

MY LITTLE PONY

"Over a Barrel"

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FIRST DRAFT
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TEASER

*

EXT. PONYVILLE - DAY

A panoramic view of the outskirts of Ponyville. A team of BULKY CLYDESDALE PONIES pulls a TRAIN on its way out of town as the sun sets.

APPLEJACK (V.O.)
(reading, sing-songy)
*And that's when Yellow Birdie
thought to himself, "Hmm, my
favorite little tree isn't such a
little tree anymore. My favorite
tree is big grown up tree."*

We PUSH IN on the last car of the train, through...

APPLEJACK (V.O.) (CONT'D)
*So she sang her song big and
strong, and all her little birdie
friends came, Green Birdie and Pink
Birdie and Brown Birdie and Purple
Birdie, and they all lived in that
great big tree happily ever after.*

INT. REAR SLEEPER CAR - SAME TIME

APPLEJACK closes a book.

APPLEJACK
The end.

She creeps quietly over to the bed and pulls covers up over a TREE lying horizontally on a bed... then notices, to her surprise, RARITY standing in the doorway.

*

RARITY
Applejack, were you reading a
bedtime story to... an apple tree?

APPLEJACK
(embarrassed)
Being moved to be planted in a
whole new place is very traumatic
for a tree, and Bloomberg here is
one of my favorites. *I've known
him since he was just a sapling.*

RARITY

You've known me since I was a
'sapling', too. Can I get my own
sleeper car as well?

APPLEJACK

What?

RARITY

I'm crowded in the same car with
all the other ponies. How am I
supposed to get any sleep? It's
like a barn on wheels in there!

APPLEJACK

Shh. Not so loud. Bloomberg's
trying to get his beauty sleep.

RARITY

What do you think I'm trying to do?

APPLEJACK

But Bloomberg's the whole reason
we're making this trip. So we can
give him as a gift to my relatives
in Apple-Loosa.

RARITY

Fine, but still, he's just a tree.
I mean, it's not like he's your
baby or anything.

APPLEJACK

Who are you calling a baby.
Bloomberg's no baby.
(to Bloomberg, baby talk)
Don't wet widdle Rarity make you
all saddy-wad. We all know you're
no baby. Bloomberg's a big strong
apple tree, yes his is, yes he is!
Tickle, tickle, tickle.

As Applejack gleefully "tickles" Bloomberg's trunk, Rarity
rolls her eyes.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT I

INT. PONY'S SLEEPER CAR - LATER THAT EVENING

In a car with **seven** beds, TWILIGHT, RAINBOW DASH, PINKIE PIE, **APPLEJACK** and FLUTTERSHY excitedly chatter **and MUNCH on snacks** while SPIKE and Rarity each lie in bed exasperated, tossing and turning.

*

TWILIGHT/DASH/PINKIE/FLUTTERSHY/AJ
<excited chatter walla>

*

SPIKE
How are we supposed to get any
sleep in here?

RARITY
Indeed.

*

SPIKE
(calling to the others)
Do you guys mind? I was up early
breath-roasting those snacks you're
all eating and I'm pooped.

RAINBOW DASH
Now that you mention it, some of
these popcorn kernels didn't get
popped.

SPIKE
Okay, fine!

Spike BLOWS FIRE on the popcorn, popping some kernels and
charring the rest.

SPIKE (CONT'D)
Goodnight!

The snacking comes to an abrupt stop.

TWILIGHT
**Maybe it's time we all got a little
shut eye. We've got a big day
ahead of us tomorrow.**

THE OTHER PONIES
<agreement and apology walla>

The lights go out.

*

A beat of dark silence, then...

RAINBOW DASH
(whisper)
Psst. Pinkie Pie. You asleep yet?

PINKIE PIE
(ditto)
No. Are you asleep yet?

Dash lights a candle.

RAINBOW DASH
If I was sleeping, how could I have
asked if you were asleep?

PINKIE PIE
You're right. Hee hee.

Pinkie lights a candle.

RAINBOW DASH
When we get to Apple-Loosa, you
think we'll have to carry that
heavy tree all the way from the
train to the orchard?

*
*
*

PINKIE PIE
What tree? You mean Bloomberg?

RAINBOW DASH
(sarcastic)
No. Fluttershy.
(then)
Of course Bloomberg!

*

PINKIE PIE
Fluttershy's not a tree, silly.

Twilight lights a candle.

TWILIGHT
What's going on?

PINKIE PIE
(puzzled)
Rainbow Dash thinks Fluttershy's a
tree.

RAINBOW DASH
I do not think she's a tree! I was
just -

TWILIGHT
Did you say she was a tree?

RAINBOW DASH
No. Well - yes, but - not exactly -

TWILIGHT
(concerned)
You know she's not a tree, right?

PINKIE PIE
She's not a tree, Dashie.

Fluttershy lights a candle.

FLUTTERSHY
I'd *like* to be a tree.

SPIKE
Oh for goodness sake!

Spike STORMS OUT with his pillow and EXITS. The other ponies look confused.

TWILIGHT
Well that was kind of huffy.

FLUTTERSHY
Huffy the Magic Dragon.

TWILIGHT/DASH/PINKIE/FLUTTERSHY/AJ
<twittering, chuckling>

*

RARITY (O.C.)
Could you all be QUIET NOW?

Rarity sits up in her bunk, glowering. She'd got a MUD MASK and CURLERS in her mane and she's a frightening sight.

ALL THE OTHERS
(terror stricken)
Aaah! Goodnight!

All the candles get BLOWN OUT at once.

INT. REAR SLEEPER CAR - A LITTLE LATER

Spike quietly opens the door.

SPIKE
(whisper)
Bloomberg?

No response. Spike creeps into the room on tiptoe.

SPIKE (CONT'D)
(whisper)
Bloomberg?

Still no response. Spike shrugs, puts the pillow down next to Bloomberg, and climbs into bed with him. He struggles to share some of the blanket.

SPIKE (CONT'D)
Budge over.

Spike finally gets enough blanket. Then...

SPIKE (CONT'D)
Sorry, but I tend to snore a bit.
Goodnight.

*

Spike smiles and hunkers down for a good night's sleep.

INT. PONY SLEEPER CAR - DAWN

The ponies all sleep soundly. A RUMBLE can be heard from outside, SHAKING the car slightly. Some of the ponies stir.

A LOUDER RUMBLE. The car SHAKES HARDER this time.

RAINBOW DASH
(sits up **groggily**)
What's that?

Still sleepy, she stumbles to the window. She's joined there by some of the other ponies who have awakened as well.

ALL THE PONIES
<amazed walla>

REVEAL what they see - A HERD OF STAMPEDING BUFFALO running alongside the train, edging closer to it as they go.

RARITY
What going on?

TWILIGHT
It's a buffalo stampede.

FLUTTERSHY
Wow. So many of them!

RAINBOW DASH
(concerned)
They're getting awfully close to
the train.

PINKIE PIE
They must be trying to snuggle up
against it.

RAINBOW DASH
You can't be serious.

Pinkie raps the window like she's at a zoo enclosure.

PINKIE PIE
They're so cute!

EXT. THE FRONT OF THE TRAIN - MOMENTS LATER

The Clydesdale pony conductors continue to pull the train
along at top speed, but now the front of the stampede is
running even with them.

The buffalo in front SIDESWIPE the Clydesdales, as if in an attempt to "derail" the train. The ponies react while trying to maintain their speed. The train SWERVES. *

INT. PONY SLEEPER CAR - SAME TIME

Ponies careen ridiculously around the swerving car.

APPLEJACK
This - is - not - goooooood...

RARITY
I want - to speak to - the
managerrrrr...

All the ponies continue to flop around crazily.

ALL THE PONIES
<goofy frantic walla>

INT. REAR SLEEPER CAR - SAME TIME

CLOSE ON Spike, SNORING contentedly.

WIDEN TO REVEAL the bed he shares with Bloomberg SLIDING from
one side of the car to the other. Incredibly, Spike still
manages to sleep like a baby through this whole thing.

EXT. FRONT OF THE TRAIN - MOMENTS LATER

The conductor ponies manage to break free of the buffalo and speed out across the open plain, gaining ground. The buffalo maintain their pursuit.

INT. PONY SLEEPER CAR - SAME TIME

Pinkie Pie gets up off the floor and resumes peering out the window with undiminished enthusiasm.

PINKIE PIE
Ooh lookie! Now they're doing
tricks!

REVERSE ANGLE to reveal a buffalo HOPPING onto the back of another buffalo. Then another HOPS onto the back of that one until finally a SMALLER GIRL BUFFALO hops atop the pile and climbs onto the top of the train.

BACK ON Pinkie hopping up and down really fast with glee.

PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
WhEEEEEEEE!

Rainbow Dash listens to the HOOFFSTEPS making their way across the roof.

RAINBOW DASH
Something tells me this ain't no
circus act.

She exits between the cars to deal with the interloper.

EXT. TOP OF TRAIN - MOMENTS LATER

Now atop the fast-moving train, Rainbow Dash sees that the small girl buffalo is making her way toward the back. Rainbow Dash flies in front of her.

RAINBOW DASH
Hey there. Where you headed in
such a hurry?

The girl buffalo dodges Rainbow Dash and speeds up.

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Wow. You're pretty quick for
someone so... bulky. No offense.

Rainbow Dash catches up with her again.

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
I just wanna know -

The buffalo dodges Dash again. Once again Dash must recover quickly to fly even with her.

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
- where you think -

The buffalo eludes her with another tricky move, still maintaining progress toward the back of the train.

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Hey!

Rainbow Dash gets right smack in front of the buffalo this time. The buffalo responds with a SLOW MOTION SOMERSAULT over Dash, landing on her feet... and she keeps on moving.

A stunned Dash looks on in amazement.

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Whoa...

Then, registering a look of fierce determination, Dash lunges in the buffalo's direction, flying at top speed to tackle her from behind...

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
I've got you now, you tricky little
-

... but the buffalo surprises Dash by suddenly dropping down between the last two cars of the train.

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Whu - ?

Dash adjusts too late and, CLANG!, hits her head on the side of the train, seeing stars.

With Dash momentarily sidelined, the little buffalo quickly UNCOUPLES the last car from the rest of the train.

The girl buffalo then hops off the train and lets loose a loud WHISTLE. This prompts a bunch of the stampeding buffalo to circle back toward the now-detached car.

A groggy Rainbow Dash, still atop the fast-moving train, woozily sits up.

FROM RAINBOW DASH'S POV we see the detached car slowing to a halt and fading into the distance as the rest of the buffalo gather around it. They then proceed to pull Bloomberg the Apple Tree out to stampede off with it!

EXT. BACK OF TRAIN - SAME TIME

The other ponies have now gathered at the back of the train, also watching this whole thing transpire.

APPLEJACK
They've got Bloomberg!

TWILIGHT
And Spike!

ANGLE ON Spike, emerging from the canopy of the tree waving frantically back to his pony friends who look on helplessly as they're pulled steadily away by the speeding train.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT I

ACT II

EXT. APPLE-LOOSA TRAIN STATION - LATER THAT DAY

The train pulls into the town of Apple-Loosa where the ponies are greeted by Applejack's **male** cousin BRAEBURN, an unusually hyperkinetic and enthusiastic **guy in** a cowboy hat. *

BRAEBURN
Hey there, do tell! Welcome to -
(waves hat in the air)
Aaaaaapple-Loooooosa!

APPLEJACK
Braeburn, listen we -

BRAEBURN
(playfully)
Cousin Applejack, mind your manners. You have yet to introduce me to your *compadres*. Shame on you.

APPLEJACK
Braeburn, listen, something terrible's happened and -

BRAEBURN
 Terrible is right. Your train is a
 full seven minutes late! That's
 seven minutes less for you to
 delight in the pleasures and
 wonders of -

*

*

CUT TO:

*

EXT. APPLE-LOOSA - MAIN STREET - CONTINUOUS

*

BRAEBURN
 (waves hat in the air)
 Aaaaapple-Loooooosa!

*

*

*

Braeburn whisks Applejack and friends on a whirlwind tour of
 Apple-Loosa, a western-style town set amidst rolling hills.

BRAEBURN (CONT'D)
 Boggles the mind we built all this
 in just the past year, don't it?
 And as you can see we have all of
 the finest amenities.

*

Carriages pulled by ponies, and with ponies as passengers,
 travel the street in both directions.

BRAEBURN (CONT'D)
 Like horse-drawn carriages.

HORSE PULLING CARRIAGE
 (to horse in carriage)
 Okay, you pull now.

HORSE RIDING IN CARRIAGE
 We just switched!

Braeburn gestures to some ponies sitting on benches facing
 the street, sketching.

*

*

BRAEBURN
 And those there are horse-drawn
 horse-drawn carriages.

Sure enough, the ponies are sketching the horse-drawn
 carriages passing by.

APPLEJACK
 Listen Braeburn, I -

Pressing on with the tour, Braeburn yanks Applejack along, with the rest of her pony friends rushing along after them.

BRAEBURN
And here's the Salt Lick Saloon.

They pass a saloon, where a pony is being thrown out by the proprietor.

PROPRIETOR
That's enough salt for you!

OVERSALTED PONY
(extreme dry mouth)
Can't I at least get a glass of water?

Unmoved, the proprietor disappears inside.

BRAEBURN
And here we have the world famous Pony Express.

They pass a genial neighborhood mail carrier - a pony in USPS style uniform carrying a satchel, delivering mail on foot. *

Braeburn picks up the pace of the tour. Each item follows the next in a rat-a-tat succession...

BRAEBURN (CONT'D)
Over there's the office of Sheriff Silver Star.

ANGLE ON SHERIFF SILVER STAR proudly polishing his Silver Star. It gleams: DING!

BRAEBURN (CONT'D)
And here's where we have our Wild West dances.

ANGLE ON a bunch of ponies dancing wildly.

WILD DANCING PONIES
<exuberant dance walla>

BRAEBURN
And here's where we have our Mild West dances.

ANGLE ON a different bunch of ponies mopily dancing.

MILD DANCING PONIES
Doh dee doh dee doh...

APPLEJACK

But Braeburn, w-

*
*

ANGLE ON the ponies at an overlook.

*

BRAEBURN

And here's the golden ring in the
prize pig's snout that is -

*

(waves hat in the air)

Aaaaapple-Loooooosa.

(then, hat over his heart)

Our apple orchard.

The ponies look out at the lush APPLE ORCHARD planted thickly
over the entire long strip of flat land below.

BRAEBURN (CONT'D)

First harvest should be any day
now.

*

APPLEJACK

Brae -

BRAEBURN

Good thing, too, cuz we need that
grub to live on.

APPLEJACK

BRAEBURN! You have a very nice
town and all, but we have a huge
problem. Some of our friends are
missing.

*

FLUTTERSHY

A stampede of buffalo.

RARITY

They took Spike.

TWILIGHT

Rainbow Dash went after them.

FLUTTERSHY

And we can't find Pinkie Pie.

APPLEJACK

And we had an apple tree with us
for your orchard but they took
that, too.

Braeburn's sunny disposition turns somber. He sighs.

BRAEBURN

Them buffalo want us to take every
single tree you see here off this
land. They sure as heck don't want
no new ones added in.

*

FLUTTERSHY

But why?

BRAEBURN

Beats me. After all the hard work
we put into this land they're
sayin' all these trees have to go?
Tain't right.

Braeburn shakes his head piteously. The ponies exchange
looks with one another, empathizing with the setters' plight.

EXT. THE FOOTHILLS OUTSIDE OF APPLE-LOOSA- SAME TIME

*

Rainbow Dash creeps from rock to rock in search of the
Buffalo's camp.

*

RAINBOW DASH

(quietly to herself)

Ooh, I can't wait to get my hooves
on that little buffalo. Ow!

*

Dash rubs the bump on her head.

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

(quietly to herself)

Nobody tricks Rainbow Dash and gets
away with it.

*

PINKIE PIE (O.C.)

Boo!

RAINBOW DASH

(startled)

Yaaah!

Dash whips around to see Pinkie just standing there.

*

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

(whispers)

Pinkie Pie!

PINKIE PIE

(dang)

Wup, you caught me.

(MORE)

PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
 Looks like I tricked you and didn't
 get away with it either.
 (wagging a hoof)
 You're good.

RAINBOW DASH
 (still whispering)
 Shush! Get outta here.

PINKIE PIE
 But why? I love the prairie. It's
 so tumbleweed-y.

RAINBOW DASH
 (a little louder)
 I'm trying to save Spike. *

PINKIE PIE
 (cheery as ever)
 Uh-huh.

RAINBOW DASH
 (a little louder still)
 Who's been taken hostage? *

PINKIE PIE
 (just as cheery)
 Uh-huh. *

RAINBOW DASH
 (finally losing it and
 yelling)
 And the more of us there are out
 here, the more chances of us
 getting caught! *

Dash and Pinkie are immediately SURROUNDED by a dozen or so
 angry buffalo who have suddenly ZIPPED into frame.

PINKIE PIE
 (genuinely impressed)
 Wow Dash - right again! Say,
 you're really on a roll there.

The buffalo close in on them slowly, ominously.

RAINBOW DASH
 Run, Pinkie. I'll hold them off.
 Save yourself.

SPIKE (O.C.)
 Stop!

The Buffalo stop. Reveal Spike **climbing off the back of one of the buffalo**, with arms extended in greeting.

SPIKE (CONT'D)
 Dash. Pinkie. 'Sup?
 (then, to the buffalo)
 These are my friends, guys, so do
right by them, y'hear?

The buffalo look at each other. One of them shrugs.

SHRUGGING BUFFALO
 If they are okay with Spike, they
 are okay with me.

The other Buffalo nod. Rainbow Dash and Pinkie exchange puzzled looks.

EXT. BUFFALO ENCAMPMENT - LATER

The Buffalo serve food around a campfire to Dash and Pinkie. Spike brings his friends up to speed while Pinkie eats eagerly. Rainbow Dash, however, refuses to touch any of it.

SPIKE
Seems they took me by mistake.
 They feel awful about it, too.
 Poor guys.
 (then, confiding)
 Fortunately, they've got mad
 respect for dragons so they treat
 me like an honored guest. Still
 don't like ponies much, though, but
 you're with me, so it's cool.

RAINBOW DASH
 Come on, let's get you out of here.

PINKIE PIE
 Before we finish eating? Are you
 loco in the coco? Honestly,
 sometimes you are such a goofball!

A girl buffalo, LITTLE STRONG **HEART**, approaches with a bowl
full of bluegreen gems.

PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
 Can I please have more of that
 mushy stuff, whatever it was?

*

*

*

*

LITTLE STRONG HEART
 Certainly. And Mr. Spike, you like
 gemstones, yes?

SPIKE
 Mmm. Turquoise. Never had that
 kind before...

Spike takes a handful and MUNCHES happily.

SPIKE (CONT'D)
 (mouth full)
 Hey, meet my new best buffalo bud.
 (swallowing)
 This here's Little Strong Heart.
 And these are my friends Pinkie Pie
 and Rainbow Dash.

Dash recognizes her immediately as the girl buffalo from the
 top of the train.

RAINBOW DASH
 You!!

LITTLE STRONG HEART
 I am so sorry for what happened on
 top of the train. We did not want
 anyone to get hurt. Mind if I take
 a look at that bump?

RAINBOW DASH
 (pulling away)
 Hey, it's my bump. Leave it alone.
 (then)
 If you didn't want anyone to get
 hurt, why'd you raid our train in
 the first place? And take hostages
 to boot?

*
 *

LITTLE STRONG HEART
 We only wanted the tree. And not
 as a hostage, but to keep it from
 being added to the orchard planted
 right in the middle of our
 traditional stampeding grounds.

RAINBOW DASH/SPIKE/PINKIE
 Huh?

EXT. BUFFALO ENCAMPMENT - LATER

CHIEF THUNDERHOOVES, an enormous and dignified leader, sits before the fire, calmly addressing Dash, Pinkie and Spike while Little Strong Heart sitting next to him and some other buffalo looking on.

CHIEF THUNDERHOOVES

We have a long and winding stampeding trail that we have stampeded upon for many generations. The trail is a great butterfly of power and joy fluttering upon the hearts of our ancestors.

RAINBOW DASH

Huh?

LITTLE STRONG HORN

We like the trail a lot.

CHIEF THUNDERHOOVES

But this year, we discover these settler ponies, these...

(contemptuously)

... Apple-Loosans...

(then)

... have captured our butterfly!

THE BUFFALO TRIBE

<defiant grumbles of agreement>

LITTLE STRONG HEART

(during the grumbling)

They planted apple trees all over it without asking our say-so!

CHIEF THUNDERHOOVES

The land, it is our heart. We stampede to keep it fertile, to keep it beating.

LITTLE STRONG HEART

So we are stuck waiting for the ponies to remove their unwelcome trees before we can continue our traditional journey. But they refuse to do so.

RAINBOW DASH
 So what did the Apple-Loosans say
 when you explained all this to
 them?

*

LITTLE STRONG HEART
 Well... now that you mention it...
 we never really explained it... we
 just kind of said... get lost.

*

RAINBOW DASH
 I'm sure if we go explain it to
 them, they'll move the trees. I
 mean, why wouldn't they, right?

*

EXT. ROLLING COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Dash, Pinkie, Spike and Little Strong Heart walk together.

RAINBOW DASH
 How much further is Apple-Loosa?

LITTLE STRONG HEART
 It is just over this next hill.

To their collective surprise, who do they see coming up over
 the hilltop ahead but Applejack, Twilight, Rarity and
 Fluttershy... along with Braeburn.

RAINBOW DASH
 Hey look! It's our friends!

The ponies all rush to greet each other.

TWILIGHT
 You're all okay!

RAINBOW DASH
 Fine. Completely fine.

PINKIE PIE
 And well fed.

Spike burps.

ALL THE PONIES
 <giggles>

FLUTTERSHY
 We were so worried!

RAINBOW DASH

Turns out there was nothing to worry about. These buffalo are fine folks. In fact, we were bringing our new pal Little Strong Heart here to explain to the Apple-Loosans why they should move the apple trees off buffalo land.

An awkward silence settles in among Applejack's group.

APPLEJACK

Huh. That's weird. Cuz we were bringing my cousin Braeburn here to explain to the buffalo why they should let the apple trees stay.

*

Rainbow Dash and Applejack proceed to let neither Little Strong Heart nor Braeburn get a word in edgewise...

RAINBOW DASH

It's been their traditional stampeding ground since forever, which means the land's theirs.

(to Braeburn)

You planted the trees not knowing that. Honest mistake. Now you just gotta move 'em, that's all.

APPLEJACK

They busted their rumps here and now they're supposed to bust their rumps again just cuz some buffalo won't stampede someplace else?

RAINBOW DASH

What part of "traditional stampeding ground" don't you understand? Plant the trees somewhere else!

APPLEJACK

Where?! Look around. It's the only flat land around these parts!

RAINBOW DASH

How do you think it got flat? Because they stampeded it that way!

APPLEJACK/RAINBOW DASH

<arguing walla>

TWILIGHT

LOOK! We're never going settle this
thing by arguing. There must be
something we can do.

*
*
*

PINKIE PIE

Hey! I've got an idea!

EXT. MAKESHIFT AMPHITHEATER - LATER

ANGLE ON an audience gathered that consists of the Apple-
Loosan settlers on one side of an aisle, and the members of
the buffalo tribe on the other. Everyone looks uncomfortable
and confused. Our ponies sit on opposite sides depending on
who they are siding with.

*
*

REVERSE ANGLE ON the stage, where Pinkie Pie enters
dramatically wearing a BOA while Spike, in a derby hat, sits
at a PIANO and tickles the ivories.

Pinkie strikes the pose of a regal torch song singer
relishing the spotlight and then, as Spike hits some STIRRING
CHORDS, she breaks into song.

PINKIE PIE

(earnest and talk-singy)

We may be divided / but of you all
I beg / to remember that we're all
hooved / at the end of each leg./

(singing)

No matter what the issue, / come
from wherever you please, / all
this fighting gets you nothing /
but hoof-in-mouth disease.

(kicking it into gear)

Arguing's not the way. / Hey, come
out and play. / It's a new shiny
day. / So whaddaya say?

(cutting loose)

You gotta shaaaaaaare. / You gotta
caaaaaare. / It's the right thing
to do / and there'll always be a
way through.

(reeling it in)

Our diets, I should mention, / are
completely vegetarian. / We all
once were fetal. / Now we're all
quadrappedal.

(big finish)

You gotta shaaaaaaare. / You gotta
caaaaaare.

(MORE)

*

PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
*/ It's **the** right thing to do / and*
there'll always be - a - way -
throooooooooough!

*

Pinkie ends with a big flourish, and is met with stunned silence. Oblivious, she bows repeatedly.

Chief Thunderhooves and Sheriff **Silver Star** make eye contact and nod. They both stand.

CHIEF THUNDERHOOVES
 It appears that Sheriff **Silver Star**
 and I have both come to an
 agreement.

SHERIFF **SILVER STAR**
 We have.

Pinkie smiles expectantly.

CHIEF THUNDERHOOVES
 The lyrics of that song are the
 worst thing we have ever heard.

SHERIFF **SILVER STAR**
 Absatively.

The Chief turns to address his people.

CHIEF THUNDERHOOVES
 The time of waiting has ended! The
 time for action is upon us! Our
 stampede will re-commence at High
 Noon tomorrow. And if the orchard
 is still there, we'll flatten the
 whole town!

THE BUFFALO TRIBE
 <defiant battle whoops>

SHERIFF **SILVER STAR**
 And we Apple-Loosans say you'd
 better bring your best, cuz we'll
 be ready and waitin'!

APPLE-LOOSANS
 <defiant cheers>

As the two groups clear out in opposite directions, the Ponyville Ponies all gather together with Pinkie at the foot of the stage, **whatever disagreements they had forgotten.**

*

PINKIE PIE
 (crestfallen)
 But that wasn't the message of my
 song at all...

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF ACT II

ACT III

EXT. APPLE-LOOSA - MAIN STREET - A LITTLE LATER

*

Applejack, Fluttershy, Rarity, and Twilight stand in the middle of the street, looking left and right as the settlers batten down the hatches as though a tornado were on its way.

Applejack rushes over to some settlers standing by their open windows.

*

APPLEJACK
 Listen, maybe if you would just
 reconsider-

*

SLAM! SLAM! SLAM! The shutters close in rapid succession.

Rarity approaches a shopkeeper in front of his store.

RARITY
 About the trees, if you'd maybe -

The shopkeeper wheels his goods in and lowers the gate to close the place up, as though Rarity weren't even there.

EXT. APPLE-LOOSA - APPLE ORCHARD - LATER

Twilight stands watching settlers quickly harvesting apples. It appears to be backbreaking and tedious work.

APPLE-PICKING SETTLERS
 <effort walla>

TWILIGHT
 If we could just sit down and talk,
 we could -

The settlers all rush off with their bushels full of apples.

TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
(hissy fit)
Why won't anybody be rational and
reasonable???

EXT. APPLE-LOOSA - MAIN STREET - LATER

Applejack rushes over the Sheriff **Silver Star**, who helps a group of settlers including Braeburn to assemble a BARRICADE.

APPLEJACK
Sheriff, if we could only -

She's drowned out by the sound of HAMMERS.

A QUICK SERIES OF SHOTS ENSUE:

More boards being carried in...

More hammers hammering...

Barricades being hoisted...

Dough being kneaded...

EXT. BUFFALO ENCAMPMENT - LATER

Spike looks on helplessly as the buffalo intently prepare for battle. Sharpening their hooves. Putting on war paint. Jumping "out of the blocks" like sprinters. Stretching out.

Spike approaches Little Strong **Heart**.

SPIKE
Isn't there some way to stop this?

LITTLE STRONG **HEART**
Unless the settlers remove those trees, I do not think so.

SPIKE
<sigh>

LITTLE STRONG **HEART**
Would a **gemstone snack** make you feel better?

SPIKE
Maybe a little.

LITTLE STRONG HEART
 (pointing O.S.)
 Help yourself.

A mopey Spike walks off.

Meanwhile, Rainbow Dash makes one last-ditch effort to persuade the Chief to change his mind while the Chief makes his own preparations.

RAINBOW DASH
 I know you don't want to do this.

CHIEF THUNDERHOOVES
 You are correct. I do not. But they have taken our land and will not give it back. What would you have me do, Rainbow Dash?

RAINBOW DASH
 I don't know. But it's never too late to think of something.

CHIEF THUNDERHOOVES
 At noon, it will be too late.

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF APPLE-LOOSA - ALMOST NOON

The herd of buffalo, with Chief Thunderhooves in front, arrives at the crest of the hilltop overlooking Apple-Loosa.

They pause for a moment taking in the scene.

They glance at the CLOCK TOWER. One minute to twelve.

ANGLE ON Rainbow Dash nearby pacing.

RAINBOW DASH
 Come on. Think.
 Thinkthinkthinkthinkthink!

An eerie calm has settled over the town. From the hilltop, we see some townsfolk wait behind barricades out in the streets. Others hide indoors.

In classic Western tradition, the entire standoff settles into a tableaux of quiet and stillness that's almost serene, kissed by a gentle breeze.

ANGLE ON the clock tower. TICK. It strikes twelve.

The tableaux remains frozen.

ANGLE ON the Chief. There's a flicker of hesitation in his eyes.

ANGLE ON Rainbow Dash, brightening.

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
He's not gonna do it!

ANGLE ON Pinkie Pie stepping bravely into the deserted no-man's-land between the buffalo and the settlers... then striking a dramatic pose.

PINKIE PIE
(singing)
*You've gotta shaaaaaare! / You've
gotta caaaaaaare!*

*

CHIEF THUNDERHOOVES
CHARGE!!!

The stampede begins! They stampede right past Pinkie Pie, setting her SPINNING CRAZILY LIKE A TOP away out of danger till she flops dizzily onto the ground.

The Buffalo THUNDEROUSLY bear down on the town. The settler ponies stand their ground.

The Buffalo SMASH through one barricade.

Then another.

Then another.

ANGLE ON Sheriff Silver Star with other settlers lying in wait.

SHERIFF SILVER STAR
Ready...

The Buffalo get closer.

SHERIFF SILVER STAR (CONT'D)
... aim...

The Buffalo are practically upon them.

SHERIFF SILVER STAR (CONT'D)
... fire!

As one, the settlers let fly with a hailstorm of APPLE PIES.

An epic atmosphere of silly chaos ensues in the spirit of an OLD WESTERN BATTLE SCENE. The surprised and confused buffalo scatter in all directions...

... taking crashing leaps through walls...

... with pies fling everywhere...

... and Buffalo get hit...

... and settlers get chased.

A buffalo and an a settler pony come face-to-face, then both simultaneously spin around, rear up, and launch into a fisticuffs boxing match with their hind legs.

A series of haystacks are piled along a section of one of the streets. A buffalo CRASHES through one, sending hay everywhere, then another, then... CLANG! REVEAL that the third one had an ANVIL inside it. The buffalo sees stars, his eyes cross, and he collapses.

A bunch of buffalo go down another street. The ponies there, startled, run away while taunting the stampeding buffalo just as though they were Running the Bulls in Pamplona.

A settler pony jumps from a second story window and lands right onto a buffalo's back. Startled, the buffalo begins to buck like a bronco, and the pony hangs on tight like a rodeo rider.

A buffalo runs along and SMASH!, runs right into the CLOCK TOWER. The clock tower CREAKS...

The buffalo panics and runs away, just as CRASH!, the tower topples to the ground, sending the SPRING inside of it BOINGING everywhere.

ANGLE ON Sheriff Silver Star behind a barricade throwing pies, and then discovering he's out. He looks around for more, but then who does he see bearing down on him but Chief Thunderhooves himself!

CUT BACK AND FORTH between the startled Sheriff, then the determined Chief, then the terrified Sheriff, then the nearly triumphant Chief...

... until, at the very last moment, a stray pie flies into frame and HITS Chief Thunderhooves right between the eyes.

In SLOW MOTION, the mighty creature TUMBLES tragically to the ground as though he'd just been shot through the heart.

The entire battle grinds to a halt as everyone turns to watch Chief Thunderhooves, in all his majesty, somersault head over heels until the momentum of his hurtling frame finally subsides and his TONGUE lolls out of his mouth.

He then lies there motionless except a TINY DROPLET OF PIE FILLING trickling it's way down his snout.

The Buffalo all bow their heads, the settlers remove their hats out of respect... but then, when that droplet of pie hits his tongue, Chief Thunderhooves instantly perks up.

CHIEF THUNDERHOOVES

Yum!!

(then, light bulb)

Hey! I've got a much better idea.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. APPLE-LOOSA - APPLE ORCHARD - LATER

The Buffalo and the Apple-Loosans are all gathered for a planting ceremony. Chief Thunderhooves and Sheriff Silver Star stand on either side of a FRESHLY-DUG PIT. Meanwhile, a Little Strong Heart and Braeburn both help each other carry BLOOMBERG to the pit and then nestle his roots into it.

Applejack runs over and gives her tree a BIG HUG.

APPLEJACK

Bloomberg, this is your special day. Mommy's so proud!

Applejack then steps aside so the ceremony may continue.

CHIEF THUNDERHOOVES

I, Chief Thunderhooves declare that
the planting of this tree signals
the release of the great butterfly.
It will never be captured again!

*
*
*

THE BUFFALO TRIBE/APPLE-LOOSANS

<confused murmurs>

*
*

LITTLE STRONG HEART

The truce we have made with the
Apple-Loosans is good and it will
stand!

*
*
*
*

THE BUFFALO TRIBE/APPLE-LOOSANS

<cheers and whoops>

The Chief covers some the roots with dirt.

SHERIFF SILVER STAR
And with the planting of this tree,
I, Sheriff Silver Star, declare
that the truce we've made with the
Buffalo is a humdinger!

THE BUFFALO TRIBE/APPLE-LOOSANS
<cheers and whoops>

The Sheriff also covers some tree roots with dirt, then he
and Chief Thunderhooves greet each other in celebration.

EXT. APPLE-LOOSA - APPLE ORCHARD - LATER

Rainbow Dash stands facing a herd of buffalo. Though
standing in place, the buffalo are in stampede formation -
five abreast - and looking miffed.

RAINBOW DASH
Thanks for your patience. I'm told
the path's almost ready. Sorry for
the delay.

Just then a YUMMY SMELL wafts into frame. The buffalo pick
up the scent and start getting happy, some even giddy.

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
That's right, folks. Good things
come to those who wait...

ELSEWHERE the orchard is abuzz with activity as settlers walk
around briskly with AXES and a FEW FRESHLY FELLED APPLE TREES
get carted away post haste.

Braeburn approaches Twilight and Applejack, clipboard in
hand.

BRAEBURN
(points at a wheelbarrow)
That there was the last tree we
needed to clear.

TWILIGHT
And the rest of these stay?

APPLEJACK
Darn tootin'!

Applejack lets loose a loud WHISTLE.

★

BACK TO Rainbow Dash, who reacts to the whistle and turns to the waiting buffalo.

RAINBOW DASH
Okay gang, let 'er rip!

Rainbow Dash gets out of the way in a hurry as A RUMBLE SWELLS and the buffalo begin to stampede.

The stampeding buffalo progress toward an OPENING in the orchard where A PATH has been cut through.

The herd of buffalo then FUNNEL DOWN to SINGLE FILE as they stampede along the narrow path one at a time.

The TREMBLING ground causes ripe APPLES TO FALL from the trees, which Apple-Loosans including Braeburn eagerly rush over to gather.

BRAEBURN
Hee-ha! This sure beats pickin'!

The buffalo stampede down the remainder of the path and EMERGE at the other end where Apple-Loosans await to present each one-by-one with a delicious STEAMING HOT APPLE PIE.

FLUTTERSHY
Here you go. Get 'em while they're hot.

Fluttershy helps pass them out as fast as she can. Each buffalo who receives a pie reacts with delight. Spike looks on, mystified.

SPIKE
Apple pie? Gross. I'd rather eat turquoise any day of the week.

Spike digs into a bag full of rocks, munching away.

EXT. APPLE-LOOSA - APPLE ORCHARD - DUSK

Everyone's full, relaxed, and contented. It's like the end of a good party, and the time has come to say goodbye.

Chief Thunderhooves and Little Strong Heart approach Applejack and Rainbow Dash.

CHIEF THUNDERHOOVES
Rainbow Dash, Applejack, this day has been a strong wind echoing in the Cavern of Truth.

Applejack and Rainbow Dash look back at him blankly.

LITTLE STRONG HEART
We had a good time.

Applejack and Rainbow Dash smile. *

CHIEF THUNDERHOOVES
And now we must continue our
journey. It is long past time.

Chief Thunderhooves nods a respectful goodbye to the ponies and to Sheriff Silver Star, and they respond in kind. He then takes his place at the head of his herd to stampede off in their normal fashion, full force into the sunset.

Then, as an afterthought, Chief Thunderhooves pauses. He looks down at Little Strong Heart and she glances back at Applejack and Rainbow Dash. *

LITTLE STRONG HEART
Would you two care to join us for a
while? *

The two ponies light up.

APPLEJACK
Care to?

RAINBOW DASH
Would we ever!

The two ponies DART off after the herd as the FULL STAMPEDE RESUMES, briefly and exuberantly partaking in this old Buffalo tradition with new friends.

RAINBOW DASH/APPLEJACK
Woo-hoo!

Pull back to a WIDE HIGH SHOT as the buffalo, along with Dash and Applejack, stampede off into the sunset, through...

TWILIGHT (V.O.)
Dear Princess Celestia, friendship
is a wondrous and powerful thing.
Even the worst of enemies can
become the best of friends. You
need understanding and compromise.
You've got to share. You've got to
care. It's the right thing to do.
And, like the path cut through the
orchard, there'll always be a way
through. *

SUDDENLY AND IMPOSSIBLY, Pinkie Pie pops into view, her head filling the frame as she looks directly to camera.

PINKIE PIE
Hey - that's what I said!

SLAM TO BLACK.

END.