

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 8
Fake It 'Til You Make It
Ep 804
Premise by: Josh Hamilton

Distribution:

Production:
Devon Cody
Joanna Lewis
Kristine Songco
Jim Miller
Denny Lu
Tim Stuby
Zoe Borroz
Jada McDermott

Discovery Family:
Linda Shima Tsuno
Beth Mohammed

Hasbro Studios:
Stephen Davis
Kathy Page
Meghan McCarthy
Eliza Hart
Gabriel Monje
Daniel Barnes
Finn Arnesen
Nina Scales
Graham Stephen
Tyla Bucher
Loretta Masters
Narae Song
Bill Cheungcp
Molly Shaffer
Emily Thompson
Rachelle Little
Kristen Riley
Emily Thompson
Michael Kelly

Hasbro Brand:
Jamie Cipolla
Yusun Hwang
Kevin Evans
Andrea Ehret
Samantha Lomow
Gretchen Forrest
Kristen Riley
Katherine Padilla
Brian Chapman

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FAKE IT ‘TIL YOU MAKE IT

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Logline: When Rarity needs help at her Manehattan boutique, only Fluttershy is available. Worried she's too timid for the job, Fluttershy takes on a new persona to handle the high fashion clientele.

Fluttershy's weekly Cuddly Friend's Picnic is interrupted when a frantic Rarity charges into the clearing. She needs help! She has to change her entire fall collection at the last second because Suri Polomare is going with the same color combination she had in mind. It's a nightmare! Now she needs to make a new collection, which means new fabric, new color, new patterns and most importantly new inspiration!! And she has no time – the Canterlot fall fashion show is next week.

Rarity desperately needs someone to watch her store in Manehattan while she deals with this kerfuffle and finishes her new fashion line. Fluttershy offers to help, though Saddle Row isn't exactly her comfort zone. Rarity agrees that Fluttershy might not be the pony best suited for the task and together they visit the rest of the Mane Six.

BUT... One by one, Rarity and Fluttershy find their other friends are too busy to help. That just leaves Fluttershy. Fluttershy isn't sure she'll be great with the high-brow, fashion forward, city ponies of Manehattan, but she loves her friend and will do her best—despite being TERRIFIED. Rarity looks at her friend (eye-twitch), “I'm sure you'll make it work!”

In Manehattan, Fluttershy is quickly overwhelmed. The fast talking Manehattanites expect top quality service and have no time for this sweet but overwhelmed out-of-towner. Rarity arrives to grab some much-needed supplies and finds Fluttershy wishing she could just hide in the stock room. Rushed, Rarity tries her best to come up with some quick pointers for dealing with the Manehattan crowd. She gives Fluttershy tips on how to bring out her inner-strength. Rarity works on Fluttershy's body language. “Puff yourself up -- take up space! Sit taller. Move your arms a lot!” Rarity gives her pointers on power dynamics and non-verbal expressions. They run through several awkward power-poses, but nothing's really jiving. Before she leaves, a rushed Rarity suggests Fluttershy try a new outfit, “That always makes me feel like a completely different pony.”

Fluttershy takes Rarity's advice, but in addition to a new outfit, she tries a new accent. Soon she's trying an entirely different persona and unbelievably it works! Fluttershy adopts the personality of a flamboyant, snooty retail clerk and the customers really respond. Concerned for her friend, Rarity doubles back to help Fluttershy work through it, (forget the fashion show), but the customers coming out of her boutique rave about their experience and it seems like Fluttershy finally has the situation well in hoof. Pleased, Rarity heads back to Canterlot.

Later, the Mane Six arrive to help Fluttershy and are shocked to see her new persona. She's dealing with the customers and has the shop in order, but the friends quickly realize that Fluttershy is snowballing out of control. Instead of adopting just one new personality, she's adopting a new one for each different type of customers. Fluttershy gets so wrapped up in her characters that she doesn't even recognize her friends and in a manic fit to service the more, up-scale clientele, she ushers them out of the shop! Our gang realizes that Fluttershy is out of control (even her animal friends don't recognize her). They go to Rarity for help. Rarity has just finished her fall line and is about to put on her show, but when she hears Fluttershy is in trouble, she leaves the show without a second thought.

At the shop, Rarity comes face to face with Fluttershy’s multiple personalities and the experience is... unpleasant. Fluttershy may be a good Manehattan sales clerk, but she’s not Fluttershy anymore! As things escalate, Rarity has to fire the snooty clerk persona, breaking Fluttershy out of her routine and returning her to normal. Rarity explains that she truly appreciates what Fluttershy did to help, but she didn’t want other pony-personalities running her shop – she wanted her friend. Fluttershy admits that she’d much rather be herself, but that Fluttershy was a terrible clerk. Rarity explains that Fluttershy doesn’t need to become a different pony to be successful – she clearly has it within herself – which gives Rarity a sudden inspiration!

As the rest of the friends run the shop, Fluttershy models Rarity’s newest creation: The Warrior Within! It’s a high-fashion gown that combines elements of silk and armor to convey Fluttershy’s exterior softness and interior strength. Customers rave and soon a fashion critic is on the scene explaining that Rarity’s new design is better than anything going on at Canterlot’s Fashion Week. But when the critic indelicately asks if Rarity is trying to undermine that show, Fluttershy shifts back into her snooty persona and runs him off.