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MY LITTLE PONY 6

“Newbie Dash”

607

Outline by: Dave Rapp

Outline: December 17th, 2014

NEWBIE DASH

Outline by Dave Rapp

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

PINKIE PIE trots with purpose through the heart of Ponyville, an envelope in her mouth and her eyes darting from side to side as she searches for something. She spots RAINBOW DASH and runs up, her excitement barely contained. Pinkie gives Dash the envelope and, before Dash can open it, explains that it's an invitation to the most amazing party Pinkie's ever thrown, and it's tomorrow night!!

Dash tries to play it cool, but she's got her own amazing news – the Wonderbolts have called her up from the reserves – this is her chance to finally achieve her dream and be a full-fledged Wonderbolt! Pinkie is speechless with excitement, so she lets her party cannon speak for her. When Dash apologizes for not being able to make it to Pinkie's party, Pinkie explains that it's no big deal; the party's just to celebrate Gummy's new chew toy. OFF this...

END TEASER**MAIN TITLES****ACT ONE****SC. 2 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE – DAY**

The Mane 6 and SPIKE are gathered in the throne room. Pinkie has spread the word about Rainbow Dash getting called up by the Wonderbolts and everypony has come to celebrate. APPLEJACK is happy to see that all of Dash's hard work has finally paid off. RARITY gives Dash an aviator scarf she made for her for just this occasion. FLUTTERSHY tells Dash to break a leg – but not really, because that would be bad; in fact, she thinks Dash should be careful and not try any dangerous maneuvers.

Only TWILIGHT SPARKLE has reservations - she asks Dash if she's sure the message from the Wonderbolts means she's getting called up. Twilight says that it could mean anything – she knowingly theorizes that the Wonderbolts could have a big show coming up for a special occasion and need lots of extra help. Dash notices the odd specificity of Twilight's scenario, but ignores it, admitting that technically she's still a reservist, for now, but the invitation said the Wonderbolts needed her, and Dash knows she's the best flyer in all of Equestria! If they called her up, it must be because they need her special talents. There's no way they won't ask her to be a permanent member of the team after she gets some time flying with them tomorrow, just her and the Wonderbolts.

CUT TO:

SC. 3 - EXT. WONDERBOLTS HQ – THE NEXT DAY

A crowd of ponies mills about in front of Wonderbolts HQ. A different location than the Wonderbolt Academy, the HQ is a neoclassical building in the clouds, all columns, pediments and statues of heroic-looking uniformed Pegasi. Rainbow Dash alights next to a BLASÉ PONY on the path up to the building and asks what's going on. Blasé Pony eyes her and calls her out as a newbie, to which Dash takes umbrage. Blasé Pony doesn't react, though. He tells her that all the Wonderbolts reservists have been called up. This happens every time there's a big event.

Dash is a little thrown by this, but recovers quickly, assuring him that she could fly against every reservist and still come out on top. She's convinced that she's so awesome she'll get to fly with the Wonderbolts. Blasé Pony rolls his eyes as they approach...

SC. 4 - EXT. WONDERBOLTS HQ – STEPS – CONTINUOUS

SPITFIRE, the captain of the Wonderbolts, stands at a podium on the steps and addresses the assemblage of reservists. The Wonderbolts will be flying a special show in Ponyville the following day to commemorate the first anniversary of the Friendship Rainbow Kingdom. Dash can't help but yell with excitement – so that's what Twilight was referring to!

Spitfire eyes Dash, but continues – it's a big celebration, so the aerial program will be very complex. There are a few flying spots open, but there will also be numerous other jobs to do, which is why all the reservists have been called up. All the jobs will be explained and demonstrated, and everypony will be evaluated to determine which job they're best suited for.

Dash reiterates to Blasé Pony that she's a lock for one of the flying spots. Blasé Pony explains that he's been a reservist for years and has never even come close to flying with the Bolts. And newbies like Dash, well, they pretty much always get the worst jobs. Dash is undaunted, explaining that she's from Ponyville and she's a friend of the Princess. The Wonderbolts probably want Dash to perform a Sonic Rainboom as the finale of the show. I mean, it is the Friendship Rainbow Kingdom, right? Blasé Pony gives Dash a look, calls her "Newbie" again and flies off when a whistle sounds nearby.

SC. 5 - EXT. WONDERBOLTS HQ – ARENA – MOMENTS LATER

An INSTRUCTOR PONY calls for attention and explains what tomorrow's show will entail and what they need from the reserves. There are a few flying spots open, so the Instructor will show them the routine and then they'll each get a chance to fly through it with the Bolts. But most of them will be needed for other jobs – air traffic control, prep and breakdown, crowd control, etc. They'll be evaluated for their aptitude in those areas as well, and Captain Spitfire will assign jobs at the end of the day.

Dash barely hears anything about the other jobs, focused only on the flying. She comments on how she can't wait to show them some new moves she's been working on, but the Instructor tells her there's no room for new moves here – just the moves that are in the routine. If Dash can do those exactly, she might have a shot. If she starts hotdogging, she'll find herself grounded.

SC. 6 - EXT. WONDERBOLTS HQ – ARENA – MONTAGE

- Dash takes her turn at the routine, performing all the moves precisely in unison with the team. She finishes with a barrel role flourish, victoriously announcing, "Nailed it," then turns to see wave after wave of other reservists also turning in flawless performances behind her. Dash spots Spitfire in the stands, making notations on her clipboard, and is determined to impress her.

-Instructor Pony explains the prep and breakdown job – ponies will be responsible for setting up the course to the exact specifications the Wonderbolts need to perform their routine properly. Dash and several others fly out to take their turn setting up the course, moving clouds to different locations and shaping them into hoops, etc. Dash zips around so fast it's hard to tell what she's doing until she finishes and we see her hoops are spiked on the outside and her other clouds are all different interesting shapes. "20% cooler!" she says with a "tada" flourish. PAN to the other reservists' identical courses, minus the embellishments. Again, Spitfire makes a notation.

-Instructor Pony explains air traffic control – ponies will patrol the perimeter of the course making sure any other flyers stay out of the Wonderbolts' way. As Dash patrols her sector she sees other reservists shooing away birds and even butterflies from their areas. Determined to outdo them, Dash spots a cloud of no-see-ums and disperses them with a blast from her wings. She turns to Spitfire in the stands, who makes another non-committal notation on her clipboard.

-Instructor Pony explains crowd control – keep the fans in their seats and keep the tarmac clean. Dash: "You mean pick up trash?" Instructor Pony: "Yup." Dash remarks that anypony can do that, and Instructor Pony says that's why they don't bother to test on it.

SC. 7 - EXT. WONDERBOLTS HQ – ARENA – LATER

Spitfire and a few other Wonderbolts huddle together over their clipboards as the Instructor thanks the reservists for their effort today and explains that the assignments will all be posted momentarily. He reminds them all that even though there are only a few flying spots, every job is important and they need to treat it with the respect accorded to the Wonderbolts. Dash can't help but smile – she's positive that she impressed Spitfire and the rest of the Wonderbolts by going above and beyond on every task.

SC. 8 - EXT. WONDERBOLTS HQ – STEPS – MOMENTS LATER

A crowd of ponies clomps up the steps and through the columns to shoulder their way to the assignment sheet posted on the wall. Dash struts up the steps, taking her time, confident of what she'll see when she gets there. She sees Blasé Pony coming back out through the crowd and asks him how he fared. "Crowd control," he says, unsurprised. She magnanimously tells him that's okay, not everyone can fly with the Bolts, and reminds him to be sure to give it his best tomorrow anyway. After he leaves she turns back up the steps and sniggers to herself about how crowd control is the worst possible job.

Dash pushes her way to the front and reaches the assignment sheet. She trails down the list of names with her hoof until she spots her own, then slides it over as she reads her assignment – "Crowd control?!"

Off her jaw-dropped face...

END ACT ONE**ACT TWO****SC. 9 - INT. WONDERBOLTS HQ – SPITFIRE'S OFFICE – EVENING**

Dash confronts Spitfire, convinced she got the wrong assignment. Spitfire chuckles – there's always one newbie who comes to her thinking they got the wrong assignment. But she can assure Dash that the roster is correct. Crowd control is a difficult assignment and Spitfire needs her best reservists on it.

Dash says no offense, but the reason anypony wants to be a Thunderbolt is to fly, and Dash can fly circles around the ponies Spitfire chose to be in the show. Spitfire tells her that may be true, but the flying's the easy part. Everypony here can fly or they wouldn't be in the reserves. Dash wonders if Spitfire even saw how awesome she was out there. She went above and beyond on all the jobs, and Spitfire responds, "This is the Wonderbolts – we're all awesome." Spitfire goes back to work – this discussion is over.

Off Dash, crestfallen...

SC. 10 - EXT. SUGARCUBE CORNER – NIGHT

Dash lands outside the sweet shop. Silhouettes in the windows and the sounds of merriment tell us Pinkie's party is in full swing inside. Dash sighs, collects herself, and heads into...

SC. 11 - INT. SUGARCUBE CORNER – CONTINUOUS

Dash enters the party, where everyone is excited to see her and says they can't wait to watch the newest Wonderbolt fly at the commemoration ceremony tomorrow. Dash turns to Twilight, who blushes and apologizes for letting it slip that the Wonderbolts are flying in Ponyville. That should have been Dash's big announcement to make. Dash says she doesn't have a big announcement. Twilight was right – Dash wasn't the only pony they called up; all the reservists were. Dash isn't going to fly in the show – in fact, she got saddled with the worst job possible.

The other Mane 6 encourage Dash not to give up – the show's not till tomorrow afternoon. Maybe she can show the Wonderbolts what an amazing flyer she is before then. Dash appreciates their support, but says that every reservist is an amazing flyer and laments how hard it is to stand out in a group of standouts. Twilight points out that it's sort of

like the Mane 6 – they’re all excellent, just in different ways. Maybe Dash just needs to find her way. Dash has an a-ha moment, emphasized by Pinkie exploding a confetti-laden balloon over her head. Dash has got it now; she’ll be excellent in different ways – just like her friends! Revitalized, Dash thanks Twilight for the idea and starts to head out, saying she’s got work to do. Confidence restored, she tells the others to make sure they cheer her on tomorrow because she will 100% be flying with the Wonderbolts!

SC. 12 - INT. WONDERBOLTS HQ – BREAK ROOM – NEXT MORNING

Spitfire and a few other members of the Wonderbolts walk into their break room to make their morning power smoothies. They flip on the light to find Rainbow Dash standing in the middle of the room and the whole place decked out with streamers and balloons. Dash blows a noisemaker and starts bouncing around the room doing her best Pinkie Pie impression as she talks about what a great day it is and asking how excited everyone is for the big show. Spitfire just blows confetti out of her mane and stoically tells Dash, “Wonderbolts don’t get excited, Newbie.”

Off Dash – strike one...

SC. 13 - EXT. WONDERBOLTS HQ – ARENA – MOMENTS LATER

Spitfire is running through some of the maneuvers with the new reserve members joining the routine. Dash approaches carrying a book, and proceeds to expound a la Twilight on this amazing thing she read about dihedral angles increasing stability in banking turns that she really thinks will help them out and how she went ahead and made them all checklists to help increase their in-flight efficiency. Spitfire pulls out a megaphone and yells at Dash from a foot away, blasting her mane back: “We all know how wings work, now get off the tarmac!” PAN to Blasé Pony rolling his eyes.

Off Dash – strike two...

SC. 14 - EXT. WONDERBOLTS HQ – STEPS – MOMENTS LATER

Rainbow Dash sashays up to a couple of uniformed Wonderbolts coming down the steps and, in her best high-society Rarity accent, tells them how much she loves their outfits but that she’s got some ideas that will not only improve their function but will look marvelous too! When somepony calls Dash’s name, she looks to the top of the stairs to find Spitfire beckoning her.

Hopeful, Dash approaches, but instead of the accolades or promotion she was hoping for, Dash starts to get dressed down again. She quickly changes tack and adopts a no-nonsense Applejack drawl, telling Spitfire the truth – she’s an exceptional pony and she’s trying to stand out so Spitfire will notice. Spitfire says she noticed all right – she noticed that Dash is only interested in individual glory and seems to have a problem working as part of a team without being compelled to stand out in some way. Abashed, Dash unconsciously slips into a Fluttershy whisper, trying to explain that that’s not what she wanted Spitfire to notice and she just wanted to point out that even though everypony can fly the routine, some ponies can do it a lot more awesomely than others.

Spitfire sternly tells Dash that the assignments have already been handed out, they’re not being changed, but if Dash doesn’t like her job she doesn’t have to do it. She’ll just find someone else who wants to be a Wonderbolt reservist. Humbled, Dash mumble-promises to do her job and not try to stand out anymore.

Off this...

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC. 15 - EXT. TWILIGHT’S CASTLE – DAY

Townsponties and visitors converge outside Twilight’s castle, where stands have been erected. Rainbow Dash motions ponies toward the stands sullenly, trying to keep the crowd moving along. When somepony drops an apple

core on the ground, Instructor Pony whistles at Dash and tells her to pick it up. Disgusted and disgruntled, Dash picks it up and throws it away, resigned to morosely doing her terrible job.

SC. 16 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE – MOMENTS LATER

The stands are filling up as Dash continues herding the ponies toward their seats, telling them disinterestedly that the big show is about to start. SCOOTALOO zips up and is thrilled to see her idol acting in her official Wonderbolts capacity. Dash is less thrilled. Scootaloo says she wants to find the best seat possible so she can practically touch Dash as she flies by with the Wonderbolts. Dash is abashed, but before she can tell Scootaloo she won't be flying today, she spots the rest of the Mane 6 (minus Twilight) heading toward seats. She pulls Scootaloo under the bleachers and tries to hide, embarrassed that she's stuck doing such a menial task. Scoot is confused – these are terrible seats; she can't see a thing.

Dash's attempt to hide is foiled when Spike ambles up and asks loudly what she's doing under the bleachers. Busted, Dash leaves Scootaloo behind and steps out to see her friends gathered around. They're all thrilled to see her, but Dash apologizes – she's not gonna fly with the Wonderbolts today like she told them. She's actually doing crowd control. They offer her encouragement and remind her that she is here, in her Wonderbolts uniform, being part of the team, and that's pretty amazing. And even if she doesn't get to the big exciting job this time, they're sure she will next time. Dash is consoled by this and rededicates herself to doing her job as well as she possibly can, starting with showing them all to their seats.

SC. 17 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE – BALCONY – MOMENTS LATER

Princesses CELESTIA and LUNA step onto the balcony and the crowd below hushes. Celestia says they're all there to commemorate the creation of the Friendship Rainbow Kingdom. She talks about the importance of friendship and explains that no one knows more about it than Princess Twilight Sparkle. Twilight steps onto the balcony as she's introduced and the crowd cheers. The cheer is replaced with the sound of streaking ponies as the Wonderbolts fly over the castle and start their show.

SC. 18 - EXT. SKY – SAME

Follow the Wonderbolts as they perform some amazing maneuvers.

SC. 19 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE – SAME

The crowd watches the performance, but Rainbow Dash doesn't look up. Blasé Pony nearby asks why she's not watching the show, and Dash, scanning the stands and area, says she's here to do crowd control and that's what she's gonna do. Glancing up at Twilight on the balcony, Dash notices Scootaloo at the top of the tallest tower, climbing out onto the roof to try to get as close to the show as she can. She slips scrambling up the shingles and starts sliding toward a precipitous fall.

Dash calls out to Scootaloo, then takes to the air after her. Unfortunately, this takes her right through the performance area as the show is going on. To get to Scootaloo, Dash must perform an amazing series of perfectly-timed aerial acrobatics as she flies in the opposite direction as the Wonderbolts. The crowd oohs and ahhs, amazed at what they're seeing, and no one notices Scootaloo scabble at the edge of the roof for purchase. Dash is oblivious to everything but saving Scootaloo. When Scootaloo loses her grip and drops from the tower, Dash puts on an amazing burst of speed and a Sonic Rainboom forms in her wake just as she catches Scootaloo!

The crowd goes nuts as Dash lands with Scootaloo. The Wonderbolts land nearby and walk up to Dash, led by Spitfire. Dash apologizes for ruining the show and is ready to take her punishment, but Spitfire is amazed. None of the Wonderbolts can believe the flying they just saw. And Dash saved the day because she was doing her crowd control job. Spitfire says Rainbow Dash is exactly the kind of exceptional pony the Wonderbolts want on their team, and offers her a position as a full-fledged Wonderbolt – no more reserves.

Dash tries to play it cool but fails miserably – this is the moment she’s been waiting for her whole life and she’s going to geek out to the fullest. The Wonderbolts gather round Rainbow Dash. The other Mane 6 look on, overjoyed, as Spitfire puts a hoof on Dash’s shoulder and says, “Welcome to the Wonderbolts, Newbie.”

SC. 20 - EXT. PONYVILLE – A FEW DAYS LATER

The Mane 6 minus Rainbow Dash walk and talk through downtown, when they’re buzzed by Rainbow Dash in her official Wonderbolts uniform. They tell her she’s looking good, but Dash can’t stay to talk – she just got word that the Wonderbolts need her to fly to Fillydelphia! When they ask what the emergency is, Dash says no emergency – Spitfire needs ointment for her fetlocks – the uniform chafes sometimes and Spitfire loves giving the newbies all the worst assignments. Her friends ask Dash why she’s so excited then, and Dash replies, “Because it means I’m really an actual Wonderbolt!”

END.