

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9
Last Laugh
EP 914
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LAST LAUGH

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TEASER**SC. 1 - INT. TWILIGHT'S THRONE ROOM – DAY**

The MANE SIX sit around reflecting on how far they've all come. It really is amazing what they've achieved. Twilight is going to be Ruler of all of Equestria, Rainbow Dash is a Wonderbolt, Fluttershy has her animal sanctuary, Rarity has her boutiques, and Applejack couldn't be happier continuing her family's tradition on the farm. And Pinkie... well... Pinkie isn't sure what she's achieved. The gang tries to reassure her. Pinkie throws parties. She makes ponies laugh. But compared to her friend's achievements, Pinkie wonders if that's enough. She explains that her first thought was that her destiny should be to make as many ponies laugh as possible, but unfortunately that job's been filled. Almost bittersweet, she offers her hoof to Dash who takes it and is instantly BUZZED! Pinkie reveals the joke buzzer she's wearing and turns it over to reveal the logo of a joke factory – run by none other than Cheese Sandwich. Her friend already makes EVERY pony in Equestria laugh! Off Pinkie's SIGH, "Maybe HE should have been the element of laughter."

END TEASER**MAIN TITLES****ACT ONE****SC. 2 - INT. TWILIGHT'S THRONE ROOM – RESUME**

None of Pinkie's friends agree that Cheese is more representative of laughter than she is. Pinkie appreciates the support, but she can't help but wonder what's next for her. What will SHE do when every pony she knows moves on to bigger and better things, but she hasn't? Twilight and the rest tell her they will do anything to help her figure it out – no matter how long it takes. Pinkie appreciates it, but isn't sure where to start. Regardless it'll have to wait until after she gets back. When the others ask where she's going she presents them with a cupcake. None of them understand until she pushes down on the cherry to reveal it's not a cupcake at all. The not-cupcake opens and a Golden Ticket pops out on a spring with a small blast of confetti. Pinkie tells them it's an invitation to visit The Cheese Sandwich Amusement Factory. She can't wait to see him and the factory, but admits it's what got her thinking about all of this to begin with. She's super happy for Cheese, but a little envious too. The others think it could be a good thing. Maybe Cheese's example will inspire her to come up with her destiny idea. Heartened, Pinkie sets off.

SC. 3 - EXT. CHEESE SANDWICH AMUSEMENT FACTORY – LATER

Pinkie walks along the high walls that surround the factory—all plastered with photos of Cheese smiling HUGE smiles and laughing BIG laughs. His ridiculous, smiling and laughing face is

EVERYWHERE. She comes upon the guard house/main gate (think Buckingham Palace). The GUARDS block her path and when Pinkie asks to see Cheese Sandwich they are confused. They don't know anypony by that name. Pinkie, "Um... that's him right there." She points at one of the huge posters of Cheese's smiling face. The guards turn to each other. Huh. They hadn't realized that Cheese Sandwich was a pony. They just thought it was the name of the company. They've never actually seen him. Not only have they never seen their boss, they haven't seen anypony at all. The place is shut tight. No pony ever comes out and nobody ever goes in—which includes random pink ponies with questions. They tell her to move along but Pinkie presents her invitation. The second she pulls it out, alarms go off and a loud steam whistle blows. The guards stare in shock as the gates slowly creak open. Pinkie thanks them and happily bounces inside.

SC. 4 - EXT. FACTORY COURTYARD – CONTINUOUS

She hops to a stop and looks around at the gray, empty and desolate courtyard. Suddenly, a huge metal door slowly rolls open. Pinkie peers into the dark interior as a pony that looks a lot like Cheese Sandwich emerges. An overly broad smile plastered on his face, he walks slowly (maybe even with a limp), and wears a Willy Wonka-esque suit. He stops just short of Pinkie then leans forward and "trips" falling onto his accordion which immediately springs him back up. He lands with a flourish as a collection of instruments pop out of nowhere to play a TA-DA! <MUSIC STING>. Delighted, Pinkie applauds and laughs hysterically. Satisfied, the pony reaches up and removes what we now see is a Cheese Sandwich MASK. The placid-faced pony beneath the mask turns to two lab coated ASSISTANTS who appear at his side. He tells them Pinkie appreciated the gag, just as Mr. Sandwich predicted, and instructs them to investigate ways to package it. As the assistants disappear inside, the mystery pony turns to Pinkie and introduces himself as SANS SMIRK, the vice-president of amusement integration. Pinkie admits she was hoping to see Cheese and Smirk assures her that her old friend can't wait to see her, but asked him to give her a tour of the factory first. Thrilled, Pinkie follows him inside as Smirk describes how he and the rest of the staff make and package funny for the masses. Their gags are available for purchase throughout Equestria and (reading from a brochure) "...are guaranteed to turn a giggle into a guffaw, a chuckle into a chortle, and a knee-slapper into a gut-buster!" Too excited to contain herself, Pinkie runs ahead and...

SC. 5 - INT. FACTORY FLOOR – CONTINUOUS

Bursts in onto a... normal, boring factory floor, with more lab-coated WORKERS at assembly lines. It's not quite the Orwellian vibe of Apple's famous "1984" Superbowl commercial, but it ain't fun looking either. Still, Pinkie rushes over to a conveyer belt and grabs a flower from it. She knows what this is. Smirk nods, points it at another worker, and squeezes a fire hose amount of water out at him – completely drenching him. Pinkie laughs hysterically. Smirk nods approvingly, but neither he, the wet worker, or anyone but Pinkie even smiles. "Yes. This is very funny," they all agree. Pinkie races to another conveyer belt and grabs a whoopie cushion. Smirk nods. That's their "Whoopie Ventriloquist." Pinkie squeezes it and the sound seems like it's coming from a worker across the room—the workers around him discretely move away. Pinkie falls to the floor laughing. That is brilliant! Smirk and the other workers all agree though, again, none of them actually laugh. Pinkie runs toward a collection of banana peels, but Smirk stops her. The "Super-slip Banana Peel" is made from the slipperiest material in all of Equestria. They are

still working on it, but right now it's too slippery – it even slips on itself. By way of demonstration, he gently places it on the ground – and it instantly goes slipping around the floor, knocking things over and causing chaos. Smirk admits there's actually no way to get it to stop and soon the slipping banana peel slips under his foot, causing him to do a silly (non-smiling) dance while slipping around on it. He tries to grab onto a nearby conveyer belt to steady himself, but his hooves land on a squirting flower and he's propelled across the room. He falls and lands on a pile of whoopie cushions, which makes a sound so loud it echoes through the factory. Pinkie laughs so hard she's crying– and again, she's the only one. Smirk and the other workers just take notes and discuss how to increase the banana's viscosity.

Pinkie wipes her eyes from laughing and thanks Smirk for the tour, but she's confused. She certainly doesn't mean any offence, because everything he's showed her is hysterical, but she can't help but notice that neither he nor any of the other workers seem very... funny. Smirk takes no offence and explains that it's their responsibility to make funny things, not be funny themselves. As Pinkie tries to wrap her head around this idea, a voice comes over a loudspeaker telling Smirk to send Pinkie up. Smirk tells her that Cheese is ready to see her and points to a set of stairs

SC. 6 - INT. CHEESE SANDWICH'S OFFICE – LATER

Pinkie enters a small, dark office where a figure (CHEESE SANDWICH) sits at a desk shrouded in shadow. “Cheese?” Without turning on the light, Cheese explains how glad he is that Pinkie came. Pinkie explains how happy she was to get his invitation. She admits being a little envious – he really has achieved everything she could ever want or imagine – but The Cheese Sandwich Amusement Factory is just the paradise of laughter she imagined – even if the ponies who run in it are a little wet-blanket-ish. Cheese explains that he's glad Pinkie liked the tour, but he's even more glad she noticed his workers' situation because that's why he asked her to come. He needs her help. He finally turns on the lights and we see him for the first time. His color is a little less saturated and his hair falls completely flat along the side of his head (think Pinkamena). More importantly the broad smile we've seen plastered everywhere is completely absent. It's not just his employees who don't laugh, he explains. He himself has completely lost his laugh!

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 7 -INT. CHEESE SANDWICH'S OFFICE – RESUME

Pinkie stares in disbelief. Of all ponies, how could Cheese Sandwich have lost his laugh?! Cheese Sandwich wishes he knew, but the shame of it has turned him into a recluse. Not even Boneless 2 recognizes him anymore! Pinkie now knows his secret. It's why none of them ever leave the factory. What would ponies think of a joke factory full of ponies who can't laugh? He knows what's funny, but he just doesn't feel it in his own funny bone. Not believing him, Pinkie spots a nearby “can of peanut brittle” and grabs it. Pinkie: “Okay, fine. Then why don't we continue discussing this over some delicious canned peanut brittle?” She opens it and snakes and confetti launch out. She laughs, but Cheese Sandwich remains stone faced. He knows the gag is

“hysterical,” but actual laughter escapes him. He’s beside himself. Anypony with a sense of humor would be laughing non-stop, but the feeling is gone! He pauses for a moment and calls for Smirk on the intercom. As Smirk immediately appears, Cheese explains that their peanut brittle snake gag should use a tighter spring. Smirk takes note, agreeing the tighter spring will increase the funny factor by a full ten percent. Cheese Sandwich nods agreeing, then turns back to Pinkie – too bad they won’t ever laugh at it. Cheese starts to sob again, but Pinkie Pie grabs his shoulders and tells him she finally knows what she’s meant to do. Her life’s purpose is to give Cheese and all of his workers their laughs back.

SC. 8 - INT. FACTORY FLOOR – CONTINUOUS

Pinkie, now dressed like Mickey from Rocky, in sweats and with a whistle around her neck is pacing back and forth. She’s going to turn Cheese back into a lean, mean, giggle machine—and his workers too. She’s going to take them from a titter, to a tee-hee, to rolling on the floor howling with laughter. Smirk isn’t sure her efforts are necessary, but Pinkie insists. First the basics – some stretching exercises since they haven’t smiled in so long. Pinkie: “Don’t want you to pull a muscle while you’re pulling a leg.” She coaches them through some smiling exercises. As Cheese starts to have trouble even grinning, she jumps in to “spot” him and contorts his face into different types of smiles. Once she thinks he has the hang of it, she backs off to let him try it on his own. But as soon as she moves her hooves away, his mouth droops back down into a disappointed frown.

SC. 9 - EXT. FACTORY COURTYARD – LATER

Cheese Sandwich is dressed as a baby in a big crib. He’s not so sure about this. Pinkie reassures him. In order to help remind him how to laugh and find his sense of humor – she’s taking him all the way back to his *very first laugh*. If this works, she’ll just duplicate the same gag for everypony else. She puts Cheese Sandwich over her shoulder and starts burping him. Cheese Sandwich admits that while he’s sure this looks funny, he still feels nothing. Smirk assures him, without smiling, that the image is very funny indeed. Suddenly, Cheese lets out a burp so huge, the factory windows break (like when a singer hits the high note that shatters glass). Pinkie laughs hard, and looks to the rest. “Really? Nothing?” Cheese Sandwich just shrugs. Okay, let’s try something else.

SC. 10 - INT. FACTORY FLOOR – LATER

Since reminding Cheese of his first laugh didn’t work, she decides to try to get him and his employees to laugh at something new – something they’ve never seen before. Pinkie skateboards off a ramp and lands in her party cannon. She’s immediately shot back out in the air (and is now dressed like a clown) and lands on a waiting tall unicycle. She starts juggling cakes and telling jokes. As she hits a punchline, she begins to lose her balance and tosses the cakes high into the air. They each come down – hitting her in the face, one after another. She wipes the icing from her eyes and looks over to see Smirk and the other workers taking avid notes, but not laughing. Cheese Sandwich just shakes his head. Still nothing. Pinkie SIGHS and wheels off.

SC. 11 - INT. CHEESE SANDWICH'S OFFICE – LATER

Cheese Sandwich sits on a stool with his head in his hooves while Pinkie paces back and forth. She just doesn't understand why nothing has worked. She's been working her tail off but hasn't been able to produce one little smile. She knows all of the things she did were funny... Weren't they? She goes back over them and analyzes their comedic elements. Were they really funny? As she starts thinking about the jokes, we see diagrams and joke structures floating around her a la a "Beautiful Mind." Smash Cut back to Pinkie confirming, "Yep. All of it's 100% funny. A+ material, in fact. Really, some of my best work." But suddenly, Pinkie is struck by something. She knows all of that stuff was funny, but thinking about it isn't making her laugh. She goes over it all again (think high-speed instant replay). Yep, it's funny and nope, still not a single Pinkie smile. OH NO! She grabs Cheese Sandwich – terrified. The condition is contagious! Pinkie: "I think I've lost my laugh, too!"

END ACT TWO**ACT THREE****SC. 12 - INT. CHEESE SANDWICH'S OFFICE – RESUME**

Cheese Sandwich is stunned. This is the worst possible scenario. The whole point of starting his factory was to spread laughter and he's doing the exact opposite. And not just to any pony, but to Pinkie Pie—the laughinest pony in all Equestria. Pinkie tells him he's no slouch himself. Cheese stares at her inspired. Pinkie is right. They are two of the funniest ponies around. If they can't overcome this, nopony can! This might be a serious condition, but there's no way they're going to take it lying down. Pinkie and the Cheese are gonna bring laughter back!

SC. 13 - INT. FACTORY FLOOR – MOMENTS LATER

Pinkie and Cheese give an inspiring speech to the expressionless factory workers, a big banner of cupcakes and Boneless behind them (think the movie Patton). They reiterate how they are the funniest ponies in Equestria, but they are going to need everyponies' help. They will make each other laugh. They will bring back laughter by any means necessary!

MUSICAL MONTAGE

In a big musical number, they try bigger and bigger gags, making sure that everyone at the factory is taking part—they are going to get them all to laugh at once no matter what it takes. But as the plans get more and more outlandish, nothing seems to work and eventually they all just end up exhausted and spent. At the end of the song they've expended all their resources and all of their energy and they've still failed.

SC. 14 -INT. FACTORY FLOOR – CONTINUOUS

Ready to admit defeat, Cheese decides there's only one course of action left – close the factory. Making jokes for the masses seems like the ultimate dream, but it's turned out to be a laughter

killer. He doesn't want what's happened to them to happen to anypony else. Pinkie doesn't want to concede, but agrees that it really feels like they've tried everything. Of course, they can't just unceremoniously close the factory and the two of them brainstorm creative ways to shutter the business. Pinkie has a TBD idea that represents something personal between the two of them and Cheese actually finds it funny. It starts off as a chuckle and soon Pinkie is joining in. Before long the two of them are in the throws of a full-fledged giggle fit. Concerned, Smirk runs up and asks if they're okay. Cheese explains they are more than okay – he has his laugh back and so does Pinkie. Disappointed, Smirk offers his resignation. He's happy for his boss, but feels like a disappointment since he and his staff still haven't been able to laugh. Cheese refuses to let Smirk quit because he's realized something. Someponies can be satisfied making amusements for the masses, but that's not him. The laughter he needs to make comes from connecting with ponies one on one—the way Pinkie does. Of course it's perfectly okay for Smirk and the rest of the staff to be satisfied making funny things without feeling funny themselves. In fact, Cheese decides he's going to give control of the company over to Smirk and the rest of the staff. Cheese is going back to wandering Equestria, throwing parties, and spreading laughter one pony at a time, just like his idol Pinkie Pie.

SC. 15 - INT. TWILIGHT'S THRONE ROOM – DAY

Back with her friends, Pinkie finishes telling them about her experience. Her friends wonder if she's still worried about finding her ultimate destiny and Pinkie tells them she's not. She's realized when it comes to laughter bigger isn't necessarily better. The point isn't to make as many ponies laugh as possible, it's making a connection with just one. That's something she already does. Pinkie doesn't need to find her destiny because she's already living it. As they all agree we...

FADE OUT

END