

MY LITTLE PONY

Season 8

Flugetabout It

Ep 818

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FLUGETABOUT IT

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Logline: When Pinkie Pie develops a strange new passion, her friends learn that it's okay to love doing something you're not very good at - as long as it makes you happy.

Eerie noises are keeping Ponyville awake at night, the source of which are revealed to be Pinkie Pie enjoying a new activity – Flugelhorning. The Mane Six have always been supportive of each other's various hobbies, so Pinkie has no bigger fans of her new hobby than her friends. Even though she is not even close to being good and can only produce horrible bleating noises, Pinkie clearly enjoys playing. Besides, Twilight points out, she just started playing and she's bound to get better if she keeps practicing.

Pinkie Pie becomes absolutely obsessed with her flugelhorn, bringing it with her everywhere she goes. And whether it's causing an avalanche while mountain climbing with Rainbow Dash, or a cave-in while spelunking for rare fashion gems with Rarity, or waking up Fluttershy's entire nap-a-torium for baby animals, Pinkie's constant flugelhorning keeps disrupting her friends' daily activities.

Twilight and the others become concerned about Pinkie's flugelhorning. She's spent enough time practicing to become the greatest flugelhorner in all of Equestria, but somehow she hasn't gotten any better. In fact, if anything, she's gotten worse! They don't understand why she's spending so much time doing something she'll never be good at. They'll regretfully have to break it to Pinkie Pie that she's wasting her time. But before they can, Pinkie arrives with an announcement. While she loves the flugelhorn, there's just "something missing" and "not right" when she plays. The ponies are relieved - until she explains, "THAT'S WHY I'M STEPPING UP MY GAME!!!" She spins around and suddenly is wearing a full on Alpine costume and playing the flugelhorn while dancing in heavy wooden clogs.

While they all admire Pinkie's passion, they think it's misplaced and try to steer her back to doing things she likes *and* is good at too - like baking, party planning and making balloon sculptures. After a few failed attempts, Pinkie begins to suspect and question their motives. The other ponies are forced to admit they've been trying to get her to stop playing because she's... she's.... not good and never will be. Pinkie Pie appreciates their honesty, but is hurt.

When Twilight, Rarity, Rainbow Dash, Applejack and Fluttershy try to figure out why they haven't seen Pinkie in a while, they learn she's been playing her flugelhorn away from them in secret. They realize they must have hurt Pinkie's feelings. Twilight and the others agree that they should go apologize to their friend but they don't know where she is -- until Spike spots a flyer for a flugelhorn open mic night in Yakyakistan. This can only mean one thing... Pinkie's run away to live with the Yaks!

They quickly head to the venue, all worried that if the Yaks only like things that are perfect and they hear Pinkie play - they'll tear the place apart! When Rarity spots Pinkie waiting in the wings, they all head backstage and plead with her not to perform. Pinkie cheerfully nods in agreement with them - and then walks on stage. As she happily plays horribly, (clearly enjoying herself) the ponies wince, all expecting the worst. Once she finishes, the ponies are shocked beyond belief when the crowd goes wild with applause. Rainbow Dash and the rest of the ponies don't get it. Yaks only like perfection. How could they like her playing? The Yak MC explains, Pinkie's playing makes her happy, and seeing her so happy makes them happy. And happy is always more important than perfect. Twilight and the others apologize to Pinkie and tell her they've learned their lesson - it's okay to love something you'll never excel at - as long as it makes you happy.