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MY LITTLE PONY

Season II

"Marzipan on the Canterlot Express"

Episode 224

Outline by

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TEASER

The CAKES nervously watch as PINKIE PIE directs BIG MCINTOSH towards the train depot. On his back, he carries their masterpiece—a huge cake called Marzipan Mascarpone Meringue Madness. It is the Cakes’ entry for the National Dessert Competition taking place in Canterlot. But, as strong as Big Mac is, it’s a very delicate balancing act and Pinkie fears that the cake will fall. So first she enlists FLUTTERSHY and RAINBOW DASH to fly on either side of him and help support the cake. For a brief moment, Pinkie looks relieved. But then fear strikes again. So she has TWILIGHT follow them while casting a safety spell on the cake. This should surely be enough. But Pinkie still isn’t satisfied and has APPLEJACK and RARITY follow along with a firefighter’s net, just in case. They all finally get the cake safely transported to the train, but with all these “pony protectors” protecting the cake, they can’t fit the cake through the door!

ACT I

With the cake now safely in the Dessert Car, Pinkie starts setting up barriers around it. Her friends tell Pinkie that she might be going a little overboard with this whole “protection” thing. After all, it’s just a cake. Pinkie stops in her tracks. Just a cake? Please! Marzipan Mascarpone Meringue Madness is the most delicious, delectable, delightful, delovely cake in Equestria! Describing the rich creamy goodness of Marzipan, the tart tanginess of the mascarpone, and the smooth silky sweetness of the meringue, her friends’ mouths can’t help but water. Every other baker in the contest is sure to know how amazing Marzipan Mascarpone Meringue Madness is and thus they will all want to sabotage this great cake! So Pinkie is assigning them to be the official cake bodyguards. They have to do everything they can to protect it on its journey to Canterlot where it will, undoubtedly, take first prize!

But just as Pinkie utters these words, French pastry chef, GUSTAVE THE GRIFFON, enters the Dessert Car laughing. Twirling his long moustache, Gustave challenges Marzipan Mascarpone Meringue Madness to a duel against his Exquisite Exceptional Éclairs! But as soon as Gustave throws down the gauntlet, JOE, the owner of Joe’s Donut Shop in Canterlot, gruffly enters the car saying that Gustave’s frou-frou éclairs will never be able to beat his Donutopia! The ponies (and even the griffon) stand in awe of this tall tower of yummy donuts. His donuts will dunk all the other entries and steal the prize! But the boastful Joe and his Donutopia tower are topped when mild-mannered mule MULIA MILD enters the car pushing her Moose Mousse! She respectfully states that while the “Madness,” the Éclairs, and Donutopia, are fine little desserts, her Moose Mousse is surely the frontrunner in culinary contest. So, try as they might, her Moose will trample their treats and be awarded first prize.

The four rivals stare each other down. The tension is finally broken when the whistle blows and the train chugs from the station. Gustave, Joe, and Mulia leave the Dessert Car to get settled in for the night. But Pinkie stays put. One of the chefs is definitely going to try to sabotage the Cake’s cake, so they must stand guard through the night. But the other ponies think Pinkie is overreacting. If she wants to stand guard, that’s fine, but they’re all going to bed.

Alone in the Dessert Car, Pinkie is determined to stay awake all night! But as soon as the lights go out, Pinkie falls asleep. Fast asleep, Pinkie is suddenly startled awake by a sound. She checks the cake, which looks fine. But then Pinkie sees a silhouette against the moonlit window. A saboteur! Pinkie gives chase through the train. She is almost to the caboose where the culprit will be trapped! But when she reaches the caboose, no one is there! Confused, Pinkie returns to the Dessert Car.

She goes to shut the door to the Dessert Car, but as she closes it, the door's SQUEAK does not match with her moving the door. Pinkie turns and sees the other door to the car just as it closes! Pinkie runs out that door and chases the suspect up to the front of the train. But when Pinkie arrives at the engine, the only pony there is the conductor who is busy shoveling coal. Baffled, Pinkie returns to the Dessert Car and vows not to leave the room again no matter what!

Lit only by the moonlight, Pinkie keeps a close eye on that cake. But then the curtains close on their own, making the room pitch black. Pinkie hears hoof steps moving towards the cake. There is a loud THUD, the sound of the door opening, and then slamming shut. Pinkie pulls the curtains open. Across the room, she sees that the portrait hanging next to the door is now crooked. Pinkie straightens the picture and checks the cake for any foul play, but it looks fine.

The next morning, Pinkie wakes up with a start to the sound of a ROAR. She immediately goes to the cake. It's perfectly in tact. Pinkie congratulates herself on her great guard work. But then Twilight comes into the car and points to the BACK of the cake, which is practically non-existent with huge bites out of it!

ACT II

Everyone rushes into the car and sees the horribly maimed Marzipan Mascarpone Meringue Madness. Pinkie is distraught and vows to avenge it! Donning a Sherlock Holmes hat, Pinkie immediately appoints herself as chief detective on the case. And she tells Twilight she can be her lowly assistant who asks silly questions with obvious answers. Together they will find the culprit!

Twilight is ready to get to work and start looking for clues. But Pinkie has no time for such trivialities! Instead she dramatically turns and accuses Gustave of destroying the Cake's cake. Twilight asks what evidence Pinkie has. Pinkie declares that she has all the evidence she needs. After all, Griffons roar and Gustave has that evil, villainous moustache!

Pinkie narrates her vision of Gustave committing this terrible crime. Dressed in the style of Snidely Whiplash, Gustave swooped into the Dessert Car, twirling his evil moustache with a diabolical grin. He grabbed Pinkie and tied her to the train tracks. Then, he put Marzipan Mascarpone Meringue Madness on a conveyor belt and sent it hurtling towards a saw that cut the cake in half, destroying the cake and the Cake's chances of winning the National Dessert Competition! As he completed his sabotage, Gustave let out a triumphant roar!

Back in reality, Twilight points out that if Pinkie had been tied to the tracks, she wouldn't be there. And, besides that there is no room for a conveyor belt with a saw, the cake is not cut in half. It has teeth marks! But Pinkie won't back down, pointing out the *saws* have *teeth*. It is Gustave that destroyed the cake! But just as Pinkie makes this accusation, the train goes into a tunnel. The Dessert Car goes black. There's a scuffle, a scream, gobbling noises, and a loud roar! When they exit the tunnel, the room fills with light again. But something is missing. Gustave's Exceptional Exquisite Éclairs have been eaten! Thus, he cannot be guilty of the crime against Marzipan Mascarpone Meringue Madness!

Pinkie thinks for a second. Well, if Gustave didn't destroy the cake, it must have been...Joe! Just look at him! He's big, he's gruff, and he has a messy apron! It has to be him! Pinkie then leads the crowd through her imaginings of Joe's crime. Decked out as a dapper James Bond-style spy, Joe cut through the glass of the Dessert Car window and deftly climbed through. Then, Joe drugged Pinkie's drink to knock her out. Next, he blew out a mysterious powder, which revealed the laser beam security system protecting the cake. Using only a mirror and his wits, he cleverly redirected the beams to cut off the back of the cake. And as Joe shoved the delicious cake in his mouth, his pet lion let out a mighty roar!

Twilight cannot believe what she's hearing. There is no hole in the glass! There is no laser beam security system! And there is no lion! But Pinkie pays these trivial details no mind and blames the destruction of the cake on Joe. But just as she points her hoof at him, the train goes into another tunnel. Once again there is a scuffle, a scream, gobbling noises, and a roar. They emerge from the darkness and everyone sees that Joe's Donutopia has also now been devoured! He too is now in the clear!

That only leaves one of the bakers left! Pinkie turns viciously on Mulia Mild, stating that it is she who destroyed the cake. Twilight jumps in. How could it be Mulia? She's sweet. She's old. She's harmless. Exactly, declares Pinkie. It's the perfect ruse! For in Pinkie's mind, this mild-mannered mule is really a super stealthy Ninja! Clad all in black, Mulia snuck into the room, covertly diving behind furniture, somersaulting across the floor, climbing up the walls. Agile as a cat, she dropped down on the ever-watchful Pinkie and gave her a swift karate chop! With Pinkie out, Mulia whipped out her Ninja Stars, threw them at the cake, slicing half off. Her mission accomplished, she tore off her Ninja mask and let out a hearty roar!

Twilight is stunned. Mulia has about as many Ninja moves as a duck. She's not stealthy. She's not quick. And she doesn't own Ninja stars! But Pinkie stands firm. Joe's Donutopia, Gustave's Exquisite Exceptional Éclairs, and the Cake's Marzipan Mascarpone Meringue Madness have all been brutally decimated. Only Mulia's Moose Mousse is still standing. There are no other suspects left. It has to be Mulia! But just as Pinkie is about to cart the old gal off, the train goes through another tunnel. Pitch black, there is a scuffle, a scream, gobbling noises, and a roar. Back in the light, everyone looks to see that Mulia's Moose Mousse has also been eaten.

With all of the desserts devoured, the bakers are no longer suspects. So who is the guilty

party?

ACT III

Pinkie Pie is shocked. She was sure that her theories were rock solid. But Twilight points out that all Pinkie was doing was speculating. If Pinkie wants to help her look for evidence, they might be able to discover who really committed these crimes. Pinkie finally gives in and the two start looking for clues. Twilight asks Pinkie to retrace her steps and tell her exactly what happened last night.

First, Pinkie takes Twilight down to the caboose, where Twilight discovers their first clue. Twilight is confident she knows who the culprit is until Pinkie takes her up to the engine. There she finds a second clue that contradicts the first and baffles her. Finally, they return to the Dessert Car where Twilight finds a third, even more puzzling clue. Twilight thinks for a second, puts all the pieces together, and announces that she knows who did it!

Twilight calls for the bakers and her friends to gather in the Dessert Car. There the detectives reveal that they have found evidence leading them to exactly who committed these crimes! Pinkie whips out the first of the clues. A *blue feather*! Twilight smiles, saying that this proves who did it! But Pinkie jumps in and yells, “Gustave the Griffon!” And while he does have feathers, Twilight points out that they aren’t blue. But Pinkie says that he must be dying them! Twilight sighs. No! The only pony with wings made of blue feathers is...Rainbow Dash!

But that’s not all! The next piece of evidence was the conductor’s hat. Inside the hat was a long, long, long strand of *pink hair*! Pinkie accuses Rainbow again, saying she wears a wig. She attacks Rainbow, trying to pull her mane off. Twilight stops her, stating that this time the culprit wasn’t Rainbow. The “conductor” shoveling coal into the engine wasn’t the conductor at all. It was...Fluttershy!

Pinkie then pulls out the last clue. A line of *false eyelashes* that were stuck to the portrait! Pinkie immediately accuses Fluttershy of wearing false eyelashes and goes to jump her. But Twilight stops her just in time and points out that coincidentally Rarity is wearing her hair rather differently today. It’s now completely covering one eye! Twilight pulls up Rarity’s hair and reveals that Rarity’s hidden eye has no lashes. It is clear that the false eyelashes in question belong to...Rarity!

Rainbow, Fluttershy, and Rarity finally confess their crime. But they only did it because Pinkie made Marzipan Mascarpone Meringue Madness sound so delicious. Twilight thanks her friends for finally coming clean. And she commends Applejack for her amazing self-control. She is the only friend who didn’t steal a bite of the cake. Twilight goes on and on praising AJ for being honest, trustworthy, and reliable. It finally becomes too much for AJ. She can’t take the pressure and confesses that she also ate the cake! But Pinkie slept through the whole thing, so there was no evidence. The friends all apologize to Pinkie. They didn’t mean to ruin the cake. Pinkie accepts their apologies and is glad that the case is finally solved.

But it isn't! Gustave, Joe, and Mulia point out that while Twilight discovered what happened to the Cake's cake, they still don't know what happened to their devoured desserts! And Rarity also points out that while she did take a bite of the cake, it was only a tiny, lady-like bite. Not a huge chunk! Rainbow, Fluttershy, and AJ concur that they only took small bites as well. There is no way their four smile bites could add up to half the cake missing! So who ate the bakers' desserts? And who ate the rest of Marzipan Mascarpone Meringue Madness?

Just then, the train goes into one final tunnel. The Dessert Car goes dark and yet again there is a scuffle, a scream, gobbling noises, and a roar. They emerge from the tunnel and see that the rest of Marzipan Mascarpone Meringue Madness is gone! And Pinkie is standing right in front of the table, fast asleep, snore-roaring with her face covered in cake. Twilight wakes Pinkie up and points out the overwhelming evidence. Suddenly Pinkie's eyes light up and she begins to giggle. Oh yeah! She's a Darkoleptic Sleep Eater. Whenever it goes dark, she falls asleep and then gulps down the nearest food. So it was her who ate all the other desserts and most of the cake! Oopsie! Mystery solved!

Arriving in Canterlot, Pinkie and the bakers rush off the train and into the castle. As Pinkie helps them whip up new entries for the contest, she narrates a letter to the Princess telling what she learned. One should never jump to conclusions. Instead, you have to find out the facts. Otherwise, you may blame someone innocent, hurt their feelings, and end up looking very foolish. With the new dishes prepared, Pinkie helps the bakers set them up in the garden just as the Cakes' new cake is flown in by Pegasus ponies. Pinkie and her friends get in line for the most important part of the contest...the tasting!

THE END.