

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9
She's All Yak
EP 907
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Logline: *When Sandbar asks Yona to the School of Friendship Dance, Yona mistakenly thinks she needs to be more like a pony to attend, and goes to her teachers for guidance—but losing her “yak-ness” along the way.*

TEASER**SC. 1 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP – GRAND HALL – DAY**

TWILIGHT SPARKLE finishes magically attaching a POSTER to a wall as our YOUNG SIX gather around. *“Exciting news, everycreature! Our biggest school event yet!”* She moves on to hang up more posters as SILVERSTREAM comes closer for a better look. *“First Annual School of Friendship Dance! A DANCE! You know what that means?”* *“Dancing?”* deadpans GALLUS. *“YES!”* replies Silverstream. YONA is puzzled. *“Yona not know this ‘Friendship Dance.’ Only dance Yona know is traditional dance of Yakyakistan. It go like this.”* She JUMPS UP AND DOWN on all fours, shaking the earth with thunderous BOOMS. *“Is same as Friendship Dance?”* SANDBAR explains—the Friendship Dance isn’t just *one* dance, it’s an entire evening of dances—a party! And ponies always have the best dance parties. *“Look at everything we’re going to do...”* He reads from the poster. *“The Pony Cotillion, the Pony-Time Dance, the Pony Potluck, Spike playing the Awesome Pony Playlist, the Best Pony-Pals Award...”*

Gallus chimes in: *“Yeah. Sounds like a lot of fun...if you’re a pony.”* OCELLUS changes into her pony form. *“Okay, I’m ready.”* *“That...Doesn’t help the rest of us,”* SMOLDER says, and points out that the poster’s drawing features only ponies. *“Do we even get to go?”*

Sandbar reassures his friends. *“Professor Twilight said it’s a school event, right? Which means it’s open to ALL students. See?”* He reads from the poster: *“Find a Friend and Come Along.”* An effusive Silverstream cries, *“It’s a DANCE! What else do you need to know?”*

Sandbar then turns to Yona and surprises her by asking her to be his “friend-along.” Yona say yes! But...wouldn’t Sandbar rather go with a pony friend, who can do a pony dance and win the pony-pal contest? Sandbar laughs. *“Your Yak Dance might not fit in, but you can do everything a pony does!”* Which, unfortunately, the confident Yona hears as a challenge. *“Yes! Yona can! Even better than pony! Yona say YES!”* As

Sandbar takes off, Yona assures him, she’s not going to let Sandbar down. She’s sure she can learn all the Pony-ness required before the dance. *“But....How Yona learn all the things?”* She wonders to herself. She turns as she hears—

RARITY going by, magically toting several wrapped BOXES, passes without stopping. *“Hello everycreature sorry can’t talk lots of new party dresses to sew!”* Looks like a good place to start! Yona takes off after Rarity as we **END TEASER**

ACT ONE

SC. 2 - INT. RARITY’S BOUTIQUE - DAY

Yona knocks on Rarity’s door, hopes she’s not interrupting....Rarity says she’s sorry, but she’s quite busy preparing dresses for the dance. Yona explains, that why she come. She need help to get ready for the big dance. *“To do things the way ponies do.”* But Yona not know she need dress...can’t she wear what she usually wears? She could, says Rarity, but this is how Ponies dress up for a dance. *“I have a few photos of past dances if you’d like to see them,”* she says, hauling out a foot-thick scrapbook. As she turns the pages, we see a few photos—Rarity in different party dresses, always the same pose. *“Purple taffeta, frosted chiffon, gold brocade, one of my favorites....”* Yona replies: *“If this how ponies dress... Then is how Yona dress too!”* Will Rarity help?

Rarity looks her over...a challenge, but—if she can’t do it, no one can. She’ll not only help her find a dress, she’ll teach her how to navigate all the ins and outs of the party—after all, the more you know about how things are done, the more fun you’ll have! Yona, wanting to be “best Pony-Pal” for Sandbar, agrees.

Rarity sings, *“This is How It’s Done,”* (or *“You’ll Fit Right In”*) is an instructional rain-in-Spain type song as she goes down the list of how things usually work at a Pony dance. She demonstrates the correct way to make a grand entrance, how to drink punch (Yona wants to put her whole head into the bowl), and finally how to pick out the right dress. *“First we find your fashion element...then we color you PONY!”* Yona is definitely earth tones (not Rarity’s favorite—*“earth is just so—earthy, isn’t it?”*) Size-wise, finding the right dress for Yona’s a little tricky, since the dresses are designed for ponies. But maybe if they sew two of them together it will work. Yes, that’ll do it! Now for a new hairstyle to go with the dress....Rarity tries a few things with Yona’s braids, then different wigs, each sillier than the last. Well, not to worry, says Rarity, they have plenty of time before the dance. *“We’ll get you a horn-icure, a hide-exfoliation, de-frizz your—whatever you call this... You’ll be fabulous, darling. Just look how far we’ve*

come already!” In the meantime, Rarity says, they simply must get started on the most important part of going to the dance—the dances themselves! Not Rarity’s field of expertise....But she has an idea, and tells Yona to stay put while she goes to get some help. Yona, left alone, sees herself in the mirror, in the ill-fitting dresses and the askew wig, and is starting to have her doubts....

Ocellus and Gallus arrive; they’ve heard that Rarity is giving Yona “pony lessons?” Yona’s surprised that they even recognize her, given her new look. That means Yona have to try harder if she going to fit in as pony. “*Are you sure that’s what you want to do?*” Ocellus asks. Yona’s puzzled. Ocellus say she go as pony, right? Ocellus explains that she was just kidding. “*Believe me, as someone who has lots of experience trying to be somebody else...it’s never as good as just being yourself.*” But Yona’s starting to enjoy the pony-ness of it all, and besides, she wants to show Sandbar that she can be his pony-pal.

Rarity returns and tells Yona to get to Rainbow Dash’s classroom immediately. She and Fluttershy are going to give her dance lessons!

SC. 3 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - RAINBOW DASH’S CLASSROOM - SOON

Rarity has explained to RAINBOW DASH and FLUTTERSHY how Yona wants to do everything pony to fit in at the dance. So Dash will teach Yona the “Pony-Time” Dance (akin to the Chubby Checker song), and Fluttershy will show her the more refined Pony Cotillion Dance.

As “*This is How It’s Done*” reprises, Fluttershy produces a looong scroll of paper with the colored footstep patterns Yona needs to learn (“*Blue, red, step ahead. Green, black, Yak step back. Kick, kick, three four. Step step, kick some more.*”). But it’s tough going. (“*Yona feel like she have four front feet.*”) And for Pony-Time, the high-energy moves that Dash teaches her result in Yona smashing up everything in the room. This is definitely going to take some work. But Rarity is ready for the challenge, no matter what!

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

SC. 4 - EXT. SWEET APPLE ACRES – BARN – SOON

Rarity leads Yona to Sweet Apple Acres for her next “Pony” lesson. APPLEJACK and PINKIE PIE are waiting there to teach Yona about another Pony Dance tradition, the Pony Potluck. That means having her own Lucky Pot (a wooden bucket in Yona’s case) and cooking something to put it in—applesauce and cupcakes highly recommended. They both try to teach her how to make their specialties, but by now Yona’s head is spinning with all the new information she’s receiving, and she’s getting comically mixed up.

The reprise song builds to a whirlwind, cutting between LOCATIONS: Yona’s dance lessons, fittings, cooking, horn-icure, de-frizzing...until finally...

A DANCE BREAKTHROUGH. “*She’s got it!*” yells Rainbow Dash. All the steps—front, back, kick, step, click AND clack. Her teachers are overjoyed...she’s ready for the dance! But an overwhelmed and exhausted Yona is already asleep, all four legs in the air. DISSOLVE TO:

SC. 5 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - MAIN HALL - NIGHT

It’s the night of the big dance. The hall is decorated and adorned, already teeming with excited Ponies and other assorted creatures. Sandbar is with Ocellus, Gallus, Silverstream, and Smolder, waiting for Yona to arrive, as other ponies continue to make their entrance at the main door, announced by Spike in major domo garb. “*Presenting... Professor Applejack... Professor Fluttershy... Headmare Twilight Sparkle!*”

Silverstream gushes about the great decorations. “*I love the centerpieces! What do they do with them after the party, do you think we can take them home?*” Gallus, looking around, says he’s glad he’s not the only non-pony here. “*You’re not still worried about that, are you?*” asks Sandbar. “*Like Professor Twilight said...this is a dance for everycreature. There’s no “pony pressure.”*” Smolder responds that he should have told that to Yona. Sandbar’s puzzled—what does he mean? Ocellus and Gallus bring him up to date on how Yona’s been taking lessons and has gone “full Pony” for the dance. “*And for you,*” Gallus adds. “*For me?*” asks Sandbar. Ocellus nods. “*She wants to be a good pony-pal for you.*” Sandbar protests— “*But I never said she should—*”

He stops as Spike announces... “*Presenting....Yona the...Yak?*” The crowd hushes and turns to watch as Yona makes her entrance in perfect Pony manner, in full garb, with a new Pony-ish hairstyle, carrying her Lucky Pot full of Yak Gruel. Everyone’s impressed and certainly surprised. She makes her way to Sandbar, now speaking in a distinctly NON YAK-ACCENT (like Rarity’s if we can swing it). “*So, what do you think?*” she

asks him. *“I make an excellent pony-pal, wouldn’t you say?”* Yes, Sandbar says...but Yona didn’t need to go through all this trouble. And...What’s with her accent? Before they can speak further, Spike starts the Cotillion music and the dance begins...

Yona confidently takes the dance floor with Sandbar. They begin the Cotillion dance, and Yona is fine at first. But then, she stumbles—she never practiced dancing with the dress on! As it slips further, she keeps tripping on it. Then she gets her dance steps mixed up. Not only does she click when she should clack, she throws in some Pony-Time steps when she should be doing the Cotillion.

Then, when the fast music does start, Yona’s hairstyle comes loose from all the jumping. It covers her eyes, which only makes things worse. She bumps into Sandbar and knocks him over, then defaults into the Yak dance, jumping up and down. Which causes the room to shake and her dress to fall off completely. Her friends try to corral her, but Ocellus and Gallus only end up being dragged along behind her. She finally crashes into the table of Lucky Pots, food going everywhere, and the punch bowl landing on her head. Rarity watches in horror from the sidelines as her work comes undone. It’s an epic fail. Sandbar tries to talk to Yona, but she runs out of the dance, mortified...

END ACT TWO.

ACT THREE

SC. 6 - EXT. THE TREEHOUSE

Yona has gone to take comfort in the Treehouse. She sits by herself singing the “Yona Sad” song (no music). Which goes something like: *“Yona sad, sad Yona.”*

Sandbar arrives. *“How Sandbar know how to find Yona?”* Sandbar explains that he knows her pretty well by now, and he figured it’s where she’d go. Besides, it’s where he’d go if something like that happened to him. *“Sandbar mean something horrible and embarrassing. So horrible Yona can never come out of treehouse. Will Sandbar bring Yona food and water?”* Sandbar tries to tell her it wasn’t that bad...hardly any creature even noticed! Well...maybe one or two didn’t. If they happened to be out of the building. But it’s all over now, so won’t she come back to the dance?

Yona shakes her head no. *“Yona disappoint Sandbar. Yona not make very good pony.”* Sandbar doesn’t understand—why would she think she’s disappointed him? And why did she think she needed to be a good pony? Yona explains—so she could fit in at the

dance...and show Sandbar that she could be a good pony-pal. *“Then maybe Sandbar and Yona win Best Pony Pals Contest.”* Instead Yona win Worst Pony Ever. That’s not true, Sandbar says. *“Really? Sandbar name two worse ponies,”* says Yona. Sandbar thinks. *“Cozy Glow and Sombra.”* Yona nods, surprised – good choices.

Sandbar says it doesn’t matter if she’s a great pony or a horrible pony. She’s the best YONA he knows. That’s why he asked her to the dance. He apologizes if he misled her to think he expected her to be a pony. He never wanted her to be anything other than what she is his friend, Yona the Yak. Now won’t she come back to the dance? Yona smiles and we...CUT TO:

SC. 7 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - MANE HALL

The mess has been pretty much cleaned up, and DJ Spike plays tunes from the stage as ponies (and others) dance. The crowd quiets and the music fades as Sandbar and Yona come back into the dance. Everypony turns to look at them. Yona’s a little hesitant, still embarrassed. *“Don’t worry,”* Sandbar tells her. *“I’m with you.”* *“We ALL are,”* they hear Gallus say from nearby, and the rest of the Young Six surround them. They continue into the dance together, heads held high. The music starts up again.

Rarity and the other teachers rush over to Yona to make sure she’s all right. They were worried when she disappeared. *“I nearly swooned!”* says Rarity. Yona apologizes for making a mess and ruining the dance. *“It’s not your fault, Sugarcube,”* says Applejack. Dash agrees—they should be apologizing. They thought they were just trying to teach her how to have fun at the dance. They never meant to try to make Yona into something she’s not. Yona assures them—she fine now. *“Friends help Yona feel better.”*

Twilight informs them that while they were gone, the awards were given out...and she and Sandbar have been named Best Pony-Pals. Yona’s happy, but still puzzled. *“Even though Yona not Pony?”* Twilight considers this. *“It is a little confusing, isn’t it?”* she says. Twilight has a brief discussion with the rest of the Mane 6 and then announces—they’re changing the name of the award. From now on, it’s the *“Best Pals Award.”* No Pony-ness required! And the first award goes to them. The crowd approves with applause and Dash asks Yona if she can teach them all that crazy new dance from Yakyakistan. Spike turns up a dance version of *“This is How It’s Done,”* everyone starts jumping up and down...Ocellus changes into a Yak and bounces along...

...and we **END EPISODE.**