

MY LITTLE PONY
Episode 421 / 403-421
"Leap of Faith"
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EXT. SWIMMING HOLE - DAY

APPLE BLOOM
(to Big Mac)
Just one more time. Please!

APPLEJACK
All right, but this is the last one.

APPLE BLOOM
(calling out)
Sure wish you'd come swimmin' with us,
Granny.

GRANNY SMITH
Sorry, dear, but I just can't bring
myself anywhere near that there
swimmin' hole.

APPLE BLOOM
How come?

GRANNY SMITH
Well, I wasn't always this way...

GRANNY SMITH (V.O.)
...time was,

GRANNY SMITH (V.O.)
I was an aqua-pony all star.

GRANNY SMITH (V.O.)
*In fact, I was the only Apple to ever
come close to breaking the Equestria
high diving record.*

GRANNY SMITH (V.O.)
*Sure, it was dangerous, but I was
young and nigh on invincible. Or so I
thought.*

GRANNY SMITH
Falling six stories into a deep-dish
pie pan takes a toll on the hind
quarters. Oh I was so sore it took
years before I could even look at
water again. Just the idea of swimming
makes my whole body ache.

GRANNY SMITH
(with a sigh)
Besides, these old legs can't even
paddle fast enough to stay afloat.

APPLE BLOOM
(to Big Mac)

Boy, I sure would hate to be afraid of swimming. Do you think I'll ever be scared of the water?

BIG MAC

Nope.

FADE OUT.

EXT. ROAD - DAY

APPLE BLOOM

Wow, Granny. I can't believe you were a high diver.

GRANNY SMITH

The best one in Ponyville.

APPLE BLOOM

Dp you think I could be a high diver.

BIG MAC

Nope.

APPLEJACK

Absolutely not!

APPLE BLOOM

But...

GRANNY SMITH

Now you hold your horse feathers, little seed. I never said being a high diver was a smart decision. It's incredibly dangerous.

APPLE BLOOM

I know, but--

GRANNY SMITH

But nothin'. It's the riskiest, scariest, darned fool thing I ever did do. That's not to say I don't wish I was still young and spry and confident, but let's leave flying through the air to the pegasi.

APPLE BLOOM

Wow, when you put it that way, it doesn't sound so fun.

APPLEJACK

Wow. I wonder where everypony's heading.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Now, where in Ponyville do you two
think you're going?

GRANNY SMITH
Oh, quit being such a worry worm and
follow your ears.

EXT. FIELD - MOMENTS LATER

APPLE BLOOM
Come on, Applejack. Aren't you
curious?

INT. TENT - SAME

VOICE 1 (O.S.)
Thank you one and all for your
attendance and we guarantee that your
time here will not be spent in vain.

VOICE 2 (O.S.)
In fact, we think it will prove to be
the most valuable time you've ever
spent.

APPLEJACK
The Flim Flam Brothers! This should be
interesting.

BIG MAC
Yep.

FLIM
Welcome one and all to the
demonstration of a lifetime.

FLAM
A demonstration of a better life.

FLIM
A demonstration of a better time. And
if we haven't captured your interest
just yet, by the time we finish an
unfortunate phenomenon practically
guarantees that we will

FLAM
A phenomenon? What's that?

FLAM (CONT'D)
It's a circumstance perceptible by
the senses, but in this case it's the
simple fact that...

FLIM

*There are ailments all around us,
in everything we touch or see.*

FLAM

*The sickness that just lies waiting
there,
in every breath you breathe.*

FLIM

*Disease will up and grab you
as it crawls from land and sea*

FLAM

*It's amazing how infected,
That the natural world and all it's
things can be.*

FLIM (SUNG/SPOKEN)

Now I understand that some of you
don't think you're sick
but twisted hooves and aching joints
don't heal all that quick
Consider just how dangerous this
world is, you might-

FLAM (SUNG/SPOKEN)

-slip and fall, break or sprain
something here tonight

FLIM & FLAM

*But luckily for you we've got the
thing you need.
And it's easier when all you need's
the cure
The Flim Flam Miracle Curative Tonic
Is just what the doctor ordered, I'm
sure.*

FLIM

Now I know our claims seem
fantastical, impractical,
improbable, impossible...

FLAM

And magical!

FLIM

So we welcome every suffering pony to
make their way on up to the stage...

FLAM

Now don't crowd.

FLIM

And we'll prove our tonic's
effectiveness before your very eyes!

FLAM

You, there...come up here good sir.

FLIM

I'll wager you're tired of those
crutches, my friend.

FLAM

Try taking a sip...of this!

FILM & FLAM

That's...why...you're...so...

FLIM & FLAM

*Lucky! We've got the thing for you
Just come on up, we've always got some
more!
of the Flim Flam Miracle Curative
Tonic*

CRUTCHES PONY

Won't need these crutches to dance out
the door! haha!!

GRANNY SMITH

Now, how do you like that?

APPLEJACK

I don't. There's something funny
about this whole thing...

FLIM

*Now some of you may suffer from
feelings of despair
You're old, you're tired, your legs
won't work
There's greying in your hair*

FLAM

*Just listen and I'll tell you that you
don't need to fear
Your ears will work, your muscles
toned
And eyes will see so clear!*

CROWD

*Luckily for us you've got the thing we
need!
The answer to our problems in a jar
The Flim Flam Miracle Curative Tonic
It's the greatest ever miracle by far!
(chanting) Tonic! Tonic! Tonic! etc.*

FLIM

*It cures the Reins, the spurs and
clydesdale fur blight
Hooferia and horsyntary, cured in
just a night!*

FLAM

*You've got swollen hooves and
hindquarters
or terrible bridle bit cleft
Saunter sits and gallop plop,
or just give your tail some heft.*

FLIM

*Mane loss, Hay Fever, or terrible
tonsillitis.*

FLAM

*You heard it here folks, this is the
only place in all of Equestria you'll
find it.*

FLIM

*It can make you short or make you tall
or even grow old.*

FLAM

But who'd want that-

FLIM

-when with one drink -

FLAM

-you can be-

FLIM

-young again...

GRANNY SMITH (O.S.)

SOLD!

FLIM

*Congratulations, Granny Smith.
You've just made the purchase of a
lifetime!*

APPLEJACK

Are you as worried as I am?

BIG MAC

Yep.

EXT. RIVER - LATER

APPLE BLOOM

*Boy, I just can't believe all the
things that Flim Flam tonic can do.*

APPLEJACK

When somepony says something is too good to be true, it usually is.

APPLE BLOOM

You mean Granny wasted her money?

APPLEJACK

Well, I don't know about that, but I don't think there's a tonic in Equestria that can make an old pony young again.

GRANNY SMITH

Howdeee!

APPLE BLOOM

Granny!?

APPLEJACK

Hang on, We'll get you!

APPLE BLOOM

Granny, I thought you were too afraid of the water to swim? And what about your hip?

GRANNY SMITH

Well, I reckon it might have been a problem before I had myself a dose of that there Flim Flam Tonic.

APPLEJACK

I'm not so sure that tonic really does anything.

GRANNY SMITH

Doesn't do anything? What do you call this?

APPLEJACK

I'm glad you're feeling good, but how do you know it's from the tonic?

GRANNY SMITH

Well I looked out at the water this morning and felt the same terrifying aches and pains I always do, but one sip of that magic elixir and it all went away. Just like those pony brothers said it would. Why, I might even get a head start on my chores.

GRANNY SMITH (CONT'D)

Whatdya say, Big Macadoo, up for a little afternoon apple bucking?

BIG MAC

Nope.

GRANNY SMITH

Aw, quit yer belly aching!

APPLE BLOOM

Gee, it looks like that tonic works after all. I wonder what's in it.

APPLEJACK

I think maybe it's time we found out.

CUT TO:

EXT. FIELD - NIGHT

APPLE BLOOM

So, you're just gonna walk up and ask them how it works?

APPLEJACK

I guess, though if it's a genuine cure I don't suppose they'll be too keen on sharing the recipe.

APPLE BLOOM

Wait a second! That's the same pony from before!

APPLEJACK

Hey!

EXT. TENT - REAR - SAME

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

Now hold it right there, Mr...

SILVER SHILL

Sh-sh-Shill. Silver Shill.

SILVER SHILL

(stuttering)

W-w-what do you two want?

APPLEJACK

Our Granny took some tonic and we want to know how it works.

APPLE BLOOM

Granny couldn't swim and now she can. Just like you couldn't walk and now you can.

APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
But what are you doing back here? I
mean, if the tonic cured you and all?

EXT. TENT - STEAM CLOUD - SAME

APPLEJACK
Because he's part of the act. It's
time for you to tell the truth. You
never needed crutches at all, did you?

SILVER SHILL
(conflicted)
I... uh.

APPLEJACK
Hey!

EXT. TENT - FRONT - SAME

INT. TENT - SAME

FLIM
Well, if it isn't our most favorite
Apple!

FLAM
What brings you back to our humble
abode?

APPLEJACK
You two charla-tons sold my Granny a
bottle of tonic and now she's off
acting like a filly again.

FLIM
What's so bad about that?

APPLEJACK
If she keeps gallivanting around like
a yearling she's apt to drop from
exhaustion or worse.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
What's more, I know for a fact that
your friend here is dressing up as a
different pony every night so he can
pretend to be cured.

FLAM
Well, that's quite an accusation.

FLIM
But let's say that it's true.

FLAM
Hypothetically.

FLIM
Theoretically.

FLAM
As I understand, your Granny was a famous aqua-pony...

FLIM
The star of the show, once upon a time...

FLAM
But hasn't set so much as a hoof in the water since.

APPLEJACK
Until today. That's right.

FLIM
Well, then even if our tonic were nothing more than a mixture of apple juice and beet leaves...

FLAM
Hypothetically.

FLIM
Theoretically.

FLAM
The fact is that Granny is happier now than before she tried it.

APPLEJACK
I guess.

FLIM
So, the question is...

FLAM
Do you really want to be the pony who takes all that happiness away?

APPLEJACK
(uncertain)
I...

APPLE BLOOM
There you are! I've been looking all over. Did you find out what's in the tonic?

APPLEJACK

Honestly, Apple Bloom, as long as it works, I don't suppose it really matters.

APPLE BLOOM

Well, if it doesn't matter to you, then it doesn't matter to me either, sis.

FLIM

That's the spirit!

FLAM

Come back anytime!

EXT. SWIMMING HOLE - THE NEXT DAY

APPLE BLOOM

Hey Granny, think you can buck me over the water?

GRANNY SMITH

I don't see why not. Come on, Big Mac, toss her this way.

APPLEJACK

Granny, wait!

GRANNY SMITH

(to Applejack)

What were you saying, dear?

APPLEJACK

Granny, don't you think you should take it kinda easy?

GRANNY SMITH

I've been taking it easy for too long and now thanks to that Flim Flam tonic, I don't have to.

APPLE BLOOM

Granny, do you think I could be a aqua-pony like you?

GRANNY SMITH

Of course you can, sapling. There's nothing to it but to do it.

APPLE BLOOM

Well, the Ponyville swim meet is coming up. We could enter together. A legendary water pony like you? We'd be a cinch to win.

GRANNY SMITH

I don't know. Being back in the water is one thing, but a competition is a pony of a different color.

APPLE BLOOM

(disappointed)

Oh. Okay.

APPLEJACK

I don't know, Granny. A swim meet sounds pretty safe. And after all, if that tonic lets you swim in a river and a swimming hole, a pool should be no problem at all.

GRANNY SMITH

Well, I'll be a tart turnover, you are right! All we need now is more tonic!

CUT TO:

EXT. TENT - LATER

FLAM

Welcome friends and step right up! The next show starts in five minutes.

FLIM

But why not buy your tonic now and avoid the rush?

FLAM

Right this way, good sir.

GRANNY SMITH (O.S.)

We'll take a whole case!

PONY 1

Are you saying this stuff actually works?

APPLEJACK

It seems to work for Granny.

PONY 1

If Applejack says it works, that's good enough for me!

FLIM

You heard it here first, folks. Flim Flam Miracle Curative Tonic is Granny Smith tested and Applejack approved!

PONY 1

If Applejack says it works, that's good enough for me!

EXT. PONYVILLE POOL - DAY

APPLEJACK

Just remember you two, the most important thing is to be safe and have fun. Right?

GRANNY SMITH

Fiddlesticks! With the routine we've been a'working on, I'll be a plum pudding if we don't win this thing.

APPLEJACK

Uh... Good luck, then.

GRANNY SMITH

Luck? Who needs luck? We've got tonic on our side.

FLIM

Flim Flam's Magical Curative Tonic! Get your Applejack approved tonic! Granny Smith drinks it, why shouldn't you?

APPLEJACK

Right.

GRANNY SMITH

Now if you'll excuse us, we've got some swimming to do.

APPLEJACK

Well, I'll be.

REPORTER PONY

That was some of the most amazing aqua-batics I've ever seen. How in Equestria did you do it? Hard work? Lots of practice?

GRANNY SMITH

Yeah, but mostly it's the tonic.

FLIM

That's Flim Flam's Miracle Curative Tonic, to be precise.

FLAM

Buy it now, while supplies last.

APPLEJACK

What are you doing here?

SILVER SHILL

Things are going so well, Flim and Flam gave me a promotion.
(then, proudly)

Just made my first bit as a salespony.

SILVER SHILL (CONT'D)
No more costumes for this pony.
(noting vendor costume)
This is more of a uniform.

APPLEJACK
If you say so.

SILVER SHILL
I used to wonder if I was doing the right thing, pretending to be cured, basically lying to folks about this tonic, but thanks to you, I realized that sometimes honesty isn't the best policy.

APPLEJACK
Thanks to... me?

APPLE BLOOM
With Film Flam's Magical Curative Tonic, my Granny can do anything! Just ask Applejack.

APPLEJACK
(to Shill)
No. This has gotta stop. If ponies keep believing that tonic can do things it can't, who knows what will happen?

SILVER SHILL
M-m-maybe something like that?

APPLEJACK
Granny!?

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
What in blazes does she think she's doing?

APPLE BLOOM
Granny's going to break the Equestria high diving record.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Land sakes!

GRANNY SMITH
Now, what in tarnation did you do that for?

APPLEJACK
That was the most fool-pony thing I've ever seen anypony do in all my life. You can't do a dive like that!

GRANNY SMITH

Aw, quit your fussin'. I had enough tonic to do a dive ten times as high.

FLIM

Twenty times by my count.

FLAM

Thirty with a favorable breeze.

APPLEJACK

I hate to disappoint everypony, but there's no way Granny could have made that dive because this tonic is a fake.

PONY 1

But you gave it your stamp of approval!

PONY 2

Are you saying you lied?

APPLEJACK

I am.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

I didn't mean to. But everypony seemed so much happier, I couldn't bring myself to tell you when I found out the tonic wasn't real. I know it was wrong. I just hope, with time, I can win back everypony's trust.

APPLE BLOOM

But if the tonic is a fake then how come Granny can swim again and what about all the aqua-batics we just did?

APPLEJACK

Well, I reckon sometimes you can forget what you're capable of and it just takes a little extra confidence to remember what was inside you all along.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)

But telling ponies your tonic can do things it can't is just wrong.

FLIM

But you just said it boosts confidence!

FLAM

And that's not all it does, folks--

SILVER SHILL (O.S.)

Yes it is!

SILVER SHILL (CONT'D)

In fact, it's not a tonic at all I know because I helped make it.

SILVER SHILL (CONT'D)

Watching Applejack save Granny and then admit to lying, well, that made me realize I was making ponies believe in a thing that just wasn't so.

APPLEJACK

Believing in something can help you do amazing things, but if that belief is based on a lie, eventually it's going to lead to real trouble.

SILVER SHILL (CONT'D)

Thank you, Applejack.

SILVER SHILL (CONT'D)

I got this through dishonest means. That was a mistake I won't be making again.

SILVER SHILL (CONT'D)

I'd like you to have it. As a reminder of how you helped me finally see the truth.

APPLEJACK

I dunno...

SILVER SHILL

Don't worry. I'll track down the pony I sold that worthless tonic to and give them another bit to replace this one.

(then)

Honest.

APPLEJACK

I'm sorry, Granny. I hope this doesn't mean you'll stop swimming.

GRANNY SMITH

Why in tarnation would I do that? I just can't believe those two salesponies had me believing I could near fly.

GRANNY SMITH (CONT'D)

Hey, where'd they go?

EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES - DAY

APPLEJACK (V.O.)
Being honest sure gets hard when it
seems like the truth might hurt
somepony you care about.

APPLEJACK
But I think believing a lie can end up
hurting even more. Maybe someponies
don't care about that...

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
But I sure ain't one of them.

APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Now, you take it easy, there, Granny.

GRANNY SMITH
Oh, I plan too.

FADE OUT.

END.