

Distribution:

Production:

Devon Cody
Meghan McCarthy
Jayson Thiessen
Ashley Irving-Scott

The HUB:

Donna Ebbs
Carin Davis
Tegan Molloy
Laurence Braun
Patrick Callan

Hasbro Studios:

Stephen Davis
Michael Vogel
Brian Lenard
Kathy Page
Robert Fewkes
Sophia Hussain

Hasbro Brand:

Mark Wiesenbahn
Matt Mattus
Valerie Jurries
Donna Tobin

MY LITTLE PONY IV
"Somepony to Watch Over Me"
Episode 417
Written by: Scott Sonneborn

Premise: October 31, 2012

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As APPLEJACK and BIG MAC get ready to deliver apple pies to a couple of hard-to-get-to towns, APPLE BLOOM rushes up -- she wants to come along. Applejack tells her little sister that this isn't just some run-of-the mill delivery and she won't be able to make it if she's got to keep an eye on AB the whole time. But then AJ notices that she's hurt her sister's feelings. AJ backtracks and makes a big deal of saying that, actually, the reason Applejack feels like she can leave AB at home to keep an eye on things while she and Big Mac are gone is because Apple Bloom is very capable for her age.

Apple Bloom is thrilled by the compliment. In fact, Applejack's praise kind of goes to AB's head. When Apple Bloom hangs out with the rest of the CMC's, she can't help but brag about how she's a big girl with big responsibilities. AB gets a little carried away with her "I'm so much more capable than other ponies my age" attitude, and it causes her to screw something up that causes some trouble on the farm. Until Applejack swoops in and sets things right.

Apple Bloom knows the reason she screwed up is because she let AJ's compliments go to her head and apologizes to the CMCs for causing things to go wrong. But AJ wasn't there when AB was acting with a big head. All she saw was things go wrong and then AB saying it was her fault. That makes Applejack think that maybe she was wrong about how capable Apple Bloom is. Maybe her little sister needs more looking after than she thought.

So AJ cancels her trip and stays so she can look after AB. Which is kind of a big deal - Big Mac going it alone means he'll have to skip some of the towns on this delivery trip. But what kind of big sister would Applejack be if she left her baby sister with no one to watch over her?

Now anything AB tries to do, AJ is there looking over her shoulder, ready to leap in just in case AB needs her help. Which of course throws Apple Bloom off, causing her to mess up. Which leads to AJ jumping in to save the day.

AB knows she doesn't need to be babied like this. But every time she tries to show how capable she is, it backfires in a silly way and ends up making her look even more in need of being looked after by AJ.

Finally, AB figures out how she's going to show AJ that she is as capable as Applejack originally thought: She'll sneak out and deliver the pies that Big Mac had to leave behind. Applejack said they were going to some "hard-to-reach" place and that this wasn't just some ordinary delivery run. If AB can do it, that'll show AJ that Apple Bloom doesn't need her big sister to always be looking over her shoulder.

Unfortunately, Applejack's warnings about how tough it is to deliver these pies were true. Because to make the delivery, Apple Bloom has to journey down a remote path filled with FLAMING GEYSERS and guarded by a CHIMERA -- a monstrous creature with three heads: a lion's head, a goat's head and a snake's head (at the end of its tail). That many heads means lots of mouths to feed. The Chimera is always hungry. But the different heads can never agree on what to eat. Except pie. Everyone loves pie!

Which is bad news for Apple Bloom. In trying to prove that she doesn't need to be protected all the time, Apple Bloom has gotten herself into a truly dangerous spot where she could really use some protection. Only now her big sister isn't there!

But Apple Bloom surprises even herself by almost managing to escape the Chimera with all the pies intact. *Almost*. Just when it's clear she's not going to be able to do this by herself, Applejack (who had been alerted by the CMCs to what AB was doing) dramatically arrives in the nick of

time! Apple Bloom did enough by herself to put the Chimera into position for her and AJ to team up to defeat it. Woo!

Seeing how much her baby sister accomplished on her own, AJ realizes that AB is pretty darn capable. AB realizes that there are times when it's not a bad thing to have your sister by your side to lend you a hoof. And the nearby town realizes how delicious the Apple's pies are. Everybody has learned something valuable today (including the Chimera, whose heads all agree that next time, they'll get the pies first and argue about how to divvy them up later).