MY LITTLE PONY
Season 8

The Washouts
Ep 820

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TEASER

SC. 1 - EXT. CMC CLUBHOUSE - DAY

PUSH IN on the Cutie Mark Crusaders club house as we hear <A GAVEL BANG>...

SC. 2 - INT. CMC CLUBHOUSE - SAME

At the podium up front, SCOOTALOO bangs her gavel. A large poster of RAINBOW DASH hangs on the wall behind her.

1 SCOOTALOO
Order, order everypony! I hereby call to order this meeting of the Rainbow Dash Fan Club!

The room of FANS quiets down.

ANGLE FROM OUTSIDE THROUGH THE WINDOW: it's RAINBOW DASH herself, spying on them through the open clubhouse window, enjoying the attention as always.

2 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
First order of business:
(run-on, quickly)
Let's-celebrate-the-one-and-only-Rainbow Dash-"Yay"-she's-amazing-now-if-there's-nothing-else-that-concludes-this-meeting-of-the-Rainbow-Dash-Fan-Club-thank-you-all-for-coming-any-questions?

<GAVEL BANGS>. REVERSE: The RD fans stare at her, confused.

3 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
Meeting adjourned!

OUTSIDE: Rainbow Dash is SUPER-confused.

INSIDE: Scootaloo PUSHES the confused crowd out the door, then goes back to the podium. She takes a DEEP BREATH, then hangs up a NEW POSTER right on top of Rainbow Dash's poster! (To be later identified, but design note: it's the WASHOUTS POSTER).

Scootaloo <BANGS THE GAVEL>, then stares up at the new poster with reverence.

4 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
Now I'd like to call to order the FIRST EVER meeting of the newest and most exciting club... of which I am the president, founding, and only member... THE WASHOUTS FAN CLUB!

Off Rainbow Dash's jaw dropping--

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SC. 3 - INT. CMC CLUBHOUSE - DAY

Picking up where we left off, Rainbow Dash bursts in...

5 RAINBOW DASH
Oh, hey Scootaloo, I was just in the neighborhood and, oh, what's this? Did I interrupt your fan club meeting?

Scoot tries to hide the poster, taking it down ASAP and hiding it behind the podium.

6 SCOOTALOO
Heeeey...! What are you doing here?

7 RAINBOW DASH
(accusatory)
I could ask you the same question!

8 SCOOTALOO
(fumfering)
Oh, you know... Stuff... Definitely not starting a new fan club or anything.

9 RAINBOW DASH
HA! It's no use pretending. I heard <u>everything</u> when I was outside eavesdropping like I do for every meeting!

10 SCOOTALOO
You eavesdrop on every meeting? That's... weird.

11 RAINBOW DASH
Well, sure it *sounds* weird when you say it out loud. And I probably shouldn't because eavesdropping is wrong-- but still... Why are you starting a new fan club?!

Scoot tries to soften the blow but it sounds like she's breaking up...

12 SCOOTALOO
I just think maybe it's time for me to explore... other fan clubs.

Rainbow Dash gets behind the podium and unfurls Scootaloo's poster. She makes a confused face looking at it.

THE POSTER: a fiery-uniformed pony wearing two fireworks strapped to her back like a JETPACK, soaring through a ring of flames.

13 RAINBOW DASH
What is a-- "The Washouts?"

14 SCOOTALOO
Only the newest and greatest and ONLY stunt troupe in Equestria!

15 RAINBOW DASH
Stunt troupe!?

16 SCOOTALOO
How can I explain it...? Like the Wonderbolts, just TWENTY BAJILLION PERCENT COOLER.

17 RAINBOW DASH
Twenty bajillion?!

18 SCOOTALOO
They do all sorts of extreme stunts that focus on daredevilry and sheer guts, rather than boring old flight-and-formation junk.

19 RAINBOW DASH
Boring old flight and formation junk!?

20 SCOOTALOO
Are you just repeating everything I say?

21 RAINBOW DASH
Only because my brain feels like it's strapped to one of those rockets about to explode.

22 SCOOTALOO
Heck yeah-- so you do get it! Aren't they awesome?

Off Rainbow Dash's stunned reaction...

SC. 4 - EXT. PONYVILLE - DAY

Rainbow Dash walks with the Mane 6 through Ponyville.

23 RAINBOW DASH
Can you believe she actually said that!?

24 PINKIE PIE
Well, yeah, eavesdropping on every meeting is kinda weird...

25 RAINBOW DASH
I mean she basically said that the Wonderbolts aren't cool!
(trying to downplay it)
And it kinda sounded like she didn't think I was cool either, but psh, we all know that's crazy. I mean, I am definitely not worried about her looking up to somepony else. Nope. Not. At. ALL.

26 APPLEJACK
Well I'd understand if you were. It'd be like if Apple Bloom started lovin' bananas more than apples! Hahaha!

<WHIP-CRACK> and punch in on Applejack.

27 APPLEJACK (CONT'D)
Y'all tell me if that ever happens, you hear?

Meanwhile, Rarity tries to sound as mature as possible...

28 RARITY
The little ones grow up so fast...
I'll never forget the first time
Sweetie Belle said she didn't like
one of my designs-- although the
hat *was* a tri-folded sheer pillbox
with a silk sash cross-over, so she
was wrong and I corrected her.

Rainbow Dash's bravado bubble pops and she starts sulking...

29 RAINBOW DASH
But what could the Washouts
possibly have that I don't?!

Pinkie Pie pops up holding a WASHOUTS SHOW POSTER:

30 PINKIE PIE
Why don't you find out??

They all inspect THE POSTER: A helmeted/goggled pony in bright red/orange flamed uniform getting into a cannon.

31 RAINBOW DASH
They're doing a show in Ponyville
this weekend!?

32 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Wow... they do look pretty amazing--
(off RD's glare) --ly <u>un</u>amazing...
Trying so hard to look amazing, is
what I mean.

33 PINKIE PIE
(sotto "whisper" that
everypony can obviously hear)
NICE SAVE, TWILIGHT!

<WASHOUTS ANTHEM> plays as we PUSH IN on the POSTER and...

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 5 - EXT. A FIELD OUTSIDE OF PONYVILLE - DAY

...A GIANT WASHOUTS FLAG, blowing in the wind above a field (maybe re-use the venue from MLP607, "*Newbie Dash.*") The stands are packed.

The Mane 6 make their way up the bleachers, with Scootaloo coming with Rainbow Dash. They're looking for seats, but it's crowded. The top row has empties...

34 SCOOTALOO
I knew we should have lined up last night.

35 PINKIE PIE
I'm sorry for making us late-- who would have guessed X-TREME CHOCOLATE AIR SHOW CUPCAKES would take an... x-tremely long time to bake?

Pinkie scarfs down a chocolate cupcake with flame-shaped-frosting.

36 RAINBOW DASH
Look at this-- it's a total Wonderbolts rip-of!

37 SCOOTALOO
What do you mean-- the show hasn't even started yet!

38 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah but look at what we're sitting on.

They all look at her confused. Finally...

39 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Hellllllooo! The Wonderbolts have bleachers too. We practically <u>invented</u> sitting on bleachers.

Rarity and Applejack exchange an eye roll.

40 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
And look at that-- popcorn and cotton candy? RIP-OFFFFFFF!

The ponies in front of them (Lyra/Bon-Bon?) give Rainbow Dash a look, then go back to sharing their popcorn. Then everypony's attention turns to the field as <ROCK INTRO MUSIC> begins. Scootaloo goes NUTS, causing Rainbow Dash to react, covering her ears.

ANGLE ON SPEAKERS:

41 ANNOUNCER PONY (V.O.)
(echoing)
This is the time. This is the place. This is the team...

42 RAINBOW DASH
(imitating)
"This is the..."
(trying to come up with a good burn but fails)
...lame.

43 ANNOUNCER PONY (V.O.)
THIS IS... THE WASHOUTS!

ON THE FIELD, CONFETTI CANNONS <BOOM>. Pinkie nods, impressed...

44 PINKIE PIE
Quality confetti cannon work.

FLAMING HOOPS light up around the ground. Gears turn, activating an obstacle-course-like series of SMASHING PLATFORMS.

45 RAINBOW DASH
Whoa...

46 SCOOTALOO
Oh yeah.

Two FIREWORK FOUNTAINS explode as A PAIR OF GOGGLED, UNIFORMED WASHOUTS gallop onto the field. The crowd goes wild.

47 ANNOUNCER PONY (V.O.)
Say it with me now, the Washout's official motto...

48 SCOOTALOO / EVERYPONY / ANNOUNCER
"LEAP BEFORE YOU LOOK!"

Dash rolls her eyes. A THIRD UNIFORMED (and HELMETED - we will later reveal this is LIGHTNING DUST) WASHOUT appears and hops into a giant sling shot (think: Roadrunner style).

As Dash stares in shock, the first two pull the third back in the slingshot and let go-- SPROING!

The Helmeted Washout tucks her wings, leaning her body through the air like a missile, then lands on a TRAMPOLINE, that sends her back toward the other two - now on SEESAWS angled toward each other. The third Washout lands and propels them upward, through a series of flaming hoops.

At the top of their arcs the pair sail over a FLAMING OLYMPIC-STYLE TORCH and each light a SPARKLER after which they flip onto a platform behind a HUGE CANNON - using their sparklers to LIGHT THE FUSE!

<GASPS> from the crowd.

Rainbow Dash's jaw drops. Twilight Sparkles notices, amused, and closes it for her. It falls back open.

THE CANNON FIRES! Sending the Helmeted Washout BLASTING out. She does a flip in the air and angles back to the ground, where she tucks and SOARS right above the grassy field... heading into the CRUSHER COURSE. Giant spiked platforms POUND the ground in asynchronous rhythm... as the Helmeted Washout heads right toward them.

PUSH IN ON RAINBOW DASH... Amazed.

The Washout SOARS through the crusher course, barely dodging the crushing platforms. Dash finds herself nodding...

49 RAINBOW DASH
Come on... come on....!

FLAME CANNONS fire-- but the Washout dodges them.

50 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
I don't believe it!!!

One last spiked platform-- the biggest of all-- closing... inching shut as The Washout approaches... but it's closing...

Rainbow Dash grabs Scootaloo...

51 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
She's not gonna make it...!

The platforms SLAMS SHUT! The whole audience (including Dash) <GASP>!

But THE WASHOUT BLASTS OUT AT THE LAST SECOND! Dash jumps onto Scootaloo's shoulders and pumps her hoof in the air---

52 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
THAT WAS INSANE!!! WOOOOO!

53 SCOOTALOO
I TOLD YOU!

54 RAINBOW DASH
(quickly composing herself)
I mean... it was pretty cool.
(then to herself)
Who are these guys...?

SC. 6 - EXT. A FIELD OUTSIDE OF PONYVILLE - AFTER THE SHOW

Down on the field, two exhausted Washouts, ROLLING THUNDER and SHORT FUSE, meet up and take off their helmets/goggles. Rolling Thunder ices her leg--on an actual block of ice.

IN THE STANDS, ponies head for the exits. Except for Rainbow Dash, who leads Scootaloo through the crowd toward the Washouts.

55 SCOOTALOO
I can't just go up and TALK to them!

56 RAINBOW DASH
You can if you're with me. After all, one of the reasons there's a Rainbow Dash fan club is because I'm fearless... when it comes to flying <u>and</u> social awkwardness. Observe.

Rainbow Dash approaches the Washouts.

57 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Heyyyyyy!

The Washouts turn and stare at Rainbow Dash. <AWKWARD COUGH>.

58 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
Ah... so... as a fellow aerobatic professional, I really enjoyed your show. Heh, actually, you might recognize me since I am...
(sotto)
"pause for dramatic effect..."
(then)
A Wonderbolt.

The Washouts <LAUGH>.

59 ROLLING THUNDER
Join the club!

Dash looks to Scootaloo like: ???. She just smiles as Rolling Thunder begins rolling a bandage around her leg.

60 RAINBOW DASH
Okayyyyyyy...

61 ROLLING THUNDER
No, I mean literally join the club-- we're called "The Washouts" because we all used to be Wonderbolts just like you... until we "washed out."

62 RAINBOW DASH
No way!

63 ROLLING THUNDER
The name's Rolling Thunder. I got booted out of Wonderbolt Academy cause of "flagrant disregard for hazardous weather." Psh. If doin' barrel rolls through nine-hundred million volts of electricity in a raging thunderstorm is wrong, then I don't want to be right.
(then)
This here's Short Fuse...

64 SHORT FUSE
(super-polite)
Nice to meet you.

65 RAINBOW DASH
What's your story?

66 SHORT FUSE
ANGER ISSUES!!! GET OFF MY BACK!

67 RAINBOW DASH
So... who's the leader?

68 ROLLING THUNDER
Only the most reckless ex-Wonderbolt of all time...

They turn to see... A WASHOUT walking awesomely toward them in slow-motion, the field still billowing smoke in the background behind her.

Scootaloo <GASPS>, steadying herself.

The leader goes to take off her helmet and goggles.

Rainbow Dash's face-- NO WAY, as she reveals herself to be...

69 RAINBOW DASH
Lightning Dust!?

70 LIGHTNING DUST
...Rainbow Dash.

A tense moment. Then Scootaloo leans into frame by Dash.

71 SCOOTALOO
Scootaloo-- I'm Scootaloo. Hi.

Rainbow Dash's eyes narrow... <ACT OUT MUSIC> and FADE OUT.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 7 - EXT. A FIELD OUTSIDE OF PONYVILLE - RESUME

Scootaloo watches with rapt attention as Rainbow Dash talks to Lightning Dust.

72 RAINBOW DASH
Lightning Dust... I should have known you were the brains behind a crazy idea like the Washouts. Or should I say "lack of brains."

73 SCOOTALOO
You two really know each other!?

Lightning Dust glares at Dash and nods.

74 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
OH MY GOSH THIS IS SO COOL!

75 LIGHTNING DUST
Your friend got me kicked out of the Wonderbolts.

76 SCOOTALOO
Oh-- that's-- less cool-- um--

Scootaloo's eyes widen as Lightning Dust steps up to Rainbow Dash, maybe looking for a fight. Dash raises her chin, not backing down. They're eye to eye... but then Lightning Dust cracks a huge grin and embraces Dash in a tight hug.

77 LIGHTNING DUST
And it was the best thing that ever happened to me! Great to see you, "Wing Pony!" I heard you're a full-fledged Bolt now!

78 RAINBOW DASH
Yeah, well, I'm still--

79 LIGHTNING DUST
Mad at me? Look-- was it wrong of me to endanger the lives of your friends? Yes. But hey-- now I only endanger these knuckleheads!

<CHUCKLES> from Rolling Thunder and Short Fuse.

80 LIGHTNING DUST (CONT'D)
Come on, you know you miss me...
(to Scootaloo)
Me and her? We blew everypony out of the sky.

81 SCOOTALOO
Really?!

82 LIGHTNING DUST
Actually yeah, <u>really</u>-- all that wind was totally dangerous-- but we had fun, right? Two fastest times on the Dizzitron...

83 RAINBOW DASH
If I remember correctly, I had you beat by half a second...

84 LIGHTNING DUST
Only because when I went, I cranked up the dizziness factor!

They share a <LAUGH> at the memory.

85 RAINBOW DASH
Well, I'm glad it all worked out-- your show was pretty dynamite.

Lightning Dust approaches Scootaloo, who looks amazed to be talking to her (new) hero...

86 LIGHTNING DUST
Wanna know the secret? We basically ignore everything the Wonderbolts ever taught us about safety.

Dash follows suit so they're on either side of Scootaloo-- fighting over her... *METAPHORICALLY SPEAKING!!!!!!*

87 RAINBOW DASH
Wellll, we <u>do</u> have safety rules for a reason...

88 LIGHTNING DUST
Don't listen to her, kid. All their "rules" were just ways of keeping their little club exclusive so they could feel good about themselves.

89 RAINBOW DASH
It's not about making anypony feel bad—- it's about finding the best flyers. The best of the best.

Dash misses the sad look on Scootaloo's face on hearing that, or the way Scootaloo's eyes filled with hope on hearing Lightning Dust's rebuttal...

90 LIGHTNING DUST
I started the Washouts because I believe anypony can be the best of the best.

Scootaloo's eyes sparkle in awe. Lightning Dust considers Rolling Thunder massaging his bandaged leg...

91 LIGHTNING DUST (CONT'D)
You know... Rolling Thunder is gonna be out for a while...

92 ROLLING THUNDER
During the finale, I caught the ol' hind leg in the Crushinator Jaws of Smash-a-lot, patent pending.

93 LIGHTNING DUST
There's a spot on the team if you want to join up.

Scootaloo <GASPS>!

94 RAINBOW DASH
I appreciate the offer, but I'm already a Wonderbolt.

95 SCOOTALOO
(then, excited)
I'll do it! Can I do it?!

96 RAINBOW DASH
Lemme think: no?

97 SCOOTALOO
I wasn't asking <u>you</u>.

98 LIGHTNING DUST
You're cute. But technically, you haven't "washed out" of the Bolts, which is kinda... our thing.

99 RAINBOW DASH
And also... "NoooooOOoOoo!?"

100 SCOOTALOO
What if I joined and dropped out super-quick!?

Lightning Dust laughs, but Rainbow Dash is horrified.

101 RAINBOW DASH
That's it. You're coming with me...

Rainbow Dash tugs Scootaloo away.

102 SCOOTALOO
Ow ow ow ow! Where are we going!?

103 RAINBOW DASH
To hear what the actual Wonderbolts think about you joining just to drop out for the Washouts.

Lightning Dust calls after them with a grin:

104 LIGHTNING DUST
Say hi to Spitfire for me!

CUT TO:

SC. 8 - EXT. WONDERBOLT ACADEMY - LATER

BLUE SKY AND CLOUDS. A tight formation of Wonderbolts RIPS through an impossible-seeming series of twists and turns in the air, punching holes through clouds, leaving trails across the blue sky.

They land one by one, skidding to a stop inches from Scootaloo, who watches the whole thing, kinda bored.

105 RAINBOW DASH
Ever seen two simultaneous inverse displacement rolls before?

106 SCOOTALOO
Woulda been cooler through a Crushinator Jaws of Smash-a-lot, patent pending.

107 RAINBOW DASH
You... What?!...
(to Spitfire)
This is what I was telling you about...!?

108 SPITFIRE
I got this.

After a WINK to Rainbow Dash, Scootaloo is nervous to see Spitfire step toward her, her shadow moving across her face.

109 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
You know what happens when something goes <u>wrong</u> with the Crushinator Jaws of Smash-a-lot?

110 RAINBOW DASH
(a la Spitfire, adding...)
"...Patent pending?"

111 SPITFIRE
(right in Scootaloo's face)
<u>You end up in a full-body-wing-and-hoof cast drinkin' through a straw!</u>

Scootaloo <GULPS>. RD looks to Spitfire. She wasn't expecting this much intensity.

112 SCOOTALOO
But with enough practice...

Rainbow Dash shakes her head-- no, just stop talking! But--

113 SPITFIRE
<u>Practice</u>!? Well la-dee-*doodle*-da! Let me give you a different scenario. You're probably saying to yourself, "I'm young, I'm strong-- I'm gonna go out there and "stunt" some "tricks" with my new friend Lightning Dust. Well, I'm here to tell you if you play that game, you're gonna find out it's pretty hard to stunt tricks <u>in a full-body-wing-and-hoof cast drinkin' through a straw</u>.

114 RAINBOW DASH
I think she gets the point--

115 SPITFIRE
--I'M NOT FINISHED!
(gentle, inviting)
(MORE)

SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
Listen, I get it, kid. I used to be just like you. Tellin' myself: "I'm gonna touch the sky!"

116 SCOOTALOO
I don't-- I don't say that--

117 SPITFIRE
Well WHOOP-DEE-DOODLE-DOO! You think you got it made in the shade?! Well, things are gonna be pretty shady indeed when you can't go out in the sun cause you're in a full-body-wing-and-hoof cast drinkin' through a straw. DO I MAKE MYSELF CLEAR?!

Scootaloo nods super-quickly. Rainbow Dash encourages her to nod faster and she does.

118 SPITFIRE (CONT'D)
Excellent. Have a hat.

She puts an ill-fitting Wonderbolts cap on Scootaloo's head.

SC. 9 - EXT. CMC CLUBHOUSE - LATER

IN THE SKY, we find Rainbow Dash with Scootaloo on her back.

119 RAINBOW DASH
Sorry. That was a little... intense.

120 SCOOTALOO
(still shaken up)
A little?

ANGLE ON: the ground below the club house, as dust begins to blow around, heralding the landing of Rainbow Dash. As Scootaloo gets off and dusts herself off...

121 RAINBOW DASH
I just want to make sure you don't get hurt. That way you can follow in my hoofsteps. Everypony's dream, right?

122 SCOOTALOO
(kind of annoyed, sarcastic)
More like "follow your wing-flaps."

123 RAINBOW DASH
Same difference.

124 SCOOTALOO
(even more sarcastic)
Thanks, "super-talented flyer," for clearing up what I should do.

125 RAINBOW DASH
(oblivious)
Hey, clearing things up is one of my specialties. Now come on, let's go rip up all your Washouts posters into tiny pieces and throw 'em off a cliff. *

Rainbow Dash heads up into the CMC clubhouse.

SC. 10 - INT. CMC CLUBHOUSE - DAY

Rainbow Dash enters the club house, gathering up the Washouts paraphernalia as she talks, not realizing she's all alone...

126 RAINBOW DASH
You know? I just thought of a great way to raise awareness for your original fan club-- the one about me. How about a silent auction where every item is just a picture of yours truly? Haha, nahhh, I'm just kidding-- that makes me seem too egotistical, doesn't it? OH, but maybe if they're framed it's like, wow, she is so humble, you think?

Rainbow Dash looks up to see... there's no one with her.

SC. 11 - EXT. CMC CLUBHOUSE - DAY *

Rainbow Dash pokes her head out the door to see no sign of...

127 RAINBOW DASH
Scootaloo...?

CUT TO:

SC. 12 - EXT. PONYVILLE - LATER *

Ponies strolling the streets duck as Rainbow Dash zooms past, flying low and fast, calling out and looking around.

128 RAINBOW DASH
Scootaloo!? Anypony seen Scootaloo!?

She's so busy looking left and right that she flies right into Twilight Sparkle, who was flying the other way--

129 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
My fault, my fault-- sorry, I--
Twilight!

130 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Sorry, I was just... um-- it's not what it looks like.

Rainbow Dash looks down to see Twilight gathering up WASHOUTS SWAG, including a SIGNED POSTER!

131 RAINBOW DASH
Please tell me you got that stuff so you could rip it up and throw it off a cliff.

132 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
They were doing an autograph session before practice...

133 RAINBOW DASH
(rolls her eyes)
Seriously? Ugh. You haven't seen Scoot, have you?

134 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Actually...

Off Twilight's hesitant look, wishing she didn't have to tell...

SC. 13 - EXT. SKY - DAY *

Dash and Twilight fly together toward the show field.

135 RAINBOW DASH
I can't believe Scootaloo ditched me to watch them practice! Why can't she see how dangerous they are!?

136 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
That's kind of the whole draw. It's exciting.

137 RAINBOW DASH
But it's like the harder I try to convince Scoot they're dangerous, the more she likes them. *

138 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
You can't control her actions, only yours. Teach her what's safe and what isn't, like a good role model, then hope she makes the right decisions. *

139 RAINBOW DASH
But what if she chooses <u>them</u> over me? She's going to get hurt.

PUSH IN ON TWILIGHT, being as sympathetic to RD as she can...

140 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
I think I know somepony else who might get hurt if that happens...

Dash looks to Twilight and her expression drops, realizing. *

141 RAINBOW DASH *
You're right. But this isn't about me. I'm just worried about Scoot. *

SC. 14 - EXT. FIELD OUTSIDE OF PONYVILLE - DAY *

Washouts practice! Lightning Dust is planning a stunt on a coach's whiteboard with little X's and O's. Short Fuse comes over, eating a sandwich...

142 SHORT FUSE
Wow, you're really working hard on this new stunt.
(after taking a bite)
WHAT KIND OF SORRY EXCUSE FOR A TOMATO SANDWICH IS THIS!???

They look up, hearing the <ROAR> of... Rainbow Dash, soaring above them. She skids to a landing, looking around, craning her neck, etc. Twilight following behind.

143 LIGHTNING DUST
Sorry Dash-- autograph session's over. Unless you want to buy Short Fuse's limited-edition half-eaten tomato sandwich.

144 SHORT FUSE
I'M NOT SIGNING THAT ABOMINATION!!!

145 RAINBOW DASH
I'll pass anyway. You haven't seen Scootaloo have you?

146 LIGHTNING DUST
(enjoying this, pretending to think really hard)
Isn't she that pony who used to respect you...?

Twilight gives RD a shake of the head-- don't take the bait.

147 RAINBOW DASH
(fighting to stay calm)
I'd appreciate you helping me find her... so I can apologize for trying to make her quit liking you.

148 LIGHTNING DUST
(chuckles)
Oh, I'm pretty sure she still likes us.

The Washouts all <LAUGH>. Rainbow Dash is confused. Lightning Dust gestures over to one of the Washouts in full uniform, goggles, and helmet. She takes off her helmet to reveal... *

IT'S SCOOTALOO AND SHE'S A WASHOUT!

Off Dash's look of horror we...

END ACT TWO

<u>ACT THREE</u>

SC. 15 - EXT. FIELD OUTSIDE OF PONYVILLE - RESUME *

Dash stares at Scootaloo in shock.

149 RAINBOW DASH
Lightning Dust, I know we go way back, but I can't let her do this.

150 SCOOTALOO
I don't need you standing up for me.

151 RAINBOW DASH
Obviously you <u>do</u>, because you can't see how dangerous this is. Do you not remember what Spitfire said?

152 LIGHTNING DUST
Ugh, lemme guess (doing her best Spitfire) "You'll be in a full-body-wing-and-hoof cast drinkin' through a straw!"

Scootaloo <LAUGHS>.

153 RAINBOW DASH
That doesn't even sound like Spitfire.
(putting Scootaloo on her back)
That's it, we're leaving--

Scootaloo surprises Dash by jumping off...

154 SCOOTALOO
Just because I look up to you doesn't mean I have to <u>be</u> you!

155 RAINBOW DASH
I never said that--!

156 SCOOTALOO
--but based on <u>your</u> definition of what makes somepony great, I have bad news: I'll NEVER be the "best of the best", or a Wonderbolt because I CAN'T FLY. Is that what you wanted to hear?

Rainbow Dash feels the sting of what she says.

157 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
...But not being able to fly doesn't mean I can't do something awesome, like strapping my scooter to a multi-stage liquid-fuel rocket and jumping twenty wagons lined up in front of a roaring crowd...

158 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
That was awfully specific.

159 LIGHTNING DUST
...that's cause it's what she'll be doing in the show tonight.
(a wink to Twilight)
Half-off for Princesses-- bring your friends.

Twilight ignores that, stepping up.

160 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Scootaloo, are you sure that's what you really want to do?

161 SCOOTALOO
Absolutely.
(to Dash)
(MORE)

SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
And there's nothing you can do to stop me!

Hurt, Rainbow Dash casts a look to Twilight. Then...

162 RAINBOW DASH
You're right. I can't stop you. You're your own foal and you have to make your own decisions.

163 SCOOTALOO
Good. Because I already have.

Lightning Dust literally takes Scootaloo under her wing, guiding her away from Rainbow Dash, who watches sadly. Lightning Dust glances back with a smirk and WINKS, which only makes Rainbow Dash shake her head, defeated. OFF HER DEFEATED FACE...

SC. 16 - EXT. FIELD OUTSIDE OF PONYVILLE - DAY OF THE SHOW *

Crowds begin filling the stands. The Mane 6 (minus Rainbow Dash) look for seats, a la the first show, going to the top.

164 PINKIE PIE
I'm sorry for making us late again-- who would have guessed Scootaloo's Super-Difficult-Stunt-Special Cupcakes would have been so super-difficult to bake?

Pinkie scarfs down a cupcake with frosting-- in the shape of Scootaloo's scooter.

165 APPLEJACK
Looks like all of Ponyville's here... except for Rainbow Dash.

We see Twilight's reaction-- a sad sigh. <ROCK INTRO MUSIC>.

166 ANNOUNCER PONY (V.O.)
(echoing)
This is the time. This is the place. This is the team. THIS IS THE WASHOUTS! And here to introduce the most dangerous stunt we've ever performed, it's your fearless captain... Lightning Dust!

Lightning Dust charges onto the field through a shower of firework sparks.

167 LIGHTNING DUST
First things first-- just a reminder from our lawyers... do not try this at home!

<LAUGHTER>. Before everypony's eyes, the last of 20 WAGONS are wheeled into place with a GIANT RAMP at either end.

168 LIGHTNING DUST (CONT'D)
In just a moment, the newest member of the Washouts will be ROCKET-SLEDDING down that hill, up that ramp, and over all twenty wagons, to land on the other side... in one piece...
(sly smile)
...if she's lucky. Put your hooves together for HALF-PINT DYNAMITE!

<CHEERS>. AJ leans to Rarity, yelling over the cheers--

169 APPLEJACK
I wonder what kind of nut they found to crack a stunt like that!

SC. 17 - EXT. TOP OF THE HILL - SAME *

Scootaloo on her scooter at the top of the giant hill overlooking the crowd, as Lightning Dust lands nearby.

170 SCOOTALOO
Lightning Dust? I have to tell you, I actually started Equestria's first Washouts Fan Club-- as far as I know-- so this is a real honor, ma'am, umm, do I call you ma'am?

171 LIGHTNING DUST
You land this jump, you can call me whatever you want.

172 SCOOTALOO
I'm ready.

Lightning Dust opens a case and reveals a GIANT CARTOONEY ROCKET. Scootaloo's eyes widen as Lightning Dust straps it on her scooter.

173 SCOOTALOO (CONT'D)
Wow, that sure is...

174 LIGHTNING DUST
Dangerous? Nahh. Well-- maybe a little.

175 SCOOTALOO
Has anypony tested it before?

176 LIGHTNING DUST
Tested it? Where's the fun in that?

Scootaloo <GULPS>. Then her eyes bug out at seeing Lightning Dust open TWO ADDITIONAL CASES, revealing TWO EVEN BIGGER STAGES TO THE ROCKET, which she begins attaching.

177 SCOOTALOO
There's MORE!?

178 LIGHTNING DUST
Hey, you're not thinking of backing out, are you?

179 SCOOTALOO
I'm not backing out... (half to herself) I'm just thinking about drinking through straws.

180 LIGHTNING DUST
Are you the president of my fan club, or not?

181 SCOOTALOO
Of course, it's just...

182 LIGHTNING DUST
You wouldn't want to get impeached for dishonoring my wishes, would you?

183 SCOOTALOO
I-- is that even-- Is that a thing?

Lightning Dust yells down to the other Washouts:

184 LIGHTNING DUST
Light it up!

FWOOSH! The wagons burst into flames making the jump even scarier...

185 SCOOTALOO
Okay, now I <u>am</u> thinking about backing out!

186 LIGHTNING DUST
Too late!

Lightning Dust grins, pulling out a RED-BUTTONED DETONATOR.

Before Scootaloo can protest, the fuse is lit and the rocket scooter BLASTS OFF DOWN THE HILL!

The crowd GASPS!

Scootaloo closes her eyes as she tears up the ramp and into the air and everypony realizes... SHE'S NOT GONNA MAKE IT!

But at the last second, A STREAK OF BLUE swoops along the top of the hill, past Lightning Dust, down the hill, up the ramp, and catches up to Scootaloo...

Who is suddenly CAUGHT/SAVED by RAINBOW DASH!

187 RAINBOW DASH
I know I was supposed to let you make your own decisions, but that doesn't mean I can't swoop in and save you from time to time.

Dash carries them both to safety. From the top of the ramp, Lightning Dust sneers down at them--

188 LIGHTNING DUST
Geez! If I'd known you were gonna bail, I'd have done the trick myself!

189 RAINBOW DASH
Great! So you won't mind how that rope's about to coil around your hoof!

Lightning Dust glances down to see... around her front hoof is a RAPIDLY UNSPOOLING loop of rope... attached to the ROCKET SCOOTER that is still blasting away to the horizon.

<GULP>!

Rainbow Dash winks.

190 RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
"Leap before you look."

Suddenly the rope goes TAUT! Lightning Dust is YANKED out of frame. As she flies by Rainbow Dash--

191 LIGHTNING DUST
Rivals for LIFE!

192 RAINBOW DASH
Wouldn't have it any other way.

As Lightning Dust is carried OVER THE HORIZON everypony <CHEERS>! ANOTHER ANGLE: The Mane Six rush up to Rainbow Dash and Scoot as they land.

193 SCOOTALOO
I'm sorry for joining the Washouts... Lightning Dust wasn't who I thought she was. There's awesome... and then there's big-time koo-koo bananas.

194 RAINBOW DASH
I'm the one who should be apologizing... for not acting like somepony who deserves a fan club. I've been lucky to have somepony who thinks I'm the coolest, but there's nothing cool about making you feel like you'll never be as awesome as me.

Twilight gives Rainbow Dash a knowing smile.

195 SCOOTALOO
Awww....

196 RAINBOW DASH
I think we should cancel the Washouts Fan Club, because I know a fan club that could use some new members.

Scootaloo grins:

197 SCOOTALOO
The Rainbow Dash Fan Club!

But Dash shakes her head—- that's not what she means. Off Scootaloo's confusion...

SC. 18 - INT. CMC CLUBHOUSE - DAY *

Rainbow Dash BANGS the gavel and calls a meeting to order:

198 RAINBOW DASH
Welcome to the first ever meeting of a newest fan club for the awesomest, previously UNDER-appreciated pony in Ponyville...
(MORE)

RAINBOW DASH (CONT'D)
with founding member and president Rainbow Dash presiding... it's the Scootaloo Fan Club!

REVEAL: the CMC Clubhouse is packed. Everypony cheers.

ANGLE FROM OUTSIDE THROUGH THE WINDOW: Where Twilight flies Scootaloo up so that she can spy on the meeting through the open clubhouse window a la Rainbow Dash. Scoot glances up at Twilight, pleased.

199 SCOOTALOO
You know, Rainbow Dash was right. Eavesdropping on your own fan club isn't weird at all.

Off Twilight's eye roll we... FADE OUT

END *