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MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9

The Last Laugh
Ep 914

Teleplay 1st Draft

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Teleplay 1st Draft: Mike and Wil Fox

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

RAINBOW DASH zooms in through the doors to find TWILIGHT, FLUTTERSHY, APPLEJACK, RARITY and SPIKE all waiting. Dash looks around, confused.

1 RAINBOW DASH
What gives? I thought Pinkie Pie
said to get here right away.

2 APPLEJACK
 (agreeing)
She sure had a bur in her britches
about something.

3 SPIKE
So, where is she?

They all stare at the doors to the room.

4 PINKIE PIE (O.S.)
Yeah. What is taking her so long?

PAN OVER to reveal PINKIE PIE standing behind Spike. They all turn to look at her, surprised.

5 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Just kidding. You guys really need
to look behind you once in a while.

6 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Pinkie, you said you had something
important tell us.

7 PINKIE PIE
Not telling so much as showing.
(dramatic) In fact, what you're
about to see may shake the very
foundations of your perception for
all time!

Off of their looks of intrigue, she pulls a LARGE CUPCAKE out from behind her back.

8 FLUTTERSHY
A cupcake?

9 PINKIE PIE
YES! But wait! There's more...

She pushes down on the cherry and the top of the cupcake pops open. With a BLAST of confetti, a GOLDEN TICKET pops out on a spring.

10 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
(excited) It's an invitation to
visit the Cheese Sandwich Amusement
Factory!

11 SPIKE
Cheese Sandwich opened a factory?

12 APPLEJACK
Does he make rubber chickens?

13 PINKIE PIE
(laughing) That's ridiculous...
(then) And yes.

14 RARITY
No wonder you're so excited. You
haven't seen Cheese in ages.

15 PINKIE PIE
I know! I can't wait to tour his
factory, catch up, have him tell me
my life's purpose, swap gag tips--

16 APPLEJACK
Hold up. What did you say?

The rest of the Mane Six also look to Pinkie, unsure if they heard her right.

17 PINKIE PIE
Uh, catch up? I mean, it's been
awhile.

18 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Pinkie, I think Applejack is asking
about the part where Cheese
Sandwich tells you your life's
purpose..?

19 PINKIE PIE
Oh, that. Yeah. It's just all of
you have found your thing. You're
going to rule all of Equestria.
Rainbow Dash is a Wonderbolt.
Fluttershy has her animal
sanctuary. Rarity has her
boutiques. Applejack has that
hat...

(MORE)

PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
(off her look) and the farm, so
that's, like, two things. I don't
even have one.

Pinkie Pie slumps her shoulders and off-handedly takes a bite
of the giant invitation cupcake. Her chewing makes a strange
<CRUNCHING> sound.

20 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
When I first got Cheese's invite, I
was a little jealous because it
felt like even he was moving on to
bigger and better things and
everypony was leaving me behind.

21 RARITY
Darling, we would never leave you.

22 PINKIE PIE
But then I realized Cheese Sandwich
is a party pony just like me. If he
figured out his purpose, he can
figure out mine too!

23 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Pinkie, I think talking to Cheese
Sandwich is a great idea, but the
only pony who can really find your
life's purpose is you.

24 PINKIE PIE
I know, silly. That's why I'm going
to visit Cheese Sandwich's factory
so I can ask him what it should be!

With that, Pinkie takes another big bite out of the
invitation cupcake. The odd <CRUNCHING> sound continues.
Spike inspects the cupcake more closely--it's papier-mâché.

25 SPIKE
Ah, Pinkie, are you sure this is
edible.

26 PINKIE PIE
(continuing to CRUNCH)
I am not!

Off the others' uncertain looks we...

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SC. 2 - EXT. FACTORY/FRONT GATE - DAY

Pinkie walks along the high walls that surround the factory. She passes HUGE POSTERS of Cheese Sandwich smiling HUGE smiles--in fact, his LAUGHING FACE is everywhere. Pinkie Pie stops to look up at it.

27 PINKIE PIE
Yep. Anypony with a laugh like that
is exactly the kind of pony I want
to help me.

She comes upon the guard house/main gate (think Buckingham Palace). As she approaches the gate, two GUARD PONIES block her path.

28 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Oh, hey guys. Pardon me. Just gonna
squeeze by...

She tries to squeeze through them, but no go.

29 GUARD PONY #1
(sighs) Can we help you?

30 PINKIE PIE
You sure can. I'm here to get my
life's purpose from Cheese
Sandwich!

31 GUARD PONY #1
Come again?

32 PINKIE PIE
Well, since he's a super dooper
party pony like me who's found his
purpose running this factory - I'm
pretty sure when I see him, he'll
know exactly what mine should be.

33 GUARD PONY #2
Ah, Cheese Sandwich doesn't "see"
anypony.

34 PINKIE PIE
"See". (chuckles) That reminds me
of our best joke. I'd say I'm on a
seapony diet and Cheese would say,
"Yeah, you're a pony who eats food
whenever you see it!"

She laughs, but they just look at her blankly.

35 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
I guess it's just a Cheese and me
joke--

36 GUARD PONY #1
Actually it's a pretty common jo--

37 PINKIE PIE
(cutting him off) JUST CHEESE AND
ME! Anyhoo--

She tries unsuccessfully to squeeze past them again.

38 GUARD PONY #1
Listen, you seem perfectly nice,
but this factory is shut tight.
Nopony ever comes out and nopony
ever goes in - including you. Now
please-

39 GUARD PONY #2
(suddenly) HOLD ON! (to Guard Pony
1) You said I could say it next
time.

40 GUARD PONY #1
(exasperated) Fine.

Guard Pony #2 draws himself up straight, clears his throat.

41 GUARD PONY #2
<AHM> (then, very official) Move
along.

Pinkie just stares at them. They look at each other,
confused. *

42 GUARD PONY #2 (CONT'D)
She's not moving. Maybe you should
have said it.

43 PINKIE PIE
Oh, no. You did a great job, it's
just that I've got this invitation,
so...

She pulls out the half-eaten invitation cupcake and both
guards' eyes light up.

44 GUARD PONY #1
Well, why didn't you say so!?

Guard #1 turns and pushes a BIG RED BUTTON. Suddenly, ALARMS go off and a loud steam whistle BLOWS. The Guards stand aside and the massive gates slowly CREAK open.

45 GUARD PONY #2
Next time, I get to push the
button.

46 GUARD PONY #1
FINE!

Smiling, Pinkie bounces past them and inside.

SC. 3 - EXT. FACTORY COURTYARD - CONTINUOUS

She hops to a stop and looks around at the gray, empty and desolate courtyard.

47 PINKIE PIE
Oooh. Desolate-y.

An enormous metal door slowly opens. Pinkie peers into the dark interior.

48 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Hello? Anypony there?

Suddenly, out of the darkness comes a huge unrolling RED CARPET. It heads towards Pinkie, but stops in front of her revealing-- "Cheese Sandwich" at the end of the roll. TA-DA! <MUSIC STING>.

"Cheese Sandwich" stares at her, an overly broad smile frozen on his face - in fact it's the EXACT SAME smile as the posters outside. Pinkie applauds and laughs hysterically.

49 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Classic Cheese Sandwich!

Satisfied, the pony reaches up and removes what we now see is a Cheese Sandwich MASK. The placid-faced pony beneath the mask, SANS SMIRK, turns to TWO LAB COATED ASSISTANTS who suddenly appear at his side.

50 SANS SMIRK
Please take note that Ms. Pie did
in fact appreciate the "carpet gag"
just as Mr. Sandwich predicted.

They nod, jotting down notes on clipboards.

51 SANS SMIRK (CONT'D)
Let's mock up a few choices for
possible carpet packaging and move
forward on our mask initiative.
Questions?

The assistants shake their heads and disappear back inside.
Sans turns back to see Pinkie with her hoof raised.

52 PINKIE PIE
I have a question. What's going on
and who are you? Sorry. Two
questions.

53 SANS SMIRK
I am Sans Smirk, Vice-President of
amusement integration here at the
Cheese Sandwich Amusement Factory.
(then) I am aware you were likely
expecting to see Cheese Sandwich
and I can assure you that he can't
wait to see you--

54 PINKIE PIE
(very excited) That's great! He's
the reason I'm here!

55 SANS SMIRK
But first, Mr. Sandwich thought
that I should give you a guided
tour of our facility.

Pinkie studies Sans' completely flat expression.

56 PINKIE PIE
(less excited) That... also sounds
good.

Sans pulls out a stack of notecards and clears his throat as
he leads Pinkie toward the doors inside.

57 SANS SMIRK
<AHM> (then, reading) Inside these
walls, houses the biggest novelty
joke factory in all of (flips card,
then) Equestria.

58 PINKIE PIE
(impressed) Oooh.

He stops in front of the metal door.

59 SANS SMIRK
(reading) Here at the Cheese
Sandwich Amusement factory, we not
only find ways to maximize the
funny factor of existing gags, but
also pride ourselves on being at
the forefront of emerging humor
technologies.

60 PINKIE PIE
Wow. This must be the fun-est place
ever! Let's go inside already!

Excited, she dashes inside...

SC. 4 - INT. FACTORY FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

...and 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 isn't fun looking either.

61 PINKIE PIE
Huh. Maybe the fun is behind all this
boring-looking factory stuff.

Sans looks at her, serious and slightly confused.

62 SANS SMIRK
The fun is the factory stuff.

63 PINKIE PIE
I'll take your word for it. But for
now I'd really like to see the big
Cheese... Get it?

64 SANS SMIRK
Indeed. Big cheese is a synonym for
the pony in charge and the pony in
charge here is named Cheese. A
clever pun.

65 PINKIE PIE
(bows) Thanks. So, can I see him? I
really need to ask him a-WAAHHAAAA!

Pinkie's eyes suddenly go wide and she rushes over to one of
the assembly lines and picks up a plastic looking FLOWER.

66 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Is this a--

67 SANS SMIRK
...squirting flower. Yes. But you
should be care--

Pinkie immediately squeezes it, sending a FIRE HOSE amount of *
water at Smirk, completely drenching him.

68 SANS SMIRK (CONT'D)
--ful. We've perfected the water
delivery system.

Pinkie laughs hysterically. Smirk nods approvingly but
doesn't laugh or smile.

69 PINKIE PIE
(wiping away tears) Okay. That's
good stuff. Let's go see Cheese so
I can tell him how great it--
WAAAAAAHHHAAAAAAATT IS THIS!!!?

Pinkie reaches into a nearby box and pulls out a WHOOPEE
CUSHION.

70 SANS SMIRK
Ah. The "Ventriloquoopee Cushion"
(quickly) patent pending.

Pinkie presses down on it and the sound seems to come from a
worker (**WORKER PONY #2**) across the room - the workers around
him discreetly move away.

Pinkie falls to the floor laughing. Smirk just nods in
agreement, again, without joining in. Pinkie catches her
breath.

71 PINKIE PIE
That is amazing, but the whole
reason I came was to see my frie--

Pinkie stops mid-word when a banana peel under a glass dome
on a pedestal catches her eye. She looks to Sans, trying to
hold back her excitement. He nods, serious.

72 SANS SMIRK
Our "Super-Slip Banana Peel." It's
still in development--

He lifts the glass dome and the banana peel slips off it's
pedestal. It slides along the floor, slipping under several
Worker Ponies who all fall like dominos along their assembly
line, before the peel rebounds off a wall and shoots back
into the glass dome.

73 SANS SMIRK (CONT'D)
 (still totally serious)
A bit too slippery.

He gently places the dome back on its pedestal. Pinkie tries *
holding back for a beat, then ERUPTS in a fit of laughter.
Recovering, she looks up at Sans.

74 PINKIE PIE
All of this just proves I came to
the right place. Cheese has truly
found his calling and now he's
going to help me find mine.

Sans nods and leads Pinkie toward a set of stairs going up
from the factory floor. At the base of the stairs, he turns
back to her.

75 SANS SMIRK
Mr. Sandwich wanted me to warn you.
Other than myself, you are the only
pony to see him in quite some time.
He's concerned you might find his
"condition," alarming.

76 PINKIE PIE
Ahh... what condition?

Off Pinkie's concern...

SC. 5 - INT. CHEESE SANDWICH'S OFFICE - LATER

Pinkie sticks her head into the small, dark office where a
figure (**CHEESE SANDWICH**) sits at a desk shrouded in shadow.

77 PINKIE PIE
Hello?

Without turning on the light:

78 CHEESE SANDWICH
(flatly) Pinkie, I'm glad you came.

79 PINKIE PIE
Of course I did! Your factory is
amazing! Which is perfect because I
really came here for help.

80 CHEESE SANDWICH
That is perfect! I knew I could
count on you to help me!

81 PINKIE PIE
That's perfect-est because-- Wait.
What do you need my help for?

Cheese Sandwich finally turns on the lights and we see him for the first time.

His color is less saturated and his hair falls completely flat along the side of his head (think Pinkamena). More shocking, the broad smile we've seen plastered everywhere is completely absent. He stares at her, flat in every way.

82 CHEESE SANDWICH
(panicked and pleading) Pinkie,
I've completely lost my laugh!

Off of Pinkie's jaw on the floor, we...

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 6 - INT. CHEESE SANDWICH'S OFFICE - RESUME

Pinkie stares in disbelief.

83 PINKIE PIE
If this is some kind of joke it's
not a funny one... Unless it's over
my head. (looking up) Nope. Nothing
up there.

Cheese stares at her. He nods.

84 CHEESE SANDWICH
Over your head. That's funny. But,
it's not a joke. And even if it
were, I wouldn't be able to laugh
at it.

She spots a "CAN OF PEANUT BRITTLE" on his desk.

85 PINKIE PIE
Hmmm. (slyly) Why don't we continue
discussing this over some delicious
canned peanut brittle?

She opens it. Spring loaded snakes and confetti launch out, bouncing off of Cheese's face. Pinkie laughs, but Cheese just stares.

86 CHEESE SANDWICH
That is also funny.

He presses a button on his desk and Sans Smirk immediately enters. Cheese looks up at him.

87 CHEESE SANDWICH (CONT'D)
We need to tighten the springs on the
peanut brittle snakes. The extra
bounce should increase the funny
factor by ten percent.

88 PINKIE PIE
Hold on. You know what's funny but
you can't laugh at it!

Cheese turns to her with a dramatic SOB.

89 CHEESE SANDWICH
YES! And it's torture!

90 SANS SMIRK
Honestly, I don't see the problem.
(off their looks) But I'm just
middle management.

91 PINKIE PIE
How did this happen?

92 CHEESE SANDWICH
I don't know. It sort of crept up
on me. Back when I was a party
pony, I laughed at everything.

SC. 7 - EXT. FIELD - FLASHBACK

We see Cheese Sandwich throwing a Cute-ceanera. He spins a YOUNG FOAL in a fancy dress around, hands her a thick bat and points her at a piñata.

93 CHEESE SANDWICH (V.O.)
Life was going so well, I started
making novelty gags for every one
of my parties.

When she strikes the piñata it doesn't move, but THE BAT BREAKS OPEN and candy falls out. Cheese Sandwich, along with everypony around him, doubles over in laughter.

A PONY taps Cheese on the shoulder. He holds out some money and points at the bat.

Cheese smiles, but somepony else taps him on the shoulder. He turns to see a long line of ponies waiting to give him money.

94 CHEESE SANDWICH (V.O.)
Soon, it seemed like everypony in
Equestria wanted a Cheese Sandwich
original.

SC. 8 - INT. WORKSHOP - LATER

Exhausted Cheese Sandwich stands at a work bench, a small pile of gags next to him. He presses a hoof buzzer and laughs, then looks to a long list in front of him.

95 CHEESE SANDWICH (V.O.)
But it was more work than my hooves
could handle and I didn't want to
disappoint all those smiling faces...

SC. 9 - EXT. FACTORY - LATER

Cheese Sandwich stands outside of the factory with Sans Smirk at his side.

96 CHEESE SANDWICH (V.O.)
So I hired Sans Smirk and opened
this factory.

Cheese Sandwich and Sans start putting the smiling posters of himself all over the walls. Cheese Sandwich looks at them and smiles himself.

SC. 10 - INT. FACTORY - LATER

Cheese Sandwich stands watching all of the employees working away on the line.

97 CHEESE SANDWICH (V.O.)
Soon we were sending gags all over
Equestria. But the more jokes we
shipped, the less I laughed.

Cheese and Sans watch as a collection of gags roll off the line. Sans checks a clipboard as Cheese nods (but doesn't laugh) at each one - binoculars that leave rings, leaking tea cup, a fake hoof, etc.

Cheese looks over as Worker Pony #1 presses down on a can of silly string. Nothing happens. He turns it around to look at the nozzle and a torrent of silly string shoots out, covering his face. Cheese Sandwich just shrugs and turns back to his work. Suddenly he freezes - a horrified look of realization washing over him...

98 CHEESE SANDWICH (V.O.)
Then one day it was just... gone.

SC. 11 - INT. CHEESE SANDWICH'S OFFICE - RESUME

Cheese Sandwich sits with his head in his hooves.

99 CHEESE SANDWICH
That's why I never leave the
factory. I don't want anypony to
see me like this. Boneless 2
doesn't even recognize me anymore!

Boneless 2 sits in a nearby chair, its head facing away
almost like it's avoiding eye contact.

Pinkie slowly looks from Boneless 2, to Sans, to Cheese, her
eyes fixed in stunned expression.

100 CHEESE SANDWICH (CONT'D)
Pinkie?

She just keeps staring.

101 CHEESE SANDWICH (CONT'D)
Pinkie. Say something!

102 PINKIE PIE
(slow, intense) Knock, knock.

103 CHEESE SANDWICH
(confused) Who's there?

104 PINKIE PIE
Boo.

105 CHEESE SANDWICH
Boo who?

106 PINKIE PIE
Don't cry because I'm going to get
you your laugh back!

107 SANS SMIRK
Oh, she's good.

Off Cheese's hopeful expression...

SC. 12 - INT. FACTORY FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Pinkie, now dressed like Mickey from Rocky (sweats and with a
whistle around her neck, etc.) paces back and forth in front
of Cheese Sandwich as Sans Smirk looks on.

108 PINKIE PIE
Alright, we're gonna turn you back
into a lean, mean, giggle machine!
I'm going to take you from a
titter, to a tee-hee, to rolling on
the floor howling with laughter.

109 SANS SMIRK
Is there any assistance I can
provide?

110 PINKIE PIE
Just stand back and watch me work.
(then, to Cheese) Now... gimme your
biggest, bestest smile!

Cheese tries his hardest to smile. The edges of his lips
barely quiver and sweat pours down his face.

111 CHEESE SANDWICH
Am I doing it? Am I smiling? I feel
like I'm smiling.

He is definitely not.

112 PINKIE PIE
Aaaalmost... Maybe I just need to
spot you for a rep or two.

She jumps in and contorts his face into different shapes,
finally ending in something resembling as smile. She strains
under the weight of maintaining it.

113 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
<BREATHING HARD> OKAY! YOU GOT
THIS! IT'S ALL YOU! READY?

Cheese nods and Pinkie releases his face and steps away-- but
Cheese's face immediately POPS back into his flat expression.
He looks at them, hopeful.

114 CHEESE SANDWICH
Anything?

115 SANS SMIRK
Perfectly acceptable if you ask me,
sir.

Cheese slumps. Pinkie screws up her face, determined...

SC. 13 - EXT. FACTORY COURTYARD - LATER

CLOSE on Cheese's face as Pinkie takes measurements with various instruments. Finally, she stands back scrutinizing him.

116 PINKIE PIE
Hmmm. Maybe we should start with something easy... Like a joke!

She reaches off screen and pulls in a small brick wall, a la a comedy club. She's instantly in a jacket, with the sleeves pushed up and holds a microphone.

117 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
This bit always works for Maud--

She smooths her hair down with a hoof and does her best Maud impression...

118 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
(Maud-like) Why can't you tell secrets on a farm? (then) Because the potatoes have eyes, the corn has ears and the beans stalk.

Cheese Sandwich just stares. Pinkie's hair POPS back to normal and she shoves the brick wall and comedy attire out of frame.

119 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Okay, you asked for it. Time to bring out the big guns.

In a FLASH, Pinkie zips out and zips back in with San Smirk. She positions him directly in front of Cheese, then turns away.

120 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Excuse me, Mr. Smirk, but is there something in my EYE!

She turns back wearing classic EYES ON SPRINGS glasses. They bounce up and down in front of Sans who nods appreciatively.

121 SANS SMIRK
Well played, Ms. Pie. A classic to be sure.

Pinkie checks Cheese - nothing. Undeterred, she holds a hoof out to Smirk.

122 PINKIE PIE
Why thanks, Sans, old pal. Put her there.

Sans takes her hoof and gets "shocked". Pinkie laughs and reveals she's wearing a hoof BUZZER, but Cheese remains unmoved. Not giving up, Pinkie looks back.

123 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Sorry about that. Let me make it up
to you. How about some pie?

She pulls out an oversized cream pie and goes to pie him, but "trips" and lands face first into the pie. She stands with a flourish and takes a bow, but Cheese Sandwich just <SIGHS>. Pinkie's expression drops.

124 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Come on! My googly eye, hoof buzzer
to pieface pratfall put Rainbow
Dash's funny bone in a cast for a
week!

125 CHEESE SANDWICH
Don't blame yourself, Pinkie.
Whatever I got, I got it bad.

126 PINKIE PIE
I'm not giving up on you yet. I
know there's something out there
that will make you laugh. I just
have to figure out where to look.

127 SANS SMIRK
At the risk of overstepping, might
I point out we are in a joke
factory...

SC. 14 - INT. FACTORY - R & D ROOM - LATER

Pinky follows Sans into a "clean room" type section of the factory. Cheese Sandwich mopes in after them.

PONY RESEARCHERS in lab coats scribble intricate formulas on chalkboards. One dissects a spring snake, another drops different size weights shaped like pony rear ends onto various whoopie cushions.

128 SANS SMIRK
Here in the research and development
department, we break down "funny" to
maximize each individual element.

Pinkie runs over to a chalkboard and scans it.

129 PINKIE PIE
(re: board) Rule of threes. Hmmm,
one, two, three. Yep, that math
checks out.

She looks at a chart.

130 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Oooh, I bet the aardvarks weren't
the only one's surprised by your
research on non-sequiturs.

Pinkie takes a long look around the room and comes to a
decision...

131 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
I think we can work with this.

WIPE TO:

QUICK "COMEDY SCIENCE" MONTAGE

In a few stylized shots we see Pinkie (now in a lab coat and
glasses) leading the team of comedy researchers...

--While lab-coated workers look on, Pinkie leads Cheese
through a door frame. As Cheese turns the nob, a precariously
balanced BUCKET of water falls on his head. Pinkie removes
the bucket to reveal - Cheese isn't laughing. The researchers
shake their heads and take notes as we... STYLIZED WIPE TO:

--Pinkie pulls a ridiculously small COVERED WAGON up to
Cheese. She walks around to the back and opens the tailgate
as a succession of research ponies come out, each one taller
than the last (think: clown car). But Cheese stares, unmoved.
The researches take more notes as we... STYLIZED WIPE TO:

--CLOSE on Pinkie as we PAN around her head, "Beautiful Mind"-
esque diagrams and joke structures float by-- a cross section
of a rubber chicken, a engineering diagram of a hoof buzzer,
crazy math-like formulas (banana + whoopee cushion = cream
pie), etc. The images get more intense, moving by faster and
faster until we... END MONTAGE.

RESUME on Pinkie, now scrutinizing her own notes as Cheese
looks on...

132 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Hmmm. That's funny, that's funny,
and I KNOW that was funny.

Suddenly one of the researchers walks by and slips, falling
right into a pie. Pinkie barely registers it.

133 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
THAT'S definitely funny...

Pinkie returns to her notes, then stops short, worry washing over her face. Cheese looks up at her, concerned.

134 CHEESE SANDWICH
Pinkie, what's wrong?

Pinkie grabs the research pony, pulling him up out of the pie.

135 PINKIE PIE
That was funny. This is ALL funny.
But I'm not laughing!

She turns to Cheese.

136 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Your condition must be contagious.
I've lost my laugh, too!

Off of her horrified look, we...

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC. 15 - INT. R & D DEPARTMENT - RESUME

Sans and his team of research ponies look on as Cheese, beside himself, paces back and forth in front of Pinkie.

137 CHEESE SANDWICH
This is worse than I could have imagined. Losing my laugh was bad enough. But your laugh is the most important thing in Equestria!

138 PINKIE PIE
It's important, but I wouldn't go that far.

139 CHEESE SANDWICH
I would! It's why I became a party pony. It's why I built this factory. Your laugh has given me purpose!

Pinkie stares at him, shocked.

140 PINKIE PIE
Wait. My laugh gave you your
purpose!

141 CHEESE SANDWICH
Of course!

142 PINKIE PIE
But I came to see you to find mine!

143 CHEESE SANDWICH
I don't understand.

144 PINKIE PIE
All my friends are doing big,
important things and when I heard
about your factory, I found out you
were too. That's when I knew I had
to find mine.

145 CHEESE SANDWICH
So you gave me my purpose and I
made you want to find yours?

146 PINKIE PIE
(nods, dismayed) And now neither of
us have one.

Cheese considers, struck by this revelation, then turns to
Pinkie with determination.

147 CHEESE SANDWICH
(inspired) You know what? Missing
laughs is a serious situation, but
if any two ponies can take
something serious and make it
hilarious It. Is. Us!

148 PINKIE PIE
(brightening, encouraged)
You're right! I think this calls
for a song.

Cheese Sandwich turns, now in a tux with tails, holding a
cane.

149 CHEESE SANDWICH
You took the words right out of my
mouth!

SC. 16 - MUSICAL MONTAGE - INT. FACTORY FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Pinkie, now in a matching tux with tails slides over to him.
MUSIC begins under the following:

150 CHEESE SANDWICH
Well, hello, Ms. Pie.

151 PINKIE PIE
Hello, Mr. Sandwich. Wanna know
what's funny?

152 CHEESE SANDWICH
Do I ever!

They begin to sing:

153 PINKIE PIE
*The rules of laughter are simple
you see,
As long as you follow the laws that
are three.*

154 CHEESE SANDWICH
*And we mustn't forget about setup
and punch.
Cause this is a science and not
just a hunch.*

Cheese Sandwich slides over to Pinkie.

155 CHEESE SANDWICH (CONT'D)
*(to audience) Setup. (talking, to
Pinkie) Pinkie, I didn't know you
wrote songs on the side.*

156 PINKIE PIE
*(to audience) Punch. (talking, to
Cheese Sandwich) I don't. Usually I
write them on my back.*

She lays down and starts writing a song. A <RIM SHOT> comes
from nowhere, while the research ponies all look on, nodding
with scientific detachment.

157 PINKIE/CHEESE SANDWICH
*It's the science of funny,
that makes the world sunny,
and gives you an ache in your sides
till they split.*

That's the science of funny.
(MORE)

PINKIE/CHEESE SANDWICH (CONT'D)

*And that's the truth sonny,
so get ready now for the next silly
bit.*

Pinkie does a twirl then:

158 PINKIE PIE
*While jokes and puns are funny it's
true
There's plenty more ways to find
comedy, too.*

159 CHEESE SANDWICH
*I've broken down humor and had it
dissected,
Laughter can come when things
aren't expected,
(talking) Hey, look at that-*

Pinkie looks over her shoulder, but there's nothing. When she looks back Cheese hangs from the stem of a HUGE FLOWER (like the flower is wearing him on it's lapel). Pinkie leans in and Cheese squirts water at her.

The research ponies all nod, fervently taking notes.

160 PINKIE/CHEESE SANDWICH
*It's the science of funny,
that makes the world sunny,
and gives you an ache in your sides
till they split.*

*That's the science of funny.
And that's the truth sonny,
so get ready now for the next silly
bit.*

161 CHEESE SANDWICH
*Since breaking down laughter's our
ultimate mission,
We have to include something called
repetition.*

162 PINKIE PIE
*It's doing a thing over, over, and
over.
Each repeat bringing laughter
closer and closer.*

Cheese wheels out on a unicycle, juggling whipped cream pies high into the air. His unicycle hits a bump and all the pies come crashing on his face (to the beat) one after another in repetition.

After the last one, he wipes his face, relieved it's all over when... another set of pies come crashing down. Wincing he looks up then, satisfied, proceeds to wipe his face again, only to have another deluge of pies rain down.

The research ponies flip over a chalk board with a diagram of the whole sequence.

163 PINKIE/CHEESE SANDWICH
*It's the science of funny,
that makes the world sunny,
and gives you an ache in your sides
till they split.*

*That's the science of funny.
And that's the truth sonny.
Now let's make music with hooves
and armpits.*

Cheese and Pinkie put their hooves in their armpits and make farting noise together for a tap dance break that builds to a crescendo as they both slide across the floor doing "jazz hooves".

The MUSIC ENDS as Cheese and Pinkie try to catch their breath.

164 PINKIE PIE
(breathing hard) Funny song. Right?

165 CHEESE SANDWICH
(breathing hard) The funniest. And yet...

They look at each other.

166 PINKIE PIE
No laughs.

Cheese shakes his head. Sans steps forward.

167 SANS SMIRK
If it makes you feel better, my team and I can confirm a high degree of comedy.

He holds out a stack of paper. Cheese Sandwich gets up.

168 CHEESE SANDWICH
(defeated) I'm sorry, Pinkie. I really thought we could do it. But I guess now there's only one thing to do...

Cheese pulls out a bullhorn.

169 CHEESE SANDWICH (CONT'D)
Pack it up, everypony! We're
shutting the factory down.

Sans and his team drop their notes, stunned. Pinkie stares, shocked.

170 PINKIE PIE
But I thought running this place
was your purpose.

171 CHEESE SANDWICH
I wanted to spread laughter and I
thought this factory was the best
way to do it, but it hasn't worked
out that way for me-- or you.

With that, he grabs a box and starts packing up all the leftover pies. He finds a whole one.

172 CHEESE SANDWICH (CONT'D)
Be a shame to waste all this pie,
though.

He offers it to her. Pinkie shrugs.

173 PINKIE PIE
I am on a seapony diet.

She takes the pie and eats it.

174 CHEESE SANDWICH
Yeah. You're a pony who eats food
whenever you see it.

Pinkie and Cheese lock eyes. We CUT back and forth between them, moving closer every time until finally Pinkie EXPLODES IN LAUGHTER!

Cheese smiles at Pinkie's uproarious laughter, then giggles, then laughs along. Cheese laughing only makes Pinkie laugh harder, and hers does the same to him. Soon the two of them are rolling around on the floor unable to stop.

Sans and his team look on, confused, shuffling through their notes, trying to understand what's happened.

175 SANS SMIRK
I don't understand. Why was that so
funny?

176 PINKIE PIE
(wiping away tears) It's okay. It's
a Cheese and me joke. You don't
have to get it.

177 SANS SMIRK
No, I get the jo--

178 PINKIE PIE
IT'S JUST CHEESE AND ME!

Cheese and Pinkie exchange looks and break into hysterics again. Finally, Cheese gets a handle on it and turns to Sans.

179 CHEESE SANDWICH
The biggest laughs don't always
come from the best jokes.

180 PINKIE PIE
Sometimes, watching a pony you know
crack up at something silly is the
funniest thing there is.

181 CHEESE SANDWICH
Making jokes in a factory is fine,
but you never see ponies laugh. And
that's what I need! *Two, three,
four...*

MUSIC UP as Pinkie and Cheese break into a REPRISE of their song...

182 PINKIE PIE
*Yes, there's a science to funny,
but that's not all there is sonny.*

183 CHEESE SANDWICH
*Being there for the smiles is the
part I miss most.*

184 PINKIE PIE/CHEESE SANDWICH
*It's a powerful funny
when you connect one on one-y.
Because laughter can spread when
you see it up close.*

MUSIC OUT as Sans and his research ponies struggle to diagram the concept.

185 SANS SMIRK
I still don't understand.

Pinkie and Cheese share a look and smile. Cheese picks up some the research notes.

186 CHEESE SANDWICH
I think I can explain it with this
detailed chart.

Cheese holds the chart up for Sans and his team to study.

187 CHEESE SANDWICH (CONT'D)
Look closely now... it's all about
proximity.

As the factory ponies move in close, Cheese suddenly pulls
the chart away revealing Pinkie's smiling face - super close.

188 PINKIE PIE
Hi.

With that, Pinkie hits Sans in the face with a pie. The rest
of the team look on in shock, as bits of pie drop from Sans'
face. Slowly, they start to smile, then giggle, then laugh.

Sans opens his eyes and sees them laughing and starts to
smile too.

189 CHEESE SANDWICH
Sometimes, you need to see the
laughter you make.

Sans' smile widens as his team's laughter continues. Soon he's
laughing too, then doubled over GASPING as he laughs...

190 PINKIE PIE
He's gonna be okay, right?

191 CHEESE SANDWICH
I think so, Pinkie Pie. I think so.

Off all of them smiling...

SC. 18 - INT. TWILIGHT'S THRONE ROOM - DAY

Twilight, Fluttershy, Rainbow Dash, Rarity, Applejack and
Spike are gathered around Pinkie.

192 PINKIE PIE
...and then I said goodbye and then
I came here. Oh, and then I
gathered you all together and
started telling you about it. First
I said--

193 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
--Well, that sounds like quite a
trip!

194 FLUTTERSHY
What happened with the factory?

195 PINKIE PIE
Oh, Cheese Sandwich left Sans Smirk
in charge. As much as Cheese was
born to wander Equestria spreading
laughs one pony at a time, Sans was
born to run that factory.

196 APPLEJACK
And you don't sound so worried about
finding your life's purpose anymore.

197 PINKIE PIE
That's cause I found it, silly.
There's nothing that makes me
happier than connecting with ponies
and making them laugh and I'm
already doing that.

198 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
You certainly are.

199 RARITY
I agree completely.

200 APPLEJACK
I couldn't have put it better
myself.

201 PINKIE PIE
Thanks. (then) Oh, I almost forgot.
I got you all a little something
from my trip.

She points to a bouquet of novelty squirting flowers on a
nearby table.

202 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
(snickering) Take a whiff...

SC. 19 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

Water shoots out of the windows. As everypony laughs, we...

FADE OUT

END