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MY LITTLE PONY

"Applebuck Season"

EP004

Story by

Amy Keating Rogers

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TEASER

EXT. PONYVILLE - DAY

Pan over Ponyville landing on Big Apple Orchard where APPLEJACK and BIG APPLE survey the trees. Applejack has wide eyes and a slack jaw. Big Apple is chewing on a piece of hay. Big Apple has an Ace Bandage around his lower back.

APPLEJACK
Boy, howdy! That there is the
biggest bumper crop of apples I
ever laid eyes on!

Reverse shot on an orchard FULL of trees FULL of red apples.

BIG APPLE
Y-up.

APPLEJACK
I mean, have you ever SEEN so many
apples?

BIG APPLE
N-o-pe.

Big Apple looks a little worried.

APPLEJACK
Don't you fret, big brother! You
need to rest up and get yourself
better. I'm sure I can get all
them apples harvested BY MYSELF.

Big Apple gives her a very doubting look, shaking his head. *

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
You think I CAN'T pick all those
apples by myself? *

BIG APPLE
N-o-pe. *

APPLEJACK
Are you saying I'd need HELP?

BIG APPLE
Y-up. *

Now Applejack is all fired up. *

APPLEJACK
Is that a CHALLENGE!?!?! *

Big Apple looks a little nervous.

*

BIG APPLE

N-ope?

APPLEJACK

Don't you "N-ope!" when you mean "Y-
up!" That there IS a CHALLENGE if I
ever heard one! I am gonna PROVE
to you that I can get every last
apple out of those trees this
Applebuck Season!

*

*

*

She looks at all the apples again and gulps.

*

CUT TO:

MY LITTLE PONY TITLE SEQUENCE

TRANSITION TO:

ACT I

EXT. BIG APPLE ORCHARD

Back with Applejack and Big Apple.

APPLEJACK

Well, I better get kicking! These
apples aren't going to shake
themselves out of the trees.

Suddenly the ground begins to shake. One apple shakes loose
and bonks Applejack on the head.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

Hey!

Applejack looks at Big Apple. They give each other a
knowing, worried look.

*

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

Oh no!

EXT. PONYVILLE - CONTINUOUS

Close on Rainbow Dash up in the sky as she calls out...

*

RAINBOW DASH
STAMPEDE!!!

RAINBOW DASH sees dust rising from the ground and a herd of COWS running towards Ponyville. *

Down on the shaking ground of Ponyville, the PONIES hear Rainbow's cry. They break into a panic, running all about.

PONIES
(WALLA)
AAAH! Stampede! Get outside! No
go inside! Watch out!

Low shot of the cows' hooves THUNDERING DOWN kicking up dust.

Panicking ponies run across the screen left and right, revealing PINKIE PIE standing in the middle of the square smiling as the ground shakes her voice.

PINKIE PIE
Hehehehehehehehe! Thiiiiiiis
iiiiiiiis soooooo siiiiiilyyyyyy!

TWILIGHT runs up to her.

TWILIGHT
Pinkie Pie are you crazy? Run!

Front shot of cows getting closer to the border of Ponyville. *

The MAYOR steps up in the square and calls out to the ponies.

MAYOR
Everypony calm down! There is no
need to panic!

Rarity, as the perfect damsel in distress, steps up.

RARITY
But, Mayor, whatever shall we do?

Rainbow Dash calls from the sky.

RAINBOW DASH
Look there!

SMASH CUT TO:

Applejack running full force like the Lone Ranger (minus a rider) full of determination!!

APPLEJACK
YEE HAW!!!!

On the ponies in Ponyville.

PONIES
Woo hoo! Go Applejack! She's going
to save us!

Applejack and her Border Collie BRANDY catch up to the cows.

APPLEJACK
Other side, Brandy!

Brandy WOOFs and runs on the other side of the cows.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Put 'em up, girl!

Brandy and Applejack try to sidle up on either side of the stampeding cows. But the cows begin to break loose.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Looks like we got some stragglers.

Applejack runs out to reign those cows back in.

Pan across Fluttershy with her head lowered, Rarity with her eyes closed, and land on Pinkie Pie, riveted, eating popcorn.

PINKIE PIE
This is the best rodeo show I've
ever seen!

Widen shot to include Twilight, shaking her head at her.

The cows are getting closer to the entrance of Ponyville.

On Applejack and Brandy fighting to turn the cows from town. But the cows are not changing their course. Applejack tries to nudge the cows to turn.

APPLEJACK
C'mon, little doggies! Turn!
<WHISTLE> Brandy! Put 'em up!

*

Brandy WOOFs. Amazingly, Applejack and Brandy hop up on the backs of the cows. They run and hop across the backs of the cows, hop-scotching their way to the front of the herd, the way herding dogs do.

*

*

Applejack then spies the lead cow in the front.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Ah hah! Gotcha!

Leaping to the ground, Applejack keeps pace with the lead cow. Spinning her lasso (from her mouth), she tosses it over the neck of the lead cow. Brandy BARKS from the other side. * *

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Atta girl!

She pulls the rope to the side, which causes the cow to turn just as they were about the storm right into Ponyville.

The crowd watches in awe as she turns the cows from town.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Yee haw!

PONIES
YAY!/Woohoo!/Awesome!

PINKIE PIE
Go Applejack! Go Applejack!

WITH APPLEJACK, once they are a safe distance, she digs in her hooves and pulls back on the rope, stopping the lead cow and the stampede.

APPLEJACK
Woah!

Applejack and Brandy hop down in front of the calmed herd.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Hoo-ey! Now what was all that about?

On the COWS, who don't appear to be very smart, standing there chewing their cud.

COW
Moo...

The cow then COUGHS and SPUTTERS to clear her throat. She then speaks with a Minnesota accent.

COW (CONT'D)
Oh my! Begging your pardon, Applejack. But Moo...kie here...

On MOOKIE, an awkward looking cow.

COW (CONT'D)

Saw a one of those nasty snakes...

The cows SHUDDER at the thought. Reveal that the cows also have cutie marks (bottles of milk, yogurt, ice cream).

COW (CONT'D)

And it just gave us all the willies
dont'cha know!

APPLEJACK

I completely understand, Bessie.
Just next time, try and *steer clear*
of Ponyville!

BESSIE

We certainly will, Applejack! So
long, Brandy!

Brandy WOOFs as Bessie and the herd calmly saunter off.

IN PONYVILLE, everyone waits nervously, when Applejack dramatically appears on a hill with the setting sun shining behind her. We hear a heroic western music cue as everyone in Ponyville CHEERS.

PONIES

YAAAY!!!/HOORAH!!!/APPLEJACK!!!

Applejack rears up on her hind legs, spinning her lasso.

APPLEJACK

YEEEEHAW!!!

Applejack then turns and gallops into the sunset.

EXT. PONYVILLE - CONTINUOUS

On the 5 pony friends who stand amazed. Pinkie bucks and
kicks like a rodeo pony, doing her best Applejack impression! *

PINKIE PIE

Yee haw! Ride 'em, cowpony!

The Mayor walks up to the girls.

MAYOR

Applejack was just...just..

PINKIE PIE

Apple-tastic!!

MAYOR

Exactly! We must do something to
thank Applejack for single-hoofedly
saving the town!

PINKIE PIE

I know...

EXT. PONYVILLE - ONE WEEK LATER

TEXT: ONE WEEK LATER

PINKIE PIE

A PARTY!!

With an exhale she blows up a balloon. It flies up into the
sky revealing the Town Square decked out for a celebration.

Rarity stands next to the bandstand next to a sign. Twilight
comes up with SPIKE on her back.

TWILIGHT

We all ready?

RARITY

Just one last thing.

Rarity's unicorn horn glows and the sign that reads, "Thank
You, Applejack!" goes up and attaches above the bandstand.

RARITY (CONT'D)

Now we're ready.

TWILIGHT

Is Applejack all set?

RAINBOW DASH

Actually, I haven't seen her all
week.

PINKIE PIE

Not since the stampede.

RAINBOW DASH

But she'll be here. Applejack is
NEVER late!

*

Twilight comes to the podium as Ponies gather to listen. Her
horn glows and a thick stack of index cards magically appear
in front of her. Levitating, they hit the podium twice as if
to straighten, and shuffle one by one as she speaks.

TWILIGHT
(ceremonially, a little
full of herself)
Welcome, everypony! Today we are
here to honor-- and to thank-- a
pony we can always count on to help
in matters great and small! A pony
who's contributions to---

Rainbow Dash flies up and shoves in next to Twilight.

RAINBOW DASH
Did you see Applejack's slick moves
out there! What an athlete! This
week she's going to help me with my
new aerial trick, and I just know
it's gonna be awesome!

Twilight nudges back onto the microphone.

TWILIGHT
Exactly! And...

Pinkie Pie pops her head up unexpectedly covering Twilight's.

PINKIE PIE
This week I get to run the
Sugarcube Sweet Shoppe for the
first time!

Twilight, miffed, pokes her head out from behind Pinkie's.

TWILIGHT
What does that have to do with
Applejack?

PINKIE PIE
Oh! Applejack, one of the best
bakers EVER, is going to help me!
Applejack makes everything great so
free samples for everypony!

Twilight pushes Pinkie to the side.

TWILIGHT
That's great--- as I was saying,
Applejack...

Rarity then delicately puts her face up to the mic.

RARITY
Is the most honest and direct of
all ponies.
(MORE)

RARITY (CONT'D)

She has kindly set aside time to
offer me some sound Applejack
Advice on what to say for my
interview with Clothes Horse
Magazine!

Twilight's eyes grow wide as she shoves her face back in.

TWILIGHT

Which is precisely my point, if I
could make a point without being
inter...

Fluttershy sweetly steps up.

FLUTTERSHY

Twilight?

TWILIGHT

...rupted!

FLUTTERSHY

I'm so sorry. But I just wanted to
mention that Applejack is also
helping me this week with the
official Bunny Census, where we
count up all the new baby bunnies
that were born this season. She's
going to help gather them using her
wonderful herding skills.

Twilight is quiet, expecting another interruption.

TWILIGHT

(annoyed)

Anyone else? Anyone? No? Well,
then, as I was *trying* to say...

The Mayor steps up to the podium, an comically expectant
smile on her face. Twilight, interrupted again, relents.

TWILIGHT (CONT'D)

Ugh! Nevermind!

Her levitating cards fly up into the air in frustration as if
thrown by invisible hands. The Mayor approaches the mic.

MAYOR

<clears throat> And so, with no further ado, it is my privilege to give the Prized Pony of Ponyville Award to our beloved guest of honor, a pony of the utmost trustworthiness, reliability and integrity. Ponyville's most capable and dependable friend...
APPLEJACK!

*

The Mayor holds up a shiny trophy of a pony rearing up on its hind legs. A FAN FAIR of TRUMPETS play. Sweep down the aisle where Applejack is set to appear. The ponies WHISTLE and STOMP their hooves.

PONIES

YAY!/HOORAY FOR APPLEJACK!/HUZZAH!

But Applejack isn't there! The ponies stop whistling, etc., and look around, confused. But Spike keeps on going.

SPIKE

Yay! Wahoo! Way to go Applejack!

Twilight turns and gives him a look. Spike stops.

The Mayor looks a bit embarrassed but tries again.

MAYOR

Eh hem. Applejack!

The HORNS play, SWEEP down the aisle again.

SPIKE

Woo! Yeah! Yipee! Applejack!

Spike is the only one making noise. The ponies look around confused, shifting nervously. Spike realizes this and stops.

*

*

The Mayor takes a deep breath and tries one more time.

MAYOR

Apple...jack?

One HORN TOOTS. Then stops. It is now deadly silent.

SPIKE

Awkward.

Just then Applejack calls out.

APPLEJACK
I'm here! I'm here!

Applejack does a HUGE YAWN and stumbles up the aisle. The *
bushel baskets slung on either side of bump into the ponies. *

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Sorry I'm late! Woah! I was
just...Ooh, did I get your tail?

Applejack stumbles up the steps to the podium. She looks *
tired. Her mane is messy. Her friends give her, and each *
other, worried looks.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Miss Mayor. Thankee kindly for
this here awardee thingy. (YAWN!)

Applejack looks at the shiny trophy and is mesmerized by her *
own reflection, which is distorted like a fun-house mirror.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
It's so bright and shiny and...heh,
heh, heh! I sure do look funny!

Applejack starts moving her head back and forth, making faces
at herself in the reflection.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
(like a siren)
Woo-oo, woo-oo!

Pinkie thinks this looks fun and joins her. Their images are
in the trophy as they move their heads back and forth.

APPLEJACK AND PINKIE PIE
Woo-oo! Woo-oo! Woo-oo!

The rest if the pony friends all look at each other,
concerned, as Twilight steps in to stop this.

TWILIGHT
O-kay! Well, thank you, Applejack
for saving us from that scary
stampede and always being there for
everypony!

Applejack finally pulls herself away from her image. Her
eyes droop and she YAWNS again.

APPLEJACK
(finishing yawn)
Aaaah! Yeah! I like helpin' the
pony folks...and stuff...

Applejack nods off a bit and then wakes up.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Oh! Um, yeah... Thanks!

Applejack tosses the trophy into one of the baskets and
stumbles off the stage, through the stunned crowd, bumping
them as she goes. Her friends watch with concern.

TWILIGHT
Was it just me, or did Applejack
seem a little...

RAINBOW DASH
Tired?

FLUTTERSHY
Dizzy?

RARITY
Messy?

Her friends look at her.

RARITY (CONT'D)
Did you see her mane?

PINKIE PIE
She seemed fine to me!
(siren sound)
Woo-oo! Woo-oo!

Close on Twilight. She looks extremely concerned.

TWILIGHT
Hmmm...

END ACT I

ACT II

EXT. BIG APPLE ORCHARD - LATER

Applejack is working hard. She kicks the tree trunks with her hind legs. The apples then fall into bushel baskets set up under the trees. Applejack is winded from the kick.

APPLEJACK

Whew!

Her eyes cross like she's going to fall asleep. She shakes herself awake and trots to the next tree. She kicks. Apples fall into the baskets. She begins to nod off again but the sound of the apples falling wakes her.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

Oh!

*

Angle on Twilight, who is watching Applejack hard at work.

TWILIGHT

What on earth is that pony doing?

(calling out)

Hey, Applejack!

But Applejack is too busy to notice Twilight. Applejack walks over to the next tree and nods off before she kicks.

*

*

TWILIGHT (CONT'D)

Applejack!!

Applejack continues sleeping. Twilight concentrates. Her unicorn horn glows and she disappears. She reappears in front of Applejack.

*

TWILIGHT (CONT'D)

APPLEJACK!

Applejack wakes with a start, her head spinning at the sight of Twilight.

*

APPLEJACK

Oh. Howdy, Twilight!

TWILIGHT

What is all this?

Applejack kicks the tree, knocking apples out. Applejack walks around Twilight to get to the next tree.

*

*

APPLEJACK

It's Applebuck Season!

Twilight disappears and reappears in front of Applejack. *

TWILIGHT
Apple-what season?

APPLEJACK
Woah!

Applejack wobbles a bit and then walks around Twilight to the *
next tree. She kicks down more apples. *

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
It's what the Apple Family calls
harvestin' time, when we gather all +
the apples from the trees so we can +
sell 'em. +

Twilight disappears and reappears in front of Applejack just
as she is about to move to the next tree.

TWILIGHT
But why are you doing it all alone?

Applejack goes around her to continue.

APPLEJACK
'Cause Big Apple hurt himself.

Twilight disappears and reappears in front of her. *

TWILIGHT
What about all those relatives I
met when I first came to Ponyville? *
Can't they help? *

Applejack walks around her, trying to get to the next tree. *

APPLEJACK
Aw, they were just here for the *
Apple Family Reunion. They *
actually live all over Equestria *
and are busy harvestin' their own *
orchards. So I'm on my own! *

But Twilight disappears and reappears, blocking her. *

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Which means I should really get
back to work!

But Twilight won't move.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Ahem! Hint, hint? Get back to
work...?

Twilight steps aside.

TWILIGHT
Fine.

Applejack looks at Twilight, squinting, but sees her in
double vision.

APPLEJACK
Could you step aside, Twilight?

TWILIGHT
I just did!

Applejack looks very dizzy.

TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Applejack, you don't look so good.

APPLEJACK (V.O.)
Don't none of you three worry none,
I'm just fine and dandy!

Applejack gives her head a shake and trots over to the next
tree, bucks it, and stumbles a bit.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Woah!

Twilight she timidly asks...

TWILIGHT
Do you.... want some help? *

APPLEJACK
Help? No way, no how! *

TWILIGHT
But there's no way you can do it on
your own! *

APPLEJACK
Is that a CHALLENGE?! *

TWILIGHT
Um, no... *

APPLEJACK

Well, I'm gonna PROVE to you that I
can do it! Now, if you'll excuse
me, I've got apples to buck!

She trots off proudly, leaving Twilight worried.

EXT. PONYVILLE - THE NEXT MORNING

*

Rainbow Dash paces impatiently next to a cartoony seesaw-like
catapult contraption set up near a high platform. Suddenly,
Applejack comes rushing up, exhausted, and out of breath.

RAINBOW DASH

There you are!

APPLEJACK

(BIG YAWN) Aw! I'm mighty sorry,
Rainbow! I was busy Applebucking
and I guess I got a bit tuckered.
I closed my eyes for a second and
when I woke up, I was late! Now
what's this new trick o' yours?

RAINBOW DASH

See this contraption?

Applejack looks at the contraption with her eyes spinning.

APPLEJACK

Um, yeah.

RAINBOW DASH

Well, I'm gonna stand on one end.
Then you're going to jump down from
that platform, launching me in the
air **faster than I can take off on**
my own! Once I'm in the air, I'm
going to do some amazing flips and
spins and are sure to impress the
Blue Thunders!

+

+

APPLEJACK

Isn't that a might dangerous?

RAINBOW DASH

Pheh! Not for a pony who can fly!

APPLEJACK

Well alrighty then.

CUT TO:

Applejack stands up on the platform. Rainbow is on her end of the contraption. But then Applejack nods off. She shakes herself awake, looks down, seeing three blurry images. *

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

Woah...

RAINBOW DASH

Ready? One, two, three!

Applejack jumps. Rainbow Dash steels herself. But SMACK! Applejack lands right NEXT TO the contraption, spread eagle and flat as a pancake!

APPLEJACK

Oof!

Rainbow Dash approaches her.

RAINBOW DASH

Uh... maybe I wasn't clear. You're supposed to land on the other end.

APPLEJACK

Mmmmf mmff.

RAINBOW DASH

Huh?

Applejack peels her face off the ground. Her eyes spin dizzily in her head.

APPLEJACK

Got it. *

CUT TO:

THREE rapid succession hits of Applejack SMACKING to the ground. After the last one, she stands up, really wobbly and googly-eyed.

RAINBOW DASH

Applejack! What the heck is going on? I mean, I thought I was working with Ponyville's best athlete...

APPLEJACK

YOU ARE!!! I'm okay! Really. I have an idea. Watch this.

Applejack walks up to Rainbow's end. She steps on and walks to the other end. This raises Rainbow up VERY SLOWLY with a scowl. Applejack turns proudly. *

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

Ta da!

She sees Rainbow standing above her, scowling, and having not been catapulted.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

Oh. Maybe not. Okay, ONE more try. I'm sure to get it this time.

Applejack steps off her end. Rainbow SMACKS to the ground. +

RAINBOW DASH

Oof!

Applejack scrambles up to the platform. She squints and concentrates hard. From her POV we see her double vision converge into one clear view of the contraption.

APPLEJACK

Ah ha! Here I go!

But Rainbow is still getting herself up and ready.

RAINBOW DASH

No, no wait!

But it's too late. Applejack jumps and finally lands on her end sending Rainbow flying uncontrollably through the air. *

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

AAAAPPPLEJAAAAACK!

APPLEJACK

You're welcome!

Rainbow CRASHES onto Twilight's balcony where she is reading. A surprised Twilight looks at her friend sprawled out.

TWILIGHT

Can I help you?

RAINBOW DASH

I think somepony else needs your help. *

Twilight looks at her blankly. *

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Applejack! Applejack needs help!
Geeze! What is up with everypony?

EXT. BIG APPLE ORCHARD - LATER

Twilight arrives to see Applejack bucking. Applejack wears a saddle with two baskets on either side to catch the apples. A few apples miss the baskets. Applejack bends over to pick them up and WHACKS her head on the tree.

APPLEJACK
Ow!

TWILIGHT
Applejack, can we talk?

She looks at Twilight, confused. From Applejack's POV. We see Twilight's mouth move, but all we hear is loud ringing. *

APPLEJACK
(loudly)
CAN BEES SQUAWK? I DON'T THINK SO!

Twilight steps in closer.

TWILIGHT
No, can we talk?

APPLEJACK
TWENTY STALKS? BEAN OR CELERY?

TWILIGHT
No! I need to talk to you!

APPLEJACK
YOU NEED TO WALK TO THE ZOO? WELL,
WHO'S STOPPIN' YOU?

TWILIGHT
I NEED TO TALK TO YOU!!!!

APPLEJACK
OH. WELL WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO?
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?

TWILIGHT
RAINBOW DASH DROPPED IN TO SEE ME
TODAY!

APPLEJACK
THAT'S QUITE NEIGHBORLY OF HER.

TWILIGHT
YES, EXCEPT THAT SHE **CRASHED** ONTO
MY BALCONY AFTER YOU **LAUNCHED** HER
IN THE AIR.

Applejack looks guilty. Their conversation quiets down.

APPLEJACK
(a little ashamed)
Oh, yeah. I... wasn't feeling
quite myself this morning.

TWILIGHT
Because you're WORKING TOO HARD and
NEED HELP!

APPLEJACK
WHAT? KELP? I do not need kelp!
I don't even like seaweed!

TWILIGHT
HELP! YOU NEED HELP!!!

APPLEJACK
Nothin' doin', Twilight! I'm gonna
prove to you...to everypony...that
I can do this ON MY OWN!

Applejack goes to pick up a stray apple and bonks her head on
the tree again.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
OW! NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I
GOTTA GO HELP PINKIE PIE!

Twilight sighs as her friend heads off.

INT. SUGARCUBE SWEET SHOPPE - LATER

Pinkie and Applejack stand with the shop owners CUPCAKE and
PANCAKE. Applejack seems distracted. She whacks her head and
keeps shaking it, like there's water in her ears.

CUPCAKE
Now, Pinkie Pie, are you sure
you're up for baking the muffins
and running the store this
afternoon?

PINKIE PIE
Yessireebob, Mrs. Cake! Plus I
have Ponyville's Prized Pony to
help me out! Why she's the best
baker ever! Right, Applejack?

We see Pinkie talking once again from Applejack's POV. All we hear is ringing. Applejack continues to shake the sound out of her ears. It looks like she's gesturing "no."

PANCAKE
No? You're not the best baker
ever?

Applejack realizes that they're talking to her.

APPLEJACK
WHAT? OH, NO! (AJ quiets down) I
mean, don't you fret. I can bake
anything from fritters to pies in
the blink of an eye!

*

CUPCAKE
Alright. See you later, girls.

Mr. and Mrs. Cake leave. Applejack continues to shake her head back and forth. Pinkie Pie gives her a look.

PINKIE PIE
Stop with the shakin'! It's time
to get bakin'!

INT. KITCHEN - LATER

The counter has bowls, mixers, and baking ingredients on it.

PINKIE PIE
Alrighty! I'll get the sugar and
the eggs. Can you get me some
chocolate chips?

But Applejack is now holding her head at a funny angle.

APPLEJACK
Eh? Eh? What was that?

Slo-Mo on Pinkie Pie as she says:

PINKIE PIE
Choc-o-late Ch-ips.

APPLEJACK
Chips! Got it!

Applejack walks over to a bag of Potato Chips.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
(to herself)
Tater chips. A little salty and
dry, okey dokey!

*
*
*

A shot of the Potato Chips getting poured into the mix.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
WHAT NEXT?

*

Applejack's visual and hearing POV on Pinkie Pie.

PINKIE PIE
Baking Soda.

APPLEJACK
(to herself)
Soda! Perfect! That'll git the
tater chips nice 'n wet.

*

Applejack grabs a can of soda from a cooler.

Shot of the soda being poured in.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
NOW WHAT?

Applejack's visual and hearing POV on Pinkie Pie.

PINKIE PIE
A cup of flour.

Applejack makes a sour face in reaction and turns away.

APPLEJACK
A cup of sour?

*

She sees a bowl of lemons.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Well, lemons sure are sour. One cup
of sour comin' up!

Shot of lemon juice being poured in.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Anything else, Pinkie?

PINKIE PIE
One last thing. Wheat germ.

Applejack REALLY makes a face this time as she turns away.

APPLEJACK
Wheat worms? Oh! That must be
fancy talk for EARTHworms.

*

Applejack trots out to the back and digs up some worms.

Shot of the worms going in the mix.

Shot of the mix--it looks gross.

PINKIE PIE
Now that's gonna be delicious.

APPLEJACK
If you say so!

INT. SUGARCUBE SWEET SHOPPE - LATER

*

DING! They stand behind the counter with hot muffins.

*

PINKIE PIE
Free Muffin Sample Spectacular!!

Angle on a crowd of ponies waiting, licking their lips.

APPLEJACK
Yeah! Muffin Spectacles! Git 'em
while they're hot!

Smash truck on the muffins, which look really nasty.

CUT TO:

Angle on a door. We hear a knock, then it swings open,
revealing Twilight and Spike looking worried.

TWILIGHT
We came as soon as we heard!

INT. PONYVILLE URGENT CARE - EVENING

A nurse pony looks frantic.

NURSE PONY
Thank you Twilight! We need all
the help we can get!

Twilight looks upon a field of pea-green ponies with bellyaches, holding out half-eaten muffins.

TWILIGHT

Oh no! What happened?

Spike notices a slew of half eaten muffins on the floor. He picks one up and inspects it.

NURSE PONY

It was a mishap with some baked goods!

A green Pinkie Pie calls out from a nearby bed.

PINKIE PIE

No, not baked goods, baked
baaaaads! Baked baaaads!

Truck in on Twilight, determined.

TWILIGHT

Applejack!

But the drama is cut. Pull out to Spike munching away on the leftover muffins.

SPIKE

(mouth full)

Want one?

END ACT II

ACT III

EXT. BIG APPLE ORCHARD - LATER THAT NIGHT

There is an applecart set up under a tree. Applejack kicks. But before the apples can even fall, she nods off. She wakes up when the apples land in the cart. *

APPLEJACK

Wha? Hunh?

She then walks over and connects herself to the harness and walks slowly over to the apple boxes. She tips the apples in. And falls asleep, tipping over. Twilight walks up.

TWILIGHT

Applejack...

Applejack wakes up, still tipped over, and sees her friend.

APPLEJACK

Wha? Hunh? Oh, it's you Twilight.
<yawn> I know what you're going to
say, but the answer is still no.

TWILIGHT

Not to upset your applecart, but
you need help!

Applejack struggles to get herself upright, but can't.

APPLEJACK

Hardy har. And no I don't.

She kicks her legs aimlessly.

TWILIGHT

Here, let me---

APPLEJACK

Help? No thanks.

Angle on Twilight's pained expression while O/S we hear...

APPLEJACK (V.O.) (CONT'D)

(struggling, sleepy)

Uhhnn... eeeeer---gah! A little
more... a little... ehhnnnnn there!

Cut to Applejack, turned right again. She heads over to a
tree and lifts her leg to kick.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

I'll prove that this Apple can
handle these apples! Now
goodnight, Twilight!

But at the sound of these words, Applejack drifts off, leg
still in the air.

TWILIGHT

Applejack!

Applejack startles in her sleep, kicks her leg as she does,
the apples fall in the cart, waking her up.

*

APPLEJACK

<snort> Wha-huh? What're you still
doin' here? I said goodnight!
<yaaaaaawn!!>

Applejack heads off again leaving Twilight alone.

TWILIGHT

That pony is stubborn as a mule!

Twilight angles her head to the side.

TWILIGHT (CONT'D)

No offense.

Widen the shot to include a MULE next to Twilight.

MULE

None taken.

INT. CAROUSEL COUTURE - THE NEXT DAY

Applejack comes in, exhausted. Rarity steps up with a smile.

RARITY

Oh, Applejack! Thank you so much
for coming to help me...

But then she is shocked to see how bad her friend looks.

RARITY (CONT'D)

Good gracious! You look terrible!

APPLEJACK

Nice to see you too.

RARITY

No, I just mean, you look so tired.

Applejack is almost too tired to explain.

APPLEJACK

No sleep. Hard work. Orchard.
Applebucking.

RARITY

Oh my! Well are you up for helping
me today?

APPLEJACK

Apples-lutely.

Applejack's eyes drift closed.

RARITY

What?

Applejack wakes up with a start.

APPLEJACK
I mean, Absolutely!

*

RARITY
Well then, here's the deal, as it
were...

As Rarity talks, Applejack keeps drifting off, missing key words that Rarity says.

RARITY (CONT'D)
A reporter is coming to interview
me from Clothes Horse Magazine.

Applejack wakes for a second, only catching one word.

APPLEJACK
Horse!

RARITY
Yes, Clothes Horse. And this
reporter is known for being fair,
but sometimes a bit harsh.

Applejack has drifted off and wakes again.

APPLEJACK
Harsh Horse!

RARITY
Yes, sometimes harsh. But if I
talk to him just right, I think I
can get a favorable review that
will bring in great business.

Applejack startles awake again.

APPLEJACK
Harsh Horse Business!

RARITY
Exactly! So what should I say?

Applejack musters up all her strength to stay awake.

APPLEJACK
You tell this harsh horse he has no
business gettin' all up in your
business!

Rarity is surprised.

RARITY

Really? Dare I be so bold?

APPLEJACK

You dare! I know you're a lady,
Rarity, but it's time to PONY UP!

She stomps her hoof in defiance.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

Put your hoof down! Tell this
highfalutin reporter pony he's dern
lucky to get an interview with you!

RARITY

Won't that cause him to write a
scathing review?

*

APPLEJACK

No! He'll write ya a GREAT review!
He'll respect ya for it! Show that
you're a strong business-filly!
Say, "These are my fashions! Take
'em or leave 'em!"

*

RARITY

But what if he leaves them?

APPLEJACK

Let him! Remember, you don't need
him, Rarity! He needs you!

RARITY

He does?

APPLEJACK

Not, "He does?" He does!

Rarity is now all pumped up.

RARITY

You're right! He does!

APPLEJACK

Course I am! Now who's a tough
pony?

RARITY

I'm a tough pony!

APPLEJACK

Who's not gonna take any guff!

RARITY

'Tis I who will not take guff!

There's a KNOCK at the door. They look at the door.

APPLEJACK

Now, go git 'im!

Rarity looks at the door with determination.

RARITY

That I shall! Oh yes, that I shall!

INT. CAROUSEL COUTURE - LATER

Twilight comes into the store.

TWILIGHT

Hey, Rarity, how did your interview go...?

But then she sees Rarity crumpled on the floor in tears. Rarity spits out words between sobs.

RARITY

Harsh! Horse! Applejack!

On Twilight looking concerned.

EXT. BIG APPLE ORCHARD - LATER THAT NIGHT

Applejack is Applebucking a tree over-and-over again in annoyance since no apples are falling off.

APPLEJACK

C'mon! (kick) Apples! (kick) Fall!
(kick) Off! (kick)

Twilight walks up.

TWILIGHT

AJ, I think you're beating a dead.... Tree.

Pull out to reveal the tree is indeed dead. Applejack looks up and see this, annoyed.

APPLEJACK

I knew that.

She walks off grumpily to the next tree.

TWILIGHT

Um, I just came from Rarity's...

Applejack snaps.

APPLEJACK

You know, I'm a little busy to get lectured right now, Twilight!

TWILIGHT

But if you'd just let me help...

APPLEJACK

AAAUUUGGH!! No **no NO!!** How many times do I gotta say it! *I don't need no help from nopony!!!*

And Applejack storms off, leaving Twilight more concerned than ever.

EXT. MEADOW - THE NEXT DAY

Fluttershy, Applejack, and her dog Brandy walk into a meadow which has lots of BUNNY FAMILIES hopping all about. Applejack has circles under her eyes, her tail is drooping, and she just looks cranky. Through the scene, Applejack is a little rude while Fluttershy is her regular, kind self.

FLUTTERSHY

Oh, Applejack, thank you so much for offering your herding skills for the Annual Rabbit Round-Up.

APPLEJACK

UH! WHY are we doing this?

FLUTTERSHY

Well, lots new baby bunnies have been born. So it's my job to get a count of all the new families.

APPLEJACK

Fine. Can we get on with it?

FLUTTERSHY

Certainly. But remember, these are bunnies we're dealing with, not cows. They are a timid bunch and need to be treated gently.

Applejack rolls her eyes.

APPLEJACK

I do NOT need any direction on
corralling critters. Right, Brandy?

Brandy lets out a loud WOOF startling some of the bunnies.

Fluttershy walks up sweetly to the bunnies.

FLUTTERSHY

Okay, little bunnies. I need you
all to gather here in the middle.

The bunnies look up sweetly at Fluttershy and start hopping
to the center.

But then Applejack starts galloping around the meadow
stomping her hooves loudly. From the bunny POV, it looks
like she's going to step on them.

APPLEJACK

That's right! Let's go, bunnies!
In the center. Hop to it!

Some of the bunnies hop away scared.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

Swell. Just swell. We got some
stragglers! Put 'em up, Brandy!

Brandy goes after the wayward bunnies, BARKING loudly. The
bunnies begin to SHAKE. Fluttershy watches in horror.

FLUTTERSHY

Applejack! Brandy! Stop! You're
scaring them!

But Applejack and Brandy aren't listening.

APPLEJACK

Oh please, we know what we're
doin'! Get along little bunnies!
Hyah!! Hyah!!!

Close on Brandy BARKING loudly again. Applejack's hooves are
STOMPING.

The bunnies eyes fill with fear.

FLUTTERSHY

Oh no...

EXT. PONYVILLE

Up in the skies above Ponyville, RAINBOW DASH is flying above when she spots something...

RAINBOW DASH
STAMPEDE!!!

Just like before, down in Ponyville, the PONIES hear Rainbow's cry and break into a panic, running about town.

PONIES
(WALLA)
AAAH! Stampede! Get outside! No
go inside! Watch out!

Kicking up tiny clouds of dust, hundreds of bunnies rush through the entrance of Ponyville! (*board artist note: as reference look at cheesy horror flick "Night of the Lepus")

LOW SHOT on bunny paws THUNDERING down FAST.

Ponies run here and there, with bunnies at their feet.

SLO-MO shot of the paws mashing down grass!

Close on PONIES as they react in horror!

CLOSE on FEROCIOUS bunny teeth!

CLOSE as bunnies swarm streets like hoards of locusts!

A PONY (LILY) faints.

LILY
<fainting>

Above Wide Shot of the bunnies running around this collapsed pony as the rest of the ponies continue to panic. We twist-truck out dramatically as a doom-and-gloom music cue plays!

CUT TO:

EXT. PONYVILLE - LATER

Twilight casually walks through the streets.

TWILIGHT
<humming a little tune>

Three ponies crawl over to her like wounded soldiers.

TWILIGHT (CONT'D)

<Gasp!>

LILY

The horror! The horror!

DAISY

It was awful!

ROSE

A disaster! A horrible, horrible
disaster!

Twilight looks beyond them with panicked concern. Reverse
angle to reveal Ponyville....

...really not looking any different.

TWILIGHT

(sotto)

I don't get it.

LILY

Our gardens! Destroyed!

ROSE

Every last flower devoured!!

DAISY

By.....**THEM!!!!**

Swish pan to the last few bunnies in the streets quietly and
gently nibbling flowers. Fluttershy tries her best to herd
them. She looks completely frazzled.

FLUTTERSHY

Oh my! Please stop little bunnies!
Oh no! Please, let's go home! Oh
my goodness!

Pan over. Twilight sees Applejack peering from around a
building, a guilt ridden expression on her face. She slinks
away awkwardly.

TWILIGHT

Alright. Enough is enough.

EXT. BIG APPLE ORCHARD - LATER

Twilight arrives to see Applejack barely able to hold herself
up. She give a sad kick and an apple or two fall into her
bushel baskets. She can barely speak, she's so tired.

APPLEJACK

Must...keep...bucking...time's...
a...wastin'...just...a...few...more
...must...finish...harvestin'!

Twilight walks up, somewhat annoyed.

TWILIGHT

Alright, Applejack! Enough is
enough! Your Applebucking hasn't
just caused you problems, it's over-
propelled Pegasus, practically
poisoned plenty of ponies,
pulverized a pony's potential for
profits and terrorized bushels of
brand new bouncing baby bunnies! I
don't care what you say, you need
help!

+
+
+
+
+
+

Applejack does one last kick, apples fall, and she smiles
wearily.

*

APPLEJACK

Hah! No, I don't! Look! I did it,
Twilight!

Twilight looks. Shot of many, many empty apple trees.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

I harvested the entire Big Apple
Orchard without your help!

On a proud Applejack, looking very smug.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

How do you like THEM apples?!

Widen shot to include Big Apple.

BIG APPLE

Um, how do you like THEM apples?

Big Apple gestures over to an entire batch of trees that are
still full of apples. Applejack's jaw drops.

APPLEJACK

<incoherent babbling>

...and she FAINTS.

ON BLACK. SPLASH! Applejack SPUTTERS as she opens her eyes
to see Twilight's face coming into focus and looking down at
her from her POV.

TWILIGHT
Applejack? Applejack?

APPLEJACK
Huuuunhhh...?

TWILIGHT
Oh, good, you're okay! Now,
Applejack, I completely respect the
Apple Family ways. But you're
always there to help anypony in
need. So maybe you can put a
little of your stubborn pride aside
and allow your friends to help you.

On both ponies.

A beat.

APPLEJACK
Okay, Twilight.

TWILIGHT
I am not taking no for an answer so
you just have to...WHAT?!

APPLEJACK
I said yes. Please. I could
really use your help.

Twilight smiles, relieved.

EXT. BIG APPLE ORCHARD - LATER

Rainbow is Applebucking into the cart and that Pinkie is
hitched to. Once the cart is full, Pinkie runs it over to
the apple boxes. Meanwhile, Rarity and Fluttershy have the
saddle baskets on. They buck and deliver the apples.
Twilight uses her magic to pick apples as well. As they
work, Twilight's voice over is heard.

*
*
*

TWILIGHT (V.O.)
Dear Princess Celestia, I learned
an important lesson about
friendship this week. My friend
Applejack is the best friend a pony
could ever have. She's dependable,
trustworthy, and honest. And she's
always there to help anypony. The
only trouble is, when she needs
help, she finds it hard to accept
it.

(MORE)

TWILIGHT (V.O.) (CONT'D)
So while friendship is about giving
or ourselves to friends, it's also
about accepting what our friends
have to offer. Your faithful
student, Twilight Twinkle.

Applejack walks up with some drinks and calls them over.

APPLEJACK
How 'bout y'all take a little
break! I got some fine Big Orchard
Apple Juice waitin' fer ya!

The ponies all come over for a drink.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Girls, I can't thank you enough for
this help. I was acting a bit
stubborn...

TWILIGHT
A bit?

APPLEJACK
Okay, a MIGHT stubborn. And I'm
awful sorry. Now, I know the town
gave me the Prized Pony Award. But
the real award is having you five
as my friends.

*

All the ponies drink.

RAINBOW DASH
Whew! That Applebucking sure made
me hungry.

Spike walks up with a plate full of muffins.

SPIKE
And I've got the perfect treat!

Reveal that they are the GROSS muffins!

PINKIE PIE
Ew! Spike! I threw those away!
Where did you get them?

SPIKE
From the trash!

PONIES
EWWWWWW!

+

SPIKE

But you told Princess Celestia that
friends have to accept what their
friends offer.

TWILIGHT

That's not what I meant, Spike.

The ponies move away as Spike follows them with the muffins.

SPIKE

Just a little nibble? C'mon!

*

PONIES

Yuck!/Gross!/No Way!/Oh My!

Spike keeps following the ponies who try to escape.

FADE OUT.

THE END.