

Distribution:

Production:

Devon Cody
Meghan McCarthy
Jayson Thiessen
Jim Miller
Ashley Irving-Scott
Lesley Crawford

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
"Flight to the Finish"
Episode 405
Written by: Ed Valentine

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ACT I

TEASER:

1) EXT. PONYVILLE - DAY - ESTABLISHING 1

2) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS 2

APPLE BLOOM and SWEETIE BELLE trot off to school, with SCOOTALOO scootering along next to them (NOTE: Scootaloo always wears a helmet in any scenes where she's riding her scooter.) As they go, Sweetie Belle sings a little song.

1 SWEETIE BELLE 1
(singing)
*School school school - we love
school! School school school - we
love school! Yeahhhhhhh....*

2 SCOOTALOO 2
Love that song, Sweetie Belle!

3 SWEETIE BELLE 3
Why, thank you! And really, can you
think of anything else in the world
better than going to school?

4 DIAMOND TIARA (O.S.) 4
Like, a thousand million things...

The Mean Girls, DIAMOND TIARA and SILVER SPOON, trot up.

5 DIAMOND TIARA (CONT'D) 5
Shopping, for one. Or getting your
hooves buffed at the spa.

6 SILVER SPOON 6
School is a boredom factory: the
same old same old day after day.

3) INT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS 3

MISS CHEERILEE is at the front of the room, excited. The Crusaders, the Mean Girls, and other kids (SNIPS, SNAILS, TWIST, etc.) are at their desks, listening with anticipation.

7 MISS CHERRILEE 7
Today won't be the same old same
old! We have two special guests
with a very special announcement.
(MORE)

MISS CHERRILEE (CONT'D)

Everypony, welcome the Head of the Equestria Games, Ms. Harshwhinny.

MS. HARSHWHINNY, the Head of Games, comes forward.

8 MS. HARSHWHINNY 8

Thank you. Ponies, my announcement is very very serious! Now I'm sure you all know about the Equestria Games, where ponies from all over the land compete for glory in various athletic pursuits? Well, now you littlest ones will have the chance to compete for a weighty responsibility of your very own -

9 RAINBOW DASH (O.S.) 9

Oh, c'mon! Tell 'em the fun part!

Rainbow Dash flies in.

10 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D) 10

Someponies here are gonna get to carry the Ponyville flag in the Opening Ceremony! In short: PA-CHOW!

She does a back-flip. The KIDS <OOH!> and <AAH!>.

11 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D) 11

That's right! All you gotta do is show Miss Harshwhinny the coolest, most spectacular, most rockin' routine and you're goin' to the Games! So, who's gonna be the lucky ponies?

ON: three shots of hopeful-looking ponies in the class:

12 DIAMOND TIARA / SILVER SPOON 12

It's got to be me.

13 GIRL PONY 13

Maybe it's me?

*

14 SCOOTALOO 14

Maybe it's us!

ON SNIPS and SNAILS

14A SNIPS AND SNAILS 14A

Maybe it's us!

The entire class looks over at Snips and Snails - are they serious?

14B SNIPS
Hey! It could happen!

14B

*

END TEASER

MAIN TITLE

ACT I

4) INT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

4

Resume in the schoolroom. Rainbow Dash is super excited:

16 RAINBOW DASH
So the winning team gets to carry
the Ponyville flag at the Equestria
Games! Oh, you are gonna LOVE this!

16

17 MS. HARSHWHINNY
Ms. Dash, a moment please.

17

17A RAINBOW DASH
You got it!

17A

Rainbow Dash follows Ms. Harshwhinny as she ducks behind a free-standing chalkboard.

17B MS. HARSHWHINNY
(whispering)
Will you please curb your
overenthusiastic outbursts!
Professionalism, Ms. Dash!
Professionalism, always! Never
forget: the eyes of all of
Equestria will be on you!

17B

18 RAINBOW DASH
On me?

18

Ms. Harshwhinny emerges from behind the chalkboard with a more reserved Rainbow Dash.

19 MS. HARSHWHINNY
(to the students)
Now, then, let me be clear on the
rules.

19

At the chalkboard, Ms. Harshwhinny points to a diagram of ponies cantering with flags in perfect form. Above, a clump of numbers shows the complicated scoring system.

20 MS. HARSHWHINNY (CONT'D) 20
You ponies will form teams. Each
team will create their own flag-
carrying routine. Everypony will be
judged on grace, style, and
originality. There's a most
complicated scoring system, which I
will elaborate upon now...

21 RAINBOW DASH 21
Aw, Get to the nitty gritty later.
Tell 'em the important stuff: who's
the coach? Fine, I'll tell 'em:

She whips out a ballcap that says "COACH."

22 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D) 22
That's right: ME! And you know why
I'm qualified to coach you? Guess
who carried the Cloudsdale flag in
the Games when she was a little
filly? Yeah, you know it: ME!

DISSOLVE TO:

5) FLASHBACK - ~~EXT.~~ STADIUM - DAY 5

A stadium, packed with ponies at a Games' Opening Ceremony.

23 RAINBOW DASH (V.O.) 23
I'll never forget it. And neither
will anyone who was there!

A YOUNG RAINBOW DASH (who does not have her Cutie Mark)
rockets into the air above the crowd, carrying the Cloudsdale
flag in her teeth.

24 RAINBOW DASH 24
I burst into the stadium...
spreading my wings, the flag
flapping in the breeze!

She twirls the flag expertly. <WILD APPLAUSE>.

25 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D) 25
Yeah, I'm not shy to say it: I did
tricks with that flag the likes of
which no pony saw before, and no
pony's ever seen again!

She twirls the flag fast. There's an hot white <EXPLOSION!>.

DISSOLVE TO:

6) RESUME REALITY - INT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

Rainbow Dash twirls the classroom Ponyville flag, lost in her flashback. Scootaloo nudges the other Crusaders.

26 SCOOTALOO 26
Now I know we're gonna win! Rainbow
Dash and I are besties!

Sweetie Belle and Apple Bloom share a skeptical look.

27 APPLE BLOOM 27
Um - "Besties"?

28 SWEETIE BELLE 28
Isn't that a little bit of a
stretch?

Ms. Harshwhinny snatches the flag from Rainbow Dash, who tumbles to the ground.

29 MS. HARSHWHINNY 29
(calmly)
Ms. Dash. I must insist: if you
want to keep your job as coach of
these ponies, you must maintain a
professional attitude and keep your
emotions in check!
(in her face:)
Am I making myself absolutely, 100%
crystal clear?

30 RAINBOW DASH 30
(to herself in V.O.)
Whoa. Don't call this one Ms.
Harshwhinny for nothing.
(then, out loud)
Yes, Ms. Harshwhinny. You know,
professionalism is my middle name.
Rainbow "Professionalism" Dash.

31 SCOOTALOO 31
(whispered to her friends)
Her middle name is Professionalism?
I can't believe I didn't know that.

33 MS. HARSHWHINNY 33
 Hmph! Well, IF she can keep herself
 together, in three days' time, Ms.
 Dash will accompany anypony
 competing to the Crystal Empire
 where you will demonstrate your
 routines for me and the other
 judges. Who will judge you very
 professionally, I assure you!

34 RAINBOW DASH 34
 Ahem! Yes, quite, quite correct! In
 the meantime, get ready to train -
 and train hard! Because I know this
 Opening Ceremony is the single most
 important thing that will ever
 happen in your young lives...

35 SCOOTALOO 35
 It is, it is!

36 RAINBOW DASH 36
 And I know my fame there sets a
 seriously high bar...

37 SCOOTALOO 37
 It does, it does!

38 RAINBOW DASH 38
 But I know you're up to the
 challenge!

39 SCOOTALOO 39
 I AM! I AM!

40 RAINBOW DASH 40
 And so am I! WA-WAHOOOO-

She starts to do a somersault - but is stopped by
 Harshwhinney's frosty look.

41 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D) 41
 (calmer)
 AHM! Meet me after school tomorrow
 at 15-hundred hours, sharp, and
 show me your flag-carrying skills -
 I. Am. Outta here! Professionally!
 See how professionally?

*

She flies out, calmly. Ms. Harshwhinny sighs, then turns her
 attention back to the little ponies.

42 MS. HARSHWHINNY 42
 Ponies, the most important thing is
 this: your routine needs to show
 what your town means to you. So do
 Ponyville proud! Work hard. Be
 bold. Wow me. That is all.

She canters away, head held high.

43 MISS CHERRILEE 43
 All right, class. Now, the rest of
 the day may be spent planning your
 routines!

The Ponies call <WHOO HOO! YAY!> as they rush out.

7) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS 7

The Crusaders rush outdoors and confer.

44 SCOOTALOO 44
 Crusaders, more than anything I
 want to follow in the hoofsteps of
 my idol, mentor, and - yes: bestie,
 Rainbow Dash. So whaddaya say we
 come up with the perfect routine
 and win this thing?!?!

45 APPLE BLOOM 45
 Why, hooves and saddles, I'd say
 that's rootin' tootin' terrific!

46 SWEETIE BELLE 46
 But there's one problem! I bet
 everypony in class is planning to
 compete. How are we gonna do the
 best routine of them all?

47 SCOOTALOO 47
 Listen: somepony in our class is
 gonna carry that flag - so it might
 as well be us! Crusaders, are you
 in, or are you in? Cuz I'M in.

She puts a hoof into the middle of the circle.

48 APPLE BLOOM 48
 Me too!

49 SWEETIE BELLE 49
 Me three!

They put their hoofs in as well.

50 SCOOTALOO 50
 So listen up. The winning routine
 needs to show what's important
 about Ponyville, right?

51 APPLE BLOOM / SWEETIE BELLE 51
 Right!

52 SCOOTALOO 52
 So what's special about Ponyville -
 the scooter paths?

53 APPLE BLOOM 53
 The apple orchards?

54 SWEETIE BELLE 54
 Casual Fridays?

55 SCOOTALOO 55
 No! Well, yes, but it's more than
 that.
 (thinking)
 It's...It's...

She looks at her friends who eagerly wait for her to
 continue.

55A SCOOTALOO (CONT'D) 55A
 I've got it! It's a place where
 different kinds of ponies live
 together as friends -

Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle nod enthusiastically.

56 APPLE BLOOM 56
 Earth Ponies, like me!

57 SWEETIE BELLE 57
 Unicorns, like me!

58 SCOOTALOO 58
 And Pegasussss - Pegasusus - PegaSI,
 like me! So somehow we gotta figure
 out a way to show that in our act.

59 SWEETIE BELLE 59
 But how? We're gonna need a plan -

60 APPLE BLOOM 60
 And a lotta hard work -

61 SCOOTALOO 61
 And a whole bunch of practice. But
 take it from me: the Cutie Mark
 Crusaders have the talent, the
 drive, and the guts to come up with
 a routine like nopony else. And do
 you know why?

62 APPLE BLOOM / SWEETIE BELLE 62
 WHY?

63 SCOOTALOO 63
 We may just be little ponies - but
 we have hearts as strong as the
 strongest horses!

MUSIC UP as Scootaloo begins to sing a SONG:

64 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D) 64
*We're the toughest little ponies in
 town! Got the moves, got the mojo.
 / Ain't no harder-working ponies
 around / And we work as a trio, not
 solo!*

65 APPLE BLOOM 65
*We don't win by getting stuck in a
 rut*

66 SWEETIE BELLE 66
Or by gobbling down macaroni.

67 SCOOTALOO 67
*We win by trusting in the brain and
 the gut -
 Cuz we've got hearts strong...
 as horses!*

68 ALL THREE CRUSADERS 68
*We've got hearts strong as horses,
 And we're playing to win
 In a last minute gallop to glory!
 We know we can conquer
 any challenge we're in -
 We're winners
 with hearts strong as horses!*

**8) MONTAGE - EXT. - VARIOUS LOCATIONS - PONYVILLE - 8
 CONTINUOUS**

Underneath the song: a montage of the ponies as they get
 themselves in shape, prize-fighter style:

Apple Bloom spars with GRANNY SMITH - who holds her own!

69 APPLE BLOOM 69
*We get going when the going gets
tough -*

Sweetie Belle does pushups. SPIKE sitting on her back.
Sweetie Belle leaps up suddenly, and Spike goes flying.

70 SWEETIE BELLE 70
*Kinda short, but so what?
Undefeated - YEAH!*

Ponies leap over hurdles. Scootaloo zooms past them on her scooter, and her speed blows them over.

71 SCOOTALOO 71
*We know our very best is never
enough -
And we hydrate when we're
overheated!*

She takes a swig from a water bottle and zooms off.

One by one, CLOSE ON the Cutie Mark Crusader: determined,
confident, and focused!

72 ALL THREE CRUSADERS 72
*We've got hearts strong as horses,
And we're playing to win
In a last minute gallop to glory!
We know we can conquer
any challenge we're in -
We're winners
with hearts strong as horses!*

They race up the steps of a town building, just like "Rocky."

73 ALL THREE CRUSADERS (CONT'D) 73
*We've got hearts strong as horses,
And we're playing to win
In a last minute gallop to glory!
We know we can conquer
any challenge we're in -
We're winners
with hearts strong as horses!
We're winners
with hearts strong as horses
YEAH!*

END SONG

Together, they strike a triumphant pose with Scootaloo on the bottom, standing tall, with the other two Crusaders perched on her raised front hooves.

An ironic <SLOW CLAP> from O.S.

Widen to reveal Silver Spoon and Diamond Tiara, standing off to the side watching.

74	DIAMOND TIARA	74
	Well, if that's the best you've	
	got, <u>we're</u> going to win for sure!	

Silver Spoon slyly flicks Scootaloo's nose with her tail.

75	SCOOTALOO	75
	Ahh-Ahhh-AHCHOOO!	

As she sneezes, the Crusaders fall in a heap.

76	ALL THREE CRUSADERS	76
	OOF! / OW! / UGH!	

The Mean Girls saunter past the heap of Crusaders. The Crusaders leap up and dust themselves off.

77	SILVER SPOON	77
	We already have the most divine	
	routine planned.	

78	DIAMOND TIARA	78
	It's absolutely sure to crush	
	everyone else. And I mean CRUSH!	

79	SCOOTALOO	79
	(singing poorly)	
	<i>But we're winners, and we have</i>	
	<i>heaaaarts...</i>	

80	SILVER SPOON	80
	Sure, but you know what you don't	
	have?	

81	DIAMOND TIARA / SILVER SPOON	81
	YOUR CUTIE MARKS!	
	(pointing and laughing)	
	<i>Blank Flanks! Blank Flanks!</i>	

82	APPLE BLOOM	82
	So what if we don't have our Cutie	
	Marks yet? What does that have to	
	do with flag-carrying?	

83 SILVER SPOON 83
But having Cutie-Mark-less ponies
represent Ponyville would be
unthinkable!

84 DIAMOND TIARA 84
And we, of course, already HAVE our
Cutie Marks. So we know who's going
to be in the winner's circle.

85 SILVER SPOON 85
Wait: who?

86 DIAMOND TIARA 86
Us! Haven't you been listening?

87 SILVER SPOON 87
Oh, right: Us!

They laugh nastily. Scootaloo gets right in their faces.

88 SCOOTALOO 88
Listen you two: Cutie Marks or no
Cutie Marks, you'll see: the
Crusaders are going to carry that
flag at the Games.

89 SILVER SPOON 89
May the best ponies win!
(to Diamond Tiara)
We're the best ponies, right?

Diamond Tiara nods, vigorously, and stomps a hoof.

90 SCOOTALOO 90
May the best ponies win. GAME ON!

Out on Scootaloo's determined look. A STING OF MUSIC.

SLAM TO BLACK.

END OF ACT I

ACT II

9) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - ATHLETIC FIELD - DAY 9

ON: Rainbow Dash, wearing her "COACH" cap.

91 RAINBOW DASH 91
Show me what you got, Cutie Mark
Crusaders: And make it good.

Widen to show the athletic field, and a makeshift stage with a patched-up curtain. Behind it, The Crusaders bustle about.

92	SCOOTALOO	92
	(head through the curtain)	
	Don't worry, we will!	
	(to Apple Bloom, O.S.)	
	Ow, that's my hoof!	
93	APPLE BLOOM (O.S.)	93
	Gosh, I'm sorry!	
94	RAINBOW DASH	94
	How's the routine coming?	
95	APPLE BLOOM	95
	(head through the curtain)	
	Good.	
	(then, uncertain)	
	We think.	
96	RAINBOW DASH	96
	I hope you're ready.	
97	SWEETIE BELLE	97
	(head through the curtain)	
	Me too! Now, this is just a little	
	something we threw together. It's	
	not perfect yet - not even close -	
98	APPLE BLOOM	98
	Now, imagine we're in the stadium,	
	but please be kind...	
99	RAINBOW DASH	99
	JUST DO THE ROUTINE ALREADY!	
100	ALL THREE CRUSADERS	100
	OKAY, OKAY!	

Rainbow Dash does a hoofpalm to the face. Off to one side, the Mean Girls rise from their hiding place behind a bush.

101	DIAMOND TIARA	101
	Let's watch the Cutie Mark GOOF-	
	saders do their sad little routine.	
102	SILVER SPOON	102
	There's only one way to say it:	
	they're gonna be a hot mess.	

They <SNICKER> and duck down, peering over the bush.

CLOSE ON: Apple Bloom's hoof hitting a switch, switching on some lamps. Multi-colored spotlights snap on.

CLOSE ON: Sweetie Belle's hoof hitting a chord on a little toy organ. It plays a surprisingly loud <DRAMATIC PRELUDE>.

CLOSE ON: Scootaloo speaking into a megaphone. Her voice is amplified, as if she were announcing a Monster Truck rally.

103	SCOOTALOO (O.S.)	103
	(amplified, reverberating)	
	Since the dawn of recorded time, in	
	one town of amazing amazingness...	
	three types of ponies coexist - and	
	live together as friends!	

Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle trot onstage, making elaborate circles and doing jazz hoofs in synch. Attached to their hooves are different colored streamers that they are gradually weaving together as they crisscross each other.

104	APPLE BLOOM	104
	We are Earth Ponies...	

105	SWEETIE BELLE	105
	We are Unicorns...	

Scootaloo scooters in, weaving in and out between them with her own streamers. (NOTE: When doing the routine, Scootaloo wears hoof-pads and a helmet with safety goggles.)

106	SCOOTALOO	106
	We are Pegasi!	

Scootaloo scooters O.S. as Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle make a dramatic drum beating sound with their hooves, like the theme to 2001:

107	APPLE BLOOM / SWEETIE BELLE	107
	Bumm... Bummm.... Bummm - BA BUM!	
	BUM bum, BUM bum, BUM bum...	
	(continuing under)	

108	SCOOTALOO (O.S.)	108
	And the town where friendship	
	reigns is our home... and that home	
	has a name...	

Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle each lift up one side of a giant circular hoop to reveal that they have woven together a picture of the Ponyville flag. Music and "drumbeats" increase intensity.

109 SCOOTALOO (O.S.) (CONT'D) 109
 Now welcome to the stadium the flag
 of the place we love best...

As klieg lights sweep across the scene, Scootaloo suddenly rockets through the hoop on her scooter, breaking through the paper flag in the middle of it. <WHAM!> Multicolored streamers burst from the edges of the hoop as Scootaloo does an amazing loop-de-loop to the pounding music, with the Ponyville flag flapping on a pole at the back of the scooter. She rides to join the other two at the front as the organ blares a <FANFARE>. An unseen chorus hits a triumphal note.

110 CHORUS (O.S.) 110
 AAAAAAAAAAAH!

111 ALL THREE CRUSADERS 111
PONYVILLE - FOREVER! YAY!

All three Crusaders strike a triumphant pose.

Rainbow Dash's mouth drops open. The Mean Girls are behind the bush, equally amazed. The Crusaders race to Rainbow Dash.

112 SCOOTALOO 112
 It's kind of a work in progress.
 So, what'd you think?

Rainbow Dash shakes with excitement.

113 RAINBOW DASH 113
 That. Was. AMA-- (amazing)
 (then in V.O)
 Wait. Hold on now. Gotta stay calm,
 cool, and collected.

114 SCOOTALOO 114
 Oh no - didn't you like it?

115 RAINBOW DASH 115
 (to the ponies, calmly)
 To give a calm, clear analysis...
 (suddenly overexcited)
 Wait: you whipped that act together
 just yesterday? That... is...
 (to herself in V.O.)
 Professionalism, Dash: Keep those
 emotions in check.
 (calmly to the girls:)
 Overall it was kinda sorta...
 (She's sweating now. V.O.)
 These kids remind me of someone,
 but who? Oh, yeah: ME!
 (to the girls)
 (MORE)

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

Overall, it was...
 (the ponies lean in:)
 Hang on one second.

Unable to control herself, she flies behind the schoolhouse where alone, she busts out how she really feels:

116 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D) 116
 That... was... AWESOME!

WHOOSH! She flies back to the trio. Falsely cool:

117 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D) 117
 Overall it was okay. Keep working hard, who knows? You might have a shot. Gotta go. AAH!

ZING! She's off in a blur.

118 APPLE BLOOM 118
 Do you think she liked it?

119 SWEETIE BELLE 119
 I'm not really sure.

120 SCOOTALOO 120
 You heard her: if we keep working hard we might have a shot. So let's keep working! Trot to it, ponies!

ON: the Mean Girls as they pop out of the bush.

121 DIAMOND TIARA 121
 Did you SEE that? I can't believe I'm saying this: they could win!

122 SILVER SPOON 122
 But how can we stop them? We already called them Blank Flanks.

123 DIAMOND TIARA 123
 Then we need to find a new way to get under their skin.

She peers at the Crusaders one by one: Apple Bloom sets the hoop, Sweetie Belle practices her steps, and Scootaloo fixes the wheel while her little wings flap behind her. A <SOUND LIKE THE 'PSYCHO' THEME>. PUSH IN ON: Diamond Tiara as she has an idea. ON: Scootaloo's little wings flapping. CLOSER ON: Diamond Tiara, smile spreading. CLOSER ON: Scootaloo's wings. CLOSER ON: Diamond Tiara, with Scootaloo's flapping wings reflected in her eyes. Her eyes narrow.

124 DIAMOND TIARA (CONT'D) 124
Or maybe, get under their WINGS.

She whispers to Silver Spoon, who smiles. They trot over.

125 DIAMOND TIARA (CONT'D) 125
Girls, we just wanted to say your
act is quite impressive!

126 SWEETIE BELLE 126
Wait - what?

127 APPLE BLOOM 127
Gosh, I never thought I'd hear you
say that. Um... thanks?

128 SILVER SPOON 128
Oh, but of course! As a matter of
fact, we think you're very brave.

129 SCOOTALOO 129
Brave? Why?

130 DIAMOND TIARA 130
Isn't it obvious? It is to us. In
fact, it's obvious to everypony.
You're showing all three types of
ponyville ponies, yet you have a
Pegasus Pony -

131 DIAMOND TIARA / SILVER SPOON 131
- *who can't even fly!*

132 APPLE BLOOM 132
What in tarnation does that have to
do with anything?

133 SILVER SPOON 133
I'd say not being able to fly has
everything to do with everything,
doesn't it?

134 DIAMOND TIARA 134
I mean, a Pegasus pony - at your
age? You should have been flying
long ago!

135 SCOOTALOO 135
Okay, I can't fly yet. So what if
my wings can't get me off the
ground?

136 DIAMOND TIARA 136
Your career as a flag carrier isn't
getting off the ground, either.

137 SCOOTALOO 137
What do you mean?

138 SILVER SPOON 138
Ms. Harshwhinny will never pick a
Pegasus pony who can't fly to
represent Ponyville in front of the
whole world!

139 SWEETIE BELLE 139
Waitasecond - Miss Harshwinny never
said anything about that!

140 APPLE BLOOM 140
Don't listen to them, Scootaloo!

141 SILVER SPOON 141
She didn't have to! I would've
thought that was obvious.

142 DIAMOND TIARA 142
Well, have fun practicing anyway.
Even if your routine will never -
how shall I say? "Take off."

The Mean Girls trot off. As they go, they hoofbump with glee.

143 APPLE BLOOM 143
Aw, they don't know what they're
talking about.

144 SWEETIE BELLE 144
Don't listen to them, Scootaloo.
(noting Scootaloo's look)
Scootaloo? You ok?

Scootaloo looks over to see some of her classmates practicing
their routines. Another PEGASUS is doing some aerial moves.

145 SCOOTALOO 145
You know what? This routine isn't
working how it is. We've gotta
rethink my part in the whole thing.

146 SWEETIE BELLE 146
WHAT?

147 APPLE BLOOM 147
For apples' sake, why?

148 SCOOTALOO 148
If we want to win, I'm gonna have
to fly.

Sweetie Belle and Apple Bloom share a look.

149 SWEETIE BELLE 149
But Scootaloo: is that even
possible?

150 APPLE BLOOM 150
And by tomorrow?

151 SCOOTALOO 151
Maybe I just haven't tried hard
enough. Maybe I can fly if I work
twice as hard. See?

She flaps a little - and hovers a bit - and falls.

152 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D) 152
Oof! Maybe three times as hard.

153 APPLE BLOOM 153
Golly, I don't know, Scootaloo. I
don't think that's the problem.

154 SCOOTALOO 154
Well I know this for sure: flying
is the only way we're gonna win. So
it's back to practice!

She tries to fly off but can't. Hops on her scooter instead.

155 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D) 155
I'll just work four times as hard.

156 SWEETIE BELLE 156
Is this a good idea?

157 APPLE BLOOM 157
Probably not.

10) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - ATHLETIC FIELD - LATER

By the sun, it's late afternoon. The ponies are droopy.

158 SCOOTALOO 158
Guys, guys, guys - try it again.

159 APPLE BLOOM 159
But we've been rehearsing all the
livelong day! We're getting tired.

160 SWEETIE BELLE 160
We've been working really hard.

161 SCOOTALOO 161
Fine. We'll skip to my big
impressive flying entrance. So
you've done the do-si-do to the
left, then the right, and there's
the hoop. Then I come in, and...

She takes a running start. Then launches herself into the air
and wiggles her wings and...

162 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D) 162
WHOA WHOA WHOA!

She lands with a thump.

163 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D) 163
I'm alright. Not quite what I had
in mind... We'll just - oof - try
that part again...

She lifts up, and hovers haltingly. Then stops, and hops on
her scooter. As she scooters off.

164 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D) 164
I'll just work five times as hard.

Apple Bloom whispers to Sweetie Belle:

165 APPLE BLOOM 165
I liked our routine the way it was!

166 SWEETIE BELLE 166
Me TOO! But all she cares about now
is flying.

167 APPLE BLOOM 167
Let's keep at it. Maybe we'll be
ok?

Scootaloo's in place on the stage.

168 SCOOTALOO 168
Okay, ready. Don't worry - I'll be
flyin' high tomorrow at our final
run-through for Rainbow Dash. I'm
gonna get this, you'll see!

She GRUNTS and flaps, but cannot fly.

11) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - ATHLETIC FIELD - DAY 11

Rainbow Dash, in her COACH cap, in front of the stage.

169	RAINBOW DA	169
	Okay, Cutie Mark Crusaders, this is	
	your final run before you show it	
	at the stadium tomorrow. So make it	
	good!	
	(getting excited)	
	And if it's anything like what I	
	saw yesterday, I know you're	
	absolutely, positively, gonna...	
	(calms down)	
	...have a lot of fun. Okay, go!	

She <BLOWS A WHISTLE>. On the stage, the routine begins. Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle enter, they are exhausted and it is clearly interfering with their ability to do their best.

170	SCOOTALOO	170
	(into megaphone)	
	Ponyville! The home of - um...	

171	APPLE BLOOM / SWEETIE BELLE	171
	Friendship!	

172	SCOOTALOO	172
	Friendship, right! There are four -	
	no, three kinds of ponies...	

173	APPLE BLOOM	173
	BUM bum BUM bum...	
	(yawns)	
	Ooops, sorry!	

174	SWEETIE BELLE	174
	Left! LEFT!	

175	APPLE BLOOM	175
	I'm sorry! I'm just tired. And then	
	I dip, and then we turn... BUM bum	
	BUM bum...	

176	SWEETIE BELLE	176
	Turn <u>then</u> dip. BUM bum BUM bum...	

Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle struggle to heft up the hoop. The Ponyville flag centerpiece of the hoop falls out, revealing Scootaloo hovering just an inch off the ground for only an instant.

178 SCOOTALOO 178
Ta-da! Impressive, right?

Rainbow Dash's mouth drops open. The Crusaders trot over.

179 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D) 179
So? What'd you think?

180 RAINBOW DASH (V.O.) 180
(interior monologue)
Ugh. That was, like, the worst thing I've ever seen! Whoa. Whoa. Take it down a notch.
(out loud)
Well, um. That's. Y'know. Good and all - always great to try out different options, I guess...

181 SCOOTALOO 181
It's a bold choice. Is it working?

182 RAINBOW DASH 182 *

Well, just a thought - maybe possibly you might wanna go back to, say, the first version of the act, which was, I don't know, what's the word? Better.

Two other ponies trot up carrying practice flags.

185 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D) 185
Just do the routine as it was. Don't mess with success, right? Seriously. Now I need to go coach these other ponies.
(then)
And don't forget we've gotta catch the early train for the Crystal Empire. See you in the morning!

She flies off. Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon saunter by.

186 APPLE BLOOM 186
You know something, Scootaloo? I kinda agree with Rainbow Dash. I liked the routine how it was.

187 SWEETIE BELLE 187
Same here! And Rainbow Dash said...

188 DIAMOND TIARA 188
 If you ask me, I think Rainbow Dash
 just doesn't want to hurt your
 feelings. She knows that as long as
 you can't fly, you have no chance!

189 SILVER SPOON 189
 In any case, keep practicing. It's
 really "taking flight"!

Then they trot off, with sly winks at each other.

190 APPLE BLOOM 190
 Aw, who cares what they think?

191 SCOOTALOO 191
 What are we gonna do? We're
 competing tomorrow I still can't
 fly, unless -
 (stops short)
 WAIT! I've got it!

12) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - ATHLETIC FIELD - AFTERNOON

CLOSE ON: Scootaloo aloft in the air, wings flapping.

192 SCOOTALOO 192
 I'm flying! I'm flying!

WIDEN TO REVEAL: Scootaloo dangles from a rope strung through
 a pulley on a crossbeam. Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle hoist
 her up, pulling on either end of the rope with their teeth.
 They GRUNT: this is hard!

**(NOTE: Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle both speak with the rope
 between their gritted teeth until noted below.)**

193 APPLE BLOOM 193
 No! To the left, Sweetie Belle.

Sweetie Belle pulls to the left.

194 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D) 194
 No, your *other* left.

195 SWEETIE BELLE 195
 You're not the boss of me.

196 APPLE BLOOM 196
 You're not the boss of me!

197 SCOOTALOO 197
 No one's the boss of anyone else!

198 SWEETIE BELLE 198
You'd never know it.

199 SCOOTALOO 199
What's that supposed to mean?

200 SWEETIE BELLE 200
You know very well!

201 SCOOTALOO 201
Do not!

202 SWEETIE BELLE 202
Then I'm not going to tell you!

Here, Sweetie Belle and Apple Bloom yell at each other, both dropping the rope.

203 APPLE BLOOM 203
Why are we fighting?

204 SWEETIE BELLE 204
I HAVE NO IDEA!!!

205 SCOOTALOO (O.S.) 205
(from above)
Whoa whoa whoa.....!

Scootaloo falls and lands on the other Crusaders. They all go flying, and the crossbeam <SNAPS> in two.

206 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D) 206
This is a disaster! We gotta rebuild this rig - and quick!

207 SWEETIE BELLE 207
I'm just too tired. I can't keep going.

208 APPLE BLOOM 208
Me too! I'm tired, I'm hungry - and now I hate this routine! It feels like it's all about you now.

209 SWEETIE BELLE 209
She's right. It's like you don't even need us anymore.

210 SCOOTALOO 210
Of COURSE I need you. Without you two, how am I gonna fly?

211 APPLE BLOOM 211
UGH! Do you listen to yourself? Oh,
forget it. I'm going home to get
some sleep.

She lopes off, annoyed and tired.

212 SCOOTALOO 212
So? Are you gonna leave me too?

213 SWEETIE BELLE 213
(sighing)
We've gotta catch the early train
to the Crystal Empire. I better get
some rest. See you in the morning,
Scootaloo

Sweetie Belle goes off. Alone, Scootaloo takes a deep breath,
and gives a <GRUNT> of effort as she flaps her wings.

214 SCOOTALOO 214
(to herself)
Come on. Do it for Ponyville. Just
gotta try 20 times as hard.

She hovers about a foot, unsteadily...

13) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - ATHLETIC FIELD - LATER

The sun's going down. She hovers even lower.

215 SCOOTALOO 215
Thirty - times - as hard.

14) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - ATHLETIC FIELD - STILL LATER

Night. The moon's in the sky. She hovers lower still.

216 SCOOTALOO 216
Just - a little - harder...

15) EXT. PONYVILLE - SCHOOL - ATHLETIC FIELD - NIGHT

<CRICKETS.> Darkest night. The moon's travelled across the
sky. Weary, Scootaloo drags her hooves on the ground.

217 SCOOTALOO 217
I can't fly. I just... can't! So
what am I gonna do now?

16) EXT. PONYVILLE - STATION - DAY 16

<DING DING!> A TRAIN CONDUCTOR rings a bell. *

218 TRAIN CONDUCTOR 218
Crystal Empire! All aboard! *

Widen to show Ponyville Station, with ponies boarding the train. <EXCITED HUBBUB>. In the crowd, Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle look around desperately.

219 SWEETIE BELLE 219
Scootaloo? Where IS she?

220 APPLE BLOOM 220
She better get here soon - this
here train is about to leave!

221 SCOOTALOO (O.S.) 221
Here I am.

Scootaloo is on her scooter, looking tired and dejected.

222 APPLE BLOOM 222
There you are! We were scared you
were going to miss the train -

223 SCOOTALOO 223
I - I'm not going.

224 APPLE BLOOM / SWEETIE BELLE 224
WHAT?

225 SCOOTALOO 225
I'm the weak link. If I go and
fall, flop, or do anything but fly,
I'm gonna blow it for you two.

226 SWEETIE BELLE 226
But that's not true, Scootaloo!
Come on...

227 APPLE BLOOM 227
You know what, Sweetie Belle?
Forget it. If she's gonna quit, we
don't want her and we don't need
her. Just stay home, Scootaloo.

228 SCOOTALOO 228
That's what I'm trying to do!

229 SWEETIE BELLE 229
I can't believe you're quitting on
us! I can't believe it!

230	SCOOTALOO	230	
	But you're better off without me!		
231	APPLE BLOOM	231	
	Then fine, we WILL be. Fine!		
232	SCOOTALOO	232	
	FINE!		
233	SWEETIE BELLE	233	
	(discouraged)		
	Fine.		
234	TRAIN CONDUCTOR	234	*
	All aboard!		
235	SCOOTALOO	235	
	Have fun at the Stadium.		

She turns and scooters away as the other two board the train. <TOOT> of a train whistle as the train starts to move. Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle stick their heads through the window, watching Scootaloo go off as the train gains speed.

Rainbow Dash flies from the sky.

236	RAINBOW DASH	236	
	How's my favorite routine going today? Yeah, I said it: my favorite! OOH I just can't keep it in. I want you to win so bad! "BumBUM, bumBUM". Then Scootaloo does that KAPOW! through the hoop!		
237	APPLE BLOOM	237	
	Well, there ain't gonna be a Scootaloo KAPOW thing.		
238	SWEETIE BELLE	238	
	Or even a Scootaloo at all! She's staying home.		
239	RAINBOW DASH	239	
	She's WHAT? Has she gone totally loco? We need all three of you together to win! We gotta get Scootaloo back - and fast!		

Rainbow Dash flies trough the train till she spots a red ripcord: the emergency brake. She pulls the cord with her teeth.

The train <SHRIEKS> and sparks, as it slams to a stop!

SLAM TO BLACK.

END OF ACT II 17

17

ACT III

17) EXT. TRAIN TRACKS TO THE CRYSTAL EMPIRE - DAY 18

The train slides as it <SCREECHES TO A HALT> on the tracks.

18) INT. TRAIN 19 CONTINUOUS

19

Inside the car, Rainbow Dash addresses the Crusaders, while the other ponies lie in a (safe but comical) heap.

240 RAINBOW DASH 240
Now what's this about Scootaloo not being on the train?

241 APPLE BLOOM 241
Well... she got it in her head that the only way to represent Ponyville was by flying in our routine. When she couldn't do it, she told us she was quitting our team.

244 RAINBOW DASH 244
And then you tried to stop her from doing that, right?

Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle shift, a little embarrassed.

245 SWEETIE BELLE 245
Well, actually we kinda told her -

246 APPLE BLOOM 246
- that we didn't want a quitter.

247 RAINBOW DASH 247
Hang on: are you NUTS? You're a team and a team never leaves a friend behind. Come on!

She flies out the door. Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle follow. <TOOT TOOT!> As the train <CHUGS> past them, Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon stick their heads out the window, laughing nastily:

248 DIAMOND TIARA 248
 Sorry you can't make it! We'll take
 a picture for you from the winners'
 circle.

Outside by the train tracks:

249 SWEETIE BELLE 249
 I do not like them, one bit.
 Rainbow Dash: where are we going?

250 RAINBOW DASH 250
 Back to Ponyville. To find
 Scootaloo and get her back in the
 routine.

Rainbow Dash starts flying. The two Crusaders gallop along
 below her, next to the train tracks.

251 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D) 251
 (aloud to herself)
 That is, if we can even get there
 in time. Put on some speed, girls!

19) INT. - PONYVILLE - SCOOTALOO'S BEDROOM - A LITTLE LATER

At home in her bedroom, a dejected Scootaloo takes down old
 Equestria Games posters from her walls.

252 SCOOTALOO 252
 Guess I don't need these any more.

She moves to throw them in the trash and trips over her
 scooter.

253 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D) 253
 Ugh! Dumb old scooter.

She throws it out the window.

254 RAINBOW DASH (O.S.) 254
 Whoa! Whoa! Whoa! Throwing away
 your SCOOTER?

ON: Rainbow Dash hovering outside Scootaloo's window and
 holding the discarded scooter.

255 SCOOTALOO 255
 Rainbow Dash?

256 RAINBOW DASH 256
 Yup. But not just me...

STRAINING, Sweetie Belle and Apple Bloom struggle to climb into view in the window, as well.

257 SCOOTALOO 257
I don't want to see them. And what are they doing here, anyway? They're supposed to be on the train!

258 APPLE BLOOM 258
Well, we're not. We're not going.

259 SWEETIE BELLE 259
Not without YOU, Scootaloo.

260 SCOOTALOO 260
They don't need me. They said so.

261 RAINBOW DASH 261
Whatever anypony said before, hear what I'm saying now. All that's important is that you three stick together. Everypony is important, and this team needs all three of you - flying or no flying!

Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle nod in agreement.

262 APPLE BLOOM 262
It's true. We do need you!

263 SWEETIE BELLE 263
After all, teammates don't leave each other behind.

264 RAINBOW DASH 264
Someone kinda realllllly smart must've told you that. Yup: ME!

Rainbow Dash dashes out of the window and flies back in through Scootaloo's door.

265 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D) 265
What got into you, Scootaloo? You were so excited to compete.

266 SCOOTALOO 266
(getting teary)
I didn't want to ruin their chance to win just because I couldn't fly.

267 RAINBOW DASH 267
And who said you had to?

268 SCOOTALOO 268
 But flying's what Pegasus ponies
 are supposed to do! YOU flew when
 you carried the flag in the Games.

269 RAINBOW DASH 269
 But that was me, Scootaloo! You're
 you! And it just doesn't matter if
 you can fly or not!
 (then)
 Your routine was amazing 'cause it
 represented exactly what makes
 Ponyville special.
 (then)
 You do still know what that is,
 right?

Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle join them in the room.

270 SWEETIE BELLE 270
 We do. Friendship.

271 APPLE BLOOM 271
 Three kinds of ponies living
 together as friends, just like us!
 Earth Ponies...

272 SWEETIE BELLE 272
 Unicorns...

273 SCOOTALOO 273
 And Pegasi. But Rainbow Dash...
 (lip quivering)
 What if - what if my wings never
 grow? What if I never fly?

274 RAINBOW DASH 274
 Listen, Scootaloo: maybe you'll fly
 someday... or maybe you won't.
 You're all kinds of awesome anyway.

275 APPLE BLOOM 275
 We love you the way you are this
 very minute: not the way you could
 be.

276 SWEETIE BELLE 276
 In fact, we think you're perfect
 right now. So what do you say? Will
 you come with us to the Crystal
 Empire and win this thing?

277 SCOOTALOO 277
 Well...

MUSIC UP: SLOWLY AT FIRST.

278 RAINBOW DASH 278
Who's the toughest little pony in town?
Full of drive, full of moxie.

279 SWEETIE BELLE 279
There's no harder-working pony around. And we're a team!

280 APPLE BLOOM 280
Workin' trio, not solo.

A little faster, Scootaloo joins in, speaking at first.

281 SCOOTALOO 281
I never won by getting stuck in a rut -

282 RAINBOW DASH 282
That's right!

283 SCOOTALOO 283
Or by cheating, or playing the phony.

284 APPLE BLOOM / SWEETIE BELLE 284
You always win 'cuz of your brain and your gut -

CLOSE ON: Scootaloo: a familiar fire again in her eye.

285 SCOOTALOO 285
And I'm a proud Pegasus Pony!
 (spoken:)
So let's get to the Crystal Empire.
And let's do the routine as it was.
And let's WIN THIS THING!

286 SWEETIE BELLE 286
But waitasecond: no way we can get from Ponyville all the way to the Crystal Empire in time.

287 APPLE BLOOM 287
Shoot, nopony could! Not even Big Mac. But there's not another train till tomorrow!

288 SCOOTALOO (O.S.) 288
HEY GUYS...

WHIP TO: Scootaloo, with her scooter, two skis and a rope.

289 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D) 289
Just leave it to me.

A dramatic DRUMROLL! STINGS OF MUSIC!

20) EXT. - PONYVILLE - SCOOTALOO'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Rainbow Dash flies out of Scootaloo's house...

Followed by Scootaloo herself, who bursts out of the house on her scooter, towing the other two Crusaders behind her on skis via the rope! (All three are wearing helmets and safety goggles. Scootaloo also wears her hoof-pads.)

**21) MONTAGE - EXT. - VARIOUS LOCATIONS - PONYVILLE 22
LANDSCAPE - AND CRYSTAL EMPIRE - CONTINUOUS**

A brief montage as the ponies race against time, speeding through Ponyville across the landscape to the Crystal Empire.

290 RAINBOW DASH / ALL THREE CRUSADERS 290
*We've got hearts strong as horses,
And we're playing to win
In a last minute gallop to glory!
We know we can conquer
any challenge we're in -
We're winners
with hearts strong as horses!*

Scootaloo hits a series of small moguls, towing the other girls behind her. They take the jumps easily.

Rainbow Dash flies above.

291 RAINBOW DASH 291
What a kid! She reminds me of
someone fantastic. Oh, yeah: ME!

Scootaloo's becoming increasingly confident: she's got her mojo back in a big, big way.

292 RAINBOW DASH / ALL THREE CRUSADERS 292
*We've got hearts strong as horses,
And we're playing to win
In a last minute gallop to glory!
We know we can conquer
any challenge we're in -
We're winners
with hearts strong as horses!*

ON: Scootaloo heading towards CAM, the girls behind her. Their eyes widen.

Then we see what they see: a steep hill - and they're heading right for it!

Scotaloo bears down, fiercer and even more determined!

293 SCOTALOO 293
I got this.

And CAM goes close in on her as she hits the moguls and launches into an amazing slow motion, Evel Knieval-style loop de loop, as there's a...

MATCH CUT TO:

22) INT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE - STADIUM - LATER 23

We're suddenly watching the finale of the Crusaders' routine. Scotaloo bursts through the paper circle in the hoop as streamers shoot out. The Ponyville flag streams behind her in the breeze, attached on a pole to her scooter. She rides to join the other Crusaders as the organ blares a <FANFARE>.

294 ALL THREE CRUSADERS 294
PONYVILLE - FOREVER! YAY!

All three Crusaders strike a triumphant pose together.

All over the stadium, ponies in the stands leap to their hooves, <STOMPING> wildly and <CHEERING> like mad.

ON: Rainbow Dash hovering over the stands! She pumps her hoof in the air like a fist pump.

ON: Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon off on the sidelines, in prissy ballet outfits and toe shoes. Their mouths drop open.

On a little podium, Ms. Harshwhinny speaks into a megaphone.

295 MS. HARSHWHINNY 295
(amplified, reverb)
It's unanimous: in the Equestria Games, the Ponyville Flag will be carried by...

ON: The Crusaders, nervously biting their hooves. ON: Miss Cheerilee, nervously biting her hooves. ON: Rainbow Dash floating above her, eyes crazy wide, shaking, sweating, and nervously biting her own hooves.

296 MS. HARSHWHINNY (CONT'D) 296
...the "The Cutie Mark Crusaders"!

297 ALL THREE CRUSADERS 297
WHOO-HOO!

Even <MORE WILD CHEERING.> Rainbow Dash and Miss Cheerilee hi-five. Below, Diamond Tiara and Silver Spoon slink out fuming.

23) INT. CRYSTAL EMPIRE - STADIUM WINNER'S CIRCLE -LATER

As at the end of the Kentucky Derby, there's a winner's circle. This one is in the shape of a horseshoe.

Ms. Harshwhinny places victory rose wreaths around the necks of the Crusaders. They're surrounded by the other victors from other towns in Equestria, carrying their own flags.

298 MS. HARSHWHINNY 298
For you... And you... and YOU!

299 APPLE BLOOM 299
Earth Ponies...

300 SWEETIE BELLE 300
Unicorns...

301 SCOOTALOO 301
Friends forever, with proud Pegasi,
even ones with teeny tiny wings.
(then)
And now we get to do this in the
Equestria Games? I cannot WAIT!

302 RAINBOW DASH (O.S.) 302
Ahem!

They look up. Rainbow Dash hovers above them.

303 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D) 303
(calmly)
Look, what you three did was...
acceptable.

304 MS. HARSHWHINNY 304
(super excited)
Acceptable? Acceptable?! Why it
was totally, stupendously the
single most amazing thing I have
ever, ever seen!

304A RAINBOW DASH 304A
Contain your excitement, Ms.
Harshwhinny. Remember,
professionalism.

*
*

304B MS. HARSHWHINNY 304B
Yes, well, I...

Ms. Harshwhinny blushes then makes a quick exit to avoid further embarrassment. Rainbow Dash grins.

306 SCOOTALOO 306
You know what this means, right?

307 APPLE BLOOM 307
What?

308 SCOOTALOO 308
We pull this off at the Equestria Games, we are totally gonna get Cutie Marks in Flag Carrying.

Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle <AD-LIB AGREEMENT>. Rainbow Dash shakes her head in disbelief as we...

FADE OUT.

END.