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MY LITTLE PONY 6

"Stranger Than Fan Fiction"

Episode 614

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## **TEASER**

### **SC. 1 - INT. UNDERGROUND CAVERN - DAY**

[ADVENTURE MUSIC] as DARING DO carefully edges her way across a narrow ledge. She stumbles on some loose rocks and looks down as the debris falls into the BOTTOMLESS GORGE she's precariously perched above.

She looks across the expanse at a landing where a clover-shaped AMULET sits on a raised dais, sparkling in a single shaft of sunlight from somewhere far above.

Suddenly the ground beneath her gives way and she's forced to jump for it. Dragging herself onto the landing, she glances up at the amulet when a loud HISSSSSSSSSS is heard behind her. As she turns, looking up with growing trepidation we...

CUT TO:

### **SC. 2 - INT. RAINBOW DASH'S HOUSE - CLOUDSDALE - DAY**

TWILIGHT SPARKLE looks up from her DARING DO BOOK at RAINBOW DASH who stares back at her aghast.

1           RAINBOW DASH  
Well, don't stop there!

2           TWILIGHT  
Rainbow Dash, you and I have both read this new Daring Do book a dozen times. You know exactly what happens next.

3           RAINBOW DASH  
I know, but it's the best part!

Twilight <SIGHS> and closes the book. She hands it to Dash, who shoves it into an over-stuffed suitcase.

4           TWILIGHT  
I wish Princess Celestia didn't need my help with the friendship summit in Griffonstone. That way I could go with you to the Daring Do convention.

5           RAINBOW DASH  
Don't worry. I'll make sure AK Yearling signs your book too.  
(MORE)

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)  
I can't believe she's going to be  
there. She never goes to  
conventions.

Twilight <SIGHS> and watches, despondent, as Dash finishes  
packing. Dash sees her long face.

6 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)  
Which, I guess will be cool for all  
those fan-ponies, but since you and  
I know AK Yearling personally...

Dash looks around surreptitiously, then leans into Twilight.

7 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)  
...and we know that she's secretly  
Daring Do, herself, it's no big  
deal.

8 TWILIGHT  
I guess you're right.

9 RAINBOW DASH  
Of course I am. This convention'll  
be fun, but it's nothing to get too  
excited about.

Twilight gives Dash a slight smile, which Dash returns as  
we...

SMASH CUT TO:

### SC. 3 - INT. MANEHATTAN CONVENTION CENTER - DAY

Rainbow Dash stands in the middle of the crowded (but  
production friendly) convention center, totally decked out in  
DARING DO COS-PLAY.

She looks around at the Daring Do paraphernalia everywhere,  
trying to contain herself as she NEARLY BURSTS AT THE SEAMS  
with excitement.

10 RAINBOW DASH  
So! Excited!

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

**ACT ONE****SC. 4 - INT. MANHATTAN CONVENTION CENTER - RESUME**

Rainbow Dash walks the convention floor trying not to geek-out. She passes stall after stall selling Daring Do comic books, figurines, authentic props from the various books, etc. A SALESPONY calls out to her.

11 SALESPONY  
You look like a pony who'd be up  
for The Daring Do Experience.

12 RAINBOW DASH  
What's The Daring Do Experience?

He hands her a pamphlet with pictures of Daring Do-ish locales.

13 SALESPONY  
Why, it's an all inclusive, one of  
a kind, adventu-cation where you  
get to live a Daring Do adventure.

14 RAINBOW DASH  
Oh. No thanks. I did that already.

Something catches Dash's eye and she walks off, leaving the speechless salespony to stare after her.

Dash walks to the end of a row and her eyes get big as she stares up at...

**SC. 5 - INT. CONVENTION - QUEST FOR THE SAPPHIRE STONE BOOTH - CONT.**

Dash stares in wonder at a perfect reproduction of the treasure room from the Quest for the Sapphire Stone.

She takes a step forward, onto one of the PREDATOR ANIMAL TILES, and a thunderous RUMBLE plays from nearby SPEAKERS as lights and jets of (safely placed) FLAME flash, mimicing the climactic scene from the book.

Dash's geek-osity can no longer be contained as she smiles the widest she ever has and declares.

15 RAINBOW DASH  
This is the awe--

Another off screen pony's VOICE joins hers as the both continue in unison.

16 DASH/HOOFER DRUDGE  
--someest thing ever!

Dash turns to see another pony, HOOFER DRUDGE, standing on the tile next to hers. He looks just as thrilled as she is.

17 HOOFER DRUDGE  
Now this is something that only a true fan can appreciate.

18 RAINBOW DASH  
I know! They even put the tiles in the right order!

19 HOOFER DRUDGE  
(impressed)  
Good catch. I'm Hooper Drudge. Nice to meet you.

Dash looks Hooper up and down, realizing he's wearing the exact same outfit as she is.

20 RAINBOW DASH  
Rainbow Dash. Nice costume.

21 HOOFER DRUDGE  
You too. There's a lot of Daring Do outfits around here, but yours obviously took some real thought.

Dash takes off her pith helmet and holds it up.

22 RAINBOW DASH  
Thanks. The hard part was figuring out the right--

23 DASH/HOOFER DRUDGE  
(together)  
--number of arrow holes.

24 HOOFER DRUDGE  
Yes!

Hooper takes off his helmet and holds it up. Their hats have the exact same number of holes.

25           HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
Because on page eighty-four of *Sapphire Stone* it describes her dodging a "score of arrows shooting forth from holes in the very walls," but then on page one hundred and seven, Daring Do says she "barely made it past the trap's barrage of arrows." But, clearly, Daring Do is embellishing and the correct number of arrows is--

26           DASH/HOOFER DRUDGE  
Twenty.

Hoofer looks to Dash and smiles. Rainbow Dash returns the smile. [FADE UP UPBEAT MUSIC] and CUT TO a...

**MONTAGE:**

In a quick SERIES OF SHOTS, we follow Dash and Hoofer as they rush around the convention floor, in nerd-tastic revelry:

- They get their pictures taken in a carnival-style "jungle" backdrop with holes for their faces. Dash pops her head into the Daring Do hole. Hoofer sticks his face in the hole for Ahuizotl. FLASH as a picture is taken, then they switch places for another FLASH.

- They take their turns swinging on "vines" (i.e., knotted ropes) over a Daring Do-themed foam pit.

- They exchange gifts, laughing as they both present each other with the exact same Daring Do collectible figurine. [MUSIC FADES OUT] as we...

**END MONTAGE**

**SC. 6 - INT. CONVENTION CENTER - SNACK BAR - DAY**

Hoofer and Dash take a break sipping cider from Tiki-themed collectible mugs. Dash looks down at her DD figurine.

27           RAINBOW DASH  
I'm so glad I ran into you. My friend Twilight couldn't make it and even though I knew the convention would be totally awesome, it's more fun when you're with someone who really knows Daring Do.

28           HOOFER DRUDGE  
I know what you mean. It's so hard  
to find a pony who really gets it.

Dash sets down her drink and pulls out her convention  
program.

29           RAINBOW DASH  
Okay. We've pretty much covered  
everything from the first trilogy.  
I figure now we should just work  
our way through the second trilogy  
in order.

30           HOOFER DRUDGE  
Whoa, whoa, whoa. There is no  
"second trilogy."

31           RAINBOW DASH  
What are you talking about? Of  
course there is. Daring Do and the  
Trek to the Terrifying Tower,  
Daring Do and the Many Faces of--

32           HOOFER DRUDGE  
(cutting her off)  
Please don't. Just don't even  
mention the titles. I'm not saying  
those books don't exist. I'm saying  
that I refuse to acknowledge them.

33           RAINBOW DASH  
Why?

34           HOOFER DRUDGE  
Because they're horrible! I mean,  
there isn't a single thing after  
Ring of Destiny that is even  
remotely in the realm of the  
possible.

Dash stands, spilling her drink.

35           RAINBOW DASH  
WHAT! That's ridiculous. I know for  
a fact that everything in every one  
of those books is one hundred  
percent possible.

36           HOOFER DRUDGE  
And how could you possibly know  
that?

Dash looks around at the crowd of fans that have gathered around them and quickly thinks better of revealing Daring Do's secret identity.

37           RAINBOW DASH  
I just do.

38           HOOFER DRUDGE  
(sarcastic)  
Oh, that's a compelling argument!

39           RAINBOW DASH  
Why would you even come to this convention if you hate Daring Do so much.

40           HOOFER DRUDGE  
I don't hate Daring Do. The first series was smart and cool and an amazing nod to old-time serialized adventure books that somehow manages to be self-reflexive and ironic while at the same time celebrating the art form without a hint of cynicism.

41           RAINBOW DASH  
Okaayyy...

42           HOOFER DRUDGE  
Which is why I came here to ask AK Yearling, in person, why she sold out and dumbed down all her books into just a series of impossible action sequences.

43           RAINBOW DASH  
Okay, now I know you're crazy. AK Yearling is awesome and every Daring Do book that comes out is better than the last.

44           HOOFER DRUDGE  
Wow. Okay. Yeah. I'm sorry but I could never be friends with somepony who's willing to be spoon feed impossible situations because AK Yearling told you Daring Do did them.

45           RAINBOW DASH  
That's okay, because I could never  
be friends with a pony who's so  
focused on things being possible  
that he isn't willing to give a  
hero like Daring Do the benefit of  
the doubt.

46           HOOFER DRUDGE  
Fine.

47           RAINBOW DASH  
Fine.

With that, both Dash and Hooper turn on their heels and walk  
off in opposite directions.

**SC. 7 - INT. MANHATTAN HOTEL - LOBBY - DAY**

Rainbow Dash stands at the front desk, staring down a SNOOTY  
HOTEL PONY.

48           RAINBOW DASH  
Look, just tell AK Yearling that  
Rainbow Dash is here and totally  
needs to talk to her. I swear she  
knows me.

The Snooty Hotel Pony looks down his nose at her,  
unconvinced.

49           AK YEARLING (O.S.)  
Rainbow Dash?

Dash spins to see AK YEARLING, wearing over-sized sunglasses  
and a head scarf.

50           RAINBOW DASH  
AK! Thank goodness! I've got to  
talk to you!

AK Yearling casts a nervous glance over her shoulder, then  
turns back to Dash, lowering her voice.

51           AK YEARLING  
Not here.

Dash smirks at the Snooty Pony as AK leads her off. Off  
Snooty's eye roll...

**SC. 8 - INT. AK YEARLING'S HOTEL ROOM - LATER**

AK Yearling rushes Dash inside the room and quickly shuts the door, locking it behind her. She peers through the peep hole for a moment, then turns to Dash.

52           AK YEARLING  
Now, tell me what's going on. Is it Caballeron? Did you see him?

53           RAINBOW DASH  
Caballeron? What? No.

AK whips off her writer's clothes to reveal her Daring Do outfit underneath. She pulls her pith helmet from a nearby suitcase.

54           RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)  
But there's a pony downstairs who thinks everything you've written after the first trilogy is totally unrealistic and terrible and I need you to help me prove to him that it's all totally possible.

AK stares at her a beat, then...

55           AK YEARLING  
Rainbow Dash, I've got bigger problems on my hoofs than dissatisfied fan-ponies.

AK Yearling take off her hat, reaches inside and pulls out an SPARKLING AMULET.

56           RAINBOW DASH  
Is that--

57           AK YEARLING  
--the Amulet of Culhuacan. And Caballeron wants it.

58           RAINBOW DASH  
Whoa...

She pulls out a faded map and spreads it on the table. She tosses the amulet on the table.

59           AK YEARLING  
(laughing)  
But the amulet's just a key. The real treasure is hidden in a lost temple, The Seven Sided Chest of Chicomoztoc.  
(MORE)

AK YEARLING (CONT'D)

Caballeron wants to sell it to the highest bidder, of course, but the Chest belongs in the Canterlot Museum of Ancient Artifacts, which is why I need to find it first.

60 RAINBOW DASH

YES! Sounds like yet another awesome Daring Do Adventure! But what are you doing here?

61 AK YEARLING

I haven't found the lost temple yet. I need to keep the Amulet safe until I do. This convention is populated with hundreds of Daring Do look-alikes, plus the entire hotel is crawling with security. I can't think of a safer place.

Dash nods, understanding the situation.

62 RAINBOW DASH

How can I help?

63 AK YEARLING

Just keep your eyes out for anything suspicious.

64 RAINBOW DASH

Got it.

(with a sudden thought)

Hey, does a pony who only likes your first trilogy qualify as suspicious?

AK just stares at her.

65 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)

Just checking.

## SC. 9 - INT. CONVENTION CENTER - EVENING

Dash patrols the convention floor, looking for anything suspicious.

66 RAINBOW DASH

Okay. Looking for anything suspicious.

Dash scans the crowd and sees... Caballeron! And then another. And another. Two ponies in a giant paper maché Ahuizotl costume saunters by. Dash frowns.

67 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)  
This is going to be harder than I  
thought. But at least I don't have  
to listen to Hooper Drudge bash all  
of this coolness.

Dash walks off into the crowd just as THE REAL CABALLERON  
turns a corner and looks out at the crazy convention floor.

68 CABALLERON  
<SIGH> I find all this fanfare  
around my archenemy disturbing.

He grabs a book from a nearby stall, looks at Daring Do on  
the cover, then tosses it aside.

69 CABALLERON (CONT'D)  
I mean, where is the booth for  
Caballeron?

The PONY running the book booth points across the aisle and  
we WHIP PAN to a line of Caballeron cos-players stretching  
away from a CABALLERON-THEMED BOOTH. WHIP PAN BACK TO...

70 CABALLERON (CONT'D)  
I do not see the likeness.

Caballeron looks down as a YOUNG PONY tugs at his shirt.

71 CABALLERON'S DAUGHTER  
Daddy, you said I could get a  
Daring Do outfit.

72 CABALLERON  
<SIGH> Yes. But would you not  
rather dress as her dashing  
opponent?

The young pony shakes her head and Caballeron <SIGHS> again.  
He looks to an older female pony (ESPUELA), standing with a  
group of his HENCHPONIES.

73 CABALLERON (CONT'D)  
Go with Aunt Espuela. She'll find  
you something.

He hands his daughter off to Espuela. The excited filly leads  
her aunt off as Caballeron turns to the rest of his gang.

74 CABALLERON (CONT'D)  
Now. I am certain that my nemesis  
has the Amulet of Culhuacan. Keep  
your eyes open. Daring Do could be  
anywhere.

The Henchponies take a look at the dozens of ponies in Daring Do cos-play, then look to each other and roll their eyes.

**SC. 10 - INT. CONVENTION CENTER - ELSEWHERE - LATER**

Dash exits an aisle carefully scanning everypony she sees. She steps in front of a nearby Caballeron and checks "his" five-o'clock shadow, only to discover it's a girl pony.

75 CABALLERON COS-PLAYER  
Hey!

76 RAINBOW DASH  
Sorry.

Suddenly a voice comes from behind her.

77 HOOFER DRUDGE (O.S.)  
Well, well, well, if it isn't the pony who knows impossible things can happen because she just does.

Dash turns, rolling her eyes.

78 RAINBOW DASH  
Sorry, Hooper, I've got more important things to do than argue with a pony who thinks awesome means unrealistic.

Dash turns and walks off. Hooper follows.

79 HOOFER DRUDGE  
No, wait. I wanna hear more about how you're one hundred percent sure that in Curse of the Jungle Queen, Daring Do could survive a sixty story drop from the top of a waterfall after sustaining a broken wing in a category six rapid.

80 RAINBOW DASH  
Ugh.  
(turning)  
Obviously her wing wasn't broke--

Dash's eyes go wide as she spots Caballeron and his henchponies skulking through one of the aisles.

81 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)  
Caballeron!

82 HOOFER DRUDGE  
See, now THAT'S a great character!  
Solid backstory. Good motivations--

83 RAINBOW DASH  
No! Caballeron is right there!

84 HOOFER DRUDGE  
(rolling his eyes)  
Of course he is.  
(pointing to several cos-  
players)  
He's also over there, over there,  
over there, and over there.

Caballeron and his crew duck out a side entrance and Dash  
takes off after them.

85 HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
Where are you going!?

Hoofer chases after her to...

#### **SC. 11 - INT. CONVENTION CENTER - LOADING DOCK - CONTINUOUS**

Dash and Hoofer burst through a set of double doors and look  
out at an empty loading dock.

86 HOOFER DRUDGE  
(loudly)  
Aaand we're out her because...

87 RAINBOW DASH  
Shhhhh! Because Daring Do told me  
that Caballeron came to this  
convention to steal the Amulet of  
Culhuacan and I just saw him and  
his henchponies come this way.

Hoofer stares at Dash for a beat, then...

88 HOOFER DRUDGE  
Ooookaaaay. I'm gonna head back  
inside. There's just a little too  
much crazy out here for both of us.

Just as Hoofer turns to go, two HENCHPONIES throw a sack over  
him. Dash looks back just in time to see Caballeron smile as  
a bag is thrown over her as well and we...

**END ACT ONE**

**ACT TWO****SC. 12 - INT. CABALLERON'S CAMP - DAY**

Two henchponies pull Rainbow Dash out of the sack. Two others pull Hooper out of his sack. They both take in the scene around them. Lush jungle. Tents. A campfire.

89           RAINBOW DASH  
Caballeron! HA! Awesome! What do you have to say NOW Hooper?

90           HOOFER DRUDGE  
Oh. Wow. This is sad.

Caballeron looks at them, confused, then...

91           CABALLERON  
I do not know what Daring Do is playing at, but if she told you two fanponies of my plan to steal the Amulet, you must work for her.

Hooper ignores Caballeron and turns to Rainbow Dash.

92           HOOFER DRUDGE  
This was your plan to prove the Daring Do books are realistic? You bought a "Daring Do Experience, Adventu-cation"? Really?

93           RAINBOW DASH  
What?! NO! Are you serious? Look around us! Jungle. Henchponies. Caballeron! This is the real deal! TOTALLY realistic.

94           HOOFER DRUDGE  
Riiiiiiight. We're ACTUALLY being held captive by Caballeron. Please. This guy's accent is all over the place.

Hooper turns to Caballeron.

95           HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
No offense.

96           CABALLERON  
(baffled by all of this)  
I....

97           HOOFER DRUDGE  
So what's the setup here? You've kidnapped us and taken us to the middle of nowhere because....?

98           CABALLERON  
The Temple of Chicomoztoc is somewhere in this jungle! Once I discover it's location the Seven Sided Chest will be as good as mine! I just need the Amulet of Culhuacan to unlock it!

99           HOOFER DRUDGE  
Uh-huh. And you brought us here to... What? Lure Daring Do here and trade us for the Amulet?

100          CABALLERON  
Exactly!

101          HOOFER DRUDGE  
Even though she AND this amulet you wanted to get ahold of were right under your hoof at the convention?

102          CABALLERON  
Well. Yes but--

103          HOOFER DRUDGE  
But You thought it would be better to create an overly complicated reason to get her to come all the way here. Because that always works out so well for you?

104          CABALLERON  
Ah. Admittedly some of my past plans have been--

Hoofer shrugs himself free from the henchponies holding him who are too confused by what's happening to stop him.

105          HOOFER DRUDGE  
Okay we're done here. Great work. Seriously. VERRRRY believable.

Hoofer walks towards the jungle. One of the henchponies grabs him and drags him back to the others.

106          HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
Listen pal, you can keep her money, but I'm not --

107 CABALLERON  
Going ANYwhere. You may not approve  
of my plan, but I'm the mastermind  
here.

108 HOOFER DRUDGE  
(under his breath)  
Debatable.

109 CABALLERON  
AND I SAY you will remain here  
until Daring Do comes to rescue  
you. And if she wants you back in  
one piece she will give me the  
Amulet! Now, tie them up.

The henchponies sit Rainbow Dash and Hooper against a tree  
and tie them up together using chains. Caballeron reveals an  
elaborate lock with a Rubix Cube-esque puzzle on it.

110 CABALLERON (CONT'D)  
And to ensure that you don't  
escape...

111 RAINBOW DASH  
The Griffon's Lock!

112 CABALLERON  
Ah, you know of it. Further proof  
that you are an agent of Daring Do.

113 HOOFER DRUDGE  
Or an avid reader.

Caballeron tosses the lock to one of the henchponies who uses  
it to secure the chains.

114 CABALLERON  
(to the henchponies)  
I'm going to contact Daring Do and  
tell her we've captured her little  
friends.

Caballeron heads into the jungle, leaving the four  
henchponies behind to watch them.

115 HOOFER DRUDGE  
Ok, I give in. Your crazy plan  
worked. It's ALLLLLLL real. I can't  
believe I'm living a real Daring Do  
adventure!

116 RAINBOW DASH  
Really?

117       HOOFER DRUDGE  
No, not really. But I'll pretend I believe it if that's what it takes to get you to call off the henchpony repertory theater over there and let me get back to the convention.

118       RAINBOW DASH  
So you can tell AK Yearling in person how terrible her books are? You know what? It's probably better for everypony you're chained up in the jungle. They'll have more fun without you there!

119       HOOFER DRUDGE  
Yea well I'm sure you'll have a ton of fun when we get back and I tell security a crazy fanpony abducted me and took me out to the middle of nowhere!

120       RAINBOW DASH  
I didn't abbdunct you! Caballeron abducted BOTH of us!

Hoofer dramatically rolls his eyes.

121       HOOFER DRUDGE  
Oh wow. So you're going to STICK with that script? Ok fine. We're in a Daring Do adventure.

Hoofer uses his teeth to pull a Daring Do fan button off of his jacket. He tosses it into the brush. It lands with a clatter, getting the attention of the four henchponies.

122       HENCHPONY #3  
What was that?

123       HOOFER DRUDGE  
DARING DO! THANK GOODNESS! WE'RE OVER HERE!

This spooks the henchponies.

124       HENCHPONY #2  
Fan out, we can't let Daring Do rescue these two.

All four of them head into the jungle. Hoofer starts laughing.

125 HOOFER DRUDGE  
All FOUR of them! I mean, shouldn't  
at least ONE of them stay behind to  
guard us? Oh wait, no because then  
it wouldn't be a Daring Do  
adventure!

126 RAINBOW DASH  
It doesn't matter. We'll never  
solve the Griffon's Lock before  
they get back.

127 HOOFER DRUDGE  
Are you kidding me? This thing? I  
figured out how to solve it before  
Caba-bad actor made his exit!

Hoofer reaches down with his nose and starts shifting the  
pieces around. Within seconds there's a click, the lock opens  
and the chains around them go slack.

128 RAINBOW DASH  
(to herself)  
Ok that was pretty good.

Rainbow Dash flies up and looks around for the henchponies.  
The coast is still clear

129 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)  
Quick before they come back. We've  
got to get out of here and warn  
Daring Do!

130 HOOFER DRUDGE  
No way. I'm done with this game.  
Just point me to the hotel and you  
can play fanpony and hunt treasure  
out here all day long.

Rainbow Dash rolls her eyes and sighs.

131 RAINBOW DASH  
Fine. Let's say this IS an Adventu-  
cation. The only way to get back to  
the convention is to walk through  
the "real Daring Do" adventure. So  
just follow me and I'll lead you  
out. Deal?

132 HOOFER DRUDGE  
Ugh. Fine.

133 RAINBOW DASH  
Fine.

They head into the jungle together.

134 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)  
(to herself)  
Maybe a few near death experiences  
will convince you.

CUT TO

**JUNGLE MONTAGE:**

In a series of quick cuts, Rainbow Dash and Hooper traverse the typical terrain we would expect to see in a Daring Do adventure. Hooper is complaining the whole way.

**SC. 13 - EXT. PRECARIOUS LEDGE**

- Rainbow Dash and Hooper walk along the ledge of a precarious cliff.

135 HOOFER DRUDGE  
Oh yes, the precarious ledge. Can't  
have a Daring Do adventure without  
that!

Hooper is barely paying attention to where he steps. He walks straight towards a drop. Rainbow Dash looks like she wants to let him fall but at the last minute swoops down and re-directs him.

**SC. 14 - EXT. STONE STATUE CLEARING**

- Rainbow Dash and Hooper walk past giant stone statues. Ancient ponies of various shapes and sizes.

136 HOOFER DRUDGE  
Oh Look! Ancient stone statues in  
the middle of nowhere for  
absolutely no reason at all! SO  
convincing!

As he walks he knocks aside a fake branch that triggers a booby trap. Arrows shoot out of statue's mouths. Rainbow Dash slams into Hooper, knocking him out of the way.

137 HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
Whoa! Watch it! I'm going as fast  
as I can!

**SC. 15 - EXT.DENSE JUNGLE**

- Rainbow Dash and Hooper trudge through dense jungle. There are strange noises and growls all around them. Bushes shake ominously.

138       HOOFER DRUDGE  
          (loudly)  
OH NO! WHAT STRANGE HORRIBLE BEASTS  
ARE HIDING JUST OUT OF SIGHT?! I  
BETTER KEEP MY VOICE DOWN!

Rainbow Dash grabs a tree branch and hovers nervously behind Hooper.

**SC. 16 - EXT. JUNGLE CLEARING/ROPE BRIDGE - LATER**

Rainbow Dash and Hooper enter a clearing. Rainbow Dash looks exhausted from continually saving Hooper. Hooper is still oblivious and talking non-stop.

139       HOOFER DRUDGE  
--and THAT is what I would have  
done instead of going to ALL the  
trouble of disguising myself as  
somepony else to get the treasure!  
I mean, you see how that's just  
silly right? Anyway, that gets us  
up to book seven. Now with book  
seven --

Rainbow Dash holds out a wing, stopping Hooper. They both look ahead at a giant ravine with a single precarious looking rope bridge their only means of crossing.

140       HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
What Daring Do adventure would be  
complete without the precarious  
rope bridge?

Rainbow Dash flies ahead. Hooper looks at the bridge nervously. He tests the plank with his hoof.

141       HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
Look, I'm all for making things  
feel as real as possible but are  
these adventu-cation ponies sure  
this thing is safe?

142       RAINBOW DASH  
What? Is it too "realistic" for  
you? Wouldn't want THAT on a Daring  
Do adventure would we?

Rainbow Dash's taunt goads Hooper onto the bridge.

143        HOOFER DRUDGE  
What. Ever. If this were really a  
Daring Do adventure I'm sure she  
would step on the wrong plank at  
exactly the wrong tim--

Hooper steps on a weak plank and it breaks. His hoof falls through. At the same time, Four henchponies come running out of the clearing.

144        HENCHPONY #2  
THERE THEY ARE.

Hooper struggles to get his hoof free.

145        HOOFER DRUDGE  
Haha. That's... quite a  
coincidence. Well played everypony.  
Well played.

Rainbow Dash swoops down and tries to help Hooper get his hoof out of the gap.

146        RAINBOW DASH  
Come on come on come on come on.

Two of the henchponies step out onto the bridge. The added weight causes the bridge to groan in protest.

Rainbow Dash struggles to help Hooper out, but just gets him more tangled and stuck.

All of the struggling strains the bridge. It groans again. Loudly. The henchponies, Rainbow Dash and Hooper all stop what they're doing.

147        HOOFER DRUDGE  
Heh. Good thing this is all just a  
pretend adventure. At least we know  
all of this struggling won't make  
the bridge fall apart.

The rope on one side of them snaps. Hooper looks deadpan at Rainbow Dash

148        HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
You need to ask for your money  
back.

The rope on the other side snaps. The henchponies grab the ropes, land safely against the ravine and start climbing up. However Hooper and Rainbow Dash go plummeting.

Rainbow Dash flaps her wings furiously, trying to keep Hooper from falling. But she can't stop gravity. He's too heavy. She gets a determined look on her face, wraps the rope around her hooves.

149 RAINBOW DASH  
Hang on.

Instead of trying to fly up, Rainbow Dash puts on speed and hurtles towards the raging rapids below.

150 HOOFER DRUDGE  
ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL US  
FASTER?!?!?

Right before they both splash into the water, Rainbow Dash uses her momentum to re-direct them towards the water's edge, dragging Hooper behind her. His back hooves touch water. He's waterskiing and Rainbow Dash is the boat.

151 HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
[screaming antics]

Rainbow Dash swerves around rocks with pinpoint precision.

They make it to land. Rainbow Dash tumbles in one direction and lands in the bushes. Hooper is hurled in the other direction and ends up in a pile of rope and bridge planks.

Rainbow Dash flies out of the bushes and brushes herself off.

152 RAINBOW DASH  
How's THAT for not possible!

Hooper extricates himself from the rope and planks and rushes over to Rainbow Dash.

153 HOOFER DRUDGE  
THAT. WAS. AWESOME! I thought we...  
And then you... and the flying...  
and I was like WHERE ARE YOU GOING  
because going down seemed INSANE!  
But then you swerved!? And I was on  
the water! And the rocks?! WOW.

154 RAINBOW DASH  
Yea... if you read that in a book  
you might even think it was over  
the top and unrealistic.

Hooper stops talking. He looks back up to where the bridge was, down to the rapids and over to the pile of planks and ropes. He smiles.

155       HOOFER DRUDGE  
Ok. I'll give you that one. I mean  
we could have been done for.

Realization.

156       HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
We could have been done for! What  
kind of Adventu-cation IS this? I  
mean that's just bad business! What  
are these people thinking?

157       CABALLERON (O.S.)  
Right now? We are thinking that we  
should thank you for escaping...

Reveal Caballeron and two henchponies. Caballeron gestures  
behind him. An imposing temple is carved into the side of the  
ravine.

158       CABALLERON (CONT'D)  
For you have led us directly to the  
Lost Temple of Chicomoztoc!

**END ACT TWO**

### **ACT THREE**

#### **SC. 17 - INT. TEMPLE OF CHICOMOSTOC ANTECHAMBER - LATER**

An opening high above shines sunlight into the antechamber of  
the temple. Huge pillars and torches line the walls. An  
ornately decorated stairway leads up to a small doorway.

Two of Caballeron's henchponies drag a struggling Rainbow  
Dash inside. Two more drag Hooper. Hooper is scowling with  
his hooves crossed across his chest. Caballeron observes.

159       CABALLERON  
Make sure they are secure this  
time! We can't have them escaping  
again.

160       RAINBOW DASH  
(struggling)  
You'll never get away with this.

161       CABALLERON  
Won't I? You've led me to the  
temple. And Daring Do is too noble  
to let harm befall her companions  
so the amulet is as good as mine.

Caballeron notices Hooper's silence

162 CABALLERON (CONT'D)  
What? No witty remarks this time  
about how silly my plan is?

Hooper looks around at the temple. The pillars, the torches.

163 HOOVER DRUDGE  
I finally figured it out.

164 RAINBOW DASH  
(relieved)  
FINALLY.

165 HOOVER DRUDGE  
This isn't the official Daring Do  
Experience Adventu-cation is it?

166 RAINBOW DASH  
(MORE relived)  
NO.

167 HOOVER DRUDGE  
This is some cheap knock off run by  
a bunch of incompetent ponies with  
absolutely no idea how to execute  
this adventure with any level of  
safety!!!!

Rainbow Dash groans and hoofplants.

168 HOOVER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
I mean, what was up with that  
bridge! Do you have any idea how  
much trouble you could get in with  
that thing? We were in serious  
danger!

Hooper glares at Rainbow Dash.

169 HOOVER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
I'm reporting you all to... well...  
I don't know who I'm reporting you  
to but it's gonna be somepony  
important! I'm shutting this whole  
operation down!

Hooper breaks free from the Henchponies.

170 HOOVER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
I'm DONE with this. NO more playing  
along with this ridiculous Daring  
Do nonsense.  
(MORE)

HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
This trip doesn't prove anything  
except for the fact that I'm right!

Hoofer rounds on the others and continues his rant while he slowly backs away from them, towards the exit.

171 HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
This poorly run excuse for an  
experience has all the hallmarks of  
a lame Daring Do adventure.

The henchponies start towards Hoofer. Hoofer steps on a brick that sinks into the floor. A piece of the wall slides open and water starts to pour into the chamber. Everyone except Hoofer freezes for fear of triggering a trap. Hoofer is so mad he doesn't notice.

172 RAINBOW DASH  
Uh... Hoofer?

173 HOOFER DRUDGE  
No. I'M talking! Generic jungle  
locations? Check. Overly  
complicated villain plot? Check.

Hoofer steps on another brick that sinks into the floor. A piece of the wall on the other side of the temple slides open. More water pours in. Hoofer doesn't notice.

174 HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
Random coincidences that  
conveniently get us to the next big  
set piece? CHECK!

175 CABALLERON  
Watch where you are stepping you  
fool!

176 HOOFER DRUDGE  
Listen buddy, I don't take orders  
from some second rate performer who  
learned acting from the  
supervillain school of bad accents.

177 RAINBOW DASH  
Hoofer, uh. Caballeron is right.  
Just...be careful.

Hoofer steps on one final brick. It sinks into the floor. The ground behind him slides open and more water rises out.

178       HOOFER DRUDGE  
Careful of what? The only thing  
this mess is missing is some giant  
Ahuizotl wanna be monster and I  
have a feeling that would be a bit  
too much for you bargain basement  
adventurers to pull off.

A shadowy mass slowly rises out of the opening in the floor, shrouded in mist. Two large flipper-like hands slam down on the ground behind Hooper, FINALLY getting his attention.

Hooper slowly turns to see a giant monstrous head peer down at him: CIPACTLI - part toad, part fish, part crocodile.

179       HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
Of course. I could be wrong on that  
last point.

Hooper freezes as Cipactli roars, squeezing his bulky body out of the opening. Water floods the floor of the temple.

180       HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
So... You're real, right?

Cipactli looks down at Hooper.

181       CIPACTLI  
WHO DARES DISTURB THE SLUMBER OF  
CIPACTLI?

Caballeron and the four henchponies all run towards the exit while Dash darts behind the nearest pillar.

182       HOOFER DRUDGE  
Right. So... Cipactli is it? I'm  
Hooper Drudge. And really...  
haha... it's actually a very funny  
story. See, I was at this conv---

183       CIPACTLI  
WE WILL SEE IF YOU ARE LAUGHING  
WHEN YOU FACE YOUR DOOM FOR  
INVADING THIS TEMPLE!

As Cipactli swings his flippered hand, a familiar pith-helmeted figure swings by on a vine and grabs Hooper at the last possible second, pulling him out of the way just as Cipactli's hand crashes into the ground.

Cipactli roars in frustration and continues to squeeze his sizeable mass the rest of the way out of the opening. He's a big guy. It's gonna take a minute.

Daring Do and Hooper land next to Rainbow Dash and join her behind the pillar. Hooper stares at Daring Do, the amulet of Chicomoztoc hanging around her neck.

184 HOOFER DRUDGE  
Y-you... you're...

185 RAINBOW DASH  
Daring Do!

186 DARING DO  
Rainbow Dash, I told you to warn me of anything suspicious, not run off on an adventure without me.

187 HOOFER DRUDGE  
Whoa whoa whoa. You and Daring Do are... friends?!

Rainbow Dash nods. Beaming.

188 DARING DO  
(regarding Hooper)  
And this is...?

189 RAINBOW DASH  
This is Hooper, my... friend. Sort of. He's a fan. Sort of.

190 HOOFER DRUDGE  
I'll deal with my geek brain exploding later. Please tell me you're getting us out of here?

191 DARING DO  
No.

192 RAINBOW DASH & HOOFER  
No?!

193 DARING DO  
Not until we get that treasure. We just need to get from here to there.

Daring Do motions to the ornate stairway. The water level in the temple is steadily rising. Cipactli has finally freed himself from the opening and the floor and roams the temple. He is between them and the stairway.

194 CIPACTLI  
INTRUDERS! SHOW YOURSELVES!

195        HOOFER DRUDGE  
So what's the plan?

196        DARING DO  
I'm open to suggestions.

Rainbow Dash grabs another Daring Do pin from Hooper's jacket.

197        RAINBOW DASH  
How about this?

Dash tosses the pin towards the opposite end of the temple. It clatters against the wall and splashes into the rising water below, drawing Cipactli's attention.

198        RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)  
HURRY DARING DO! TAKE THE TREASURE  
AND RUN! WE'LL DISTRACT CIPACTLI!

Cipactli Roars and bounds towards the temple exit.

199        CIPACTLI  
NOT THE TREASURE!!!!

Daring Do looks back at Dash and grins.

200        DARING DO  
Hey, nice move! I'll have to  
remember that.

201        RAINBOW DASH  
(winking at Hooper)  
Yup. Works every time.

The trio rush out from behind the pillar and hurry towards to stairway. The water all around them continuing to rise.

**SC. 18 - INT. TEMPLE OF CHICOMOZTOC TREASURE ROOM -  
CONTINUOUS**

Daring Do, Rainbow Dash and Hooper enter the room. Inside are seven locked doors, each one with different stylized battles featuring ponies and creatures carved into them. Each door has an opening the exact size of the amulet.

202        RAINBOW DASH  
Whoa...

203        DARING DO  
Seven doors, Seven locks. One of  
them leads to the treasure.  
(MORE)

DARING DO (CONT'D)  
I'd rather not think about what the  
others lead to.

204 RAINBOW DASH  
Which one is the right one.

205 DARING DO  
We need to choose. And choose  
wisely.

A roar from the corridor.

206 DARING DO (CONT'D)  
And quickly.

Daring Do starts examining the first door carefully. Rainbow  
Dash hangs on every moment. Hooper rolls his eyes.

Daring Do runs her hoof along the carvings in the second  
door. She holds the amulet up to the lock. Hooper fake coughs  
loudly.

207 HOOVER DRUDGE  
(fake cough)  
Notthatone.

Rainbow Dash glares at Hooper.

208 RAINBOW DASH  
Let her do her thing!

209 HOOVER DRUDGE  
Well can you ask her to do it  
faster?

210 RAINBOW DASH  
These things have to be done  
delicately. It's life or death!

211 HOOVER DRUDGE  
We might ALL die of old age before  
she figures it out!

212 DARING DO  
Uh guys? A little quiet? I'm trying  
to concentrate here?

Daring Do reaches the third door. She lifts the amulet and  
holds it close to the lock. Hooper lets out a high pitched  
noise.

213 HOOVER DRUDGE  
Eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee....

214 DARING DO  
Is he always like this?

215 RAINBOW DASH  
Super annoying? Yea. Buuuuuuuuu....  
He's usually right.

Daring Do appraises Hooper.

216 DARING DO  
Fine. Which lock do YOU think it  
is?

Hooper lets out a relieved sigh.

217 HOOFER DRUDGE  
FINALLY! Look. Each door has  
another door that matches. THESE  
two both have earth ponies fighting  
serpents, THESE two have Pegasi  
fighting Griffons. THESE two have  
unicorns fighting bears with magic.  
But THIS one

218 DARING DO  
Has an alicorn on it. How did I  
miss that?

219 HOOFER DRUDGE  
I've been asking myself that ever  
since book four.

Daring Do glares at him.

220 HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
Heh heh. Sorry.

Daring Do places the amulet in the lock and turns it. There's  
a rumbling and the door slides open, revealing ....

221 DARING DO, HOOFER AND RAINBOW DASH  
The seven sided chest of  
Chicomoztoc.

Daring Do pulls out the treasure and places it in her  
satchel.

222 HOOFER DRUDGE  
Uh, guys?

Hooper motions to the floor. Water is pouring in through the  
doorway. All three rush out towards the antechamber.

**SC. 19 - INT. TEMPLE OF CHICOMOZTOC ANTECHAMBER - CONTINUOUS**

Hoofer, Dash and Daring Do run out the doorway to find the water has risen almost all the way to the top of the temple.

223 RAINBOW DASH  
The exit is underwater! How are we  
gonna get out of here?

Cipactli bursts from the water and roars. He swims towards them.

224 CIPACTLI  
THERE IS NO ESCAPE!

Daring Do motions to the sunlight pouring through the opening at the top of the temple.

225 DARING DO  
There, we can lift Hoofer together  
and escape through there.

226 RAINBOW DASH  
We won't be fast enough, Cipactli  
will definitely catch us!

227 DARING DO  
There must be some way!

228 HOOFER DRUDGE (O.S.)  
Guys!

Daring Do and Rainbow Dash turn. Hoofer has gathered a bunch of vines. He holds them out to Rainbow Dash.

229 HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
I think Rainbow Dash and I have  
this covered.

Daring Do looks questioningly at Dash. Dash grins.

CUT TO:

**SC. 20 - INT. FLOODED TEMPLE ANTECHAMBER - MOMENTS LATER**

Rainbow Dash and Daring Do are flying just above the water at full speed, vines wrapped around their front hooves. Hoofer is desperately holding onto the vines behind them, waterskiing on his back legs.

Cipactli sees them and picks up speed. They are on a collision course.

230 RAINBOW DASH  
Which way should we go?

231 HOOFER DRUDGE  
(yelling from behind them)  
Go around! You can't go over him!

232 DARING DO  
Go over him are you crazy?

233 RAINBOW DASH  
If Hooper says go over him, we go  
over him!

Rainbow Dash and Daring Do put on a final burst of speed, flying straight at Cipactli. They are about to collide when Do and Dash both fly straight up. Hooper dangles right in front of Cipactli's eyes as they all three fly straight at the exit in the ceiling.

#### SC. 21 - EXT. EXOTIC JUNGLE - CONTINUOUS

Rainbow Dash, Daring Do and Hooper come flying out of the temple. They all land on the ground, tangled in vines.

234 HOOFER DRUDGE  
You two are insane!

235 RAINBOW DASH  
You SAID to go over him!

236 HOOFER DRUDGE  
I SAID go around him!

237 CABALLERON (O.S.)  
And I said... please give me the  
chest.

Angle on: Caballeron and his four henchponies.

238 CABALLERON (CONT'D)  
I believe we have you outnumbered.

Daring Do takes the Amulet from around her neck and tosses it to Caballeron. He catches it.

239 DARING DO  
How about we split it. You take the  
Amulet, I keep the chest.

240 CABALLERON  
The amulet was just the key. What  
would I want with this?

The entrance to the temple behind them explodes. Cipactli comes crashing out.

241 CIPACTLI  
WHO HAS THE CHEST! GIVE IT TO ME!

242 DARING DO  
THERE! THEY HAVE THE AMULET! THEY  
MUST BE THE ONES THAT STOLE THE  
CHEST!

Cipactli roars and bounds towards them. Caballeron drops the Amulet as he and his henchponies run away.

243 CABALLERON  
I'll get you Daring Dooooooooo!!!!

Daring Do picks up the amulet.

244 HOOFER DRUDGE  
Now THAT was clever!

245 RAINBOW DASH  
Ahhh. Another satisfying end to  
another epic Daring Do adventure!

246 DARING DO  
For the two of you it is. There are  
some stairs on the side of the  
temple. Get out of this ravine and  
head west. You'll be back at the  
convention in no time.

247 RAINBOW DASH  
What about you?

248 DARING DO  
I've got a few loose ends to tie  
up. But thanks for the help.  
Couldn't have done it without you.  
Both of you.

Daring Do launches into the sky and flies off.

## **SC. 22 - EXT. JUNGLE - LATER**

Dash and Hooper walk through the jungle and head towards the setting sun. Rainbow Dash looks at Hooper expectantly.

249 RAINBOW DASH  
So???

250       HOOFER DRUDGE  
Sooooo. Fine. Maybe the later books  
ARE slightly more realistic than I  
gave them credit for. I still don't  
like them.

251       RAINBOW DASH  
What?? How can you--

252       HOOFER DRUDGE  
Wait! Hold on! Before we get in  
another fight, I think I finally  
figured it out!

Dash looks at him expectantly.

253       HOOFER DRUDGE (CONT'D)  
I love the Daring Do that solves  
puzzles and uses her brain to get  
out of tough situations. And she  
did WAY more of that in the  
original trilogy. YOU love the  
Daring Do that is brave and awesome  
and comes out on top no matter what  
the odds are against her.

254       RAINBOW DASH  
Okay...

255       HOOFER DRUDGE  
And that's okay! We might never  
agree on makes Daring Do cool. But  
YOU are definitely cool. I mean the  
way you saved me on that bridge,  
Wow. And escaping from Cipactli!  
You, Rainbow Dash, are AWE-SOME.

256       RAINBOW DASH  
Well.... I'm not the one who can  
locate a treasure in half the time  
Daring Do can. You may have  
terrible taste in books, but you're  
petty awesome yourself. In a brainy  
egghead puzzle solving kind of way.

257       HOOFER DRUDGE  
I guess we don't have to agree on  
everything to get along. Friends?

258       RAINBOW DASH  
DEFINITELY friends.

They walk off into the sunset.

259        HOOFER DRUDGE  
Do you think AK Yearling would  
consider letting ME write the next  
book? I think I could make things  
clearer.

Rainbow Dash groans as we...

**IRIS OUT**

**END**