

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
Linda Steiner
Michael Vogel
Brian Lenard
Kathy Page
Robert Fewkes
Sophia Hussain

Hasbro Brand:

Mark Wiesenbahn
Matt Mattus
Valerie Jurries
Donna Tobin

MY LITTLE PONY IV
"Rarity Takes Manehattan"
Episode 408
Written by: Dave Polsky

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TEASER**1) EXT. PONYVILLE – MORNING**

RARITY is the midst of cajoling APPLEJACK, PINKIE PIE, FLUTTERSHY and RAINBOW DASH to join her on a trip to the amazing, incredible, one-and-only Manehattan. The ponies resist, apparently hesitant to drop their everyday activities at a moment's notice to run off for a week in the city, but Rarity keeps at it till they reveal their main objection: how expensive the city can be.

Rarity pouts – guess that means the exclusive tickets she bought for them all to catch the hottest show in town, “Filly Elliot”, will go to waste. The ponies all jump up and down with excitement, they'd all love to see that show! Rarity assures them not to worry about coming along – she wants so very much to share the trip with her friends she plans to see to it that money's no object.

Just then, TWILIGHT and SPIKE happen by. Rarity wanders over to ask why Twilight looks so serious. Twilight explains that she's been puzzling over a message she received regarding the locks and keys they recently discovered: “Let the rainbow be your guide.” Rarity tells her to forget her troubles and join her on her trip to Manehattan, where she's been invited to show her latest styles at Fashion Week and to compete for the Grand Prize. She wants all her friends to come along. Twilight's thrilled for Rarity, but can't help but wonder if maybe having all her friends along will prove too great a distraction. WIDEN TO REVEAL Rarity joining all the other ponies in their celebratory dance/chant: “We're gonna see Filly Elliot... we're gonna see Filly Elliot...” Even Spike rushes off to join in. Twilight sighs: “Nevermind.”

ACT I**2) EXT. MANEHATTAN - CITY STREETS – DAY**

Rarity leads the ponies and Spike out of the train station to take in the sights, sounds, smells and pulsating energy of Manehattan. She says the hotel where they'll be staying is but a short walk away. As Rarity leads them toward the hotel, she can't help but stop to interact with vendors, buy pretzels for everyone, etc. She's captivated by the city and wants to wring every ounce of enjoyment out of it for herself and her friends. The ponies are all enthralled. Twilight also enjoys herself, thought she's a bit overwhelmed like the others, but Rarity's confidence and sure hand helps them absorb all the strange new bustle in stride. Even when some over-exuberant behavior from Pinkie Pie attracts a policepony's disapproving glare, Rarity smoothes the whole incident over with her charm and they're all able to proceed on their merry way.

3) INT. MANEHATTAN – HOTEL SUITE – DAY

They all arrive in the huge suite they'll be sharing, checking out the icebox, bouncing on the beds, etc. The bellhop heaves the last of Rarity's many heavy bags, but his weariness disappears when Rarity hands over a huge tip, and the bellhop, taken aback by her generosity, exits with a skip in his step.

The ponies admit they're all already having more fun than they imagined, and they're grateful to Rarity for making it all possible, but they can't help but express concern over how Rarity is managing to pay for all this. Rarity waves this off– she's been saving money carefully for a long time for just such a trip, and plus... she has a secret weapon, which she pops open her luggage to reveal. Rarity then presents with pride the one-of-a-kind fabric she designed for the event. In fact, she's made the entire wardrobe for the show out of this fabric. The ponies all react in agreement over how stunning it is. Rarity assures them all that the cash prize for winning the show would more than cover her expenses... and though she admits she's not 100% sure she'll win, she's about as sure as she can be. The ponies exchange more looks of concern, but Rarity again waves off their furrowed brows: after all, she brought them all here to have fun. The city awaits! What are they all standing around for? Let's go! Rarity WHISKS them all out, as we:

4) EXT. MANEHATTAN – CITY STREETS – VARIOUS – DAY

Rarity bursts into SONG, celebrating the energy and verve of the city, as we see a MONTAGE of her involving her friends in partaking of its many little adventures and pleasures, and generously making sure that everyone gets to enjoy everything to the hilt. Twilight, for her part, enjoys everything else, but more moderately. She keeps taking the smaller ice cream cone, forgoing the extra carriage ride, etc... preferring to pay her own way. She tells Rarity, in song, that Rarity mustn't let her generosity get in the way of her dreams. Rarity brushes off this concern – all her preparations are done! She can now just enjoy with her friends until it's time for Show Prep later on that day. Rarity's celebration of the abundance of the city, and her faith that it will never let her down, finally sways Twilight into finally letting Rarity pay her way, too.

The song culminates with a stop in front of a posh department store window – the pony deemed the best designer at Fashion Week will get to show her collection in that window. Everypony in Manehattan will want to wear the clothes on display. Their images reflected in the window, Rarity assures her friends once again that her collection will grace this department store window, and she can hardly wait for Show Prep to begin – and neither can her friends, who all root for her enthusiastically. Then, as the SONG ENDS, Spike notes that she won't have to wait much longer – Show Prep starts in ten minutes. Rarity gasps – and it's all the way across town! As she RUSHES to get a taxi, we hear THUNDER and a DOWNPOUR immediately ensues. Suddenly, everypony in Manehattan wants a taxi! (NOTE: These will be very "Ponified" versions of taxis.) Off Rarity and her friend's worried faces we...

END ACT I

ACT II

5) EXT. MANEHATTAN – TAXI LINE – MOMENTS LATER

All the ponies try to help Rarity get a taxi, and it seems hopeless! They feel horrible for letting Rarity get carried away... but then we see a cab make a bee-line for Rarity. It's the CABBIE Rarity overtipped during their song celebrating the city! Ignoring all the others clamoring that this taxi was theirs, the Cabbie WHISK Rarity off, deftly weaving

through traffic, assuring Rarity she'll have her there on time. Rarity rolls down the window for a regal wave to her friends: "Ta!"

6) INT. MANEHATTAN – CONVENTION CENTER – LATER

Rarity rushes in, soaking wet. A curt MASTER OF CEREMONIES looks at her watch, she made it just in the nick of time, but she's still the last of the six finalists to arrive. The Master of Ceremonies then offers to get someone to take her fabrics to her prep room, at which point Rarity GASPS with alarm: her fabrics! She doesn't have them. The Master of Ceremonies clucks that though she may be here, her things appear to be late, so she's afraid that may disqualify her from –

But then, at the last possible second, the hotel BELLHOP Rarity tipped so generously earlier arrives with all her bags. He informs her that her friends said she'd need them so he rushed over as fast as he could. With Rarity at last all ready to go, the Master of Ceremonies has little choice but to show her to her prep room.

On the way, Rarity must pass the OTHER FIVE FINALISTS, who all pause from their schmoozing to size her up as she passes. But then Rarity sees one of the intimidating faces suddenly brighten. "Rarity! Is that you?" exclaims fellow finalist SURI POLOMARE. It turns out Suri is an acquaintance from Ponyville who moved to Manehattan to pursue a career in fashion and is also showing a collection. Suri and Rarity are both delighted to see a familiar, friendly face.

7) INT. MANEHATTAN – CONVENTION CENTER – RARITY'S ROOM – LATER

Rarity continues trying to get dry as she sets her collection out in preparation for the show. As she's doing so, Suri stops by for a visit, to catch up some more, but she also seems a bit nervous. Rarity has her own work to attend to, but generously agrees to hear her old friend out. It seems something has happened to the fabric Suri planned on using as an accent for her hats and accessories. Suri admires the beauty of Rarity's fabric, and wonders if she could use a piece of it. Rarity is tempted to help, but then gets wary – she has a lot riding on winning this competition, after all. Suri looks sad; she remarks that's what all the other ponies here said too, but of course she understands. Rarity's so conflicted. Then, glancing out the window, she sees the rain cleared up and a beautiful rainbow has appeared. Rarity smiles, remember Twilight's words from earlier: Let the Rainbow be Your Guide. Rarity shrugs off her worries and readily hands over the piece of fabric. Delighted by Rarity's generosity, Suri exits so they can both finish prepping.

DISSOLVE TO:

Rarity puts the finishing touches on her sample display. The Master of Ceremonies arrives to bring Rarity down for the fashion show Run Through. She couldn't be happier or more excited! She sees a small piece of ribbon might be just the thing to complete one of the outfits, and figures – no problem - she'll go ask her friend Suri... but the M.C. testily informs her that's impossible as Suri's down there showing her work already.

8) INT. MANEHATTAN – CONVENTION CENTER – MAIN FLOOR – LATER

Rarity arrives to show her stuff, and there's Suri on the main stage, showing off designs made of the identical fabric Rarity loaned her! It's not just an "accent"... it's the show-stopping centerpiece of the entire collection! Rarity's stunned! As Suri steps from the stage, a bewildered Rarity approaches to confront her... and, in between barking orders at her put upon ASSISTANT, the duplicitous Suri informs Rarity it's a pony-eat-pony world and that if she wants to make it in Manehattan, she needs to wise up.

9) INT. MANEHATTAN – HOTEL SUITE – LATER

The ponies and Spike are all dressed to go out for dinner at the Russian Tea Groom, abuzz with excitement over the upcoming Filly Elliot performance that night. Just as they're about to exit, a distraught Rarity bursts in, reporting how she's been taken advantage of, and how horrible Suri turned out to be. "And you should have heard how she treated her assistant. Horrible!" What's worse, Rarity can't use the rest of her fabric now that everypony has now seen it in another designer's collection!

Rarity is desperate to weave more fabric before show time tomorrow. Instantly, the ponies abandon their plans so as to aid their friend in need. But Rarity's in utter despair. "It's no use!" she exclaims. "Not if we have anything to say about it," responds Twilight resolutely, and the ponies all line up before Rarity awaiting instructions – even if it means missing tonight's Filly Elliot performance, so be it. But Rarity continues wailing dramatically. The ponies all stand "at ease"... it seems as though Rarity may still need a few minutes.

10) INT. MANEHATTAN – HOTEL SUITE – LATER

The ritzy hotel suite has been transformed into something resembling a textile factory, as Rarity supervises her pony friends in assembling a brand new world-class fabric at record speed. Rarity has a plan, but it'll take every ounce of effort on everyone's part to make it in time, and everyone seems willing to give it all they've got.

But as TIME TICKS AWAY, Rarity gets testier and testier. With every glance at the clock, Rarity's temper gets shorter. The ponies insist they're doing their best, and Rarity keeps apologizing, but as the night wears on she keeps snapping, and each time she loses it she seems angrier than the last. The once so generous Rarity is now clearly taking advantage of the generosity of her friends.

Finally, one of the ponies comments that she's starting to sound like the way Suri must've when she yelled at her own assistant, at which point Rarity reacts: "How can you say that? Fine! If you feel that way you don't even have to come!" The ponies seem stung, but Twilight makes sure they keep working to get the job done.

11) EXT. MANEHATTAN – CITY STREETS – NEXT DAY

It's raining again. The Bellhop helps Rarity with her bags as she exits the hotel, but Rarity's curt and doesn't tip. Again the Cabbie from before makes sure to pick her up from the back of the line of angry, wet commuters... but Rarity doesn't even say thank you. They arrive at the Convention Center as the rain stops, and Rarity pays the fare and that's it. As she rushes in, the clouds recede and a beautiful rainbow appears. "Stupid rainbow," mutters Rarity, as she rushes inside.

12) INT. MANEHATTAN – CONVENTION CENTER – CONTINUOUS

As Rarity steps inside, she hears a voice call her name and turns testily... and sees that it's Suri's assistant, who says how awful she feels about what happened... but before she can finish she hears Suri barking her name and must go. Rarity seems sobered by this.

13) INT. MANEHATTAN – CONVENTION CENTER – MAIN FLOOR – LATER

The show is underway, and the Master of Ceremonies steps before the glamorous crowd to announce the next collection: Rarity's. The curtains draw back and the crowd audibly GASPS WITH ADMIRATION and the collection Rarity presents... but then, when she looks out in the audience, Rarity sees six empty seats where her friends should be... and a rainbow-like multi-colored ribbon appears rippling on the seats... but this ribbon has the COLORS OF THE PONIES, with the lavender Rarity color PULSATING. Rarity is suddenly overcome with sadness, despite the raving and cheering crowd, and the huddled judges approvingly murmuring "Looks like we have a winner." Rarity's friends really didn't come! But she didn't mean it when she said that... oh no, what has she done??

ACT THREE**14) INT. MANEHATTAN – HOTEL LOBBY – LATER**

Rarity rushes in looking for her friends, but the Bellhop informs her that they all left a short while ago. Rarity realizes they must be all headed back to Ponyville... if she hurries she might be able to stop them. She rushes out... but then rushes back in to give the Bellhop a handsome tip and a smile... then rushes out again.

15) INT. MANEHATTAN – TRAIN STATION – A SHORT WHILE LATER

Rarity rushes in, but is told that the last train to Ponyville just left. Rarity is crushed. She breaks into SONG AGAIN, but this time...

16) EXT. MANEHATTAN – CITY STREETS – VARIOUS – LATER

... as she wanders the city streets, the same sights that held such energy and vigor for her before seem sad and lonely. There's no pleasure in the city for her anymore. Then, as luck would have it, she just happens to wander past the Russian Tea Groom where – to her great surprise - her pony friends are stepping outside, having just enjoyed a delicious meal. Rarity flips out with joy and relief, hugging her friends. They didn't leave after all! She adds that she has a special surprise for them.

17) INT. MANEHATTAN – THEATER – LATER

Rarity and her friends sit in theater seats enjoying a command performance of the otherwise-sold-out-for-months Filly Elliot (the inspiring and moving story of a young filly

who defies the expectations of her family to become a dancer by following her dream to be a welder instead).

18) EXT. MANEHATTAN – STORE WINDOW – LATER

Rarity and her friends are all present to watch the unveiling of the winning collection. Everypony but Rarity is shocked when the curtains part to reveal Suri's collection instead! With her generous heart restored, Rarity has offered to give the store window up and let her rival show her collection there instead. On one condition – that Suri change her ways and become more generous... a promise Suri immediately proves she is going to keep when she publicly credits the Assistant she's been mistreating with playing a major role in designing the collection.

Rarity's friends all seem heartened by this, however they can't help but feel troubled that Rarity gave up the prize, since she was counting on the prize money to help fund their all-expense-paid trip. To which Rarity responds, "Oh no, I just gave up the store window. I'm keeping the cash prize. Heck, I may be generous, but I mean, come on!" At that, she buys some flowers from a flower vendor. "Who are those for?" asks Twilight. Rarity graciously presents the back to the flower vendor: "Have a lovely day. Ta!" She then heads off on her merry way.

19) EXT. PONYVILLE – NEXT DAY

Back in Ponyville, Rarity unpacks her suitcase from the trip and discovers something – a key. Twilight immediately recognizes that it is one of the keys that will unlock the chest presented to her by the Tree of Harmony. Rarity then puts it together for Twilight: let the rainbow be your guide! It must have something to do with the key. Rarity informs Twilight how rainbows led her along every step of the way – putting her generous nature to the test. And not only has she passed with flying colors, adds Twilight, but she's also passed on that generous spirit to another. Princess Twilight surmises that it is because of this that the key has appeared. Rarity smiles and decides to go the Sweet Shoppe to celebrate... by being generous to herself.

FADE OUT.

END.