

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9
The Big Mac Question
EP 923

Premise by: Josh Haber & Michael Vogel

Distribution:

Production:

Devon Cody
Jim Miller
Denny Lu
Mike Myhre
Zoe Borroz
Josh Haber
Jada McDermott

Discovery Family:

Linda Shima Tsuno
Beth Mohammed

Hasbro Studios:

Stephen Davis
Meghan McCarthy
Eliza Hart
Leslie Wishnevski
Finn Arnesen
Nina Scales
Tyla Bucher
Loretta Masters
Narae Song
Bill Cheungcp
Molly Shaffer
Emily Thompson
Kevin Farrell
Lauren Devereux
Michael Kelly

Hasbro Brand:

Jamie Cipolla
Julie Sanfilippo
Matt Riordan
Andrea Ehret
Samantha Lomow
Gretchen Forrest
Brian Chapman

Premise: March 28th, 2018
Outline: April 10th, 2018

THE BIG MAC QUESTION

Outline by Josh Haber & Michael Vogel

TEASER**SC. 1 - UNDISCLOSED LOCATION – TALKING HEADS**

OPEN on “talking head shots” (a la “When Harry met Sally”): Discord, Spike, The CMCs, and Mrs. Cake talking directly to camera about a “mix up” and “what went wrong.” We don’t know what they are talking about (yet, but don’t worry we will).

SC. 2 - EXT. HILL OVERLOOKING SWEET APPLE ACRES – DAY

Big Mac shows something to Spike who is practically salivating (actually he is literally salivating). Discord shows up asking what’s what, but Big Mac doesn’t want to show him because Discord is terrible at keeping secrets. Discord begs to differ and to prove it reveals ALL the secrets he’s been keeping. Finally, Big Mac relents and shows him – an engagement ring!! Big Macintosh is going to pop the question to Sugar Belle!!!

END TEASER**MAIN TITLES****ACT ONE****SC. 3 - UNDISCLOSED LOCATION – TALKING HEADS**

More “Talking Heads” – Discord and Spike get in an argument about “who was to blame.”

SC. 4 - EXT. HILL OVERSEEING SWEET APPLE ACRES – DAY

We pick up where we left off in the teaser. Big Mac lays out his plan for the “perfect proposal” (Actually, Big Mac STARTS each sentence, but uber-romantic Spike keeps interrupting and completing the thoughts for him). Big Mac reveals a picnic table he built that matches the shelf he made for Sugar Belle’s shop (Back in 708). He’s plans on setting up a romantic picnic for two. To get Sugar Belle to join him, he’s tied tiny messages to a few dozen apples. He plans on setting the apples around Ponyville, starting outside the Sweet Shoppe and ending at the picnic table so Sugar Belle has to go on a mini scavenger hunt to find them. Spike swoons. Discord shrugs, “It sounds good... if romance is your thing”. Spike says that he and Discord are happy to help! Big Mac admits he COULD use it. They decide that Discord can pop around Ponyville placing the apples, while Spike can pick up a few desserts from the Sweet Shoppe so that Sugar Belle won’t suspect what Big Mac is up to. Big Mac will arrange the picnic table and wait for his love to arrive! With the plan ready to go, Discord grabs the apples and snaps his fingers. He and Spike disappear...

SC. 5 - EXT. PONYVILLE – CONTINUOUS

And reappear in Ponyville's Town Square! They walk over to the Sweet Shoppe where Discord places the first apple. Spike asks how long it will take him to place the rest of them. Discord considers and then snaps his fingers. "Done! Now how long is it going to take YOU?" "Showoff," Spike replies. He's about to enter the Sweet Shoppe when The CMCs rush out (carrying a pie) followed by Sugar Belle who is in such a hurry that she unknowingly kicks the apple to the side. Spike and Discord debate what to do. They NEED her to see the clue!! Discord announces that he has taken down kingdoms and rained chaos on villages, he can handle something as simple as this. Spike isn't totally convinced but what could really go wrong? He heads into the Sweet Shoppe to get Big Mac's desserts.

SC. 6 - INT. SWEET SHOPPE – CONTINUOUS

Spike finds a very frazzled Mrs. Cake rushing around in the midst of prepping a bunch of pies, cakes and tarts (all of the apple variety). He finally gets her attention and asks if he can get a few things, but Mrs. Cake insists she's too busy. Spike suggests he could take a few of the cakes that are already baked off of her hooves, but she smacks his claw away saying he DEFINITELY can't have those. A VERY confused Spike asks why not? There must be... he starts to count. "21" Mrs. Cake says, "and they are ALL spoken for!" He asks why he can't take an already baked cake from the shop where you are supposed to go to buy cakes. Mrs. Cake says she can't tell him. It's a secret. Spike begs her. She asks him if this can't wait til tomorrow but he insists he needs stuff NOW. "Why? What's it for?" Mrs. Cake asks. But Spike says he can't tell her. It's a secret. They are at an impasse.

SC. 7 - EXT. PONYVILLE – CONTINUOUS

Meanwhile Discord appears near a cart where Sugar Belle is buying some flowers. His claw detaches from his body and sneaks the apple into her line of sight but she's so busy she doesn't see it. Discord gets annoyed. This is NOT going his way and he's over it. Then inspiration strikes! If Sugar Belle is too distracted to READ the apples, then he will just have the apples TELL her what they need. He snaps his fingers and all the apples grow little leafy arms and legs. Like Mickey with the broomsticks, Discord sends them after Sugar Belle to tell her what they need to. "Problem solved!" With that, Discord disappears. But as the autonomous apples chase after Sugar Belle, she's still too distracted to notice and their tiny apply voices are too soft for her to hear them. Stymied, two apples jump into each other and magically become a single, larger and louder apple. Inspired, the other apples start to do the same. This could be problematic...

SC. 8 - EXT. HILL OVERSEEING SWEET APPLE ACRES – CONTINUOUS

Big Mac has everything set up but is getting impatient. He's wondering why Spike hasn't come back with the desserts and why Sugar Belle hasn't shown up yet. A few awkward

beats of him moving pieces of furniture around to pass the time and then finally he sighs and heads down the hill to figure out what the heck is going on!

SC. 9 - INT. SWEET SHOPPE – CONTINUOUS

Spike notices Mrs. Cake placing small piece of parchments in the pies. He asks her what she's doing. She explains that each of the desserts needs to have one of the parchments inside and it's going to take her quite some time to do it. In an effort to be helpful (and so he can get her to help him) Spike offers to use his dragon fire to "deliver" the notes! Mrs. Cake isn't sure but Spike grabs the parchments and blows on them. They disappear in a <WHOOSH> of green dragon fire! "No need to thank me—," Spike begins. But then the desserts start smoking and suddenly erupt into green flame that quickly fizzles, leaving plumes of smoke and a bunch of burnt desserts. Mrs. Cake glares at Spike "No. There IS no need to thank you." Spike is about to apologize when they both hear screaming outside.

SC. 10 - EXT. PONYVILLE/VARIOUS LOCATIONS – CONTINUOUS

Spike and Mrs. Cake rush out to see the larger, talking apples running all over the place. Rarity's boutique, Zecora's cart, the post office. They shout for Sugar Belle and recite romantic clues explaining where she's supposed to go. But she's not around so they start combining and growing even larger – shouting even louder. They scare the crap out of everypony and very quickly cause a panic. Spike yells Discord's name and he appears, asking if Spike is done with his part of the proposal yet. Spike points around town demanding an explanation. Discord take it all in, "What? I would call this outside the box thinking." Spike says he doesn't think this is what Big Mac had planned. Discord relents and says he'll send the apples back where they came from and handle Sugar Belle himself. "Handle HOW?" Spike asks, but Discord snaps his fingers and he and all of the apples disappear.

SC. 11 - EXT. HILL OVERSEEING SWEET APPLE ACRES – CONTINUOUS

Discord and Sugar Belle appear on the hilltop. Surprised, Sugar Belle asks what's going on. Seeing Big Mac isn't there, Discord quickly snaps his fingers and a blindfold appears over Sugar Belle's eyes. "It's.... a surprise. No peeking!" he says, looking around for Big Mac. "I just know I'm going to somehow get blamed for this." he mutters...

SC. 12 - EXT. PONYVILLE – CONTINUOUS

Spike turns and sees Big Mac running towards the Sweet Shoppe, confused. "Uh. HEY Big Mac." Spike says. Big Mac demands some answers. "Well, uh. What had happened was..." Suddenly Discord appears with Sugar Belle. Everypony is completely confused and Big Mac is clearly disappointed his proposal was ruined. Spike feels terrible. "How could this get ANY worse?" he asks. SUDDENLY The CMC's and Granny Smith come running towards them screaming. Behind them something HUGE <ROARS> and we....

END ACT ONE**ACT TWO****SC. 13 - EXT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION – TALKING HEADS**

The Cutie Mark Crusaders talk about their harrowing experience.

SC. 14 - INT. SWEET SHOPPE – DAY

The Cutie Mark Crusaders watch as Mrs. Cake and Sugar Belle bake like crazy. We quickly realize that we are watching the scene that took place prior to Sugar Belle and the CMC's running past Spike and Discord in ACT ONE. Sugar Belle explains that she KNOWS Big Mac isn't the most talkative pony but she also knows she wants to spend the rest of her life with him, so she's decided to surprise him by taking the pressure of proposing away... by proposing to HIM! Apple Bloom thinks that's a great idea. She knows how crazy Big Mac is about her and she can't wait for Sugar Belle to be a part of the family!

Sugar Belle tells the Crusaders that since they were such a big part of getting the two of them together, she thought it would be great if they could help with the proposal! Mrs. Cake is already helping out with the baking (and looking a bit frazzled because of it). Sugar Belle explains that since Big Mac's plan to deliver her a Hearts and Hooves Day pie with a letter in it didn't go as planned, she thought it would be fun to get it right. She and Mrs. Cake are baking ALL the apple flavored treats Sugar Belle baked to get Big Mac to visit her in her old shop. And they're going to put little parchments with one word each IN the desserts. Once he finds them they will say "I LOVE YOU BIG MAC WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPEND THE REST OF OUR LIVES TOGETHER? I HOPE YOU SAY EYUP?" "One word each?! Scootaloo asks. "That's...." she starts counting on her hooves but an exhausted Mrs. Cake yells "21" while mixing more dough. Sugar Belle explains it's ACTUALLY 22 and hands to CMCs a warm apple pie right out of the oven. "THIS one has the invitation to meet me at the Sweet Shoppe." Sugar Belle explains. She wants the CMCs to find Big Mac and deliver it to him. She's going to run out and buy some flowers to decorate the Shoppe and Mrs. Cake is going to finish the baking. Sufficiently excited, the ponies all head out to accomplish their super important top-secret tasks!

SC. 15 - EXT. SWEET SHOPPE/PONYVILLE – CONTINUOUS

The CMCs and Sugar Belle rush out of the Sweet Shoppe and run right past Discord and Spike holding a bag of apples. The CMC's discuss how exciting it's going to be for Apple Bloom to have a sister-in-law! They may be TOO excited. They practice "playing it cool" so that when they find Big Mac they don't give anything away. While they do this, we see Discord in the background ordering his anthropomorphic apples to find Sugar Belle. Sufficiently "cool" the CMC's go off to find Big Mac!

SC. 16 - INT/EXT. VARIOUS LOCATIONS AROUND TOWN

Only problem. They have NO idea where BIG MAC is?! They've looked all over the place (including Sweet Apple Acres) but there's no sign of him! They're starting to get worried. They don't wanna be the ones to ruin the proposal! Sweetie Belle worries that Mrs. Cake is probably almost done with the desserts!

SC. 17 - INT. SWEET SHOPPE – QUICK CUT

Quick cut of Mrs. Cake and Spike arguing about the desserts from ACT ONE.

SC. 18 - EXT. PONYVILLE – CONTINUOUS

Apple Bloom decides they should head to Sweet Apple Acres again. He's bound to get back there sooner or later and they can keep the pie nice and warm while they wait for him! It's not like the proposal can happen without him anyway! With no better options the CMC's head to wait for him.

As soon as they leave, several large apples rush past shouting romantic gibberish.

SC. 19 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES – A FEW MINUTES LATER

The CMC's arrive and find Granny Smith sleeping in her rocker. They wake her up to ask if Big Mac is around, but Granny doesn't know. She just woke up from a CRAZY dream. Never had a dream crazier! "Oh no, not another one of Granny's dreams" Apple Bloom groans. But just then they hear something <ROAR> from the orchard. The ground shakes as something <STOMPS> towards them and the water in a bucket on the porch vibrates. We don't see what it is but we DO see everypony's expression. Granny: "Well, now that there is definitely crazier than my dream."

SC. 20 - EXT. PONYVILLE – CONTINUOUS

Big Mac comes rushing down from his secret spot on the hilltop to try to find out what happened to Sugar Belle! Instead he sees all of Ponyville cleaning up after the shouting apple pandemonium. Confused, Big Mac looks across the wrecked town square and sees Spike and Mrs. Cake standing outside of the Sweet Shoppe, smoke pouring out from the doors and windows. He rushes towards them. "Uh. HEY there Big Mac." Big Mac demands some answers. "Well, uh. What had happened was..." Suddenly Discord appears with Sugar Belle. Everypony is completely confused and Big Mac is clearly disappointed his proposal was ruined. Spike feels terrible. "How could this get ANY worse?" he asks. SUDDENLY The CMC's and Granny Smith come running towards them screaming. Behind them something HUGE <ROARS> !

A GIANT APPLE MONSTER comes crashing through the trees—BOOMING romantic aphorisms. Spike and Big Mac both turn and glare at Discord, who cocks his head quizzically at the apple monster. "Okay. To be fair. I had NO idea the apples could even

DO that.” He snaps and the apple monster topples into the original non walking non-talking apples. It quickly becomes clear what was happening. Mrs. Cake is mad at Spike. The CMC’s are mad at Discord, and Sugar Belle and Big Mac are both surprised that they were trying for dual proposals AND upset that both proposals got so completely and utterly messed up. As Sugar Belle momentarily gets pulled into the arguing and accusations with everypony else, Big Mac, depressed and frustrated, turns and walks away....

SC. 21 - EXT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION – TALKING HEADS

Discord in a “slightly breaking the fourth wall” moment, tells the audience that this is all being twisted to make him look like it was his fault but he really WAS trying to help!

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

SC. 22 - EXT. UNDISCLOSED LOCATION – TALKING HEADS

The CMC’s/Mrs. Cake/Discord/Spike all reflect on how each of them really wanted everything to be perfect, but all had a hoof (or claw) in messing things up.

SC. 23 - EXT. PONYVILLE – RESUME

Big Mac walks off, depressed and dejected. Sugar Belle sees him and decides to follow, leaving the friends in the middle of their “who ruined the proposal the worst” argument.

SC. 24 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES ORCHARD – MOMENTS LATER/DUSK

Sugar Belle finally catches up to Big Mac in the apple orchard and calls after him. They walk and have a talk about what went wrong. Big Mac feels like everything was completely ruined. Sugar Belle agrees it was NOT their best day together, and truth be told, they’ve had a few doozies. Completely by accident they come up to the Apple/Pear trees wrapped around each other that Big Mac’s parents planted. An emotional Big Mac admits that he wanted everything about his proposal to Sugar Belle to be as perfect and epically romantic as the romance between his parents. Sugar Belle says she gets that, but based on what Big Mac told her, she thinks he’s got things a bit backwards. She explains that his parents had to go through some pretty tough times, WAY tougher than some burnt desserts and a rampaging apple monster. But they found strength in each other. The apple and pear trees grew together because they needed each other, they didn’t want to grow apart. Sugar Belle tells Big Mac that these failed proposals are the last thing they’re ever going to do apart because for the rest of their days, they’re going to be together. Big Mac thinks about it and says this may have worked out great after all. Maybe this moment is just for the two of them. No friends and nopony else around. With that he says he wants to ask her something and we.... CUT TO:

SC. 25 - EXT. PONYVILLE – CONTINUOUS

The gang have all calmed down and agreed to work together to make things right for Sugar Belle and Big Mac. Discord asks if everypony is ready. They nod and he SNAPS HIS FINGERS as we CUT TO:

SC. 26 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES – CONTINUOUS

The gang ALL appear with the picnic table, desserts, bushels of apples and a few other dramatic and fabulous flairs. BUT they're too late. A smiling Sugar Belle and Big Mac come strolling out of the orchard and tell them that they did it! They're engaged! And they want to thank all of their friends for ruining their plans so that everything could work out perfectly. Off of everypony's confused expressions we CUT TO:

SC. 27 - EXT. FINALLY DISCLOSED LOCATION/APPLE PEAR TREE/WEDDING – TALKING HEADS

Discord/Spike/CMC's/Mrs. Cake ALL say they're happy things worked out the way they did. We pull out to reveal we are actually AT Big Mac and Sugar Belle's wedding. The gang have been relating the story to Goldie Delicious who is writing it all down in the latest volume of the Apple Family History. EVERYPONY is gathered around at a truly GORGEOUS wedding. Mayor Mare says she is thrilled to officiate her SECOND Apple Family wedding. Applejack is Big Mac's Best Mare (Discord and Spike right next to her).

And as Sugar Belle and Big Mac kiss, ready to start the rest of their lives together we....

FADE OUT

END