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MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9

Dragon Dropped
Ep 919

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

*

CLOSE on the door to Spike's room as RARITY simultaneously <KNOCKS> and sticks her head inside.

1 RARITY
Oh, Spii-iike? Are you in here?

There's no answer and she takes a step inside.

2 RARITY (CONT'D)
Hellooooo? Spike?

3 SPIKE (O.S.)
Mm-hmm.

Rarity looks over and sees Spike sitting at his desk working on a SCROLL.

4 RARITY
Oh! There you are! I was starting to think you weren't here. (off his writing) Well, you'll be relived to know you can stop whatever work you're doing...

Rarity looks at him, expecting an intrigued response, but Spike just continues writing.

5 RARITY (CONT'D)
I realize I'm dropping by unannounced and this is all very last minute, but I've decided on a quick trip to the Gem Cave!

Rarity produces TWO BASKETS (a larger one and a dainty one), sure this will pique the dragon's interest, but he's REALLY focused on that scroll.

6 RARITY (CONT'D)
(plowing forward) You see, I am on an urgent mission to find some facettted iridescence for a new design and I can't think anypony I'd rather have along than my favorite basket holder slash body guard...

Still, Spike writes, barely registering Rarity's presence.

7 RARITY (CONT'D)
Spike.

Nothing.

8 RARITY (CONT'D)
Spiiiike?

Still nothing.

9 RARITY (CONT'D)
SPIKE!

Finally turning at the sound of Rarity's raised voice, Spike looks at her, surprised.

10 SPIKE
Wha--? Oh. Hey, Rarity.

11 RARITY
Honestly, Spike, it's almost like you haven't been listening.

12 SPIKE
Oh, Ah... of course I was, buuut just to be sure, could you say it all again?

Rarity gives him a look.

13 SPIKE (CONT'D)
Sorry. One sec...

He puts a finishing touch on his scroll, then DRAGON FLAMES it away and turns to face Rarity.

14 SPIKE (CONT'D)
There. You have my undivided attention.

15 RARITY
Well, I was simply saying that I planned on visiting the Gem Cave and--

Spike suddenly glances up at the clock.

16 SPIKE
(shock) Oh, no! Is that the time?

17 RARITY
Yes, I suppose it is. Anyway, I knew you'd be interested so that's why I--

In a sudden hurry, Spike stands and heads for the door. Rarity follows.

SC. 2 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

*

Spike toddles down the hall, Rarity right behind him.

*

18 RARITY
--Yes. Of course you're right. We
should get going. Those gems won't
pick themselves!

19 SPIKE
(distracted) Uh-huh.

They continue down the hall to...

SC. 3 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

*

Spike emerges from the castle, Rarity right on his heels.

20 RARITY
Of course, the real question is
which basket do you want to hold. I
assume the bigger one...

Rarity holds out the bigger of her two baskets, but Spike just continues on, headed for the road. Rarity stares at him confused.

21 RARITY (CONT'D)
Um, Spike?

Spike turns, almost like he's just now remembered she's there.

22 SPIKE
Yeah?

She points in the opposite direction of the way he's headed.

23 RARITY
The Gem Cave is this way.

24 SPIKE
I'm sorry Rarity. I need to get to
the post office before noon. Can I
take a rain check on-- What was it
again?

25 RARITY
THE GEM CAVE!

26 SPIKE
Right. Okay. See ya!

With that, Spike turns and hurries down the road leaving Rarity behind. Off her look of complete and utter shock...

END TEASER

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

SC. 4 - INT. GEM CAVE - DAY

*

Still befuddled by her exchange with Spike, Rarity uses her magic to pry a gem free from the rock wall as she speaks in hushed tones to somepony off screen.

27 RARITY
I simply can't believe he wasn't
interested in coming. This is
practically his favorite place!

She tosses the gem behind her where it CLATTERS to the ground. Rarity cocks an eyebrow at the noise.

28 RARITY (CONT'D)
(to off screen) A little higher.
(then) And then he rushed off to
the post office, even though he'd
just sent a scroll himself.

She magics another gem free and floats it behind her, toward the pony off screen, but the second gem HITS the ground as well. Rarity frowns.

29 RARITY (CONT'D)
(re the gem) A little closer.
(then) And why would Spike need to
go to the post office, anyway?

She tosses another gem back but it too misses its basket and CLANGS against the opposite wall. Rarity casts a nervous glance up at a collection of BATS hanging above, then spins with a sharp WHISPER as we PAN OVER to reveal APPLEJACK.

*

30 RARITY (CONT'D)
Honestly, Applejack, if you're
going to fill in you could at least
make an attempt to hold the basket
the way Spike would.

31 APPLEJACK
(annoyed) And how's that?

32 RARITY
For one thing, Spike knows how to keep things quite so as not to awaken the bats. And he usually follows me closely so no gem ever has occasion to touch the ground!

33 APPLEJACK
Rarity, Spike's been following you around since he got to Ponyville. (growing in volume) And in case you hadn't noticed, I ain't Spike!

Rarity shrinks back with each word, looking up as the EYES of every bat above pop open and they descend in a flurry of FLAPPING WINGS!

The bats clear out to reveal both Applejack and Rarity, their manes standing on end, a frizzy mess.

34 RARITY
Actually, Applejack, I had noticed. You are definitely not Spike.

Off AJ's eyeroll...

SC. 5 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - LIBRARY - DAY

*

Rarity, her mane still a bit of a mess, marches into the library to find Twilight looking through a few books. Twilight looks up, surprised.

35 TWILIGHT
Um... hi, Rarity. What's up?

36 RARITY
Besides my mane, you mean? Well, that's something I'd definitely like to know!

With a dramatic sweep of her horn, Rarity magics over a sofa and collapses onto it.

37 TWILIGHT
What's wrong?

38 RARITY
I suppose we'll just have to ask Spike!

39 TWILIGHT
Oh. Well, Spike isn't here. I think he's at the post office.

Rarity looks at her, shocked and confused.

40 RARITY
Again!? What is it with Spike and
the post office? He can send mail
by breathing!

41 TWILIGHT
Rarity, what's going on?

42 RARITY
(sighs) I asked Spike if he wanted
to join me on a trip to the Gem
Cave and-- he didn't!

43 TWILIGHT
Hmm.

44 RARITY
Hmm? HMM?!! I don't think you
understand, Twilight. He didn't
just not come, he barely even
registered the invitation.

45 TWILIGHT
That does sound strange. Did you do
something to hurt his feelings?

Rarity's eyes go wide.

46 RARITY
(gasps) I hope not! Oh, dear. I
wonder if that's it. It certainly
would explain his behavior. Oh, I
simply must apologize!

47 TWILIGHT
For what?

48 RARITY
I think that's hardly the point!
Poor Spikey Wikey! This calls for a
grand gesture!

*

With that, Rarity charges out of the room. Twilight looks
after, confused.

*

49 TWILIGHT
Okay. Good talk.

SC. 6 - INT. PONYVILLE - POST OFFICE - DAY

*

MUFFINS walks out of the post office to find Rarity trying to
push a GIANT CRATE filled to overflowing through the door.

50 MUFFINS
Um... Hi, Rarity. What are you
doing?

51 RARITY
<STRAINED> I am trying to push this
crate inside. I don't suppose you'd
mind offering some assistance?

Muffins sets down her mail bag and helps push, but it is slow
going.

52 MUFFINS
Wow. <STRAINING> Where are you
sending all this stuff?

53 RARITY
I'm not sending it anywhere.

54 MUFFINS
Then why are we pushing it into the
post office?

55 RARITY
These aren't for sending, They're
for apologizing to Spike.

56 MUFFINS
Oh. Well, Spike's not here he--

57 RARITY
(cutting her off, excited) Oh,
that's perfect!

Rarity stops pushing and stands up.

58 RARITY (CONT'D)
It'll give me a chance to practice.
Let's see...

She ushers Muffins to the side and starts digging around
inside the crate.

59 RARITY (CONT'D)
You stand there and tell me if I
hit the right apologetic notes.

60 MUFFINS
What are you apologizing for?

61 RARITY
I don't see why that matters.

Rarity digs through the crate and pulls out a STACK OF COMICS.

62 RARITY (CONT'D)
My dearest, Spike, please except these Power Pony comics as a token of my most sincere regret for whatever it is I have done to offend you.

She looks at Muffins expectantly, but the postal pony just shrugs. Rarity frowns.

63 RARITY (CONT'D)
No. You're right. Let me find my hoof-made apology shawl...

Rarity reaches back into the crate as we...

DISSOLVE TO:

Muffins, barely visible beneath a pile of things: more comics, a mound of gems, various capes, scarves and shawls, etc. MUSIC plays as we PAN OVER to reveal...

Rarity, in tears, kneels, holding a PHONOGRAPH over her head (like Say Anything).

64 RARITY (CONT'D)
(sobs) And that is why I simply can't bear the thought of having hurt you and even though I don't know what it is I did, I want you to know that it doesn't matter because I'm prepared to do anything to make it right.

She lets out a few more sobs, then takes a halted breath, collects herself and looks up, expectantly.

65 MUFFINS
<INAUDIBLE>

Muffins tries to talk but her voice is muffled by all the stuff she's half-buried under.

*

66 RARITY
Oh, sorry, dear. Here--

Rarity levitates her phonograph up so she can pull the scarf away from Muffin's mouth.

67 MUFFINS
I said, that sure sounded genuine.

68 RARITY
(near-offended) Well, of course it
does! It's 100% genuine!

69 SPIKE (O.S.)
Rarity?

PAN OVER to reveal Spike.

70 SPIKE (CONT'D)
What are you doing?

71 RARITY
Obviously I'm working on my apology
to you, Spike. (back to Muffins)
...I don't know how I could be MORE
genuine-- (realizing) SPIKE!

Rarity turns and immediately drops to her knees. She grabs
the phonograph, turns it on, and holds it back over her head.

72 RARITY (CONT'D)
Oh, Spike, I am so sorry. Please
forgive me. YOU HAVE TO FORGIVE ME!
I don't know what I did or why
you're mad at me just please say
you forgive me! PLEEEESEEEE!!

73 SPIKE
Of course I forgive you. But, what
are you apologizing for?

74 RARITY
WHY DOES EVERYPONY KEEP HARPING ON
THAT?! (then) Wait. Don't you know?

*

75 SPIKE
No. I'm not mad at you about
anything.

76 RARITY
WHAT!?

Off Rarity staring in disbelief we...

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 7 - INT. PONYVILLE - POST OFFICE - RESUME

*

Rarity stares at Spike, confused.

77 RARITY
But I don't understand. If you're
not upset with me, why in Equestria
would you refuse to go to the Gem
Cave?

78 SPIKE
Oh. Um, because I just had other
plans?

Muffins gives Rarity a "Seriously?" stare, and Rarity looks
away, slightly embarrassed.

79 RARITY
Yes. Well, I suppose that is a much
simpler explanation. One you might
have mentioned before rushing off
with barely a word.

80 GABBY (O.S.)
That's probably my fault...

Rarity turns to see GABBY GRIFFIN standing next to Spike. She
holds up her mail bag.

81 GABBY (CONT'D)
I told Spike the Griffin Mail waits
for no pony, so if he's not here by
noon, I have to start my rounds
without him!

82 RARITY
(confused) And you are?

Gabby shakes her head, flustered, then grabs Rarity's hoof
and shakes it.

83 GABBY
Whoops! Sorry. Gabby! Nice to
meetcha!

84 SPIKE
Gabby and I are sort of pen pals--

Gabby nods excitedly, then jumps into an enthusiastic, speedy-
all-in-one-breath explanation...

85 GABBY
Yeah. See, I came to Ponyville so the Cutie Mark Crusaders could give me a cutie mark only Griffins don't get cutie marks so I pretended to get a cutie mark so they wouldn't feel bad, but before they found out it wasn't a real cutie mark Princess Twilight had Spike send a bunch of letters off to Griffinstone about the first Griffin to ever get a cutie mark-- which I didn't really have.

Rarity just stares, trying to take it all in.

86 SPIKE
Gabby wrote back explaining things and after that we just starting writing back and forth.

87 GABBY
Turns out we have a lot in common! We both come from cultures that don't have the friendliest of reputations.

88 SPIKE
And we're both in the message sending business.

89 GABBY
I wish I could send scrolls with dragon fire!

They laugh. Rarity looks on and nods, relieved.

90 RARITY
Well, I'm am certainly glad to hear that I don't have anything to apologize for.

Muffins rolls her eyes and flies over Rarity's crate of apology supplies and into the post office.

91 RARITY (CONT'D)
Well, I understand why you didn't come to the Gem Cave. Having a friend in town is a rare treat. And since you're busy today let's do something tomorrow. Fabric shopping? I know how much you like to help pick out the colors.

92 SPIKE
Actually, now that there's a
Griffin at Twilight's school,
Gabby's here all the time.

93 GABBY
Gallus gets a lot of mail. Speaking
of which I better get going.

94 SPIKE
I'll fly with you.

Rarity shrugs and turns to start putting things back into her crate.

95 RARITY
All right. Well, you two fly along.
I'm sure Spike and I can do
something some other--

Rarity looks up to see Spike and Gabby have already flown off.

96 RARITY (CONT'D)
--time?

Off Rarity's surprised look...

SC. 8 - INT. PONYVILLE - FABRIC SHOP - DAY

*

Rarity holds several bolts of fabric under her arms while she browses through bins filled with more. She levitates some out and compares them all against each other.

97 RARITY
I simply can't decide which shade
of purple is the most royal!

She spots another basket of PINK FABRIC and rushes over to it, absent-mindedly dropping her bolts of purple.

98 RARITY (CONT'D)
And then there's the pink! How will
I ever choose?

Reveal a SHOPKEEP struggling to pick up after her.

99 SHOPKEEP
Too bad Spike's not here. He
usually helps you narrow it down.

Rarity glances out the window and happens to see Spike and Gabby delivering a package across the street.

100 RARITY
(sighs) He is a good sounding
board, isn't he?

Off Rarity's wistful stare...

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 9 - INT./EXT. - VARIOUS - FLASHBACK MONTAGE

*

MUSIC UP for a quick series of shots where we see SEPIA TONED or SOFT FOCUS memories of Rarity with Spike...

--INT. GEM SHOP - Rarity uses a jeweler's loop to look over a tray of gems while a JEWELER PONY looks on. Finally, she selects one and passes it to Spike. Spike gives it a lick and shakes his head. Rarity puts it back and selects another. Spike does another lick test and nods. Rarity smiles and places the gem in a small pile of similar gems in front of the Jeweler who frowns. Spike and Rarity exchange a smile.

--EXT. PONYVILLE - SHOP - Rarity bursts from the shop with a grand sweep of her hooves and marches into the street. A waddling stack of PACKAGES follows behind her and as the stack wobbles and falls, Rarity quickly turns and catches it with her magic, revealing Spike beneath. Rarity smiles and divides the load between them. Spike smiles back.

--INT. PONYVILLE DAY SPA - A cloud of STEAM clears to reveal Rarity and Spike laying side by side, cucumber slices on their eyes, as SPA PONIES administer claw and hoof-icures. With another cloud of steam we END MONTAGE and...

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 10 - INT. RARITY'S BOUTIQUE - DAY

*

CLOSE on Rarity as she works a difficult stitch at a sewing machine, pulling pins from a cushion just off screen.

101 RARITY
(waxing nostoglic) Spike's always
been there whenever I needed
anything and now he's busy with
Gabby more often than he's not--
(reaches for a pin that's too far)
A little closer, dear.

She pins a seam, then finishes a stitch, removing several more pins as melancholy washes over her face.

102 RARITY (CONT'D)
I suppose I'm just realizing now
how much his presence has meant to
me over the years--

She moves to return the pins to the cushion, but it's too high.

103 RARITY (CONT'D)
Just a bit lower. I have to admit
things feel a bit 'less than'
without him.

She reaches for another pin, but now the cushion is too low. She turns, frustrated, and we PAN to reveal FLUTTERSHY.

104 RARITY (CONT'D)
Oh, darling, it's no use. Thank you
for trying, but I'm just accustomed
to the help of a small, highly
attentive dragon.

*

105 FLUTTERSHY
Well, if you really miss Spike, you
should do something about it.

Off Rarity, considering...

SC. 11 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - SPIKE'S ROOM - NIGHT

*

Spike sleeps soundly in his bed. Suddenly a SHADOWY FIGURE rises over him. Sensing something, Spike's eyes pop open and he sits up, pulling the sheets around him, terrified.

106 SPIKE
Wh--who's there?

The LIGHTS pop on to reveal the shadowy figure is... Rarity.

107 RARITY
Oh, I am sorry, Spike. I didn't
mean to frighten you.

108 SPIKE
Rarity? What are you doing here?

109 RARITY
I realize it's late, or rather
early, but I have a surprise and I
just couldn't wait to share it.

Intrigued, Spike hopes out of bed.

110 SPIKE
A surprise for me? What is it?

Rarity pulls out a large scroll and unrolls it across the bed. It's a MAP, along with some smaller PICTURES.

111 RARITY
The Great Gem Crevasse of the
Crystal Mountains!

Spikes eyes go wide as you looks through the pictures of sparkling ice walls lined with gems.

112 SPIKE
Whoaa...

113 RARITY
It's only accessible one time a
year and that time is now!

She grabs a bag and hands it to him. Spike's excited expression drops.

114 SPIKE
Oh. But I'm supposed to meet Gabby
for her rounds.

115 RARITY
I see. (starts rolling up the map)
Well, there's always next year.

Rarity starts to roll everything back up. Spike looks longingly at the sparkling images of gems set in ice.

116 SPIKE
(coming to a decision)
You know what? I'm sure Gabby won't
mind if I miss one day.

117 RARITY
(brightening)
Are you sure?

118 SPIKE
Absolutely.

Spike smiles, grabs his bag, and starts to pack as Rarity looks on, pleased.

TIME CUT TO:

SC. 12 - EXT. PONYVILLE TRAIN STATION - LATER

*

With a BLAST of steam, Spike and Rarity exit the train wearing snow dusted parkas and rucksacks. Spike sets his rucksack down and looks inside - it's filled with sparkling GEMS.

119 SPIKE
Wow. Rarity. You weren't kidding.
The Gem Crevasse was amazing! I'll
be snacking on these for a week!

120 RARITY
What did I tell you?

121 GABBY (O.S.)
Spike?

Spike looks up and sees Gabby dropping off a collection of letters at the ticket window.

122 SPIKE
Gabby! Hey! You won't believe where
I went today!

Gabby comes over and gives him a jovial nudge with her elbow.

123 GABBY
Well, I know where you didn't go. I
waited for you for a bit, but then
I had to get started on my rounds
and now I'm finished.

124 SPIKE
Aw, I'm sorry, but Rarity and I
went to the Great Gem Crevasse of
the Crystal Mountains. Look!

He shows her his sack of gems. Gabby looks on impressed.

125 GABBY
Oooh! I'd have missed my rounds for
that too. (then) I have to get back
to Griffenstone now, but promise to
tell me all about it tomorrow?

126 SPIKE
Absolutely!

Gabby smiles and flies off. Spike hoists up his bag.

127 SPIKE (CONT'D)
Thanks again, Rarity. What a great
day.

Off Rarity, pleased...

TIME CUT TO:

SC. 13 - EXT. PONYVILLE - NEXT DAY

*

Spike and Gabby fly through town.

128 GABBY
Okay. Start from the beginning
because I wanna hear everything
about this Crevasse!

129 SPIKE
Well, first you have to climb
across a rope bridge because the
air's too thin to fly.

130 GABBY
Whoa! That's amazing. Then what?!

The two of them turn a corner and fly right into Rarity.

131 GABBY (CONT'D)
Whoa!

132 SPIKE
Whoops! Sorry, Rarity.

Rarity looks to him, pleased.

133 RARITY
No apology necessary, Spike. In
fact I was just looking for you.

134 SPIKE
You were? Why?

135 RARITY
Well, I know the two of you didn't
get a chance to spend time together
yesterday and I just acquired
these...

Rarity pulls out a couple of lanyards adorned with images of
THE POWER PONIES. Spike GASPS.

136 SPIKE
Passes to Power Ponypalooza!? For
Today!?

Rarity nods, enthusiastically at them.

137 RARITY
I don't suppose you'd want to go?

138 SPIKE
(excited)
Are you kidding? Of course.

139 GABBY
Gee, I wish I could, but I have to finish my rounds and get back to Griffinstone.

140 SPIKE
(disappointed)
Oh.

141 RARITY
Oh, I'm sorry, dear. Well, I suppose I could go with you, Spike.

Spike gives a hesitant look to Gabby.

142 SPIKE
I don't know...

Gabby waves him off with a claw.

143 GABBY
Pfft! Are you kidding? You have to go! But now you have two things to tell me about!

144 SPIKE
Wow, are you sure? (off her enthusiastic nod) Okay. Come on Rarity let's go!

With that Spike and Rarity take off. Gabby watches them go, a slight tinge of regret.

TIME CUT TO:

SC. 14 - EXT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - EVENING

*

Spike and Rarity drag themselves up to the door, spent, but buzzing from their trip. Spike pulls a wagon loaded with comics, action figures, and other schwag.

145 SPIKE
Whew! Are my claws sore. I am ready for bed.

146 RARITY
Indeed! I had no idea how much
walking there is at a Power Pony
convention!

Suddenly, Gabby ZOOMS in from nowhere, super excited to see them.

147 GABBY (O.S.)
SPIKE!

148 SPIKE
 (surprised)
Gabby! Wow. It so late. What are
you doing here?

149 GABBY
Well, I couldn't wait to hear about
Power Ponypalooza, so I flew right
back after work! Come on, come on!
Lay it on me! Don't leave anything
out.

Spike and Rarity exchange tired glances.

150 SPIKE
I really want to tell you all about
it Gabby, but it's been such a long
day. Do you think we could do it
tomorrow?

151 GABBY
(disappointed) Oh. (but quickly
covering) Pfft! Of course you are!
That's fine. But you better get
your rest tonight. We have a lot to
talk about tomorrow.

152 SPIKE
You got it.

Gabby smiles and flies out. Rarity shoots Spike a look of concern.

153 RARITY
Oh, dear.

154 SPIKE
What?

155 RARITY
Well, I hadn't counted on Power
Ponypalooza being quite so
exhausting...

Rarity heads inside and Spike follows...

SC. 15 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

*

Rarity heads toward the library.

156 RARITY
...and I'd already made
arrangements to round out the day.

157 SPIKE
I don't understand. What do you
mean?

Rarity walks through the library door to reveal...

SC. 16 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

*

Big Mac and Discord sit at a table, an involved game of Ogres and Oubliettes laid out on top. They both look over at Spike and Rarity expectantly.

158 RARITY
Big Mac and Discord volunteered to
teach me how to play Ogres and
Oubliettes and I hoped you'd play
too.

Off Spike's surprised look of delight...

TIME CUT TO:

SC. 17 - EST. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - NEXT DAY

*

Gabby comes soaring into frame and makes a b-line toward the front door.

159 GABBY
Come on, Spike! Let's go!

SC. 18 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - FOYER - CONTINUOUS

*

Gabby bursts in and looks around expectantly.

160 GABBY
I figured I'd come get you before I
even started my rounds. We've got a
lot of catching up to do!

Gabby does loops around the room, but Spike's not there. She flies off down the hall and right into the...

SC. 19 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

*

Where Rarity, Spike, Big Mac, and Discord are still gathered around the table - a bit haggard - food boxes everywhere.

161 RARITY
 (intense)
Princess Shmarity, grabs her Shears
of Piercing and attempts to smite
the purveyor of poor color
coordination!

Spike rolls dice.

162 SPIKE
Right. Shmarity slices at the
Purple Lizard of Doom and--

163 GABBY
Spike?

Spike looks up to see Gabby staring at them.

164 SPIKE
 (shock)
Gabby? What-- What time is it?

165 GABBY
Have you been up all night?

166 BIG MAC
Eeyup!

167 GABBY
But, you said you were tired...

168 SPIKE
I guess there's nothing more
reviving than a good old game of
O&O. We're almost to a good
stopping place, if you wanna wait--

Gabby slumps, disappointed.

169 GABBY
Actually, I should probably get
going.

170 SPIKE
Oh. (realizing) You know, what?
I'll come with. We have so much to
talk about.

171 GABBY
(stiff)
No. You keep playing. My rounds are pretty packed today and actually hanging out with you kinda slows me down.

172 SPIKE
Wait. What?

173 GABBY
I'll see ya.

With that, Gabby flies out. Spike looks after, confused and sad. Rarity looks up from the game.

174 RARITY
So, shall we can keep playing? I think I am really getting the hang of this.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC. 20 - INT. PONYVILLE - FABRIC SHOP - DAY

*

As before, Rarity holds bolts of fabric under her arms while she looks through more.

175 RARITY
What do you think, Spike? Solids or prints?

PAN OVER to reveal a solemn Spike. He looks up and shrugs.

176 SPIKE
<SIGHS> Prints, I guess. You already have a lot of solid colors.

177 RARITY
You are so right. Prints it is.

She floats a few bolts of fabric over to the grateful Shopkeep.

178 SHOPKEEP
Nice to have you back, Spike.

179 RARITY
It is nice, though I'm surprised you aren't spending time with Gabby.

Spike glances out the window and spots a similarly solemn Gabby on her rounds.

180 SPIKE
(shrugs) She hasn't wanted to. I
guess she's too busy.

Off his depressed SIGH...

DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 21 - INT./EXT. - VARIOUS - MONTAGE

*

MUSIC UP (minor key?) for a series of shots reminiscent of the Rarity's earlier "memories of time with Spike" montage...

--INT. GEM SHOP - Rarity looks over a tray of gems, but can't decide. She pulls one out and turns, wiping it on Spike's already stuck out tongue. He gives her a joyless head shake and she tosses it aside. She tries another and Spike just gives her a noncommittal shrug. Rarity turns to the Jeweler Pony and they exchange a confused look.

--EXT. PONYVILLE - SHOP - Rarity bursts from the shop with a grand sweep of her hooves, then looks back - but nopony follows. Confused she heads back inside. A beat later she emerges carrying a huge stack of packages. She looks back, as she struggles to balance the load, to see Spike emerge from the shop. Despondent, he just walks past her and she hurries to follow.

--INT. PONYVILLE DAY SPA - A cloud of STEAM clears to reveal Rarity laying in a massage chair, cucumber slices on her eyes. She looks over to see Spike sitting up, chin in his claws as he chews joylessly on his cucumber slices. Rarity looks at him, concerned, as another cloud of steam fills the screen and we END MONTAGE.

SC. 22 - INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - DAY

*

Rarity and Spike enter. Spike still downcast as Rarity studies him, conflicted

181 RARITY
I quite enjoyed our day together
today, Spike.

182 SPIKE
Yeah. Me too.

With a SIGH, Spike sulks off toward his room, passing Twilight on his way.

183 TWILIGHT
Hi, Spike.

184 SPIKE
(flat) That's me.

Concerned, Twilight looks after him. Rarity rushes up to her.

185 RARITY
I've seen Spike sad before, but
never like this.

186 TWILIGHT
Me neither. I wonder what's wrong.

187 RARITY
I'm sure it has something to do
with Gabby not wanting to spend
time with him which is so strange.

188 TWILIGHT
Why?

189 RARITY
Because the two of them were
inseparable! It took everything I
had to convince him to spend any
time with me at all. But between
crystal gem crevasses, Power Pony
conventions and marathon games of
O&O I managed to get some time in.

190 TWILIGHT
Sounds more like you made sure he
didn't have any time to spend with
Gabby at all.

191 RARITY
What? Pfft! I most certainly did
not--

Twilight gives her a look.

192 RARITY (CONT'D)
I suppose I may have monopolized my
time with him just the tiniest bit!
I'd just grown so used to having
Spikey-wikey around I wasn't
prepared for how much I'd miss him
when he wasn't.

193 TWILIGHT
Friendships change, but just
because Spike made a new friend
doesn't mean he stops being yours.

194 RARITY
I know, but now I have to share
him! (off another Twilight look)
Which I suppose I'll have to get
used to... Right after I fix the
mess I've made.

With that she rushes out. Twilight looks after and nods.

195 TWILIGHT
Good talk.

SC. 23 - INT. PONYVILLE - POST OFFICE - DAY

*

GABBY walks out of the post office to find Rarity kneeling in front of her. MUSIC PLAYS from a PHONOGRAPH she holds over her head (as in the previous scene). A pile of gems, Power Pony comics, and O&O books lie on the ground in front of her.

196 GABBY
Rarity? What are you doing? What's
all this?

197 RARITY
I am apologizing--actually, it's
more of a confession--and all of
this is the evidence against me!

198 GABBY
Evidence? For what?

199 RARITY
For my acts of utter selfishness!

200 GABBY
I don't understand.

Rarity sets the phonograph down and floats up the various items, comic books, gems, etc.

201 RARITY
These **are** things I used them to
ensure Spike spent as much time
with me as possible!

*

202 GABBY
They are? You did?

203 RARITY
YES! The more time he spent with
you the more I realized I missed my
time with him and I used every
means at my disposal to get it
back. But it wasn't Spike's fault!
It was me! ALL ME!

Gabby just stares, a little in shock, then...

204 SPIKE (O.S.)
Rarity?

PAN OVER to reveal Spike.

205 SPIKE (CONT'D)
What are you doing?

206 RARITY
Obviously I'm apologizing to Gabby
so the two of you can renew your
friendship, Spike. (back to Gabby)
...Now please, even if you can't
forgive me you simply must forgive--
(realizing) SPIKE!

Rarity wheels around to face Spike, surprised. Spike looks to *
both of them.

207 SPIKE
Actually, I came to apologize too.

208 GABBY/RARITY
Really?

Spike nods, then turns to Rarity.

209 SPIKE
I shouldn't have just abandoned you
for a new friend. And even though
you came up with a bunch of stuff I
like, like a bunch of stuff, (to
Gabby) I should have been able to
say no if it meant letting you
down. I'm sorry.

210 RARITY
Oh, Spike. There's no need to
apologize to me. I'm the one who
acted unfairly.

Gabby smiles and shrugs.

211 GABBY
And Rarity did come up with a lot
of great stuff--like A LOT.

212 RARITY
All right. I think we've covered
it.

213 GABBY
But I understand why. I know what
it's like to miss time with you now
too.

Spike looks to Gabby, brightening.

214 SPIKE
I don't suppose you'd like some
company on your rounds.

215 GABBY
Sure would!

With that Gabby and Spike take to the air. Rarity finally
gets up off of her knees.

216 RARITY
Wonderful! I'm so pleased I was
able to help the two of you--

She looks up to see Spike and Gabby have already flown off.

217 RARITY (CONT'D)
--reconnect.

Rarity looks at them disappearing in the distance and smiles,
satisfied.

SC. 24 - INT. GEM CAVE - DAY

*

Still smiling to herself, Rarity pries some gems free from
the cave wall and passes them back to a pony off screen.

218 RARITY
I suppose Twilight is right.
Friendships do change.

The gems she just passed CLANG to the floor and Rarity
cringes, casting a glance up at the sleeping bats.

219 RARITY (CONT'D)
Of course Spike and I will always
be friends and I can get used to
sharing him.

Rarity passes another few gems off screen which is followed by a WHOOSH and an OOHFF. Rarity perks up at this and turns as we PAN OVER to reveal...

*

PINKIE PIE sprawled out on the ground to catch the gems. Rarity looks at her amused.

220 PINKIE PIE
(whispered)
Sorry! I just didn't want to drop
another one and wake the bats!

221 RARITY
Darling. Catching the gems is what
the basket is for.

Pinkie stands and brushes herself off.

*

222 PINKIE PIE
(full voiced)
Oh. That makes A LOT more sense!

Her voice echoes off the walls as every bat in the cave suddenly wakes and in a FLURRY OF FLAPPING WINGS flies by them - after which we reveal their manes are as messed up as Rarity's was the last time.

223 SPIKE (O.S.)
Wow. You two need to be a lot
quieter.

They both look to see Spike, holding his own basket.

224 RARITY
Spike! How wonderful to see you!

225 SPIKE
Yeah. Gabby and I had a great day,
but I'll always still want my
Rarity time.

With that, they smile at each other. Rarity turns and plucks a gem from the wall and tosses it over her shoulder. Spike catches it effortlessly in his basket as Pinkie looks on, impressed.

*

226 PINKIE PIE
OOoooooh! So that's how it works.

Off all of them LAUGHING we...

FADE OUT

END