

As Recorded
February 28, 2018
@ Dick Rogers
takes 1-73) Garble

As Recorded
March 19, 2018
@ Dick Rogers
takes 74-107)

As Recorded
March 21, 2018
@ Dick Rogers
takes 108-261)

As Recorded
April 4, 2018
@ Dick Rogers
takes 262-304) Embur

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MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9

Sweet and Smoky
Ep 909

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TEASER**SC. 1 - EXT. TWILIGHT SPARKLE'S SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - DAY**

A BIRD wings past blue skies, the sun shining. We hear an OS
<KNOCK> on the door.

108 109 110
1 SMOLDER (O.S.)
Uh, Headmare Twilight?

SC. 2 - INT. SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP - TEACHERS' LOUNGE - CONT.

TWILIGHT SPARKLE grades a stack of papers. Spike relaxes,
and FLUTTERSHY sips tea as Smolder pokes her head in the door-

2 SMOLDER
Sorry to bug you in the teachers'
lounge. Is it okay if I miss class?

3 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
(reading/preoccupied)
Mm hm. You can make it up tomorrow.

108 110
4 SMOLDER
Actually, I'll be gone for a week.

Finally, this gets Twilight's attention. Shocked:

5 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
A week? In the middle of the
semester?

74 113
6 FLUTTERSHY
Is everything alright, Smolder?

Smolder looks down, kicks the ground.

108
7 SMOLDER
Not exactly.
(sighs, admits)
My brother's been having a hard
time since I left for school. I
want to go home and check on him.
He's a really sweet guy, and the
other dragons can be kinda rough.

8 SPIKE
(surprised)
Did you say sweet, guy, and dragon
in the same sentence?

Smolder smiles and elbows Spike, friendly.

108 112
 9 SMOLDER
 Yeah. He's sorta like you, Spike.

9A 119 120
 Spike BLUSHES with pleasure.

10 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 I'm sorry to hear about your brother, Smolder. But the Dragonlands are really far for you to go by yourself, and I'm not sure about you missing so much class...

Spike brightens with an idea--

108 112
 11 SPIKE
 What if she got school credit for it? Kind of like a... Kindness field trip! I'll go with her!

Smolder grins to Spike.

12 SMOLDER
 Thanks! The Dragonlord is way too busy for personal problems when it's baby dragon hatching season.

Fluttershy pops into FRAME, eyes big and hopeful.

75A 76
 13 FLUTTERSHY
 Baby dragon hatching season? All those cute little snouts poking out of those adorable little shells? Teeny tiny twitchy tails...
 (hopeful to Twilight)
 Can I go too?

14 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 Well...You are the perfect pony to lead a kindness field trip...

The three hopeful faces are too much for Twilight.

15 TWILIGHT SPARKLE (CONT'D)
 Fine. But I'm going to expect a full report when you get back!

108 112
 16 SMOLDER
 How many pages?

17 TWILIGHT SPARKLE
 I was talking to Fluttershy. Hatching season sounds fascinating!

And on the trio's glee, we--

END TEASER**ACT ONE****SC. 3 - EXT. THE DRAGONLANDS - DAY**

Spike excitedly checks a long scroll, as he, Fluttershy, and Smolder march along. Spike has a ROLLING SUITCASE.

121 122 123

18 SPIKE

Okay, I made a list of what cheers me up when I'm down, so if your brother's like me, he's gonna love it! What should we do first: the "smile" song, the sharing circle, or friendship bracelet weaving?

19 SMOLDER

I'm not sure those are the kind of things my brother's gonna be into.

20 FLUTTERSHY

What would make your brother happy?

21 SMOLDER

Just having Spike and me accept him for who he is will make a huge difference. Dragons who appreciate his more *sensitive* side...

22 SPIKE

I got it! Showtunes!

23 SMOLDER

Yeah, no. But good try.?

Lava pools bubble in the ground nearby, with NOXIOUS FUMES coming off of them. Fluttershy <SNIFFS> the air, then turns green and puts a hoof over her nose.

77 A B

24 FLUTTERSHY

That's an... Interesting smell...

Smolder inhales deeply and happily.

121

25 SMOLDER

Aaaah...The stink of sulfur, sharp rocks under my claws... It's good to be home.

26 SPIKE

I can't wait to meet your brother, Smolder. We're gonna be best buddies, I just know it.

121⁵ 124
 ↓ ↓

27 SMOLDER
 He usually hangs out near here.
 I'll go try find him.

Smolder flies into the air and flaps off. As she does, Spike pulls a nearly-done knitted blanket out of his rolling suitcase and gets to work with knitting needles.

80A 83
 ↓ ↓

28 FLUTTERSHY
 Spike, do you mind if I take a peek
 at the cute little baby eggs?

Spike holds up his blanket - with cute hearts on it.

121⁴ 124
 ↓ ↓

29 SPIKE
 No problem! I'll stay here and
 finish this comfort blanket. It'll
 be like a hug every time Smolder's
 brother wraps it around himself.

125
 ↓

81A 83
 ↓ ↓

30 FLUTTERSHY
 Aw, I'm sure he'll love it, Spike.

Spike grins proudly and gets back to knitting.

SC. 4 - EXT. DRAGONLANDS - HATCHING GROUND - DAY

Fluttershy trots toward a sunken plane, then peers over the edge. Her eyes grow wide and misty.

82AB 83
 ↓ ↓

31 FLUTTERSHY
 Oh my goodness...

FLUTTERSHY'S POV - the Dragonland nesting ground, filled with various dug out pits that have clusters of dragon eggs... but no other dragons.

Fluttershy moves among the eggs and bends sweetly down to one-

82AB
 ↓ ↓

32 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
 Good morning, little one. I've come
 a long way to meet you. Did you
 know there's a whole wide world out
 here waiting to say hello?

262 263
 ↓ ↓

33 EMBER (O.S.)
 It can't answer you. It's an egg.

264AB 265B
 ↓ ↓

Fluttershy turns to see DRAGONLORD EMBER, watching her, arms crossed and skeptical/amused.

84 (85)

↓

262 (265)

↓

84 85

↓ ↓

262 265 B

↓ ↓

84 (85)

262 (265)

↓ ↓

84 (85)

↓ ↓

262 (265)

↓ ↓

84 (85)

↓ ↓

262 265

↓ ↓

84 (85)

↓ ↓

34 FLUTTERSHY

Oh! Dragonlord Ember, how nice to see you.

35 EMBER

Nice to see you too, ah...Which one are you again? The party one? Apple Dash? Or was that the country one?

Fluttershy picks up an egg and snuggles it.

36 FLUTTERSHY

Fluttershy. The one who loves creatures. Are all these yours?

Dragonlord Ember TAKES in mortified surprise.

37 EMBER

WHAT? No! None of them are. Watching over eggs is just part of the glamorous life of a Dragonlord.

38 FLUTTERSHY

I think it sounds wonderful.

39 EMBER

Yeah? Then maybe you can help.

Fluttershy smiles eagerly.

40 FLUTTERSHY

I'd love to! Just tell me what to do.

41 EMBER

I don't know! It's my first time being in charge. Dad wasn't big on sharing Dragonlord details. It's kind of a burn or be burned job.

42 FLUTTERSHY

Well, I'm sure you're doing great!

Ember leans down to examine the eggs, tapping one with her claw and frowning.

43 EMBER

Not really. The eggs should have hatched by now... But none of them have even cracked.

44 FLUTTERSHY

Oh dear... Maybe they're lonely.

Fluttershy curls her wings around the nearest eggs and leans down to them.

84 (85)

262 265

84 (85)

45 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)
Don't you worry. Aunt Fluttershy's here. And the Dragonlord and I are going to do everything we can to welcome you into this world!

46 EMBER
Really? How?

266 267 (268)

47 FLUTTERSHY
(smile drains, then)
I have no idea...

SC. 5 - THE DRAGONLANDS - DAY

Spike finishes the blanket, slides it off his knitting needles, and admires it.

129 130 131 132

48 SPIKE
Now that's a thing of beauty.

(133)

Suddenly, a DRAGON (GARBLE) SWOOPS down next to him, startling him.

49 SPIKE (CONT'D)
Whoa!

49A in 133 Spike is spun around as one dragon after another SWOOP down on him, their wings buffeting him in circles. Spike dizzily topples and looks up to see GARBLE, CLUMP, WHIP, and FUME circle and land, staring down at him.

(1) 2

129

50 GARBLE
Well if it isn't our little pony-friend, Spike...

51 SPIKE
That's Equestria's Official Friendship Ambassador to the Dragonlands to you. And I'm not little. I had the molt, see?

133 134 135 (136)

51A 145B Spike stands tall and proud, flaring out his wings. Garble mocks him and the other dragons <LAUGH>.

(1) 2

52 GARBLE
Ooh, runt got wings! I'm soooo impressed.
(he spots the blanket)
What's that supposed to be?

Spike quickly whips the blanket behind his back.

129 136

53 SPIKE

Nothing.

Garble snatches away Spike's blanket and holds it up.

5 6

54 GARBLE

Looks like a... *baby blanket* to me.

129 136

55 SPIKE

It's not a baby blanket! It's a...
comfort blanket.

139 140 141 142

The dragons erupt in <LAUGHTER>.

5 6

56 GARBLE

Aww... Did your pony pals make it
for you with friendship and
gumdrops?

129 136

57 SPIKE

No... I made it. And by the way,
knitting is a lot harder than it
looks.

143 144

5 6

58 GARBLE

Check out the baby blanket, guys!
It's a lot harder than it looks!

Garble tosses the blanket above Spike's head and the others
play keep-away with it as Spike leaps up and flaps in vain to
try to grab it.

129 136

59 FUME

Bet he broke a claw and everything!

136

60 CLUMP

Probably bruised his scales making
it!

5 6

61 SPIKE

Give it back! That's for my friend.

The dragons <LAUGH> even harder, their laughter turning into
FLAMES. Spike leaps back from the heat of their laughter.

5 6

62 SPIKE (CONT'D)

Ow! Hey! Cut it out! You know
laugh-fire is dangerous! It can--

Garble <LAUGHS> a BLAST OF FIRE at the blanket, charring it.

129 (136B)
↓

63 SPIKE (CONT'D)
-- do that.

64 SMOLDER (O.S.)
Garble!

Garble quickly hands the blanket back to Spike, looking surprised.

10 11 (12)
↓

65 GARBLE
Smolder?

REVEAL SMOLDER who looks at Garble. They both stare for a beat, then --

66 GARBLE (CONT'D)
What are you doing here?

They first bump each other. The other dragons <MUTTER HELLOS> and exchange high fives with Smolder as well.

129 AB (136AB)
↓

67 FUME / CLUMP
Hey. / Whassup.

How's it scalin' brah!!

Spike sidles over to Smolder and sotto-asides:

68 SPIKE
We better get out of here before
your brother shows up. Garble isn't
very nice to sensitive dragons.

69 SMOLDER
But... Garble IS my brother.

70 SPIKE
Your brother?

Spike gapes at Garble, who narrows his eyes menacingly.

15 (16B)
↓

71 GARBLE
Got a problem with that, ponyboy?

(17AB) AIT
↓

Spike grips the comfort blanket to his chest.

129 (136)
↓

72 SPIKE
Oh, brother...

END ACT ONE.

ACT TWO

SC. 6 - DRAGONLANDS - DAY

RESUME as Spike watches Smolder and Garble - she smacks him on the back, cheerful/friendly.

151 152 (153)

73 SMOLDER

I've missed you, bro! We got a lot of fun to catch up on. There's no lava diving at school.

74 CLUMP

Good luck getting Garble to do anything.

75 FUME

Yeah, he's been so weird since you left. Hiding, and moping around...

Garble turns on his friends, flame spewing from his nostrils.

(18) (19) (20)

76 GARBLE

I have not!

151 (152) (153)

77 CLUMP/FUME

Have so!

78 SMOLDER

Easy, guys. I learned at Twilight's school, ganging up on each other isn't half as cool as you think.

79 CLUMP

Aw, Pony school made you soft.

Smolder flares her wings menacingly and studies her claws.

80 SMOLDER

Wanna try me and find out?

80A 158 (159)

Clump and Fume back down. Spike, who has been hanging back, tries to defuse tension.

81 SPIKE

So... Let's get lava diving! Whaddya say?

Garble and his friends shoot Spike a look.

82 FUME

Better stay here, shrimp. Lava might ruin your blankie-wankie.

(154)

20 21 (22)

83 GARBLE

Nah, let the wimp tag along. Then we'll have somedragon to dunk!

Smolder steps between the dragons and Spike, defensive.

151 154

84 SMOLDER

Only gonna warn you once. Spike's my friend. You mess with him, you mess with me. Besides, he came here to hang out with YOU, Garble.

Garble looks momentarily panicked to be singled out in front of his mocking friends... Who turn on him, <LAUGHING>.

84A 160

85 FUME

Awww, how sweet.

86 CLUMP

Let's go do dragon stuff. Garble can have fun with his new friend.

86A 161AB

Clump, Fume and Whip bro-punch each other, <BELCH> fire, and <LAUGH> as they fly off, leaving Garble, Smolder and Spike. Garble desperately calls after them.

23 24 25

87 GARBLE

But I'm not having fun! And he's not my friend!

151 154

88 SMOLDER

Just ignore them, GarGar.

23 25B

89 GARBLE

(gritted teeth, pointed)
Smolder! Not in public!

151 154

90 SPIKE

Oh, it's okay to have a nickname! Sometimes I'm called *Spikey Wikey*.

Garble is torn between incredulousness and mockery.

23 25 26

91 GARBLE

Seriously? You're admitting this?!
(to Smolder)
I am not hanging out with him.

Smolder crosses her arms.

151 154

92 SMOLDER

Give him a chance, Garble. You guys have a lot in common.

Garble isn't happy, but he nods.

23

26

93 GARBLE

Fine. Race you to the Lava Pit.

27

Garble takes off (in the opposite direction his friends went). Smolder antics to follow, but Spike grabs her tail.

151 154

94 SPIKE

Wait! I thought you said your brother was sweet.

156

95 SMOLDER

All the tough guy stuff is just an act. He's ~~just~~ a big marshmallow.

154

96 SPIKE

Yeah...Not seeing it.

151

97 SMOLDER

Well, maybe a burned marshmallow. Smoky on the outside, but squishy inside. He just needs friends who can appreciate that part. Like you.

155

(then, worried)

You're not changing your mind about helping me cheer him up, are you?

98 SPIKE

Me? 'Course not...

157B C

98A 162

Smolder smiles and flies after Garble. Spike lifts the blanket to rub it against his cheek, only to have the incinerated blanket crumble... He <SIGHS>

SC. 7 - DRAGONLANDS - LAVA PIT - SOON

Garble looks half-annoyed and half-bummed as he stands with Spike and Smolder on the edge of the lava pit. NOTE: THE OTHER DRAGONS ARE NOT THERE.

163 164

99 SMOLDER

Okay! Lava jumping, just like old times, huh GarGar?

Garble looks directly at Spike as he answers, deadpan.

28 29 30 31

100 GARBLE

Yeah. Just like old times. Except for one little, annoying thing.

131

163 164

101 SMOLDER

(making the best of it)

Scales away!

Smolder JUMPS! Spike and Garble watch --

DOWN BELOW, Smolder <SPLASHES> into the fiery drink.

163 164

102 SMOLDER (CONT'D)
Come on in! The lava's fine!

102A 32

GARBLE sighs off his game. Spike gathers his courage.

103 SPIKE

Ya know, whenever I'm feeling a
little down, it always helps if I
do something with a friend.
(offers his claw)
How about we jump together?

103A 170 171

Garble looks at Spike's hand for a beat, then perfunctorily
PUSHES Spike off the edge.

103B

Spike <YELLS> as he plummets to HIT face first in the lava.
Smolder winces.

164

104 SMOLDER

Ooh. Spike...? You okay?

Spike surfaces, eyes SPINNING, face RED.

105 SPIKE

I know there must be something
worse than lava up your nose--
(SNEEZES lava)
I just don't know it is.

167 ABC 111

105A 33 34 ABC

Then... <SPLAT!> A diving Garble cannonballs nearby, creating
a huge WALL OF LAVA that RE-DUNKS SPIKE.

35 36 37

106 GARBLE

(to Smolder)

Ooops. My bad.

106A 168 169

Smolder dives to bring up Spike. Spike rasps/coughs, spitting
a fountain of lava.

163 164

107 SPIKE

SWALLOWING lava. Swallowing lava is
definitely worse.

165 166

Garble turns an innocent look from Smolder and fixes Spike
with an evil glare - as Spike sinks back into the lava...

SC. 8 - DRAGONLANDS - HATCHING GROUND - SAME TIME

CLOSE ON Fluttershy, who is cuddled with several dragon eggs.
She reads them a book.

87 (88)

108 FLUTTERSHY

And then they all lived happily
ever after! *The end!*

(looks at the silent egg)

Time to come out, little ones.

(starts to tickle an egg)

Tickle, tickle, tickle...

(then)

Maybe you'd like a song?

REVEAL Ember who watches with a raised eyebrow.

272 (273)

109 EMBER

I think you might be encouraging
them to stay in. Dragons aren't
much for touchy-feely stuff.

Fluttershy wilts and lets go of the eggs she's cuddling.

87 (88)

110 FLUTTERSHY

Oh. I'm sorry.

But as she steps away from the eggs, they start TREMBLING.

89 (9)

111 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)

Goodness. Why are the eggs shaking?

(brightens)

Are they finally hatching?

274 (275)

112 EMBER

I wish. They've been doing that for
days. I'm sure it means *something*.
But it's probably not good.

90

OFF Fluttershy's worried look...

SC. 9 - VARIOUS PARTS OF THE DRAGONLANDS - SOON

QUICK BEATS:

-- Garble looks dubious as he sits at a rock with a table
cloth on it. Spike, complete with his frilly apron, hosts a
tea party. He hands a cupcake to Smolder, then one to Garble.

173 (174)

113 SPIKE

Try this. Red velvet. Guaranteed to
brighten anycreature's spirits!

Smolder smiles and reaches for another cupcake. As she does,
Garble makes sure she's not looking before he knocks Spike's
cupcake out of his paw and stomps on it.

38 39 (40)

114 GARBLE

Feeling better already.

-- Spike, Smolder, and Garble fly through the clouds above the Dragonlands.

173 174⁴ 175

115 SPIKE

I don't know about you, but a change of scenery always turns my frown upside down.

176 177 178

Smolder grins at Spike, then flies ahead. Spike offers Garble a hopeful smile, and Garble grins back... Before grabbing Spike by the tail and flinging him into a cloud.

Spike <SPLUTTERS> as he surfaces from the cloud, upside-down indeed, wearing a comical wig and moustache of cloud.

179 180

116 SPIKE (CONT'D)

(mutters to himself)

I will be the bigger dragon. I will be the bigger dragon.

-- Spike, Garble, and Smolder sit on rocks, facing each other. Garble glares, but Smolder listens as Spike says--

117 SPIKE (CONT'D)

Sometimes just hearing what someone appreciates about you can make you feel better about yourself.

118 SMOLDER

I'll go first. Spike, I think it's really nice that you're trying to cheer up GarGar.

Garble crosses his arms and rolls his eyes.

180

119 SPIKE

Thanks, Smolder. My turn. I like how you always let everycreature know how you're feeling, GarGar.

Garble rages at Spike, flames coming out as roars:

183 184 43

120 GARBLE

ONLY SMOLDER GETS TO CALL ME THAT!

At the same time, Spike ducks behind the rock. He peeks out, his head sooty/comically charred.

173

180

121 SPIKE

(wheeze)

Thank you for speaking your truth.

SC. 10 - DRAGONLANDS - LAVA DAM - DAY

121A 185AB Clump, Whip and Fume are working together to PRY a BOULDER from a DAM of boulders. As they do, a GUSH OF STEAMING LAVA pours from the dam, making a river of heat.

191 192
122 CLUMP
More fresh lava, comin' up!

Meanwhile, Spike determinedly leads Smolder and Garble past the dragon teens, doing his best to ignore them.

193 194
123 SPIKE
Okay, NEW activity. Who wants to make vision boards?

124 FUME
Hey, Garble! Smolder! Surf's up!

124A 186 The dragons pry flat rocks up and toss them on the flow of lava, surfing it with their "boards".

44AB 45
125 GARBLE
Let me show you how it's done!

125A 48 187 188B Garble rips a chunk of flat rock up and runs for the flow, spinning Spike in a circle as he races past. Spike sits down hard. Smolder grins as her brother surfs the lava. She turns to Spike and beckons--

191
126 SMOLDER
You coming?

127 SPIKE
I'll...Catch up with you.

127A 189B Smolder shrugs and heads off.

127B 190 Spike sighs, watching as Smolder catches a good lava wave that takes her surfing far from the others. While he watches, Fluttershy hurries up to him.

91 92
128 FLUTTERSHY
Spike! There you are! For a land that's all rocks, this place is surprisingly easy to get lost in.

129 SPIKE
Hey, Fluttershy. How are the baby dragons doing?

91 92 94
130 FLUTTERSHY
The eggs won't hatch! They just keep shaking.
(MORE)

91 92 (94)

FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)

I'm starting to think the dragons are too scared to come out. I was hoping you could help... If you're not too busy cheering up Smolder's brother.

191 (195)

131 SPIKE

Not a chance. Smolder's brother is GARBLE. The only thing that cheers him up is to make me miserable.

131A

As Fluttershy gapes at this surprising reveal, Garble and his pals, (no Smolder - she's stills surfing) amble back up.

46 47

132 GARBLE

Hey, Spike! Wanna play lava ball?

132A

He hurls a wadded ball of lava. Spike dodges it, narrowly missing getting beaned. Spike turns to Fluttershy.

132B

191 (195)

133 SPIKE

(to Fluttershy)

I rest my case.

Fluttershy looks appalled. She turns to the dragons--

91 (92)

134 FLUTTERSHY

Excuse me... But that's not a very nice game.

134A

The dragons ignore Fluttershy's mild protests and keep throwing lava balls at Spike. He barely dodges them.

Fluttershy's eyes narrow, and she bellows forcefully:

135 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)

ENOUGH!

135A

The dragons stop, startled.

136 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)

(her usual self)

I mean, leave my friend alone, please. Spike came all this way to cheer up Garble, which was a very kind thing to do.

Fume smiles mockingly to Garble.

191 (195)

137 FUME

Awww, do you need cheering up?

191 (195)

↓

↓

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↓

↓

↓

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↓

138 CLUMP
What's wrong, Garble? Did
somedragon hurt your wittle
feewings?

Garble is flustered and defensive.

53 (54)

↓

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139 GARBLE
No! I don't know what she's talking
about. Spike's the one who's gonna
cry!

Smolder calls from the lava--

191 (195)

↓

↓

↓

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↓

140 SMOLDER (PARTIAL O.S.)
HEY! Are we lava surfing or what?

Garble looks relieved to have an out.

53 (54)

↓

↓

↓

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↓

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↓

↓

141 GARBLE
Yeah! Let's go hang with a REAL
dragon. Not a pony wanna-be!

Garble flaps off with his friends.

191 195 196

↓

↓

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↓

↓

↓

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↓

↓

↓

↓

142 SPIKE
See? It's no use. <sigh> Why
don't I see what I can do about the
eggs, and you cheer up Garble. At
least he listens to you...

197^s 198^s 200 (201)

Fluttershy watches the dejected Spike head off for a beat,
before turning in Garble's direction. Determined:

91 92 (93)

↓

↓

↓

↓

↓

↓

↓

↓

↓

↓

143 FLUTTERSHY
Just you wait, Garble. You're
dealing with Fluttershy now. And
she's packing a whole lifetime of
kindness.

As she starts off...

SC. 11 - DRAGONLANDS - HATCHING GROUND - DAY

Ember holds a shivering egg. Somewhat desperate, she tries:

276 277 (278)

↓

↓

↓

↓

↓

↓

144 EMBER
Tickle, tickle, tickle -

(279) - ALT

Spike brightens to see his longtime friend.

208 (209)

↓

↓

↓

↓

145 SPIKE
Hi Ember! Uh, what are you doing?

Ember startles and nearly drops the egg.

279 280

146 EMBER

SPIKE!

(recovering)

Shouldn't you be doing whatever it is you do at Twilight's school?

208 209b

147 SPIKE

I wish. It's a long story.

218

The eggs are now trembling so hard, one tips over. Spike steps INTO ONE OF THE PITS to get a closer look.

210

148 SPIKE (CONT'D)

Wow. These eggs really do look scared.

Then Spike notices something. He puts his hands on the pit ground, then lays his cheek against it.

149 SPIKE (CONT'D)

Wait - aren't the hatching grounds supposed to be hot?

211 212

279 280

281

150 EMBER

Of course! There's a lake of molten lava under them. That's why the eggs are laid here - the heat makes them hatch!

208

210

151 SPIKE

Then something's wrong. I don't think the eggs are shaking 'cause they're afraid - they're cold.

212 213 214 219 220

Ember moves to kneel in the pit next to Spike, feeling the ground. Shocked.

279 280

152 EMBER

You're right! But what happened to the lava?

208

153 SPIKE

(realizes)

I might have an idea...

212 215 216 217

SC. 12 - DRAGONLANDS - ROCK PILE - DAY

Fluttershy searches the Dragonlands.

96b 97

154 FLUTTERSHY

Gaaaaarble? Smolder? Is any dragon there?

She turns in surprise as she hears <BONGO DRUMS> coming from behind a large rockpile nearby.

96 97 98

155 FLUTTERSHY (CONT'D)

Oh my. Are those... *bongo drums*?

Fluttershy starts to weave her way through the rock pile as --

55 56

156 GARBLE (O.S.)

Fire, dragon, wig and wagon...
Feelin' like I be saggin'...

Fluttershy hears the <BONGOS> again. She steps around a rock pile, pulls up short, gaping.

It's Garble, wearing a beret, drums on his lap. Smolder proudly listens nearby. She <SNAPS> her fingers, grooving.

157 SMOLDER

Oh yeah, I dig!

158 GARBLE

Ragin' lava, *balaclava*...

159 FLUTTERSHY

Garble?!

Garble whirls to see Fluttershy. He quickly tears off his beret and tosses his drums aside, then smiles weakly.

Off Fluttershy's shock...

SC. 13 - DRAGONLANDS - LAVA DAM - DAY

CLOSE ON Clump as he removes another boulder, releasing a gush of lava that pours out into a small "hot tub" area. Clump joins Whip and Fume as they relax in the steam.

223 224

160 SPIKE (O.S.)

See?

REVEAL SPIKE AND EMBER who stand at the river's edge.

225

161 SPIKE (CONT'D)

I wondered where that lava was coming from. They must be draining it from the underground lake!

227 ALE

Ember <SNARLS> and flies over to the teen dragons.

282 283 286

162 EMBER

Put that rock back! Immediately!

The dragons cower, but all quickly obey.

223 225
 282 (283)
 163 CLUMP
 Yes, Dragonlord Ember!
 164 EMBER
 How long have you been removing
 those boulders?
 They look at each other, guilty.
 223 225
 165 CLUMP
 A while?
 166 FUME
 It made our lava pools so nice and
 warm-like.
 Ember fumes, barely controlling her temper.
 282 283
 167 EMBER
 It's supposed to be heating the
 eggs! Now they'll never hatch!

And on this horrible realization...

END ACT TWO.

ACT THREE

SC. 14 - DRAGONLANDS - LAVA DAM - RESUME

The young dragons share a worried look.

228 229 (231)
 168 CLUMP
 Sorry, Dragonlord Ember!

169 FUME
 We'll put the lava back!

233 AB
 109A
 The dragons comically try to push the flowing lava back into
 the rock, to no avail.

230 231
 170 SPIKE
 I don't think it works that way.
 (to Ember)
 The hatching grounds can't be the
 only warm place in the Dragonlands.
 There's got to be somewhere else we
 can take the eggs.

285 286
 171 EMBER
 You know how fragile those things
 are? No way we'll be able to move
 them all safely.

Ember snarls to the young dragons.

285 286

172 EMBER (CONT'D)

YOU! Go and bring all the dragons
to the hatching grounds. We'll
have to make the heat ourselves.

287 288

The Dragons look chagrined, but they nod and fly off.

SC. 15 - EXT. DRAGONLANDS - ROCKPILE - DAY

Garble steps menacingly toward a still-stunned Fluttershy.

59 60

173 GARBLE

What do you think you're doing
sneaking around here, Pony?

99 101

174 FLUTTERSHY

Sneaking? It looks to me like the
only one sneaking around is you,
Garble. Why didn't you tell me you
were a poet?

104

59 60

175 GARBLE

I'm not!

Fluttershy picks up the bongos and beats out her own poem -

100 101

176 FLUTTERSHY

Words, rhythm, sometimes rhyme..
Weird punctuA--tion... Sure sounds
like poetry to me.

Garble looks horrified/angry. Smolder puts a calming claw on
his shoulder.

235 236 237

177 SMOLDER

It's okay, GarGar. Fluttershy won't
think you're soft for being a
poet... And neither would anydragon
who was your real friend.

59 60 61 62

178 GARBLE

(hesitates, then)

Okay, fine... but I'm not a flowery
namby pamby poet.

(snatches back the drums)

I'm a beat poet...dig?

He beats a <COOL RHYTHM> on the drums.

100 101

179 FLUTTERSHY

I totally feel you.

59 (62)
 ↓ ↓
 180 GARBLE
 And you better not tell my friends
 about it.

Fluttershy looks surprised by this.

100 (101)
 ↓ ↓
 181 FLUTTERSHY
 But...Why? If I was a poet, I'd
 want to share my creations with
 everypony.

238 (240)
 ↓ ↓
 182 SMOLDER
 I'm the only one Garble will
 perform for. He hasn't written any
 poetry since I left. That's why
 he's been so sad.

59 62 (63)
 ↓ ↓ ↓
 183 GARBLE
 I NEED to create! But if the other
 dragons ever found out I like this
 junk, they'd make fun of me.
 Forever.

A realization dawns for Fluttershy, and she turns to Garble--

100 (101) 103
 ↓ ↓
 184 FLUTTERSHY
 Is that why you pick on Spike - to
 make your friends think you're
 tough?

Smolder frowns at Garble.

238 (239)
 ↓ ↓
 185 SMOLDER
 Wait. You've been picking on Spike?

Garble shifts from foot to foot, guilty.

(64) 65
 ↓ ↓
 186 GARBLE
 Only when you're not looking.
 (then, defensive)
 But if I didn't pick on Spike
 they'd just pick on me... And he is
 kind of a weakling.

100 (101) 6
 ↓ ↓
 187 FLUTTERSHY
 Hmmph! I'll have you know Spike is
 STRONGER than you are. Any day!

Garble is amused by this.

64 65 66 (67)
 ↓ ↓ ↓
 188 GARBLE
 Yeah, right. That little cupcake
 making, blanket-cuddling pony-
 dragon? Gimmie a break.

Fluttershy stands her ground and schools Garble.

100 101 (102)

189 FLUTTERSHY

First of all, there's nothing WRONG with being a pony. Second, Spike isn't afraid to be who he is, no matter WHAT you... or anycreature thinks. That's REAL strength... Not like somedragons I know.

Smolder nods, reluctantly impressed.

(241) 242

190 SMOLDER

For a pony without a horn, she's sure got a point.

Garble hangs his head -- their words sinking in. Just then Spike rushes up.

191 SPIKE

I've been looking all over for you guys. We need your help! Hurry!

Before he can explain, Spike rushes off. As they follow -

SC. 16 - DRAGONLANDS - HATCHING GROUND - DAY

A LARGE GROUP OF DRAGONS blast fiery breath toward the eggs.

Smolder, Spike, Garble, and Fluttershy (carrying the bongos) hurry up to Ember. She frowns and shakes her head.

289 290 (291)

192 EMBER

I've ordered everydragon to warm up the eggs, but they still won't hatch. I don't know what else we can try.

244 245 (246)

193 SPIKE

We can't give up! There's got to be something we can do.

Clump slides his teen buddies a look.

(244)

194 CLUMP

(sarcastic)

How 'bout we wrap the eggs in a bunch of baby blankets?

(246)

195 FUME

Yeah! The wimp can knit 'em up real quick-like.

195A The teens <CRACK UP> loudly. Spike jerks back from the heat of their laughter.

244 246³
196 SPIKE
Hey! Watch it! That laugh-fire
could burn somepony!

Watching closely, Garble suddenly gets an idea.

68 69
197 GARBLE
Burn! Good idea, Spikey Wikey.

197A 249 243
Garble fiercely whips out his beret and grabs the bongos. He drums a <VIGOROUS BEAT>. The dragons turn in surprise as--

198 GARBLE (CONT'D)
Eggs. Come. Burst into that light.
Break through shells that... bind!

At first, Spike is stunned, but quickly begins to <SNAP> out the rhythm, lost in this unexpectedly cool-cat Garble poem.

199 GARBLE (CONT'D)
Break free. Explore! Stuck...
between... rock... and harrrrrrrd place!

199A 250 244 245
A pregnant pause. Then... the dragons burst into <HUGE FIREY GUFFAWS>. Spike and Smolder recoil from the heat.

199B 253 AB 254
200 GARBLE (CONT'D)
Freedom. Come. Don't be shy. Look
those others in the eye.

200A 251 252
The Dragon <LAUGH> even louder. Their laughing pushes more flame from their bellies, and it spews from their mouths to surround the eggs. Encouraged, Garble continues, even louder.

201 GARBLE (CONT'D)
Stake your claim. Don't stop, just
do! Be the one and only you!

105A B
202 FLUTTERSHY
Spike, look --

Eggs are beginning to <CRACK> in the extra heat!

244 246
203 SPIKE
Their laugh-fire is so hot, it's
hatching the eggs!

68 69 70
204 GARBLE
Come to light. Proud to be. Open
up! Bam! Be... FREE!

204A Suddenly, one by one, dozens of baby dragons break free of their shells! The dragons stop laughing to stare in awe.

255 256

205 SMOLDER

You did it, GarGar! You performed in front of other dragons!

206 FUME

And it was SUPER-LAME. What kind of weakling writes poetry?

And then, Ember flies above them. LOUDLY--

298 299 300

207 EMBER

The HERO of the Dragonlands, that's who.

The dragons instantly quiet. Smolder steps forward.

255 256

208 SMOLDER

Yeah! Garble saved our eggs because he was strong enough to be who he is, whether you liked it or not.

(to the dragons)

I grew up thinking it was okay to make fun of differences.

(re Spike and Fluttershy)

But my friends have taught me to celebrate them!

The Dragonlord raises her scepter. It glows as she proclaims-

302 303 304

209 EMBER

And from now on, in my kingdom, that's exactly what we will do!

(then, to Garble)

Now, if you don't mind, can you teach me how to write poetry like that? It's pretty cool.

72 73

210 GARBLE

(stunned, but thrilled)

Uh, yeah... sure, no problem.

The young dragons make a 180, mobbing Garble, sudden fanboys.

255AB 256AB

211 FUME / CLUMP

Yeah, me too! / I wanna learn!

Spike blocks them, like a bouncer.

212 SPIKE

Take a number, guys.

REVEAL FLUTTERSHY, arms full of adorable baby dragons.

106AB

||

END.

213 FLUTTERSHY
I'll take them all!

107
I

*

*

213A

all dragons laugh walla

260 261
I