MY LITTLE PONY
Season 7

Rock Solid Friendship
Ep 704

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Friendship Lesson: Pinkie Pie learns she needs to step back and let her sister's friendship happen naturally, because her idea of friendship isn't necessarily Maud's.

SC. 1 - EXT. EQUESTRIA INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE - DAY

Pan down Gothic UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS to a grassy quad, where a stage has been set up, with an Equestria flag stage left, and the university flag stage right: a shield with a rock. Front and center is a PODIUM, where RUSTY TENURE (Distinguished) is finishing a speech...

1 RUSTY TENURE
Earning a rockterate in rock studies from the Equestrian Institute of Rockology is no easy feat. I am proud of each and every one of you...

He glances over, revealing a wider view of the stage. Only one chair: MAUD PIE (in a black gown and graduation hat).

2 RUSTY TENURE (CONT'D)
Er--each of, no--just you, actually.

Below, the "audience" consists of a massive grassy area, empty except for the PIE FAMILY standing up front.

3 PINKIE PIE
Go Maud! Woo-hoo! NUMBER ONE!

4 RUSTY TENURE
Fillies and Gentlecolts...
(squinting, mumbling)
And is that Magnesium-rich Basalt...?

REVEAL: BOULDER, in his own tiny chair next to the Pie family. Deadpan, Maud gives a wave. Boulder... does nothing.

5 RUSTY TENURE (CONT'D)
...it is my honor to present our vale-rock-torian, Maud Pi-- excuse me. "Doctor Pie."

ON LIMESTONE AND MARBLE PIE, smiling. Pinkie pops up on either side as she blurts:

6 PINKIE PIE
Doctor Pie! DOCTOR PIE!!!
(suddenly unsure)
<u>Rock-</u>ter Pie?!

PA PIE puts a hoof around MA PIE. She sheds a tear of pride.

ON STAGE: Maud adjusts the microphone with a burst of <FEEDBACK> that makes everypony else wince, organizes a stack of note cards, clears her throat, and...

7 MAUD PIE (INTO MICROPHONE)
.....I'm Maud.

8 PINKIE PIE
(bursting into <APPLAUSE>)
YEAH YOU ARE! BRILLIANT SPEECH!
ENCORE! ENCORE!

9 MAUD PIE
--There's more, Pinkie.

Pinkie Pie freezes mid-HAPPY CHEER.

10 MAUD PIE (CONT'D)
.....I'm Maud...
(flips to next card)
...Pie, thank you.

As Maud steps back to receive a ROCK SLAB DIPLOMA...

11 PINKIE PIE
(UN-FREEZING, <APPLAUSE>)
YOU ARE <u>SO</u> WELCOME! BRILLIANT
SPEECH! ENCORE! ENCORE!

END TEASER.

MAIN TITLES.

<u>ACT ONE</u>

SC. 2 - EXT. EQUESTRIA - DAY

Through rolling green hills chugs the FRIENDSHIP EXPRESS. Softly at first, we hear Pinkie Pie as the train gets closer:

12 PINKIE PIE (O.S.)
AHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH...

SC. 3 - INT. FRIENDSHIP EXPRESS - DAY

From the back row to the front, TRAIN RIDERS are craning their necks or annoyed because up front, Pinkie Pie is FREAKING OUT next to Maud, who watches stoically.

13 PINKIE PIE
(continued)
....HHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!!!
You're moving to Ponyville! We'll live together and get bunk beds and I'll make us fuzzy slippers that say "Best Sister Friends Forever," although I probably can't fit all those words on a slipper so maybe just "B.S.F.F." but we don't have to decide right now because we'll be together all the time since when it comes to Ponyville, THE DOCTOR IS IN!!!

14 MAUD PIE
Slow down, Pinkie Pie.

15 PINKIE PIE
(acting slow-motion)
Youuuuu'rrreee moooooovingg to Ponnnyyyyyvillleeeeeee!

16 MAUD PIE
I'm not <u>definitely</u> moving to Ponyville.

17 PINKIE PIE
Of course you are, silly. You said--
(deadpan Maud impression)
"There's nothing left to study back home on the rock farm, so I might move to Ponyville."

18 MAUD PIE
I'm also considering Ghastly Gorge.

19 PINKIE PIE
Hahahahaha <u>classic</u> Maud sense of humor. You should do stand-up!

20 MAUD PIE
I do, but that wasn't a joke.

21 PINKIE PIE
GHASTLY GORGE?! That terrible awful no-fun all-alone canyon in the middle of nowhere?!

22 MAUD PIE
There, or Ponyville.

23 PINKIE PIE
But Ponyville is so “eeeee!”

She holds her cheeks up to make the happiest face ever...

24 PINKIE PIE (CONT’D)
And Ghastly Gorge is so...
“Urghhh.”

She squashes her cheeks downward to be super sad.

25 MAUD PIE
It’s a rock-based decision.

26 PINKIE PIE
But what about *B.S.F.F.’s?*

27 MAUD PIE
That’s why I’m giving Ponyville a chance.

Inspiration and defiance come to Pinkie Pie...

28 PINKIE PIE
So all I have to do is prove Ponyville has better rocks than Ghastly Gorge? Challenge accepted. We’ll drop your stuff at my place, and then hold onto your world, cause it’s about. To. Get. ROCKED!

SO INTENSE, Pinkie is NOSE TO NOSE with Maud.

29 MAUD PIE
.....okay.

SC. 4 - INT. GEM CAVE - DAY

Pinkie leads Maud into the mouth of the cave.

30 PINKIE PIE
Ghastly Gorge may have “rocks,” but our Gem Cave ROCKS!

Maud looks around. Glittering gems sparkle on the walls and floor. <ANGELIC HARP SOUNDS>. REVEAL Pinkie Pie playing harp.

31 PINKIE PIE (CONT’D)
Ahhhhh? Ahhhhhhhhh? OH! And look, you never know who you’ll see!

Approaching: RARITY (happy) and SPIKE (eyeing gems, hungry).

32 RARITY
Maud, darling, it's lovely to see you again. Congratulations on your rockterate. What are you doing now?

33 MAUD PIE
Talking to you.

34 RARITY
...Ah, right. Well, if your trained eye happens to see a chartreuse gem, I'm desperate to find one.

35 MAUD PIE
I found one.

Maud holds up a chartreuse gem.

36 RARITY
Oh you're an absolute darling! This will surely make my gown stand out at Countess Coloratura's album release party. Do you know how rare this is?

37 PINKIE PIE
(popping up by Maud)
Just another day in Ponyville!

38 MAUD PIE
That's actually a really common gem.

Pinkie Pie, Rarity, and Spike simultaneously cock their heads: "huh?" Without looking back, Maud kicks the wall behind her and several identical chartreuse gems fall.

39 MAUD PIE (CONT'D)
(looking around the cave)
These are all really common gems.

40 PINKIE PIE
They are?!
(covering panic)
I mean, come ON-- <u>of course</u> they are. That's why I <u>didn't</u> bring you here to <u>impress</u> you. I wanted to make sure you had a chance to... say hello to your ol' pal... Spike.

Spike is so surprised to be mentioned, he coughs up a gem. Pinkie glances back and forth at them. Maud stares.

41 MAUD PIE
.....Hello, Spike.

Pinkie instantly jumps in--

42 PINKIE PIE
Way to go, Maud-- cross that off the to-do list, you know what I'm sayin'? "Say hello to Spike," check. Now let's get moving cause I'm about to show you something that'll make you yell: "ALLRIGHTTT!!!"

43 MAUD PIE
(like: "okay, sure")
.....allright.

44 PINKIE PIE
See?!

SC. 6 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - DAY

Pinkie Pie escorts Maud, her hooves over Maud's eyes.

45 PINKIE PIE
Ta-da! It's a castle... <u>MADE OF ROCKS</u>!! Whaaaat? Did I just blow your mind? I think I blew your mind.

46 MAUD PIE
A lot of structures are made from rocks, Pinkie. They're a very stable building material.

Really selling it, PP does an interpretive dance (burying herself in the ground, bursting up like a rainbow, etc)...

47 PINKIE PIE
But this place grew out of nowhere after a magical key-filled gem followed a rainbow and buried itself in the ground! I mean HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ROCKS LIKE THIS?

Contorted into an upside-down position gesturing around her, Pinkie Pie has a frantic hopeful face, eye to eye with Maud.

48 MAUD PIE
...Yes.

49 PINKIE PIE
NO YOU HAVEN'T!!!

50 MAUD PIE
We literally just saw hundreds of them in the gem cave.

Growing desperation washes over PP, who searches everywhere--

51 PINKIE PIE
But-- but-- OH LOOK AT THOSE ROCKS!

Pinkie Pie points off-screen. Maud looks.

52 MAUD PIE
...Those are sting-bush seed pods.

Pinkie grabs a SPIKY BROWN BALL, then she immediately tosses it, shaking her hoof out. *

53 PINKIE PIE
So they are. But...

Pinkie ZIPS all over the place, looking everywhere until--

54 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
LOOK AT THAT ROCK! It's even got four smaller rocks around it like legs!

55 MAUD PIE
That's a turtle.

ANGLE ON: "the rock," as a head pops out.

56 PINKIE PIE
WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON, TANK!?
(panic level: 9000)
WAIT A MINUTE! WHAT'S THAT? It's a rock shaped like Lyra Heartstrings!

Across the way, LYRA HEARTSTRINGS freezes mid-step, spooked. Pinkie gives her a <SHHHHH> gesture and an INTENSE "DO-NOT-DISOBEY" glare. Lyra stands still-as-a-statue as PP shows her off like a game show prize. Maud inspects her, making Lyra shake nervously.

57 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
TOTAL ROCK!

Startled, Lyra GALLOPS AWAY in terror. Without looking back to watch her go, Pinkie Pie crumples to the ground as the <GALLOPING SOUND> fades to silence. Maud stares.

58 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
I guess you won't be moving to Ponyville after all...
(MORE)

PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Those rocks at Ghastly Gorge don't know how lucky they are to have you.

59 MAUD PIE
(helping Pinkie up...)
Actually... rocks aren't the only reason I'm considering Ponyville.

60 PINKIE PIE
You said it's a rock-based decision.

61 MAUD PIE
I'm obviously passionate about exotic rocks. But I've always studied them... alone.

Pinkie Pie wipes her tears, intrigued and curious now...

62 MAUD PIE (CONT'D)
I could handle some less exciting rocks if it meant I'd have somepony to talk to besides Boulder.

63 PINKIE PIE
Are you saying you want... A FRIEND?!

64 MAUD PIE
(soft)
...I wouldn't mind one.

65 PINKIE PIE
<GASP>!!!! *Maudileena Daisy Pie*, this'll be easy! What are you looking for in a friend? Gimme six qualities assigning each one a numerical importance rating between one and seven, seven being essential and one being "mehhhhhh?"

66 MAUD PIE
It isn't hard to meet somepony I like. It's finding somepony who <u>gets</u> me.

67 PINKIE PIE
I get you.

68 MAUD PIE
You're my sister. It's different.

69 PINKIE PIE
Maud. You are THE BEST. You never know when the lightning of friendship will strike! I mean somepony could come barrelling through that door at this very moment and become your best friend!

They look at the closed castle door. It remains closed. Pinkie frowns.

70 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
You know I really thought somepony was going to come barrelling through that--

BOOM! The door opens and STARLIGHT GLIMMER COMES BARRELLING OUT, running straight into Maud, knocking her over. Books spill out everywhere from Starlight's saddlebags.

71 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
My fault--totally my fault. Are you okay? I should have been watching where I was going.
(noticing)
You look really familiar... have we met before?

72 MAUD PIE
Yes.

73 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
I knew it--!

74 PINKIE PIE
--WHAT--?!

75 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
--Don't tell me, ummmmmmmm...

Maud waits. In the BG, Pinkie is quietly bursting with excitement like a tea kettle.

76 STARLIGHT GLIMMER (CONT'D)
Yeah, see I was really hoping you'd tell me while I pretended to remember.

77 PINKIE PIE
How is this POSSIBLE?! AHH!

78 MAUD PIE
I travelled Equestria for my rockterate dissertation...

FLASHBACK TO:

SC.7 - EXT. STARLIGHT'S VILLAGE - FLASHBACK

CLOSE ON: a pick chipping at a rock. It's Maud hard at work. Slowly, Starlight Glimmer peeks over her shoulder.

79 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Do you know a lot about rocks?

80 MAUD PIE
(without looking up)
...Yes.

Starlight glances to... HER VILLAGE. Background Ponies walk the streets. They all have normal cutie marks.

81 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
(furtive)
...Have you ever come across some kind of super-powerful stone that can store the cutie-mark magic of-- I don't know-- an entire village?

Maud doesn't even look up.

82 MAUD PIE
Yup. In the big cave.

Starlight's eyes go WIDE.

BACK TO PRESENT:

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

Pinkie Pie is frozen, mouth agape. Maybe the sound of her brain <SHORT CIRCUITING>, and then suddenly she forces <LAUGHTER> wayyyyyy too loud and puts her arm around Maud.

83 PINKIE PIE
Hey I got an idea-- let's not tell anypony that part where you maybe for sure accidentally helped Starlight enslave a town. Hahahaha!
(so intense)
Tell. No. Pony.

Maud stares blankly at Pinkie's INTENSE face.

84 MAUD PIE
It’s not like she’s enslaved anypony lately.

Pinkie looks horrified but Starlight <CHUCKLES>, before seeing her mess of books...

85 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Well, great seeing you again. I gotta run a few errands...

Starlight gives a theatrical sigh and repacks the last book into her saddlebag. Pinkie slides right next to Maud:

86 PINKIE PIE
(barely understandable)
[Offer to help.]

87 MAUD PIE
What?

88 PINKIE PIE
OFFER TO HELP!

89 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
You want to help...?

90 MAUD PIE
...do I?

Pinkie is beside herself.

91 PINKIE PIE
Of course you do! Go!

92 MAUD PIE
Okay.

She and Starlight walk off together. Pinkie Pie watches them, her face beaming with pride.

93 PINKIE PIE
They’re totally gonna be best friends and then Maud will choose Ponyville and we’ll get to wear B.S.F.F. Slippers!

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 9 - EXT. PONYVILLE MARKET - DAY

We find Starlight and Maud walking through the market. Starlight's got a bag of blue fabric, a bag of sticks and a bunch of string.

94 MAUD PIE
...Rocks take on different properties when interacting with magic. With the right stone, you could rule all of Equestria if you wanted to.

Starlight stares horrified at Maud, but then her eyes narrow.

95 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
...You're messing with me.

96 MAUD PIE
Am I...?

Maud is completely serious. Starlight gets serious too... until Maud's serious face makes SG crack up <LAUGHING>. After a beat, Maud gives a small smile.

97 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
So, other than rocks, what else are you into?

98 MAUD PIE
Minerals, plate tectonics, oh and stand-up comedy of course.

99 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
I like kites.

Starlight gives a worried glance to see how that admission lands. Maud doesn't react.

100 MAUD PIE
(deadpan)
Kites are cool.

Starlight looks relieved. They walk in comfortable silence. ANGLE ON: Pinkie Pie at another booth. She sees they're not talking and a worried expression crosses her face.

SC. 10 - EXT. PONYVILLE SQUARE - DAY

ANGLE ON THE SKY: two pieces of wood magically join to form a cross, then blue fabric levitates and attaches itself. Below, Maud watches as Starlight uses magic and explains:

101 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
The trick with an SLK is not to make the spars too heavy, but if they're too light you got no ballast and then good luck tacking against the AoI.

Maud stares.

102 STARLIGHT GLIMMER (CONT'D)
(soft but giddy)
I really like kites.

103 MAUD PIE
They're starting to grow on me.

104 PINKIE PIE (O.S.)
Hello?!

They turn, seeing Pinkie Pie in a PIZZA DELIVERY UNIFORM.

105 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Pizza delivery! Maud and Starlight, you're here too? WHOA what a coincidence, cause I was just delivering this pizza to, um... you!

She passes a pizza box to DERPY, who shrugs and eats a slice.

106 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Soooooo howwwwwww's it goooooooing?

Pinkie cranes her neck as Starlight hides the kites.

107 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Just hangin' out--

108 PINKIE PIE
Hey, you could use this time to bond and talk about feelings! For example: do you "feel" like you're becoming friends?

Maud and Starlight exchange a look.

109 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Hm. I "feel"... like I don't want to talk about feelings?

110 PINKIE PIE
Great, I'll go next. I feel like I love that you two are becoming best friends!

Maud gives Starlight a “let’s go” look.

111 PINKIE PIE (CONT’D)
I mean your friendship could be the friendship that makes Maud move to Ponyville! No pressure, Starlight!

But then Pinkie Pie looks around-- the girls are gone! Pinkie gallops off, shouting and searching.

112 PINKIE PIE (CONT’D)
Hello? Where’d you two go? Wait up!

SC. 11 - EXT. GEM CAVE - LATER

Along the forest path, Maud leads Starlight toward the cave that Pinkie took Maud earlier.

113 MAUD PIE
Sorry about my sister. There’s no half-excited with her.

114 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Oh I know. But she always calms down eventually. *

They share a look. Starlight <LAUGHS> and Maud <MILDLY CHUCKLES> as they enter the GEM CAVE.

SC. 12 - INT. GEM CAVE - LATER

Gems sparkle all around them.

115 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Why do you find rocks so fascinating?

116 MAUD PIE
Each one has a different story to tell. Like Boulder here...

Maud holds up Boulder. She indicates a thin striation.

117 MAUD PIE (CONT’D)
This tells me he’s over two thousand years old.
(to Boulder)
You don’t look a day over six hundred.

118 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Wow. You can tell that from a line?

119 MAUD PIE
I didn't get a rocktorate because I can shred on guitar like nopony else.

Starlight <LAUGHS>. Then:

120 MAUD PIE (CONT'D)
(softer, remembering...)
Another reason I like rocks... they don't exclude you if you're... different than other ponies.

Starlight understands what she means. She considers a gem up close, her face reflected in every side.

121 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
They're beautiful and strong, but they don't judge you or make you feel "less than" in any way. I think I'm starting to like rocks too.

Maud's expression changes 10 degrees toward happiness. Starlight idly knocks on a particularly nice wall of granite.

122 STARLIGHT GLIMMER (CONT'D)
It's hollow?

123 MAUD PIE
It's granite. Hollow granite is highly unusual...

Starlight uses magic and breaks through the wall, REVEALING:

SC. 13 - INT. MASSIVE UNDERGROUND LAKE - SAME

A huge cavern with an underground lake, a lost world with a waterfall and greenery everywhere. Maud's jaw actually drops.

124 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Wowwwwww. Have you ever seen anything like this?

Sunlight strikes the waterfall just right, creating a shimmering rainbow. Gems glisten in the cavern walls.

125 MAUD PIE
No. And that's unusual... for me.

Their shared awe is SHATTERED when PP pops up between them.

126 PINKIE PIE
There you are! I thought you went your separate ways but you can't imagine how happy I am to find you both together and to witness one of your firsts as friends!

Pinkie snaps a photo.

127 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Your first time discovering an underground cavern together! I can't wait til you're old and eating pistachios together telling your grandfoals about this.

Maud and Starlight look at her like "Yeah, not gonna happen." PUSH IN ON PINKIE'S THOUGHTS: There are many Pinkies bouncing on her brain like it's a bounce house.

128 PINKIES
Oh no!/ They're not bonding!/ They're not having as much fun as we are and we're not real!/ But this situation is!/ We have to do something! / I GOT AN IDEA!

The Pinkies disappear, leaving only the REAL PINKIE, who purposefully walks back into the passageway and--

129 PINKIE PIE
(over-the-top)
Whoaaaa! I'm tripping on a rock at this very moment! And now I'm falling dowwwwwwwwwn! Uh-oh!

She does a really theatrical trip, purposefully kicking a rock and causing a small CAVE-IN that blocks the way out.

130 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
(terrible over-acting)
Oh no! My accidental clumsiness has trapped us here, where you'll be forced to bond until we're rescued.

Maud sighs.

131 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Oh we don't have to wait for that! There's got to be a spell that--

Maud steps under a particularly beige part of the ceiling.

132 MAUD PIE
Get us out of here, boy!

Maud reveals Boulder. She WINGS him HARD at the center of the BEIGE STONE. A SPIDERWEB CRACK forms and the cave RUMBLES.

SC. 14 - EXT. FOREST PATH - MOMENTS LATER

Among the grass and rocks, a SANDY PATCH suddenly IMPLODES. When the dust settles, Maud climbs out. Starlight follows.

133 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Boulder! That... was... AWESOME.

134 MAUD PIE
No, <u>that</u> was sandstone.

135 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
(re: the sinkhole)
More sand than stone, apparently.

Suddenly, bells are put around their necks like they're cattle. They're confused.

136 PINKIE PIE
I'm thinking you wear these around your necks at all times so I don't lose you again, you sillies! That way I can track your progress as friends! Ooh, and tomorrow we have could have a FRIENDSHIP BRUNCH! What's your favorite kind of omlette-cupcake?

Maud closes her eyes, frustrated. When she opens then, PP is right there, SO EXCITED!

137 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
(excited whisper)
Mine's jalapeño-red velvet!

138 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Yeah, um...I don't know if I can make it.

139 PINKIE PIE
You'll change your minds when you smell the yummy food. Come on!

Pinkie sproings away. Starlight and Maud follow, bells ringing like cows. Starlight magically RIPS THEM OFF and chucks them into the bushes.

140 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
"Oops."

Maud cracks a smile.

SC. 15 - INT. SUGARCUBE CORNER - PINKIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Maud gets into bed while Pinkie Pie zips around her bedroom.

141 PINKIE PIE
Tomorrow's brunch is gonna be the scrunchiest, brunchiest brunch ever!

142 MAUD PIE
Yeah. About that...

143 PINKIE PIE
The problem is, while you two were alone, I couldn't get data points on your friendship probabilities: were you making Starlight smile? How was Starlight's smile to frown ratio? Anything over five to one is GREAT! Oh and how many times did YOU smile like this?

Pinkie Pie smiles with a HUGE GRIN bordering on creepy.

144 MAUD PIE
...Zero times.

145 PINKIE PIE
Oh Maud, don't be so hard on yourself. You've got the best friendship maker in Ponyville on the case. I'll be by your side the whole time. Speaking of which, your bells fell off, silly!

Pinkie holds up the bell and tries to put it around Maud's neck. Maud inspects the bell PP just gave her.

146 MAUD PIE
Pinkie Pie, I appreciate what you're trying to do, but...

147 PINKIE PIE
(happy)
Butttttttttttttttttt...?

Pinkie waits, so happy and expectant. Maud stares.

148 MAUD PIE
...Nevermind.

Pinkie and Maud get in bed together and cozy up under covers, which should be the cutest thing in the world.

149 PINKIE PIE
Don't worry, Maud. When you see this brunch, you'll realize everything's gonna be okay.

Maud looks more and more disturbed as Pinkie continues:

150 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
And then I have amazing bonding activities planned for the next seventeen days!
(off Maud's stare)
You and Starlight will be besties in no time!

We can see it in Maud's eyes: she's considering telling PP something important, but then...

151 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Goodnight!

PP instantly zonks out <SNORING>.

PUSH IN on Maud, awake. Looking at PP fondly. Thinking...

SC.16 - EXT. SUGARCUBE CORNER - PINKIE'S HOUSE - MORNING

The sun comes up.

SC.17 - INT. SUGARCUBE CORNER - PINKIE'S HOUSE - THE NEXT DAY

Pinkie Pie wakes up in a flash!

152 PINKIE PIE
Friendship brunch! Maud--!

Pinkie whips of the covers, revealing not Maud, but the bell sitting on the bed, next to a note, which we hear in V.O.:

153 MAUD PIE (V.O.)
Pinkie Pie. Thank you for trying so hard to help me make friends. But my decision has to be rock-based.
(MORE)

MAUD PIE (V.O.) (CONT'D)
And Ghastly Gorge has such great rocks, I won't even have time for friends. It's better this way. Sorry it didn't work out. Maud.

154 PINKIE PIE
Maud, wait...!

Pinkie Pie goes galloping for the stairs. She gets downstairs and comes face to face with Maud but it's only a balloon in the shape of Maud's face. It's next to a balloon of Starlight's face. It pops. On PP's saddest face:

155 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
...Maud...

END OF ACT TWO

<u>ACT THREE</u>

SC.18 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - STARLIGHT'S ROOM - MORNING

Starlight snoozes peacefully. Pinkie Pie bursts in.

156 PINKIE PIE
STARLIGHT, WAKE UP!!!

Starlight pulls the blankets over her head.

157 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
If this is about brunch, I uhh...
(about to make something up, then)
Jalapeno red velvet omelettes sound gross, I just can't.

158 PINKIE PIE
Maud left in the middle of the night!

Starlight sits up.

159 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
(hiding her hurt)
I guess Ghastly Gorge really does have the best rocks.

Pinkie Pie droops until her body is flat on the floor.

160 PINKIE PIE
Why couldn't you two just be friends?

161 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Pinkie Pie... I like Maud.

162 PINKIE PIE
You do...?

Pinkie Pie, still upset and teary eyed, sits up.

163 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Yeah, she's weird.

164 PINKIE PIE
Hey!

165 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
No, in a good way. She sees the world in a totally different way than anypony I've ever met. She accepts me for who I am, she taught me that a rock is never just a rock, and she can make anything funny! And we never had to say it but... we got each other.

166 PINKIE PIE
You really were becoming friends?

167 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
I think so, but you kinda, sorta... (has trouble saying it) ...got in the way...

168 PINKIE PIE
<GASSSSSSSP>!????

169 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
You're right-- too harsh. Let's go with: "You ruined everything all the time?"
(off PP's SADDEST EYES...)
Ngh... that's worse. What I'm trying to say is...

170 PINKIE PIE
I-have-to-go!

Pinkie takes off like a shot. Starlight feels awful.

171 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
(to the empty door)
Ta-da. Friendship lesson... learned?

SC. 19 - EXT. GHASTLY GORGE - DAY

High above the gorge, a crack in the ground, enormous.

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 20 - EXT. TRAIL DOWN THE GORGE - DAY

Getting darker as we descend. From somewhere, we hear the <TINK-TINK-TINK> of a pick-ax.

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 21 - EXT. CANYON BASE - DAY

Shaded from the sun, the base of the gorge is dotted with rocks and crags. The <TINK-TINK-TINK> is louder...

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 22 - EXT. WINDY TUNNEL - DAY

In a windy tunnel cavern, we find Maud chipping away at a rock, fighting off the wind, DEEP in the gorge.

The wind stops. Maud takes a moment to consider her empty surroundings. She sighs.

Then suddenly a gust of wind blows away one of her samples. The small red rock tumbles along the gorge base.

Maud follows it... head down, tracking its trail in the dirt. She passes large holes in the gorge walls. Scary YELLOW EYES open inside each one as she passes, but she doesn’t notice.

Head down, she walks right up to one of the dark holes.

She leans right down to the dirt, where there’s an odd-shaped orange rock with green stripes.

172 MAUD PIE
Emerald-Jasper. This must be my lucky day.

Above Maud, YELLOW EYES emerge from the shadows, revealing a QUARRAY EEL-- unnoticed by Maud, AND WE CUT TO:

SC. 23 - EXT. GHASTLY GORGE - TRAIN STATION - LATER

The dilapidated train station couldn’t possibly be in service, until A TRAIN steams to a halt.

The doors open, revealing Pinkie Pie. She takes a determined step out of the train car. Immediately the doors SLAM closed, startling her, as the train ZOOMS away as fast as it can.

Pinkie, alone now, looks around. A murder of crows flutters out of the abandoned station, <CAWING> spookily.

173 PINKIE PIE
See ya later, spooky birds!

SC. 24 - EXT. GHASTLY GORGE - MOMENTS LATER

Pinkie walks to the ledge.

174 PINKIE PIE
(a la 207)
It's Ghastly Gorge! Dun dun dun!

Pinkie heads down the trail.

SC. 25 - EXT. GHASTLY GORGE - THE NARROWS - LATER

Pinkie Pie passes the yellow-eyed eel caves, not noticing them, enduring a gust of wind.

175 PINKIE PIE
Maud tracks!

She follows the trail, her nose in the dirt like a bloodhound, until she BUMPS into something. She looks up, revealing... a QUARRAY EEL, gigantic and scary. It growls.

176 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Excuse me, Mr. Quarray Eel. My sister's trail leads right into your mouth, so if you don't mind...

Pinkie pries open its jaws. In its mouth, Maud is standing there completely unharmed and unfazed. She holds up the rock.

177 MAUD PIE
Hello Pinkie Pie. I found Emerald-Jasper.

178 PINKIE PIE
AHHHH!

Pinkie Pie cartoonishly jumps on the eel who spits Maud out. Maud is completely nonplussed.

179 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Oh my gosh are you okay Maud? That eel almost ate you!

Maud, covered in slime, stares at Pinky.

180 MAUD PIE
What eel?

THE EEL ROARS!

181 PINKIE PIE
We gotta get out of here!

It snaps its jaws just as PP shoves Maud out of the way. They gallop back toward the main trail. As Maud and PP pass each cave, eels SNAP out like whack-a-moles.

182 MAUD PIE
You didn't need to come. I'm having a great time on my own. I even made a new friend.

183 PINKIE PIE
It is a rock?

184 MAUD PIE
.....yes.

AN EEL ROARS as it lunges for them, teeth out-- when suddenly... WIND BURST! Maud and Pinkie are blown backwards. They cling to a boulders.

185 MAUD PIE (CONT'D)
I don't belong in Ponyville. It only proved I'm better off all by myself, like I always have been.

186 PINKIE PIE
(shouting over wind)
DON'T SAY THAT! It was all my fault! I-- LOG!!

They duck a giant LOG caught in the breeze. Debris and branches cartoonishly smack PP in the face throughout this:

187 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
I thought I knew everything about making friends <OW>! But I didn't even know my own sister. <OOMPH>! I forced you to do things my way, but my way isn't your way. <OW>!

188 MAUD PIE
This way.

189 PINKIE PIE
Exactly.

190 MAUD PIE
(indicating over there)
No, <u>this</u> way.

Maud pulls herself behind a giant rock and the wind stops. OUT IN THE GORGE NARROWS, the eels see no sign of the girls and slither back into their holes. Behind the rock, Pinkie Pie and Maud catch their breath.

191 PINKIE PIE
Maud... I thought you couldn't make a friend without my help. But it turns out, you couldn't make a friend <u>with</u> my help. I underestimated you, and I'm sorry.

Pinkie's eyes well up with tears. Maud wipes one away.

192 MAUD PIE
I know you did it out of love. You're my Best Sister Friend Forever.

193 PINKIE PIE
<SOBBING>! OH MAUD, I LOVE YOU BIGGER THAN ALL EQUESTRIA!

Pinkie throws her arms around Maud.

194 MAUD PIE
And you melt my heart more easily than a sodium-rich plagioclase feldspar.

195 PINKIE PIE
I don't know what that means, but please-please-PLEASE give Ponyville another chance. But more importantly, give <u>me</u> another chance... to leave you alone.

Maud thinks it over and we CUT TO:

SC. 26 - EXT. GRASSY FIELD - DAY

BLUE SKY. A kite enters frame. Starlight is flying it, alone.

ANGLE BACK ON THE SKY, where we watch her kite ripple in the wind. Clouds drift behind it.

And then ever so slowly, another kite enters frame and joins it. The two kites soar together on the same breeze, dancing in the wind like we're in a Miyazaki film. On the ground, Starlight looks over to see Maud.

196 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
You're back!

Maud nods.

197 STARLIGHT GLIMMER (CONT'D)
For good...?

Maud nods. Starlight smiles. Then...

198 MAUD PIE
...this doesn't mean we need to start talking about feelings, does it?

199 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
No way.

They smile. A pleasant moment of kite-flying, then...

200 MAUD PIE
Maybe after this we could decorate my new place.

201 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
Totally. Where is it?!

202 MAUD PIE
Well, it's not in Ponyville...

Starlight's face falls, but Maud's got a surprise. CUT TO:

SC. 27 - INT. MASSIVE UNDERGROUND LAKE - LATER

The huge cavern with the underground lake has been strung with colored lanterns. Couches and a bed sit in the corner. [NOTE: Maud is now wearing slippers.]

203 MAUD PIE
...more like Ponyville adjacent.

204 STARLIGHT GLIMMER
It's perfect.

Pinkie Pie pops up between them, arms around them, SQUEALING!

205 PINKIE PIE
YES! MY SISTER'S TOTALLY STAYING IN PONYVILLE! I MEAN PONYVILLE ADJACENT!!!

Starlight glares. Maud... "glares" aka stares.

207 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Sorry, sorry, I'm leaving. I promise. I'm not even here. (then, pointing) EEE, you're wearing the slippers! Okay, now I'm really leaving. Bye!

IRIS OUT.