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MY LITTLE PONY

"Stare Master"
(pka Fluster-shy)

EP017

Outline by
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Outline: January 29, 2010
Notes Due: February 1, 2010

TEASER

Rarity rushes about her shop. She has a BIG order to fill but she handles the task with grace and professionalism. Sweetie Belle watches in awe, the master at work. Back and forth she goes, Sweetie's head bobbing back and forth as if she is at Wimbledon. Sweetie Belle begs Rarity to let her help fill the order. Rarity refuses. "Just stand over there and don't touch anything." Rarity reaches for a big roll of satin ribbon. Sweetie Belle takes it upon herself to help out anyway. "I'll get it!" Sweetie Belle goes for the ribbon and knocks it off the shelf instead. The roll comically unravels causing a Rube Goldberg type destruction in the store. Now Sweetie Belle and rarity stand and watch the "Wimbledon" match of boxes and mannequins and ribbon and fabric get upturned. After the dust settles Rarity has no words. With a sheepish grin Sweetie Belle takes it upon herself to "just stand over there."

ACT 1

Rarity finally has the store back in order and readies herself to finish filling the order when, Fluttershy arrives carrying a covered basket in her teeth. Fluttershy is bringing Rarity's cat Ruby back from a grooming. The crazy cat is like an angel in Fluttershy's care. Rarity compliments Fluttershy saying she just doesn't know how she does it. Fluttershy tells her that she just has that "motherly touch." The angel of a cat turns into a terror as Rarity tries to take it out of the basket, proving Fluttershy's ability. Rarity tells Fluttershy about the big order she has to fill: 20 splendid robes for a client in Trottingham. Fluttershy compliments Rarity in return about how she can handle such large orders all on her own. Doesn't she need any help? Rarity shoots a look over to Sweetie. Another sheepish grin. "No", replies Rarity.

Just then, Scootaloo and Apple Blossom burst into the shop. Sweetie's sheepish grin turns into an excited smile. The "Cutie Mark Crusaders" excitedly talk about their strategy session this evening to figure out what their calling is and finally earn their Cutie Mark! And what's more, Sweetie Belle produces three sparkling fabric capes emblazoned with the initials C.M.C. on them. The girls are ecstatic! Rarity shrieks in horror. Sweetie Belle used Rarity's finest sparkling fabric meant for the robes! Rarity has to go into town and get more of the special fabric. She'll be up all night now, trying to finish the order. Rarity tells Sweetie that she has no time now to watch her and that her friends will have to go home now. Sweetie is distraught. She and her friends were supposed to have a strategy session/sleep over! Rarity says not tonight. She will be too busy. Saddened, the girls start to leave until Fluttershy offers to let the girls sleep at her cottage. The girls are excited, but Rarity doesn't want to impose on her friend. The girls ARE quite a hand full. Fluttershy insists, saying that the little Ponies are sweet angels! The girls all instantly put on fake angelic grins. Rarity, thankful for the opportunity to get her work done in peace, gives in. Yay! Sleepover at Fluttershy's!!! The girls excitedly rush around the shop and out the front door in a flurry of young energy. Rarity wishes Fluttershy luck. Fluttershy tells Rarity not to worry and besides, if the girls get out of line she'll just

give them “THE STARE”. Fluttershy demonstrates it on misbehaving Ruby. The sight of the now calm cat impresses Rarity. Fluttershy leaves and Rarity gets back to work.

The girls rush enthusiastically ahead of Fluttershy on their way to her cottage. They pass Twilight who is on her way through the Everfree Forest to Zecora’s to pick up some of her favorite herbal tea. Fluttershy reminds Twilight, in her own motherly way, of the perils one could face when crossing through the Everfree Forest and to be careful. Fluttershy explains the evening’s plans and even Twilight questions Fluttershy if she’s sure she can handle all three foals on her own. And again, Fluttershy says not to worry that she can handle the three little darlings. Again, the girls smile angelically.

Inside Fluttershy’s cottage the “angels” suddenly go berserk with excitement, causing great commotion. Fluttershy stands in the middle of the kid tornado, now not so sure she can handle it.

ACT 2

The girls run rampant through the house, trying to find ways of identifying their ability. Try as she may, Fluttershy has no control over the girls, who disobey her not out of spite but out of sheer excitement. At first, Fluttershy tries to speak to them in a more understanding matter. But her words fall on deaf ears. The more she tries, the louder the girls get.

A glimpse of the Everfree Forest through one of the cottage windows inspires the Crusaders. They decide they are going to be Everfree Forest creature hunters! They squeal with delight at the decision. Fluttershy warns the girls of the perils of the Everfree Forest, but it falls on deaf ears. Scootaloo climbs on Apple Blossoms back and covers herself with an area rug. They pretend to be a ferocious creature as the brave “hunter” Sweetie Belle hunts them through the living room. The hunt gets a bit out of control and a table gets broken.

Instead of listening to Fluttershy, who has graduated from nice talk to slightly more assertive (perhaps she suggests a cleaning sequence like something straight out of Snow White or perhaps playing a game of “who can be quiet the longest, which the girls see right through) the girls just stare blankly. Instead, they turn the moment into opportunity. “Carpenters” they yell! Maybe their calling is to be carpenters! The girls don’t hear Fluttershy’s protest as they grab tools and rebuild what used to be a table into an awkward looking pile of unstable wood.

Fluttershy finally has had enough, and decides to give the girls THE STARE! After a long beat the girls bust into laughter. By this time, night has fallen and it is time for bed. With much protesting from the girls, Fluttershy shuffles them all into the guest room. Fluttershy suggests a lullaby. The girls love the idea, which leads them to think perhaps they will be singers! They all start to sing, but Sweetie Belle’s voice breaks out above all the rest. Soon everyone is covering their ears from the

bombastic vocals emanating from Sweetie.

Outside the noise disrupts all the chickens in the coop. Soon they are all running around clucking and making noise. Another opportunity!!! Perhaps the girls will be chicken wranglers! They dash outside, against Fluttershy's protest and run around the pen trying to wrangle the chickens. As they try to wrangle the chickens Fluttershy tries to wrangle the girls. Finally, all the chickens are back in the coop.

Apple Blossom notices that there is a hole in the fence and after counting the chickens, realizes that one has escaped and headed off into the Everfree Forest. They are about to rush after it but Fluttershy puts a stop to it, reminding them once again the dangers of going into the Everfree Forest, especially at night! She ushers the girls back into the house and straight into bed.

Not to let this put a damper on their strategy session, the girls quietly decide they will be Hunter/Trappers!! The girls check to see if the coast is clear and sneak out of the cottage. On their way into the forest Apple Bloom snags her cape on a branch, but is too excited to stop for it.

Fluttershy slumps down into a chair, exhausted by the girls, but proud to have finally gotten things quiet, but she realizes things are far too quiet. She rushes into their bedroom: not there. She rushes outside to the coop: not there. Then she notices the cape stuck to the branch at the edge of Everfree Forest. She realizes the girls went in and she stands there horrified. Oh no... NOT THERE!!!!

ACT 3

As Fluttershy stands, nearly petrified, before the Everfree Forest, she knows she must brave it and go in alone after the kids. She takes a deep breath and enters. Fluttershy moves cautiously through the woods calling out for the girls in an almost inaudible voice as to not stir up anything scary. The more she talks herself into not being scared, the more she actually becomes scared of things she is trying to not be scared of.

Fluttershy steps out into a moonlit clearing and across the way she sees the silhouette of Twilight. Elated and glad to have company, she rushes over to greet her friend. She explains her predicament, but it falls on deaf ears. After not so close examination, Fluttershy realizes that Twilight has been turned to stone! Doubly horrified, Fluttershy realizes that a Cockatrice (half chicken half snake with the ability to turn its victims to stone with its gaze) must be on the loose! Aware of the very real dangers the kids face, Fluttershy puts aside her own fears, tells Twilight she'll be back to help her and bravely rushes into the woods again.

It's not too long before she finds the three girls goofing off and joking around. Fluttershy desperately tries to corral the girls but they won't listen. She tries explaining to them that a Cockatrice is on the loose and they must leave now and that it turned Twilight to stone. Again, the girls are too out of control and tell her

that they are trying to wrangle the last chicken for her. Sweetie Belle spots a chicken head poking up from behind some underbrush. They all rush after it. Suddenly a second chicken head appears. Huh? Only one chicken escaped. Did they count wrong? No. The second chicken head belongs to the Cockatrice. It step from its hiding place and looms over the kids. Suddenly its eyes glow red and it stares straight into the eyes of the lost chicken turning it to stone. Fluttershy and the kids scream and run.

With the Cockatrice in pursuit the girls break through the woods and run smack into Stone-Twilight. The girls see that this is for real and run around out of control and in hysterics. Fluttershy sees the girls out of control and takes a stand. She finally asserts herself and snaps the girls into attention. Just then the Cockatrice breaks through into the clearing. It doesn't get a chance to let its eyes glow red because Fluttershy whips around and gives the cockatrice a healthy dose of THE STARE! The Cockatrice freezes in its tracks, frightened by the steely gaze. Fluttershy lays into the creature in the most scoldingly and motherly way, telling it to unfreeze her friend (and the chicken!) and stop turning things into stone. The Cockatrice obeys like a good little creature, turning Twilight back to normal and then slinking away back into the woods.

Twilight wakes and the girls excitedly commend Fluttershy on taking control of the situation and compliment her on her use of THE STARE, bestowing her with the name Stare Master. Their respect for Fluttershy is high. Twilight wonders what the heck happened.

The next morning Fluttershy and Twilight sit having tea as Fluttershy tells of the night's happenings and what she learned about herself. Twilight jots this all down. She thinks this will make a great letter to the Princess. Just then Rarity shows up to pick up the kids. Having filled her order she can now take them off of Fluttershy's hooves. Fluttershy calls the kids and they quickly and courteously arrive. Rarity is impressed with how she is able to get such respect from these little girls asking only "How do you do it?"

The End