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MY LITTLE PONY
Season 8

School Daze Part II
Ep 802

Teleplay 2nd Draft

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TEASER

REUSE FOOTAGE TO RECAP PART ONE, EPISODE 801:

--The Map has gotten bigger!

--Twilight Sparkle is opening a Friendship School and gets EEA accreditation, as Neighsay puts it: "To protect Equestria."

--Twilight is strict with the Mane 5 about sticking to her school rules.

--The new students, a Hippogriff (Silverstar), a Changeling (Gossamer), a Dragon (Blaze), a Yak (Yana), and a Griffin (Gallus) aren't having fun in class - neither are their teachers (the Mane 5).

--The EEA unicorn Neighsay shows up to check on the school. Twilight can't find the students!

--The students are having fun together, which ramps up into a disaster that's witnessed by the EEA Pony, Celestia, and the visiting Delegates!

--The EEA Pony closes the school! Twilight is crushed.

*

END TEASER**MAIN TITLES****ACT ONE****SC.1 INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - BEDROOM - DAY**

The windows are covered and the room is dark. Strains of <EMO MUSIC> play from somewhere. Twilight is half-buried in a Pony-sized mound of pillows.

SPIKE opens the door, letting in a ray of light.

1 SPIKE
Twilight? You feeling okay?

*

No answer. Spike turns off the <BUMMER MUSIC>, moves to the pile of pillows and lifts one, revealing TWILIGHT SPARKLE. There are bags under her eyes; she's over-the-top depressed.

*

2 TWILIGHT
MMMMMPHHHH!

Twilight pulls the pillow back over her head. Spike leans against the pillow pile, gets comfy.

*

3 SPIKE
Look on the bright side. Sure the
EEA closed your Friendship School,
but now you've got time to do other
stuff! It's like being on vacation!

*
*

Twilight bursts out of the pillows, accidentally knocking
Spike over in the process. A hysterical build:

4 TWILIGHT
A failure vacation! I'm supposed
to be the Princess of Friendship.
And all I did was make enemies with
Equestria's allies, upset my
friends, and get my school--
(shudder, eye twitch)
--unaccredited! THERE IS NO BRIGHT
SIDE!

She falls dramatically back into the pillow pile.

5 SPIKE
Okay then. I'm gonna need backup.
(calls to door)
Operation Cheer Up is a go!

A ZOOM of color as RAINBOW DASH flies in, opening the drapes
on all the windows as she whirls around the room.

*
*

6 RAINBOW DASH
C'mon, Twilight! You can't sit
around in the boring dark all day!

*
*
*

APPLEJACK and FLUTTERSHY enter. Applejack has a jug of cider
in a saddlebag. ANGEL BUNNY follows Fluttershy.

7 APPLEJACK
Exactly. What you need is a double
dose of Granny Smith's cure-all
"pick me up" cider.

*
*

Applejack sets the cider down next to Twilight, who doesn't
look convinced. Fluttershy steps timidly forward--

8 FLUTTERSHY
Whenever I'm sad, a hug from Angel
Bunny always makes me feel better.

Angel shoots her a "seriously?" look. Fluttershy gestures,
"go on". Angel rolls his eyes and hops over to Twilight.
Hugs her. Instantly gets incredibly depressed. He slumps.

Alarmed, Fluttershy puts a hoof around him, pulling him back.

9 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
Maybe it's just me.

RARITY has just entered, floating a FANCY DRESS with her. *
PINKIE PIE <BOINGS> in behind her with a TRAY OF CUPCAKES. *

10 RARITY
Well I find that nothing brightens *
my mood like a new ensemblé!

She floats the pillow off Twilight and magics the dress onto her. Twilight looks down at herself, sighs:

11 TWILIGHT
Thanks, Rarity. It's a great
dress... <SOBS> For someone who
knows how to run a school.

Twilight magics the dress off herself, downcast. PINKIE PIE *
zips over to Spike and STAGE WHISPERS: *

12 PINKIE PIE
You didn't tell me this was a pity
party! I woulda brought ice cream!

Twilight addresses her worried friends--

13 TWILIGHT
I appreciate you trying to make me
feel better. But not everything can
be fixed with dresses and cupcakes.

Rarity and Pinkie Pie share a <GASP> of disbelief.

14 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
I just need some time to be alone
and think.

Twilight walks out of the room, leaving her concerned friends behind. But Spike shrugs, cheerful--

15 SPIKE
Hey, at least we got her out of the
pillows!

SC.2 EXT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - DAY, SOON

ON the magical EEA seal that blocks the entrance to the Friendship School. Twilight looks at it and <SIGHS>.

16 STARLIGHT (PARTIAL OS)
I wondered how long 'til you got
tired of the pillow fort of pity.

*

REVEAL : STARLIGHT GLIMMER walks up. Twilight holds up a hoof in warning, then turns her back, depressed-

17 TWILIGHT
Everypony's already tried to cheer
me up. It won't work.

18 STARLIGHT
Oh, I'm not gonna cheer you up. I'm
gonna tell you what you did wrong.

The surprise of this snaps Twilight out of her funk.

19 TWILIGHT
What?!

20 STARLIGHT
You gave up too easily.
(off Twilight's look)
Hey, you made me a guidance
counselor. That means tough love.

21 TWILIGHT
Neighsay was right. I failed. The
school WAS a disaster.

*
*

22 STARLIGHT
So was I when you met me! But you
showed me that when you know in
your heart something is right, you
stand up for it. You did that for
me. (re: school) Why not for this?

*
*

23 TWILIGHT
I can't go against the EEA!
They're in charge of all the
schools in Equestria.

24 STARLIGHT
And you're in charge of all the
Friendship in Equestria. Why should
you let somepony else stop you from
doing your job?

Twilight wavers, then magics a copy of the EEA TOME up from
where Neighsay dropped it in part one.

*
*

25 TWILIGHT
But the EEA rule book--

*
*

26 STARLIGHT
Doesn't matter. You're doing
something new. Something important.

*
*
*

Twilight looks at her reflection in the water, the school behind her. A beat as she grows determined, full of purpose. *

27 TWILIGHT
You're right! WHY we're doing this is way more important than HOW we're doing this. I'm reopening my school! *

28 STARLIGHT
Now that's the Twilight I know. How can I help? *

Twilight puts a grateful hoof on Starlight's shoulder.

29 TWILIGHT
You already have.

SC.3 EXT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - DAY, MOMENTS LATER

Twilight races up to Spike and the Mane 5, just leaving the castle. Over the top excited--

30 TWILIGHT
Guess what?! The School of Friendship is back in business!

The Mane 5 are shocked and clearly not thrilled.

31 RAINBOW DASH / RARITY / FLUTTERSHY /
APPLEAJACK / PINKIE PIE
What?! / But, why? / Oh no. / Bad idea. / Do we still get to guess?

32 RAINBOW DASH
No offense, Twilight...But teaching at that school was the most boring, horrible, awful thing ever.

33 APPLEJACK
(aside)
Pretty sure she's gonna take offense to that.

34 TWILIGHT
No, Rainbow Dash is right. I owe you all an apology. *

Twilight's friends exchange unsure looks.

35 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
I was so focused on doing things
the EEA way, I didn't listen to any
of you. I'm sorry. I promise this
time, we'll run the school like
friends should. Together.

*
*
*
*

36 RARITY
So we'd be allowed to teach however
we want to?

*

37 FLUTTERSHY
No more scary pop quizzes?

38 PINKIE PIE
Confetti cannons for everyone?!

Pinkie produces a CONFETTI CANNON. Twilight nods.

39 TWILIGHT
Whatever you need to teach the
elements of harmony.

Pinkie sets off the cannon.

40 PINKIE PIE
Yipppeeeeeee!

41 APPLEJACK
In that case...We're behind you one
hundred percent, Twilight.

The other Ponies nod and smile, surrounding their friend.
Spike <COUGHS>, interrupting the moment.

42 SPIKE
Uh, just two small problems. The
school is still unaccredited...

Twilight <SHUDDERS> at the word.

43 SPIKE (CONT'D)
And we don't have any students.

44 TWILIGHT
I'll take care of the first part,
if you five can round up our class.

45 RAINBOW DASH
Totally! Uh... How?

46 APPLEJACK
Roundin' up the pony students ain't
gonna be an issue but...

47 FLUTTERSHY
The creatures from the other
kingdoms seemed pretty upset with
us.

48 RARITY
Nonsense! I'm certain we can win
them over with our charm and style!

*
*
*

SMASH TO:

SC.4 EXT. YAKYAKISTAN - PRINCE RUTHERFORD'S THRONE ROOM - DAY

TWO BURLY YAK GUARDS guard the doorway. Pinkie bounces up
and the Yaks move to block the door.

49 PINKIE PIE
(sing-song)
Cupcake gram for Prince Rutherford!

The Yaks share a look... And move aside.

SC.5 INT. PRINCE RUTHERFORD'S THRONE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

PRINCE RUTHERFORD looks up to see Pinkie <BOING> in.

50 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Why pony here? Yaks mad at ponies.

51 PINKIE PIE
Becaaaaause, you don't have to be
mad anymore! We're reopening
Twilight Sparkle's School of
Friendship and it's gonna be super-
ooper-dooper better than before!
We're...

*
*

I/C **SC.6 INT. DRAGONLANDS - SAME TIME** - Rarity faces a fuming
EMBER, continuing the apology/plea:

*
*

52 RARITY
... ever so sorry about the
misunderstanding. All creatures are
of course welcome! We...

*
*
*

I/C **SC. 7 INT. CHANGELING KINGDOM - CAVE - SAME TIME** - PRINCE
THORAX listens as Fluttershy explains:

*

53 FLUTTERSHY
... would be really happy if you
sent your student back to class.
It...

*
*
*

I/C **SC. 8 EXT. MT. ARIS - SAME TIME** - Applejack speaks to
GENERAL SEASPRAY, who frowns--

*

54 APPLEJACK
... won't be the same without 'em!
We're open and ready to start
teaching right...

*

*

*

I/C **SC. 9 EXT. GRIFFONSTONE - SAME TIME** - Rainbow Dash hovers
in front of GRANDPA GRUFF, who sits, arms crossed, looking
dour.

*

*

55 RAINBOW DASH
...now! So?! What are you waiting
for? Get your student and let's
go!

*

*

*

56 GRANDPA GRUFF
Not happening.

57 RAINBOW DASH
Aw, do you need me to do the whole
apology and explanation thing
again? Okay. <deep breath>

She inhales to start over, but Grandpa Gruff cuts her off.

58 GRANDPA GRUFF
Listen, missy. It's not happening
because--

*

*

I/C **SPLIT SCREEN** OF Prince Rutherford / Ember / Prince Thorax
/ General Seaspray / Grandpa Gruff -- glaring as they say:

*

*

59 PRINCE RUTHERFORD / EMBER / PRINCE
 THORAX / GENERAL SEASPRAY / GRANDPA
 GRUFF
OUR STUDENTS ARE GONE!

*

*

*

*

I/C **SPLIT SCREEN** OF Pinkie / Rarity / Fluttershy/ Applejack /
Rainbow Dash -- they all TAKE in shock!

*

*

60 PINKIE PIE / RARITY / FLUTTERSHY /
 APPLEJACK / RAINBOW DASH
WHAT?!?!?

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC.10 EXT. CELESTIA'S CASTLE - THE NEXT DAY

*

Prince Rutherford, Ember, Thorax, Seaspray and Grandpa Gruff surround CELESTIA and Twilight, grumbling and accusing each other--

61 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
WHERE YANA! This all Ponies' fault!

*

62 EMBER
You're pretty quick to blame them.
What are you hiding, Yak?

*

*

*

63 THORAX
Can we just focus on finding our
lost students?

Grandpa Gruff eyes Thorax with his bad eye.

*

64 GRANDPA GRUFF
Nice try. You grubs are probably
hiding the whole lot of 'em! Never
trust a Changeling, I always say.

*

*

*

*

Celestia steps forward to try to calm everyone--

*

65 CELESTIA
Please, everycreature, if you can
just explain what happened...

*

*

66 SEASPRAY
The students left us notes before
they disappeared. When the school
closed, they didn't want to say
goodbye to each other. So they ran
away to stay together.

*

Twilight is surprised/impressed at this loyalty. She blurts:

*

67 TWILIGHT
I can't believe it! They did learn
friendship!

*

*

The delegates all turn their glares on her. She wilts.

*

68 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
Sorry.

*

69 SEASPRAY
SOME creature is hiding them! If
the nephew of our queen is not
found soon, I promise there will be
retribution!

*

*

*

*

*

```

70             EMBER
Yeah? Well my dragons will burn
every kingdom until we find which
of you is hiding Blaze.

```

71 GRANDPA GRUFF *

Tell it to the Griffon Army. *

Prince Rutherford stamps his hooves, <SHAKING THE GROUND>! *

72 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Yaks fight griffons and dragons! *

Thorax tries to get between them - the voice of reason. *

73 THORAX
Our people cannot afford an
international incident. If any
creature blames the Changelings for
this--

*
*
*

```

74          EMBER
What are you hiding, shape-shifter?                                     *
```

The creatures square off menacingly. Tension is at a breaking point! Celestia leans to Twilight and whispers--

75 CELESTIA
Find the students, quickly. Or I *
fear our world will be at war. *

Twilight nodes determinedly.

CUT TO:

SC.11 EXT. SUGAR CUBE CORNER - LATER THAT DAY *

PUSH IN as we hear the discussion inside--

76 TWILIGHT (O.S.) *

Okay. Let's review what we know.

SC.12 INT. SUGAR CUBE CORNER - CONTINUOUS *

The Mane 6 are gathered with Starlight. Nearby, Spike points to a chart with DRAWINGS of the students, then a "?".

77 SPIKE
Blaze, Gossamer, Silverstar, Yana,
and Gallus disappeared together.

Twilight makes a “keep going” motion.

78 SPIKE (CONT'D)
That's all we know.

79 APPLEJACK
They're probably just off hidin'
somewhere.

80 STARLIGHT
Unless they used some kind of spell
to disappear. *

81 RAINBOW DASH
Or went undercover! *

Pinkie Pops up, hooves up like claws.

82 PINKIE PIE
Maybe they were attacked by a
ferocious shrimp! No pony EVER
expects that.

Fluttershy leans away from Pinkie.

83 FLUTTERSHY
<gasp> Shrimps can attack?

84 PINKIE PIE
Nope. That's why no pony expects it!

SANDALWOOD walks in with an empty cart. He TAKES at seeing
the pictures of the other students, but quickly starts
loading cupcakes into his wagon as fast as he can.

Pinkie Pie pops up next to him, startling him.

85 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Hi, Sandalwood! Are you having a
party?

She <BLOWS> a party favor. He startles again.

86 SANDALWOOD
No! I'm just, uh...Really hungry.

He starts loading the cupcakes even faster.

87 RARITY
We need to think like our students.
If somepony told us we'd never see
each other again, what would we do? *

Sandalwood hurries out with his wagonload of cupcakes.
Pinkie holds the door for him as she answers--

88 PINKIE PIE
Go someplace we could all hang out
and eat lots of cupcakes!

Everyone looks at her, their jaws dropping.

89 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
What?

90 FLUTTERSHY
Sandalwood was friends with all the
missing students. And he just got
plenty of cupcakes.

91 APPLEJACK
He was at the farm this morning,
picking up a wagonload of apples.

92 RARITY
And I saw him in the shop buying
pillows and blankets!

93 RAINBOW DASH
He must be taking all that stuff to
the other students! We gotta
follow him!

The gang races for the door...And naturally there's a pile
up. As they sort themselves out--

SC.13 EXT. SUGAR CUBE CORNER - MOMENTS LATER

*

Starlight tumbles out first, followed by the others. She
scans the street--

Sandalwood is nowhere to be seen.

94 TWILIGHT
We lost him! SANDALWOOD!

Rainbow Dash flies up in the air, searching...

*

HER POV -- no Sandalwood.

*

BELOW, Starlight gets an idea--

*

95 STARLIGHT
I can use magic to find the nearest
cartload of cupcakes!

*

Starlight uses her magic... And her horn makes a glowing
arrow that points to Sugar Cube Corner. Dry:

96 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Super helpful.

97 FLUTTERSHY
One of my animal friends might be
able to help track Sandalwood down.

98 APPLEJACK
No need for that. Watch.

Applejack snags a cupcake (the same flavor Sandalwood took)
and holds it in front of Pinkie Pie.

Her nostrils twitch as she sniffs the cupcake, then goes
rigid like a pointing hunting dog.

99 PINKIE PIE
FROSTING!!!

She's off like a shot, sniffing the ground like a bloodhound.
The others race after her.

SC.14 INT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS - NIGHT

*

Gallus flies around the huge hall. He snags a chandelier and
uses it to do a mid-air flip.

100 GALLUS
Heh. This place is way cooler than
I thought it would be.

*

Below, Blaze picks a gemstone out of the wall and eats it.

101 BLAZE
Even I'm impressed. What's it
called again, Gossamer?

*

Gossamer smiles, relaxing in a throne near Yana.

102 GOSSAMER
The Castle of the Two Sisters. I
remembered it from class.

Gallus swings from a light sconce.

103 GALLUS
Who knew? School was actually good
for something!

*

104 YANA
Yana not really like school. But
Yana like new friends.

*

*

Yana awkwardly hugs Blaze and Gossamer.

105 BLAZE
Blaze...Like...Breathing.

Silverstar, posted at a window, calls back to his friends.

106 SILVERSTAR
Hey you guys! Sandalwood is back!

SC.15 EXT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS - SOON

*

Sandalwood runs down the path, pulling a chain of three carts (linked together like a train behind him), holding cupcakes, apples, and pillows/throws. He doesn't see several tiny eyes staring after him from the forest.

Yana races out of the castle, barreling toward him.

107 YANA
Cupcakes are best cakes!

Sandalwood looks up in shock as Yana charges him.

108 SANDALWOOD
Brakes, Yana! Remember your brakes!

She abruptly sits and slides - still on a collision course! But Gallus dives in at the last second and grabs on to her back, tugging and flapping so she slows down...

Just in front of Sandalwood. He grins.

109 SANDALWOOD (CONT'D)
Thanks for the assist, Gallus.

110 GALLUS
(cool guy smile)
Pff. I was saving the cupcakes.

*

*

Gallus and Yana start devouring cupcakes as Blaze and Gossamer join Sandalwood. Blaze takes charge.

*

111 BLAZE
I call dibs on the pillows!

*

112 GOSSAMER
How nice! The castle is going to
be so much more comfy.

*

113 BLAZE
And fun! Pillow fight!

She whacks Sandalwood safely with a fluffy pillow (and not in the head). He <LAUGHS> and grabs his own pillow, joining in. So does Gossamer.

114 SILVERSTAR
YOU GUYS!!!

*

Everyone stops and turns to see Silverstar fly out of the castle, with a mind-blown look on his face.

115 SILVERSTAR (CONT'D)
I just found... STAIRS!

Gallus shares a "so?" look with Sandalwood.

*

116 GALLUS
Aaaand...We care because...

117 SILVERSTAR
Stairs are awesome! We don't have anything like 'em underwater. Cause you know...No way to climb 'em.

Gossamer CHANGES into a SEAPONY and flips her tail. The others get it.

*

118 YANA / SANDALWOOD / BLAZE / GALLUS
Ohhhh.

Gossamer changes back.

119 SILVERSTAR
This place has everything! If only my family back home could see it!

*

*

Silverstar happily bites into an apple.

120 YANA
Yana miss Yakyakistan sometimes. But best place is with friends.

*

*

The others smile. Gossamer looks wistful.

121 GOSSAMER
I wish the other Changelings could meet you all. You're not nearly as strange as the stories say.

122 BLAZE
Gee, thanks. (then, genuine) But yeah, hanging out with other creatures is actually...not bad.

*

*

There's a loud <GROWL/CHATTER> from the foliage nearby, and a PUCKWUDGIE - a creature bigger than a pony that looks like a cross between a PORCUPINE and an EVIL TEDDY BEAR leaps out. *

123 SANDALWOOD *
Um, MOST other creatures. What is *
that thing? *

The Pukwudgie <SNARLS> menacingly, <CHATTERING> gutterally. *

124 GOSSAMER
Am I the ONLY one who didn't sleep
in class? It's a puckwudgie! (then) *
Maybe I can scare it away! *

Gossamer transforms into an IDENTICAL PUCKWUDGIE. She <GROWLS> at it. The original creature <GROWLS BACK> and raises its claws as a signal. *

FROM THE FOLIAGE, a FEW MORE PUCKWUDGIES join it.

125 GOSSAMER (CONT'D)
Oops.

Gossamer changes back to normal.

126 YANA
Yak plan better. YAAAA! *

Yana charges the Puckwudgies. The Puckwudgies turn their backs to her. *

Yana sees this and puts on the brakes.

The Puckwudgies fire their quills... *

...Fortunately, Silverstar flips one of the carts in front of Yana. The quills strike it instead of her.

He calls to his friends--

127 SILVERSTAR
We have to take cover! We can't
fly while they're shooting at us.

The others flip the other carts and huddle behind them.

As the <GROWLING> Puckwudgies close in, we...

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC.16 EXT. CASTLE OF THE TWO SISTERS - RESUME

*

The Puckwudgies continue to advance on Silverstar, Yana, Ember, Gallus, Sandalwood, and Gossamer, who hide behind the wagons. Blaze pops up to hurl a pillow at the Puckwudgies...

*

...And it's immediately shot through with quills.

*

Undaunted, she hurls an apple and a cupcake.

128 BLAZE

*

Think, Gossamer! Did Twilight say anything about how to beat Puckwudgies in her lecture?

*

*

*

129 GOSSAMER

I'm sorry, I can't remember.

130 GALLUS

*

I'm gonna go ahead and guess it's not pillows, apples or cupcakes.

131 SILVERSTAR

Wouldn't class have been about how to make friends with them?

132 SANDALWOOD

Uh...Guys... They're getting really close.

133 YANA

Yana not scared. Yana have friends.

This unexpectedly rallies the group. They share a look and take courage, standing together... Just as the first Puckwudgie reaches their hideout!

He <GROWLS> as he peers over the overturned cart...

And then suddenly, a FLASH of RAINBOW spirals around him, spinning him silly! Finally the blur stops and is revealed to be Rainbow Dash! The dizzy Puckwudgie falls over with a <SPUN OUT GROAN>.

*

*

*

134 GALLUS

No. Way. Is that Egghead?

Rarity, Starlight and Twilight race into the clearing behind her, their horns glowing with magic.

The students watch in awe as Twilight and Starlight levitate Puckwudgies away, while Rarity wraps the other Puckwudgie up in BOWS that bind his quills.

135 YANA
Not bad. For pony.

*

136 GOSSAMER
Wow. They're... amazing.

Applejack races in to lasso another Puckwudgie, allowing Pinkie Pie and Spike to shoot off a PIE CANNON at him!

THREE BIRDS fly in to harass a Puckwudgie, pulling out his quills and pecking at him.

Fluttershy calls to her friends:

137 FLUTTERSHY
Oh, don't hurt him. Just ask him to leave nicely!

The birds give her a look, but then <TWITTER> something. At that, the Puckwudgies all run for the cover of shrubbery.

The students gape.

138 GALLUS
I had no idea our teachers were actually cool.

139 SANDALWOOD
I've been trying to tell you!

Silverstar is beyond excited. He feels the need to act out everything they just saw.

140 SILVERSTAR
Did you see that? Rainbow Dash was like zooooom! And then whooooa! The Puckwudgies went flying! And then the birds came and...

Blaze pats Silverstar's shoulder.

*

141 BLAZE
Yeah. We all just lived it. But you're right. That was pretty amazing...Even by dragon standards.

Twilight rushes to the students.

142 TWILIGHT
Is everycreature alright?

The students nod.

143 SPIKE
You're lucky we got here in time.

144 STARLIGHT
You know, this probably isn't the
safest place for a camp out.

*
*

She addresses the next line to a TREE.

*

145 STARLIGHT (CONT'D)
Even for a Changeling.

*
*

The tree turns into Gossamer... who hangs her head, morose.

*

146 GOSSAMER
Does that mean you're going to send
us back to our homes?

Twilight shares a look with her friends.

147 TWILIGHT
Not exactly. We have another option
in mind...

The students look up at that. Gallus feigns coolness.

148 GALLUS
We're listening.

149 TWILIGHT
It's pretty clear you've already
started learning friendship without
your teachers. But we'd like to
show you even more about it...If
you come back to school.

*

The students don't look too thrilled by the prospect.

150 BLAZE
Not much of a choice.

*

The "teachers" all look at each other and come clean.

151 APPLEJACK
To be honest, we felt exactly the
same way when Twilight told us she
was reopening the school.

152 SILVERSTAR
Really?

153 RARITY
Believe me, we were just as
distressed as you. But this time, *
we guarantee it shall be different. *

154 RAINBOW DASH
Oh yeah. With class run my way, *
it'll be TWO HUNDRED and twenty *
percent cooler.

155 FLUTTERSHY
And without the EEA, it'll be much *
friendlier.

156 PINKIE PIE
Plus all your nations won't go to
war if you come back with us!

The students gape and look at each other in shock.

157 SANDALWOOD
Wait, that's what's happening?

158 PINKIE PIE
Uh huh! So the sooner you come
back, the better.

The students slowly nod. But Yana rushes to hug Pinkie.

159 YANA
Yak miss Ponies.

Twilight smiles.

160 TWILIGHT
I'll take that as a yes.

CUT TO:

SC.17 EXT. TWILIGHT SPARKLE'S SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - NEXT DAY *

Twilight, the other ponies and their students (pony and otherwise) gather in front of the school. The EEA seal mars the image, still blocking the doors.

They turn when they hear--

161 CELESTIA (PARTIAL OS)
Twilight! I was so relieved to get
your letter.

Celestia is approaching with the delegates.

162 SEASPRAY
We all were. I'm just glad you're
alright, Silverstar.

Seaspray moves to greet Silverstar. Gallus grins to Grandpa Gruff, but the crusty Griffon just crosses his arms.

163 GRANDPA GRUFF
Don't expect a welcome party from
me, sonny. It's time you got home.

164 GALLUS
I'm not leaving.

165 GRANDPA GRUFF
Whaaat?

166 GOSSAMER
None of us are. Sorry, Thorax.

167 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
Yak not understand. This pony joke?

168 BLAZE
No. We're going back to school.

169 EMBER
How? You can't even get inside.

Twilight uses her horn to magically <BLAST> the seal off the doors. Everyone gapes. *

170 TWILIGHT
School is back in session.

171 STUDENTS
<cheering>

The students cheer and start for the doors, when--

172 NEIGHSAY (O.S.)
What is the meaning of this?!

REVEAL: The cast-aside SEAL has opened a MAGICAL PORTAL that NEIGHSAY, the EEA HEAD UNICORN, steps through.

He turns and blocks the doors. The students shrink back.

173 NEIGHSAY (CONT'D)
Who dared remove my seal?

174 TWILIGHT
I did, Chancellor Neighsay. And I respectfully ask you to step aside, or classes will start late.

175 NEIGHSAY
Class won't start at all! The EEA has spoken. And NONE SHALL PASS!

*

Neighsay stomps his hoof in his best Gandalf imitation.

Yana stamps her hoof back.

176 YANA
Yak pass if Yak say!

*

177 NEIGHSAY
This is for the greater good. We have standards to uphold. The school was disorganized! The teachers unqualified!

*

*

*

He motions towards the collapsed tower.

*

178 NEIGHSAY (CONT'D)
And those dangerous and unpredictable "students" put ponies' lives in danger!

*

*

*

*

The Delegates take offense at this. Ember bares teeth.

179 EMBER
I'll show you unpredictable...

Every creature starts arguing at once. Celestia raises her voice to cut through the tension--

*

180 CELESTIA
I'm sure Princess Twilight Sparkle has a good explanation for all of this.

All eyes go to Twilight. But she remains calm.

181 TWILIGHT
I do. It's true that my School of Friendship is EEA unaccredited.

*

Spike leans to Rarity--

182 SPIKE
(sotto)
Look! She said it without doing the eye thing!

183 NEIGHSAY
(splutters; indignant)
Then...It's not a school!

*

184 TWILIGHT
It's not an EEA school. It's a
friendship school. With its own
rules. I should know. I wrote the
book.

And with that, Twilight levitates in a TOME three times
bigger than the EEA's, and drops it at Neighsay's feet.

*

185 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
These students reminded me that
every friendship is special. So the
way we teach it has to be just as
unique. My school is going to do
things differently.

*

*

*

*

*

Neighsay is shocked. He visibly gapes.

186 NEIGHSAY
Allowing all of these creatures to
attend your school... changing the
rules for them ...It simply won't
work!

*

*

*

Celestia stands next to Twilight and glares at Neighsay
sternly.

*

*

187 CELESTIA
I seem to recall something about
Earth Ponies, Unicorns and Pegasi
doing something similar, don't you?

*

Twilight and Celestia share a smile.

*

188 TWILIGHT
I promise you, Chancellor, my
school will help protect Equestria.

*

*

*

Neighsay burns and growls as he stalks off.

*

189 NEIGHSAY
Or destroy it.

*

*

ANGLE on Delegates... Seaspray smiles, Thorax looks worried,
Ember frowns, Prince Rutherford looks thoughtful, and Grandpa
Gruff shakes his head.

*

190 GRANDPA GRUFF
Hmph. How's this school gonna be
any different from last time?

*

And with that, Twilight launches into a MUSICAL NUMBER about the amazing parts of the school...

191 TWILIGHT
(sings)
*My brand new School of Friendship
Is home to everyone...*

Twilight and Starlight's horns glow as they magically raise the toppled tower from 801.

192 GOSSAMER
(sings)
*We're learning how to trust and
care...*

Gallus and Gossamer fly up to help settle the tower in place.

193 GALLUS
(sings)
We're all here to have fun!

Rarity ties a bow on Yana's hair - PULL BACK to reveal she's tied several so Yana can't trip on her braids anymore.

194 RARITY
(sings)
With friendship ties that bind us--

Rainbow Dash kicks the EEA tome off Twilight's desk and Applejack replaces it with Twilight's rule book.

195 APPLEJACK
(sings)
Tighter than the strongest law...

HIGH ANGLE -- CLOSE on Fluttershy on her back in the grass, putting her hoof in Silverstar's who lays next to her -- like "holding hands"...

196 FLUTTERSHY
(sings)
We're hoof in hoof...

As they sing, we CRANE BACK to see ALL THE STUDENTS AND TEACHERS are on their back in a circle, all holding hands.

197 SILVERSTAR
(sings)
*In hand in hoof in wing or even
claw!*

Gallus stands on a garden pedestal, striking a pose like a topiary to make Yana and Sandalwood laugh. Twilight trots past, smiling--

198 TWILIGHT
(sings)
There's a griffon in the garden.

Silverstar hangs upside down from a beam in the hall, doing sit ups. PAN OVER to show Rainbow Dash is doing them too--

199 RAINBOW DASH
(sings)
Hippogriffs hang in the hall!

Spike holds the school's front door open as a MASSIVE DRAGON and a tiny BREEZIE enter...

200 SPIKE
(sings)
*And the door's always open to all
creatures great and small.*

Blaze does homework in the LIBRARY, piles of books all around her. She looks up in surprise as Yana, Pinkie and Prince Rutherford bring in more carts of books.

201 PINKIE PIE
(sings)
And a Yak or two or three...

"Fluttershy" walks down a corridor past Starlight.

202 STARLIGHT
(sings)
*That might have been a
Changeling...*

REVEAL the REAL Fluttershy standing next to Starlight, also looking--

203 FLUTTERSHY
(sings)
But it kinda looks like me.

Under Twilight's supervision, Spike hands Pinkie back her confetti cannon, and Rarity a basket of gemstones. The ponies beam. OUTSIDE the window, Fluttershy smiles as Yana hugs a displeased Angel bunny. Rainbow Dash flies by with Blaze and Gallus following. Applejack directs other students to plant appleseeds - one which grows when watered.

204 TWILIGHT
(sings)
*Some things you just can't teach
with books
Some things you only know.
So trust your heart and let us
lead, your friendship's sure to
grow.*

ON THE STUDENTS, now assembled in the great hall, sitting with each other, enjoying cupcakes.

205 STUDENTS
(sing)
*And once we master kindness,
We'll spread it 'cross this land.
And give the gift that's ours to
share, make others understand.*

206 MANE 6 / STARLIGHT / SPIKE
(sing)
*Yes, Friendship's always there to
share, and that's what we've got
planned!*

END SONG.

The delegates now look convinced. Ember has her hands over her ears. She winces.

207 EMBER
Fine. If you promise to stop
singing, Blaze can stay.

Blaze pumps her fist in the air.

Prince Rutherford turns to Yana.

208 PRINCE RUTHERFORD
If dragon stay, Yak stay.

Thorax nods to Gossamer. She beams to hear--

209 THORAX
I know you will make the
Changelings proud, Gossamer.

210 SEASPRAY
You belong here. Now... Can you
show me those stair-things you
mentioned?

Silverstar nods enthusiastically. Only Gallus is left, looking worried, as Grandpa Gruff makes a sour face.

211 GRANDPA GRUFF
What? You belong at home. You think
I care if you've made friends?

212 GALLUS
Please, Grandpa Gruff?

His friends join him, and they hit Grandpa with the whammy of
four pairs of big, sad eyes. *

213 GRANDPA GRUFF
Alright, alright! Stop doing that!

The students cheer and rush inside. *

Starlight smiles to Twilight.

214 STARLIGHT
Guess I give pretty good advice,
huh?

Twilight nods--

215 TWILIGHT
Plus, writing a rule book was the
most fun ever!!! I can't wait to
start working on the new lesson
plans! *

PAN ACROSS HER FRIENDS as she adds with a smile-- *

216 TWILIGHT (CONT'D)
With some help from my friends. *

And with this, we CRANE BACK away from Twilight's School of
Friendship, fully and happily in session. *

FADE OUT

END EPISODE