

Distribution:

Production:

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

Discovery/Hasbro:

Donna Ebbs
Scott Pennington
Chris Mehl

Hasbro Studios:

Stephen Davis
Linda Steiner
Kathy Page
Brian Lenard
Robert Fewkes
Sophia Hussain

Hasbro IP & Brand:

Mark Wiesenhahn
Matt Mattus
Valerie Jurries
Donna Tobin

Hasbro Design:

Liz Knight
Dean Carley

Ed Consult:

Donna Mitroff
Vicki Ariyasu

MY LITTLE PONY

Season II

"Dragon Quest"

Episode 221

Outline by
Merriwether Williams

Outline: February 8, 2011
Notes Due: February 10, 2011

TEASER

Rainbow Dash and Twilight are trying to talk a terrified Fluttershy into joining them to watch the dragon migration. Twilight patiently explains to Fluttershy that the dragon migration only happens once in a generation (like Halley's Comet) it's a very big deal to see it.

But Fluttershy is having none of it. She's just too scared of dragons, plain and simple. Growing impatient, Rainbow Dash tries to muscle Fluttershy out of her doorway. "Hey, I watched that boring butterfly migration with you so now it's your turn to watch the dragon migration with me. You owe me."

Suddenly Fluttershy freaks out and yells, "I said No!" She finds a strength inside her that she didn't know she had, turns on Rainbow Dash and fights her (a large fight cloud rolls around the ground.) When the dust has settled, Fluttershy emerges as the winner. Rainbow Dash, embarrassed and in shock, gives her a free pass saying, "Okay, I guess I'll let you off the hook this time."

ACT ONE

The ponies (except for Fluttershy and Rarity) are hunkered down in a trench, covered in camouflage. They peek over the trench waiting to see the great dragon migration. Twilight feels especially honored to be witnessing such a rare natural event.

After a beat, Rarity arrives, late as usual. She is wearing a "fashionable" version of camouflage and looks ridiculous. The ponies exchange bemused looks. Suddenly Rainbow Dash yells and points to the sky. All the ponies look up to see a truly amazing sight. Dozens and dozens of dragons zooming across the sky, flying in perfect fighter formation.

In unison, the ponies say, "Ooo" and "Ahh" and skooch down a little lower into their trench. Even Rainbow Dash thinks the dragons look intimidating.

Suddenly we hear a voice offscreen offering the ponies tea and scones. We reveal Spike in a frilly apron walking up and down the trench pushing a little breakfast cart. Rainbow Dash laughs and points out the contrast between the tough dragons in the sky and frilly Spike. Rarity comes to his defense saying, "You leave him alone. He's perfect just the way he is!" But then she cuddles him and talks baby-talk which only embarrasses Spike.

Later that night, Spike lies in his bed, staring at the ceiling in the throws of an existential identity crisis. Spike wonders aloud, "Who am I? Where am I from? Who am I supposed to be?"

We pull out to reveal it's 4 am and he's had Twilight up for hours, droning on about his identity crisis!

For the last time she tells Spike everything she knows about “who he is.” 1) Spike was an egg given to her at her entrance exam. She doesn’t know who found the egg or how they found it. 2) Ponies know next to nothing about dragons. They’re rare and too scary to try to talk to or study. Plus, dragons have no interest in ponies. Spike is disappointed. He needs answers. Twilight sees how bummed Spike is, so she suggests they go do some late night research downstairs.

Cut to the next morning – they’ve been up all night pouring over dust covered books and ancient scrolls, but have found no further information. Spike looks crushed but then a steely determination overcomes him.

Just then Rarity and Rainbow Dash arrive to invite Spike and Twilight to breakfast. Twilight thinks that’s a great idea, but Spike turns them down flat. He’s got other plans. Bigger, better plans! “Like what?” they wonder.

Spike dramatically declares that he’s going on a quest of self-discovery, he’s going to follow the dragons. Perhaps they will have some answers about ‘who he really is’. As Spike packs up a little hobo bag, Rainbow Dash tries to talk some sense into him. He could get hurt! Rarity agrees. Besides she likes little Spike just the way he is. Rarity tries to cuddle Spike again, but he shakes her off.

Trying to ease the tension, Twilight preaches that this journey is something Spike needs to do for himself. Rarity and Rainbow Dash relent. Spike takes his things and waves goodbye. The second he’s out of earshot Rarity deadpans to Twilight, “We’re following him, right?” Twilight answers, “Of course.”

ACT TWO

Spike pokes his head over the edge of a large circular crater at the top of a huge volcano. He sees some huge, scary-looking, tough, ADULT dragons strutting around, flaring their nostrils and flapping the giant bat-like wings. Spike GULPS. Then he notices a group of adolescent dragons. They are bigger than him and already had wings, but are still much, much smaller than the adults. He decides it’d be smarter to approach them first. As Spike pulls himself over the crater wall a clumsy, weird-looking dragon appears in his place. We reveal that it is Twilight, Rarity and Rainbow Dash stuffed inside a dragon costume.

Cut to inside - Rainbow Dash and Rarity bicker over the appropriateness of Rarity’s floopy, over-designed dragon costume before Twilight stops their bickering.

On the other side of the crater Spike timidly walks up to the group of adolescent dragons and introduces himself. The leader, Garble, calls Spike out for being little and not having wings yet. Spike insists that he is a dragon, just like them, so they challenge him to a series of contests and games to prove his “dragoness.” There is a belching contest (who can make the longest flame), tail wrestling contest (like arm wrestling, but

with tails), a dodge boulder game (like dodge ball with big rocks) and a king of the treasure mountain game. During each game the ponies attempt to help Spike succeed so he will fit in with his kind, but it backfires. Spike repeatedly fails.

The final contest is lava cannonballing. The ponies can't help Spike with this one so Spike is on his own. When Spike's turn to cannonball comes, he jumps and flails frantically on the way down...instead of cannonballing, he bellyflops hard– SMACK!– into the lava. Garble and the dragon teens surround Spike and say, "That had to hurt!" They respect his tolerance for pain so much that they actually make Spike the winner!

Garble begins a short initiation ritual to introduce Spike to the brotherhood of dragons. Spike is thrilled to be officially one of them.

As the ponies watch the ritual from inside their disguise, Twilight tears up. She is so proud of Spike. After the initiation, Garble tells Spike that he has earned the right to go on a real dragon RAID! The dragons laugh all scary. Spike is nervous...GULP. The ponies are nervous for him too...GULP, GULP, GULP!

ACT THREE

Garble announces the purpose of the raid. There's a nest full of Phoenix eggs nearby and they're going to swipe'em. Spike is uncertain, but doesn't protest when they pick him up and fly towards the forest.

Rainbow Dash takes off to fly after Spike, dragging the costume (with Rarity and Twilight inside it) towards the edge of a cliff. Rarity and Twilight yell at Rainbow Dash to, "STOP!" Rainbow Dash skids to stop...just in the nick of time. Rarity and Twilight tell Rainbow Dash that they're just going to have to walk. In the meantime, they hope Spike will be okay.

Meanwhile the dragons spy on the nest from a nearby hiding place. Garble tells Spike to try to lure the parents away from the nest. Spike complies, but reluctantly. Spike distracts the Phoenix parents and they give chase.

With parents chasing Spike on the ground, the teen dragons fly up to the nest. They are surprised to find all the eggs have already hatched save one and the hatchlings are already able to fly! The dragons take off after them. When the phoenix parents see the dragons chasing their hatchlings they stop chasing Spike and go after the dragons. They will protect their hatchlings no matter what! In the fray, the nest is ruffled and the last unhatched egg falls to the ground...safely into the bushes nearby Spike. Spike leans over and picks it up. The parents and hatchling outsmart and outmaneuver the dragons and escape.

Defeated, the dragons re-group on the ground only to find Spike holding the last remaining dragon egg. They are stoked – the mission isn't a total failure. They gather

around Spike and encourage him to smash it! Spike hesitates for a moment and Garble grows impatient, growling, “Hand the egg over.”

Just then the ponies (in the dragon disguise) arrive on foot. Spike has to decide, is he going to hand them over or not? Spike musters up his courage and says, “No! It’s just a defenseless egg (like he was) and he’s not going to let them hurt it.” Twilight, Rarity and Rainbow Dash are so proud of Spike!

But the teen dragons are furious and they close in on Spike. Acting fast the ponies throw themselves in front of Spike and their costume falls off. The teen dragons laugh...Spike hangs out with namby pamby ponies. With his friends beside him Spike tells the dragons he’d rather be with namby pamby ponies any day! Garble threatens him, “Oh yeah? What are going to do about it?”

“Run away!” yells Spike. Twilight quickly creates a magic smoke screen and when it dissipates, they’re gone.

TAG

Spike writes a letter to Princess Celestia with his phoenix egg next to him. The Dragon migration made him feel out of place. Made him wonder how a dragon like him could fit in in a pony world. But he realizes now that ‘who you are’ is not the same as ‘what you are’. He may have been born a dragon but the pony world has made him who he is. Given him the values he holds dear. It is where he has found his family and where he truly belongs.

Just as he signs the letter the phoenix egg hatches. The baby chick nuzzles Spike’s cheek. Looks like he has chosen Spike as *his* family. Awww.