

MY LITTLE PONY
Episode 501 / 403-501
"The Cutie Map" Part 1

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SC 4. INT. TWILIGHT SPARKLE'S CASTLE, THRONE ROOM - LATER

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Let's go through this one more
time.

RAINBOW DASH
We're been over it, like, a million
times, Twilight. We found all six
keys, defeated Tirek, and got this
sweet castle. End of story.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Yes, but why.

APPLEJACK
I dunno, sugarcube, maybe it's just
your new house, and there ain't
nothin' more to it than that.

RARITY
I must say, speaking strictly on
aesthetics...

RARITY (CONT'D)
...there really doesn't need to be
more to it. It's all simply
divine.

FLUTTERSHY
I agree with Twilight. And Rarity
and Applejack and Rainbow Dash and
Pinkie Pie. Oh. And probably
Spike.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
As princess, I've been chosen to
spread the Magic of Friendship
across Equestria. So why would
the Tree of Harmony want us to sit
in a castle in Ponyville? It
doesn't make any sense.

SPIKE
(with a yawn)
Is that new? I like it.

SC 5. INT. TWILIGHT SPARKLE'S CASTLE, THRONE ROOM - DAY

SPIKE
This is incredible! It's got all
of Equestria!

PINKIE PIE
Hi, Mom and Dad!

FLUTTERSHY

But if this is Ponyville...

FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)

...why are our Cutie Marks over there?

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

I don't know. But it seems like the map wants us to find out. The Tree, the chest, this castle...and now the map.

(earnestly)

How can we not follow it?

RAINBOW DASH

You know what? There's a ton of room for dangerous adventure along that route. Count me in.

APPLEJACK

Aw shoot, I reckon you're right.

PINKIE PIE

Well...I was planning on organizing my baking sheets, but okay!

RARITY

Very well.

FLUTTERSHY

Um...Maybe I'll just stay here with Spike.

SPIKE

Awesome! Me and Big Mac have a huge weekend ahead of us talkin' hoofball and, and trading hoofball cards and arguing about hoofball stats!

FLUTTERSHY

On second thought, maybe I'd better go with them. In case they need me.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Looks like it's time for a road trip...

SPIKE

Suit yourself. But he's got a Hock Fetlock rookie card I plan to sweet talk right into these hot little claws.

SC 9. EXT. ROCKY BLUFF - DAY

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
That's it! That's the place on the map!

RARITY
Right! Let's get down there and find the spa.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Wait. We don't know why the map sent us here. We shouldn't just walk right in, it could be dangerous.

RAINBOW DASH
Yesss!!

PINKIE PIE
(deadly serious)
Stay behind me, everypony. I'm on it.

APPLEJACK
Careful, Pinkie!

SC 10. EXT. JUST OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE - LATER

RAINBOW DASH
This is where that map sent us? It looks like the most boring place in Equestria!

APPLEJACK
That's just an ordinary village full of ordinary pony folk.

RARITY
It could certainly use a few more architectural flourishes...or any architectural flourishes.

FLUTTERSHY
I think it's lovely.

PINKIE PIE
(cold-eyed)
I don't like it. I don't like it one bit.

PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
I know smiles. And those smiles? They're just not right.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Forget the smiles...look at the
Cutie Marks!

RAINBOW DASH
Okay, that's weird.

SC 11. EXT. JUST OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE - DAY

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
An entire village with the same
Cutie Mark? How can that be?

RAINBOW DASH
I bet there's some sort of horrific
monster behind it!

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
What makes you say that?

RAINBOW DASH
'Cause fighting a horrific monster
would be super awesome?

APPLEJACK
I reckon we oughta just head into
town and talk to some locals. Find
out what's goin' on.

RAINBOW DASH
Great idea, AJ, let's go.

PINKIE PIE
Those smiles are baaaad news...

SC 12. EXT. VILLAGE MAIN STREET - DAY

TOWNSPONIES
Welcome!

VILLAGE PONY #1
Welcome!

VILLAGE PONY # 2
Welcome!

FLUTTERSHY
(in awe)
This must be the most pleasant
place in Equestria!

NIGHT GLIDER
Welcome!

RAINBOW DASH
(to herself, sulking)
Ugh. Thanks a lot, map.

PARTY FAVOR
Welcome!

PARTY FAVOR (CONT'D)
Pardon my forwardness, but...are
you an alicorn?

APPLEJACK
That there's the Princess of
Friendship!

PARTY FAVOR
(smiling warmly)
Well you've certainly come to the
right place for friendship.

DOUBLE DIAMOND
What brings you to town?

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
We're not entirely sure.

DOUBLE DIAMOND
I see. Well, all are welcome here
in our little village. My name is
Double Diamond and this is Party
Favor.

APPLEJACK
Howdy, Double Diamond. I'm
Applejack, and this here's Pinkie
Pie, Fluttershy, Rarity, Rainbow
Dash, and Twilight Sparkle.

DOUBLE DIAMOND
(still smiling)
And you all have your own unique
Cutie Marks.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
If you don't mind...has there been
any sort of trouble here lately?

DOUBLE DIAMOND
Trouble?

DOUBLE DIAMOND (CONT'D)
Why, I don't think we've ever had
trouble in our little village.

PARTY FAVOR
It's true. You'll see.

DOUBLE DIAMOND
Perhaps you'd care to speak to our
founder, Starlight Glimmer.

FLUTTERSHY
I wish everypony in Equestria was
as friendly as these ponies are.

PINKIE PIE
I've got my eye on them...

PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Something's rotten in...whatever
the name of this village is that
we're in right now.

SC 13. INT. STARLIGHT'S COTTAGE - LATER

DOUBLE DIAMOND
Starlight? We have some new
visitors!

RAINBOW DASH
(quietly)
Be ready to fight. We don't know
what's gonna come through that
door...

STARLIGHT (O.S.)
Welcome!

STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
I'm so pleased to have you here.

DOUBLE DIAMOND
This is Applejack, Fluttershy,
Pinkie Pie, Rarity, Rainbow Dash,
and Twilight Sparkle.

STARLIGHT
Forgive my bluntness, but I'm
assuming it's Princess Twilight
Sparkle? We don't get many
alicorns around here.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Yes. But Twilight is fine.

STARLIGHT
So...how did you hear of our little
village?

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
It's kind of a long story. Let's
just say we found it on a map.

PINKIE PIE

Technically it's a
tree-chest-castle-map.

STARLIGHT

Well, however you found us, we're
happy to have you. We're happy to
have anypony who wants to
experience true friendship for the
first time.

APPLEJACK

Say what?

STARLIGHT

Oh, indeed. That's what's so
unique about our village, you see.
Around here, we don't flaunt our
special talents because we don't
have any special talents to flaunt.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Is that why you all have those Cutie
Marks?

STARLIGHT

Perhaps it would be easier to
understand if I gave you a tour of
the village.

SC 14. EXT. VILLAGE MAIN STREET - LATER

STARLIGHT

*Heads High ponies! Marching proud!
Altogether now, every one of you!
No pony left behind!*

STARLIGHT (CONT'D)

*Life is so grand in our town/We're
always filled with cheer/We never
have to look around/To know that
we're all here*

CHORUS

*In our town!/In our town/We don't
have to wait/To find out that our
destiny/Is just to emulate!*

STARLIGHT

Let's see those big happy smiles!

STARLIGHT (CONT'D)

*Life is a smile in our town/Our
cutie marks the same/Because we do
not separate/Ourselves by more
than name*

CHORUS

*In our town!/In our town/We do not
compete/Winning only breeds the
worst/Ego-filled conceit*

STARLIGHT

You see, now everypony wins!

STARLIGHT (CONT'D)

*Life is a joy in our town/We're all
equal here/No-one is superior/And
no-one shakes in fear*

CHORUS

*In our town!/In our town/We work as
a team/You can't have a
nightmare/If you never dream*

STARLIGHT (CONT'D)

*Other ponies argue/Do you ever
wonder why?/When you think your
talent's special/You don't see eye
to eye/There's just too many
differences/That lead to
disarray/But when you learn to act
as one/It's like a holidaaaay*

CHORUS

*In our town/In our town/We don't
complicate/When you learn to
simplify/Life is oh so great/Join
in our utopia/Come out of the
dark/banded by equality/By our
cutie mark!*

RAINBOW DASH

(laughing)

*You're kidding, right? Give up
our Cutie Marks? No way!*

FLUTTERSHY

*Rainbow Dash, don't be so rude! I
don't think we should judge them.
They all seem perfectly happy with
their choice.*

PINKIE PIE

*Don't believe their smiles,
Fluttershy.*

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

*I'm sorry, I guess we're just a
little confused by all of this-*

STARLIGHT

*We have no judgments here in our
village. Each of us was confused*

once, as well, blinded by the false promise of our Cutie Marks.

RAINBOW DASH
Woah-woah-woah. Is she for real?

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
When we were sent to this village, we assumed it was to help in some way, but...well, it doesn't seem like you need any help.

STARLIGHT
Have you considered perhaps that you might have been sent here so we could help you?

STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
After all, nopony has ever come to our village and wanted to leave. Why should you be any different?

STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
(to the Mane Six)
But that is entirely your choice. Please, enjoy our little corner of Equestria. We're all quite fond of it. No doubt you will be as well.

STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Double Diamond, please help our guests with whatever they might need.

DOUBLE DIAMOND
Of course.

STARLIGHT
(to herself)
Well this will certainly provide a boost to our little community...

STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
When the rest of Equestria sees that a princess gave up her Cutie Mark to join us, they'll finally understand what we're trying to accomplish.

SC 15. EXT. VILLAGE MAIN STREET - DAY

VILLAGE PONIES
Welcome!

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

A Cutie Mark is a representation of
a pony's unique talents and skills.
How is it possible to-

RARITY

(aghast)
What in the name of Equestria is
THAT?!

SHOPKEEPER

Welcome! Care to sample some
local fashion? We've got cloaks
this month!

RARITY

Perhaps another time, good sir,
thank you.
(whispering, to
Applejack)
No wonder nopony's wearing
anything.

SC 16. EXT. VILLAGE CAFE - CONTINUOUS

FLUTTERSHY

Really, girls, they may do things
a bit differently than we're used
to, but that's no reason to be rude!

RAINBOW DASH

(quietly)
No, the reason to be rude is that
they all keep staring at us.

DOUBLE DIAMOND

(helpfully)
Need something?

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Uh, no, we're good.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Fluttershy's right. If we're
going to get to the bottom of why
the map sent us here, we'll need the
help of these ponies.

APPLEJACK

I think we ran off to the end of
Equestria before we even knew what
that map was!

PINKIE PIE

If we were at the end of Equestria,
we'd be sitting on a big A! Hee Hee!
Get it?

RARITY

Oh please, Miss Pie, this is hardly the time for jokes. We've come all this way and for what?

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Maybe you're right, but we're here now. And it sure feels like something's wrong.

APPLEJACK

That and two bits'll get you a cup of cider.

SUGAR BELLE

Is this a bad time?

FLUTTERSHY

We shouldn't be bickering like this in front of our new friends. Really, Applejack, you're almost as bad as Rainbow Dash!

RAINBOW DASH

Don't drag me into this.

SUGAR BELLE

Is your friendship ending?

PINKIE PIE

Are you crazy? We'd never let a disagreement get in the way of food!

SUGAR BELLE

(confused)
Okay, well...uh, my name is Sugar Belle. What can I bring you? We have muffins...

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Then I guess we'll take six muffins.

PINKIE PIE

Make that twelve.
(off Twilight's look)
What? I'm hungry.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Come on, girls, we've got to stick together. It doesn't matter what happened before; we're here now.

APPLEJACK

I guess you're right. And the sooner we figure out why, the sooner we can go home.

SUGAR BELLE

Forgive me for overhearing, but just a moment ago you were disagreeing. And now it sounds like you're agreeing.

APPLEJACK

Uh-Huh?

SUGAR BELLE

Well, you had such differing opinions. And Cutie Marks.

RARITY

We have differing opinions all the time, darling.

SUGAR BELLE

(genuinely confused)
But...you look like you're friends.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

We are friends. A simple disagreement wouldn't change that...

SUGAR BELLE

I'm sorry, I'm just having a hard time understanding. Different talents lead to different opinions, which lead to bitterness and misery. So, why aren't you bitter and--

PINKIE PIE

Peh! Blech!...

PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)

(super forced)
Mmm...good...

SUGAR BELLE

It's all right, I know I'm not a very good baker. At least, I'm not any better than anypony else in the village.

SUGAR BELLE (CONT'D)

Well, I hope you enjoy our little village!

SUGAR BELLE

(quickly, whispered)
Come inside before you go. Meet me downstairs.

RAINBOW DASH
Okay, that was weird, too.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Let's all sit here and eat these
muffins and act normal. I think
we're being watched.

RAINBOW DASH
Ya think?

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
No, not like that. I mean somepony
here doesn't want us talking to
Sugar Belle.

APPLEJACK
I got an idea. But you gotta eat
all them muffins, Pinkie.

PINKIE PIE
(distracted)
Me? Why me?

APPLEJACK
You got a stronger stomach than any
of us and that filly in there might
be our best chance at findin' out
what in the hay is goin' on around
here.

SC 17. INT. VILLAGE CAFE - MOMENTS LATER

APPLEJACK
(loudly and stagey)
I can't believe you ate all our
muffins, Pinkie Pie! We best go
inside and get some more!

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Nice work, Pinkie.

PINKIE PIE
I've accidentally eaten cardboard
tastier than that.

SC 18. INT. VILLAGE CAFE, BASEMENT - MOMENTS LATER

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Hello? Sugar Belle?

SUGAR BELLE
Thank you for coming.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Why did want us to come down here?

SUGAR BELLE

So nopony could see what's about to happen...

PARTY FAVOR

Are you really the Princess of Friendship?

NIGHT GLIDER

Do you know Princess Celestia?

SUGAR BELLE

(to Pinkie Pie)

I love your Cutie Mark!

NIGHT GLIDER

How can you be friends with different Cutie Marks? Don't you end up hating each other?

SUGAR BELLE

(off Fluttershy's Cutie Mark)

Oh, look at this one, this one's great too! I'd love to have my special talent back, even just for a day...make something besides those disgusting muffins...

(self-consciously)

RAINBOW DASH

So what's stopping you? Go get your Cutie Marks back.

PARTY FAVOR

Daydreaming is one thing, but you mean...actually having it put back on? That seems extreme.

SUGAR BELLE

I'm not sure Starlight would like that. She wants us all to be happy in our sameness.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

How do you take somepony's Cutie Mark, anyway?

NIGHT GLIDER

The Cutie Unmarking is a beautiful experience. Starlight uses the Staff of Sameness to magically take them away and replace them with these.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

But...nopony should keep you from your Cutie Mark. It represents

such an essential part of who you are!

NIGHT GLIDER

Oh, we're not kept from them. They're in the vault, up in the caves. We can visit them any time we like to remind us of the heartache of a life with special talents.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Can we visit this cave?

SC 19. EXT. ROCKY HILLSIDE - LATER

STARLIGHT

I'm delighted you're interested in our Cutie Mark vault! We hope someday every pony in Equestria will make a pilgrimage here to our little village to have theirs removed, too, and our message of perfectly equal friendship can finally spread across the land!

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

This must be the reason we're here.

PINKIE PIE

Pilgrimaging?

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

No, helping those ponies get their Cutie Marks back!

FLUTTERSHY

Oh. Are you sure, Twilight? Maybe they missed them a little, but even they didn't seem all that unhappy.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Then why did they want to meet us in secret? And why did they ask us not to tell Starlight who told us about the vault? Something's not right...

STARLIGHT

Just through here!

SC 20. INT. CAVE - MOMENTS LATER

STARLIGHT

Behold! Our Cutie Mark vault...

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I've never seen anything like it...

STARLIGHT
And here is the Staff of Sameness.

STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
It was one of the great mage
Meadowbrook's nine enchanted
items. We are incredibly
fortunate to have it here. This is
the tool that allows us to free
ourselves from our Marks.

STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
I'm curious, how did the subject of
the vault come up?

PINKIE PIE
(distracted)
Oh, some ponies were telling us how
much they missed their Cutie Marks
and--

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
(under her breath)
Pinkie!

PINKIE PIE
Oops.

STARLIGHT
(eyes lighting up)
Were they!

STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Well it seems you inspire all sorts
of free thinking, don't you?

RARITY
We certainly didn't intend to cause
any disruptions to your charming
little--

STARLIGHT
Good. Let's just make sure of
that, shall we?

TWILIGHT SPARKLE
It's a trap!

STARLIGHT
Oh, I don't blame you for what you
tried to do here today. You've
spent your whole lives thinking
those Marks are a good thing.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE

Give them back!

STARLIGHT

(ignoring her)

Well now you can spend the rest of
your lives here with us. And we'll
teach you just how much better life
can be without your Cutie Marks.

END