

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9

She Talks to Angel
EP 918

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SHE TALKS TO ANGEL

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Logline: *Fluttershy is troubled when her usual talent for talking to animals stops working—on Angel Bunny! Determined to fix the problem, Fluttershy seeks out a cure, but instead of reopening the lines of communication between her and her friend, they switch bodies instead.*

TEASER**SC. 1 - INT. FLUTTERSHY'S HOUSE – DAY**

FLUTTERSHY drags herself through her front door and staggers across the room before slumping into a chair, exhausted. Excited to see her, ANGEL BUNNY hops over and makes his desire for a pat and a scratch clear. Too spent from her day, Fluttershy doesn't get the message and begins telling Angel about her tiring time at the Sweet Feather Sanctuary: "Dr. Fauna told me Antoine the Snake has been trying to have dinner with Ethel the Elephant all week, but today I found out he wants to have Ethel the Elephant for dinner!" Hoping for better results, Angel Bunny tries another tact for some attention and gets a fuzzy ball with a jingle bell in it, rolling it to Fluttershy. She picks it up, considers it, then her eyes light up with an idea. Angel is excited...! Unfortunately, Fluttershy still doesn't "hear" her friend, saying the ball reminds her of Harry Hedgehog who needs his diet changed. Frustrated, Angel tries again, bringing his bowl over for some carrots, but—still too distracted to pick up what Angel is laying down—Fluttershy takes the bowl, fills it and starts eating from it. "I really am famished after that long day." Angel crosses his arms and glares at her, watching her crunch-crunch-crunch on the carrots, each <CRUNCH> echoing around him like a horror movie. Finally, Fluttershy looks at him. "I'm sorry Angel, did you say something...?" But Angel looks back at her, a blank expression on his face. Fluttershy tries again: "If you're trying to say something, I don't know what it is..." Again, Angel holds his expressionless stare. Fluttershy begins to get worried: "Angel...? What is it?! Are you trying to communicate...? Because if you are..." PUSH IN ON FLUTTERSHY, beginning to worry...

"...I have no idea what you're trying to say...!"

END TEASER**MAIN TITLES****ACT ONE****SC. 2 - EXT. PONYVILLE – DAY**

Fluttershy hurries down the streets of Ponyville in a panic: "Oh dear! Oh my! Oh no... this could be bad..." She bee-lines it right between LYRA and BON-BON, apologizing for her rudeness just before careening into CRANKY DOODLE, who loudly complains about ponies these days. Finally PINKIE PIE matches pace with her for a moment, wishes her a good afternoon, then springs away. Fluttershy <SCREECHES> to a halt in front of Twilight's Castle. She KNOCKS

on the door until SPIKE answers with a yawn, complaining about having his mid-morning nap interrupted: “Is everything alright...?!” Fluttershy: “I’m not sure...”

SC. 3 - INT. TWILIGHT’S CASTLE – LATER

Fluttershy sits on the map table being examined by TWILIGHT, who investigates her ears, nose, and throat with a magnifying/scrying glass apparatus while Spike serves as her assistant. He holds a tray of different scrying crystals, growing bored enough to pilfer one and pop it into his mouth. Meanwhile, Angel pokes his head out of Fluttershy’s saddlebag, which has been opened onto the table nearby. Fluttershy gives us a rare glimpse into her preternatural abilities while Twilight flips through various books and scrolls. Fluttershy: “It’s not that I usually hear Angel speaking out loud... or any animal, that’s now how I know what they’re saying... No, I just know I know, you know? [SIGH] Oh, I don’t know...” Spike and Twilight are more than a little confused, but when they see Fluttershy stare at the blank-faced Angel until she emits a concerned whine, Twilight comments that Fluttershy seems really worried about this. “When did it start...?” Fluttershy finds herself somewhat embarrassed to admit she isn’t sure... she’s been so busy working at Sweet Feather Sanctuary that the last time she talked to Angel must have been... yester...last... weekend...ish...? Angel just shakes his head in annoyance.

Twilight wants to see the extent of the problem and brings out a caged parakeet. The bird <SQUAWKS> loudly and speaks parrot-English, “There goes the neighborhood!” Fluttershy is relieved she can understand it... much clearer than usual. Twilight mumbles perhaps they’d better double check, pulling out a caged <CHITTERING> squirrel. Fluttershy reacts with concern: “She’s hungry because a baby dragon ate all her acorns!” Spike blushes, embarrassed, but Twilight congratulates Fluttershy. She can still communicate with other animals—it’s only Angel Bunny who’s affected.

Fluttershy <GASPS>! “But what if this is just the beginning?!” What if she loses her ability to understand ALL animals—what would happen to her patients at the Sanctuary?! (Angel rolls his eyes at this, growing more annoyed throughout the scene from here on out...) Fluttershy stresses... if she can’t understand what her patients need, how is she supposed to help them and this is the purpose that her entire life has been building to and if she messes everything up now everypony will think she cracked under the pressure. IS SHE CRACKING UNDER THE PRESSURE?!

Twilight and Spike share a knowing smile. Twilight says she may not know much about animals, but she knows a panicked-brain runaway train wreck when she sees one. She calms Fluttershy down, saying that magically-speaking, her friend appears to be enchantment-free, “So don’t let it get to you. I’m sure it’ll work itself out on its own.” Fluttershy agrees: best not to do anything rash because it’ll probably be worked out by tomorrow morning...

SC. 4 - EXT. SWEET FEATHERS SANCTUARY – MORNING

A rooster CROWS to announce dawn at the animal Sanctuary (before he collapses back in bed with a coughing fit putting a hot water bottle on his forehead, the poor guy!). DR. FAUNA does her morning rounds, checking to make sure Antoine the Snake and Ethel the Elephant are kept

apart, looking in on Harry the Hedgehog who's chewing up his own medical chart, and doing intake with a very stern-looking Opal wearing a neck cone that has gotten filled up with popcorn (RARITY: "Don't ask."). Dr. Fauna frets, checking the time: "Where is Fluttershy?!"

SC. 5 - EXT. ZECORA'S HUT – EVERFREE FOREST – LATER

Fluttershy gallops through the twisting trails of Everfree carrying a very cross Angel Bunny to Zecora's hut. "I said I wouldn't do anything rash until tomorrow!" Angel stares at her. "It's tomorrow and I'm still not better. If this gets any worse... I don't even want to think about it." Angel frowns. When they arrive, Zecora opens her door as they approach, rhyming that she's been expecting two guests today, neither hearing words the others say. Fluttershy: "Oh, you're good." At first, Zecora insists she can't help them, but softens on hearing Fluttershy worry outloud. We PUSH IN ON ANGEL to capture the irony of Fluttershy's concerns: "I care about each and every animal at the Sanctuary... if I can't be there for them, then what kind of caretaker am I...?" Zecora points out that she's feeling the pressure of a new position. Fluttershy counters that it's what she's always dreamed of, her whole life. If she loses her talent, it puts her entire taking-care-of-animals future at risk! Convinced by Fluttershy's emotional appeal, Zecora cryptically recalls an ancient Potion of Communion, but explains that the recipe is so old, not even she is certain what it might do. Fluttershy insists that any risk is worth it and begs Zecora for the potion and the zebra complies. But even as she hands over the finished vial and a set of instructions, Zecora reiterates a warning "One sip each could cure what ails you, but might ruin both lives if the lessons fails to." Unfortunately, Fluttershy rushes out before the words even finish leaving Zecora's lips. The zebra looks after her, shaking her head and rhyming about ponies never listening to warnings.

SC. 6 - EXT. EVERFREE FOREST – MEADOW – LATER

Angel and Fluttershy emerge from the underbrush and head to the middle of the secluded, picturesque meadow. Fluttershy finishes reading the instructions which say the potion must be taken where the two of them first met and that the Potion of Communion allows them to know what it's like to be the other without having to use words. Fluttershy reasons it sounds just like how she described her animal communication before. We see that Angel is intrigued by the "knowing what it's like to be the other" part and without even being asked, he consumes his half of the potion. Fluttershy soon follows and after a cool TRANSFORMATION EFFECT engulfs them with smoke, filling the screen, they stand side by side. After a beat, Angel says—in Fluttershy's voice... "Do you think it worked?" Fluttershy then shrugs, pantomiming and hopping around with Angel's trademark <JINGLE BELL SOUNDS>. They both <GASP>, realizing, and as Angel screams in Fluttershy's voice we...

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 7 - EXT. PONYVILLE – DAY

In a callback to Act One, Flutterbunny (i.e., Fluttershy in Angel's body) HOPS through Ponyville in a panic: "Oh dear! Oh my! Oh no... this could be bad..." She hops right into Lyra who SCREAMS and tosses her to Bon-Bon, who tosses her away. Immediately behind, Angel Pony (i.e., Angel in Fluttershy's body) stumbles and jumps around like Bambi taking her first steps. Eventually he crashes into Mr. Cranky Doodle who loudly complains about ponies acting like bunnies these days. Finally, as before, Pinkie Pie matches pace with Flutterbunny and Angel Pony for a moment, wishes them both a totally normal day, then springs away. Flutterbunny hops until her momentum carries her tumbling out of frame with an O.S. <CRASH>! ...Right into Twilight's door. Spike answers with a yawn, again complaining about having his mid-morning nap interrupted and confused to see what he thinks is Angel Bunny looking up at him, along with what looks like Fluttershy hopping around in the background: "Is everything alright...?!" Flutterbunny looks up at him and answers, "NO, SPIKE, EVERYTHING IS DEFINITELY NOT ALRIGHT!" But before she can continue, Angel Pony bounds away and Flutterbunny gives chase, yelling after, "Somebody stop me—I mean her—I mean him—I mean Angel—I mean Fluttershy—I mean GET BACK HERE...!" Spike stands there a beat, then rubs his eyes and gives his head a shake. "I think I need to finish my nap." He backs inside.

SC. 8 - EXT. PONYVILLE TOWN SQUARE – LATER

Angel Pony hops through town with a panicked look—arms and legs all muppetey every which-way—eventually coming to a halt by a trough of water where he can scope out what he looks like. Angel checks out his Fluttershy reflection, then looks around at other ponies who pay him no mind. In super-posed-out silly poses, he inspects his hooves and wings, his face and nose and his relatively-giant-pony-eyeballs, making funny faces (all to the familiar Angel <JINGLE BELL SOUNDS>). Although it's non-verbal, it's clear the wheels are turning. Angel Pony has realized something! Quickly, he ducks out of sight just as Flutterbunny hops down the street calling out Angel's name—freaking out ponies left and right as she goes.

MUSIC UP and we start a MONTAGE!

SC. 9 - EXT. PONYVILLE – VARIOUS (MONTAGE)

In a quick series of beats, Angel Pony makes his way through town, always two hops ahead of Flutterbunny who's looking for him and trying to get help from anypony who'll listen...

--Angel Pony tries, with difficulty, to use his pegasus wings to fly, barely able to hover over the ground. Suddenly RAINBOW DASH comes zooming in beside, asking what she assumes is Fluttershy if she thinks Tank needs to come in to the Sanctuary for a check-up. Angel shakes his head as he bobs up and down trying to stay afloat. Curious, Dash asks if she's okay and in a panic Angel Pony lands and runs off. Confused, Dash talks to herself, thinking out loud that she was sure Tank was due for a visit. Flutterbunny hops into frame and confirms that yes, Tank should come in and also, "Have you seen my body go by?" A stunned Dash just stares in shock, then points off screen in the direction Angel Pony went.

--Still running and slightly panicked, Angle Pony comes crashing into Rarity's Boutique. Surprised to see her "friend," Rarity wonders what's led to the sudden surprise visit. Spooked again, Angel Pony starts hopping around the shop and right into one of Rarity's new dresses. Concerned, Rarity explains that she'd be happy to help her friend try it on, but Angel Pony hops out the window before she can even lend a hoof. Rarity opens her front door to look out, only to find Flutterbunny looking up at her. Rarity apologizes, "I'm sorry, Angel dear, service animals only inside the shop." Flutterbunny tries to explain, "But it's me, Fluttershy..." Still distracted, Rarity quickly replies, "I'm sure you are, but I have enough to clean up inside as it is." With that she closes the door and a distraught Flutterbunny hops off. A second later a very confused Rarity re-opens her door and looks after—not sure what just happened.

--Angel Pony rushes through SWEET APPLE ACRES, stopping only momentarily to try to pull up some carrots, but is stymied by his unworkable hooves. APPLEJACK walks out and asks her "friend" if she needs anything and a startled Angle Pony looks up, then rushes off. As AJ heads back inside, confused, Flutterbunny hops up, fretting about her poor bunny, err... pony. Realizing she hasn't eaten all day, she soon gets distracted by a row of carrots. Unfortunately, the moment she pulls a carrot and starts to eat, she yelps as <WILD BANJO CHASE MUSIC> accompanies a madcap Peter Rabbit-style chase by Granny Smith, who swats at her with a garden hoe, driving her further into the orchard. Flutterbunny does her best to insist: "This is all a mistake...! It's me, Fluttershy...!" Only to be met by Granny Smith cackling back at her: "That's what they all say, Bunny!"

--The final beat of the montage is Angel Pony wandering toward the Animal Sanctuary, met by Dr. Fauna who mistakenly ushers her over: "Oh Fluttershy! Thank goodness. The Sanctuary was about to fall apart without you! Angel Pony gets a devious look... music to his ears...this was his plan all along! END MONTAGE

SC. 10 - EXT. PONYVILLE – HILLSIDE – DAY

Winded, Flutterbunny emerges from a row of trees, having finally eluded Granny Smith. Having lost the trail of Angel Pony, she wonders what to do next, but suddenly thinks of (or spots in the distance, depending on logistics) the Sanctuary. Certain poor Dr. Fauna is overwhelmed without her, she hops off toward it.

SC. 11 - EXT. SWEET FEATHER SANCTUARY – DAY

Dr. Fauna talks a mile a minute as she leads who she thinks is Fluttershy through the Sanctuary, updating her on the day's concerns. Angel Pony does his best to maintain the charade while surreptitiously causing problems along the way: unlocking the pen that separates Antoine the Snake and Ethel the Elephant, dropping a stack of papers into Harry the Hedgehog's area (which he immediately starts trying to eat), convincing the coughing rooster to eat the popcorn in Opal's cone, etc. As they finish their rounds, Dr. Fauna turns to see the Sanctuary has become a madhouse! A mischievous Angel looks out at the chaos, satisfied, just as an exhausted Flutterbunny hops in. Realizing what happened, Flutterbunny unloads on Angel Pony (played super-serious because the emotions are grounded and real, but it's all the more ridiculous because Dr. Fauna is totally confused by the body-switch). Flutterbunny can't believe Angel

would do this to the thing she cares most about. She needs him to come with her back to Zecora so they can fix this immediately! Angrier than ever, Angel Pony just sticks his tongue out and gallops off. As Flutterbunny watches Angel go, feeling terrible and not knowing how things got so out of hand, Dr. Fauna wonders if she shouldn't check herself into the Sanctuary with a case of hallucinatory exhaustion!

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC. 12 - EXT. ZECORA'S HUT – EVERFREE FOREST – LATER

Zecora examines Flutterbunny who explains that she wishes Angel was there too, but he's being particularly stubborn. Unfortunately, Zecora confirms her suspicion that they both must be present to reverse the effects of the potion. In addition, the only way to do it is to do the thing the potion was intended for. In order to get back to normal, Angel and Fluttershy must commune. Sadly, Flutterbunny has no idea where to find him and given how they left things, she isn't sure communion is an option.

SC. 13 - INT. FLUTTERSHY'S COTTAGE – LATER

Defeated, Flutterbunny returns home where the animals who live at the cottage are hanging out. Not realizing she's actually Fluttershy, they don't stop their wild behavior when she walks in. On seeing one of them hanging from her lights, Flutterbunny muses, "So that's why my chandelier's always crooked..." The animals all turn to her, intrigued. As they come over and begin "talking" Flutterbunny translates. Elizabeak voices her concern. Hummingway and Constance gossip, wondering what Angel could have done to cause this. But Mr. Mousey, Fuzzy Legs the spider, and Harry the bear all agree—this must be from Angel's stubborn refusal to just come out and say what's been bothering him for weeks. Ever since Fluttershy's been working at the Sanctuary, Angel doesn't feel like her special friend anymore, but instead of addressing the issue head on, the animals all agree—Angel Bunny no doubt decided to give Fluttershy the silent treatment. Fluttershy is stunned. It turns out there was no communication problem with Angel at all! He's just been upset and feeling neglected. Flutterbunny tells them she's got to go find Angel! "—I mean—Find Fluttershy... I mean find Angel in my body... I mean-- YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN!" The other animals tell her there's a place he'd wanted to take her, a place where he hoped she would just know how he felt without having to communicate. Off Fluttershy realizing...

SC. 14 - EXT. PONYVILLE – MOMENTS LATER

Finally understanding what the problem has been all along and driven to mend their rift, Flutterbunny hops across town—where we do the quick running-through-town beats one last time with Lyra & Bon-Bon who by now are nonplussed by the talking rabbit, Cranky Doodle who complains about all the rabbits solving friendship problems these days, and Pinkie running alongside wishing her a perfectly normal late afternoon, before we finally find her at...

SC. 15 - EXT. EVERFREE FOREST – MEADOW – DAY

Flutterbunny hops into the secluded, picturesque clearing under a beam of sunlight coming in through the canopy of leaves, spotlighting a little hill in the middle of the meadow. On top of the little hill is... Angel Pony, awkwardly stuck with his pony-head buried in the ground.

Flutterbunny rushes up and tries to help free Angel, who is finally able to pull his head out—revealing a carrot clutched in his mouth. Fluttershy laughs and reminisces, warming Angel's heart as she does so... "The first time I saw you, you were sniffing around this hole looking for carrots you'd buried, and you fell in, remember...? I pulled you out and you had a hurt foot." FS reflects on her own-bunny-foot-as-she's-in-Angel's-body... "This foot, now that I think about it. I knew what was wrong without you having to tell me and I bandaged you up right here with a piece of fabric from my lunch bag, remember? Your fur smelled like honey for three days."

Angel drops the carrot and tries to pick it up again, but his hooves make it hard. Flutterbunny picks the carrot up in her paw and they sit together sharing it. She's sorry that it took walking a mile in his feet for her to see things from his point of view. She won't let her work at the Sanctuary distract her from her relationship with him again. After a long beat where Angel Pony is silent, he pantomimes an apology as well. Overjoyed that she completely understands him again, Fluttershy forgives him. As their apologies combine in the air, smoke and effects begin to swirl around them. When it clears, everything is back to normal.

Fluttershy, finally back to herself... "Now, how about a tail scratch...?" MUSIC UP as they walk off together and we IRIS OUT.

END