

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 7

A Health of Information
Ep 718

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A HEALTH OF INFORMATION

Outline by: Whitney Wetta and Sammy Crowley

Lesson: It's wonderful to take care of your friends, but not at the expense of taking care of yourself.

TEASER**Sc. 1 - EXT. BOG – DAY**

A nervous FLUTTERSHY watches as ZECORA precariously holds onto a tree with her tail while leaning over the bog, straining to reach a patch of emerald-green moss. Fluttershy thanks Zecora for helping her retrieve the *crisscross moss*. It's the favorite dish of the oxen who are currently staying at Sweetfeather Sanctuary and Fluttershy ran out yesterday! Fluttershy can't wait to surprise them with it, and it's all thanks to Zecora helping her track it down! Zecora (while straining over the bog) tells her it's no problem, then SPLASH! Zecora loses her grip and falls into the bog. Zecora assures Fluttershy she's okay, but as she starts to make her way out of the bog, a lily pad with a pink flower floats by her, opening its petals. POOF! It showers her with pink dust. The dust fades away revealing Zecora's stripes changed colors. She sneezes then coughs out a bubble. Fluttershy: "Oh dear. I've never seen that before!" Zecora: "A sneeze of that *kind* feels a little less than *fine*." On Fluttershy's horrified expression we...

END TEASER**ACT I****Sc. 2 - INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE – LATER**

DR. HORSE examines Zecora while Fluttershy hovers, concerned. When Zecora coughs out a bubble, he pops it with a cotton swab and puts the cotton swab in a vial, that then turns color. He tests her reflexes and her stripes turn into spots. Dr. Horse looks worried as he jots down notes. He tells Zecora he thinks she's come down with a rare disease that he's only read about in books: Fessissitus. And unfortunately, a cure has never been discovered since so little is known about the disease.

Fluttershy says there has to be something she can do. She can't accept that Zecora is just going to be sick forever because she was nice enough to help Fluttershy out. Zecora says there may be a way, she tells them when she was young, she heard tales about a mysterious masked healer who came to her village and cured anything from the feather flu to fur blight. If anypony knows of a cure, it would have been her. Fluttershy is sure there must be some sort of record of the masked healer. She's determined to find out as much as she can! She promises she won't rest until she finds a cure for Zecora.

Sc. 3 - INT. ZECORA'S HUT – LATER

In the meantime, Fluttershy fusses over making Zecora comfortable. She helps her into bed, fluffs her pillow, makes her tea – all the while quizzing Zecora on anything she remembers about the mysterious healer. But Zecora can only remember that the healer wore a mask. Zecora sighs; maybe it's no use. The healer is nothing more than a legend now. Fluttershy: "*Legend*...that's it! I know who can help us!"

Sc. 4 - EXT. TWILIGHT SPARKLE'S CASTLE – LATER

CUT TO: Fluttershy frantically banging on Twilight's door. TWILIGHT flings it open and Fluttershy blurts out in rapid speed: "Do you know anything about a masked healer?" Fluttershy stares at Twilight, expectantly. Twilight looks at her blankly: "Sorry, Fluttershy. I have no idea what you're talking about."

END ACT I

ACT II

Sc. 5 - INT. TWILIGHT SPARKLE'S CASTLE – LIBRARY – LATER

Fluttershy and Twilight hunt through stacks and stacks of books, looking for anything related to Fessissitus, or masked healers. We see the sun go down and the girls looking more exhausted as they continue to research.

Dissolve to later that night. Fluttershy and Twilight can barely keep their eyes open as they continue to page through books (now holding flashlights in their mouths). Twilight yawns, dropping the flashlight. They really need to go to bed – they've been at this for *hours*. Fluttershy: "You should sleep, Twilight, but I can't. It's all my fault that Zecora's sick and I won't rest until she's healed!" Twilight reluctantly leaves as Fluttershy takes another huge stack of books off a shelf, then buckles underneath its weight.

Sc. 6 - INT. TWILIGHT SPARKLE'S CASTLE – BEDROOM – DAWN

Twilight is sleeping soundly when Fluttershy bursts into her room. Twilight startles awake as Fluttershy (looking more exhausted than ever) blurts that she figured out who the healer was! All she had to do was cross-reference a book about masks with another book on ancient Equestrian healers, then use a third book to translate Pony-Latin, then pinpoint the geographical location where the last known cases of Fessissitus were and voila – she figured it out! The masked pony was... Mage Meadowbrook! Twilight gasps – really? Mage? The legendary healer from Hayseed Swamp? Fluttershy nods. Turns out it was common back then for healers to wear masks so they wouldn't get sick themselves. And in fact, a mask was one of Mage Meadowbrook's eight magical artifacts.

Twilight says she's proud of Fluttershy for using such amazing research skills but now it's definitely time for Fluttershy to rest. But Fluttershy says no - they have to tell Zecora!

Sc. 7 - INT. ZECORA'S HUT - LATER

Twilight and Fluttershy enter Zecora's hut to find her laid up in bed, with worsening symptoms (not only is she coughing bubbles, she's sneezing little electric zaps). Fluttershy tells Zecora that she figured out who her healer was: Mage Meadowbrook! Zecora: "I can't believe it!" Fluttershy gasps. Zecora didn't rhyme! It must mean Zecora's doing worse than they thought. Fluttershy tells Zecora not to worry, she's gonna go to Hayseed Swamp right now and she won't return until she's found a cure! But Zecora looks at Fluttershy and the dark circles under her eyes and tells her that she should get some rest. It's not too bad. Then she sneezes and a little electric zap sings a pillow. Fluttershy: "I'm leaving now!"

Sc. 8 - EXT. EVERFREE FOREST - LATER

As Twilight and Fluttershy leave Zecora's hut, Twilight reminds Fluttershy that Mage Meadowbrook disappeared ages ago. It's not like they'll find her in Hayseed Swamp. True – but, Fluttershy says, she

might be able to find an old spell book of Mage's, or maybe one of her descendants still lives there and knows the cure! Seeing that Fluttershy won't take no for an answer, Twilight says she'll come too. After all, she can't let her exhausted friend make this journey alone.

Sc. 9 - EXT. HAYSEED SWAMP – LATER

Fluttershy and Twilight arrive at the abandoned, eerie, bayou-like town. They walk along empty cobblestone streets searching for “The Crooked Tree,” rumored to be Mage Meadowbrook's former home. As they pass through the ghost-town, they notice strange, voodoo-esque masks in the store windows and hanging from rafters. The girls are a little freaked out, but Fluttershy insists they push on. Eventually, they arrive at the edge of the swamp where they find the Crooked Tree. They circle the tree, but it appears there's no way in. Fluttershy attempts to ram the tree open but just wears herself out even more. Finally, she rests a hoof on the tree while panting and triggers a magical mechanism, which opens a door.

Sc. 10 - INT. CROOKED TREE – CONTINUOUS

Inside, it's very dark, and from what the ponies can make out – it looks as if it's been abandoned for a long time. Old dusty books cover the shelves, dried out spices hang from the ceiling, and a giant cauldron rests in the middle of the room. In a glass case, Fluttershy spots one of the same lily pads that gave Zecora Fessissitus. Angle on Twilight who's staring at a wall of masks, “Well, she certainly liked masks.” Just then, they hear a squeaking sound. They whip around to see a shadowy figure rocking back and forth in a rocking chair. They both scream.

END ACT II

ACT III

Sc. 11 - INT. MAGE MEADOWBROOK'S TREE – MOMENTS LATER

Back on Twilight and Fluttershy, still screaming. The pony steps out of the shadows, “You can stop screaming now,” and juts a hoof from his overalls. He shakes their hooves and introduces himself as DUCKWEED Meadowbrook. Duckweed apologizes for scaring them – he wasn't expecting company. Fluttershy asks Duckweed why he's in Mage Meadowbrook's Crooked Tree. Twilight adds: “...and rocking in the dark.” Duckweed says he's the great-great-grandson of Mage Meadowbrook, and he takes care of this place. Twilight (sotto), “Well, he's obviously not a cleaner...” Fluttershy beams – she can't believe they actually found one of Mage's relatives! She hastily explains that they traveled here from Ponyville searching for a Fessissitus cure. They know that Mage could cure all kinds of diseases, and they're hoping to find a way to cure their friend. Duckweed says they're in luck. He knows that tale of his great-great-grandma and he'd be glad to tell them... as we go into flashback.

Sc. 12 - INT. MAGE MEADOWBROOK'S TREE - FLASHBACK

Duckweed narrates as we see a young Mage Meadowbrook standing beside her mother who brews a bubbling potion in the cauldron. In the BG, we see her healer's mask hanging on the wall. As Mage helps out by adding some duckweed to the brew, her mother tells her she's going to be a great healer some day and gives her a package. Mage smiles as she rips open the package, revealing her very own mask with stripes. Mage clutches it to her chest. She loves it.

Sc. 13 - EXT. CROOKED TREE - FLASHBACK

Duckweed continues: then one day her entire village came down with a mysterious disease they contracted from a poisonous lily pad. They called the strange illness “Fessissitus.” We see a few ponies lined up by the crooked tree, coughing bubbles, and Mage’s mom (wearing her mask) trying to treat them. Duckweed explains that as hard as her mother tried she couldn’t figure out how to cure the disease and then one fateful day, Mage’s mother fell victim to the disease herself.

Sc. 14 - INT. MAGE MEADOWBROOK’S TREE - FLASHBACK

Duckweed says Mage was determined to find a cure. We see Mage tirelessly poring over books and experimenting with a lily pad (in a glass case), searching for the cure...

Sc. 15 - EXT. BAYOU SWAMP - FLASHBACK

One night, hopelessly watching the poisonous lily float in the bayou, she saw flash bees float in and out of the flower really fast. Curious, she raced to follow the bees to their hive. They seemed to be just fine, immune to the lily’s disease! She reasoned if honey from their hive is ingested, it should cure Fessissitus. Mage is elated, but when she tries to get the honey she finds the flash bees are incredibly fast and viciously protective!

Sc. 16 - INT. MAGE MEADOWBROOK’S TREE - BACK TO SCENE

Back on Twilight and Fluttershy on the edge of their seats listening to Duckweed’s tale. Fluttershy: “...so what happened?!” Duckweed grins; he says Mage sung an old cajun-y song and soothed the bees into lettin’ her take the honey. Mage cured the village and her mother. After that, Mage went on to become a legendary healer. She traveled around, helping thousands of ponies – always wearing a mask.

Fluttershy thanks Duckweed for his help! Now, all they have to do is find the beehive and get some of that honey! Then Fluttershy notices Duckweed and Twilight looking at her in shock. Fluttershy: “What? Are my eyes not focusing anymore? I know I’m tired but—“ Twilight cuts her off and makes her look in a mirror. She’s turning a different color. Fluttershy gasps – she’s caught Fessissitus! Twilight begs her to rest before she gets worse but Fluttershy refuses. If Mage pushed on, she can too. Twilight: “I’m sure she rested, it just wasn’t something you include in a legend!” Fluttershy: “You’re not going to change my mind, Twilight!” Twilight tries to reason with Fluttershy or at least get her to eat something. But Fluttershy says there’s no time then pushes them out the door.

Sc. 17 - EXT. BAYOU SWAMP – LATER

A delirious and sick-looking Fluttershy, Twilight and Duckweed hack their way through a swamp looking for the beehive. The trio finally locates the beehive (after Duckweed remembered it was by all the duckweed), way up high in an overgrown twisty blue tree. Fluttershy stares at the massive hive, chagrined: “It just had to be bees.”

Using all the strength she has left, Fluttershy flies up to the hive and weakly attempts to sing Mage’s folk song. But the song comes out horribly – not only is Fluttershy’s voice cracking, but she’s so delirious, the words aren’t even making sense. Before Fluttershy even finishes the song, she faints and falls to the

ground. Twilight makes a diving catch, inches before Fluttershy hits the ground, just as angry flash bees swarm toward them. Twilight uses her magic and teleports the three of them out of there!

Sc. 18 - INT. MAGE’S HUT – LATER

CUT TO: Fluttershy finally coming to. Duckweed and Twilight stand over her. As soon as she can focus, Fluttershy sits up, asking how Zecora is. Twilight says Zecora still has Fessissitus but she’s hanging in there. “It’s you I’m worried about,” says Twilight. Fluttershy has been asleep for three days! Fluttershy is shocked – three days?! She must have really exhausted herself. Fluttershy hangs her head – if she hadn’t run herself down so badly maybe they could have healed Zecora by now. Twilight tells Fluttershy she’s not so sure, she and Duckweed have been trying to get the honey, but nothing has been successful and they’re running out of ideas. Even Twilight’s magic won’t work because the bees are too fast for her to freeze them!

Just then, Fluttershy spots something out of the corner of her eye on a wall of Mage’s hut and gasps. Fluttershy (in giddy disbelief): “I know how she did it... I know how Mage got the honey!” Fluttershy flies out of bed, grabs something from the wall then takes off as Duckweed and Twilight scramble after her.

Sc. 19 - EXT. BAYOU SWAMP – LATER

Fluttershy, Twilight, and Duckweed stand at the base of the beehive as Fluttershy explains her idea. What she realized in Mage’s hut, says Fluttershy, was that Mage didn’t just soothe the bees – she hypnotized them! Fluttershy pulls out Mage’s striped mask (from the flashback) and puts it on. She flies up to the hive and again, tries to sing Mage’s song. The flash bees stop moving and watch the rhythmic bob of the mask as Fluttershy flaps her wings and sings. The bees go into a trance and Fluttershy is able to get some honey, bottling it in one of Mage’s vials. On Twilight and Duckweed who are watching Fluttershy in awe. Twilight turns to Duckweed: “See? That’s why it’s so important to get eight hours of sleep. Great ideas come from rested minds!” Duckweed nods; so true.

Sc. 20 - INT. ZECORA’S HUT – LATER

Fluttershy administers honey to Zecora who instantly starts to look better. Zecora thanks them all for their help and especially Fluttershy for never giving up on her. Fluttershy admits that if she had just taken better care of herself from the beginning, she might have thought to use Mage’s mask sooner. Fluttershy: “But at least I learned something from this: you can’t take good care of your friends if you don’t take care of yourself first.” Just then, a cough bubble floats through the window followed by Dr. Horse’s head. Dr. Horse: “Please tell me you found the cure!” Fluttershy smiles. FADE OUT! THE END.