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MY LITTLE PONY III

"Wonderbolt Academy"

Episode 308

Written by

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TEASER

EXT. RAINBOW DASH'S HOUSE - DAY

RAINBOW DASH, surrounded by PINKIE PIE, TWILIGHT, RARITY and FLUTTERSHY, stands by her mailbox, awaiting a delivery. Their HOT AIR BALLOON parked nearby.

1 PINKIE PIE

Oh, I wish the mailpony would just come already. I can't wait another minute to find out if Rainbow Dash got in or not.

2 TWILIGHT

Pinkie Pie, you're more nervous than Rainbow Dash.

3 RAINBOW DASH

I'm not nervous at all. When I get into the Wonderbolt Academy--

4 PINKIE PIE

If you get in...if you get in...don't jinx it!

5 RAINBOW DASH

I'm telling you, it's in the bag.

6 PINKIE PIE

Don't jinx it!

7 APPLEJACK

She is the best flyer in Ponyville.

8 RAINBOW DASH

In Ponyville? I'm probably the best flyer in all of Equestria. Wouldn't be surprised if they just went ahead and made me a Wonderbolt the first day.

Just then, the MAIL PONY pushes his mail cart up to the mailbox. He retrieves a letter.

9 MAILPONY

Got a letter here for Rainbow Dash.

Rainbow Dash rips the letter open. Suddenly her face falls in disappointment.

10 RAINBOW DASH

I didn't get in.

11 PINKIE PIE
(GASP)

Her friends all rally around her.

12 APPLEJACK
What?! That's just plum crazy.

13 RARITY
It's outrageous.

14 TWILIGHT
Don't worry. I'm sure you can
reapply next year.

Rainbow Dash's sad expression turns into a mischievous grin.

15 RAINBOW DASH
Gotcha!
(then)
You guys are so gullible. Like I
wasn't going to get in.

Pinkie Pie practically tackles Rainbow Dash and hugs her. For
a really long time. It starts to get awkward.

16 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Yeah....ummm.....

Rainbow Dash tries to squirm out of the embrace, but it's no
use. Pinkie Pie just holds on even tighter.

17 PINKIE PIE
I'm just soooooooooo happy for you.

18 RAINBOW DASH
Uh....thanks.

Pinkie Pie continues to hug Rainbow Dash.

19 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Pinkie Pie, could you--?

Pinkie Pie hugs Rainbow Dash for another loooooonng beat,
then releases her.

20 PINKIE PIE
Okay. I'm done.

Pinkie Pie smiles.

END TEASER

ACT I

INT. RAINBOW DASH'S HOUSE - MORNING

All of the ponies have gathered to see Rainbow Dash off.
Rarity eyes Rainbow Dash's tiny suitcase.

21 RARITY
You are going to be gone an entire
week, please don't tell me that's
all your taking?!

22 RAINBOW DASH
It's Wonderbolt Academy not
Wardrobe Academy.

23 RARITY
Still, one should be prepared for
anything. Here, just in case you
need something a little more
formal.

Rarity produces an OVER-THE-TOP BALL GOWN and stuffs it in
Rarity's suitcase. Rainbow Dash watches as Rarity struggles
to get the gown into the bag.

24 RAINBOW DASH
Thanks, but I kinda need to get
going. Sooner I get there, sooner I
get to show 'em my stuff.

Rainbow Dash does an impressive loop-d-loop as Rarity crams
the rest of the dress into the bag. Rainbow Dash grabs her
now over-stuffed satchel and puts it onto her back.

25 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
See you guys in a week!

26 APPLEJACK
Good luck!

Rainbow Dash grins.

27 RAINBOW DASH
Won't need it.

EXT. RAINBOW DASH'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Rainbow Dash flies out her door, soon followed by a frantic
Pinkie Pie who is chasing after her.

28 PINKIE PIE
(at the top of her lungs)
DON'T FORGET TO WRITE!
(then, to the others)
Do you think she heard me?

REVEAL: The other ponies reacting to the volume of Pinkie's voice.

29 APPLEJACK
Sugarcube, I don't think there's
anypony who didn't hear you.

EXT. CLOUDSDALE - THE WONDERBOLT ACADEMY - ESTABLISHING

It looks like a typical sleep-away summer camp with cabins, a mess hall and a huge training area, simply called "The FLYING FIELD." Rainbow Dash flies into scene and takes in her surroundings. She notes the other CADETS arriving.

30 RAINBOW DASH
Oh yeah. This is gonna be sweet.

EXT. THE FLYING FIELD - A FEW MINUTES LATER

The cadets, now wearing VESTS emblazoned with a Wonderbolt logo, are all lined up at attention. Rainbow Dash is at the end of the line. The head Wonderbolt Captain, SPITFIRE, paces in front of the of cadets, sizing them up like a drill sergeant.

31 SPITFIRE
Well lookeee what we got here. Bet
you all think you're Wonderbolt
material, don't you?

32 CADETS
Yes, sir.

33 SPITFIRE
Think you've got what it takes to
be an elite flyer?

34 CADETS
Yes, sir.

35 SPITFIRE
Well then, let me be the first to
tell you... YOU DON'T.
(MORE)

SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
If you had what it took, you'd
already be a Wonderbolt. Not just a
cadet in a training academy.

Spitfire walks up to CADET #1 and gets in her face.

36 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
Still think you're something
special?

Cadet #1 is so intimidated that her knees start to knock
together.

37 CADET #1
No, sir.

Spitfire moves down the line to CADET #2.

38 SPITFIRE
What about you? Think you're hot
stuff?

39 CADET #2
No, sir.

Cadet #2 is so intimidated that she hangs her head with her
tail between her legs. Spitfire continues down the line until
he reaches Rainbow Dash.

40 SPITFIRE
And what about you? You look like
you're the worst flyer in the whole
Academy. You'll probably quit after
the first day.

41 RAINBOW DASH
No sir! I'd never quit, sir!

Spitfires tries very hard to stare her down. But unlike the
previous Cadets, Rainbow Dash stands her ground. He turns his
attention to the next cadet. This is LIGHTNING DUST.

42 SPITFIRE
What about you? Bet you couldn't
fly past the first flagpole without
getting winded.

43 LIGHTNING DUST
Try me, sir.

44 SPITFIRE
What's that?

Spitfire tries to stare her down. But like Rainbow Dash, Lightning Dash also holds his gaze.

45 LIGHTNING DUST
Let me show you what I've got, sir.

46 SPITFIRE
You want a chance to prove yourself, huh?

47 LIGHTNING DUST
Yes, sir!

48 SPITFIRE
Well, now's your chance. Give me five hundred laps...all of you!

The other cadets, with the exception of Rainbow Dash slump.

49 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
Now!

Spitfire blows his whistle and the cadets take off flying. Rainbow Dash and Lightning Dust take off, side by side.

WIPE TO:

EXT. THE FLYING FIELD - LATER

Most of the ponies have by now collapsed on the ground from fatigue. There are just a few sputtering along, barely able to flap their wings any more. Suddenly Rainbow Dash and Lightning Dust WHIZ through the frame, literally leaving the other ponies in their dust.

50 CADETS
(COUGHING FROM DUST)

They ZOOM past Spitfire.

51 SPITFIRE
Lap 499!

52 RAINBOW DASH
One more lap to go.

She gives Lightning Dust a "Let's race!" look.

53 LIGHTNING DUST
You're on.

They both put out a new burst of speed and cross the finish line simultaneously.

54 SPITFIRE
500!

They land on the ground, side by side, impressed with each other. Spitfire approaches.

55 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
Not bad.
(then)
For a couple of newbies.

He walks away, leaving Rainbow Dash and Lightning Dust to finally make their introductions.

56 LIGHTNING DUST
Name's Lightning Dust.

57 RAINBOW DASH
Rainbow Dash.

58 LIGHTNING DUST
Wanna grab some grub in the mess hall?

59 RAINBOW DASH
Definitely.

EXT. PONYVILLE - PINKIE PIE'S HOUSE

Pinkie Pie is standing by her mailbox, tapping her hooves impatiently. Applejack is with her.

60 APPLEJACK
Pinkie Pie, Rainbow Dash hasn't even been gone for 24 hours yet. Give her a chance to settle in first.
(then)
Why don't we go see what Twilight is up to? Heard she's practicin' some new spells.

61 PINKIE PIE
Okay.

Pinkie Pie starts to follow Applejack then stops.

62 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)

Wait. If I'm not here when Rainbow Dash's letter arrives, I won't be able to read it right away. And if I don't read it right away, I won't be able to write her back right away.

(increasingly rapid-fire)

And if I don't write her back right away, she might think I didn't get her letter. And then she might worry it got lost. And if she's worrying about her letter, she'll be distracted. And if she's distracted, then she won't do well at the Academy. And if she doesn't do well at the Academy, then she'll get kicked out. And if she gets kicked out, they'll never let her be a Wonderbolt. And if she doesn't get to be a Wonderbolt, all her dreams will be crushed.

(then, genuine concern)

And it will be all. My. Fault.

(then, mind made up)

I better just stay here and wait for her letter.

Applejack shakes her head.

63 APPLEJACK

Suit yourself.

As Applejack departs, Pinkie Pie opens the mailbox, looks inside, and closes it again.

A second later, she opens the mailbox, looks inside, then closes it again.

EXT. THE WONDERBOLT ACADEMY - THE FLYING FIELD

Once again the cadets stand at attention while Spitfire paces before them. There is a large machine behind him, covered with a large cloth.

64 SPITFIRE

The Wonderbolts are the fastest, best precision flyers in the world, but spin outs can still happen. And when they do... a Wonderbolt must be able to recover quickly.

Spitfire dramatically pulls off the cloth to reveal the DIZZY HOOF 5000 (a machine that spins ponies around in three different directions at one time then releases them.)

65 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
This is the Dizzy Hoof 5000. It will simulate being in an actual tailspin. It is going to make you very dizzy and then release you. Your task is to try to recover and fly straight again...as soon as possible. Once you have recovered you must come in for a smooth landing. Now who's first?

Both Rainbow Dash and Lightning Dust's hooves shoot straight in the air, but Spitfire passes them over for the nervous looking CADET #2.

66 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
You...you're up.

67 CADET #2
Me?

She looks up at the huge Dizzy Hoof 5000 and GULPS.

68 SPITFIRE
NOW!

The cadet sheepishly climbs into the Dizzy Hoof 5000 and Spitfire's ASSISTANTS strap her in.

69 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
Ready?

Cadet #2 tries to put on a brave face.

70 CADET #2
Yes, sir.

71 SPITFIRE
Go!

Spitfire activates the Dizzy Hoof 5000 and soon Cadet #2 is spinning in three different directions at top speed.

72 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
Now release!

Spitfire's assistants hit the release button and Cadet #2 comes shooting out of the Dizzy Hoof 5000 in a tail spin.

CADET # 2's POV: The world is spinning around her.

Eventually, after flying in crazy circles for a bit, she manages to straighten herself out and makes a very wobbly landing. Her legs shake like Jell-o as she hits the ground comically.

73 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
15 seconds. which is actually
pretty good for a newbie. Who's
next?

Once again, Rainbow Dash and Lightening Dust's hooves shoot straight up.

74 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
Alright Rainbow Dash, let's see
what you got.

75 RAINBOW DASH
Yes, sir!

Rainbow Dash confidently trots up to the Dizzy Hoof 5000 and gets strapped in.

76 SPITFIRE
Okay, go!

The Dizzy Hoof 5000 starts and soon Rainbow Dash is spinning like crazy.

77 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
Release!

Rainbow Dash is released and comes shooting out of the Dizzy Hoof 5000.

HER POV: the world is spinning like crazy.

But unlike her predecessor, Rainbow Dash soon regains her equilibrium, flies straight and comes in for a smooth landing. All the other cadets are very impressed....including Lightning Dust.

78 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
(checking his stopwatch)
Six seconds. That's a newbie
record.

Rainbow Dash rejoins the other cadets in line.

79 CADET #1
(whispers to her)
You make it look so easy.

80 RAINBOW DASH
(with a grin)
I make everything look easy.

81 SPITFIRE
Okay, Lightning Dust, you're up.

With a determined look on her face, Lightning Dust trots up to the Dizzy Hoof 5000 and gets strapped in.

82 LIGHTNING DUST
Sir, can you put the Dizzy Hoof
5000 at maximum speed? I want to
push my limits.

83 SPITFIRE
Are you sure, newbie?

84 LIGHTNING DUST
Yes, sir.

85 SPITFIRE
Okay. You asked for it.

Spitfire moves the machine's levers up a notch to top speed. The Dizzy Hoof 5000 starts to hum louder and soon Lightning Dust is spinning like crazy.

86 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
Release!

Lightning Dust is released and comes shooting out of the machine. Lightning Dust makes a quick recovery and does a flawless landing.

87 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
(checking stop watch)
6 seconds! Not bad.

Lightning Dust trots over to Rainbow Dash. The two share a hoof bump.

88 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
Next!

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. WONDERBOLT ACADEMY - FLYING FIELD - A LITTLE LATER

A wobbly cadet makes her landing then rejoins her peers. With the exception of Rainbow Dash and Lightning Dust, everyone looks a little dizzy. Rainbow Dash whispers to Lightning Dust.

89 RAINBOW DASH
Nopony else even came close to six seconds.

90 LIGHTNING DUST
They should just make us Wonderbolts right now.

91 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah they should.

The two share a grin, then quickly come to attention at the sound of Spitfire's voice.

92 SPITFIRE
Listen up, everypony! For the rest of camp you'll be working in pairs. Tomorrow morning, I'll post the pony teams, including who will be the lead pony and who will be the wingpony.

The cadets all start to WHISPER amongst each other, excited.

93 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
Good luck everypony!

94 LIGHTNING DUST
(to Rainbow)
Like we're going to need it.

They share another "hoof bump".

INT. MESS HALL - THE NEXT MORNING

All the cadets have gathered around the mess hall wall to see what the pony teams are. Rainbow Dash stands casually apart from them with a cocky grin on her face. A group of cadets turn away from the wall and approach Rainbow Dash.

95 RAINBOW DASH
Which of you lucky gals gets to be my wingpony?

The cadets all eye her strangely, not answering. Rainbow Dash notes their expressions.

96 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
What?

97 CADET #1
You might want to check the wall.

Rainbow Dash walks over to the wall and glances at t

98 RAINBOW DASH
(total shock)
A wingpony?

Lightning Dash approaches.

99 LIGHTNING DUST
They made us a team, isn't that
awesome?

Judging by the expression on Rainbow Dash's face, she doesn't think it's awesome at all.

END ACT I

ACT II

INT. SPITFIRE'S OFFICE - LATER

Rainbow Dash stands at attention in front of Spitfire who is not happy about this interruption.

100 SPITFIRE
What is it, newbie?

101 RAINBOW DASH
I had the best time on the Dizzy
Hoof 5000...only 6 seconds!

102 SPITFIRE
And...?

103 RAINBOW DASH
And you made me a wingpony.

104 SPITFIRE
Because I believe you and Lightning
Dust will be an unstoppable team.
(then)
(MORE)

SPITFIRE (CONT'D)

Do you not think you'll be an
unstoppable team?

105 RAINBOW DASH

Yes, sir. I mean, no, sir. I mean
we'll be an unstoppable team, sir.

106 SPITFIRE

Then what's the problem?

107 RAINBOW DASH

I think I should be lead pony.

108 SPITFIRE

And I think Lightning Dust likes to
push herself a little harder than
you do. That's why I made her lead
pony. Got it?

It is clear there is only one answer Spitfire is going to
find acceptable.

109 RAINBOW DASH

Yes, sir.

110 SPITFIRE

Good.

Rainbow Dash exits.

EXT. THE FLYING FIELD

The field has been decorated with all sorts of "fake terrain"
- a mountain side, a gulch, a creek, a hollowed out log
etc... There are tons of potential hiding places.

A determined Rainbow Dash arrives on the field and takes her
place next to Lightning Dust and the other cadets. (NOTE: The
Leader ponies are now wearing GOLD PINS. The wingponies wear
SILVER PINS.)

111 SPITFIRE

Today you will all be participating
in a "Flag Hunt." We'll divide you
into two teams, Red and Blue.

Whoever finds the most flags of the
opposing team's color, wins.

All the cadets WHISTLE and CHEER. Everypony LOVES this game.

112 CADET #1
(whispers to Cadet #2)
This is going to be so much fun!

Spitfire blows his WHISTLE, silencing the cadets.

113 SPITFIRE
If you think this is going to be
fun, you are sadly mistaken. This
is for training purposes, this is
not recess!

Rainbow Dash and Lightning Dust exchange determined looks.

114 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
We play in pairs. Lead ponies and
wingponies must fly together. If
any pair splits apart, they will be
immediately disqualified. Do you
understand?

115 CADETS
Yes, sir.

116 SPITFIRE
Then let's go!

Spitfire BLOWS his whistle and the pony cadets all take off
in pairs, each wingpony flying parallel to her lead pony.

117 LIGHTNING DUST
(to Rainbow Dash)
Ready to rock and roll?

118 RAINBOW DASH
Ready.

Lightning Dust takes off and Rainbow Dash follows (both
playing for the blue team.)

Cadet teams all ZOOM around the flying field searching for
the other team's flag.

Lightning Dust leads Rainbow Dash through a gulch, up a
ravine, even inside a water fall, but neither have seen
anything yet.

119 LIGHTNING DUST
You spotted any flags yet?

120 RAINBOW DASH
Not yet.

Lightning Dust swoops down low for a ground level look. Still nothing, then after a second, Rainbow Dash spots something.

121 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
There it is!

A red flag is hidden inside a narrow tunnel/cave which is camouflaged in the side of a hill.

122 LIGHTNING DUST
Where?

123 RAINBOW DASH
Inside the tunnel.

124 LIGHTNING DUST
Good eyes, now let's go!

Lightning Dust flies high again before DIVING and SWOOPING toward the entrance of the tunnel. Not missing a beat, Rainbow Dash stays right beside her, but as they get closer and closer to the tunnel's entrance, Rainbow Dash notices how narrow the opening truly is.

125 RAINBOW DASH
Kind of tight squeeze, huh?

126 LIGHTNING DUST
So?

127 RAINBOW DASH
So I don't think it's wide enough
for both of us.

128 LIGHTNING DUST
Only one way to find out!

Lightning Dust swoops toward the entrance of the tunnel. As her wingpony, Rainbow Dash has no choice but to stay with her. But when they get to the entrance, it turns out Rainbow Dash was correct.

The opening is barely wide enough for both of them and Rainbow Dash gets her wing slightly clipped going in.

129 RAINBOW DASH
Ow.

Inside the tunnel Lightning Dust does manage to grab the red flag in her mouth. Together, Lightning Dust and Rainbow Dash come flying out of the tunnel!

Lightning Dust waves the flag in her mouth triumphantly before flying down to Spitfire.

She gives the blue flag to Spitfire who waves it in the air.

130 SPITFIRE
Lightning Dust and Rainbow Dash
have found the first flag!

From up in the air, the other blue teammates CHEER.

Lightning Dust turns to Rainbow Dash.

131 LIGHTNING DUST
C'mon, let's find some more.

132 RAINBOW DASH
Uh sure, just give me a second.
Kinda clipped my wing inside the
tunnel.

Rainbow Dash winces from the pain.

133 LIGHTNING DUST
(nonchalantly)
You're fine.

Rainbow Dash is actually hurting pretty badly, but sees Spitfire eyeing her and plays it off.

134 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah, totally.

Lightning Dust takes off with Rainbow Dash right beside her. As they fly, Rainbow Dash continues to wince from the pain.

EXT. PONYVILLE - PINKIE PIE'S HOUSE - MORNING

Pinkie Pie is asleep at the foot of the mailbox. Rarity and Fluttershy approach and gently wake her up.

135 FLUTTERSHY
Hey Pinkie Pie, look what arrived
for you in the middle of the night.
A letter from Rainbow Dash!

136 PINKIE PIE
(groggy)
A letter from Rainbow Dash?
(suddenly wide awake)
A LETTER FROM RAINBOW DASH!

137 RARITY

Yeah, let me read it to you. Dear Pinkie Pie, I am having fun at the Wonderbolt Academy. Please stop worrying about me and stop sleeping outside, okay? Love, Rainbow Dash.

Pinkie Pie, grins, then looks suspicious

138 PINKIE PIE

Wait a minute. How did Rainbow Dash know I've been sleeping outside?

139 FLUTTERSHY

Um...well...actually--

Pinkie Pie snatches the letter.

140 PINKIE PIE

This is Spike's handwriting.

141 FLUTTERSHY

We just wish you'd stop watching the mailbox and come inside.

142 PINKIE PIE

Never!

Pinkie Pie plops back down next to her mailbox.

143 RARITY

(shrugging)

Can't say we didn't try.

EXT. FLYING FIELD - THE NEXT DAY

The flying field has been arranged as an AIR OBSTACLE COURSE, including hoops to fly through, streamers to zig-zag through without breaking them, an extreme weather sections (other Wonderbolt Captains hover above controlling the weather.) Spitfire addresses his cadets.

144 SPITFIRE

Today newbies, we will be doing our famous air obstacle course. The object of this exercise is to work on your precision flying under extreme circumstances. Stay with your partner no matter what. And don't worry about winning...it's not a race. Now everypony get on your marks.

All the cadet "teams" prepare to take off.

145 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
Remember it's not about speed -
it's about precision.

Spitfire blows his whistle and all the pony teams take off at the same time and head for the first obstacle - a series of tall moving hoops.

Unfortunately, Lightning Dust and Rainbow Dash end up getting stuck flying through the moving hoops behind a slower team.

146 LIGHTNING DUST
(impatient)
Can't they go any faster?

147 RAINBOW DASH
(with a grin)
Not everypony can be as fast as us.

148 LIGHTNING DUST
You got that right.

Lightning Dust takes off and Rainbow Dash has to follow.
(NOTE: Throughout the following we should get glimpses of the fact that Rainbow Dash's clipped wing is still bothering her.) Lightning Dust tries to fly ahead and around the team in front of her, but the obstacle course is designed for teams to fly through it one at a time.

149 LIGHTNING DUST (CONT'D)
It's no good. I can't get around them.

150 RAINBOW DASH
Doesn't matter. We can still fly completely in sync and blow Spitfire's mind with our moves.

151 LIGHTNING DUST
I guess.

Lightning Dust and Rainbow Dash perform a perfectly synchronized loop de loop. Rainbow Dash smiles, but Lightning Dust still doesn't seem satisfied.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. WIND AND RAIN OBSTACLE

The extreme wind and rain forces the team in front of Lightning Dust and Rainbow Dash to go even slower.

152 LIGHTNING DUST
What are they, a couple of snails?
It's just a little weather.

UP AHEAD is the ZIG ZAG ZONE...

153 LIGHTNING DUST (CONT'D)
Now's our chance to pass these
slowpokes.

Lightning Dust pours on the speed, Rainbow Dash is forced to follow. Lightning Dust flies around the team ahead, attempting to enter the zig-zag zone before they do.

Lightning Dust and Rainbow Dash arrive at the entrance to the zig-zag zone just a split second ahead of the other team, cutting them off and causing them to spin out.

The first team's spin out causes a chain reaction - all of the teams behind them smash into them, cartoon style and soon all the cadets are tangled up and plummeting to the ground.

Up ahead Lightning Dust and Rainbow Dash zip through the zig zag zone.

When Lightning Dust and Rainbow Dash exit the zig-zag zone, Rainbow Dash spots the cluster of tangled cadets down below.

154 RAINBOW DASH
Whoa. Did we do that?

155 LIGHTNING DUST
It's an obstacle course, accidents
happen. C'mon, let's finish the
course.

156 RAINBOW DASH
Maybe we should go check on them.

157 LIGHTNING DUST
Hey, if they're not tough enough to
handle a little pile up, maybe
they're not tough enough to be
Wonderbolts.
(then)
But we are. Now come on.
(MORE)

LIGHTNING DUST (CONT'D)
Let's finish showing Spitfire what
we're made of.

Rainbow Dash considers this for a moment and then gives
Lightning Dust a nod to say she's ready. Lightning Dust and
Rainbow Dash ZOOM through the rest of the obstacle course in
perfect unison and land by Spitfire.

158 SPITFIRE
Not bad. And in record time, too.
Looks like I made the right
decision making you two a team.
(then)
Why don't you go hit the mess hall
early. You deserve it.

159 LIGHTNING DUST/RAINBOW DASH
Yes, sir. Thank you, sir.

The two start walking toward the mess hall.

160 RAINBOW DASH
Um...Lightening Dust?

161 LIGHTNING DUST
Yeah.

162 RAINBOW DASH
Next time maybe we don't cut the
other teams off like that.

163 LIGHTNING DUST
Hey, you snooze, you lose. Besides,
Wonderbolts are supposed to be able
to recover from a spin out. You saw
them on the Dizzy Hoof. They could
use the practice. We actually did
them a favor.

164 RAINBOW DASH
I guess.

165 LIGHTNING DUST
It's not our fault we're so much
better than those other guys. Not
everypony is destined to become a
Wonderbolt. Only the best of the
best, right?

166 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah.

167 LIGHTNING DUST
So if those other cadets don't want
to push themselves to the limit,
that's not our problem. It's
theirs.

168 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah. Guess you're right.

169 LIGHTNING DUST
Course I'm right. Now let's go fuel
up. Kicking all that butt has made
me hungry.

EXT. PONYVILLE - PINKIE PIE'S MAILBOX

Pinkie Pie is more frantic and possibly sleep deprived than
ever. She is still compulsively checking the mailbox. All the
other ponies are getting worried..

170 RARITY
She's still at it.

171 FLUTTERSHY
I just wish we could help her.

172 PINKIE PIE
Help me? The only thing that could
possibly help me right now is a
letter from Rainbow Dash. It's been
three days already! By now she
probably doesn't even know our
names anymore. She probably can't
remember our faces.

(imitating Rainbow Dash)
Pinkie Pie? I never heard of a
Pinkie Pie? Who's Pinkie Pie?

173 TWILIGHT
Pinkie Pie, Rainbow Dash hasn't
forgotten you.

174 RARITY
Nopony could forget about you
Pinkie Pie, you're so....

Rarity searches for the right word.

175 APPLEJACK
Memorable. You're so memorable.

176 PINKIE PIE

No, I'm not...if I'm so memorable
then why hasn't Rainbow Dash
written me a letter, huh?

177 TWILIGHT

If you're so worried, then why
don't you send her a letter first?

178 PINKIE PIE

Of course. That's a great idea!

The other ponies look relieved.

179 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)

Wait! I got an even better
idea...how about we send Rainbow
Dash a care package? You know,
before she forgets all about us,
although c'mon, let's face it -
it's probably too late for that.
But maybe it'll jog her memory
somehow. I once read about---

180 TWILIGHT

--Pinkie Pie, I'm sure Rainbow Dash
still remembers our faces and who
we are, but I think sending her a
care package is a great idea.

181 PINKIE PIE

Great! It's settled. A care package
it is. We'll send it through the
mail. Wait?! That won't work at
all!

182 APPLEJACK

Why not?

183 PINKIE PIE

Because what if the package gets
lost in the mail? What if she never
gets it? What if somepony else gets
the package by accident and then
she remembers us instead of Rainbow
Dash and then she becomes our new
friend. Then the real Rainbow Dash
won't ever know that she used to
have friends only she forgot them.

184 APPLEJACK

I'm lost. Is anypony following
this?

Most of the ponies shake their head, no.

185 PINKIE PIE
I've got it! We'll deliver the care
package to Rainbow Dash in person!
It's the only way!

186 RARITY
I wouldn't mind a little trip to
Cloudsdale.

187 TWILIGHT
I'll go.

188 APPLEJACK
I'm in.

189 FLUTTERSHY
Me, too.

190 PINKIE PIE
Me, five! But don't be upset if she
doesn't recognize you at first. It
may take a while for her to get her
memory back.

EXT. WONDERBOLT ACADEMY - FLYING FIELD - LATER

The cadets are circled around Spitfire. He BLOWS his WHISTLE and the teams take to the air. Judging by the way they are breaking apart the clouds, they are participating in some kind of CLOUDBUSTING exercise. As usual Lightning Dust and Rainbow Dash are setting the pace.

BOOM, BOOM, BOOM! The duo takes out clouds left and right. The two BURST through a cloud.

191 LIGHTNING DUST
I have an idea about how we can
literally blow away our
competition.

Rainbow Dash eyes the other cadets who aren't busting nearly as many clouds.

192 RAINBOW DASH
But we're already way ahead.

193 LIGHTNING DUST
Are you in, or not?

ON RAINBOW DASH considering what she should do. We hear Spitfire's words from earlier:

194 SPITFIRE (V.O.)
...Lightning Dust likes to push herself a little harder than you do. That's why I made her lead pony.

Rainbow Dash gets a determined look on her face.

195 RAINBOW DASH
I'm in.

196 LIGHTNING DUST
Then follow my lead.

Rainbow Dash follows Lightning Dust as she starts flying in a circle`...super fast. Soon they are going so fast that they create a TORNADO.

The TORNADO is spins, picking up speed as it bumps into clouds and bustes, left and right. BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

Lightning Dust and Rainbow Dash are flying as fast as they can to try to keep up with the tornado, but they soon realize it's gotten away from them.

197 LIGHTNING DUST (CONT'D)
I can't control it!

The TORNADO spins away from Lightning Dust and Rainbow Dash like a top. It's now spinning on its own course. Rainbow Dash face registers surprise, then horror as she realizes the tornado is headed right for...

A HOT AIR BALLOON

Inside are the Ponyville Ponies, on their way to visit Rainbow Dash with care package in tow.

They react to the oncoming tornado.

198 APPLEJACK
It's a twister!

199 TWILIGHT
Hold on!

The ponies all huddle together in fear as the tornado continues to head straight toward them.

END ACT II

ACT III

EXT. THE FLYING FIELD - A MOMENT LATER

The Tornado is headed right for the balloon with all the ponies inside it.

200 TWILIGHT
Hold on! Here it comes!

The tornado smashes into the balloon and POPS it. The ponies basket is in free fall.

201 RAINBOW DASH
Noooo!!!

Rainbow Dash realizes that she's got to act fast. She swoops down to the balloon and grabs the end of a dangling rope in her mouth.

Flying faster than she ever has in her life, she ZOOMS around a sky tower and secures the rope to it.

BACK ON PONIES still free falling through the air, the ground is getting closer.

Rainbow Dash ZOOMS back over to the falling basket and grabs the end to another rope and SWOOPS back up to the flying field and secures it to the Wonderbolt Academy flagpole.

The basket is about to hit the ground and the ponies are about to smash into a million pieces when suddenly both ropes go taut.

The basket comes within inches of hitting the ground before springing back up like a yo-yo.

The basket bounces ever more gently, up and down. The ponies all CHEER and HUG one another - they've been saved.

By the time Rainbow Dash flies over, it is practically at a stand still. The ponies are still a bit shaken up. Pinkie Pie looks especially discombobulated.

202 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Are you guys okay?

Ttthe Ponyville Ponies, with the exception of Pinkie Pie nod. She still looks a little out of it.

203 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Pinkie Pie? Are you alright?

Pinkie Pie suddenly snaps out of her daze and throws her hooves around Rainbow Dash.

204 PINKIE PIE
You remember me!

205 RAINBOW DASH
Well, yeah, of course I remember you.
(then)
But what are you all doing here?

206 APPLEJACK
Wanted to bring you a care package.
Didn't realize you'd be in the middle of some crazy tornado drill.

Rainbow Dash suddenly gets serious.

207 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah. I gotta talk to somebody about that.

EXT. ANOTHER PART OF THE FIELD - A MOMENT LATER

Rainbow Dash flies over to Lightning Dust who is all smiles.

208 LIGHTNING DUST
That. Was. Awesome.

209 RAINBOW DASH
Awesome?! My friends could've been smashed to pieces.

210 LIGHTNING DUST
Yeah. But they weren't, right?
(then)
Can't say the same for the clouds.
We totally wiped them out with that tornado. The other cadets'll have to be up there for days to bust as many as we did.

She puts her hoof up for a hoof bump. Rainbow Dash just glares at her.

211 RAINBOW DASH
A hoof bump. Seriously?
(furious)
(MORE)

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

You made me clip my wing. You sent half our class into serious tailspins on the obstacle course. You unleashed a tornado that nearly demolished my friends.

Rainbow Dash gets in Lightning Dust's face.

212 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

And you want a hoof bump? You have no idea what you're doing up there.

Lightning Dust glares back at Rainbow Dash.

213 LIGHTNING DUST

Yeah? Well the Wonderbolts seem to think I do. After all, Spitfire did make me the leader and you the wingpony.

Rainbow Dash considers this for a moment...

214 RAINBOW DASH

You're right, he did.

Rainbow Dash storms off, passing the Ponyville Ponies. The exchange confused glances.

INT. SPITFIRE'S OFFICE - A FEW MINUTES LATER

Spitfire is looking over some diagrams on his desk. A KNOCK. He looks up to see Rainbow Dash standing in his doorway.

215 RAINBOW DASH

Permission to enter, sir.

216 SPITFIRE

This better be important. You're supposed to be up there busting clouds with your partner.

217 RAINBOW DASH

We're done with that, sir.

218 SPITFIRE

Already?

He looks at a clock on the wall.

219 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)

That's an Academy record.

(then)

Explain your methods.

220 RAINBOW DASH

That's why I'm here, sir. Lightning Dust decided to use a tornado.

221 SPITFIRE

A bit excessive for cloudbusting. But judging from your time, it was obviously an effective tactic.

222 RAINBOW DASH

Yeah, well that "effective tactic" nearly took out my friends.

223 SPITFIRE

There were civilians up there? How? Why?--

224 RAINBOW DASH

Does it really matter? Could've just as easily been our fellow cadets she almost took out.

(then)

No disrespect, sir, but there's a big difference between pushing yourself as hard as you can and just being reckless. And if being reckless is what gets rewarded around here-- If that's what it means to be a Wonderbolt... Then I don't want any part of it.

225 SPITFIRE

What are you saying, newbie?

Rainbow Dash looks Spitfire dead in the eye.

226 RAINBOW DASH

I'm saying, I quit.

Rainbow Dash pulls off her SILVER WINGPONY PIN and tosses it on Spitfire's desk, then turns and exits. Her back to Spitfire, her resolve turns to sadness as she is hit by the gravity of what she has just done.

EXT. FLYING FIELD - SOON AFTER

Rainbow Dash has rejoined her friends.

227 APPLEJACK

You did what?

228 RARITY
But being a Wonderbolt was your
dream.

229 RAINBOW DASH
Not any more.

230 TWILIGHT
I'm sorry, Rainbow Dash. I know how
much this meant to you.

Rainbow Dash just shrugs.

231 SPITFIRE (O.S.)
Rainbow Dash!

Rainbow Dash turns to see Spitfire approaching. He has a very
serious look on his face.

232 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
How dare you storm out of my office
like that without giving me a
chance to respond? I am your
commanding officer.

233 PINKIE PIE
Technically you were her commanding
officer.

Spitfire shoots Pinkie Pie a look. She nervously backs away.
Spitfire turns his attention back to Rainbow Dash.

234 SPITFIRE
You left before I had a chance to
give you this.

Spitfire retrieves a GOLD LEADER PIN and fastens it to
Rainbow Dash's vest. She looks up at Spitfire, confused.

235 RAINBOW DASH
Sir?

236 SPITFIRE
Takes guts to stand up for what you
think is right. More guts to do
that than just about anything we do
up in the air. You're no wingpony,
Rainbow Dash. You're a leader.

Rainbow Dash smiles.

237 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
Now get up there and give me
twenty!

238 RAINBOW DASH
Yes, sir.

Rainbow Dash takes to the sky. Pinkie Pie calls after her.

239 PINKIE PIE
Wait! You didn't even get to open
your care package.

Pinkie Pie gestures to the care package. The tornado incident
has left it completely smashed.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. FLYING FIELD - LATER

PAN ACROSS the cadets to Rainbow Dash who is now wearing her
leader pin.

240 RAINBOW DASH
You sure you're gonna be alright
with this?

REVEAL: She is standing next to Lightning Dust who is now
wearing a wingpony pin.

241 LIGHTNING DUST
I just want to be a Wonderbolt.
I'll do whatever it takes.
(then, sincere)
Sorry about your wing. And your
friends. And your care package.

242 RAINBOW DASH
It's cool. Well, not cool, but...
apology accepted.
(then)
So whatta ya say? You wanna show
these other cadets how it's done?

243 LIGHTNING DUST
Yeah, I do.

Rainbow Dash grins. A WHISTLE BLOWS.

244 RAINBOW DASH
Then follow me.

Rainbow Dash takes off with Lightning Dust right beside her.

EXT. PONYVILLE - RAINBOW DASH - A FEW DAYS LATER

The ponies are hanging up a large "Welcome Home" banner across Rainbow Dash's door.

245 PINKIE PIE
Hurry up, here she comes!

Rainbow Dash lands in front of the house.

246 PONIES
Welcome home!

247 RAINBOW DASH
Thanks, guys.

248 TWILIGHT
So how was the rest of camp?

249 RAINBOW DASH
Awesome. Look at what I got.

Rainbow Dash shows them her "1st in class" medal that is hanging around her neck.

250 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Best in my class.

251 TWILIGHT
Wow!

252 RARITY
That's fantastic!

253 RAINBOW DASH
It's not exactly a spot on the Wonderbolts, but Spitfire says they've got their eye on me.

254 PINKIE PIE
I think your medal is great and all, but there's something else I'd rather see.

255 RAINBOW DASH
What's that?

256 PINKIE PIE
A letter in my mailbox!

The other ponies just shake their heads in disbelief as we...

FADE OUT.

END EPISODE