

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 8

The Washouts
Ep 820

Premise V2 by: Nick Confalone

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Premise V2: February 27th, 2017

THE WASHOUTS

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Rainbow Dash is excited for the monthly meeting of the one and only Rainbow Dash fan club, led, as it is every month, by Scootaloo, the president and founding member. It's always been a source of pride to Dash, having her "little sister" look up to her like that, so imagine how it feels when Scootaloo ends the meeting early because she needs the time for her NEW fan club, dedicated to the newest and coolest troupe of aerobatic daredevils, THE WASHOUTS.

Dash is confused. If Scoot was going to idolize any group it should be The Wonderbolts – Dash would be happy to share her fan club time with them. Scoot explains the Washouts are even better. They do all sorts of extreme stunts that focus on daredevilry and sheer guts, rather than boring old flight-and-formation precision—cause hey, not everypony can fly, right? Rainbow Dash gets it, but guts or no, the Wonderbolts are the best in Equestria at what they do and it doesn't get any cooler than that, right? Scoot, "I guess. If you like that kind of thing." With that, Dash decides she needs to check out the Washouts for herself. At the show, Dash starts to see what Scootaloo means. The Washouts are brash and exciting and the maneuvers they pull off are show-stopping feats of utter daring. It's hard not to get swept up in the spectacle and Dash soon finds herself cheering even louder than Scoot. Dash has to admit the Washouts' show is more thrilling than any Wonderbolts one she's ever seen. But afterward Dash talks to the Washouts and finds out why. Every member of the team was ousted from the Wonderbolts or the WB Academy for not being able to follow the rules that keep their shows entertaining AND safe – and this rag-tag group of adrenaline junkies is lead by the most reckless ex-Wonderbolt of all time, LIGHTNING DUST!

Dash is glad to see Dust after such a long time and, still impressed with the show, congratulates her on an incredible performance – it was certainly something to see. Dust is just as glad to see Dash and wastes no time telling her that the key to the Washouts' success is to basically ignore everything the Wonderbolts ever taught them. Their "rules" were just holding her back. Dash doesn't quite know what to say, but when it's clear that Scoot is becoming more enamored than ever, Dash decides that she has to do something. At Wonderbolts practice the next day, the rest of the team agree. Dust and her group of ne'er-do-wells are dangerous and Scootaloo must be out of her mind to look up to ponies as reckless as they are. Dash mostly agrees with them, because thrilling a crowd to the edge of their seats by snatching victory from the jaws of defeat at the very last second against impossible odds is totally not cool. Nope. NOTHING cool about that. Dash sets out to prove as much to Scootaloo by starting her own (totally not reckless) daredevil troupe, THE DASHIES – which are just like The Washouts, only 20 percent cooler because they're safe.

Dash struggles to make The Dashies into the coolest outfit Equestria's ever seen, but it's hard to compete with the Washouts AND keep everypony on the team safe. Meantime, Scoot just falls deeper and deeper into Washout worship and Dash realizes she has to do something drastic. Left with no other option, Dash challenges Dust and her team to a competition. The Dashies and the

Washouts will perform together and whoever puts on the better show wins. Unfortunately, during the performance, it's pretty clear that the Dashies can't wow the audience the same way the Washouts can. Desperate, Dash considers throwing caution to the wind and doing her last trick the Washout way – she's a good enough flyer that she might even survive. But at the last moment she realizes that even if she did win the competition, it would send the exact wrong message to Scootaloo and she decides to go the safer route. Better to lose the competition and set a good example. Poised to win, Lightning Dust gloats and then proceeds to do her extremely unsafe and reckless trick, but unfortunately, it all goes wrong. Dash and the rest of her team have to fly to the rescue, barely saving Lightning Dust at the last possible second. Witness to the consequences of Dust's reckless behavior, Scoot realizes her first idol was her best one and decides to go back to dedicating all of her time to the Dash fan club.