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MY LITTLE PONY 6

The Fault in Our Cutie Marks

609

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TEASER**SC. 1 - EXT. HOUSE IN PONYVILLE – DAY**

SWEETIE BELLE and APPLE BLOOM talk to a pair of nervous PARENT PONIES who explain that they're very excited about their son's new cutie mark, despite it's unsettling nature—a pair of crossed bones. The girls remind them that it took time to figure out what their son's purpose is, but that they will be surprised by what the CMCs and their son have discovered. The parents make a point of saying how they are ready for anything, even these crossed bones, and plan to accept their son's new role no matter what. In fact, they've put together some things to make him feel as comfortable as possible. Both Sweetie Belle and Apple Bloom are confused, but lead the nervous parents to the backyard where they've been working with their son.

Reveal the backyard where SCOOTALOO and the YOUNG PONY work on an archeological dig—and they've already uncovered a collection of ancient fossilized bones—literally in the pony's own backyard. The parents look on relieved. “Ooooooh. He's an archeologist!” Scoot looks at them, “Of course. His cutie mark is a couple of crossed bones. What did you think we was, a pirate?” Cut to the parents holding up a full pirate costume which they quickly hide behind their backs. “Pirate!? Pfft! Why in world would we think that?”

END TEASER**MAIN TITLES****ACT ONE****SC. 2 - EXT. PONYVILLE – DAY**

The CMCs parade through town, reveling in all the good works they have done thus far. We see BULK BICEPS having a ball lifting different things and training other ponies to lift things. TENDER TAPS puts on a dance show in Town Square. DIAMOND TIARA leads a team of ponies in re-painting town hall. When they run out of paint, Diamond Tiara looks to her father who forks over a sack of bits to a construction pony for more cans of paint.

As the CMCs continue to stroll back to the clubhouse, they remark on what a positive effect they've had on everypony since discovering their destiny. They're all really pleased with the way things have turned out. Of course, they understand there will always be challenges and ups and downs, but they've been handling everything pretty well so far and expect to handle everything in the future the same way. In fact, they can't imagine a cutie mark-related situation that they wouldn't be ready to deal with.

SC. 3 - EXT. CMC CLUBHOUSE – CONTINUOUS

They arrive back at the clubhouse to see a YOUNG GRIFFON perched in the tree waiting for them. A little put off, they cautiously approach and ask her what she wants. With a burst of irrational exuberance, the griffon swoops down and scoops them all up in a powerful bear hug. She introduces herself as GABRIELLA, Gabby for short. Gabby tells them she's the most excited any griffon has ever been about anything. Scoot asks what she's so excited about and Gabby explains that she's excited to meet them, of course! Stories of their great deeds and accomplishments have spread all the way to Griffonstone. The way they help ponies figure out their place in the world has become legend and she has sought them out for one purpose and one purpose only—Gabby wants them to give her a cutie mark!

SC. 4 - INT. CMC CLUBHOUSE – DAY

Inside, the CMCs ask Gabby why she wants a cutie mark. Gabby explains that life in the Griffonstone is all contests, feats, and challenges and while she enjoys competition as much as the next griffon, she's always longed for something more. Gabby explains that she feels best when those around her feel good too and she tends to go out of her way to make it happen—something that doesn't always line up with the competitive nature of most griffons. She's always felt a little different because of it, but once she heard of the exploits of the CMCs she knew they would be able to help her find her place in the world by giving her a cutie mark. The girls explain that the stories she's

heard aren't exactly right. No pony can give you a cutie mark. It just sort of happens, though they're pretty sure it doesn't happen to Griffons, or at least none have them have ever heard of it happening. Nevertheless, Gabby is convinced that the CMCs can find a way. It's what they do! Sweetie Belle asks Gabby if they can have some time to discuss it and Gabby agrees. She has a letter to deliver to Rainbow Dash from Gilda anyway and flies off. Sweetie Belle admits to the others that she's inclined to tell Gabby it just isn't possible. Apple Bloom adds that she wouldn't want to promise the griffon something that just can't be done. Scootaloo, however, disagrees. She identifies with Gabby. She knows what it's like to want something that seems out of reach. She urges the others to at least give it a try. Sweetie Belle and Apple Bloom are happy to oblige, but they aren't sure what they can do. Scoot suggests they talk to Princess Twilight. If anyone would know if there's a chance it would be her.

SC. 5 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE – DAY

The CMCs visit Twilight and ask her advice. Unfortunately, she's just as stumped. She's never heard of a Griffon getting a cutie mark. In fact, Twilight doesn't think there's ever been a case of any toy creature other than a pony getting a cutie mark. Scootaloo explains how excited Gabby is and how far she's traveled hoping that the CMCs can help her. She really doesn't want to let the griffon down. She points out that Twilight's own cutie mark is in magic and wonders if there might be a magical solution. Twilight shakes her head. She reminds Scoot and the others of what's happened in the past whenever magic was used to force the cutie mark issue. It's never worked out. Cutie mark magic is its own special thing and while she can't say for certain that it's utterly impossible, she thinks the chances of Gabby getting an actual cutie mark are pretty slim.

SC. 6 - EXT. PONYVILLE – DAY

Disappointed, the CMCs head back toward the clubhouse. None of them are very eager to explain to Gabby that cutie marks are for ponies only. She seemed so excited to meet them and had such confidence in their abilities, but it seems like a lost cause. Scootaloo, however, refuses to give up. Maybe they won't be able to help Gabby get a cutie mark, but a cutie mark is just a symbol. What they really need to do is figure out what Gabby's special purpose is. That's all that really matters. The actual mark is a lot less important than that, isn't it? The others agree. They had gotten so caught up in the idea of an actual cutie mark, they'd forgotten what they stand for. Of course, they can help Gabby find out what she's good at. That's what they do!

SC. 7 - EXT. CMC CLUBHOUSE – CONTINUOUS

They return to the clubhouse to find Gabby waiting for them. She asks if they've been able to come to a decision and all three agree that they have. They'll take the case!

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 8 - INT. CMC CLUBHOUSE – DAY

Gabby sits in the clubhouse with the girls. She's disappointed to hear that her cutie mark prospects are pretty low, but she's heartened by the fact that the CMCs are so willing to jump in and help her find her purpose anyway. It looks like everything she's heard about them is true. Scoot pulls down a classic CMC activity chart and they get to work trying to figure out what Gabby is good at. Unfortunately, Gabby hasn't really done any pony-style activities. Life in Griffonstone is very different from life in Ponyville. Still, she is totally pumped to witnessing how the CMCs make the magic happen and can't wait to get started. With all the activities of Equestria before them, the CMCs decide they should get started as soon as possible.

SERIES OF SCENES:

WITH MRS. CAKE: The CMCs thank Mrs. Cake for taking the time to work with Gabby. Mrs. Cake tells them it's no trouble. She really only had a dozen orders to fill today. When the timer goes off for Gabby's cake, the griffon

pulls it out of the over—along with a dozen other cakes. Off Mrs. Cake’s shock, Gabby explained that she heard Mrs. Cake talking about all her orders and figured she could take care of those too.

WITH SOFTBALL PONIES: Gabby and the CMCs stand with a group of ponies ready to play softball. They’d love to see if the griffon can play, but they don’t have enough players to get a game going. Gabby thinks she can help. CUT TO: A pony tossing out a pitch. Gabby swings and hits the ball, then races into the grass to field it. She tosses it back to a pony infielder, the streaks back to slide into second base, safe. The CMCs exchange a look.

WITH OCTAVIA: In a music hall, they all stand around while Octavia plays the cello. She’d love to see if Gabby has any musical talent, but the rest of her quartette are busy and she has to compose a new piece. WHIP PAN to Gabby using her arm, foot, and tail to play three other instruments. “Does this help?” Scootaloo turns to the others and wonders aloud if they should start looking for stuff Gabby isn’t good at. With that we start a...

MUSICAL MONTAGE

Gabby and the CMCs go through town, continuing to try things as they sing a musical number in the vein of I Can Do That from A Chorus Line. In every instance we see Gabby not only excel, but do so in a way that helps the pony showing her what to do, do it even better. She lifts with Bulk Biceps and helps him train twice as many ponies. She dances with Tender Taps and soon a whole group of ponies are dancing along. She paints with Diamond Tiara and in no time they’ve repainted half the town. As the song builds to a big finish, she continues to excel and help ponies at the same time (playing tennis with Ace, seeing patients with Dr. Horse, teaching math with Cheerilee, etc.).

END MONTAGE

SC. 9 - EXT. PONYVILLE – DAY

The CMCs are stymied. Gabby is so good at everything the search for her purpose could go on forever! They were feeling so great about being able to tackle ANY problem, but it looks like this time they’re total failures. They apologize to the griffon for not being able to do their job and head back to the clubhouse dejected.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC. 10 - INT. CMC CLUBHOUSE – DAY

Feeling like total losers the CMCs bemoan their state when there’s a knock at the door. It’s Gabby, but when the gang all start to apologize again for letting her down, she stops them explaining there’s no need. She turns to her side to reveal—A CUTIE MARK! They aren’t failures, she tells them. It WORKED! The CMCs are amazed. Sweetie Belle and Apple Bloom are beside themselves, but Scoot feels totally validated. She had a feeling they just needed to work with Gabby and this proves it! She can’t wait to take her to see Twilight. In fact, Twilight will probably want to write a whole book about it. Suddenly less excited, Gabby remembers that Dash was working on something for her to take back to Gilda. She tells the CMCs to head to the castle and she’ll meet them there. Before they can object, Gabby zips off. Confused, they decide to head to Twilight’s.

SC. 11 – EXT. TWILIGHT’S CASTLE – DAY

Twilight explains that the CMCs just missed Gabby. “What?” they were supposed to meet her at the castle to show Twilight her new cutie mark. “Cutie mark? Really?” Twilight doesn’t know anything about it. Gabby just dropped off a letter for them. They read it and it says thanks for all their efforts. They really are as awesome as their reputations and she can’t wait to get back to Griffonstone and tell all the griffons how amazing they are and how they managed to do the impossible by getting her a cutie mark. Twilight, is shocked. If the CMCs really succeeded in getting a griffon a cutie mark, she would be very interested in seeing it. The CMCs exchange a confused look and decide to chase after Gabby.

SC. 12 - EXT. ROAD – DAY

The CMCs race along the road and see Gabby in the sky. At first she doesn't stop, but after a quick chase, she relents and flies down. They ask why she was running away and she reveals that her new cutie mark is just painted on. The CMC's ask why she would fake it. Was she that upset? Gabby tells them she was upset, but not about failing to get a cutie make. She just couldn't stand to have them thinking they failed her. That mattered more to her than not knowing what to do with herself. She apologizes for not being more honest. The girls tell her there's no need to apologize. It's awesome how concerned she is about other ponies' feelings. Scoot has an idea. She convinces Gabby to return to the clubhouse one last time.

SC. 13 - INT. CMC CLUBHOUSE – DAY

Scootaloo explains that while they were trying to figure out what her purpose was, she couldn't help but notice how in each instance, part of the reason that she excelled was that she was so helpful and attentive to everypony she was working with. Scoot asks Gabby what it felt like when she showed up with her cutie mark and she and the other CMCs thought they'd been successful. Gabby admits it felt awesome. That's her thing. She feels great when those around her do too. She likes to help—which makes her unique among griffons—helping isn't high on most griffon's list of priorities. Also it doesn't really translate into figuring out what she's supposed to do with her life.” Scootaloo tells her that, actually, she thinks it does. Sweetie Bell explains that finding your destiny isn't about being good at something, it's about doing something that makes you feel good inside. Apple Bloom adds that it looks like Gabby's destiny is much like theirs, to help others. She doesn't need a symbol on her flank to let everypony know that!

But, since they ARE the CMC's they've made her one anyway. They carved one out of wood and covered it in glitter to commemorate the moment they all figured out what she should do with her life! They dub her the first Griffon member of the CMCs and throw her a cutiecinera and everypony she helped throughout the episode is there to celebrate with her. Gabby couldn't be more thankful and swears that she will return home and do her best to bring the values of the Cutie Mark Crusader to Griffonstone.

END