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MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9

The Last Laugh
Ep 914

Teleplay 2nd Draft

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Outline: Mike and Wil Fox
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 NOTE 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
(playfully sarcastic) What do they
make there, rubber chickens? *

13 PINKIE PIE
That's ridiculous... (then) They
make way more there than just
rubber chickens! *

14 RARITY
The last time we saw Cheese
Sandwich was the Goof Off showdown
at Rainbow Dash's party. I thought
after that he would wander
Equestria throwing parties, just as
you inspired him to do. He hardly
seems the factory type. Still, you
must be excited to see him. *

15 PINKIE PIE
I am! 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 has been
awhile. *

18 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
Pinkie, I think Applejack is asking
about the part about Cheese
Sandwich and 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.

(MORE)

PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)

Rarity has her boutiques. Applejack has that hat... (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. 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 help me figure out mine!

*

*

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 to help me!

*

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
helping 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 see
Cheese Sandwich!

*
*

31 GUARD PONY #2
<SMUG LAUGH> Cheese Sandwich
doesn't "see" anypony.

*
*

32 GUARD PONY #1
This factory is shut tight. No pony
ever comes out and no pony ever goes
in - including you, so... move
along.

*
*
*
*

33 PINKIE PIE
(resigned) Oh, that's a shame. And
to think I came all this way
because of this personal invitation
from Cheese Sandwich himself.

*
*
*
*
*

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

*

34 GUARD PONY #2
You have an invitation?!

*
*

35 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. Smiling, Pinkie bounces past them and inside. *

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

37 GUARD PONY #1
Not gonna happen. *

SC. 3 - EXT. FACTORY COURTYARD - CONTINUOUS

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

38 PINKIE PIE
Oooh. Desolate-y.

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

39 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 runs up and hugs him. *

40 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Cheese, I'm so happy to see you! *

"Cheese's" face remains frozen. Then "he" 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--his speech is very proper (think Frasier Crane). *

41 SANS SMIRK
(to assistants) Hmmm. This should have gotten a big laugh. I wonder if we need to add more carpet rolls. I suppose it could be the mask... *

The assistants nod, jotting down notes on clipboards. Sans holds up the mask and studies it.

*
*

42 SANS SMIRK (CONT'D)
(to assistants) Let's try taking
the nostril flare down 10%.
Thoughts?

*
*
*

He lowers the mask - revealing Pinkie standing in front of him.

*
*

43 PINKIE PIE
I have a thought. Who are you?

*
*

44 SANS SMIRK
Oh, so sorry. Sans Smirk, Vice-
President of amusement integration.
Mr. Sandwich is very excited you're
here. In fact, we all are.

*
*
*
*
*

45 PINKIE PIE
Well, I'm excited you're excited.

*

46 SANS SMIRK
If you'll just follow me, it's a
short trip through the factory to
Cheese's office.

*
*
*

They head to the big door and Pinkie stops to look up at the place.

*
*

47 PINKIE PIE
Wow. A whole factory dedicated to
gags. I bet it's the fun-est place
ever!!!

*
*
*
*

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.

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

Sans looks at her, slightly confused.

*

49 SANS SMIRK
The fun is the factory stuff. We *
take a pretty serious approach to *
comedy here. Observe... *

He leads her around an assembly line. Sans points to a worker *
holding a squirting flower. *

50 SANS SMIRK (CONT'D) *
(exaggerated) Oh, look. A pretty *
flower. *

He makes a show of leaning in for a sniff, then gets hit with *
a TORRENT of water. He looks to Pinkie, dripping, expecting *
her appreciating the gag. But she just smiles, politely. *

51 PINKIE PIE *
(nods) The squirting flower's a *
classic. (then, thinking) Oooh! *
What if the flower was part of a *
shirt, but the flower didn't squirt- *
- the shirt did! *

Sans just stares at her, wide-eyed. You can practically smell *
the smoke as his brain works through this revelation. *

52 SANS SMIRK *
That. Is. Literally. The funniest *
thing I've ever heard. *

53 PINKIE PIE *
Shouldn't you be laughing at it *
then? *

But Sans is already writing furiously in a notebook. *

54 SANS SMIRK *
(to himself, as he writes) *
We'd have to use a series of *
interconnected tubes in the *
fabric... *

He looks up at Pinkie, or more looks through her as he's too *
busy thinking (like an absent-minded professor), then a *
thought flashes across his face and he rushes off. *

He returns holding a Whoopie Cushion. *

55 SANS SMIRK (CONT'D) *
What do you think of this? *

```

56          PINKIE PIE                                *
I think it's a whoopie cushion.                      *
Embarrassing sounds are always                       *
good.                                                  *
```

```
57      SANS SMIRK      *
(leading) Yeeess...    *
```

He waves over a small group of lab ponies. *

```
58          PINKIE PIE                                *
But what if you made the                             *
embarrassing sound come from                         *
somepony else?                                       *
```

He looks to the other ponies in shocked appreciation. *

```
59          SANS SMIRK                                *
(getting excited) I sit on it, but                    *
the sound comes from you! We could                    *
call it the "Ventriloquoopee                          *
Cushion"!                                             *
```

The lab ponies all give <AFFIRMATIVE MUMBLES> as they scribble away on their note pads.

```
60          PINKIE PIE                                *
So... which way is Cheese's office                *
again?                                              *
```

```
61          SANS SMIRK                                     *
Right. Of course. Sorry. It just                          *
isn't often we get to work with                          *
true comic inspiration like this.                         *
```

```
62          PINKIE PIE                                *
      (confused)                                     *
What about Cheese?                                  *
```

```
63          SANS SMIRK                                     *
OH! One more thing...                                     *
```

```
He runs over and grabs a glass dome holding a banana peel on *
a small pedestal. He smiles, beaming. *
```

```
64          SANS SMIRK (CONT'D)                                *
Our "Super-Slip Banana Peel." Still                          *
in development, but we think it's                             *
pretty special...                                             *
```

He lifts the glass dome and the banana peel slips off its pedestal. *

It slides along the floor, slipping under several Worker Ponies who all fall along their assembly line, before the peel rebounds off a wall and shoots back into the glass dome. (NOTE: we see all of the fallen workers get up no worse for wear.)

65 SANS SMIRK (CONT'D)
(to Pinkie, expectantly)
So? Too slippery?

66 PINKIE PIE
Well, bananas are slippery. Oooh!
What if instead of slipping, you
were sticking? One step on this
banana peel and you can't get it
off. (laughs to herself) That's
funny.

Sans stares, stunned.

67 SANS SMIRK
(clapping) Wow. Just... wow. (then)
Ms. Pie, I am so glad you're here.
You're exactly the pony Cheese
Sandwich needs to see.

As they head up the stairs:

68 PINKIE PIE
Great, because he's exactly the
pony I need to see.

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.

69 PINKIE PIE
Hello?

Without turning on the light:

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

71 PINKIE PIE
Of course I did! And your factory
is-- big! It really seems like you
found your purpose - which is
perfect, since I came here for
help.

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

73 PINKIE PIE
That's triple perfect because--
Wait. Why do you need my help?

*
*

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.

74 CHEESE SANDWICH
(panicked and pleading) Because,
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 as Sans Smirk looks on.

*

75 PINKIE PIE
You lost your laugh? Is that some
kind of joke? Because if it is,
it's not a funny one... Unless it's
over my head. (looking up) Nope.
Nothing up there.

*
*
*

76 CHEESE SANDWICH
It's not a joke. And even if it was,
I wouldn't be able to laugh at it.

*
*

77 PINKIE PIE
(not believing) Riiiiiight.

*
*

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

78 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
(slyly) Why don't we continue this
discussion over some delicious
canned peanut brittle?

*
*

She opens it. Spring loaded snakes and confetti launch out,
bouncing off of Cheese's face. Pinkie looks at Cheese
expecting him to laugh, but he just stares blankly.

79 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Wow. You did lose your laugh.
<GASP> That's horrible!

Sans steps forward, looking through his notes.

80 SANS SMIRK
Sorry to interrupt, but it occurs
to me that a 7% tighter wind on the
snake springs would yield a 12%
increase in giggle output.

81 CHEESE SANDWICH
(nods) Of course it would. Tighter
springs hitting my expressionless
face at a faster pace would be
milk-pouring-out-of-my-nose, stop-
it-my-sides-hurt, let-me-catch-my-
breath, hysterical.

Sans nods, taking more notes.

82 PINKIE PIE
Wait. You know what's funny but you
can't laugh at it?

Cheese turns to her with a dramatic SOB.

83 CHEESE SANDWICH
YES! And it's torture!

84 PINKIE PIE
How did this happen?

85 CHEESE SANDWICH
I don't know. Back when I was a
party pony, I laughed at
everything.

SC. 7 - EXT. ROAD - FLASHBACK

We see Cheese Sandwich moments after he walked off into the
sunset in episode S04E12.

86 CHEESE SANDWICH (V.O.)
I spread my party cheer wherever it
was needed.

SC. 8 - EXT. FIELD - FLASHBACK

He comes upon a Cute-ceanera. Everypony looks bored out of their minds and are fighting to stay awake. Cheese smiles knowing he can work his magic. He spins a YOUNG FOAL in a fancy dress around, hands her a thick bat and points her at a piñata.

87 CHEESE SANDWICH (V.O.)
I **even** started making novelty gags
for **each and 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.

88 CHEESE SANDWICH (V.O.)
Soon, it seemed like everypony in
Equestria wanted **one**.

SC. 9 - 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.

89 CHEESE SANDWICH (V.O.)
It was more work than my hooves could
handle, **but** I didn't want to disappoint
all those smiling faces...

The door to the workshop swings open and Sans Smirk walks in holding a briefcase.

90 CHEESE SANDWICH (V.O.)
Luckily, Sans Smirk came to me with
the idea for a factory. A gag
factory.

Sans opens his briefcase and pulls out a set of blueprints.

SC. 10 - EXT. FACTORY - LATER

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

91 CHEESE SANDWICH (V.O.)
I could finally keep up with demand
and make everypony happy.

*
*

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

SC. 11 - INT. FACTORY - LATER

*

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

92 CHEESE SANDWICH (V.O.)
Soon we were sending gags all over
Equestria.

*

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 a worker pony 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 nods and turns back to his work. Suddenly he freezes - a horrified look of realization washing over him...

*

*

93 CHEESE SANDWICH (V.O.)
But then, one day my laugh was just
gone.

*
*
*

SC. 12 - INT. CHEESE SANDWICH'S OFFICE - RESUME

*

Cheese Sandwich sits with his head in his hooves.

94 CHEESE SANDWICH
I haven't left the factory since. I
don't want anypony to see me like
this. Who's going to buy a gag from
a pony who can't laugh? I mean look
at me - 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.

95 CHEESE SANDWICH (CONT'D)
So can you help me Pinkie? What do
you think?

*
*
*

[illegible]

97 CHEESE SANDWICH
(confused) Who's there?

98 PINKIE PIE
Boo.

```

99          CHEESE SANDWICH
Boo who?

```

```
100      PINKIE PIE
Don't cry because I'm gonna get you
your laugh back! *
```

```
101      SANS SMIRK
(in awe) She has a gift. *
```

As he starts scribbling away furiously in his notebook and
off Cheese's hopeful expression...

SC. 13 - EXT. FACTORY COURTYARD - LATER *

Pinkie stares at Cheese, deep in thought. *

```
102      PINKIE PIE                                     *
Hmmm. Let's start with something                      *
small... 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.

```

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

```

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

104 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D) *

(Maud-like) How do you make a rock *

float? (then) You put it in a glass *

with ice cream and root beer. *

A <RIM SHOT> comes from nowhere, but Cheese Sandwich just stares.

```

105          PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)                *
Nothing, huh.                                   *
```

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

106 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
Okay, how about some classics...

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

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

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

108 SANS SMIRK
Top notch eye googling, Ms. Pie.

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

```
109      PINKIE PIE
Why thanks, Sans, old pal. Put 'er
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.

110 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.

```
111      SANS SMIRK
(quietly to himself, while
scribbling away) Googly eye to hoof
buzzer to pieface pratfall.
Masterful.
```

But Cheese Sandwich just shrugs and <SIGHS>. Pinkie's expression drops.

112 PINKIE PIE
Come on! Those classic bits put
Rainbow Dash's funny bone in a cast
for a week!

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

```

114          PINKIE PIE                                *
Maybe we need to start even                        *
smaller.                                           *
```

SC. 14 - 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 San Smirk looks on.

```

115          PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
You can't run before you can walk
and you can't laugh before you can
smile. And your smiler's all out
whack.

```

116 SANS SMIRK
Is there any assistance I can
provide?

```

117          PINKIE PIE
Just stand back and watch, mister.
(then, to Cheese) Now let's see
what we're working with. Gimme your
biggest, bestest smile!

```

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

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

He is definitely not.

119 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 a smile. She strains under the weight of maintaining it.

120 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.

121 CHEESE SANDWICH
Anything?

Pinkie shakes her head sadly. Cheese slumps. Pinkie screws up her face, determined... *

122 PINKIE PIE *

I'm not giving up on you yet, Cheese. *

I know there's something somewhere *

that'll make you laugh. I just have *

to figure out where to look. *

123 SANS SMIRK *

I would like to take this *

opportunity to point out that we *

are in a gag factory... *

Off Pinkie intrigued... *

SC. 15 - INT. FACTORY - R & D ROOM - LATER *

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

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

124 SANS SMIRK *

This is where the magic happens. *

Research and development. It's *

where we figure out the science of *

funny. *

125 PINKIE PIE *

(unconvinced) *

Hmmm. But can you really science *

funny? I don't see anypony *

laughing. *

126 SANS SMIRK *

Well, funny is serious business. Of *

course there's no one size fits all *

joke, no grand unified gag theory. *

But, if we figure out the funny of *

one gag, we can combine it with the *

funny of another gag, and make a *

third funnier gag! *

127 PINKIE PIE *

I guess that does make sense... *

Pinkie looks around curious. She looks at a blackboard. *

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

She looks at a chart.

129 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...

130 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
You know what? Let's give this a
shot!

*

*

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...

--Pinkie holds a blueprint, while the rest of the lab workers
stand behind her. Pinkie uses a large pencil to erase
something and then roughly draws in a replacement. The lab
workers excitedly nod in agreement.

*

*

*

*

--While lab-coated workers look on, Pinkie leads Cheese up to
a welcome mat in front of a door frame - a large bucket
precariously balanced above. As Cheese opens the door, the
bucket falls onto his head, but there's no water. Suddenly a
BLAST of water shoots up from the welcome mat, knocking the
bucket off of Cheeses head-- but also reveals he isn't
laughing. The researchers shake their heads and take notes as
we... STYLIZED WIPE TO:

*

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*

*

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*

*

--Pinkie looks at a lab pony, proudly showing her a model of a
covered wagon. He pulls out a tiny figure of a lab pony from
it. Pinkie shakes her head no. As she begins to speak and
gesticulate wildly, the lab workers scribble away frantically.

*

*

*

*

--Pinkie pulls a ridiculously small COVERED WAGON up to
Cheese. She opens the tailgate and a succession of research
ponies come out, each one shorter than the last (think: clown
car). Finally the shortest on exits, then pulls an impossibly
large wagon out of her lab coat, which the research ponies
then all proceed to climb back into. Cheese just stares at
this, unmoved. Sans 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...

131 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.

132 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.

133 CHEESE SANDWICH
Pinkie, what's wrong?

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

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

She turns to Cheese.

135 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. 16 - INT. R & D DEPARTMENT - RESUME

Sans and his team of research ponies look on as Cheese slumps, more despondent than every.

136 CHEESE SANDWICH
This is worse than I could have
ever imagined.
(MORE)

CHEESE SANDWICH (CONT'D)
Losing my laugh was bad enough. But
you losing yours is horrible to the
millionth power! *

137 PINKIE PIE *

Hold on. Maybe... *

Pinkie tries to laugh, but all that comes out are odd, dry,
wheezing sounds. Then quickly... *

138 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D) *

No, it's gone. *

139 SANS SMIRK *

Sir, on the off chance that this is
contagious, I'd like to quarantine
R&D. *

Cheese nods and Sans exits. Pinkie and Cheese Sandwich both
resigned, drop into chairs at the same time. *

140 PINKIE PIE *

So, what do we do? *

141 CHEESE SANDWICH *

I don't know, Pinkie. But I'm
starting to think we might have to
get used to life without laughter. *

142 PINKIE PIE *

(stunned) Is that even possible? *

143 CHEESE SANDWICH *

I don't know... *

<MUSIC UP> as the office lights dim except for a SPOTLIGHT on
Cheese, who starts to sing... *

144 CHEESE SANDWICH (CONT'D) *

*When I was young, my days were full
of laughter...* *

DISSOLVE TO: *

SUPER BRIGHT COLOR-TREATED IMAGES of Cheese laughing and
playing as a YOUNG FOAL. *

145 CHEESE SANDWICH (V.O.) *

*Sadly it seems that now those days
are gone.* *

ALL THE COLOR DRAINS from the image and the blissful young
Cheese slumps and stares into the middle distance. *

MATCH CUT back to Cheese still singing...

146 CHEESE SANDWICH
*For that was all before and this is
after,
when my laugh curled up and turned
into a yawn.*

A second SPOTLIGHT comes up on Pinkie, who joins in...

147 PINKIE PIE
*I threw the funnest parties ponies
remember.*

DISSOLVE TO - similarly treated footage of epic Pinkie party times.

148 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
*The laughter lasted late into the
eve.*

As with the Cheese images, these too start to drain of color and life. An expressionless Pinkie looks on as we MATCH CUT back to present...

149 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
*But Laughter Club, no longer counts
me as a member,
So I guess there's nothing left to
do but grieve.*

Pinkie and Cheese come together and sway as they sing...

150 PINKIE PIE/CHEESE SANDWICH
*Life without laughter is terribly
dull.
There's nothing to do, it's all
just a null.
Is there possibly a way it can't be
bad?
What would it look like not to
laugh, but also not be sad?*

Suddenly, the <MUSIC STOPS> as Pinkie's and Cheese's SPOTLIGHTS leave them and travel across the factory to find -- SANS SMIRK!

Visible through the glass walls of the Clean Room as he packs up his files. Nearby another researcher goes to sit down and misses his chair, falling to the ground comically. Sans looks over, but instead of laughing, he nods thoughtfully, whips out a pad and takes notes.

Pinkie and Cheese share a look of realization as the MUSIC starts back up.

151 CHEESE SANDWICH
*Sans, my friend, seems pretty well
adjusted.*

152 PINKIE PIE
(agreeing)
*He doesn't laugh, his thoughts get
in the way.*

153 CHEESE SANDWICH
*But I look at him and I'm not
disgusted.*

154 PINKIE PIE
*Is that the way to be to not go
cray?*

Inside the Clean Room, Sans continues to work, packing things up, meticulously copying notes from the blackboard to a notebook, etc. PAN OVER to reveal Pinkie and Sans, their faces pressed against the glass, staring in at Sans.

155 CHEESE SANDWICH
*A life of facts and figures but not
laughs.
Spending my time filling out charts
and graphs.*

156 PINKIE PIE
*It seems like that's the way it
won't be bad.
That's what it looks like not to
laugh, and also not be sad.*

With that, Pinkie walks away and accidentally slips and falls comically. Cheese instantly grabs a clipboard and takes notes, a la Sans.

157 CHEESE SANDWICH
(spoken)
*The vector of the snicker is the
square root of guffaw!*

Several nearby lab ponies smile at this. Pinkie twirls around and is now in a lab coat doing her best Sans.

158 PINKIE PIE
(spoken)
*If I increase the haha quotient, we
should see a corresponding uptick
in gutbustronomy.*

Both of them simultaneously hunch over, exaggerating as they scribble into notebooks like mad. The lab ponies watching start to giggle.

Pinkie and Cheese stop scribbling and stand up to stare at each other, still impersonating Sans.

159 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
That is literally the funniest
thing I've ever seen.

160 CHEESE SANDWICH
Mind. Blown.

A few of the lab ponies LAUGH as Pinkie and Cheese go into a BIG FINISH...

161 PINKIE PIE
*Sans it seems has figured out the
secret.
He doesn't laugh and yet he's
always glad.*

162 CHEESE SANDWICH
*He really, truly has it all
together.
He's what it looks like not to
laugh, and also not be sad!*

Cheese and Pinkie pull out their notebooks and with a flourish, scribble away for all they're worth. Then show their work to each other.

162A PINKIE PIE
(spoke, agreeing)
Oh, yes. Very funny. The
numbers don't lie.

162B CHEESE SANDWICH
(spoke, agreeing)
Indeed. Well rendered. You're
a rare talent.

Big <MUSICAL HIT/END> as they turn to the rest of the ponies and bow.

They look up, confused to see every single lab pony LAUGHING in hysterics. Pinkie and Cheese exchange a smile when suddenly, the laughter around them stops. The lab ponies nervously glance behind them where--

Sans stands, staring - clearly having heard nearly everything.

As Pinkie, Cheese, and the rest of the ponies look on, worried, the sides of San Smirk's mouth begin to twitch. A small titter escapes from his mouth, then a giggle, then a full throated LAUGH.

```
163          SANS SMIRK                                *
(laughing) I sound just like that!                    *
I do all those things! You                            *
completely nailed me!                                *
```

The release of tension and Sans' laugh are infectious. In the blink of any eye, the entire factory - along with Pinkie and Cheese explode in laughter.

After a beat, Cheese and Pinkie get a hold of themselves, then exchange surprised looks.

```
164          PINKIE PIE                                     *
Hey! We got our laughs back!                             *
```

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165          CHEESE SANDWICH          *
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We sure did!                        *
```

Cheese looks out at all of the factory workers laughing, and
loses it again.

```
166          CHEESE SANDWICH (CONT'D) *
<LAUGHING> And I just figured out *
how! *
```

Cheese walks up to Sans and puts a hoof around his shoulder. *

```

167          CHEESE SANDWICH (CONT'D)                                *
Sans, my good pony, I can't run                                     *
this factory anymore. (off Sans'                                    *
look of shock) But YOU can!                                         *
```

Cheese points to the other ponies laughing. *

```
168          CHEESE SANDWICH (CONT'D)          *
I need this. I need to hear it! I'm          *
not inspired by just having funny              *
ideas - I'm inspired by seeing                *
ponies laugh. You run the factory,             *
but I need to LIIIIIVEEE!                      *
```

Cheese does a twirl and is suddenly dressed in his old cowboy hat and poncho. He slings Boneless 2 over his shoulder.

```

169          CHEESE SANDWICH (CONT'D)                                     *
Don't worry. Out in Equestria I'll                                     *
have more great ideas for gags and                                     *
I'll send them all to you!                                           *
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```
170          SANS SMIRK          *
Sir, are you sure this is what you *
want?                            *
```

171 CHEESE SANDWICH
Of course! It's my life's purpose!

Pinkie looks up at this.

```
172      PINKIE PIE
Hey! That's what I came here
looking for.
```

```
173      CHEESE SANDWICH
You did? Well, come on! Let's
figure it out.
```

Pinkie looks around at the happy factory ponies, the rejuvenated Cheese Sandwich, and the big grin on San Smirk's face.

174 PINKIE PIE
Actually... I think I'm good.

Off all of them smiling...

SC. 17 - INT. TWILIGHT'S THRONE ROOM - DAY

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

175 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--

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

```
177          FLUTTERSHY
And Cheese Sandwich just left his
own factory?
```

178 PINKIE PIE
 Yep. But I think Sans Smirk's
 hooves were the perfect ones to
 leave it in. As much as Cheese was
 born to wander Equestria and make
 ponies laugh in person, Sans was
 born to run that factory.

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

180 PINKIE PIE
Nope! Once Cheese realized he
needed to see ponies laughing to
feel fulfilled, I realized that I'm
pretty much the same way -- and I'm
already doing that. My life is
already purposing itself all over
the place! *

181 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
It certainly is. *

182 RARITY
I agree completely.

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

184 PINKIE PIE
Thanks. (then) Oh, I almost forgot.
I got you all a little something
from my trip. Who likes peanut
brittle? *

She points to nearby table covered in cans of peanut brittle. *

185 PINKIE PIE (CONT'D)
(snickering) Dig in... *

SC. 18 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - CONTINUOUS *

Spring snakes and confetti shoot out of the windows. As
everypony laughs, we... *

FADE OUT

END *