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MY LITTLE PONY III

"Spa Day"

Episode 312

Written by

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RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

Bigger than (every other sporting event)
combined.

RARITY

Didn't Cloudsdale host the Equestria
Games one year?

RAINBOW DASH

No. Cloudsdale *should've* hosted the games
one year. We lost out to Phillydelphia.
(then, somber)
I'll never forget when we got the news.

EXT. CLOUDSDALE - FLASHBACK

A pre-school age Rainbow Dash clutches a pennant with a
Cloudsale logo on it. Her whole body is clenched, in
anticipation for the big announcement.

VOICE (O.S.)

The Equestria Games go to...the city of
Phillydelphia.

Little Rainbow Dash hurls her pennant to the ground.

RAINBOW DASH

WHAT?!

(then, to the heavens)
NOOOOO!!

EXT. TRAIN STATION - THE PRESENT

Rainbow Dash has a determined look on her face.

RAINBOW DASH

These Crystal Ponies lost 1000 years to
an evil king's curse. They've had enough
bad news. No way we're letting them
experience the pain of losing out on
these games.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Exactly. Princess Cadence is counting on
us to do our part to convince the Head of
the Games to choose the Crystal Empire
and we are not going to let her down, are
we?

Pinkie Pie suddenly screams to the heavens.

PINKIE PIKE

NOOOOOO!!!!

She stops, realizing everyone is staring at her.

PINKIE PIKE (CONT'D)
(oblivious)
What? I was just answering Twilight's
question.

END TEASER

MAIN TITLE

ACT I

INT. TRAIN CAR - LATER

The ponies are all seated together in the car, practicing
their cheerleader style welcome chant.

PONIES
(chant's big finish)
W-E-L-C-O-M-E, that's the way we spell
Howdy! Ungh!

The all strike a pose and hold it for a beat. Then...

PINKIE PIE
Okay, everypony. Great job. Sounds like
we're ready.

PONIES
<CONGRATULATING EACH OTHER WALLA>

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
One more time. From the top.

PONIES (EXCEPT RD)
<GROANING AND COMPLAINING WALLA>

APPLEJACK
But we've run this like twelve times
already. I think we've got it.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Cadence said the Head of Games really
puts folks through the ringer on her
visits. There is no margin for error
here. And this time we need to practice
the steps.

APPLEJACK
On a train car?

RAINBOW DASH
You heard the pony. On your feet.

The ponies begin a chant accompanied with the pony equivalent of cheerleader moves.

PONIES
2-4-6-8 name a place that's really--

Then train suddenly SLAMS to a stop.

PONIES (CONT'D)
<YELLING WALLA>

All the ponies go tumbling. (NOTE: This should not play as extreme. No ponies hitting their heads.) A TRAIN CONDUCTOR sticks his head in, barely reacting to the PONIES SPRAWLED EVERYWHERE.

TRAIN CONDUCTOR
Crystal Empire, ladies. Watch your step leaving the train.

APPLEJACK
(shaking it off)
Probably shoulda watched our step while we were still on it, too.

EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE TRAIN STATION - A LITTLE LATER

The ponies exit the train station with their bags, ASTONISHED to see the Crystal Empire spread out before them, GLEAMING like never before.

PINKIE PIE
Wow. The Crystal Empire looks crystalier than ever.

ANGLE ON VARIOUS CRYSTAL PONIES, each excitedly doing different things to make the place shine: polishing street signs, sweeping streets, squeegee-ing windows (and pretty much anything else in sight, since it's all made of crystal).

APPLEJACK
They must have everypony in the Empire out sprucing it up.

Everywhere they look there's some other Crystal Pony working to make the Empire shine especially bright.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

This must be why Cadence asked us to
handle the welcome committee routine.
All the Crystal Ponies are busy with
preparation that could only be done here.

RAINBOW DASH

And it's probably also because we'll be
awesome at it.

APPLEJACK

Princess Cadence was right. These ponies
do look pretty darn excited.

Rainbow Dash smiles and puts a hoof around one of the
smiling Crystal Ponies.

RAINBOW DASH

Yep. I remember that feeling.

EXT. CLOUDSDALE - FLASHBACK

Little Rainbow Dash, holding her Cloudsdale pennant, does
an excited jig with lots of fist pumps.

EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE - THE PRESENT

Rainbow Dash shakes her head at the memory.

RAINBOW DASH

But not as much as I remember the
crushing wave of disappointment that came
when things didn't work out.

The Crystal Pony's smile turns into a frown.

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

See. That is the face I do not want to
see.

The Ponyville Ponies nod in agreement. The Crystal Pony
does look pretty pathetic.

INT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE SPA - LATER

PRINCESS CADENCE greets our ponies with hugs.

PRINCESS CADENCE

There are my girls!

Meanwhile, Rarity is totally enthralled by the huge open space filled with ponies getting spa treatments of every sort: facials, hair treatments, mud baths... everything the stylish pony would need to relax and beautify.

RARITY

Oh my, this is spectacular. Please everypony stand back. I need air.

PRINCESS CADENCE

Yes. Pretty nice here, isn't it.
(then)

Go ahead and try whatever you like. It's all complimentary for the Welcome Committee.

(pointing)

That over there is a mud bath, which relaxes the body and rejuvenates your coat. Now I realize it can be kind of strange to climb into mud, but if you'll just give it a chance I'm sure -

Pinkie Pie takes a RUNNING SWAN DIVE into it.

PINKIE PIE

Whoo-hoo!

She goes under... the breeches like a whale... then jumps around, up and down, splattering mud everywhere. Then, floating placidly on her back...

PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)

Aah... so relaxing...

She proceeds to placidly BURBLE DOWN through the surface of the mud and out of sight.

APPLEJACK

Wow Cadence, it's so great you're able to find some personal time here on your kingdom's big day.

PRINCESS CADENCE

I know it must seem a little indulgent, but we've all been preparing so long and hard for this, I want to make sure when I meet the Head of Games I make a good first impression.

A MESSENGER approaches.

MESSENGER

Princess. If I may have a word. I have two pieces of news for you.

(MORE)

MESSENGER (CONT'D)

First, your hairstylist has the flu and won't be able to make it for fear of you catching it, too.

PRINCESS CADENCE

Oh no, I hope she's better soon.

(then)

Do any of the other stylists here know how to do the traditional royal ceremonial headress?

CRYSTAL PONY STYLISTS

<UNCERTAINTY WALLA>

PINKIE PIE

The whosie whatsis?

PRINCESS CADENCE

Rulers of the Crystal Empire wove crystals into their manes in a very specific way a 1000 years ago. Since I'm still the new princess on the block, I figured before I meet the Head of Games I should take the time to look the part.

RAINBOW DASH

Bet Rarity here could figure it out.

RARITY

Um... well...

RAINBOW DASH

Rarity, nopony knows primping like you. You got this.

RARITY

(uncertain)

Um, well... yes... I suppose I could give it a shot.

PRINCESS CADENCE

Oh Rarity, thank you so much! Fortunately, I have all the precise instructions right here.

Cadence pulls out a piece of paper from the salon station.

RARITY

Oh thank goodness!

Princess Cadence UNFURLS the piece of paper REVEALING an exceedingly long and complex document.

RARITY (CONT'D)
Er... uh... oh dear...

PRINCESS CADENCE
(sensing her trepidation)
You sure you're up to this?

RAINBOW DASH
Anything to make sure the next Equestria Games end up here in the Crystal Empire where they belong. Right, Rare?

RARITY
Well, working on the hair of royalty on such an auspicious occasion is the opportunity of a lifetime.
(then, firmly)
I'll give it everything I've got.

PRINCESS CADENCE
Oh Rarity, that's wonderful!
(then, to messenger)
You said you had a second bit of news?

MESSENGER
Yes, quite. Word has it that Ms. Sternblock, the Head of the Equestria Games, will be arriving three hours earlier than planned.

Every pony reacts with alarm.

PRINCESS CADENCE
What?! You couldn't tell me that news first??

EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE - LATER

The ponies are all on their way back to the train station.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Okay, we got this. All we gotta do is find the pony with the flower print luggage.

FLUTTERSHY
Ooh, I love flower print.
(then, re: interruption)
Sorry. Go on.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Bring her back to the castle, put on our big welcome committee how-do-you-do, and then Cadence meets us there and we're done.

PINKIE PIE

Easy peasy, puddin' in the freezy.

(then)

Mmm, pudding.

RAINBOW DASH

There's just one more thing we have to remember.

PINKIE PIE

Put the pudding out to thaw before you eat it or you'll crack a tooth?

RAINBOW DASH

I'll just ignore that.

(then)

We need to remember that the Head of Games arriving early is probably part of a plan to psyche us out.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

What do you mean?

RAINBOW DASH

Throw us off our game. Toss us a curve ball. You know, try to catch us off guard so she can see how we handle pressure. That's probably a big piece of how she decides if a kingdom has what it takes to host something as massive and important as the Equestria Games.

FLUTTERSHY

Oh no... we're gonna blow it...

RAINBOW DASH

We just gotta stay one step ahead at all times. Anything she throws at us, we just need to remember she's testing us. All we gotta do is be cool and roll with it and we're good.

EXT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE TRAIN STATION - A LITTLE LATER

The ponies look on as a PONY with FLOWER PRINT LUGGAGE steps off of a train.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

There she is. Okay everypony, let's do this.

ANGLE ON the ponies approaching the VIP, who's walking along with her flower print luggage. Fluttershy and Applejack bring up the rear, Fluttershy STILL BEING PUSHED ALONG but now BREATHING DEEPLY.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)

(tentatively)

Excuse me, ma'am?

She spins around, confrontational.

GAMES VIP

(sharp)

Yes? What is it?

FLUTTERSHY

("we're doomed!")

Oh no...

RAINBOW DASH

(sotto)

Be cool. It's a test.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Er, um, well... I know you're not expecting us but we're here to personally welcome you to the Crystal Empire.

GAMES VIP

(still unsmiling)

The whole lot of you came to do that?

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Er, um, well... yes.

A beat... then she suddenly breaks into a huge grin.

GAMES VIP

Well, goshdarntootin! Ain't that the cat's meow! Y'all didn't need to do that. Why I hardly expected anything like this.

The ponies all smile at one another, stunned and relieved.

APPLEJACK

The Princess wouldn't have had it any other way.

GAMES VIP
The Princess? Princess Cadence?

RAINBOW DASH
None other.

GAMES VIP
Well tie me up and throw me down, this
just keeps gettin' better 'n better!

FLUTTERSHY
Can we help you with your bags?

GAMES VIP
Don't mind if ya do!

They all head off together like a bunch of old friends.

PINKIE PIE
Our first stop is the **castle** where we've
got a big welcome thing planned for you.

*

GAMES VIP
The **castle**?! Are you kiddin'? Hot
diggity dog!

*

The ponies all smile. This'll be a breeze!

RAINBOW DASH
(sotto to Twi)
See that? We're golden.

*

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INT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE SPA - SAME TIME

Rarity, **SWEATING PROFUSELY**, labors intently over Cadence,
who still relaxes serenely (her mane unseen).

*

*

PRINCESS CADENCE
How's it going so far?

*

RARITY
(fretting)
Oh, I'm so sorry. It's just all so
complicated. I can fix it... I think...

*

*

*

Princess Cadence snaps her head up and looks in the
mirror. Her mane is a **CRAZY JUMBLE OF CRYSTALS AND HAIR**.

*

PRINCESS CADENCE
<SCREAMS>

SLAM TO BLACK.

*

END OF ACT I

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