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MY LITTLE PONY
Season 7

What Dash Would Dare to Do?
Ep 717

Teleplay 1st Draft

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Teleplay 1st Draft: May 24, 2016

Friendship Lesson: Never give up hope.

TEASER

FADE IN:

SC. 1- EXT. PONYVILLE MARKETPLACE - DAY

Ponies shuffle around the market, gathering fresh fruit and vegetables. PINKIE PIE enters frame with RAINBOW DASH trotting up to a NEWSPAPER PONY selling NEWSPAPERS and MAGAZINES.

1 NEWSPAPER PONY
Ah, Pinkie Pie. Got your Canterlot
Chronicle right here!

Pinkie stomps her hooves in a tiny excited dance as she tosses him a few BITS and takes the paper.

2 PINKIE PIE
Fan-tizzy-tastic!
 (to Rainbow)
I just love all those stories and
happy happenings! Plus it's always
good to be a pony in the know, you
know?

Pinkie unfurls the paper with a huge smile.

3 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
And there's *so much* to know!

Rainbow Dash shrugs.

4 RAINBOW DASH
Eh, it seems mostly like a bunch of
boring hooey to me.

The two ponies walk through the market as they talk. Pinkie points to a headline.

5 PINKIE PIE
Does "NEW SHRUBBERY IN CASTLE GARDEN"!
sound like boring hooey to you?!

6 RAINBOW DASH
Snooze.

7 PINKIE PIE
What about "PARASPRITE INFESTATION IN
FILLYDELPHIA ERADICATED"?! That's
great news!

8 RAINBOW DASH
 (waving her hoof)
Another day, another parasprite hype
story.

Pinkie is slightly ticked that Rainbow is so dismissive of her Fun Thing. She flips through the pages as they keep walking.

9 PINKIE PIE
Noodles named official food of
Whinnyapolis! (Rainbow yawns) Author
A.K. Yearling announces retirement!
Cloudsdale campaign race heating up
for candidate in favor of cooling it
down!

Rainbow stops dead in her tracks. Her eyes go huge.

10 RAINBOW DASH
WHAT?! Let me see that!

Rainbow snatches the paper and looks closer. Pinkie is proud.

11 PINKIE PIE
I never knew you were so into
politics, Rainbow.

12 RAINBOW DASH
No, this!

Rainbow points her hoof at the page.

13 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
 (shaking her head in
 disbelief)
It can't be true...

14 PINKIE PIE
I would have never guessed that
noodles would be the official food of
Whinnyapolis, either. But here we are!
Noodles are IT!

15 RAINBOW DASH
No, Pinkie! I can't believe... that
the greatest author and secret pony
adventurer of all time-- A.K. Yearling--
- is retiring!

Off Rainbow's horrified face as we...

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES**ACT ONE****SC. 2 - EXT. JUNGLE/FOREST- LATER**

Rainbow flies while Pinkie trots below as they rush through the forest. Pinkie still has the NEWSPAPER with her.

16 PINKIE PIE
Are you sure A.K. Yearling wants
visitors right now? She just retired,
like, *today!*

17 RAINBOW DASH
Pinkie, the A.K. Yearling I know would
never just quit and retire out of the
blue! Something must be wrong. It's
our responsibility to check on her to
make sure she's okay.

18 PINKIE PIE
Okay!

Pinkie Pie raises a suspicious eyebrow at Dash.

19 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Wait, you're not just trying to make
sure she writes more Daring Do books,
right?

20 RAINBOW DASH
Of course not!
 (then)
But that wouldn't hurt either.

Rainbow waves for Pinkie to hurry.

21 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Now hurry up, she needs us!

They take off faster.

CUT TO:

SC. 3 - EXT. A.K. YEARLING'S COTTAGE - SHORTLY AFTER

CLOSE-UP on a DOOR KNOCKER. Rainbow's hoof enters frame and knocks. REVEAL that Pinkie and Rainbow are on A.K. Yearling's doorstep. A beat, nothing. Rainbow and Pinkie exchange a nervous look.

22 RAINBOW DASH
Maybe she's not home.
 (brightening)
Maybe she went to the editor-in-chief
of the Canterlot Chronicle to correct
the misprint they've made!

23 PINKIE PIE (O.S.)
No, she's home.

24 RAINBOW DASH
How do you know?

Pinkie is standing with her muzzle pressed up against the
FRONT WINDOW.

25 PINKIE PIE
Because there she is... looking really
sad and alone like she hasn't got a
single friend in the whole world. What
a bag of major bummers-gumdrops!

26 RAINBOW DASH
Oh no! I knew it. Something's wrong!

Rainbow knocks again, harder this time. Pinkie keeps watching
from the window.

27 PINKIE PIE
Now she's sighing with the weight of
the world!
 (beat)
Now she's hanging her head in utter
despair!
 (beat)
Now she's shaking her hoof and cursing
the heavens like nothing could ever
possibly be the same ever again! Why-
oh-why-did-this-happen-to-her--

28 RAINBOW DASH
What?!

Rainbow rushes over and presses her face against the window,
too.

29 PINKIE PIE
 (giggling)
Never mind, that time she was just
stretching.

Rainbow flies back to the door and knocks even harder this
time.

30 A.K. YEARLING (O.S.)
 (muffled by door)
I told you reporters-- GO AWAY! No
more interviews! My decision is final!

31 RAINBOW DASH
A.K., it's us-- Rainbow Dash and
Pinkie Pie! Your friends!

The door swings open. A disheveled (hat-less) A.K. YEARLING stands there, shocked but relieved. She looks around and quickly ushers Rainbow and Pinkie inside.

CUT TO:

SC. 4 - INT. A.K. YEARLING'S COTTAGE - CONTINUOUS

The place is an absolute mess (but in a different way than last time). This is more organized chaos. Several large CHESTS, STACKS OF BOOKS, PITH HELMETS, and the famous TYPEWRITER are all in the process of being packed away. Rainbow Dash takes it all in.

32 RAINBOW DASH
Oh no. Did somepony ransack your
cottage again? Are you missing some
sort of ancient mysterious relic
that's the key to saving all of
Equestria?

Pinkie Pie picks a random golden RELIC from a treasure chest and inspects it. She begins to play with it. Suddenly, it starts GLOWING and EMITTING SPARKS (Pinkie is unharmed).

33 PINKIE PIE
Oooh! This looks fun!

A.K. Yearling dives for it and puts it back in the chest gently. Pinkie starts looking in another trunk.

34 A.K. YEARLING
Nothing's missing.

35 RAINBOW DASH (V.O.)
(gasp) Then is somepony blackmailing
you forcing you to retire?! Cuz if
they are...

Rainbow Dash puffs up, defensive. She gets in "action" pose.

36 A.K. YEARLING
No. Nothing like that...

37 RAINBOW DASH
So let me get this straight-- you're
really just quitting and moving away?
 (putting her hoof on A.K.'s
 shoulder and shaking her
 gently)
WHY. WOULD. YOU. DO. THAT?

38 PINKIE PIE
I'm sure she has a good reason.

39 A.K. YEARLING
 (getting annoyed)
I already explained everything in my
statement to the Canterlot Chronicle.

Rainbow snatches the newspaper from Pinkie Pie.

40 RAINBOW DASH
 (reading aloud)
"Author A.K. Yearling announced
yesterday that the next adventure
novel in her popular series, 'Daring
Do and the Curse of the Pharaoh's
Tomb' will be her last. Yearling looks
forward to her retirement."

41 A.K. YEARLING
See?

42 RAINBOW DASH
 (frustrated)
This doesn't explain anything. You're
the greatest adventurer and author of
all time! Why would you randomly stop
doing what you love?

A.K. is not going to budge. Rainbow is being way too intense.

43 PINKIE PIE
But if you don't feel like talking
about it, that's A-Okay, too, A.K.! As
your friends, we completely
understand.

Pinkie shoots Rainbow a look-- don't be so insensitive!

44 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Right, Rainbow Dash?

45 RAINBOW DASH
Oh. Of course! We just want to make
sure you're alright.
 (MORE)

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
That's why we came to check on you.
And to find out what's going on.

At this, A.K. softens. She sits down and looks back and forth to the two ponies in front of her. They are her friends! She slumps her shoulders.

46 A.K. YEARLING
Follow me.

A.K. exits to another part of the house. Rainbow and Pinkie follow, intrigued.

CUT TO:

SC. 5 - A.K. YEARLING'S COTTAGE - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

A.K. opens a night stand drawer. A.K. is sheepish and embarrassed-- we've never seen her like this before. She pulls out a stack of NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS and passes them to PINKIE PIE.

47 PINKIE PIE
(reading aloud- dramatically)
"WAKE OF DESTRUCTION: DARING DO RUINS
ENTIRE VILLAGE MARKETPLACE"!

Rainbow Dash leans over and reads the next one.

48 RAINBOW DASH
(reading aloud-
incredulously)
"DARE OR SCARE? LOCAL ROGUE 'DARING
DO' INVOLVED IN FRIGHTFUL FIASCO"?

49 PINKIE PIE
(reading aloud- dramatically)
"DARING DO LEADS BULL INTO CHINA SHOP
DURING HIGH SPEED CHASE--"

50 A.K. YEARLING
(interrupting)
That's enough!

A.K. Yearling sits down, dejected.

51 A.K. YEARLING (CONT'D)
See? Ponies all over Equestria are
upset with me.

Pinkie is concerned. Rainbow is mad (at the articles).

52 RAINBOW DASH
Hey now! If anypony knows what it's
like to be accused of something they
didn't do, it's me! Remember when the
Wonderbolts thought I sent a fake note
to Spitfire *just* so I could take her
place in the big show?

53 PINKIE PIE
Yeah! And Rarity used her detective
skills to prove you didn't.

54 RAINBOW DASH
Exactly!

Rainbow Dash holds up the newspaper clippings.

55 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
So all we have to do is explain to
these ponies that none of this stuff
is true.

56 PINKIE PIE
(nodding in agreement)
Easy-peazy-cheezy!

A.K. shakes her head.

57 A.K. YEARLING
But that's just the thing... it is
true. I did cause all of that
destruction!
 (a beat) ***Possible act
 break
I guess I never really thought about
how my actions were affecting other
ponies. I was just so focused on
saving priceless relics and stopping
the bad guys.

58 PINKIE PIE
But why is this all happening now?

59 A.K. YEARLING
(shrugging)
I guess they must finally be fed up.
Either way, I'm done.

60 RAINBOW DASH
But you can't be! For every one pony
who's upset with you, there must be at
least a hundred that think you're a
hero.

61 A.K. YEARLING
Not anymore, Dash.

Rainbow is unwilling to give up. She scratches her chin. How can she convince A.K. that ponies still love her?

A.K. goes back to packing her things in the crate.

62 RAINBOW DASH
Hey, wait! We can go straight to the
source! We'll just visit this village,
(reading from the paper) "Somnambula".

Rainbow Dash points her hoof at the newspaper.

63 PINKIE PIE
Ooh! Good idea! The ponies there will
tell you themselves just how much they
appreciate you.

64 RAINBOW DASH
And what a heap of rotten apple cores
these articles are!

A beat as A.K. considers the proposition. She looks to Pinkie, who smiles encouragingly back.

65 A.K. YEARLING
You really think so?

66 RAINBOW DASH
I know so! Let's go!

Pinkie and Rainbow smile. A.K. sighs and puts on her GREY HAT. Off A.K. Yearling's unsure face as we...

CUT TO:

SC. 6 - MAP OF EQUESTRIA - ROUTE TO SOUTHERN EQUESTRIA

An Indiana Jones-esque map shows the route the ponies travel to SOUTHERN EQUESTRIA.

The destination is SOMNAMBULA, an Egyptian-style village. Illustrations of PYRAMIDS and a SPHINX surround the drawings of HUTS/HOUSES.

CUT TO:

SC. 7 - EXT. VILLAGE OF SOMNAMBULA - LATER

The forest breaks onto a clearing. The terrain is now more dry and desert-like. Sand everywhere. The ponies walk toward the Egyptian-inspired village of SOMNAMBULA.

They arrive at the entrance. A.K. Yearling, Pinkie Pie, and Rainbow Dash stop and take in the scene. It's a bustling marketplace-- complete with APPLE SELLERS, SPICE VENDORS, and many ponies dressed in Egyptian style finery.

Rainbow forgets that they aren't on any old adventure.

67 RAINBOW DASH

(giddy)

Whoa! This is so cool! It looks just like the village of "Resheph" from your last book! You know-- the one where Daring Do first recovers the Doomed Diadem from Wild Bunch Gang then leads them on a chase through the desert?

68 A.K. YEARLING

I do. And it's because I based the entire scene on my experiences here in Somnambula.

69 PINKIE PIE

What happened?! No wait, don't tell me. I CHANGED MY MIND! TELL ME!

70 RAINBOW DASH

Daring Do thwarted Ahuizotl's evil plot, of course. If it wasn't for her, the entire town would be swallowed by the ground.

71 PINKIE PIE

Pssht! Then there's *no* chance that these ponies don't think you're a hero.

A.K. adjusts her disguise (NOTE: the ponies of this region know her as Daring Do, so they don't recognize her in her author garb). She looks slightly hopeful.

72 RAINBOW DASH

(to A.K. Yearling)

Watch this.

We zero in on a nearby SOMNAMBULAN VILLAGER who is busy tending to his APPLE CART. He's an elder Stallion (NOTE: the cart should have clear damage/look broken).

Rainbow Dash trots up, confident. She's got this. Rainbow winks at A.K. and Pinkie in an encouraging way.

73 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
 (loud/stage voice)
Hiya there, Mister!

The elder stallion does a little bow with one hoof down
(NOTE: perhaps make this a "regional" greeting/custom?)

74 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
I was hoping you could tell me about a
pony named Daring Do. Do you know her?

75 ELDER STALLION
Daring Do, huh?

76 RAINBOW DASH
That's right. The awesome adventure
pony hero!

The elder stallion nods.

77 ELDER STALLION
She's awesome alright...

Rainbow grins. This plan is going perfect! A.K. looks up,
hopefully.

78 ELDER STALLION (CONT'D)
 (now angry)
... awesome at destroying ponies'
apple carts...

ANGLE ON the damage on his apple cart.

79 ELDER STALLION (CONT'D)
...and priceless, sacred statues!

The elder stallion points his hoof behind him. ANGLE ON a
PILE OF RUBBLE that still has the basic structure of the
"Somnambula" pony.

A CLOAKED PONY with his hood over his head steps forward. The
hood is obstructing his face (NOTE: later we will learn this
is DR. CABALLERON in disguise).

80 CLOAKED PONY
And that's not all she's destroyed!
Look! Daring Do is a menace to
society. She destroys everything she
touches.

We PAN OVER to the nearby MARKETPLACE. TWO VILLAGER PONIES
(construction-types, but ancient-style) are putting the
finishing touches on a new TENT STRUCTURE.

They hammer and saw. The villager ponies nod in agreement.
Record scratch moment! Rainbow's face falls.

81 RAINBOW DASH
What?! No. You've got it all wrong...

Unseen, by our trio, the cloaked pony smiles an evil grin.
A.K. pulls Rainbow aside.

82 A.K. YEARLING
(furious; under to Dash)
I tried to tell you-- they despise me!
Coming back here was all a terrible
mistake!

A.K. takes off running through the village.

Off Rainbow and Pinkie's worried faces as we...

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 8 - EXT. DIFFERENT PART OF VILLAGE - CONTINUOUS

Pinkie runs and Rainbow flies alongside a galloping A.K.
Yearling (NOTE: She is still in her "author" cloak, so she
cannot fly).

83 RAINBOW DASH
But that was just one angry pony!

84 PINKIE PIE
(chirpy)
Two angry ponies!

A.K. shakes her head as she keeps running, focused on
reaching her destination.

85 A.K. YEARLING
It doesn't matter. I never should have
come with you!

86 RAINBOW DASH
Come on, A.K.! So we picked a bad
example. It was unfortunate but there
are totally a million other ponies
that love you!

Suddenly, A.K. stops in her tracks. She looks around. Is she
considering Rainbow's proposition?

87 A.K. YEARLING
 (sharp)
Look, it's getting dark. I'm gonna go
find someplace to stay. I suggest you
do the same.

A.K. takes off again, this time heading towards the woods.
She clearly has a plan in mind. Rainbow is getting desperate.

88 RAINBOW DASH
 (to Pinkie)
Come on! We gotta follow her!

Pinkie Pie scrunches her face, unsure.

89 PINKIE PIE
I dunno... it *really* seemed like she
didn't want us cramping her saddle.

90 RAINBOW DASH
But this is our only chance to
convince her that ponies do appreciate
her! As her friend, I have to make
sure she believes that.

Rainbow takes off. Pinkie looks concerned, but then follows.

CUT TO:

SC. 9 - EXT. "GET ON INN" BARN & BREAKFAST - EVENING

Rainbow and Pinkie Pie arrive at a forest clearing. In the
middle stands a quaint, thatched-roof hotel. Cozy. Smoke
coming from the chimney. A bustling tavern attached to the
side.

91 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Hey, I recognize this! It's the "Get
On Inn". Daring Do stays here all the
time when she visits the mysterious
South.

Rainbow brightens.

92 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Which means there must be ponies here
who love Daring Do! Maybe they can
tell us something.

Smells waft from the restaurant straight to Pinkie Pie's
nose. She breathes in and smiles.

93 PINKIE PIE
Mmmmm. I think my nose is telling me
something.
(whispers to self)
Muffins...

CUT TO:

SC. 10 - "GET ON INN" BARN & BREAKFAST - CONTINUOUS

Rainbow Dash and Pinkie Pie stand at the hotel check-in counter. A RACK OF KEYS hangs on the wall. A SERVICE BELL sits on the table. Rainbow rings it.

94 RAINBOW DASH
(anxious)
Do you think she's here?

Rainbow rings the bell again.

A crusty older mare, MRS. TROTZWORTH, waddles in. She's wearing a FRILLY LACE DRESS and too much COSTUME JEWELRY. A bit Grey Gardens-esque. She's grumpy.

95 PINKIE PIE
(whispering to Rainbow)
Ooo, she's fancy.

Rainbow opens her mouth to speak, but Pinkie takes the lead. She winks at Rainbow.

96 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
(stage-whisper)
I got this!
(comically formal)
A good evening to you, Madam! We weary travelers happened upon your fine establishment and humbly wish to inquire about the status of a certain mare of intrigue such as yourself taking residence here?

97 MRS. TROTZWORTH
(barking)
What in Southern Equestria are you on about?

98 PINKIE PIE
Is it true that Daring Do stays here?!

Mrs. Trotsworth frowns and grunts.

99 MRS. TROTZWORTH
Not anymore, she doesn't!

100 RAINBOW DASH
Why not?

101 MRS. TROTSWORTH
The last time I rented that rascal a
room, she was in a such a rush to high-
tail it outta here that she didn't
even pay her bill!

102 RAINBOW DASH
But--

103 MRS. TROTSWORTH
(interrupting)
And that's not all! After she left me
high and dry, a band of ruffians
following her raided the whole place!
Destroyed half the rooms. I suspect
that she had stolen somethin' precious
from *them*, too!

104 RAINBOW DASH
No, no, no. You've got it all wrong.
Daring Do was trying to *save* everypony
from a horrible fate!

105 MRS. TROTSWORTH
Tell that to *him*.

Trotsworth motions to a Cloaked Pony trotting into the PUB
ENTRANCE (Note: same guy as before, but the ponies don't
realize it).

106 MRS. TROTSWORTH (CONT'D)
Poor fella had his "Somnambula
Festival Day" pearls stolen by Daring
Do!

Mrs. Trotsworth shakes her head as if to say "tsk, tsk".

Pinkie and Rainbow exchange a skeptical look. Still, they
must investigate further. They follow the Cloaked Pony
into...

CUT TO:

SC. 11 - INT. GET ON INN - TAVERN - CONTINUOUS

Ponies gather and chat over mugs of CIDER and bowls of HOT
SOUP. Jaunty MUSIC plays in the background.

ANGLE ON the Cloaked Pony in the corner! A few ponies are
gathered around him.

ANGLE ON A.K. Yearling in the other corner, looking sad!

Rainbow Dash and Pinkie Pie point at them in opposite directions.

RAINBOW DASH
He's over there!

PINKIE PIE
She's over there!

107 CLOAKED PONY
All I am saying is Daring Do should be
held responsible for her actions! I
say we find her and make her pay for
all the trouble she's caused!
Everypony who's with me, meet at the
statue tomorrow!

The small crowd of ponies nod and cheer in agreement.

108 PONY WALLA
Yeah!/Definitely!/She should!

A.K. Yearling appears between Pinkie Pie and Rainbow Dash,
watching the mob. A.K. sighs heavily.

109 A.K. YEARLING
I told you this was bad.

110 RAINBOW DASH
Real bad.

111 PINKIE PIE
SUPER BAD! But... we're still staying
here right?

She pops a muffin into her mouth and grins as she chews.

112 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
(through full mouth)
Because I already ate all the free
mini muffins!!

Rainbow turns to A.K. Yearling, a look of determination on
her face.

113 RAINBOW DASH
Don't worry, A.K. We're gonna fix
this.

Rainbow puffs up.

114 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
I promise.

Off Rainbow's determined face as we...

CUT TO:

SC. 12 - EXT. VILLAGE OF SOMNAMBULA - NEXT DAY

A.K., Pinkie, and Rainbow stand right in the center of town (next to the statue rubble).

115 A.K. YEARLING
 (whispering)
This is never going to work, Rainbow Dash.

116 RAINBOW DASH
Are you kidding? Of course it will!
All I have to do is go up there and
explain to everypony that they've got
it ALL WRONG! That you were just
trying to save them from a worse fate--

117 PINKIE PIE
Yeah! And then I'll be like-- *what she said!*

118 RAINBOW DASH
They just need the whole story.

119 A.K. YEARLING
 (deadpan)
Easy-peazy-cheezy, right?

120 PINKIE PIE
You got it!

Ponies start to gather, facing the statue. The trio hangs in the back of the small crowd.

Cloaked Pony steps to the front of the statue and faces the ponies.

121 CLOAKED PONY
Here it is! The remains of your-- I
mean *our* Somnambula statue. Tell me
ponies... when the Festival Day
arrives, what will we drape our pearls
on?!

122 RANDOM VILLAGER
We have no pearls! They were stolen!

123 CLOAKED PONY
See?! That Daring Do is a menace!

124 PONY WALLA
Yeah!/She is!/Boo!

Rainbow Dash can't take it anymore. She flies up and stands right next to Cloaked Pony and addresses the crowd.

125 RAINBOW DASH
Daring Do would never steal from you ponies! And okay, *yeah*-- she did destroy your statue, but it was because she was trying to save you all from Ahuizotl!

The ponies look back at her, blank-faced.

126 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
You know... about ye big?

Dash flies up and does the "this tall" motion with her wing.

127 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Blue? Controls ponies for fun? Real evil and stuff?

128 PINKIE PIE
Ooo! Ooo! I know him!
 (to a random pony next to her)
He's a baddie.

The ponies start to whisper in concern. Is this random visitor speaking the truth?

Dash turns to Cloaked Pony.

129 RAINBOW DASH
Trust me, if Ahuizotl had his way with your village you'd be missing a lot more than some crummy statue!

Everypony gasps. An ELDER STALLION (the one with the apple cart above) steps forward. He points to the ground underneath Rainbow's hooves. She hops back and realizes she's been standing on a series of HIEROGLYPHICS!

The Elder Stallion clears his throat.

130 ELDER STALLION
That is not just some crummy statue.
That is namesake of our village.

131 RAINBOW DASH
Who?

132 ELDER STALLION
Somnambula. You see, hundreds of moons
ago...

TRUCK IN on the heiroglyphic as they start to animate under
the Elder Stallion's tale...

FADE TO:

**SC. 13 - EXT. NEARBY DESERT KINGDOM - IN THE DISTANT PAST -
FLASHBACK**

*NOTE: This flashback will be entirely depicted in ancient
hieroglyphic style.*

Dusty terrain. Pyramids towering in the background. A PHARAOH
and his son, THE PRINCE look over their ponies.

133 ELDER STALLION (O.S.)
...This village belonged to the
Pharoah and his son, the Prince. The
ponies here had very little. An evil
Sphinx had taken most of their crops.

We see SOMNAMBULA (a Pegasus) in a simple tunic walking
through the market place, she has a single strand of pearls.
She sees an old mare with a rumbley tummy, she looks like
she's giving up. Somnambula looks at the old mare and then
at her pearls. She takes them off and uses them to buy some
BREAD from a stall. She gives it to the old mare. What she
doesn't notice is a handsome PEASANT watching this whole
exchange from afar.

134 ELDER STALLION (CONT'D)
Somnambula didn't want anypony to give
up. She tried to keep the villagers
hopes up. What she didn't know is that
the young Prince had been watching her
in disguise.

We see the PEASANT approach her. He takes off his disguise
revealing that he is the Prince.

135 ELDER STALLION (CONT'D)
The Prince was taken with Somnambula
and her compassion. It wasn't long
before they fell in love. He confided
in her his wish that he could protect
everypony from the Sphinx. But it
turned out he couldn't even protect
himself.

Suddenly, a gigantic SPHINX towers over the prince.

136 ELDER STALLION (O.S.)
(CONT'D)
The clever, but evil Sphinx demanded
that all the crops be gifted to her.
When the prince refused, she kidnapped
him and told the Pharaoh the only way
to get the prince back was to solve
her riddle.

The Sphinx carries him off into a pyramid. The Pharaoh
reaches off after his son.

137 ELDER STALLION (CONT'D)
The Pharaoh ordered the wisest ponies
in his court to try and solve the
riddle. But nopony could!

SC. 14 - EXT. SPHINX'S PYRAMID - FLASHBACK - LATER

We see ponies hang their heads as they walk away from the
Sphinx, who laughs.

138 ELDER STALLION
The Pharaoh almost gave up, but
Somnambula never did.

Somnambula reaches the Pyramid and stands before the Sphinx.

139 ELDER STALLION (CONT'D)
The Sphinx gave her riddle, "I shine
brightest in the dark. I am there but
cannot be seen. To have me costs you
nothing. To be without me costs you
everything."

The Sphinx is smug. But Somnambula stands her ground.

140 ELDER STALLION (CONT'D)
Unlike the rich courtesans, Somnambula
had experienced much hardship. She
realized almost instantly what the
answer was. "HOPE!" She shouted.

The Sphinx frowns and raises up her claws in anger.

141 ELDER STALLION (CONT'D)
Angry that Somnambula solved the
riddle so easily, the Sphinx told her
that to save the prince she must also
make it across a bridge over a deep
chasm... *blindfolded!* And not just
that but she had cast a powerful spell
that would prevent her from flying
across.

SC.15 - INT. SPHINX'S PYRAMID - FLASHBACK

We see Somnambula blindfolded in front of a narrow bridge over a chasm. On the other side of the chasm, the prince is chained to a GOLDEN PEDESTAL.

142 ELDER STALLION
Knowing that she faced a terrifying fall if she failed, she made a wager of her own. If she succeeds the Sphinx had to leave the kingdom alone. Sure that Somnambula would meet her doom, the Sphinx agreed.

Somnambula starts to make her way across the bridge.

143 ELDER STALLION (CONT'D)
It was scary, but Somnambula was still full of HOPE! She made her way across the bridge, guided by the sound of the prince's voice.

Somnambula reaches the Prince and frees him. The Sphinx screams in rage.

144 ELDER STALLION (CONT'D)
Relieved and more in love than ever, the Prince asked Somnambula how she beat the Sphinx's traps. She explained that she never gave up hope that one day they would be together.

They hug. The prince hangs PEARLS around her neck.

145 ELDER STALLION (CONT'D)
The Prince gave Somnambula pearls. She used hers to give hope and now he hoped she'd accept them as a wedding present. She did and for ever after, they became a symbol of her unrelenting hope.

The scene fades away as we...

CUT BACK TO:

SC. 16 - VILLAGE OF SOMNAMBULA - CONTINUOUS

The ponies all now look happy having heard their legend again. Pinkie claps her hooves wildly.

146 PINKIE PIE
(smiling)
That story made me feel warm right
down to the bottom of my hooves!

147 RAINBOW DASH
Ok, so the statue was of a really cool
pony. But I bet if Somnambula were
still around, she'd tell you that
Daring Do is too. They both fought to
protect this town!

Some ponies look like RD is swaying them. The Cloaked Pony
(Caballeron) realizes he's losing the crowd.

148 CLOAKED PONY
All the legend proved is that Daring
Do destroyed your symbol of hope!

149 PONY WALLA
Boo!/Let's find her!/No more Daring
Do!

A.K. Yearling has had enough. Rainbow watches from the front
of the crowd as A.K. runs off. Pinkie Pie follows after her.

Rainbow Dash is fed up with this Cloaked jerk! She is fuming
as she walks right up to him. Rainbow leans in close.

150 RAINBOW DASH
Hey buddy! What did Daring Do ever do
to you to deserve all this?

151 CLOAKED PONY
Only... *everything!*

He steps into the light and throws back his hood to reveal
that he is... DR. CABALLERON!

152 RAINBOW DASH
...Dr. Caballeron?!

153 DR. CABALLERON
Yes... Rainbow Dash.

Caballeron gives a hearty evil laugh.

154 DR. CABALLERON (CONT'D)
My plan to break Daring Do's spirit
and destroy her reputation is going
well, but I really can't have you
getting in the way.

Caballeron WHISTLES and suddenly his group of HENCHPONIES, (who have been planted in the crowd) close in on Rainbow Dash and blindfold her. Then the gang takes off into the village, following Caballeron's lead.

Soon they pass by A.K. Yearling and Pinkie Pie. The two stop, horrified.

155 A.K. YEARLING
Caballeron! No.

156 PINKIE PIE
I'm coming, Rainboooow Dash!

Pinkie takes off.

A.K. Yearling is frozen in her tracks. Off A.K.'s conflicted face as we...

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

**SC. 17 - EXT. DESERT SOMEWHERE NEAR VILLAGE OF SOMNAMBULA-
NOT LONG AFTER**

Sand for miles. A pyramid in the background (like in the legend). A cloud of dust moves along the horizon.

ZOOM IN to reveal that it's PINKIE PIE! She stops for a moment, the dust settles. She hyperventilates, sticking her tongue out.

157 PINKIE PIE
 (breathing heavily)
I'm... coming... Rainbow... Dash....

Suddenly, a SILHOUTTE appears on the horizon! Pinkie squints. It's... DARING DO!!!

158 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
You made it! You made it!

Pinkie bounces up and squeals.

Daring Do gallops over.

159 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
I knew you wouldn't let Rainbow down.

160 DARING DO
You did? I wasn't even sure if I was
brave enough to come. What if I
mess everything up again?

Daring Do looks sad.

161 PINKIE PIE
You won't.

162 DARING DO
How do you know?

163 PINKIE PIE
I just do! You won't let anything
happen to Rainbow Dash. You care too
much.

Daring Do gets a determined look on her face.

164 DARING DO
You're right. Now which way did they
go?

Daring Do looks around, shielding her eyes. She pulls out
BINOCULARS.

165 DARING DO (CONT'D)
To the pyramid!

Daring Do flies and Pinkie Pie runs.

CUT TO:

SC. 18 - EXT. ENTRANCE OF THE PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

A DILAPIDATED SPHINX STATUE dwarfs Pinkie Pie and Daring Do.

166 PINKIE PIE
Come on, Sphinky! Give me a riddle!

It doesn't budge.

167 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Aw, no fun.

The sound of Rainbow's cries echo out to them. They rush
inside...

CUT TO:

SC. 19 - INT. SPHINX'S PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

... And immediately come to a screeching halt! The entire
pyramid is a hollow, dark chasm. Similar to the legend,
Rainbow Dash is in the center! But instead of a golden
pedestal, she is suspended in a NET. She is still
blindfolded.

168 RAINBOW DASH
Pinkie Pie! Daring Do! Is that you?!

Daring and Pinkie stand on the edge and look down. A mysterious green, bubbly, glowing substance fills the bottom.

169 DARING DO
Don't worry, Rainbow! We'll save you!

A familiar laugh echoes through the cavernous room.

REVEAL Dr. Caballeron at the opening in the very tip of the pyramid above.

170 DR. CABALLERON
If my previous plan didn't cause you to give up, Do, then the shame of losing your dear friend Rainbow Dash to the slime *will*!

Caballeron holds scissors over the rope suspending Rainbow in a net.

171 DR. CABALLERON (CONT'D)
Remember that ancient magic from the legend? It's real. Pegasi can't fly here! Good luck, Do.

Daring and Pinkie panic. They look from Dr. Caballeron to the net. They are running out of time.

172 DARING DO
(calling out)
You're bluffing!

173 PINKIE PIE
I don't think he is.

Pinkie points to Rainbow Dash who is trying to flap her wings but no matter what she does she can't fly.

174 DARING DO
Then what do we do! How do we get to her!?

Daring Do shakes her head.

175 PINKIE PIE
Well, if this really is like Somnambula's story, then we gotta have hope that we can do this. And then we can rescue her!

176 DARING DO
There was a bridge in the story.

177 PINKIE PIE
Uh-huh....

178 DARING DO
There's no bridge, Pinkie! There's no
way to get to her in time!

They look at Rainbow Dash struggling in the net as she gets closer and closer to the slime.

179 PINKIE PIE
We gotta believe. Ready set jump!

Pinkie closes her eyes and leaps into the chasm! Daring Do loses sight of her.

180 DARING DO
PINKIE!

Daring Do steels herself, mustering the strength. A visible change occurs. SHE IS DARING DO, after all!

Daring Do closes her eyes and FALLS INTO THE CHASM!
CLOSE ON Daring Do as she plummets... for about five seconds, then she arches up into the air on a puff of MAGIC SMOKE.

REVEAL below that conical (pyramid-shaped) vents have come up from the green bubbling slime. Daring and Pinkie are being carried across to Rainbow on puffs of magic smoke!

The two ponies make it to the center of the pyramid. They untie RD just in time and float back across the chasm...

CUT TO:

SC. 20 - EXT. ENTRANCE OF THE PYRAMID - CONTINUOUS

Daring Do, Pinkie Pie, and Rainbow Dash burst out into the sunlight. They immediately spot Caballeron and his henchman heading towards town and gallop after them.

CUT TO:

SC. 21 - EXT. VILLAGE OF SOMNAMBULA - CONTINUOUS

Caballeron and crew struggles to escape with the SACK OF PEARLS. Daring Do is hot on their heels, flying.

As the henchmen run, wayward pearls spill out. A few even roll across the ground, right to the villagers' hooves.

181 VILLAGER MARE
They're getting away with our pearls!

182 VILLAGER STALLION
But look! It's Daring Do!

183 DARING DO
You'll never get away with this,
Caballeron!

Everypony watches in awe as Daring Do apprehends the gang with some sweet ACROBATIC MOVES! She finally corners them, action stance.

184 DARING DO (CONT'D)
How about a little pearl of wisdom for
you instead?
 (a beat)
You won't break my spirit! So you
might as well stop trying. I'm *never*
going to give up hope that I can
protect ponies and treasures from
villains like *you*!

As the villagers close in on the group, Caballeron realizes he's doomed. He growls in frustration and takes off with his boys, leaving the pearls behind.

Everypony in the village cheers and surrounds Daring Do. They lift her up, MVP-style. She looks proud and happy.

185 DARING DO (CONT'D)
Okay, okay that's enough!

The ponies put her back down and exit.

As Daring Do brushes herself off, Pinkie and Rainbow trot up. The three of them smile, triumphant.

186 DARING DO (CONT'D)
Thanks for helping me come to my
senses. You two are real pals.

187 RAINBOW DASH
Are you kidding?! It. Was. Awesome!

188 PINKIE PIE
We're just glad you're back to your
old self again!

Daring Do laughs.

189 DARING DO
Me too. I guess I just need to
remember that sometimes, unexpected
things may happen during the
adventure.

190 PINKIE PIE
But that doesn't mean you should let
them destroy your hope or belief in
yourself!

191 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah! All ya gotta do if you mess up
is make it right.

Pinkie winks.

192 PINKIE PIE
You can use that in your next book!

193 DARING DO
(smirking)
You know, I think I will.

Rainbow Dash explodes with joy.

FADE TO:

SC. 22 - Montage - over the next few weeks

-- A delivery pony dragging a NEW APPLE CART with a bow on it
walks up to the villager (from sc. 7) and passes him a SLIP OF
PAPER. On it is DARING DO'S CUTIE MARK. He smiles.

-- A pouch of bits is dropped onto the front counter at the
Get On Inn. Mrs. Trotsworth lifts the tag to reveal DARING
DO'S CUTIE MARK. She looks touched.

-- A sparkling, new statue of the blindfolded Sonambula is
revealed in the village. We see the STORYTELLER PONY cutting
a ribbon in front of it. All the ponies cheer and drape the
statue with
pearls.

The crowd parts and we see A.K. Yearling's satisfied face in
the back. She winks at STORYTELLER PONY who smiles back,
unsure. But then with the blink of an eye, she's gone!

Daring Do is back in action once more!

FADE OUT.

END SHOW.