

Distribution:

Production

Devon Cody
Meghan McCarthy
Josh Haber
Jim Miller
Denny Lu
Lesley Crawford
Claire Bartleman

Discovery Family

Linda Shima Tsuno
Wayne Winstead

Hasbro Studios

Stephen Davis
Kathy Page
Brian Lenard
Gabriel Monje
Daniel Barnes
Finn Arnesen
Nina Scales

Hasbro Brand

Jamie Cipolla
Yusun Hwang
Kevin Evans
Andrea Ehret
Marissa Mansolillo
Samantha Lomow
Gretchen Forrest
Kristen Riley
Katherine Padilla
Brian Chapman

MY LITTLE PONY 6

"The Fault in Our Cutie Marks

Episode 609

Premise/Outline by: Meghan McCarthy
1st Draft by: Ed Valentine

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TEASER

SC. 1 - HOUSE IN PONYVILLE - DAY

Outside a lovely house, SCOOTALOO digs in a sandbox with a pony (PETUNIA PALEO), whose cutie mark we don't yet see.

SC. 2 - INT. HOUSE IN PONYVILLE - DAY

Carrying a teacup, SWEETIE BELLE turns away from the window through which she was watching Scoot and the other pony. Sweetie Belle and APPLE BLOOM are having tea with a very nervous pair of PARENT PONIES.

1 SWEETIE BELLE
So, Scootaloo's keeping Petunia
busy like you asked. What did you
two want to talk about?

2 MOTHER PONY
I'm sure you get these questions
all the time...
(look to Father Pony)
Oh, this is so awkward.

3 FATHER PONY
You're the experts, so we thought
you'd have some insight into our
daughter's new... cutie mark.

Mother and Father Pony share a significant look.

4 APPLE BLOOM
What's wrong? You can tell us.

5 MOTHER PONY
Obviously we're both very proud of
her and her cutie mark...

6 FATHER PONY
Despite its, um, unsettling nature.

7 SWEETIE BELLE
Unsettling?

They follow Mother Pony to the window. She points outside.
CLOSE ON the Petunia's cutie mark: a skull and bones!

8 APPLE BLOOM
I don't get what you mean.

9 MOTHER PONY
Her cutie mark doesn't bother you
at all?

Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle exchange confused looks.
Suddenly Scootaloo calls from O.S.

10 SCOOTALOO (O.S.)
Hey! Check out what we found!

The parents and the other two Crusaders rush out the door.

SC. 3 - EXT. - GARDEN OF THE HOUSE - DAY

Scootaloo watches as they approach Petunia, in a hole,
digging like a happy puppy. Dirt flies. Mother Pony swoons.

11 FATHER PONY
Stay strong, Muriel!

They all reach the hole and look down to see Petunia's
uncovered fossilized dinosaur bones [Pony Dinosaur, obvs].

12 CROSSED BONES
Look! A spiny-backed Pon-asaurus -
in our own backyard! And I found
'em on my very own. How cool is
that?!?!

Petunia goes back to digging, her skull and bones cutie mark
(which vaguely resembles the Jolly Roger) plainly visible.
Her parents share a perplexed look. A BEAT - then, very
relieved:

13 MOTHER AND FATHER PONY
Ooooooh. She's an archaeologist!

14 SCOOTALOO
Of course! What did you think she
was gonna be - a pirate?

SMASH CUT TO: Mother and FATHER PONY holding a full PIRATE
COSTUME - which they quickly whip behind their backs.

15 MOTHER PONY
Pirate!? Pfft! Why would we think
that?

The parents <LAUGH NERVOUSLY> as Petunia pops out of the hole
with a dinosaur skull. The Mother Pony swoons again as we...

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SC. 4 - EXT. PONYVILLE - DAY

The CMCs head towards their clubhouse, happy and satisfied.

16 SCOOTALOO
Whoo-hoo! Another successful cutie
intervention. You know Crusaders, I
don't want to toot our own horn...

They walk by a young JAZZ PONY who blows <JAZZ> on a sax.

17 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
...but we've helped a lot of ponies
figure out their purpose in life.
Like Blue Note, here - nice sax,
Blue Note!

The Jazz Pony, BLUE NOTE, gives a <FLOURISH ON THE SAX>.

18 APPLE BLOOM
Durn tootin'! Why, everywhere you
look, there's a pony we've helped
find a purpose.

They look around Ponyville. A series of quick cuts.

ON: BULK BICEPS grandly lifting heavy things and coaching
smaller ponies to lift smaller objects.

ON: TENDER TAPS, putting on a dance show in Town Square -
showing off real razzmatazz (with jazz hooves).

ON: DIAMOND TIARA, who leads a team of ponies in re-painting
Town Hall. On a ladder, she peers into her paint bucket,
perplexed - then turns it over. It's empty! She calls below:

19 DIAMOND TIARA
Oh, Daaaaaaaddy... we're going to
need a bit more paint!

On the street below, FILTHY RICH pulls out a sack of bits.

20 FILTHY RICH
Anything for my little foal!

He gives the bits to a CONSTRUCTION WORKER PONY, who gives
him cans of paint. Construction Pony walks past pony versions
of THE VILLAGE PEOPLE. They disco away. Back ON the
Crusaders:

21 APPLE BLOOM
You've gotta admit, we've had a
good effect on everypony since we
discovered our destiny...

22 SCOOTALOO
And started helping other ponies
discover theirs! Could this get any
better or what? Wait, I'll answer
that. (BEAT.) No. No, it COULD NOT
be any better.

23 SWEETIE BELLE
Now, Scootaloo, you do know there
will always be challenges. Someday
someone might even come to us with
a cutie mark problem that even we
can't handle. Like, say...

Seeing something ahead, Apple Bloom stops short.

24 APPLE BLOOM
...a griffon?

25 SWEETIE BELLE
(trotting on, oblivious:)
Ha! Exactly. Like a griffon. That
would be crazy talk.

Scootaloo stops short, and points O.S.

26 SCOOTALOO
OR NOT!

<STING OF MUSIC>. ON: a YOUNG GRIFFON (GABBY) perched in a
tree by the Clubhouse. The Crusaders leap into a bush and pop
their heads out to peer at the stranger.

27 SWEETIE BELLE
Is that really a griffon?

<STING OF MUSIC.>

28 APPLE BLOOM
No doubt about it.

<STING OF MUSIC.> Blue Note, the Jazz pony, trots by, playing
the stings of music on his sax.

29 APPLE BLOOM (CONT'D)
(re Blue Note)
UGH, I wish he wouldn't do that.
What does that griffon want?

30 SWEETIE BELLE
We better ask her. Hey, how do we
address a griffon, anyway?

31 SCOOTALOO
Carefully! Rainbow Dash says
griffons are super cranky.

The Crusaders creep out of the bushes and go to the Griffon
with awkward bows and curtsies.

32 SCOOTALOO/APPLE BLOOM/SWEETIE BELLE
Oh Mighty Griffon! / Howdy pardner!
/ Greetings, your wonderfulness!

GABBY THE GRIFFON spots them and stops short.

33 GABBY
The Cutie Mark Crusaders? I can't
believe it's really really you!
(a happy fangirl shriek:)
EEEEEEEE!

With a burst of exuberance, Gabby swoops down and scoops them
up in a griffon hug so hard the CMCs' eyes bug out.

34 SCOOTALOO
(strangled)
This-- griffon-- not-- cranky!

35 APPLE BLOOM
How in the blooming apples do you
know who we are?

36 GABBY
(in a rush of words)
Know who you are? KNOW WHO YOU ARE?
Of course I know who you are!
Scootaloo, Apple Bloom, Sweetie
Belle - I've been busting to meet
you! I'm Gabriella, but you can
call me Gabby, since we're friends
now. Pleased to meetcha!

She shakes their hoofs so vigorously their teeth rattle.

37 APPLE BLOOM
Well howdy, um... Gabby. Mighty
firm hoofshake you got there.

38 GABBY
OOOOOOH! I'm just about the most
excited any griffon has ever been
about anything. Maybe EVER!

39 SWEETIE BELLE
Excited? But whatever for?

Gabby flies in loop-de-loops.

40 GABBY
What for? WHAT FOR? Tales of your
amaaaaazing cutie mark assistance
have reached, golly, all the way to
Griffonstone! Yup: we've heard all
about how you help ponies figure
out their place in the world.

41 SCOOTALOO
It's a calling. But...

42 GABBY
And that's why I'm here. (BEAT) I
want you to give me a cutie mark!

<STING OF MUSIC>. Blue Note pops out of a bush with his sax.

43 SCOOTALOO/APPLE BLOOM/SWEETIE BELLE
Cut that out!

44 APPLE BLOOM
(sotto to the other CMCs:)
Um, can a griffon even GET a Cutie
Mark?

45 SCOOTALOO
(still sotto)
I dunno - but I think we should
probably find out.

They all smile nervously at Gabby. She gives a wide smile
back.

SC. 5 - INT. CMC CLUBHOUSE - DAY

Inside, the CMCs give Gabby a lemonade.

46 SWEETIE BELLE
So, Gabriella, why do you even want
a cutie mark?

47 GABBY
(correcting)
Gabby. Aaaand, I don't know if
you've heard, but life in
Griffonstone can be challenging.

48 APPLE BLOOM
Oh, we've heard, all right.

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 6 - EXT. - FLASHBACK - GRIFFINSTONE TOWN SQUARE - DAY

We see INTENSE GRIFFONS playing competitive games. Losing Griffons fork over piles of bits to elated winners who greedily hoard their gold. Off to side, Gabby looks on, bored.

49 GABBY (V.O.)
Most griffons just wanna play dumb games and win bits from each other. But none of that interests me in the least. Which doesn't go over too well with the other griffons...

LATER: through the crowd of gamer griffons, Gabby slinks away dejected. Other griffons laugh at her and point.

50 GABBY (V.O.)
I guess I've always felt different - but Griffons don't do 'different' too well. Know what I mean?

DISSOLVE BACK:

SC. 7 - INT. - CMC CLUBHOUSE - RESUME

The CMCs look up at Gabby, entranced.

51 SCOOTALOO
I can imagine.

52 GABBY
I just want to find my place in the world, and I know you can help me-- by giving me a cutie mark! And that's why I flew all the way here.

Gabby looks down at them. The CMCs look back at her awkwardly. Gabby claps her claws together.

53 GABBY (CONT'D)
So... Let's make with the cutie!
 (closes her eyes)
Whenever you're ready!
 (peeks)
Did it happen yet?

The CMCs stare up at her, speechless.

54 SWEETIE BELLE
Uh... Not exactly.

55 GABBY
How 'bout now? How 'bout now? How
'bout now? How 'bout now?

The Crusaders share a look.

56 APPLE BLOOM
Um, Gabby, I hate to break it to
you, but the stories you've heard
ain't exactly right.

57 SCOOTALOO
No pony can just give you a cutie
mark. It just sort of... happens.

58 SWEETIE BELLE
Though I'm pretty sure it doesn't
happen to Griffons. Or if it does -
we've never ever heard of it.

Gabby looks crestfallen.

59 GABBY
Oh. I hadn't thought of that.
(brightens up, undaunted:)
But there's always a first time,
right? If anyone can get me my
cutie mark, it's the world-famous
Cutie Mark Crusaders!

The CMCs share an uncertain look.

60 APPLE BLOOM
Well, we sure would love to help
you. Maybe if we put our heads
together for a bit, we can come up
with... something.

61 GABBY
That's Great! It's fantastic! I
knew you all could help. I have to
deliver a letter to Rainbow Dash
from Gilda. I bet by the time I get
back you'll have it one-hundred
percent figured out!

She gathers them in one more big strangling hug.

62 GABBY (CONT'D)
You ponies are the best. THE. BEST.
Toodles for now. OFF I GOOOOOOOOO...

She <FLAPS> into the sky, leaving the CMCs <GASPING FOR AIR>.

63 SWEETIE BELLE
Whew! A Cutie Mark - for a Griffon.
That's not possible, right?

Scootaloo watches as Gabby flies away excited, right past Twilight's Castle.

64 GABBY (O.S.)
(far away)
Wheeeee! Gonna get my Cutie Mark!

65 SCOOTALOO
I don't know. But I know someone
who might!

Push in on the turrets of the castle.

SC. 8 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - DAY

With the CMCs by her side, TWILIGHT trots down a hallway.

66 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I have to admit - I've never heard
of a Griffon getting a cutie mark.

She levitates her magic book to her and flips through pages.

67 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
In fact, I've never even read about
any creature other than a pony
getting a cutie mark!

68 SCOOTALOO
But Twilight, Gabby flew all the
way here so we could help her. We
really don't want to let her down!

69 APPLE BLOOM
Apples to Betsey, there's gotta be
somethin' we can do. Isn't there
some kind of spell you can whip up?

70 SWEETIE BELLE
Hey, yeah! I bet there's all kinds
of magic you can use to make a
cutie mark appear.

Twilight shakes her head.

71 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I don't know if any of you
remember... But using magic to get
a cutie mark never really works
out.

72 ALL 3 CRUSADERS
(sigh)
Right.

73 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I'm sorry, but, while I can't say
for certain that it's utterly
impossible, the chances of Gabby
getting an honest-to-goodness cutie
mark are... pretty slim.

Off the Crusaders looking dejected...

SC. 9 - EXT. PONYVILLE - DAY

Disappointed, the CMCs head back towards the clubhouse.

74 SWEETIE BELLE
I sure do hate to have to tell
Gabby cutie marks are for ponies
only.

75 APPLE BLOOM
I know. She really believed in us!
But it sure does seem like a lost
cause.

Scootaloo stops, struck with an idea.

76 SCOOTALOO
You know what, Crusaders? I think
maybe we've been thinking about
this all wrong.

She maneuvers her scooter up onto a little ridge and swings
it around to face them to give a pep talk.

77 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
Maybe we can't help Gabby get a
cutie mark. But what IS a cutie
mark, anyway?

78 APPLE BLOOM
Um... your special purpose?

79 SCOOTALOO
Exactly! So we just need to do the
same thing we always do. The thing
we're best at.

80 SWEETIE BELLE
Help Gabby find her destiny!

81 APPLE BLOOM
(brightening)
Yeah! And I reckon doing that is
the same for Griffons as it is for
ponies, or any other creature in
Equestria!

82 ALL THREE
YEAH!

They reach the Clubhouse, and Gabby barrels out of the sky.

83 GABBY
INCOMING!

She lands right on top of them, squashing them with hugs.

84 GABBY (O.S.) (CONT'D)
Hiya, you wonderful, wonderful
Crusaders. I just know you figured
out how to help me because you're
all so incredible! Right? Right!?
RIGHT!!!?

85 SCOOTALOO/APPLE BLOOM/SWEETIE BELLE
Yes! / Yup! / Sure have!

86 SCOOTALOO
We've decided to take the case!

87 GABBY
WOOO-WHOOOOO!

Gabby sails into a loop-de-loop of joy, circling in the air,
over and over again.

88 GABBY (CONT'D)
That cutie mark is as good as mine!

89 SCOOTALOO
Oh. Uh, that's not exactly what I
meant...

Gabby just continues her celebratory loops, not listening.

90 GABBY
WHEEEEE!

As the CMCs exchange nervous looks we...

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 10 - INT. - CMC CLUBHOUSE - DAY

Through the window, we see Gabby still rejoicing in the sky.

91 GABBY
(chanting:)
*Cutie mark, cutie mark, gonna get
my cutie mark - YEAH!*

REVEAL: the Crusaders watching Gabby through the window.

92 APPLE BLOOM
She's still goin'! Guess they
weren't kidding about that famous
griffon stamina.

Gabby comes in for a landing.

93 GABBY
Ooo, I wonder what it'll be? Maybe
a lightning bolt - or an erupting
volcano! Well, I don't care if it's
a jar of marmalade. I know I'll
love it, whatever it is!

94 SWEETIE BELLE
Hold on just a hoofstep, Gabby,
there's something we need to tell
you... we can definitely help you
find your purpose - but a cutie
mark is probably not gonna happen!

95 GABBY
Wait - WHAT?!?!

96 APPLE BLOOM
It's true. Twilight says she's
never heard of a critter besides a
pony getting a cutie mark.

97 GABBY
(unfazed)
Oh, pfft, is that all? You had me
worried for a second there.
(MORE)

GABBY (CONT'D)

There's always a first time for everything, right?

98 SCOOTALOO

But Twilight said there was a pretty slim chance.

99 GABBY

So what I'm hearing is: there's a chance?

The CMCs share a look.

100 SCOOTALOO

Well, there's always a chance, but -

101 GABBY

Great! And I know, I just KNOW you ponies will make it happen! You've helped everypony you've taken on so far, right? So why not me?

102 SCOOTALOO

I promise, we're gonna do everything we can to help you get your cutie mark!

103 GABBY

WHOOOOOOO! It's gonna happen!

Gabby flies into the air again. The Crusaders follow out on the clubhouse porch to watch her.

104 APPLE BLOOM

Aaaaand, she's off again. Scoot, why the apples did you tell her that? No way I'd wanna promise her somethin' that can't be done.

Scootaloo regards her scooter, then looks at her wings.

105 SCOOTALOO

Look, I know how it feels to want something that seems impossible. And just because something hasn't happened yet doesn't mean it can't. I didn't want to squash Gabby's cutie mark dreams - cuz maybe trying for the impossible isn't so bad. She believes in us - so maybe we CAN help? At least we can try.

The other ponies share a look, then circle around Scoot.

106 SWEETIE BELLE
Okay, I'm in. I guess we'll never
know for sure until we give it a
whirl.

107 APPLE BLOOM
I'm in, too! But tarnation, I just
don't even know where to start!

108 SCOOTALOO
We start where we always start -
with a good ol' fashioned Cutie
Mark Crusaders CHART!

With a gleam in her eye, Scootaloo pulls down a classic CMC
chart on the clubhouse wall. Then she calls to Gabby.

109 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
Okay, Gabby - fly on in here and
let's get started!

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 11 - INT. - CMC CLUBHOUSE - LATER

Gabby now scrutinizes the chart with the Crusaders.

110 GABBY
...So the first step is to find my
purpose - and the cutie mark comes
after? I never knew that!

111 SWEETIE BELLE
Er, let's just focus on the most
important thing: finding your
purpose. First we've got to figure
out what you're good at! Do you
dance?

112 SCOOTALOO
Or do you play Buck Ball?

113 APPLE BLOOM
Or how 'bout singin'? I love
singin'.

Gabby looks thoughtfully at the chart.

114 GABBY
Wow, Crusaders, I am TOTALLY PUMPED
to try all of these! But I don't
know where to begin. Everything
sounds like so much fun.

115 SCOOTALOO
Don't worry - that's what we're
here for!

SONG BEGINS: "HELP YOU FIND THE PURPOSE IN YOUR LIFE"

MUSIC UP: a marching tune. Starts slowly but builds.

116 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
*Like a racer at the starting gate,
you're chomping at the bit.*

117 SWEETIE BELLE
*You're here to find your purpose
and the place you really fit.*

118 APPLE BLOOM
*And until you find your place in
life you're never gonna quit -*

119 SCOOTALOO/APPLE BLOOM/SWEETIE BELLE
*We can help you find the purpose in
your life!*

Gabby takes the chart down from the wall, and together with the Crusaders she marches around the clubhouse. They head off into the world to find Gabby's purpose.

120 GABBY
*A griffon mixes lion's strength
with winged eagle's might -
When I finally find my purpose then
my cutie mark's in sight.
Crusaders, I won't let you down -
I've just begun to fight
You're gonna help me find the
purpose in my life!*

Music segues into a syncopated, peppy, fast-paced part of the song as Gabby tries a bunch of things to find her purpose.
(MUSICAL REFERENCES: *I Don't Know But I've Been Told* (aka *The Children's Cadence*, *Jody Calls*, *Sound Off*, *The Duckworth Chant*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Vtq8B64MlM>)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_cadence

SC. 12 - INT. - ZECORA'S HUT - DAY

ZECORA struggles to stir a thick mixture in her cauldron. Gabby grabs a giant spoon and stirs the mixture easily.

121 GABBY
*Got a job that's just no fun?
Call on me - I'll get it done.
Need a potion and you want to mix
it up?
I'm the griffon who can help you
fix it up!*

SC. 13 - INT. - SCHOOL - DAY

Gabby scribbles calculations on a chalkboard next to a grateful MISS CHEERILEE.

122 GABBY
Help you teach pre-calculus -

SC. 14 - INT. - RARITY'S BOUTIQUE - DAY

Gabby scrubs the floor as RARITY watches approvingly.

123 GABBY
Scrub your floors, no muss no fuss.

SC. 15 - MONTAGE:

In a series of quick cuts, Gabby whips through a variety of activities. *NOTE: the CMCs are present throughout. They cross off activities on their chart, while watching in awe at Gabby's griffon strength and stamina.

124 GABBY
*I'm feeling my oats and keeping it
loose.
I'll do anything to be of use!
I'll give your long-lost friend a
holla -
Or pedicure your pet koala -
Help you lift a heavy load -
Help your Granny cross the road -
Clearing kelp? Give a yelp!
I'm rarin' to go and ready to help.
I'll sail the deep -
Shear your sheep -
Rock your little ones to sleep!
Need a boost? Don't wait, just ask
it!
I can help you make that basket.
I've got vigor, I've got verve
Call on me, I live to serve.
I'm here to help you run your bases
Hide your traces -
(MORE)*

GABBY (CONT'D)

*Help your dentist tighten braces.
Compose sonatas for your quartet,
while filling in on clarinet!
Cheer you up when you're feeling
low -
Or help you cook your escargot -
Bake your cakes as fast as
lightning -*

125 SCOOTALOO/APPLE BLOOM/SWEETIE BELLE
*She's so good at things, it's
frightening!*

END MONTAGE.

SC. 16 - EXT. - PONYVILLE TOWN SQUARE - DAY

Music segues back to the main theme as everypony from the montage lifts Gabby in the air - while The Crusaders watch, growing a bit worried.

126 GABBY
*On my quest to get my cutie mark
I'll try anything, it's true!*

127 SCOOTALOO
*How can we help her find her
purpose when there's nothing she
can't do?*

128 SCOOTALOO/APPLE BLOOM/SWEETIE BELLE
(sotto to each other:)
*It looks like everything we feared
is absolutely coming true -
We'll never help her find the
purpose in her life - no!*

129 GABBY
*You're gonna help me find my
purpose in my life!*

130 CROWD
*We can help you find the purpose in
your life!*

Big finish, with Gabby hoisted on the shoulders of the other ponies, graciously accepting their adulation!

END SONG

Off to the side, the Crusaders watch, totally stymied.

131 APPLE BLOOM
Crusaders, we got a real problem.
Gabby isn't just good at one thing -
she's so durned good at everything!
The search for her purpose could go
on for, well, just about forever!

132 SWEETIE BELLE
And if we can't even find Gabby's
purpose, there's no hope of ever
helping her find her cutie mark.

Scotaloo sits, dejected.

133 SCOOTALOO
No cutie mark - no purpose - and
we've been no help at all. In fact,
we've made things worse! I should
never have gotten her hopes up.

134 APPLE BLOOM
Don't be hard on yourself, Scoot.
It was probably hopeless from the
start.

135 SWEETIE BELLE
I guess the only thing to do now is
be honest with Gabby.

Gabby flies over to the Crusaders.

136 GABBY
Whew, Crusaders, this has been all
kinds of fun! I tried everything on
your list and then some. So lay it
one me: which one is my purpose?
And when do I get my cutie mark?

The Crusaders share a look.

137 SWEETIE BELLE
Gabby, I really hate to say this,
but you tried everything we could
think of and nothing really stood
out.

138 GABBY
What do you mean?

139 APPLE BLOOM
We're saying we can't help you find
your purpose -

140 SCOOTALOO
Or your cutie mark. I'm sorry Gabby
but for the first time it looks
like the Cutie Mark Crusaders and
cutie mark failures.

Gabby's eyes get wide. Without a word, she flies away.

141 APPLE BLOOM
Gabby - wait!

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 17 - INT. CMC CLUBHOUSE - DAY

A little bit later. The Crusaders are really bummed.

142 SCOOTALOO
Guys, I feel like a total loser.

143 APPLE BLOOM
Me too! I figured we could help
anybody.

144 SWEETIE BELLE
I just don't understand. Maybe it's
our destiny to only help ponies.

145 SCOOTALOO
Or maybe we just failed.

The door bursts open. Gabby bursts in, very excited!

146 GABBY
Failed? Then what do you call *THIS*?

She turns her flank to reveal - A CUTIE MARK! (A cauldron.)

147 SCOOTALOO/APPLE BLOOM/SWEETIE BELLE
YOU GOT A CUTIE MARK!?!?

On the Crusaders shocked - and Gabby beaming - we GO OUT.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC. 18 - INT. - CMC CLUBHOUSE - DAY

RESUME ON: the Crusaders, admiring Gabby's cutie mark.

148 SWEETIE BELLE
WHAT? You got your cutie mark after
all - even though we couldn't find
your purpose? But - how?

149 APPLE BLOOM
And what does it mean? A cauldron?

Apple Bloom gets right up close to Gabby's cutie mark. Gabby
backs away, quickly.

150 GABBY
Um, I don't know. Maybe it means my
purpose is helping Zecora with
potions. That's the first thing I
tried. I guess it just took some
time to appear - but here it is!

Scootaloo trots around her, thrilled!

151 SCOOTALOO
This. Is. AWESOME! We aren't
failures. Whatever we did WORKED!
You know, I had a feeling we could
help you - and we did!

152 APPLE BLOOM
Ooh, we've gotta go see Twilight
right away! She'll want to know
about this.

153 SWEETIE BELLE
Correction - she NEEDS to know
about this. I bet she'll want to
write a whole book about how
griffons can get cutie marks, too!

Gabby backs away, looking a little tentative.

154 GABBY
Oh. Right. But there's no rush,
I'll have my Cutie Mark for life.
Hey, I just remembered - Rainbow
Dash asked me to pick up her reply
to Gilda's letter. I better take
care of that right now before I
forget. Toodles!

She starts to flap her wings.

155 SCOOTALOO
Wait! Don't you want to show
Twilight right this minute? She'll
be so surprised!

156 GABBY
Oh. Totally. But you know - duty calls! Here's an idea: you head to the castle, I'll meet you there, cutie mark and all. Bye!

<WHOOSH!> Gabby zips off. The Crusaders watch, elated.

157 SCOOTALOO
Wow, can you believe it? We were able to help her after all! Come on, Crusaders - let's tell Twilight all about it!

They start out quickly, beyond excited.

CUT TO:

SC. 19 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - DAY

The delighted Crusaders prance around Twilight, who's struggling to put up a trellis covered with roses.

158 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
(effort grunts)
Gabby? Oh, you just missed her! She stopped by and left in a big hurry.

159 SCOOTALOO
She's gone? Wait - why? And did she show you her cutie mark?

160 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Wait - 'cutie mark'? Gabby got her cutie mark? That's... surprising... and WONDERFUL! But she didn't say a word about it to me. She did leave a letter for you. Here...

Twilight levitates a letter over to the Crusaders. It unfurls and they read it. We hear Gabby's VO.

161 GABBY (V.O.)
Dear Crusaders - I can never thank you enough for all you did for me. You really are every bit as awesome as I'd heard you are. I can't wait to get back home and tell all the griffons how amaaaaazing you are and how you managed to do the impossible by getting me my cutie mark. I'll never forget you.

Twilight is so shocked she drops the trellis with a <CRASH>.

162 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
So you three really succeeded in
getting a griffon a cutie mark for
the first time in recorded history?
This calls for a full-scale
research project!

The Crusaders exchange a confused look.

163 SWEETIE BELLE
I don't get it. If Gabby was just
here, why didn't she show you the
mark, or even tell you about it?

164 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I don't know, but you three need to
bring her back here. I hope I have
enough ink and parchment to
document everything.
(calling out)
SPIKE!

Twilight rushes out of room, excited.

165 APPLE BLOOM
I dunno - something in this here
applesauce smells kinda fishy. We
better find Gabby and get to the
bottom of this! Come on, Crusaders.

Apple Bloom leads them out.

SC. 20 - EXT. ROAD - DAY

The Crusaders race along the road, scouring the sky.

166 SCOOTALOO
Keep your eyes on the skies,
ponies. Gabby can't have gone far.

ON: Gabby in the sky, up above.

167 SWEETIE BELLE
There! I see her! Gabby! Stop!

168 GABBY
(high above)
Um - sorry, can't hear you! I
mean... in a hurry - gotta fly!

But she's not looking where she's going, and <CLONK!> she bonks into a tree and slides down into a mud puddle. The Crusaders rush over.

169 GABBY (CONT'D)
I'm alright! Just - ewwww.

170 SWEETIE BELLE
Gabby, we're your friends! Why in Equestria you running away from us?

171 GABBY
Running away? Oh, I wasn't running away. I was just, um, excited to show my lovely new cutie mark to everyone in Griffinstone.

172 SCOOTALOO
(pointing at her flank:)
You mean the cutie mark that's smudged off?

They all look down. On Gabby's flank, the cutie mark has partially smudged off in the goo she's sitting in.

173 GABBY
(sighs)
Yup. That's the one. I guess the one thing I'm really not that good at... is faking things.

She rubs off the cutie mark sadly.

174 SCOOTALOO
Wow, Gabby, I didn't know how down you were. You must have been REALLY upset to paint on a fake cutie mark to make yourself feel better.

175 GABBY
I didn't do it to make myself feel better. I wanted to make you feel better! Sure I was disappointed, but I couldn't bear you three thinking you failed after you tried so very very hard to help. That was the worst!
(she sighs)
I'm sorry I wasn't honest with you. I'll just wing my way back to Griffonstone. Thanks for trying.

The ponies share a look.

176 APPLE BLOOM
You don't need to apologize for
caring about how other ponies are
feelin'!

177 SWEETIE BELLE
I'm just sorry we couldn't come
through for you.

178 SCOOTALOO
(a glimmer of an idea:)
Hmmm... maybe we can. Ponies, I
have an idea. Gabby, will you clean
up and join us back at the cutie
mark crusaders clubhouse?

179 GABBY
Even though I don't have a cutie
mark?

180 SCOOTALOO
Of course. You know where to find
us. Crusaders, circle up...

She whispers to Apple Bloom and Sweetie Belle as they exit -
and while Gabby wipes the mud off with her wings.

SC. 21 - INT. CMC CLUBHOUSE - DAY

A chastened Gabby <KNOCKS> on the door.

181 GABBY
Listen, Crusaders, you don't have
to pretend I belong here. I know
I'll never get a cutie mark, or
find my special purpose.

The Crusaders open the door and usher her in, looking very
excited. They've hidden something under a cloth.

182 SWEETIE BELLE
Well, we were wracking our brains
trying to figure out your
destiny...

183 APPLE BLOOM
Until we remembered that every time
you did something new you tried to
help everypony around you.

184 SCOOTALOO
Even us! How did it feel when you
showed up with that fake cutie mark
- and the three of us thought we'd
actually helped you?

Gabby thinks for a moment.

185 GABBY
Hmm, well... it felt kinda awesome!
I just like helping. I guess I
always have.

186 SCOOTALOO
So maybe helping is your thing--
you might even say it's your
purpose...

187 APPLE BLOOM
And that would make you pretty
special among griffons.

188 SWEETIE BELLE
No offense.

189 GABBY
None taken! But helping just feels
good - it couldn't have anything to
do with what I'm supposed to do
with my life, right?

190 SCOOTALOO
Gabby, finding your special purpose
is about being good and something,
it's about feeling good doing
something-- inside.

191 APPLE BLOOM
And it looks like your destiny is a
whole lot like ours: helping
others. And you don't need a symbol
on your flank to know that!

192 SWEETIE BELLE
But since we ARE the Cutie Mark
Crusaders-- we made you one anyway!
Behold...

She whips off the cloth over the object to reveal: a *homemade cute mark, just like the Crusaders' marks!* It's carved out of wood and covered in glitter. It glimmers: <BLING!>

193 SCOOTALOO/APPLE BLOOM/SWEETIE BELLE
Your very own cutie mark! TA DA!

They hang the mark around Gabby's neck.

194 SCOOTALOO
We carved it to mark the moment we
all figured out what you should do
with your life!

195 GABBY
But it looks just like yours?

196 APPLE BLOOM
'Course it does. Cuz, well: you're
one of us now!

197 GABBY
Wait! You can't mean...

198 SCOOTALOO
You bet we do! Gabby, today we dub
thee -

199 SCOOTALOO/APPLE BLOOM/SWEETIE BELLE
- *the very first Griffon member of
the Cutie Mark Crusaders! YAY!*

200 GABBY
For once in my life I'm speechless!
All I can say is, this... is....

Close in on her expression: wide and happy eyes.

SC. 22 - EXT - PONYVILLE TOWN SQUARE - DAY

201 GABBY
...AWESOME! My very own cutecinera!

A <BLAST OF PARTY MUSIC>. PULL BACK TO REVEAL a party in full
swing: the Crusaders are throwing Gabby her own cutecinera!
Everypony Gabby helped in Ponyville is there to celebrate
with her, and they're partying as only ponies can.

202 APPLE BLOOM
Landsakes, you sure have earned it!

203 SWEETIE BELLE
And so have we. Scootaloo, you're
pretty amazing. Even though things
looked bleak you still found a way
to help Gabby in the end.

204 SCOOTALOO
'Course! Helping's what we do,
right?

Gabby swoops in and gathers all three ponies in another huge griffon hug, nearly smothering them with happiness.

205 GABBY
Ooooo, I am SOOOOO grateful! I'm gonna go home and do my very very best to bring Cutie Mark Crusader values to Griffonstone, I promise!

206 SCOOTALOO
Promise us one other thing, too?

207 SCOOTALOO/APPLE BLOOM/SWEETIE BELLE
COME BACK SOON!

208 SCOOTALOO
After all, you're a Crusader now. Crusaders forever?

209 GABBY
Crusaders forever!

<MUSIC UP: A CONGA VERSION OF THE MAIN THEME FROM EARLIER.>

210 CRUSADERS / CROWD
We helped you find the purpose in your life - oh yeah!
We helped you find the purpose in your life!

Gabby and her fellow pony Crusaders join a conga line of celebrating ponies. They all dance off as we...

FADE OUT.

END