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MY LITTLE PONY IV
"Rainbow Falls"
Episode 418
Written by: Amy Keating Rogers

Revised Premise: November 29, 2012
Premise: November 13, 2012

Rainbow Falls--Revised Premise

Premise by Amy Keating Rogers

In an educational filmstrip, the young ponies of Ponyville are learning about how Rainbows and Clouds are made for all of Equestria. The process is: Light shines through a magical crystal at Rainbow Falls creating beams of light that pass through a waterfall. Those beams separate creating individual pools of colored liquid. These colors are then transported to Cloudsdale where rainbows are made. And, in making rainbows, the by-product is... clouds!

Because clouds dissipate, this manufacturing system is essential for filling the skies with clouds that will deliver rain across Equestria, but for buoying up Cloudsdale, which sits on a mountain of clouds. Thankfully, this system has been running for thousands of years with nary a glitch!

As the film ends, we zip up to Cloudsdale where Pegasi are freaking out because the Rainbow Factory is almost out of blue. Without blue, they can't make rainbows. If they can't make rainbows, they can't make clouds. And if they can't replenish the clouds that support it, Cloudsdale will literally fall from the sky!

Given this dire situation, Twilight has been called by Princess Celestia up to Cloudsdale. Turns out the colors are running out because the crystal that makes the rainbow at Rainbow Falls needs to be replaced. Fortunately, with the return of the Crystal Empire, a new crystal (not the Crystal Heart) is now available. Celestia tasks Twilight with exchanging the dying crystal with a new one. However, this procedure hasn't been performed for over 1000 years. No one can be sure what will happen when the crystal exchange is made so Twilight needs to be ready for anything.

Taking this advice to heart, Twilight prepares herself **incredibly** well. The plan to change out the crystal is simple enough: Remove the crystal, put it in a safe container, and then put the new crystal in its place. Easy. But Twilight, wanting to be "ready for anything," has come up with every possible scenario of what could go wrong. And she's enlisted her friends to be there with her in Rainbow Falls in case they do. Not only that, she has her friends practicing what to do in case any of these horrible scenarios occur.

When Twilight asks them to do yet another run through, her exhausted friends tell Twilight that she's going overboard. After all, despite Twilight's fears, there's no way giants (or another TBD creature) are going to stomp on them...or a pack of wild dogs are going to chase them...or that vines are going to sprout from the floor and drag them to the ground! But Twilight feels they simply cannot be too prepared!

Later, Twilight, her friends, and Spike arrive at Rainbow Falls where Twilight gets the replacement crystal from Shining Armor. Spike and the Mane 6 then go through the rainbow waterfall and become "rainbowized". Feeling confident that she and her friends have prepared for any problem that might arise, Twilight crosses the chamber and approaches the dark, burned out crystal without incident and goes to remove it.

But when Twilight touches the crystal, it shocks her, causing her to quickly let go of it. Taking a deep breath, Twilight tells her friends to get ready—she's going to try again. But suddenly, Rainbow Dash stops her, saying that she could do it WAY better. Twilight looks at Rainbow Dash and sees that her "rainbowized" colors are now completely wonky. In fact, all her friends' colors are wild and they're acting like "ultra" versions of themselves! With her friends out of commission, how is she supposed to switch out the crystal? What if something else she didn't prepare for goes wrong? How could she have been so foolish?! This is the one scenario she didn't plan for!

The clock is ticking and Twilight really needs to replace the crystal. Spike assures her that she'll be able to handle anything that happens. But Twilight isn't so sure. Touching the crystal again might make things even worse. What if something else she didn't anticipate happens? Twilight's

confidence is waning as her friends' behavior gets even more erratic. Time is running out. She has to do something...now!

Twilight realizes that she has no choice but to remove the crystal and hope upon hope that nothing else happens. Twilight removes the crystal without any problem. She sighs with relief. Maybe everything is going to be fine! But then she looks and her friends are even more extreme! Not only that, they now seem hell-bent on keeping her from switching out the crystal.

With the replacement crystal on the other side of the chamber (Rarity has been admiring herself in it), Twilight must get through her friends who are now blocking her at every step. Applejack bucks at her and Rainbow Dash attacks from the sky. With Spike coaching her on from the sidelines, Twilight dodges them using her "giant attack" maneuvers. Next, the ponies begin to chase after her. Twilight runs at top speed as she practiced to escape from the "wild dogs." She's about to reach the new crystal, when Fluttershy (who has been incapacitated in the corner by fear) grabs onto her leg, practically dragging her down. Twilight kicks her off (gently) just as she did with the "vines sprouting from the floor," throws the dark crystal in the container, and grabs the new crystal.

But seeing that her friends are about to tackle her, Twilight uses her Unicorn Magic to toss the crystal above her friends' heads, across the chamber, landing it perfectly in place. Suddenly, clean rainbow light shoots out from the crystal and through the waterfall. Twilight breathes a sigh of relief as her friends are returned to their normal "rainbowized" selves -- with no recollection whatsoever as to what has occurred. Twilight tells them that none of the scenarios they had practiced tackling occurred and, in the end, she had to just "wing it". While all her preparation didn't insure that things went perfectly, it made it so that when they didn't, she had the skills and confidence she needed to face the unexpected challenge.

With the crystal now making the pools of color, the ponies take those colors to Cloudsdale where the Pegasi quickly use them to make more rainbows and clouds. The clouds then lift Cloudsdale (which was dangerously low by this point) back into the sky!