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MY LITTLE PONY III

Episode 304

"Bully For You"

Outline by

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Outline: August 4, 2011

Notes Due: August 5, 2011

TEASER

The Apple Clan is expecting a family visitor from out of town, and the Cutie Mark Crusaders want to look their best! We see Sweetie Belle, Apple Bloom, and Scootaloo in their respective bedrooms, running around like madponies in search of just the right thing to wear. Sweetie Belle digs through a drawer. She pulls out a sunhat, looks at it with disgust, then throws it back into the drawer. Meanwhile, Apple Bloom pulls out outfits right and left from her closet. A pair of overalls? Too casual! A Little Bo Peepish dresh? Too fancy! At the same time, Scootaloo looks through a wardrobe of clothing items. She pulls out some shiny shorts. Too shiny. She pulls out a flashy shirt. Too flashy. She pulls out an ugly dress. Way too ugly. And, it's a dress. Finally, she spots something perfect and yells, "Ahah!" CLOS ON Apple Bloom as she lets out her own "Ahah!" Followed by a CLOSE UP of Sweetie Belle letting out an equally enthusiastic "Ahah!" We PULL BACK TO REVEAL the Cutie Mark Crusaders are now in their clubhouse. And they are all wearing outfits made out of the exact same fabric! Great minds do think alike!

ACT I

The Cutie Mark Crusaders are at the train station with Applejack eagerly awaiting their special guest. Apple Bloom's cousin Babs Seed is coming all the way from Manehattan all by herself to spend a month with the Apple family on the farm! The timing of her visit is perfect; summer harvest has ended and the whole town will celebrate with the Summer Harvest Parade. Something that Babs doesn't have makes the visit extra special for the Cutie Mark Crusaders----Babs hasn't received her cutie mark yet! "We'll make her feel extra special! We'll welcome her to our clubhouse!" suggests Apple Bloom. "Yeah! We'll introduce her to everypony at school!" offers Scootaloo. "We'll—make her the guest of honor and let her ride on our float!" cries Sweetie Belle. "That's a great idea!" says Scootaloo. "Why didn't I think of that?"

As the train enters the station, the Cutie Mark Crusaders quickly try to scope out Babs through the windows amongst all the other pony faces. Apple Bloom says, "That's her! Wait, no, no it's not. Wait! That's her! No, no... I think that's her! Is it? Wait!" Applejack reminds Apple Bloom, "Um, you've never met Babs, remember?" Apple Bloom blushes. "Oh, yeah..." Finally a group of ponies exit the train. "I think that's her!" proclaims Applejack. They watch a bunch of cute, pretty ponies come through---and then, there's Babs. The Cutie Mark Crusaders are a little surprised by Babs' appearance, as she's a bit huskier and brawnier than the other three. And not only is she missing a cutie mark, she's also missing a smile!

Applejack nuzzles Babs' head with her hoof, although Babs is not much smaller than Applejack. "How was the train ride?" Applejack asks. Babs responds in a tough Brooklyn dialect, "The train was crowded, the chow was bad, and everypony was too -too—happy! Ugh...I just wanna get owtta hea!" Then she sees the Cutie Mark Crusaders watching her. "Whatchoo lookin' at?" Babs demands, then walks off. Applejack reads the surprised looks on the Cutie Mark Crusaders' faces and tries to

explain. "She must be all tuckered out—it's a pretty long ride from Manehattan to Ponyville." The Cutie Mark Crusaders look at each other, worried. Not such a great first impression!

Back at the farm, the Cutie Mark Crusaders decide to step up their efforts to befriend Babs, telling her all about the exciting adventures they have planned for her during her stay. School! The clubhouse! The Summer Harvest Parade! The float! But the only response they get from Babs is, "Whatevah," as she heads off for a long nap. "I'm positive Babs' will have a change of attitude when we show her our clubhouse!" Sweetie Belle convinces her friends.

But she couldn't be more wrong. Babs finds nothing interesting about it. She miffs at the curtains, scoffs at the furniture, laughs at the artwork on the walls. "You call this a clubhowse?" asks Babs sarcastically, "I call it a dump-howse." The Cutie Mark Crusaders realize they haven't explained to Babs why they have a clubhouse in the first place. Once Babs sees its purpose she'll surely be more impressed. But when Sweetie Belle tells Babs about the Cutie Mark Crusaders and their desire to invite Babs to join the club because she doesn't have a Cutie Mark, Babs flies off the handle. She gets in Sweetie Belle's face. "Don't. Talk. About. Mah. Cutie. Mawk. ...OR ELSE!" Babs snarls. "Whoah, easy Babs!" says Scootaloo as she scoots in between Babs and a frightened Sweetie Belle. "Are we goin' to school now, or what?" Babs asks, clomping off. The Cutie Mark Crusaders reluctantly follow.

Babs does not improve her reputation as the Cutie Mark Crusaders try to introduce her to their classmates. She intimidates the students, bullies other ponies on the playground, and does all she can to humiliate the Cutie Mark Crusaders in front of everyone. Silver Spoon and Diamond Tiara seem to find all of this hilarious and Babs seems to relish the attention they give her. The Cutie Mark Crusaders on the other hand are not amused.

Gathered outside their clubhouse to work on their pumpkin-themed Summer Harvest Parade float, the Cutie Mark Crusaders agree that there is no way they are letting the bullying Babs ride on their float with them now. "That Babs Seed is a Bad Seed!" proclaims Apple Bloom. But just as the Cutie Mark Crusaders proudly put the finishing touches on their float, Babs approaches. "Is this the float that you were making for me?" she asks. "Making for US! You'll have to stand on the sidelines and just watch the parade," Scootaloo tells Babs defiantly. "Oh yeah!" Babs kicks a big hole in the float! "Looks like nobody's riding on a float now!" Babs says with a sneer. "When I tell Appl—" Babs interrupts Apple Bloom, "You gonna tell Applejack what? What're you—a snitch? A Cutie Mawk Crybaby??" Babs walks off, leaving the Cutie Mark Crusaders exhausted. "What are we going to do? She's ruining our lives with all her bullying!" complains Sweetie Belle, "Maybe we should talk to Applejack." "No!" Apple Bloom thinks. "We're NOT snitches! And we're NOT babies!" "Then why do I feel like crying?" whimpers Sweetie Belle.

ACT II

The Cutie Mark Crusaders gather in the clubhouse to formulate a plan. “Look, she’s only here for a month,” offers Apple Bloom. “We’re just gonna have to stay out of her way,” she adds. Scootaloo and Sweetie Belle agree that this is the best course of action. But avoiding Babs proves to be more difficult than they’d thought it would be. When they go to Twilight’s library to do some reading, she’s there. When they try to get a sweet at Sugarcube Corner, she’s there. Even an attempt at donning disguises so she won’t recognize them in town doesn’t work. Babs seems hell-bent on following them around and making their lives miserable. All to the amusement of Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon who think Babs is so much cooler than the other “blank flanks” they know.

Increasingly frustrated by their predicament, the Cutie Mark Crusaders decide to try another tactic – get Babs out of town. The three go to the train station, certain Babs will follow to give them more abuse. Once she’s on the train, they hop off. As the train leaves the station with their tormentor on board, the Cutie Mark Crusaders breathe a sigh of relief. That is until the last train car passes and they see a smirking Babs looking at them from the other side of the tracks. “Nice try,” she says with a smirk.

They’ve failed at eluding her. They’ve failed at trying to get her out of Ponyville. They need to regroup and try to figure out another way to deal with Babs. But as they approach their clubhouse, they hear someone inside. Just then, Babs pokes her head up. “What’re you doing at MY clubhouse?” Babs asks them. Scootaloo is enraged. “YOUR clubhouse?! This is OUR clubhouse.” Babs tells them that it is hers now. “That’s not fair Babs! We never did anything to you!” Sweetie Belle yells. “And let’s keep it that way. Scram, crybabies.” Babs slams the window shut. The Cutie Mark Crusaders are furious! They can’t believe that they’ve been kicked out of their own clubhouse! “That Babs has really gone too far this time!” Apple Bloom fumes. “We need to talk to Applejack,” offers Sweetie Belle. “No. What we need to do is give her a taste of her own medicine!” exclaims Scootaloo. “Babs is going to be the guest of honor at the Summer Harvest Parade,” she tells her friends. Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle don’t see how this is going to be a form of payback. “It will be when her float crashes into the lake and she gets soaking wet in front of everypony,” Scootaloo says with a devious smile.

The Cutie Mark Crusaders get to work taking apart the float they built before, and this time, make it much more extravagant. They want Babs to be dying to get to ride on it. They get scraps of shiny fabric from Rarity, sparkly sugar dust from the Sugarcube Corner, and gold paint from the store.

The parade is about to begin and the ponies have just put the finishing touches on their float when Babs shows up. “Whoah!” remarks Babs. “Who knew you crybabies could put together a bomb like dis?” Scootaloo plays the game. “Well, don’t even think about riding it, Babs. You had your chance,” says Scootaloo, laying it on thick. “Oh really?!” exclaims Babs. The parade begins and just as the Crusaders are about to climb in, Babs pushes them aside, and hops into the float herself. She slams closed the door and waves goodbye. “Everything set up on the parade route?” Scootaloo

asks Apple Bloom. "Yep. She'll have NO IDEA what hit her..." responds Apple Bloom. "She'll be the laughing stock of Ponyville!" replies Sweetie Belle. "Ha ! Teach her to mess with the Cutie Mark Crusaders!"

As Babs takes off in the float, Applejack arrives and congratulates the ponies on working together so well to make the beautiful float. She thinks it is especially nice that they are letting Babs ride on it. Applejack tells the Cutie Mark Crusaders that Babs has been having a tough time in Manehattan. She's been dealing with some ponies who have been teasing her about the fact that she hasn't gotten her Cutie Mark yet. In fact, she was taking a break and coming out to the farm to get away from all of her problems back home. "You've really helped out a pony in need, girls. I'm really, really proud of y'all."

The Cutie Mark Crusaders look at each other, realizing they've made a horrible mistake. Then they look at the golden apple float rolling away with Babs inside. What did they do?!?!

ACT III

The Cutie Mark Crusaders quickly tell Applejack about the mistake they've made. Once the float hits a certain point in the parade, it will trip a wire that will cause a chain reaction that will send the float down an embankment and into the Ponyville Lake. "Why would--?" Applejack starts to ask. "Babs. Bully. Payback. No time to explain!" spits out Apple Bloom. "We've just got to get Babs out of that float," she adds. Unfortunately, Babs is at the head of the moving parade and already well out of earshot to warn her about what is coming. "Come on, girls. We gotta catch up to that float!" Applejack commands. The Cutie Mark Crusaders follow Applejack after the float.

Meanwhile, an oblivious Babs is having a grand time at the head of the parade. She's obviously enjoying all the attention. Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon wave to her from the crowd. "Nice float!" they call out to her. "Snagged it from those whiny-baby blank flanks," Babs replies, proudly. Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon congratulate Babs on being so much cooler than her Cutie-Markless counterparts. Babs beams. In the distance we can see the Ponyville Lake. Babs float is moving ever closer to it. At the back of the parade, Applejack, Scootaloo, Apple Bloom, and Sweetie Belle are trying desperately to get to Babs and warn her to get out of the float. But it is impossible to get through the throng of parade watchers. They dart into the actual parade in an effort to get up to Babs' float, but soon find weaving their way through Marching Band members, baton twirlers, and a variety of over-the-top floats even more difficult. Up ahead, Babs still has no idea what is in store for her. The point at which the trap will be sprung and her float will go of course is fast approaching. Scootaloo, Apple Bloom, Sweetie Belle, and Applejack double their efforts to get to her and manage to catch up to the float. They try to call out and get Babs' attention but she can't hear them over the roar of the crowd and the music of the Marching Band. Suddenly, Scootaloo goes white. "Oh, no!" cries Scootaloo. Babs float hits a trip wire, setting off a Rube Goldbergian device that ends with the front axle of the float being dislodged. "Babs!" the Cutie Mark Crusaders cry all at once as they push

her out of the float. Unfortunately, they Crusaders fall in just as the float goes on its own course down the steep embankment!

Like a rollercoaster, the float barrels down the embankment. “WHOA WHOAH WHOAH!” cry the ponies. Just then, the float’s wheel hits a giant rock, and the ponies are flung through the air, plopping into the bank of the Ponyville Lake. Unhurt, but sopping wet and muddy, they all emerge above the water, to see a crowd at the edge of the road looking down at them in shock. Applejack joins Babs who rushes down to help pull them out of the water. “After I been so mean to ya, you saved me,” Babs says in disbelief. The Cutie Mark Crusaders explain that it was their fault Babs was in an out-of-control float in the first place. “Huh?” replies a confused Babs. Back at Sweet Apple Acres, as the Cutie Mark Crusaders are rinsing the mud from their manes, they also come clean to Babs and Applejack. They explain that Babs had been bullying them and they didn’t know what else to do but try to get her back. Babs apologizes for treating them so badly. She was just so desperate not to be treated like she was back in Manehattan that she resorted to bullying the Cutie Mark Crusaders to make herself look tough. Applejack gently reprimands the girls and tells them that they all should have come to her right from the beginning. “That’s what I kept saying!” Sweetie Belle proclaims.

Later at the clubhouse, Scootaloo blares a horrible tune on her bugle. It’s initiation time! Sweetie Belle reads from the official scroll, “We, the Cutie Mark Crusaders, elect Babs Seed to join us as a fellow sister, confidante, ally, bosom buddy, gal pal, chum of chums, compadre, amigo, ---” “Ahem!” Scootaloo clears her throat. “What?! You wrote this!” “Oh yeah, right!” Scootaloo blushes. Apple Bloom offers, “Let’s just skip to the bottom part.” Sweetie Belle finishes, “homegirl, mate, blah blah—oh yes, HERE! Fellow CUTIE MARK CRUSADER!” Babs blushes as the three ponies throw confetti over her head. “And the best part – is the RECEPTION!” They go outside, and Applejack has put together an entire spread of harvest yummys!

Their three weeks come to an end and the Cutie Mark Crusaders accompany Babs to the train station to see her off. She vows to start her own branch of Cutie Mark Crusaders in Manehattan and ask her own big sister to help her deal with the problems she’s been having. Just as she’s about to board the train, Babs sees Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon approaching. They tell Babs that they are sorry to see her go. They gesture to the Cutie Mark Crusaders – “Now we’re stuck with just the lame blank flanks,” they say snarkily. Babs quickly steps to the Cutie Mark Crusaders defense and tells Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon that they’d better change their attitude toward her friends. “Friends?!” Silver Spoon and Diamond Tiara reply in shock and disgust. “You got a problem with that?” Babs replies, getting in their faces. “Nope,” Silver Spoon and Diamond Tiara nervously reply. “Good,” Babs replies. “I’d hate to have to tell your muthas about your bad attitudes,” she adds. Applejack nods her approval at Babs’ approach to dealing with Silver Spoon and Diamond Tiara. Babs boards her train and The Cutie Mark Crusaders and their newest member wave to each other as it heads off into the distance.

THE END