of their classmates. (NOTE: The action should be staged in such a way, however, that we never get a chance to see Apple Bloom or Twist's flanks.) Their teacher, CHEERILEE, steps out from behind her desk to address the class.

2 CHEERILEE
Let's quiet down, please. We have
a very important lesson to get to.

The ponies focus their attention on Cheerilee .

3 CHEERILEE (CONT'D)
Thank you.

Cheerilee steps in front of a PRESENTATION STAND with a large white card propped against it.

4 CHEERILEE (CONT'D)
Today we are going to be talking
about Cutie Marks.

She gently removes the white card off the stand to reveal another card with the words "CUTIE MARKS" written across it in a flowery font.

Tiara and Silver Spoon roll their eyes.

5 TIARA
(under her breath)
Bor-ing.

Apple Bloom shoots her a look, then quickly retrieves a piece of paper and a quill from her backpack.

6 CHEERILEE
You can all see my Cutie Mark,
can't you?

Her students nod as she walks back and forth in front of the class, showing off her Cutie Mark.

7 CHEERILEE (CONT'D)
Like all ponies, I wasn't born
with a Cutie Mark.

She gently knocks down the "CUTIE MARK" card to reveal another card. This one has a picture of a BABY CHEERILEE lying on her tummy on a fuzzy pink blanket.

8 TWIST
(with a lisp)
Aww. She'sth stho precthiuous.

9 CHEERILEE
My flank was blank.

Cheerilee takes a POINTER in her mouth and points to the baby Cheerilee's blank hindquarters.

10 CHEERILEE (CONT'D)
Then one day, when I was about
your age, I woke up to find that a
Cutie Mark had appeared.

She removes the baby photo card to reveal another card. This one features a picture of an older Cheerilee dancing at a party. Her mane looks like she used a crimping iron on it. (Perhaps she even has braces?)

11 STUDENTS/SILVER SPOON
<GIGGLES>/Look at her hair.

12 CHEERILEE
Yes, I know, but honestly, that's
how everypony was wearing their
mane back then.
(then)
Now, can anyone tell me when a
pony gets his or her Cutie Mark?

Twist raises her hoof.

13 TWIST
Oh! Oh! Oh! When sthe discoverths
that thertain sthomethin' that
makesth her sthpethial.

14 CHEERILEE
That's right, Twist. A Cutie Mark
appears on a pony's flank when he
or she finds that certain
something that makes them
different from every other pony.

Apple Bloom, quill in mouth, writes this down.

15 APPLE BLOOM
 (to herself)
 "Makes her different and special."

Tiara tries to get the studious Apple Bloom's attention.

16 TIARA
 Psst.

Apple Bloom ignores her as Cherilee continues.

17 CHEERILEE
 No two ponies are alike, so no two
 Cutie Marks are alike.

Tiara tries again to get Apple Bloom's attention.

18 TIARA
 Psst.

Apple Bloom continues to ignore her.

19 CHEERLIEE
 Discovering what makes you unique
 isn't something that happens
 overnight. And no amount of
 hoping, wishing or begging will
 make a Cutie Mark appear before
 its time.

20 TIARA
 PSST.

An irritated Apple Blossom turns to Tiara.

21 APPLE BLOOM
 (irritated whisper)
 What?!

Tiara holds up a folded piece of paper and motions for Apple Blossom to pass it to Silver Spoon. Apple Bloom rolls her eyes, then takes the note from Silver Spoon.

22 CHEERILEE (O.S.)
 Apple Bloom!

Apple Bloom freezes, the slip of paper in her mouth.

23 CHEERILEE (CONT'D)
 Are you passing a note?

24 APPLE BLOOM
 Um, no?

As she speaks, the note falls out of her mouth. Cheerilee appears out of nowhere and catches it.

25 CHEERILEE
What could be so important that it
couldn't wait until after class?

Cheerilee opens the note. She looks at it, confused.

26 CHEERILEE (CONT'D)
It's blank.

She holds it up, waiting for an explanation.

27 TIARA
<GIGGLE>
(whispering to Silver Spoon)
Remind you of anypony?

She motions to Apple Bloom's flank.

REVEAL: Apple Bloom does not have a Cutie Mark.

28 TIARA AND SILVER SPOON
<SOFT GIGGLING>

Apple Bloom stews, then hears...

29 PONIES
<WHISPERS>

Apple Bloom looks around to see her classmates pointing at her. She sinks with embarrassment as we...

FADE OUT.

END TEASER

ACT I

EXT. SCHOOLHOUSE - LATER

A BELL RINGS and a moment later the pony students exit. Among them are SCOOTALOO and SWEETIE BELLE. (NOTE: We do not see their flanks.) Apple Bloom emerges from the schoolhouse with Twist. She still looks pretty upset. Twist motions to the satchel on her back.

30 TWIST
(to Apple Bloom)
Want thomething thweet? I've got
thome peppermint stickths...
(then, proudly)
I made them mythelf...

Apple Bloom gloomily shakes her head "no".

31 TWIST (CONT'D)
They'll make you thmile.

Apple Bloom shakes her head "no" again.

32 TWIST (CONT'D)
(with a shrug)
Thuit yourthelf.

She retrieves a peppermint stick for herself as Tiara and Silver Spoon approach.

33 TIARA
I don't know why we had to sit
through a lecture about getting a
Cutie Mark. We all have them
already.
(then)
I mean, *almost* all of us have them
already.

34 SILVER SPOON
<GIGGLES>

Twist shoots Tiara an annoyed look. We now see that Twist is also without a Cutie Mark.

35 TIARA
Don't worry you two, you're still
totally invited to my Cute-cinera
this weekend.

36 SILVER SPOON
It's going to be amazing.

37 TIARA
It's a party celebrating me and my
fantastic Cutie Mark. How could
it not be?

Tiara and Silver Spoon tap front hooves, nuzzle noses, then give one another a "rump bump" as they chant:

38 SILVER SPOON AND TIARA
Bump. Bump. Sugar lump. Rump.

Apple Bloom rolls her eyes.

39 APPLE BLOOM
(under her breath)
Gimme a break.

Tiara and Silver Spoon start to walk away from Apple Bloom and Twist.

40 SILVER SPOON
See you this weekend...

They share a knowing glance, then look back at Apple Bloom and Twist.

41 SILVER SPOON AND TIARA
...<GIGGLING> Blank Flanks.

Apple Bloom's eyes narrow as Silver Spoon and Tiara gallop off.

EXT. APPLE ORCHARD - LATER THAT DAY

Applejack sorts through a pile of apples, placing the ones she likes in a large basket. An irritated Apple Bloom paces back and forth in front of her.

42 APPLE BLOOM
It's not fair. It's just not fair.

43 APPLEJACK
Don't get your mane in a tangle.
You'll get your Cutie Mark.
Everypony gets one eventually.

Applejack places another apple in her basket.

44 APPLE BLOOM
But I don't want one "eventually."
I want one right noooooooooow. I
can't go to the Tiara's Cute-
cinera without one. I just can't.

45 APPLEJACK
Course you can.
(then)
You know, I was the last pony in
my class to get a Cutie Mark.
And I couldn't be prouder of it.

Applejack shows off the APPLES that adorn her flank.

46 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Come to think of it, Granny Smith
was the last one in her class too.
Big McIntosh, too.

Apple Bloom pouts and sullenly kicks at some fallen apples.

47 APPLE BLOOM
I really don't see how that's
supposed to make me feel better.
(MORE)

APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)

It probably means being the last
one in your class to get a Cutie
Mark runs in the family.

Apple Bloom considers what she's just said, then
brightens a little.

48 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)

(an idea forming)

Runs in the family...

(then, excited)

Runs in the family!

Apple Bloom runs in a circle around Applejack.

49 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)

(even more excited)

Runs in the family!

Apple Bloom SLIDES to a halt next to Applejack's now full
basket.

50 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)

You've got apples for your Cutie
Mark! Granny Smith has an apple
pie! Big McIntosh has an apple
half! My unique talent must have
something to do with apples!

(then, super excited)

Apples! Apples! Apples!

Apple Bloom KICKS UP her back legs and BAM! knocks over
Applejack's basket, spilling its contents everywhere.

51 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)

(sheepish)

Apples.

EXT. PONYVILLE TOWN SQUARE - THE NEXT DAY

A handful of PONY VENDORS hawk their wares. Among the
ponies perusing the goods for sale are SCOOTALOO and
SWEETIE BELLE. (NOTE: Again, they should be posed in
such a way that we can't see their flanks.)

ANGLE ON: Applejack and Apple Bloom who stand behind a
cart filled with, you guessed it, apples. They are both
wearing APRONS with pockets.

52 APPLEJACK

(calling out)

Get your delicious, nutritious
apples here.

53 APPLE BLOOM
 (calling out louder)
Delicious and nutritious. And
sooo many uses... You can eat
them...

Demonstrating to passers-by, she takes a bite of an apple, then spits out apple chunks as she continues to speak...

54 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Play with them...

She retrieves a TENNIS RACKET out of nowhere, runs up to a group of shoppers, kicks an apple in the air and hits it. We hear a CRASH O.S.

55 PONY (O.S.)
Hey! Watch it!

56 APPLE BLOOM
Create fine art for your home with
them...

Apple Bloom uses her back hooves to kick an apple at a CANVAS on an EASEL. Several pony patrons have to duck! The apple hits with such force that it splatters, its juice dripping down the canvas.

57 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
You'd have be crazy not to get a
bushel of your very own.

Applejack gives the ducking patrons an apologetic smile.

58 APPLE JACK
<nervous laugh> She's so
creative...

A MALE PONY passes by the cart. Apple Bloom gallops up next to him.

59 APPLE BLOOM
You, sir, care to buy some apples?

60 MALE PONY
No, thanks.

The Male Pony tries to continue on to the next vendor, but Apple Bloom pops up in his path.

61 APPLE BLOOM
Why not?

62 MALE PONY
(cheery)
I have plenty at home.

The Male Pony moves to get around Apple Bloom, but once again she pops up in his way.

63 APPLE BLOOM
Are you sure?

The Male Pony humors her aggressive sales pitch.

64 MALE PONY
Yes, I'm pretty sure--

She starts walking towards him, forcing him backwards towards the apple cart.

65 APPLE BLOOM
(cutting him off)
You're "pretty sure". But you're not absolutely, positively, completely super duper sure, are you?

The Male Pony is starting to get a little uncomfortable. She has him pinned against the cart, she waggles her eyebrows.

66 MALE PONY
(timid)
If I buy some apples will you please leave me alone.

Apple Bloom beams, oblivious that she is achieving success through intimidation.

67 APPLE BLOOM
(excited)
Yes!

The Male Pony quickly turns to Applejack's cart. He grabs an apple, drops some coins in one of the pockets on Applejack's apron and quickly makes his escape.

68 APPLEJACK
(calling after him)
You forgot your change!

Apple Bloom rears into the air victoriously.

69 APPLE BLOOM
Woo-hoo! That is how you sell some apples and get a Cutie Mark!

She tries to get a look at her rump, chasing her own backside like a dog would chase its tail.

70 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
So, what does it look like? A
shopping bag full of apples? A
satisfied customer eating an
apple?

Applejack eyes her sister's antics and shakes her head at her foolishness. Apple Bloom stops spinning in circles.

71 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Hmmm. Maybe I gotta increase my
sales figures first.

Apple Bloom notices a PURPLE PONY nosing through a basket of apples.

72 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
(stern)
You touch it, you buy it!
(then sweetly)
We take cash or credit!

Startled, the Purple Pony retreats from the basket.

73 APPLEJACK
I'm sorry, Ma'am? MA'AM!
(to Apple Bloom)
Guldurnit Apple Bloom, you can't
just---

Applejack realizes that Apple Bloom isn't listening. Instead, she's loading apples into the saddle bag of an unsuspecting GREEN PONY.

74 APPLE BLOOM (ALT)
That'll be four bits.

The green pony looks at her saddle bag, confused.

75 GREEN PONY
I didn't put those in my bag.

She gets in the green pony's face.

76 APPLE BLOOM
Likely story. Four bits, lady!

77 APPLEJACK
(admonishing)
Apple Bloom!

Applejack puts a hoof against Apple Bloom's nose and pushes her away from the green pony.

78 APPLE BLOOM
 (muffled by AppleJack's hoof)
What'd I do?

Her hoof still on Apple Bloom's snout, Applejack addresses the green pony.

79 APPLEJACK
I am really, really sorry about
that. She's new.

Still holding back Apple Bloom, she loads a basket of apples onto the green pony's back.

80 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Here. Take these. On the house.

The green pony raises an eyebrow -- what else you got? Applejack obliges.

81 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
And these.

Applejack releases Apple Bloom and loads another basket of apples onto the pony's back. The Green Pony still doesn't look satisfied.

82 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
And these.

Appeased, the green pony stumbles off, her knees buckling under the weight of all the apples. Applejack watches her go.

83 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
 (calling after her)
Y'all come back now, y'hear!

She turns and shoots Apple Bloom a disapproving look.

84 APPLE BLOOM
 (oblivious)
What?

85 APPLEJACK
Sorry, little sis, but your apple
selling days are over.

Applejack yanks off Apple Bloom's apron with her teeth.

86 APPLE BLOOM
What?! But how else am I gonna
get my cutie mark?

Apple Bloom yanks the apron away from Applejack.

87 APPLEJACK
 (stern)
Home. Now.

Apple Bloom spits out the apron and pouts. Not just a lower lip pout, but a full body, front legs crossed, shoulders slumped, brow furrowed pout.

Applejack rolls her eyes, then softens.

88 APPLE JACK
Listen, sugarcube. I know it's hard to wait for your very own cutie mark, but you just can't force it. Besides, you're not that grown up just yet. Ain't there other fillies in your class without one?

Apple Bloom loosens up a little.

89 APPLE BLOOM
Well.... Twist doesn't have hers yet.

90 APPLE JACK
Do ya think you'd feel better if you went to the party with her?

Apple Bloom brightens a bit and nods.

91 APPLEJACK
Well there ya go! Bet you and Twist would have a great time together. Now run along and find your friend.

Apple Bloom starts to leave, then stops.

92 APPLE BLOOM
You're sure you don't want me to stick around until the end of the market?

93 PONY VENDOR (O.S.)
Hey! Who's been using my racket?!

Applejack looks over to see a pony in a TENNIS OUTFIT angrily holding up a TENNIS RACKET covered in apple bits.

94 APPLEJACK
Yep. I'm sure.

EXT. TWIST'S HOUSE - SOON AFTER

Apple Bloom KNOCKS on the front door. Twist answers, but doesn't open the door all the way.

95 TWIST
Oh. What'th up, Apple Bloom?

96 APPLE BLOOM
So I was thinking, I don't have a Cutie Mark... You don't have a Cutie Mark... Maybe we could go to Tiara's Cute-cinera together.

97 TWIST
Well, um...

Twist opens the door wider and steps outside. The image of a PAIR of CANDY CANES now adorn Twist's once blank rump. Apple Bloom's face falls.

98 TWIST (CONT'D)
Ithn't it thwell? I've alwayth loved making my own sthavory sthweeth but it took me sthome time to disthcover that it was my sthuper sthpethial talent.
(then)
Pretty thweet, huh?

99 APPLE BLOOM
(crushed)
Yeah. Pretty... thweet.

100 TWIST
Hey. Thith doethn't mean we can't go to the Cute-thinera together.

Apple Bloom looks like she's had the wind knocked out of her. Frost reads her distraught expression.

101 TWIST (CONT'D)
You're thtill gonna come to the party aren't you?

102 TIARA (O.S.)
Of course she will.

Apple Bloom and Twist look over to see Silver Spoon and Tiara.

103 SILVER SPOON
It's not like being the only pony there without a Cutie Mark will be, like, the most embarrassing thing ever.

104 TIARA AND SILVER SPOON
<GIGGLES>

CLOSE ON APPLE BLOOM

She could not look more devastated if she tried.

FADE OUT.

END ACT I

ACT II

EXT. PONYVILLE STREET - LATER THAT DAY

A forlorn Apple Bloom sulks, head hanging low. Suddenly, RAINBOW DASH zips up behind her.

105 RAINBOW DASH
Whoa. Looks like somebody's got a
dark cloud hanging over her head.
(then)
Let me do something about that.

REVEAL: There is literally a DARK CLOUD positioned directly over Apple Bloom. Rainbow Dash takes to the sky, lowers her head and WHAM slams her head into the cloud, knocking it into next week. She returns to the ground. Apple Bloom still looks sad.

106 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
What's the matter, kid?

107 APPLE BLOOM
<A DEEP BREATH>
(then, rapid-fire)
There's a Cute-cinera this
afternoon and everypony in my
class will be there and they all
have their Cutie Marks, and I want
to get my Cutie Mark, but I'm no
good at selling apples but I
really want to go to the party,
but how can I go to the party if I
don't have my Cutie-Mark, which my
big sister says I'm gonna get
"eventually", but...
(A DEEP BREATH)
...I want it noooooooooow.

A beat.

108 RAINBOW DASH
Cutie Mark? I can get you a Cutie
Mark like that.

109 APPLE BLOOM
But Applejack says these things
take time. I have to just wait
for it to happen.

110 RAINBOW DASH
Why wait for something to happen
when you can *make* it happen?

111 APPLE BLOOM
But Applejack says--

112 RAINBOW DASH
(cutting her off)
Who are you going to listen to?
Applejack? Or the pony who was
first in her class to get a Cutie
Mark?

Rainbow Dash shows off her Cutie Mark. Apple Bloom
brightens.

EXT. FIELD - DAY

Apple Bloom does some stretching as Rainbow Dash paces
back and forth in front of her. They are now wearing
SWEATBANDS. Rainbow Dash has a REFEREE WHISTLE around
her neck.

113 RAINBOW DASH
That's right. Stretch those legs.
Gotta be nice and loose. The key
here is to try as many things as
possible as quickly possible.
(then)
Are you ready?

114 APPLE BLOOM
I'm ready.

115 RAINBOW DASH
I said...
(louder)
ARE YOU READY?!

116 APPLE BLOOM
I'M READY!

Rainbow Dash BLOWS her WHISTLE.

MUSIC WITH A DRIVING BEAT UP as we begin...

A MONTAGE

A) Rainbow Dash places a basket of multi-colored balls in front of Apple Bloom.

117 RAINBOW DASH
Juggling. Go!

She BLOWS her WHISTLE. Apple Bloom tries to keep a half-dozen balls in the air but can only do it for a moment before they come falling down and bounce comically, but harmlessly, on her head.

B) Rainbow Dash stands at the edge of a very steep cliff. Apple Bloom is several yards away wearing an enormous hang-gliding device.

118 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Hang-gliding. Go!

Rainbow Dash BLOWS her WHISTLE. Apple Bloom races toward the edge of the cliff, a determined look in her eye.

She's just about to reach the cliff's edge when she TRIPS and FALLS, landing with her face pressed against the ground and her back hooves in the air. She wobbles in this vertical position for a moment before the weight of the hang-gliding device flips her over and onto her back.

Apple Bloom smiles sheepishly at Rainbow Dash who is now standing directly above her.

C) Rainbow Dash shoves a KITE in Apple Bloom's direction.

119 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Kite-flying. Go!

Rainbow Dash BLOWS her WHISTLE. Apple Bloom tosses the kite up in the air. It catches the wind for a moment. Apple Bloom smiles, then has to jump out of the way as the kite plummets back down, lodges in the ground and then inexplicably BURSTS into FLAME. (Or CRACKS and then SHATTERS if we can't do fire.)

D) Rainbow Dash is dressed as a karate sensei.

120 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Karate. Go!

Rainbow Dash BLOWS her WHISTLE. Apple Bloom, also in a karate get-up, stands next to a HEAVY BAG. She takes a running start and then leaps.

121 APPLE BLOOM
Hyah!

She strikes a flying sidekick pose, still soaring through the air toward her target, a STACK OF BOARDS.

Her hoof makes contact but instead of splitting the boards, they bend as if made of rubber. BOING! She bounces off of them and is sent flying back into the HEAVY BAG. BOING! She bounces off of it and is sent flying back into the boards. BOING! BOING! BOING! She bounces back and forth between the heavy bag and the boards over and over and over again.

E) Apple Bloom is on a SKATE TRACK now wearing a PAIR of ROLLER SKATES.

122 RAINBOW DASH
Ultra Pony Roller Derby. Go!

Another WHISTLE BLOW. Apple Bloom looks behind her to see THREE TOUGH PONIES snarling and racing toward her on skates.

123 TOUGH PONIES
<GRRRRRRRR>

124 APPLE BLOOM
AAAAHHH!

Apple Bloom tries to skate off but trips over her own hooves. She shields herself as the TOUGH PONIES trip over her and sail off screen on at a time. After each exits, the camera shakes from their off screen impact. After a beat, Apple Bloom smiles sheepishly and, without getting up, scoots backward out of the scene.

EXT. PONYVILLE TOWN SQUARE - LATER

Rainbow Dash looks over a clipboard as a sweaty and exhausted Apple Bloom catches her breath.

125 RAINBOW DASH
Tried that one... Tried that one... Tried that one...

126 TIARA AND SILVER SPOON (O.S.)
<GIGGLES>

Apple Bloom looks over to see Tiara and Silver Spoon exiting the CAROUSEL BOUTIQUE carrying fancily wrapped boxes. She ducks behind Rainbow Dash as they pass.

127 SILVER SPOON
Your new outfit is, like, perfect for the party.

128 TIARA
I know. It totally shows off my new Cutie Mark.
(then, wistful)
(MORE)

TIARA (CONT'D)

I love being special. Can you
imagine how embarrassing it must
be to be...

(horrificed at the thought)
...not special?

129 SILVER SPOON

I don't even want to, like, think
about it.

The girls trot off and Apple Bloom emerges from behind
the distracted Rainbow Dash.

130 RAINBOW DASH

Tried that one... Tried that
one...

131 APPLE BLOOM

I'm doomed. Doomed! I'll never
find something I'm good at.

Just then, PINKIE PIE pokes her head into frame.

132 PINKIE PIE

(to Apple Bloom)
You look like you'd be good at
eating cupcakes!

133 APPLE BLOOM

(brightening)
Eating cupcakes?

Rainbow Dash looks up from her clipboard.

134 RAINBOW DASH

(dismissive)
Eating cupcakes?

135 PINKIE PIE

(sing-song)
Eating cupcakes!

Pinkie Pie skips off. Apple Bloom watches her go for a
moment, then turns to Rainbow Dash.

136 APPLE BLOOM

I really appreciate all your help,
Rainbow Dash. You're a really
great coach and I've really
learned a lot from you and I'm
sure I could learn a lot more
but...

(then, excited)
I've got some cupcakes to eat!

Apple Bloom trots off after Pinkie Pie.

137 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Hold on, Pinkie Pie. I'm coming!
(calling back to Rainbow Dash)
See you at the Cute-cinera!

INT. PINKIE PIE'S SWEET SHOPPE - KITCHEN - LATER

Filled with mixing bowls, cake pans, and unopened bags of flour. There is an industrial-size oven in the corner. Pinkie Pie and Apple Bloom enter.

138 APPLE BLOOM
I can't believe I didn't think of
this. A cupcake eating Cutie
Mark. It's soooo obvious.
(then, salivating)
Now where are those cupcakes? I
am ready to chow down!

She darts around the kitchen in search of the baked goods, throwing open cabinets, nosing around counter tops, opening the oven and peering inside...

139 PINKIE PIE
I don't have any cupcakes.

Apple Bloom closes the oven door.

140 APPLE BLOOM
Oh.

141 PINKIE PIE
<EXCITED GASP> But you look like
you'd be good at helping me make
some!

She puts a CHEF HAT on Apple Bloom's head.

142 APPLE BLOOM
(a hint of disappointment)
I guess a "making cupcakes" Cutie
Mark could work too.

INT. KITCHEN - SOON AFTER

Pinkie Pie stands in front of a pristine counter top, stirring food coloring into a bowl of batter.

143 PINKIE PIE
(singing)
*All you have to do is take a cup
of flour./ Add to the mix
something sweet, not sour./*
(MORE)

PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)

*A bit of salt, just a pinch/
Baking these treats is such a
cinch/ Add a teaspoon of vanilla
and you'll never get your fill-
a... Cupcakes! Sweet and tasty!
Cupcakes! Don't be too hasty!
Cupcakes! Cupcakes! Cupcakes!*

She stops singing and very neatly pours the finished batter into cupcake tins.

144 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)

Isn't this fun?

WIDEN TO REVEAL: Apple Bloom stands in front of a counterop that is an absolute mess of overturned mixing bowls, spilled ingredients and discarded measuring cups.

A timer DINGS and a frantic Apple Bloom leaves a still WHIRRING, BATTERED-COVERED MIXER behind to make a mad dash across the kitchen. She knocks over a BAG of FLOUR with her tail as she opens the oven and uses her mouth to retrieve a tin of CUPCAKES.

145 APPLE BLOOM

Hot! Hot! Hot!

She drops the cupcake tin. Pinkie Pie looks down at the ruined treats.

146 PINKIE PIE

(cheery)

Those look much better than the last batch.

She motions to a stack of BLACKENED CUPCAKES.

147 APPLE BLOOM

Guess I'm not cut out to be a baker, either. <SIGH> I just have to face it. I'm gonna have a blank flank forever.

Apple Bloom hangs her head. Pinkie points to Apple Bloom's rump.

148 PINKIE PIE

What about that?

Apple Bloom looks up.

149 APPLE BLOOM

What about what?

She tries to take a peek at her backside, once again chasing it like a dog would its tail.

150 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
(excited)
Is there something on my flank? Is
there is there is there??

She rushes over to a large overturned mixing bowl and checks her reflection in its stainless steel base. She beams!

151 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
<Gasp!> A Cutie Mark! It's a,
uh...

The white mark on her flank doesn't seem to be in the shape of anything specific. Apple Bloom squints her eyes and examines it more closely.

152 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
A measuring cup? No. A mixing
bowl? No. Are those cupcakes?
(squinting even more)
A tower of cupcakes maybe?

153 PINKIE PIE
(excited)
Flour! It's flour!

She dusts off Apple Bloom's flank and the "Cutie Mark" disappears. Apple Bloom sinks with utter disappointment.

154 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Yay! I guessed it! What game do
you want to play next?
(then)
Please say Bingo. Please say
Bingo.

Apple Bloom hangs her head.

155 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (O.S.)
Whoa. What's been going on in
here?

ANGLE ON THE DOORWAY where TWILIGHT SPARKLE is eyeing the very messy kitchen.

156 PINKIE PIE
We've been making cupcakes! Want
to try one?

She offers up the plate of Apple Bloom's charred cupcakes. Twilight eyes the still smoking baked goods.

157 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
No, thank you. Not that they
don't look...

One of the cupcakes disintegrates in front of her.

158 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
(forced)
...delicious.

Apple Bloom grovels at Twilight's feet.

159 APPLE BLOOM
Twilight! You have to help me!

160 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
What's the matter?

161 APPLE BLOOM
<A DEEP BREATH>
(then, rapid-fire)
Tiara's Cute-cinera is today and
everypony in my class will be
there and they all have their
Cutie Marks, and I want to get my
Cutie Mark, but I'm no good at
selling apples, or hang-gliding or
making cupcakes, but I want to go
to the party, but how can I go to
the party if I don't have my Cutie-
Mark, which Pinkie Pie says I
can't just "make appear", but I
need it to appear...
(A DEEP BREATH)
...right noooooooooooooow.

A beat.

162 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I don't follow. How can I help
you?

163 APPLE BLOOM
You can use your magic to make my
Cutie Mark appear.

164 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Oh no, Apple Bloom. A Cutie Mark
is something a pony has to discover
for herself, not something that can
just be conjured up out of thin air
like confetti.

She tips her horn and FLASH! Brightly colored confetti
falls from the ceiling like snow. Pinkie Pie dashes
about trying to catch it on her tongue.

165 APPLE BLOOM
Please, Twilight. Just try.

166 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I'm sorry but--

167 APPLE BLOOM
(increasingly desperate)
Please. Please. Please. Please.
Please. Pleeeeease.

Twilight Sparkle backs away. Apple Bloom looks a little crazed at the moment.

168 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Alright. Alright.

169 APPLE BLOOM
Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Twilight lowers her head. She aims her horn at Apple Bloom and...

FLASH! An APPLE CART appears on Apple Bloom's rump.

170 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Yes! I knew you could do it...

Her voice trails off as the image of the apple cart fades away.

171 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I'm sorry sweetie, but I told you--

172 APPLE BLOOM
Try again! Try again!

Twilight aims her horn once more and...

FLASH! A colorful KITE appears on Apple Bloom's rump. Then as quickly as it appeared, it's gone.

FLASH! A tower of CUPCAKES appears, then disappears.

FLASH! A TEDDY BEAR.

FLASH! A TRICYCLE.

FLASH! A FOOTBALL.

FLASH! FLASH! FLASH! FLASH! FLASH! Swirls of color morph into shapes that quickly fade away.

An exhausted Twilight raises her head.

173 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
---told you that not even magic
can make a Cutie Mark appear
before it's time.

174 APPLE BLOOM
It's hopeless. Hopeless.
(then, decisive)
I just won't go to the party. I
can't go.

Apple Bloom exits the kitchen and enters...

INT. SWEET SHOPPE - FRONT ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Twilight and Pinkie Pie trail Apple Bloom.

175 APPLE BLOOM
Everyone will just laugh at me and
make fun of me and call me names.
It will be the worst night of my
life.

176 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I'm sure it won't be as bad as all
that.

177 APPLE BLOOM
Forget it. There is no way I'm
going to that...

WIDEN TO REVEAL that the front of the store has been
decorated with STREAMERS and BALLOONS. Hung above the
display counter is a GIANT BANNER that reads:

"Happy Cute-cinera, Tiara!"

Through the front windows we can see several ponies,
including Tiara, Silver Spoon and Twist waiting to enter.

178 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
...<gulp> party.

Off Apple Bloom's panicked look we...

END ACT II

ACT III

INT. SWEET SHOPPE - SOON AFTER

PARTY GUESTS enter the shoppe, dressed in their best
party duds. A still panicked Apple Bloom spots a giant
statue of a prancing pony made entirely of chocolate on a
nearby display case and ducks behind it, striking an
identical pose.

179 APPLE BLOOM
How could I have forgotten the
time? How could I have forgotten
Pinky Pie was hosting the party??
How could I have forgotten it was
at Sugarcube Corner???

Pinky Pie pokes her head into frame.

180 PINKIE PIE
Don't forget your party hat,
Forgetty Forgettersen!

She places a PARTY HAT on Apple Boom's head, then ducks
back out of frame.

181 APPLE BLOOM
I have to get out of here before
anypony sees me.

She makes her move and darts over to a table displaying a
MULTI-LAYERED CAKE. She peers out from behind the cake
to see that the sweet shop is rapidly filling with
ponies. The exit seems miles away.

Just then, Snails (the pudgy young unicorn from "Boast
Busters") takes a huge bite of the cake, exposing Apple
Bloom.

182 TIARA (O.S.)
Hey!

Apple Bloom's eyes go wide. Snails, mouth still full of
cake, turns away from the now exposed Apple Bloom to face
Tiara. She does not look happy.

183 TIARA (CONT'D)
It's my Cute-cinera. I'm supposed
to get the first bite of cake!

Tiara moves toward the cake and, unknowingly, Apple
Bloom. Apple Bloom thinks fast and we PAN with HER as
she makes her way toward the exit...

She strikes a pose so that she can conceal herself behind
a party guest's ORNATE HAT. The party guest walks off
and Apple Bloom...

...strikes another pose so that she can hide behind a
BUNCH OF BALLOONS. POP! POP! POP! She has to contort
her body into crazier and crazier positions as a DANCING
UNICORN accidentally hits the balloons with his horn.

She leaps into the air and strikes another pose so that
she won't be seen behind a PONY-SHAPED PINATA.

She lands and quickly DIVES under a TABLE with a PUNCH BOWL on it.

UNDER THE TABLE

Apple Bloom surveys the room.

184 APPLE BLOOM
Okay, Apple Bloom. Almost there.

BACK TO SCENE

Apple Bloom slowly stands up, the table balanced on her back. Its long table cloth conceals all but her hooves. She takes few steps, then drops back down as an oblivious pony gets a sip of punch from the punch bowl.

The pony's thirst satiated, she walks off. Apple Bloom pops back up and takes a few more steps. She drops back down again.

Up. A few more steps. Down until the coast is clear.

Up. Getting closer. Down as another pony gets some punch.

Up. She's right at the exit.

UNDER THE TABLE

185 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
<A RELIEVED SIGH>

Apple Bloom slowly starts to back out from under the table when she runs smack dab into something.

186 APPLEJACK (O.S.)
Apple Bloom, you made it!

AT THE FRONT DOOR

Apple Bloom freezes, then turns to see that she has run into her sister. Apple Jack, unaware that Apple Bloom was attempting a getaway, pushes her back into the party as she continues:

187 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
After I heard about Twist, I was
afraid you wouldn't show up. Sure
am glad you came to your senses
about this whole Cutie Mark thing.

Apple Bloom looks around nervously.

188 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
It's like I said. These things
happen when these things are
supposed to happen. Trying to
rush it'll just drive you crazy.

Apple Bloom isn't paying attention. Her eyes dart around the room, looking for another way out of this situation.

189 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
I'll let you be. Looks like your
friends wanna talk to you.

She motions to Tiara and Silver Spoon who are now looking right at Apple Bloom, smug expressions on their faces. Apple Bloom looks around frantically. Spots the table cloth on the table she'd used to try and make her escape.

WHOOSH! She yanks off the table cloth. Miraculously, the punch bowl remains on the table.

WHIP! She twirls it around her body making a makeshift sarong around her hindquarters.

Just as she finishes fashioning her dress, she hears a familiar voice.

190 TIARA
Well well well. Look who's here.

Apple Bloom turns to face Tiara and Silver Spoon.

191 SILVER SPOON
(insincere)
Nice outfit.

192 APPLE BLOOM
Just something I, uh, pulled
together last minute.

193 TIARA
It really shows off your Cutie
Mark. Oh. Wait. That's right.
You don't have one.

194 APPLE BLOOM
(nonchalant)
I have a Cutie Mark.

195 SILVER SPOON
What? Since when?

196 APPLE BLOOM
Since, um, earlier today.

197 TIARA
(skeptical)
Oh, really? Let's see it.

Apple Bloom makes a big show of starting to remove her tablecloth covering, then stops right before her flank is about to be exposed.

198 APPLE BLOOM
I shouldn't. I couldn't. My
Cutie Mark is so unbelievably
amazing, I'm afraid that if I show
it off everyone will start paying
attention to me instead of you.
(then)
Outshined at your own Cute-cinera.
Can you imagine how embarrassing
that would be?

Tiara considers this. She looks a little nervous.

199 TIARA
Forget it. I didn't really want
to see it anyway.

Apple Bloom straightens her tablecloth skirt.

200 APPLE BLOOM
Okay, well, I'm gonna go mingle.
Enjoy your party.

Apple Bloom turns away from Tiara and Silver Spoon..

201 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
<SIGH OF RELIEF>

Just then, the corner of her tablecloth skirt
accidentally catches on a display cabinet and...

RIIIP! The tablecloth is torn in half! She falls head
first into the record player, stopping the music.
Everyone stops and turns to look at Apple Bloom-- and her
Cutie Mark-less backside. Apple Bloom grimaces.

202 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
(under her breath)
Oh, no.

A beat as she waits for the inevitable.

203 TIARA AND SILVER SPOON
<GIGGLES>

204 SILVER SPOON
(dripping sarcasm)
Wow! That *is* an amazing Cutie
Mark.

205 TIARA AND SILVER SPOON
<GIGGLES>

206 TIARA
Nice try...

207 TIARA AND SILVER SPOON
(loud)
...blank flank! HA HA HA HA HA!!

Several YOUNG PONIES sporting Cutie Marks point at her.

208 YOUNG PONIES
<CONSPIRATORIAL WHISPERS>

Apple Bloom lowers her head in shame. She looks up at the sound of a tiny voice coming from the other side of the room.

209 SCOOTALOO (O.S.)
(calling out)
You gotta problem with blank
flanks?

The party guests, including Silver Spoon and Tiara, turn to see SCOOTALOO and SWEETIE BELLE making their way over to Apple Bloom.

210 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
I said, you gotta problem with
blank flanks?

211 SILVER SPOON
The problem is it means she's
like, totally not special.

212 SWEETIE BELLE
No. It means she's full of
potential.

213 SCOOTALOO
It means she could be great at
anything. The possibilities
are...
(imitating Silver
Spoon)
...like, endless.

Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle now stand on either side of Apple Bloom who is as surprised as anyone by the two ponies brash proclamations.

214 SWEETIE BELLE
She could be a great scientist, or
an amazing artist, or a famous
writer, she could even be Mayor of
Ponyville someday!

215 SCOOTALOO
And she's not stuck being a mean
stuck-up snob like you two!

We hear some snickers from the rest of the party-goers.
Tiara is appalled!

216 TIARA
Hey! This is *my* party. Why are
you two on *her* side?

217 SCOOTALOO
Because...

Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle share a knowing look then
slowly turn to reveal that...

Their flanks are blank just like Apple Bloom's!

218 APPLE BLOOM
<GASP> You don't have your Cutie
Marks, either!
(then)
I thought I was the only one.

219 SCOOTALOO
We thought we were the only two.

220 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I for one think you are three very
lucky fillies.

221 TIARA
Lucky? How can *they* be lucky?

222 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
"*They*" still get to experience the
thrill of discovering who they are
and what they are meant to be.

Apple Jack steps out of the crowd.

223 APPLEJACK
And they've got all the time in
the world to figure it out.
(then, to Apple Bloom)
Not just an afternoon.

She gives her little sister a nuzzle. Several of the
other ponies at the party nod their heads in agreement.

The party guests begin to gather around Apple Bloom, Scootaloo, and Sweetie Belle. Some of them brushing past Tiara to do so.

224 BABY PONIES
Wow Apple Bloom!/Do you really think you can be Mayor?/I wish I could be a scientist!/ Maybe I got my cutie mark too soon/ etc...

225 TIARA
Hey! What's everybody doing? This is my party! Everypony's supposed to be paying attention to me!

No one pays her any mind, they are all caught up in meeting the three Cutie Mark free ponies. Silver Spoon calls out over the <PONY WALLA>.

226 SILVER SPOON
Whatever. We still think you're losers. Right, Tiara?

She puts up her hooves to do their "secret handshake."

227 SILVER SPOON (CONT'D)
Bump. Bump.

Tiara isn't participating.

228 SILVER SPOON (CONT'D)
Sugar lump--

229 TIARA
(cutting her off)
Not now, Silver Spoon.

Apple Bloom, Sweetie Belle and Scootaloo share a smile as Tiara storms off with an embarrassed Silver Spoon chasing after her like a puppy. Scootaloo initiates the necessary introductions.

230 SCOOTALOO
Name's Scootaloo.

231 SWEETIE BELLE
And I'm Sweetie Belle.

232 APPLE BLOOM
Apple Bloom.

The three new friends share a smile.

INT. SWEET SHOPPE - LATER

The party is in full swing with ponies DANCING, EATING, and DRINKING punch. Tiara mopes in a corner with Silver Spoon by her side while Twist cuts a rug with a few friends.

233 TWIST
Thisth thsong is stho sthuper!

On the other side of the room, Apple Bloom, Sweetie Belle and Scootaloo are gathered around a table piled high with cupcakes.

234 APPLE BLOOM
So I was thinking. Now that we're friends...
(then, not so sure)
I mean, we are friends, right?

235 SCOOTALOO
How could we not be? We're totally alike. We don't have Cutie Marks... Tiara and Silver Spoon drive us crazy...

236 SWEETIE BELLE
Totally crazy.

The three girls share a <LAUGH>.

237 APPLE BLOOM
Now that we're friends, what if the three of us worked *together* to find out who we are and what we're supposed to be?

Sweetie Belle and Scootaloo's interest is piqued.

238 SWEETIE BELLE
Ooh. Ooh. We could form our own secret society.

239 SCOOTALOO
I'm liking this idea.

240 APPLE BLOOM
A secret society. Yeah.
(then)
We'll need a name for it though.

The three friends think for a moment.

241 SCOOTALOO
The Cutie Mark Three?

242 SWEETIE BELLE
The Cute-tastically Fantastics?

243 APPLE BLOOM
How about... The Cutie Mark
Crusaders?!

Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle nod approvingly.

244 SCOOTALOO
It's perfect!

245 SWEETIE BELLE
This is going to be so great.

246 APPLE BLOOM
We're going to be unstoppable!

247 SCOOTALOO
What do you say we celebrate with
some of these delicious cupcakes?

Scootaloo is about to take a bite of one of the cupcakes on display. We can now see that they are all burnt to a crisp. Apple Bloom quickly stops her.

248 APPLE BLOOM
Not the cupcakes.

Scootaloo looks at her, confused.

249 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Trust me.

Scootaloo backs away from the cupcakes.

250 SWEETIE BELLE
Let's see if there are any
cookies!

251 APPLE BLOOM
Yeah!

252 SCOOTALOO
Come on!

As the three head off in a search of cookies, we WIDEN to see Twilight watching them with a smile. Over this we HEAR:

253 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (V.O.)
Dearest Princess Celestia, I am
happy to report that one of your
youngest subjects has learned a
valuable lesson about friendship.

ANGLE ON Apple Bloom, Scootaloo, and Sweetie Belle
EATING, LAUGHING, and DANCING as they enjoy the party
together.

254 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Sometimes the thing you think will
cause you to lose friends and feel
left out...

INT. PRINCESS CELESTIA'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Princess Celestia reads aloud from a scroll.

255 PRINCESS CELESTIA
...can actually be the thing that
helps you make your closest
friends and realize how special
you are.

Princess Celestia turns to a mirror. She looks at the
unique Cutie Mark that decorates her flank and smiles.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END