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MY LITTLE PONY III
"Too Many Pinkie Pies"

Episode 303

Outline by

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TEASER

PINKIE PIE giddily helps SPIKE build a house of cards. Spike's happy to have her company, though he cautions her to be careful putting the next card down on the tower he's built. Pinkie tells him not to worry, she likes fun things, and knocking over a house of cards is definitely not fun, so why would she want to do that? Then, just as she's about to ever-so-carefully put the next card in place, she spots RAINBOW DASH flying by carrying a towel and a beach ball. Pinkie Pie darts off after her to find out what sort of super-fun thing she's up to. Rainbow Dash says she's prepping for a rigorous day flying around in the clouds managing weather, but plans to relax beside a local Ponyville swimming hole afterward. When she asks Pinkie Pie if she would join her later, Pinkie responds: "Absotutely-lutely. Gotta go!" Pinkie Pie then darts off after APPLEJACK, who happens by operating a huge crane-like device. "What super-fun thing are you up to, Applejack?" Applejack says she's prepping for a big family barn-raising this afternoon. She invites Pinkie to come join them later if she can. Pinkie says she'd LOVE to, but then, as Applejack walks away, she stresses ("This afternoon??") She runs back to Spike who's gingerly about to add the next card. A harried Pinkie explains that she needs to move things along. She's just made big, fun plans with both Applejack and Rainbow Dash and she's got to figure out how to be in two places at the same time. In a flash, she builds the tower of cards super-high, then darts off. Spike marvels that the tower's somehow still standing: "Whoa..."

ACT I

Pinkie Pike, laden down with swimming gear, zips from one side of Ponyville to the other at incredible speed. She then zips back again, equally fast, while changing into overalls. Then she does the circuit back and forth again, still changing outfits each way. Twilight stands by looking on, wondering what's going on, until she's finally able to get Pinkie Pie's attention. Pinkie says she's rehearsing for this afternoon. She has two friends who both want her to spend time with them and she doesn't want to miss out on any fun time with her friends whatsoever. She's trying to see if she can run so fast from one site to the other that she won't miss anything at either one. Twilight says she appreciates Pinkie's commitment to being with her friends, but the only way Pinkie could pull off something like this would be if there were more of her to go around. Pinkie thinks this is a great idea and, in fact, it reminds her of a legend she once heard as a filly. Twilight isn't sure what legend Pinkie means, but before she can hazard a guess, Pinkie is outta there like a shot.

Venturing deep into the dark and shadowy Everfree Forest, Pinkie searches for and then finds a clearing, in the middle of which is a placid pond. Pinkie steps over the pond and looks at her reflection. She tries to remember the childlike song that she learned along with the legend... and, after a few tries, she hits on the right lyric and tune... causing the pond to suddenly roil ominously and then... POP!... her reflection comes to life and joins her on the shore! Pinkie Pie is thrilled... and so is her new duplicate. Immediately, the duplicate is racing around the pond looking for super-fun stuff to do with what's available... rubbing sticks together for super-fun,

climbing trees for super-fun, falling out of trees for super-fun, etc. Pinkie acknowledges that, as awesome as all that super-fun is, there's even more super-fun to be had in Ponyville. Hearing this, Pinkie's duplicate is off like a shot. Pinkie loves this duplicate: "She so gets me." Pinkie hurries off to keep up.

Back in Ponyville, Pinkie's duplicate is bounding around, overwhelmed by all the fun possibilities. What to do first? But Pinkie One, as the original Pinkie begins calling herself, assures Pinkie Two that this is the genius of Pinkie One's master plan: now they can split up all the fun goings on in Ponyville between the two of them. Pinkie sends her reflection off to the Applejack family barn-raising, instructing her to report back afterward about all the super-fun stuff she did: "Tell me everything about everything because I wanna know because you're me! Oh my gosh!" Pinkie Two darts off while Pinkie One basks in the glow of a problem solved - it'll be like she never missed a thing. She then darts off to join Rainbow Dash to double her fun.

At the swimming hole, Rainbow Dash arrives exhausted after a particularly grueling weather-management session. Pinkie Pie darts over with all her swimming gear, so happy to get this time with her friend! Rainbow Dash is glad to see her friend Pinkie, too, especially since she heard Pinkie might be attending Applejack's barn raising instead. Pinkie says she is, but, well, not "instead"... and then excitedly relates the bizarre tale of how she's managing to attend both by duplicating herself. Rainbow Dash can barely follow what Pinkie said, but dismisses it as Pinkie Pie just being Pinkie Pie, basically ignoring her ramblings in favor of simply enjoying Pinkie's company.

Meanwhile, Pinkie Two is on her way to Sweet Apple Acres when she runs into Fluttershy who is so happy to see her friend. She's having a picnic with some of her critter friends and would love for Pinkie Pie to come along too. Sounds like super-duper fun to Pinkie Two. But then she realizes something. If she goes to the super fun picnic, she'll miss out on the super fun barn raising. "Two fun things? At once? But which – what - ?? Help!" Pinkie Two completely freaks out and bolts. Fluttershy: Oh, goodness. Was it something I said? Pinkie Two darts back into frame to answer, "yes," then darts off again.

ACT II

Back at the swimming hole, Pinkie One's having a blast with Rainbow Dash, though she's kind of wearing poor Rainbow Dash out. Dash gently suggests that if she wants to head on over to Applejack's now Dash wouldn't be offended. Pinkie's confused... why would she need to do that? She already is at Applejack's. Dash: "Huh?" Just then, Pinkie One sees Pinkie Two signaling her in the distance and suddenly runs off.

With breathless excitement, Pinkie One joins Pinkie Two, barely able to wait for the report of the fun at Applejack's. But Pinkie Two says there was trouble instead. She explains that Fluttershy has invited her to a critter picnic. A picnic. With cute little animals! It will be soooo much fun. But if she goes, she'll miss the barn-raising. The

super fun barn raising! Pinkie One agrees that this is quite the predicament. Fluttershy is such a great friend and so much fun to be with, but so is Applejack. Pinkie Two remains distressed, but Pinkie Pie, ever the upbeat problem solver, tells her doppelganger not to worry: “We’ve just gotta make us a couple more Pinkie Pies!”

As they arrive back at the reflecting pond, Pinkie One instructs Pinkie Two to lean over so they can look at their reflections and say the rhyme together. They do... and now there are four Pinkie Pies. Pinkie One considers this for a moment. Now Applejack, Rainbow Dash, and Fluttershy are covered, plus one extra Pinkie Pie in case she gets an invite from somepony else. Perfect. Pinkie One: “Okay, great, let’s go.” But Pinkie Two quickly enlists the new duplicates to lean over the pond and repeat the procedure. Now there are seven Pinkies. Pinkie One: “Okay, good enough... now maybe we should just - ” But all the duplicates repeat, so now there are thirteen Pinkies. Pinkie One: “Knock it off!” Collecting herself, Pinkie begins to explain that they should have all the fun in Ponyville covered between the bunch of them, but no sooner has she started talking than the duplicates have all run off.

Pinkie One catches up with the group of duplicates back in Ponyville at the boundary of the forest, where the whole group is busy joking, laughing, snorting, poking, leaping, running, etc. Pinkie One briefly jumps headlong into giddily bouncing and jabbering along with the rest. Wheeeee!!! She then pulls out a shrill whistle and blows... finally managing to get everyone’s attention. She says that with their large numbers, every ounce of fun with her friends can all be covered at any given point in time. “Let’s get on this, folks! And make sure to report back here with every last detail so I don’t miss a thing. Fan out on three. One – ” But the other Pinkie’s have already run off. Pinkie One: “Good enough!” She bounds off to join in on the good times.

But when she gets to where Rainbow Dash is supposed to be relaxing, she isn’t relaxing at all. She’s dealing with several Pinkie Pies splashing, jumping, running, engaging in unsafe “horseplay” beside the pond, etc. The Pinkie Pies may be having fun, but Rainbow Dash sure isn’t. And with the duplicate Pinkie Pies taking up so much of Rainbow Dash’s attention, it’s impossible for the real Pinkie Pie to get even a minute with her. This isn’t going quite as Pinkie Pie had planned. She heads over to Applejack’s barn raising. There she finds several Pinkie Pies running in and round the action in such a way that no one can get the walls of the barn to stay up. The Pinkie Pies are having a great time, but a baffled Applejack and her equally baffled family are not. They’re just trying to deal with the commotion and chaos caused by all these Pinkie Pies. And with Applejack so focused on dealing with all these new Pinkie Pies, the real Pinkie Pie doesn’t have a chance to spend even a second with her. What has Pinkie Pie done?

Meanwhile, the news has reached Twilight of the Pinkie Pie chaos that is raining down upon Ponyville. RARITY shares with Twilight a horrific experience she’s just had with Pinkie Pies wreaking havoc in her shop – fun havoc, she admits – but havoc is havoc and it was havoc nonetheless! An overwhelmed Fluttershy fares no better

as some duplicates manically run in circles around her and her animals. Just then, a handful of Pinkie Pies show up at Twilight's place looking for more fun. Twilight registers alarm, throwing up barricades. One of the Pinkies pleads to be heard, insisting it's very important. But Twilight won't let her through unless she's the real Pinkie Pie. Pinkie insists she's the real deal. But just as Twilight is about to let her inside, another Pinkie insists that she's the real Pinkie. Then another insists that *she's* the real Pinkie. Then another insists that *she's* the real Pinkie. Twilight isn't sure what's going on, but clearly one of the bunch must be the real Pinkie Pie. But which one is it?

ACT III

Twilight struggles to calm the distressed mob that has gathered in the center of town. One by one, more fun-related incidents of Pinkie Pie devastation are reported. The situation has clearly become dire. Twilight says that she's done a little research and thinks she knows what has happened. Luckily, she has found a spell that can cast the Pinkies back into the pond... she just has to make sure she doesn't accidentally do that to the real Pinkie. But Rainbow Dash reminds her that they all claim to be the real Pinkie Pie, which means figuring out the real one will be impossible, since they're all exactly the same! Twilight thinks there might be a way to tell the difference. Twilight: "First step, round up the Pinkies!"

Applejack whips her family into gear, and, like a bunch of ranch hands rustling cattle, wrangle the rambunctious and freewheeling crowd of Pinkie Pies into one large room.

Twilight steps to the front of the room to address the impish and fidgety bunch, saying that they've been brought here to take a test. Twilight assures them the test will be simple enough, and whoever passes the test gets to stay. Anypony who doesn't pass the test, will have to go. Twilight announces that the test will be... watching paint dry. And, at that, she yanks away the curtain to reveal there's nothing but a blank wall behind it. A bunch of ponies scurry away with ladders, having applied the final touches to a fresh coat of paint. The Pinkie who can sit watching the paint dry the longest gets to stay.

Twilight orders the test to commence, and the room falls suddenly silent... with every Pinkie present determined to outlast the rest. As the Pinkie Pies all stare at the freshly painted wall, Rainbow Dash asks Twilight how exactly she expects this to work. Twilight informs her that if there is one thing she knows about Pinkie Pie, it is that she doesn't just care about having fun, she cares about her friends. She'd do anything to be with them. Twilight doesn't believe the same holds true for the duplicate Pinkie Pies.

Sure enough, despite their resolve and the fact that failing the test would mean leaving Ponyville, some Pinkies can't resist engaging in silly fun distractions. Finally it's down to two. These last two are both hanging on tenaciously, till Rainbow Dash, unable to take any more of the most boring competition in history, yells out "Hey,

look, somepony's making balloon animals!" Pinkie Two can't resist checking it out.

The friends all rush around and ask the last remaining Pinkie: "So is it true, are you the real Pinkie Pie?" To which the Pinkie responds in a daze, still staring at the wall: "I – I don't know." The friends all gasp in fear... but then the Pinkie adds, still staring at the wall: "All I know is I didn't want to leave my friends. That I just had to stay. I just had to." Twilight was right - the most important thing to Pinkie Pie is her friends and she would do anything to be with them, even something as boring as watching paint dry. They all look back at Pinkie still staring at the wall: "You can stop staring now, Pinkie. You can stay!" Pinkie (suddenly snapping out of it): "Whoopie!" Now certain that she has identified the real Pinkie Pie, Twilight uses her magic to send the others back into the pond.

Happy to have just the one, true Pinkie Pie with them, all of Pinkie's friends ask her to do different things to celebrate. Pinkie decides that today might be a good day to choose to go home and have a little alone time instead. Pinkie's friends understand and tell her they can always do something another time. Pinkie returns home where she dictates a letter to Princess Celestia, emphasizing that having lots of good friends means that you sometimes have to make choices as to whom you'll spend your time with. But that's okay, because good friends will always give you lots of opportunities to choose them.

END.