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MY LITTLE PONY

Season II

"Hurricane Fluttershy"

Episode 222

Outline by

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TEASER

Rainbow Dash is on a no-nonsense mission. She flies around all of Ponyville, gathering her winged sisters and brothers. “Calling ALL Pegasus Ponies! Meeting tonight! Attendance Mandatory!” She spots a group of pegasi. She tosses them a few fliers stashed in a saddlebag. “Library—tonight! Be there or be mare!” She spots other pegasi and throws fliers at them. “Be cool or be mule! See ya tonight!” She hands out fliers to other flyers all over town. When a non-winged flyer asks for a flier, she’s quick to reply, “You’re not a flyer. No flier for you. Fliers for flyers only!” This is serious business.

As Rainbow Dash arrives at the library, it is already becoming packed with Pegasi. Rainbow Dash stands outside, ushering in the last remaining stragglers. It appears she has everypony but then she says, “You too, Fluttershy. Come on. Let’s go.” Suddenly Fluttershy “comes out” from in front of a tree, perfectly painted with bark, leaves, and with an apple in her mouth. She spits out the apple, smiles meekly at Rainbow Dash, and mopily walks into the crowded library.

ACT I

The beginning of act one opens up on a narrated film in the style of a 50s educational animated film. A male’s voice explains how the annual Rainy Season in Equestria is made possible by the hard work of one community’s Pegasi. How those Pegasi fly in formation to make a Super Tornado. How the Super Tornado is centered over one of the giant lakes of Equestria, creating a vortex of water which is lifted up into Cloudsdale’s cloud making factory. During the narration, animated diagrams show pathways of water vs. resistance while Pegasi fly about in a circular motion above the lake. Numbers animate to show a mathematical computation of number of ponies multiplied by average wing power, resulting in gallons of water brought up against gravity.

After the film ends, Rainbow Dash explains that this year Lake Whinny-Pesaukee, Ponyville’s largest lake, has been selected by Cloudsdale to provide rain water to all of Equestria. Last year, Fillydelphia broke the tornado-speed record and she’s determined to top them! She motivates the crowd with a good mix of inspiration, civic pride, and a little bit of intimidation. At one point, she even scolds a coughing pony, “We’ll have none of that coughing here, Thunderlane! No pony’s getting sick on my watch! Only healthy pegasi! Only lightning speed pegasi! If we stick together, the tornado speed record will be SMASHED! Whose with me?!” All of the ponies start cheering, completely pumped up and raring to go. As she looks around the room at all of the excited Pegasi, she immediately notices an empty chair. Rainbow Dash scowls. FLUTTERSHY!

The next morning at Green Horse Track and Field, Rainbow Dash, outfitted in her hat and whistle, is overseeing Pegasi already in training. Some are stretching, while others are already trotting or flying around the track. Rainbow Dash sees that Fluttershy still has not shown up for training. NOPONY is getting out of Tornado

duty!

After banging on Fluttershy's door for a good minute, a meek looking Fluttershy in a bathrobe appears. She's coughing terribly and has spots all over her face! Rainbow Dash is concerned. "What's happened to you Fluttershy?!" "Oh, I... cough cough... think I have the Pony Pox!" "Oh no, that's terrible!" cries Rainbow Dash. "Well, you know, there's only one cure for Pony Pox," explains Rainbow Dash as she sticks her head out the door. "I know—plenty of bedres ---" SPLASH!!! Rainbow Dash throws a bucket of cold water all over Fluttershy's face. Fluttershy sputters in shock. "Nope! Cold water." responds Rainbow Dash as she watches the dots all over Fluttershy's face begin to melt away. "Look. Those Pox are clearing right up."

Fluttershy stammers, "You know.. all of a sudden I'm starting to feel...better!" She takes a step back and quickly fakes a fall. "Owww!—my wing—I guess I can't fly after---" "TTTTWWEEEEETTTT" Rainbow Dash blows on her whistle as hard as she can. Fluttershy, completely spooked, flies up onto the top of a bookshelf. "Hmph. Lame wing, huh?" questions Rainbow Dash.

Fluttershy floats back down to the floor. "Stop horsin' around, Fluttershy. We gotta go." Fluttershy concedes, "Ok...let me just get changed. I'll be right back." Fluttershy slowly proceeds to her room. As soon as Fluttershy shuts the door, she quickly grabs a pen and writes a note on a piece of paper. She dashes out of her window, quickly flies to the front door, slips the note under the door, knocks on it and flies back. Rainbow Dash hears the knock and discovers the note just as Fluttershy comes out wearing a headband. "Did I hear a knock?" inquires Fluttershy innocently. Rainbow Dash reads the letter, "Dear Fluttershy, You mustn't go to tornado training because I am ill. Please come and take care of me in White Tail Woods, right away! Sincerely, Fluttershy's Moose Friend." Rainbow raises a brow at Fluttershy. "So. Exactly how does this moose know you're having tornado training? He lives all the way in White Tail Woods! And, who signs a letter "Fluttershy's Moose Friend?! AND...." Rainbow Dash pulls her hoof across the letter. "The ink is still WET!" Rainbow Dash looks right into Fluttershy's eyes. "C'mon now, Fluttershy, what's goin' on?"

"But, well, but but, well---" Fluttershy can no longer lie. "I can't do it Rainbow Dash! You know I'm a weak flyer! When I was young all the other foals used to tease me at Camp Winnietonka. I can't take that sort of humiliation again." She looks down. "Besides, a weak flyer like me couldn't possibly be any help anyway..."

Rainbow Dash softens up a bit. "Now you listen here, Fluttershy. Every pony has something to give. I'm going to need every Pegasus pony's help to make this tornado, INCLUDING you." She can tell Fluttershy isn't convinced. "Fluttershy, I have something to confide, too." Fluttershy's ears perk. "If we can break the tornado speed record, I KNOW the Wonder Bolts will take notice. I'll show'em that I can get the job done! I could even be the next Wonder Bolt!" Fluttershy, will you help me??? Are you game?" Fluttershy pauses thoughtfully. Then she looks right into Rainbow Dash's eyes. "I'm game."

ACT II

Fluttershy shows up for training the next day. Rainbow Dash explains to the group how their wing power will be measured individually. This will give her an indication of how strong they are as a group and will also give them a goal for increasing their power. As, Rainbow Dash shows them a machine that will help determine this wing power, Thunderlane lets out another cough. “I don’t want to hear any coughing Thunderlane! There’s no time for coughing, only trainin’!”

The first Pegasus takes his ‘test fly’ past the machine. A tiny windmill at the top of the machine spins as the dial below calculates 5.0 wing power. Then Rainbow Dash goes. The windmill spins at lightning speed, and she registers a 16.0 on the machine. The crowd gasps. “If each of you can register 10.0 wing power, no doubt we’ll set a new tornado record! We’ll be #1!” The whole crowd cheers, except Fluttershy.

When it’s Fluttershy’s turn to try, she gallops with all her might. But when she takes off, her little wings flip flap past the machine like a butterfly. The machine’s windmill barely moves, and the dial registers.... 0.5. Fluttershy is so embarrassed! It’s even worse when a few Pegasi snicker behind her back. Rainbow Dash immediately scolds them, but it’s too late. Fluttershy flashes right back to her wee years of foal-hood humiliation at Camp Winnetonka—“Fluttershy, Fluttershy, Fluttershy can barely fly! Ha ha ha ha!” Fluttershy runs off.

“Fluttershy! Wait up!” Rainbow Dash easily catches up to her much slower friend. “C’mon, so some punks took a jab at you. Big deal!” offers Rainbow Dash. “You aren’t going to quit just because of that, are you?” “Yes!” cries Fluttershy. “I told you already; I’m no good at flying! Now go back to your troops—they need you.” Rainbow Dash replies, “But I need you, too!” Fluttershy looks at Rainbow Dash. “I’m sorry, Rainbow Dash, I’m just going to get in your way.” Fluttershy runs off again.

Deep in a meadow, Fluttershy sits on a stump, weeping. All her little forest friends have come to console her. A squirrel brings her some nuts. “Aw, thank you, Squiggles. But I’m afraid a couple of acorns won’t solve my flying problem.” “Quack quack!” says a duck. Fluttershy answers, “I tried, but...I’m just not good enough.” “Chirp chirp!” offers a little bird. “I know it’s important to try my hardest, but—” A little baby badger comes up to Fluttershy and talks to her. “Yes, yes, Chippy,” she replies, “I remember, the river was swelling.” “Cheep cheep cheep!” “And you were scared.” “Cheep cheep!” Fluttershy laughs. “He he, yes, I DID tell you to never give up. That, I did.” She stands up. “You’re right my friends. I shouldn’t give up, especially when a community’s wellbeing is at stake. I will become a good flyer!” “Cheep cheep!” Fluttershy corrects herself. “A GREAT flyer!” She slumps back down. “Will you friends help me?” All of the animals cheer.

Fluttershy throws herself into training with the animals. In a montage, she does multiple exercises, and at first she can barely do them. She can hardly lift Chipmunk, or beat Hummingbird at a mid-air tug-o-war. She can’t even do a one wing pushup! She can barely stay airborne with bunny on her back, and she certainly can’t

generate enough wind to blow away a dandelion. But slowly, her strength increases, and not only is she airborne with bunny, chipmunk, AND hummingbird on her back—she flies past a field of dandelions and sends all of their seeds into the air. The montage carries over as Fluttershy enters Green Horse Track and Field. Again, she gets a mad gallop going and lifts off into the air. But this time she flies hard and fast, and confidently sails past the machine. The windmill spins much faster! She excitedly looks over at the machine....to see that she has only registered a 2.0 wing power. She is so upset! Rainbow Dash lets her off the hook, while commending her for her hard work, "It's okay Fluttershy. I understand if you just don't want to take part." Fluttershy goes home with her furry friends, dejected and feeling like a failure.

ACT III

It's the morning of the special day, and Rainbow Dash is again pumping up the excited crowd. Twilight Sparkle and Spike are setting up a larger version of the tornado speed machine to help calculate the group's top wing speed. Cloudsdale is moving into position above Lake Whinny-Pesaukee. Rainbow Dash is pumped to break the tornado speed record. Rainbow Dash calls roll, but when she gets to Thunderlane, he's nowhere to be found. "He's been trying to get out of this day this whole time, with all the fake coughing and all." But as she goes through the roll call, there are more and more pegasi missing! Rainbow Dash flies to Thunderlane's home, where his little brother answers then door and tells her that Thunderlane is at the hospital. "He's got the Feather Flu!" Rainbow Dash gasps. Panning across a row of sick, coughing pegasi, a nurse explains to Rainbow Dash that there's no way these sick ponies can help out today. Thunderlane lifts up his shedding wings. When he coughs, more feathers fly off.

Back at Green Tail Track and Field, Rainbow Dash is freaking out. Twilight calculates, "With the 8 sick Pegasus ponies out with the Feather Flu, you're going to be losing almost 80 wing power, and you know you need at least 800!" Rainbow Dash is upset, "We totally won't break the record now!" Twilight corrects her. "Rainbow Dash, forget about breaking the tornado speed record; you barely even have enough wing power to make the tornado itself!" Oh no! What will the Wonder Bolts think of her then? And worse, how will Cloudsdale get the water they need?

Rainbow Dash tries to hide her nerves and get the rest of the pegasi excited. No matter who is sick or missing, they are just going to have to try to get this tornado going and the water flowing. All of the pegasi get into position. "On the sound of the horn, we take off!" Twilight and Sparkle get their machinery situated, count down, and then Spike jumps on a large bulb horn. The pegasi slowly start circling, similar to a merry-go-round. They begin to speed up, and the numbers on the machine increase. "100 wing power, 150 wing power, 250 wing power ..." Twilight recites to Spike. The wind picks up around them as well. The tornado begins to really speed up, but it's shaky and unstable. "500 wing power, 700 wing power..." Little droplets of water come off of the surface of the lake.

Fluttershy appears with her critter friends. "I figured, if I couldn't help Rainbow

Dash with the tornado, the least I could do was offer moral support.” Twilight Sparkle shakes her head, “She could sure use it, considering 8 pegasi are sick in the hospital with Feather Flu.” Just then, the unstable tornado breaks apart. Pegasi go flying all about and the droplets of water splash into the lake. Rainbow Dash falls and slides face first right in front of Fluttershy.

“Rainbow Dash,” explains Twilight. “You should just give up. You’re only making it to 795 wing power and you know you need more than that to even get the water to properly lift off of the lake! You just don’t have enough ponies!” Rainbow Dash refuses. “No way. We have GOT to try. At least once more. I gotta know we gave it our all!” As Rainbow Dash flies off she yells back, “If I’m going down, I’m GOING DOWN FLYING!”

Spike gives the horn signal and the Pegasus start again. As the tornado forms, the wing power reading on the machinery goes up again. Twilight Sparkle and Fluttershy watch as the number climbs... 200....500...700....From inside the tornado, Rainbow Dash is barking out order. “Stay in position! Flap those wings!” Harder! Harder! Watch your coordinates and don’t bump into each other!”

From the outside, the tornado is getting faster and faster. The water is trickling off of the surface of the lake. 725....750... Twilight knows they are about to approach maximum wing power again, and could become unstable once more and break apart. The wind is blowing everywhere. Fluttershy is almost too scared to look. “They are SO close!” Twilight yells to Fluttershy, “They need you up there!” Fluttershy yells back over the wind noise, “I can’t! I’m not good enough! I won’t make a difference!” Inside the tornado, Rainbow Dash is still pushing the pegasi harder. “C’mom- a little harder—I can see the water trying to funnel through!”

Outside the tornado, Twilight tries to convince Fluttershy. “You CAN make a difference! Every pony counts! You owe it to yourself to try!” Fluttershy nods her head no. “I can’t!” Twilight sees the machine’s needle stick at 798. She looks at Fluttershy. “YOU OWE IT TO RAINBOW DASH!” Fluttershy thinks for a moment, then gets steely eyed and puts on her goggles. They snap onto her eyes. “Ouch!”

Fluttershy takes a few steps back, runs a bit and then takes off towards the tornado. All of a sudden, she gets sucked in, somersaulting and losing her balance. But inside, she gets a grip, pulls it together, and joins in! Her wings are flapping as hard as they possibly can. Rainbow Dash sees Fluttershy and gets a big smile. Fluttershy smiles, and with a determined look focuses forward.

Twilight Sparkle and Spike watch the tornado speed top 800 wing power--- and all of a sudden, the water pushes off of the lake and gets sucked up through the tornado. It flies all the way up to Cloudsdale above! The lake empties, and Spike happily honks the horn again. The tornado starts to slow down and dissipate. As the pegasi all come to a rest, Fluttershy is so determined, she keeps spinning around and around, not even noticing that everyone has stopped!

Rainbow Dash catches onto Fluttershy and brings her to a stop. "Wha—what---did we do it?" asks Fluttershy disoriented. Rainbow Dash, "Yes! Yes, we did it! YOU DID IT!" Fluttershy can barely believe it. Some of the pegasi even congratulate her on her great work. "Thanks Fluttershy. We couldn't have done it without you. Awesome job Fluttershy."

Later at the library the friends are gathered around the fire keeping warm while a hard rain falls outside. Fluttershy writes a letter to the Princess. "Sometimes you can feel like what you have to offer is too little to make a difference. But today I learned that everypony's contribution is important, no matter how small. And sometimes it's that last little bit of effort that can make the difference between success and failure." Fluttershy looks over at Rainbow Dash and Twilight and smiles. "I'm going to make a copy of this letter," replies Spike as he finishes the last sentence. "Why?" asks Fluttershy. "So I can give it to Twilight the next time she wants me to clean up around here while she just continues to read!"

THE END.