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MY LITTLE PONY IV
"Maude Pie"
Episode 419
Written by: Noelle Benvenuti

Premise: December 7, 2012

Pinkie Pie's sister Maude Pie is visiting Ponyville for the first time, and Pinkie Pie is overjoyed. She can't wait to introduce Maude to her friends, and has planned a week's worth of best friend bonding, culminating with making and exchanging friendship bracelets (or a more wacky Pinkie Pie equivalent.) Pinkie Pie is certain they will love her sister just as much as she does. Twilight, Rainbow Dash, Applejack, Rarity, and Fluttershy all know how important it is to Pinkie Pie that they bond with Maude, and after everything Pinkie's told them about her and how much they all have in common, (she's crazy about fashion, she adores animals, she's super smart and loves reading, she enjoys playing sports, etc.) they are equally excited to meet Maude and become friends.

However, when Maude arrives, she is not at all what they expected. She is just as eccentric as Pinkie Pie, but Maude's odd fascinations and unusual disposition falls on the opposite end of the spectrum. (Think Aubrey Plaza on "Parks and Rec") And although she is kind and genuinely eager to make friends with the ponies, her new brand of quirkiness catches them off guard as they find themselves struggling to find common ground with her. Rarity offers to make an elegant custom gown for her, but Maude prefers a plain black dress confessing she doesn't really do "colors"; Fluttershy introduces Maude to all the woodland creatures, but Maude is more interested in a lone spider crawling along a log; Twilight asks her what she likes to read, and Maude explains she prefers reading aloud (mostly in poetry slam style).

As much as they hate to admit it, the ponies don't have much in common with Maude, and when Pinkie Pie asks her friends how much they love Maude and if they are ready to make friendship bracelets, Pinkie's friends reluctantly admit they're just not clicking -- yet. Maude is nice, but they don't seem to have much in common.

Feeling equally awkward but knowing how important it is to her sister that she become good friends with her friends, Maude makes her own attempt to bond with the ponies, planning a nice sunny picnic... in the Everfree Forest. Which of course goes terribly and only further shows how different Maude is from Pinkie's friends.

Maude loves Pinkie Pie and hates to disappoint her, but she worries that the longer she stays, the more painfully obvious it becomes that she and Pinkie's friends just don't have anything in common. Maude decides to spare Pinkie Pie further sadness by heading back to the Rock Farm early. (Pinkie is going to head back with her to make sure she gets home safely.) As Maude waves goodbye to the ponies, Pinkie Pie laments that they never even got to make their friendship bracelets.

On the train ride home, Maude apologizes to Pinkie Pie for not bonding with the other ponies, and Pinkie Pie apologizes to Maude for pressuring her to become best friends with them. Pinkie Pie and Maude return to the Rock Farm and discover that the other ponies have beaten them there! The ponies have realized that Maude has been trying just as hard as they have to become friends because, just like them, she wants Pinkie Pie to be happy. Their affection for Pinkie Pie is what they have in common, and that is enough to create a bond between them. With the pressure to become best friends lifted, the ponies enjoy an afternoon of making friendship bracelets, and spending time with their mutual friend, Pinkie Pie.