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MY LITTLE PONY II

"The Cutie Pox"

EP 206

Written by
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TEASER

SC. 1 <u>EXT. PONYVILLE PINS BOWLING ALLEY - DAY</u>

Pushing in on the Ponyville Pins sign we hear...

1 APPLE BLOOM (V.O.)
Today's the day, Cutie Mark Crusaders! I can just feel it!

TRANSITION TO:

SC. 2 <u>INT. PONYVILLE PINS BOWLING ALLEY - CONTINUOUS</u>

APPLE BLOOM, SWEETIE BELLE, and SCOOTALOO stand in front of their lane in the alley. Apple Bloom has a wildy-styled ball under her hoof. Sweetie Belle has a fun, flowered 50s-style bowling bag in her mouth, and Scootaloo has a bowling saddle bag over her back. PONIES are bowling in the background.

2 APPLE BLOOM
Today is the day we are all going to get our Cutie Marks in...Bowling!

3 SCOOTALOO
Woohoo!

Sweetie Belle still has her bag straps in her mouth.

4 SWEETIE BELLE
(muffled)
Yammmfph!
(she puts down her bag)
I mean...YAY!

5 APPLE BLOOM
Why, after today, we won't even be the Cutie Mark Crusaders anymore. We'll be the...The Three Strikes!

Scootaloo makes a face.

6 SCOOTALOO
That makes us sound like we've struck out!

7 APPLE BLOOM
Hmmmm....How 'bout The Pin Twins!?

8 SWEETIE BELLE
But there are *three* of us!

9 APPLE BLOOM
Okay then...um...The Bowling Dolls!

10 SWEETIE BELLE
The Bowling Dolls! That's it!

11 SCOOTALOO
Trips off the tongue!

12 APPLE BLOOM
Alrighty then! Let's bowl 'em over!

CUT TO:

SC. 3 <u>BOWLING MONTAGE:</u>

Sweetie Belle lines up her ball and gives it a powerful push with her nose. She smiles as she watches it go down the lane and land right in the gutter. Sweetie Belle shrugs lightly, not upset by this a bit.

Next, Scootaloo has her back end towards the lane and her ball right behind her hoof. She concentrates and gives it a swift back kick. The ball ricochet's all over the alley. Ponies duck out of the way, other players' pins are knocked over, other players' bowling balls are hit out of the way.

On Scootaloo grinning sheepishly as she shuffles off apologetically.

Apple Bloom steps up with a look of determination. She has the eye of the tiger. The ball is in front of her face. She licks her lips. Her eyes grow wide as she stretches her mouth ridiculously wide to grab the bowling ball. Sweetie Belle watches in awe. Scootaloo's jaw drops.

With the ball in her mouth, Apple Bloom stumbles clumsily towards the lane and with a...

13 APPLE BLOOM
Pa-tooie!

She spits out the ball, causing her face to plant right on the ground, her legs sticking awkwardly up in the air. She kicks them about, struggling to get herself upright.

14 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
<Unh! Unh!>

Still stuck she hears <CRASH!> as a ball hits the pins.

15 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Hunh?

The crowd <CHEERS> wildly.

16 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
What?

17 PONIES
Wow! Hey! Will ya look at that! Is that a Cutie Mark?! Congratulations! A Bowling Cutie Mark! <Amazed Walla>

AB's eyes light up as she continues to get upright.

18 APPLE BLOOM
I did it! I did it!

She finally rights herself and looks at her hindquarters.

Fast Truck in on her flank, which is as blank as ever. She can't believe it and begins to chase her own tail looking for the Cutie Mark.

19 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Blank? But...but...

Apple Bloom stops, looks over, and sees a BOY PONY being lifted in the air. Her eyes ZOOM in on his flank, which now has an awesomely cool Bowling Ball Cutie Mark on it.

20 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
But what about *my* ball?

She looks over eager and hopeful and sees her ball rolling painfully SLOWLY down the lane. It finally reaches the lead pin and stops, knocking NOTHING over.

On Apple Bloom's bright eyes and hopeful smile. Push in fast as it turns into a defeated frown.

Music Bump.

CUT TO:

MY LITTLE PONY TITLE SEQUENCE

TRANSITION TO:

ACT I

SC. 4 <u>EXT. PONYVILLE - DAY</u>

Back on Apple Bloom's frowning face as she walks through Ponyville. The shot widens, revealing that she's walking in between Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle. Scootaloo scoots while Sweetie Belle walks. As they talk, the shot bounces back and forth across AB, like a tennis match, over her sad face.

21 SWEETIE BELLE
That bowling sure was fun, even if all I got was gutter balls!

22 SCOOTALOO
<chuckling> Yeah, at least you were able to keep your ball in your lane! I don't think Mr. Kingpin is ever going to let me play again!

Scootaloo does a sweet jump over a rock.

23 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
Hey! Maybe I could get my Cutie Mark in demolition!

Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle <LAUGH> to each other, looking over Apple Bloom's back.

24 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
Aw, c'mon Apple Bloom, buck up!

But AB just pouts more. Push in on her frowning face.

25 SWEETIE BELLE (O.S.)
I know just what you need to put the bloom back on your apple!

MATCH CUT TO:

SC. 5 <u>INT. SUGARCUBE CORNER - CONTINUOUS</u>

Still close on Apple Bloom, now at Sugarcube Corner, where a delicious cupcake is placed in front of her.

26 SWEETIE BELLE
A treat from Sugarcube Corner will cheer you up!

A stony-eyed Apple Bloom doesn't even look at the treat.

27 APPLE BLOOM
No it won't.

AB puffs out her lip.

MATCH CUT TO:

SC. 6 <u>INT. SUGARCUBE CORNER - CONTINUOUS</u>

Same shot of Apple Bloom, but now there are balloons around her, streamers coming down, and a party hat on her head. PINKIE PIE sticks her smiling face into the shot.

28 PINKIE PIE
A party will cheer you up!

PINKIE blows a horn with confetti in it in Apple Bloom's face. AB doesn't move a muscle.

29 APPLE BLOOM
No it won't.

AB puffs out her lip even more.

MATCH CUT TO:

SC. 7 <u>INT. CAROUSEL BOUTIQUE - CONTINUOUS</u>

Same shot of Apple Bloom's face (without the party hat), but now she's in Carousel Boutique. RARITY steps in.

30 RARITY
A lovely, new chapeau will cheer you up!

Rarity puts an over-the-top feathered hat on her head.

31 APPLE BLOOM
No it won't.

The feather falls into her face.

MATCH CUT TO:

SC. 8 <u>EXT. PONYVILLE - CONTINUOUS</u>

Apple Bloom's pouting face with the town fading behind her. Sweetie Belle and Scootaloo are in the background, following slowly behind.

32 SCOOTALOO
(calling out)
C'mon Apple Bloom! It's just a Cutie Mark.

33 SWEETIE BELLE
(calling out)
Or lack of a Cutie Mark.

34 SCOOTALOO
(to SB)
Shhh. That's not helping!
(calling out)
Apple Bloom, where are you going?

Sweetie Belle's eyes grow wide.

35 SWEETIE BELLE
<GASP!> Scootaloo! Look!

Rotate to reveal that Apple Bloom is heading from sunny Ponyville to the dark, brooding Everfree Forest.

36 SCOOTALOO
Apple Bloom! Stop!

37 SWEETIE BELLE
You're about to go into the...

38 SWEETIE BELLE/SCOOTALOO
Everfree Forest!

Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle speed up to catch her. Scootaloo does some awesome jumps on her scooter to get to her as fast as she can.

Apple Bloom's face goes from sunny to shadowed as she gets close to the forest.

Her friends race to catch up but Apple Bloom is determined and steps right into the forest. She walks in, getting engulfed by the shadows.

Scootaloo is quickly approaching the Everfree Forest, but skids to a stop on the Ponyville side. Sweetie Belle comes to a stop right behind. They can barely see Apple Bloom anymore as she's covered in mist.

With Apple Bloom on her pouting face as she walks in the creepy forest. Her friends call out through the mist. With each thing they say, AB gets more and more cranky. Her shoulders raise and her brow furrows as she continues to stomp through the forest.

39 SCOOTALOO (O.S.)
Apple Bloom! Come back!

40 SWEETIE BELLE (O.S.)
You know how dangerous the Everfree Forest is!

41 SCOOTALOO (O.S.)
Poisonous plants!

42 SWEETIE BELLE (O.S.)
Creepy-crawly creatures!

43 SCOOTALOO (O.S.)
Get out of the Everfree Forest, Apple Bloom!

44 SWEETIE BELLE/SCOOTALOO
It's gonna get you!

AB just can't take it anymore.

45 APPLE BLOOM
No it won't!

AB misses seeing a rock right in front of her. Suddenly, she trips and falls forward, falling right on her face.

Just then, two familiar hooves walk up.

46 ZECORA
Well, who it is that we have here?

A groggy AB turns over, her two front hooves to her face.

47 ZECORA (CONT'D)
Why it's Apple Bloom, my dear!

48 APPLE BLOOM
(muffled)
Ooowwwww!

49 ZECORA
What has happened to you, youth?

AB's lowers her hooves and opens her mouth, showing she's chipped her front tooth.

50 ZECORA (CONT'D)
Ah! You've gone and chipped your tooth.

Zecora puts her head under AB's body and gets her onto her back.

51 ZECORA (CONT'D)
Come with me. I have just the trick, that will fix you up quite quick.

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 10 <u>EXT. ZECORA'S HUT - DAY</u>

Zecora arrives at her hut, carrying AB on her back.

CUT TO:

SC. 11 <u>INT. ZECORA'S HUT - LATER</u>

Apple Bloom is now awake and watching Zecora add ingredients in small cauldron. As AB talks, she has a bit of a lisp due to her chipped tooth and spits a bit.

52 APPLE BLOOM
I've tried everything, Zecora and still no Cutie Mark. Why I'm gonna be as old as Granny Smith and still have a blank flank!

Zecora chuckles as she shakes herbs into the cauldron, making it bubble.

53 ZECORA
I doubt you'll be the age of a granny before you get a mark on your fanny.

54 APPLE BLOOM
Well then, when? And for what? If I just knew what my talent was, I could get it lickety-split!

Some of Apple Bloom's spit flies into the cauldron as Zecora mixes.

55 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Sorry.

56 ZECORA
Your frustration is well understood. But one must be patient for all things good.

57 APPLE BLOOM
Ugh! I've heard that from every pony I know! And now from every **zebra** I know! I'm just too impatient to be patient!

Zecora drops liquid in the mix. It begins to froth.

58 ZECORA
When your heart tells you where your talent lies. That is when you'll get your prize.

59 APPLE BLOOM
I've tried! But no talent is *my* talent! And I'll take *any* talent. You name it, I'll do it. I just want my Cutie Mark and I want it NOW!

With a final ingredient, the potion POOFS just as Apple Bloom says, "NOW!"

60 ZECORA
For your Cutie Mark, you will have to wait. We must fix that tooth before it's too late.

Zecora pours the potion in a cup.

61 ZECORA (CONT'D)
Now drink down every little drop, and this mixture will mend that chip on top.

Apple Bloom gulps it down. She looks in the mirror as her tooth begins to wiggle and then grows back. As it finishes, it gives a little SPARKLE and <BLING!>. Apple Bloom finally smiles.

62 APPLE BLOOM
Oh my Star Apples, you did it, Zecora!

Her eyes light up brightly. She begins to look around Zecora's hut at all the mixtures and potions.

63 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Golly, you have tonics that heal all sorts of ailments. Bad bones...bad back...bad breath...

64 ZECORA
Yes, little one, it is true. I have many a healing brew.

Apple Bloom keeps on looking about, getting even more excited with every bottle she reads.

65 APPLE BLOOM
And not only stuff that fixes the bad, but stuff the brings the good.
(MORE)

APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Good health...good hair...Good heavens! I bet you can mix up a brew to fix...*anything*!

Apple Bloom gives her a knowing look. But Zecora gives her one of warning.

66 ZECORA
There are many mixtures in this room. But none for what you want, dear Apple Bloom. A magic potion does not hold the key. For a Cutie Mark, time is the only remedy.

Apple Bloom slouches, defeated again.

67 APPLE BLOOM
Fine.

Zecora smiles and begins gathering ingredients.

68 APPLE BLOOM (CONT’D)
What ‘cha got goin’ on there?

Zecora starts pouring and shaking things into the big caldron, which now bubbles and brews.

69 ZECORA
I am brewing up another mix for a rooster and his chicks. Seems the rooster has lost his crow, making mornings very slow.

Apple Bloom watches wide-eyed as Zecora takes heart-shaped flowers, picks off the petals, puts them in a mortar and starts grinding them with a pestle.

70 APPLE BLOOM
Hey! I’ve seen that flower bloomin’ in Ponyville! What is it?

71 ZECORA
It is one that we call Heart’s Desire. A dash will ignite the rooster’s fire.

Zecora now shakes the ground-up petals into the mix. Apple Bloom watches as it bubbles up stars and hearts and rainbows.

72 ZECORA (CONT’D)
A fire deep within his core. Suddenly his heart will soar! With Heart’s Desire his talent comes into view, and he’ll give a mighty, Cock-a-Doodle-Doo!

73 APPLE BLOOM
Zowie!
(to herself)
Heart's Desire, huh?

Zecora looks around confused.

74 ZECORA
Ay me! But what is this? I have run out of Amethyst. I must go get this purple flower for my brew to have full power.

Apple Bloom's eyes are fixed on the still bubbling brew.

75 APPLE BLOOM
(distracted)
Yeah, you go, you go.

Zecora grabs her basket and heads out.

Apple Bloom's mesmerized eyes turn to the rest of the Heart's Desire flowers. A sly smile fills her face.

CUT TO:

SC. 12 <u>EXT. SCHOOLHOUSE - THE NEXT DAY</u>

Various SCHOOL PONIES (TWIST, SNIPS, SNAILS, SILVER SPOON, DIAMOND TIARA) are arriving at school, mingling and playing. Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle are chatting when Apple Bloom walks up with HUGE smile on her face.

NOTE: We do not see Apple Bloom's middle section. We only see her from her head and shoulders at this point.

76 SWEETIE BELLE/SCOOTALOO
Apple Bloom!

Cut to a shot of Apple Bloom's lower half (still not seeing her middle) as she turns her hip towards them. A light shines off her flank, almost blinding them.

77 SWEETIE BELLE/SCOOTALOO
(CONT'D)
OW!

But then they see it!

78 SWEETIE BELLE/SCOOTALOO
(CONT'D)
APPLE BLOOM! YOU GOT YOUR CUTIE MARK!!!

On Apple Bloom's Cutie Mark, a circle with red stripes.

END ACT I

ACT II

SC. 13 <u>EXT. SCHOOLHOUSE - CONTINUOUS</u>

Back on Apple Bloom's red striped circle Cutie Mark. Sweetie Belle and Scootaloo's mesmerized eyes come in close to her newly decorated flank.

79 SWEETIE BELLE/SCOOTALOO
OH!

Then they both look confused.

80 SWEETIE BELLE/SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
OH?

81 SWEETIE BELLE
Um, Apple Bloom, what *is it?*

82 SCOOTALOO
Yeah. Is it an "O?" Is your talent *spelling*?

83 SWEETIE BELLE
Or is it a ring? Are you a jewelry maker?

TWIST jumps in and looks with bright eyes.

84 TWIST
Or ith it a peppermint donut, 'cauthe that thoundth delithiouth!

On AB's impish smiling face, pleased she's stumped them.

85 APPLE BLOOM
No...it's a LOOP-D-HOOP!

Finally reveal Apple Bloom's entire body. In the center, she has a hula hoop. AB begins hula hooping. She starts with the basics of just hooping around her waist.

86 SWEETIE BELLE
Wow, Apple Bloom! That's amazing!

Silver Spoon and Diamond Tiara scoff at her.

87 DIAMOND TIARA
That's it? *That's* your talent?

88 SILVER SPOON
Spinning a hoop around your waist? Puh-lease!

89 APPLE BLOOM
Oh, you ain't seen nothin' yet!

Apple Bloom maneuvers the hoop through her front legs, getting the hoop around her neck.

90 SCOOTALOO
Apple Bloom! You're a super-duper loop-d-hooper!

Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon still don't look impressed. More of the School Ponies gather to watch AB's performance. AB gets the hoop back through her front legs, then through her back legs and all the way to her tail.

91 STUDENT PONIES
Oooh!/Aaaah!/Cool!/Go Apple Bloom!

AB whips the hoop off her tail, sending it flying up to the flag pole. The hoop does a spin down the pole. AB is there when it gets close to the bottom. She nudges it with her head, sending it back up the pole. It whips off, back into the air. As it comes down, AB is there to catch it right around her neck just as the school bell <RINGS>. The ponies <CHEER>. Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon's jaws are dropped.

92 SCOOTALOO
YAAAAY! Awesome Apple Bloom! Woo hoo!

AB basks in their awe and amazement.

93 APPLE BLOOM
Thanks, everypony!

CHEERILEE comes out of the Schoolhouse.

94 CHEERILEE
Alright, my little ponies, time for class!

The ponies file in, still buzzing from AB's performance. AB, Scoot, and Sweetie Belle are the last to head in. AB continues to hula hoop as they walk in.

95 SWEETIE BELLE
That was so amazing, Apple Bloom!

96 SCOOTALOO
Yeah! Congratulations on being the first Crusader to get her Cutie Mark.

Apple Bloom struts and hoops proudly.

97 APPLE BLOOM
Pretty awesome, hunh?

98 SCOOTALOO
Really awesome, Apple *Hoop*!

Apple Bloom smiles at this great name.

99 SWEETIE BELLE
Oh no! Does this mean you're no longer a Cutie Mark Crusader?

100 APPLE BLOOM
Naw, it just means that now you have an *expert* to show you how it's done!

101 SWEETIE BELLE/SCOOTALOO
Yay!

CUT TO:

SC. 14 <u>INT. SCHOOLHOUSE - CONTINUOUS</u>

The ponies all settle in at their desks. But at her desk, AB still continues to hula hoop, showing off for some other kids, mesmerized by her talent. Her friends look at her with concern and eye Cheerilee up at the front with her back to the students.

102 STUDENT PONIES
Ooooooooh!!!

103 SWEETIE BELLE
(whisper)
Apple Bloom! You better stop loop-d-hooping before Miss Cheerilee sees you!

104 SCOOTALOO
Yeah, you're gonna get in trouble!

Apple Bloom keeps on hooping confidently.

105 APPLE BLOOM
Eh, when you got it, you gotta flaunt it!

Cheerilee turns to the class with a big smile.

106 CHEERILEE
Good morning, everypony! So nice to see you all today!

She looks across the classroom, her eyes landing on the hooping Apple Bloom.

107 CHEERILEE (CONT'D)
Are you ready to learn about...

Cheerilee raises her eyebrows and starts to approach AB. Sweetie Belle give AB a nervous side glance while Diamond Tiara smirks.

108 DIAMOND TIARA
(sotto)
Busted!

Cheerilee stands before AB, still hooping. She sees AB's Cutie Mark.

109 CHEERILEE
Looks like somepony got their Cutie Mark.

110 APPLE BLOOM
Sure did!

Apple Bloom smiles, showing off to her teacher now.

111 CHEERILEE

112 CHEERILEE (CONT'D)
Apple Bloom?

Apple Bloom still hooping confidently.

113 APPLE BLOOM
Yes, Miss Cheerilee?

114 CHEERILEE
I want to you take your loop-d-hoop out into the yard...

AB's eyes pop open, she's in trouble. But...

115 CHEERILEE (CONT'D)
And give us all a lesson in your amazing loop-d-hooping!

116 STUDENT PONIES
YAY!!!

AB beams.

CUT TO:

SC. 15 <u>EXT. SCHOOLHOUSE - LATER</u>

Apple Bloom proudly stands before the other students demonstrating her hooping awesomeness All the student ponies and Cheerilee are out in the yard with hoops around their waists, trying to hoop. But their hoops keep circling down, falling at their back hooves.

117 SNIPS
Awwwwww!

Or spinning up and choking them.

118 SNAILS
Ackh! Ackh!

Or getting caught on one back leg...

119 SILVER SPOON
Oh, ooh! Whoops!

Silver Spoon falls on her butt.

Or getting caught around all four hooves.

120 DIAMOND TIARA
Oh, oh, oh! Woah!

Diamond Tiara topples on her side. THUMP!

AB walks among them with a self-assured smirk as she effortlessly spins her hoop.

121 APPLE BLOOM
Don’t worry gals, keep at it and you might get to be half as good as me!

She effortlessly does a one-legged hand stand and spins the hoop around a back leg. Tiara and Silver Spoon fume as AB recovers and continues on.

122 DIAMOND TIARA AND SILVER SPOON
<Grrrrrr!>

Sweetie and Scoot are trying hard and get the hoop to go around a few times.

123 APPLE BLOOM
Great job, girls!

124 SWEETIE BELLE
You're too kind, Apple Bloom.

125 SCOOTALOO
Yeah, we stink!

126 APPLE BLOOM
Naw, you just need a little practice.
Soon you'll be able to...

On Apple Bloom as she demonstrates each trick. First AB spins the hoop around one leg while the other legs hop over the hoop.

127 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Hoop and hop!

The hoop bounces on the ground and AB jumps through back and forth.

128 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Hoop and bop!

AB has the hoop in her mouth, using it as skipping rope.

129 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Hoop and skip!

The hoop sails through the air and AB does a back flip through it.

130 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
And hoop and flip!

AB lands from this move and the hoop whooshes right around her, continuing to spin around her waist. She basks in the resulting accolades.

131 STUDENT PONIES
Yeah!/Totally cool!/Amazing!/The best!

132 CHEERILEE
Show us some more, Apple Bloom!

133 APPLE BLOOM
Well, alright. Just a few more tricks.
But be warned, these are *advanced* moves.
(MORE)

APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Not for beginners. Got that Diamond Tiara?

Diamond Tiara scowls at Apple Bloom.

134 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
I call this one, The Hoopla!

AB gets the hoop spinning really fast around her waist. She spins it down through her back legs, down her tail. It's going REALLY fast now. She whips it up and does a leap. But just as she's jumping through, another Cutie Mark appears right next to her Loop-d-Hoop Cutie Mark.

Surprised, Apple bloom plummet to the ground, with her hoop right around her waist. All the ponies circle her.

135 SILVER SPOON
ANOTHER Cutie Mark?

136 DIAMOND TIARA
Ha! Guess that last trick WAS a lot of hoopla! Those Cutie Marks are FAKE!

AB looks around guiltily, like she's been caught.

137 APPLE BLOOM
What? N-no they're not!

138 TWIST
Yeah! I thaw it appear before my very eyeth. It'th the real deal!

139 SILVER SPOON
Nuh-uh! Nopony can get TWO Cutie Marks!

140 TWIST
Yeah! I only have one!

141 SCOOTALOO
Lucky you! I've got none!

Diamond Tiara turns to Cheerilee.

142 DIAMOND TIARA
Miss Cheerilee, have you ever heard of a pony with TWO Cutie Marks?

143 CHEERILEE
I must say that I never have. But maybe Apple Bloom has *two* special talents.

144 SILVER SPOON
Oh yeah! Then let's see you do that!

She points at her new Cutie Mark. A nervous Apple Bloom looks and sees the new Spinning Plates Cutie Mark.

145 SNIPS
Spin plates!!

146 SNAILS
Yeah!

Snips and Snails toss plates at her like Frisbees. Foom! Foom! Foom! Foom! They come zipping right towards Apple Bloom's head. Just as they are about to smack into her, she instinctively gets them to stack and starts spinning them on her head.

Everypony's jaws drop, including Apple Bloom.

147 STUDENT PONIES/CHEERILEE
<GASP!>

148 APPLE BLOOM
(super cocky)
Awww yeah!!!

Apple Bloom is now spinning plates and hooping her hoop.

149 SWEETIE BELLE
Two Cutie Marks?!

150 SCOOTALOO
Two Talents?!

Truck in on Apple Bloom as her friends make the most amazing statement she's ever heard....

151 SWEETIE BELLE/SCOOTALOO
Our friend is the most special pony ever!

It's Apple Bloom's best day ever! Jubilantly, she exclaims...

152 APPLE BLOOM
Alright, everypony! You ready for a *real* show?

SC. 16 <u>EXT. PONYVILLE - CONTINUOUS</u>

MUSIC SEQUENCE:

Apple Bloom proudly prances into the heart of town with all the student ponies and Cheerilee following excitedly behind. She spins her plates and hoops her hoop as she does, immediately drawing an eager crowd.

AB tosses the hoop in the air. She spins the plates up through the hoop, she zips under to the other side and catches the plates. The crowd CHEERS, stomping their hooves.

AB uses her hoof to spin the hoop down the road, like a hoop and stick without the stick. She then jumps back and forth through the hoop, spinning the plates all the while. More CHEERS and HOOF APPLAUSE.

RAINBOW DASH is sleeping above on a cloud. AB sees her, tosses her hoop WAY up, making it hoop through Rainbow and her cloud, waking her up. The hoop then lands back around AB's neck. RD looks down, rubbing her eyes, not believing what she's seeing. CHEERS and APPLAUSE.

On her back, AB spins the hoop on her tail while she spins the plates from hoof to hoof in a Slinkee motion, arching over the hoop as they go.

In a swift motion, AB gets her plates back to her head and stands back up while her hoop continues on her tail.

AB sees an amazed Sweetie Belle standing next to her sister RARITY and TWILIGHT. AB spins the hoop down off her tail, sending it flying from horn to horn of the unicorns. They smile amazed. The hoop then comes flying back to AB's head, which is still spinning the plates. The hoop comes over the plates and her head. She lifts her hooves and the hoop continues to circle her body.

AB sees Pinkie Pie bouncing with excitement. AB takes the hoop and "skips" with it in her mouth. She times it with Pinkie's bouncing so she's skipping the hoop too.

APPLEJACK, BIG MAC, and GRANNY SMITH are at the Applecart, watching with their jaws dropped. AB sidles up to Granny. AB shifts the hoop so it's going around both their heads. Granny <GIGGLES> silently with a big smile.

AJ tosses AB an apple pie on a pie plate. AB gets the pie spinning right on top. She then does a quick turn around and kicks the plates with her hooves. The plates go flying back at her family and land on the cart, each with a slice of pie on them.

The Crowd goes WILD!!! Apple Bloom smiles with pride, happier than ever.

CUT TO:

SC. 17 <u>EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - NIGHT - ESTABLISHING SHOT</u>

SC. 18 <u>INT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - CONTINUOUS</u>

The Apple Family comes in, full of excitement. Apple Bloom is still hooping and spinning with a big smile on her face. But she looks a bit tired from this busy day.

153 APPLEJACK
Yee haw, little sis! Congratulations on getting not just one, but TWO Cutie Marks! We're mighty proud of you, right Big MacIntosh?

154 BIG MAC
Yup.

155 APPLEJACK
I've never seen anything like it. Have you, Big Mac?

156 BIG MAC
Nope.

Granny gets animated, reenacting the performance.

157 GRANNY SMITH
Why the way you were hoopin' and hoppin' and kickin' and spinnin' reminded me of when I was a spry young filly!

Granny gets a cramp and freezes.

158 GRANNY SMITH (CONT'D)
Ow! Charlie Horse! Charlie Horse!

Big Mac gives her a bump with his hip and she unfreezes.

159 GRANNY SMITH (CONT'D)
Phew! That's better!

160 APPLEJACK
Why, Apple Bloom, I think you're ready to hit the rodeo circuit right now!

161 APPLE BLOOM
Actually, I'm ready to hit the hay right now. I'm plumb tuckered! I'll see y'all in the mornin'. G'night.

AB heads to her room, still spinning and hooping.

162 APPLEJACK
'Night!

AJ and Big Mac watch her with pride.

163 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Oh my. Our little Apple Bloom has finally blossomed. Hasn't she, Big Mac?

Big Mac puffs up with pride.

164 BIG MAC
Yup!

CUT TO:

SC. 19 <u>INT. APPLEJACK'S ROOM - LATER</u>

The lights are out and Applejack is trying to sleep. But there's an incessant <TAPPING> disturbing her, making her wince and toss and turn.

165 APPLEJACK
<SLEEPY GRUNTS> Nunh! Unh!

Finally her eyes pop open.

166 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
What in tarnation is that?

AJ gets up and goes down the hall, following the <TAPPING> which grows louder and has a "Time Step" beat.

AJ gets outside Apple Bloom's door and sees that the door is ajar and light is on. AJ nudges the door open.

167 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Apple Bloom? What is that awful...

AJ then sees AB still hooping, spinning, and now TAP DANCING!

168 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Tapping?!

AJ looks at AB's flank, which now sports a THIRD Cutie Mark--Tap Shoes. AJ is stunned.

169 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
<GASP!> *Three* Cutie Marks?

AJ looks at her sister who is clearly exhausted yet still doing all of these tasks that seem out of her control.

170 APPLE BLOOM
(desperate whisper)
Help me!

END ACT II

ACT III

SC. 20 <u>INT. APPLE BLOOM'S ROOM - CONTINUOUS</u>

On Apple Bloom's face as she hoops, spins, and taps.

171 APPLE BLOOM
(desperate whisper)
HELP ME!

Applejack scrambles to help her sister, trying to get her to stop her tasks. First she tries to grab some of the spinning plates with her mouth.

172 APPLEJACK
C'mere you!

But she gets too close and gets whacked by the plates.

173 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Ow! Ow! Ow! Ow!

Next she goes for AB's feet doing the Wings tap move, but they send AJ jack hammering up and down.

174 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Ooh! Ah! Eee! Ooh! Ah!

She lets go, getting thrown on her back.

175 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Oof!

Finally, she goes for the hoop spinning on AB's tail.

She jumps and grabs the hoop with her mouth. But instead of pulling it away, she goes spinning around and around.

176 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
(with a hoop in her mouth)
Woah! Woah! Woah! Woah!

She let's go and flies across the room, landing SPLAT on her belly.

177 APPLE BLOOM
I'm sorry, Applejack! I don't know how to make it stop!

AJ gets up and puts her hat back on with determination.

178 APPLEJACK
Well, I know somepony who might...

CUT TO:

SC. 21 <u>INT. GOLDEN OAK LIBRARY - SUNRISE</u>

On Twilight, jaw dropped, looking closely at AB's flank.

179 TWILIGHT
Three Cutie Marks.

She watches as AB performs all three tasks.

180 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Three talents. I've never seen anything like it!

181 SPIKE (O.S.)
Are you kidding? Just look at me!

On SPIKE trying to hula hoop, spin plates, and tap dance. Everything comes crashing down on him.

182 SPIKE (CONT'D)
Sorry.

Twilight is busy scanning the stacks for a book.

183 TWILIGHT
This is serious, Spike. Now, help me! I was just reading something about unusual equine illnesses. What was it?

Far from where Twilight is, Spike looks up at the stacks and immediately pulls a book down.

184 SPIKE
Perplexing Pony Plagues, perhaps?

Twilight's eyes light up.

185 TWILIGHT
Yes! Spike, you're amazing!

Spike blows on his knuckles and polishes them on his scales.

186 SPIKE
Yes, well, I do have *some* talents.

Twilight uses her horn to flip through the book.

187 TWILIGHT
Hay Fever...the Trots...<GASP!> Cutie Pox!

188 APPLEJACK/APPLE BLOOM/SPIKE
Cutie Pox!

189 TWILIGHT
Cutie Pox...

Slow pan across from Twilight to Spike to Applejack to Apple Bloom, all riveted. But of course, AB is still doing all her tasks.

190 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
This Puzzling Pony Plague afflicted a population of ponies back in the Paleopony Period.

191 SPIKE
Say that 10 times fast.

192 TWILIGHT
Random Cutie Marks appeared all over the ponies' bodies, causing them to perform all the talents that came with them.

193 APPLE BLOOM
Just like me!

194 APPLEJACK
Yes, but what's the cure? What's the cure?!

195 TWILIGHT
It says here that there is no known cure.

196 APPLEJACK/APPLE BLOOM/SPIKE
No known cure!

197 APPLE BLOOM
Oh no!

198 TWILIGHT
The cause of the breakout was never discovered and the Cutie Pox disappeared as mysteriously as they arrived.

199 APPLE BLOOM
But how long did that take?

200 TWILIGHT
It doesn't say.

201 APPLE BLOOM
Well, how many pox did those ponies get?

202 TWILIGHT
It doesn't say.

203 APPLE BLOOM
What if happens if I'm stuck doing this forever?

204 TWILIGHT
It doesn't say.

205 APPLE BLOOM
WELL WHAT DOES IT SAY?!!

Suddenly, three more Cutie Marks breakout on AB's body.

206 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Sacré bleu! Plus de Marques de Cutie! <GASP!>

Apple Bloom looks horrified.

207 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Qu'est-ce que c'est? Je parle français?!

AB then begins hurriedly shelving books (while tapping, hooping, and spinning).

208 APPLEJACK
Good gravy! My sister's speakin' in fancy!

209 TWILIGHT
It's French.

210 APPLE BLOOM
Aidez-moi!

AB grabs a duster with her tail and dusts the shelves.

211 TWILIGHT
She needs help!

212 APPLEJACK
I know she needs help! And we can't just wait for this to go away. We gotta find somepony to mix up a cure! And fast!

213 APPLE BLOOM
Tout suite!

Twilight's eyes light up.

214 TWILIGHT
Not some*pony*! Some *zebra*!

215 TWILIGHT/APPLEJACK
ZECORA!

CUT TO:

EXT. PONYVILLE - DAY

Applejack and Twilight with Spike on her back run through Ponyville towards the Everfree Forest. Apple Bloom looks worried and is trying to catch up to stop them but takes a bit more time as she hoops, spins, and shuffles.

216 APPLEJACK
Hurry! Hurry!

217 APPLE BLOOM
Non, non! Pas Zecora! Pas Zecora!

218 TWILIGHT
Oui! I mean, yes, we have to get Zecora, Apple Bloom. She's our only hope!

219 APPLE BLOOM
Depechez-vous!!!

But then AB breaks out again, covered in even more Cutie Pox. AJ, Twilight, and Spike stop.

220 APPLEJACK
Apple Bloom!

But AB can't slow down and dashes wildly about town doing her various tasks while still doing 1 or 2 of the original talents--hooping, spinning, and tapping, drawing a crowd of curious onlookers.

Close shots of her polishing muddy pony hooves, pulling weeds from a flower box with her mouth, nailing a fence together with her back hooves, taking a hose and watering a lawn, painting the fence with her tail, fencing with a PONY across the square, delivering orders from her spinning plates at the cafe, jumping rope as Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle turn it.

A gathered crowd watches stunned as Apple Bloom rushes this way and that. LILY, ROSE and DAISY, Ponyville's resident melodrama-queens stand near Spike (who is snacking on some hay seeds) watching AB, mortified.

221 LILY
She's cursed!

222 ROSE
Hexed!

223 DAISY
Enchanted!

224 SPIKE
No she's not.

225 LILY/ROSE/DAISY
Phew!

226 SPIKE
She just has some weird, mysterious disease with no known cure called Cutie Pox.

The crowd freaks.

227 PONIES
CUTIE POX!!!

The Ponies panic, high-tailing it away from AB. They run for the hills, hide in their houses, bar the doors, shut the shutters.

On Zecora, who has appeared from out of nowhere, is now standing right next to Twilight.

228 ZECORA
(light-hearted)
I thought I had removed their fear the last time that I visited here. But doors are barred and shutters shut. Guess I should have stayed inside my hut.

Twilight rushes to Zecora.

229 TWILIGHT
Zecora!! Apple Bloom has Cutie Pox!

Twilight gestures towards the pocked-out Apple Bloom wildly performing all her talents (washing windows with her tail, doing push-ups, eating cupcakes). Zecora's eyes widen.

230 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
We were just on our way to see if you had a cure.

231 APPLEJACK
But magically you're here! Was your Zebra Sense a-tinglin'?

232 ZECORA
My "Zebra Sense" did not bring me round. It was a special flower that I needed found.

233 ZECORA (CONT'D)
Grown only here in Ponyville, this heart shaped flower can bring good... or ill.

As Zecora talks, she eyes AB knowingly. AB feels this, but continues her frantic tasks.

234 ZECORA (CONT'D)
I thought I'd picked enough to fix all of the potions I had to mix. But after my visit from Apple Bloom, some had mysteriously left my room.

Zecora gives Apple Bloom a knowing look.

235 ZECORA (CONT'D)
Apple Bloom, what do you say? Did this flower just walk away?

AB gets a worried face as she continues to dash around doing her tasks.

236 APPLE BLOOM
I...uh...um...

Apple Bloom breaks out in more pox. She begins performing more tasks, spinning out of control. Zecora eyes Apple Bloom knowingly, then changes the subject.

237 ZECORA
A Cutie Pox cure I have, forsooth. For healing power is in the *Seeds of Truth.*

Zecora opens a pouch full of the Seeds.

238 APPLEJACK
Well, then, give 'em to her! Quick!

239 ZECORA
These seeds must be planted in the ground. With the truth they'll grow and the cure is found.

240 APPLEJACK
Come again?

241 ZECORA
The Seeds of Truth do hold the cure. But one must speak words...

She glances to Apple Bloom.

242 ZECORA (CONT'D)
...true and pure.

Apple Bloom <GULPS> nervously. AJ looks at Twilight.

243 APPLEJACK
Please translate.

244 TWILIGHT
Zecora said that the seeds themselves are not the cure. They have to be planted and when the truth is told, they'll grow. Then Apple Bloom will be cured.

245 APPLEJACK
Then let's get to it!

Applejack knocks the seeds off Zecora's hoof. They land in the ground. AJ kicks some dirt on them.

246 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Alright, they're planted!

Applejack makes a big pronouncement to the pony folk, who are peeking out from their doors and shutters. Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon peek out mockingly. Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle peek out confused.

247 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Now somepony tell the truth!

But AB spinning out of control like whirling dervish.

248 APPLE BLOOM
Woah! Woah! Woah! I...

249 APPLEJACK
Somepony! Anypony!

Zecora looks at her with concern and wisdom. Apple Bloom feels her eyes and begins to sweat. She bites her lip nervously. The tension builds. AB looks at Zecora. Worried eyes, beads of sweat, biting her lip. Zecora's eyes burrow into her. Finally...

250 APPLE BLOOM
I...I...I...can't stand it anymore! I didn't earn my Cutie Mark! They're all fake!

Cut around town to the various pony reactions. Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon smirk. Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle give a sympathetic look. Zecora sighs with relief.

Apple Bloom halts, finally able to at least stand still, but still doing some of her tasks.

251 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
I figured the Heart's Desire would help me get what I wanted most, so when Zecora left her hut, I mixed up a special potion and put the rest of the Heart's Desire in it!

Apple Bloom hangs her head. Suddenly the dirt begins to tremble and an amazingly beautiful flower springs up. All are in awe.

252 PONIES
OOOOOOOH!

Everypony stands mesmerized by the glowing plant for a BEAT. Then...

Apple Bloom CHOMPS it down in one big bite.

253 APPLE BLOOM
<CHOMP!>

Suddenly, POP POP POP POP!!! ---all her Cutie Marks disappear and Apple Bloom is finally still.

254 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
<SIGH> Whew!

Sweetie Belle and Scootaloo come running up.

255 SWEETIE BELLE
Apple Bloom!

256 SCOOTALOO
Are you okay?

257 APPLE BLOOM
I'm great! And I've never been happier to be a blank flank!

The friends all <GIGGLE>.

258 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
But I'm awful sorry I lied, especially to my fellow Crusaders. I was so desperate for my Cutie Mark, I just got carried away.

AB turns to Zecora.

259 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
And I'm really sorry I snuck those flowers from you, Zecora. Why, I wouldn't blame you if you never wanted me to come by again.

260 ZECORA
Now Apple Bloom, do not be silly. You are always welcome, my little filly. With each mistake, you learn something new, growing up into a better you.

261 APPLEJACK
Zecora's right, Apple Bloom. And I'm mighty proud of you for telling the truth.

262 APPLE BLOOM
Thanks, sis.

263 TWILIGHT
Apple Bloom, would you mind writing to Princess Celestia and telling her what you learned?

264 APPLE BLOOM
I'd be happy to, Twilight!
(calling out)
Spike?

Spike ZIPS up, quill in one hand, scroll in the other.

265 SPIKE
Ready!

As AB talks, Spike writes. We pan over Twilight, Applejack, and Zecora.

266 APPLE BLOOM
Dear Princess Celestia, waiting for what your heart desires can be really hard. So you try to take shortcuts and cheat to get what you want. But this never works because you didn't earn what you wanted. And in your heart, you know it. Soon, you're sorry for what you wished for because instead of being a blessing, it can be a curse.

As she finishes, we pan over Sweetie Belle, Scootaloo, and Apple Bloom.

Spike nods, rolls up the scroll, and blows out fire to send it off.

267 APPLEJACK
I'm proud of you sis. Seems like you finally learned the importance of patience.

268 APPLE BLOOM
Yup. All good things come to those who wait.

AB, Scootaloo, and Sweetie Belle wait for a BEAT, at first, perfectly still. But then their eyes begin to shift, unable to stand it anymore.

269 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
Well, I've waited long enough.

270 SWEETIE BELLE
Me too.

271 SCOOTALOO
Actually, that was way too long.

Applejack's jaw drops in shock.

272 APPLEJACK
What?

But the Crusaders pay her no mind.

273 APPLE BLOOM
So, what're we gonna do today to earn our Cutie Marks?

274 SCOOTALOO
Well, I was thinking. For a pony who's never mixed up a potion before, you sure stirred up something fierce!

275 SWEETIE BELLE
Yeah! So what if your talent is potion making?

276 APPLE BLOOM
Oh my gosh! Totally! Let's go talk to Zecora! Now!

277 SCOOTALOO
Yeah!

278 SWEETIE BELLE
Woo hoo!

The three scamper off towards Zecora, who is heading back towards the Everfree Forest. Applejack facepalms.

THE END.