

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9
Sweet and Smoky
EP 909
Premise by: Kim Beyer-Johnson

Distribution:

Production:

Devon Cody
Jim Miller
Denny Lu
Mike Myhre
Zoe Borroz
Nicole Dubuc
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: November 20th, 2017

SWEET AND SMOKY

Premise by Kim Beyer-Johnson

SMOLDER enters the teacher's lounge to ask TWILIGHT SPARKLE for permission to go back to the DRAGONLANDS for a week. It seems that her brother is having a rough time of it since she's been away at school. He's such a sweet guy, she feels bad for him, and she thinks a visit from his favorite sister might help. Twilight isn't sure about sending Smolder on her own... so SPIKE volunteers to come along – Smolder's brother sounds like a swell guy. Smolder thanks him - when it's baby dragon hatching season, all the adults are so busy guarding the eggs, young dragons have way too much time on their claws. "*Did you say baby dragon hatching season?!*" FLUTTERSHY asks, eyes wide and hopeful. She's always wanted to see that – their cute little snouts poking through the eggshells, and their cute little toes and tiny twitchy tails... Twilight smiles - looks like Smolder will have TWO escorts home.

By the time they reach the Dragonlands, Spike has prepared a ton of stories and advice for Smolder's brother – after all, you don't live with the Princess of Friendship without learning a thing or two about cheering creatures up! While Smolder searches for her brother, Fluttershy cheerfully goes in search of the baby dragon eggs, and Spike puts the finishing touches on a comfort blanket for Smolder's brother. Unfortunately, GARBLE spots his favorite victim, and swoops down with a bunch of his buddies to steal and destroy the blanket. As they close on Spike, Smolder flies in – finally, THERE's her brother. Spike looks behind the bullies – but nodragon is there. Smolder clarifies... Garble is her brother. Spike gapes.

Smolder invites Spike to go lava-diving with them. Spike is reticent, but Garble insists. As they fly to the lava pit, Spike whispers to Smolder – "*I thought you said your brother was sweet.*" Smolder shrugs – he is. Spike says that doesn't line up with his experience. Smolder says it's all an act – deep down, he's a marshmallow. Spike isn't convinced, but he resolves to try to accomplish the mission he came for: cheer up Garble.

Meanwhile, Fluttershy learns from DRAGONLORD EMBER there's something wrong with hatching season – the eggs should be cracking by now, but nothing's happening. Fluttershy volunteers to try to figure out what's going on– she'll make sure those baby dragons are born!

Spike tries everything he can to befriend Garble, but the nicer he is, the worse Garble gets, and whenever Smolder turns her back, the bully dragon torments Spike. Finally Fluttershy intercedes, which brings more mockery – a dragon so soft he needs a pony for a bodyguard!

Since both of them have hit a wall with their problems, Spike and Fluttershy decide to switch it up. Spike will see what he can do about the eggs, and Fluttershy will deal with Garble. Spike quickly sleuths out that the lava river under the egg hatching grounds has cooled to stone – and dragon eggs need lots of heat to hatch. Meanwhile, Fluttershy comes upon Garble when he thinks he's alone – and finds him writing poetry! Garble

tries to cover, but Fluttershy sternly sits him down and gets to the bottom of things. Garble finally admits that he likes poetry, but he can't tell the other dragons. Only his sister understands – but his friends would make fun of him for being soft. That's why he picks on Spike – to prove to his friends he's not a weakling dragon. Fluttershy informs Garble that Spike is actually **STRONGER** than he is. Garble doesn't get it, until Fluttershy explains that Spike isn't afraid to be who he is, no matter **WHAT** Garble thinks. And it sounds to her like Garble cares an awful lot about other dragons' opinions.

Just then, Smolder rushes up, calling for Garble to join the rest of the dragons – they're using their fire breath to warm the eggs, and every dragon needs to help if they're going to get them hot enough to hatch. Garble joins the dragons, but the eggs still won't crack. Fluttershy says that there must be something else they're missing. Garble realizes what he has to do...And he reads a poem to the eggs. The flowery words don't make the eggs hatch (though Spike is moved by the sentiment), but what **DOES** happen is that the dragons start laughing. Bravely, Garble reads on – and the dragons' out of control, powerful guffaws make them spew even **MORE** flame...

...Enough to heat the eggs to hatching temperature. The dragons stop laughing, now suddenly in awe – Garble is the hero of the day! And all because he wasn't afraid to expose his love of poetry. Which is what happens when you're strong enough to accept all parts of yourself. Spike is ready to hug it out with his old tormentor, but that's still a bridge too far for Garble, who laughs at the soft pony-dragon and flies away. Smolder shrugs – baby steps, right? Fluttershy, oohing and ahing over the adorable toddling hatchlings, couldn't agree more.