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MY LITTLE PONY

Season II - Premises

"The Cutie Pox"
"No Tank You"
"Jewel Thieves"

Premises by
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THE CUTIE POX

The Crusaders are in a foul mood because yet another pony has gotten a cutie mark before they have. While Sweetie Belle and Scootaloo are able to get over it, Apple Bloom's mood stays foul. She wanders away from her friends so she can wallow in her foulness and, before she knows it, she finds herself in front of Zecora's place. Zecora is in the middle of brewing some medicinal soup but makes time to talk through Apple Bloom's problems with her. She tries to assure the young pony that she will get her cutie mark when she is meant to have it and not before. But Apple Bloom has heard this same speech from *everypony* in Ponyville and it makes no impression. What does impress her is Zecora's mixture making. It seems like Zecora's got a potion for just about every problem. The zebra assures Apple Bloom that it's not quite so simple. She adds a dash of "Heart's Desire" to her current concoction and then looks around for some Oakroot. Looks like she's out! Zecora tells Apple Bloom that she needs to go out into the forest to gather more of this vital ingredient. She's welcome to come with or wait for her return. Apple Bloom's eyes have not left the bottle of Heart's Desire. She absent-mindedly waves goodbye to Zecora.

Later that day, Sweetie Belle and Scootaloo look up to see Apple Bloom trotting happily out of the Ever Free Forest. They are surprised to see their friend in such a chipper mood until she flashes them her flank. Apple Bloom has gotten her cutie mark!!! The other two are thrilled for her and lean in to examine it more closely. It looks like a Paddleball. Paddleball??? Her friends never knew she had such an intense interest in Paddleball. Neither did Apple Bloom, really, but it must be what she was meant to do. When the two remaining Crusaders swing by to pick AB up for school the next morning, they find her frantically playing with a Paddleball. They are impressed with how good she is. Obviously this *is* her destiny. (Frazzled Apple Bloom doesn't mention that she stayed up all night to get this good.) At school AB basks in the glow of her fellow students' admiration. So much so that she finds it hard to stop playing paddleball as class begins and has to be reprimanded by Cheerilee several times. At lunch, a crowd gathers on the playground around Apple Bloom, as she's able to engage in her passion without interference. She never seems to miss! But Diamond Tiara is able to throw her off when she screams and points to AB's flank. There, next to the Paddleball, is a Hula Hoop cutie mark! The other kids are suspicious that this is really just a scam. No pony has ever gotten *two* cutie marks! But Diamond Tiara vouches for AB. She saw it appear before her very eyes. There's no way it was faked. And to confirm its veracity, Apple Bloom grabs a Hula Hoop from another kids and starts to hula and paddle at the same time.

Not much gets taught during the afternoon. Everyone keeps asking Cheerilee to explain the two mark phenomenon and Apple Bloom can't seem to stop showing off. But things really go off the rails when a third cutie mark pops up on AB's butt!!! Now a soccer ball has appeared. AB runs out of the room and Cheerilee can't stop the others from following. On the playground Apple Bloom is bouncing a soccer ball on her butt while she continues to paddle and hula. She doesn't really seem to be enjoying her 'destiny'

anymore but is powerless to stop. As the class looks on in amazement, cutie marks keep popping up on Apple Bloom's body till she is covered from head to toe. And with every mark she is compelled to perform the skill the mark represents. Soon Apple Bloom is screaming for *somepony*, **anypony**, to make it stop!

But it is a zebra that holds the key to Apple Bloom's salvation. Zecora comes forward with a powder- that she says will cure the Cutie Pox. But it is missing one ingredient: the truth. Apple Bloom swallows hard (as she continues to demonstrate her 50 different 'destinies') and confesses. She whipped up a potion with Heart's Desire and a few other random ingredients, hoping that it would fulfill *her* heart's desire and give her a cutie mark. She now knows that you can't fake your future. A cutie mark has to come from your heart, not from out of a bottle. "Truer words were never spoken", utters Zecora before blowing the powder onto Apple Bloom. The fake marks start to disappear and so do Apple Bloom's fake athletic skills. With the show over, the class disperses. Only Sweetie Belle and Scootaloo stick around to console their friend. Rather than mad, they are impressed with AB's potion making skills. Suddenly it dawns on all three of them... Maybe Apple Bloom will get her cutie mark for potion making! The three Crusaders run after Zecora.

NO TANK YOU

Rainbow Dash awakens from one of her many naps and decides to see what her friends are up to. She finds them all hanging out in the park. It seems that they have arranged a 'play date' for all of their pets. As the ponies look on, Angel and Winona playfully chase each other while Owlowicious and Gummy take turns playfully scaring Opal, who unplayfully hisses and swipes at them. Rainbow Dash has never really felt the absence of a pet before but now she feels left out. She **MUST** have a pet! Fluttershy enthusiastically starts making suggestions. But not just any animal will do for such a legendary (in her own mind) pony so Rainbow Dash decides to have auditions to determine who will have the honor of becoming her pet. All sorts of airborne creatures show up from simple bumblebees to majestic hawks and Rainbow Dash puts them through their paces while her friends watch from the sidelines. There is no clear winner of the aerial Olympics but there is a clear loser - A lowly turtle keeps trying (and failing) to compete despite Rainbow's repeated rejections of him as 'disqualified'. Trying her best to ignore him, Rainbow makes an announcement to the 'real' competitors. There will be a final contest to determine the winner of the competition - a race through the twists and turns of Ghastly Gorge. Whoever comes in second (after Rainbow Dash herself) will be her pet! All the creatures approach the starting line including the turtle. But when the starting bell is rung, the flying creatures leave the lone earth bound competitor in their collective dust, just as RD had expected. As the others race ahead, RD has a little too much fun looking back at the slow moving turtle and crashes into one of the rock walls of the narrow gorge. An avalanche of boulders starts, adding an unexpected element of danger to the race. The butterflies and humming birds bow out while the eagles and hawks skillfully weave around the falling rocks and get ahead of Rainbow Dash herself! This throws the easily distracted pony off her pace long enough to get pegged by a rock. She

awakens to find herself caught in a tight crevice with her wings pinned under a boulder and other rocks raining down around her. And none of her possible pets respond to her calls for help!

Except for the turtle. He slowly makes his way towards RD, paying no attention as rocks bounce off his mighty shell. When he finally gets there, he's able to wedge his powerful neck under the boulder holding RD's wings and lift it high enough to free the Pegasus. Rainbow picks the turtle up and flies them both to safety. It's clear who the real 'winner' of the pet contest is. Bravery and loyalty are 'higher' attributes than athletic ability and certainly more desirable in a pet (or a friend). But can RD really make do with a non-flying pet?

At the next Pony Pet Play Date, Rainbow Dash is the last to arrive. She waits patiently for her turtle 'Tank' who flies slowly behind her with a propeller stuck to the top of his shell.

JEWEL THIEVES

Rarity, Fluttershy and AJ stop by the library one afternoon to see if Twilight would like to join them for dinner, but they find their friend frantically trying to get out of the house. She's in the middle of an important research project and she needs to get a critical text from the Canterlot Archives, which closes in less than an hour! Applejack thinks Twi has 'gone around the barn'. Canterlot is halfway across Equestria! Twilight reveals she has a special way to make the trip – magical Teleportation Jewels given to her by Celestia herself for just such an emergency. The other ponies are excited by the idea of traveling instantaneously to the capitol of Equestria and beg Twilight to let them come along. Twi is in too much of a hurry to waste time arguing. She gestures for them to gather in close and activates the jewel. A moment later they all appear in the middle of Canterlot. Twilight instructs the others to meet in the same spot in an hour's time and gallops away to the Archives. Rarity leads the others to the Shopping District so she can pay a visit to her favorite Fabric Shop. Applejack and Fluttershy are not too thrilled about this plan but follow behind regardless. Two and a half hours later, the three return to the rendezvous spot. Before Twilight can voice any of her frustration for being made to wait, the others are hugging and nuzzling her in thanks for the wonderful time they've had. Of course Rarity found loads of wonderful fabrics but Applejack found twice as many new seed varieties at a wonderful Farmer's Market she had no idea existed. And Fluttershy has the most rare find of all – a new pet! She found the sweetest little pet shop and adopted a female rabbit named Angelina. She just knows that Angel and her are fated to be together! Twilight takes their thanks grudgingly and activates the jewel to send them home.

The next morning Twilight awakens to find Rarity downstairs, pushing and pulling on the Teleportation Jewel in a futile effort to get back to Canterlot. Seems she gave Spike some sob story about running out of a certain hard to find fabric in the middle of a new dress. Twilight tries to be sympathetic as she explains that each Jewel only has one use in it *and* she has a limited supply *and* they are meant for emergencies! But drama queen Rarity is good at making anything sound like an emergency. She's well on her way to

wearing Twilight down when Applejack and Fluttershy show up, also wanting another trip to Canterlot! Seems AJ wants to discuss how best to grow the new seeds she's purchased with some of the farmer ponies she met. And Fluttershy forgot to purchase some new bunny toys for her new bunny. Twilight gives in. (She could use another trip to the Archives anyway.) But insists that this has to be the *last* time. Her friends all nod in agreement. She gets a new Jewel. And the others catch a peek of where she keeps them.

Things quickly get 'out of hoof' after that. Twilight continually finds her friends sneaking into her stash and swiping jewels. Applejack is obsessed with the state of her new crop and every brown leaf is used as an excuse to go consult with the expert farmers of Canterlot. Angel and Angelina's 'wedding' has been more of a success than Fluttershy has bargained for. She's constantly giving baby bunnies away to the pet store she got their mother from. Rarity stops offering excuses. She just likes going to Canterlot. Twilight tries to act superior but the others know she is using a lot of jewels herself to visit the Archives. But they were given to *her* so *she* gets to decide how to use them! The jewel use reaches a frenzied pace with ponies snatching half used jewels out of each other's hooves. Finally the four friends find themselves stuck in Canterlot without any jewels and without any way home! Just then the Princess spots them. She is in a fowl mood over the behavior of Twilight's 'friend'. Twilight is sure she means 'friends' and is happy to see the other three get their comeuppance. But Celestia is aggravated with Pinkie Pie! She's abusing her scroll writing privileges and sending the Princess Twitter-like messages. All. The. Time. Just then another scroll appears from Pinkie- "Am eating spaghetti and throwing confetti. Hey that rhymes! LOL!!!" Twilight is thrown off by this turn of events but Applejack steps forward to do the apologizing. 'Pinkie' should know better than to take advantage of her friend Twilight by abusing a precious gift like writing scrolls to the Princess. "Or Teleportation Jewels" adds Rarity as Fluttershy nods in agreement. The mention of the jewels makes Celestia scoff. "Those things are a dime a dozen!" She points to the free Teleportation Jewel dispenser right behind them.